

A TO Z OF ADVANCED ENERGY SOURCES

Renewable Energy (RE) sources constitute a true innovation in the current energy scene. The "classic" renewable sources - hydroelectric and geothermal energy - are now complimented by new renewable energy sources (NRES) - solar, wind and biomass energy - and other technologies such as biomass gasification, biorefining technologies, thermodynamic solar power stations, geothermal energy from hot, dry rocks and harnessing of oceanic energy (still at the research stage).



Biomass

Organic materials can be transformed or used directly as fuels.



Wind

Wind energy is used to produce electricity.



Geothermics

Heat occurring deep within the Earth is a source of energy.



Hydroelectricity

Falling or flowing masses of water have potential gravitational energy which, when directed, produces electricity.



Sea and Wave Motion

The sea's waves are an accumulation of energy produced by the wind.



Photovoltaic Solar Energy

Solar radiation is converted directly into electrical energy.

ENERGY TAILOR-MADE FOR THE PLANET

It is essential that we increase the use of renewable energy in order to improve access to energy at global level and contain the enormous human and economic costs arising from environmental crises. To achieve these objectives, we must take action by:

- *Encouraging industrialised countries to reduce greenhouse emissions by 30% by 2020 and by 80% by 2050.*
- *Switching to clean technologies, promoting the development of research and reducing emissions in developing countries and rapidly industrialising ones such as Brazil, China and India.*
- *Promoting greater cooperation between industrialised and developing countries with a view to putting in place substantial private investments in the energy field.*
- *Setting up environmental education programmes for public awareness and for the private sector, encouraging use of RE and energy efficiency.*

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AND ACCESS TO ENERGY

Right now, two billion people in the world are living with no access to electrical energy. There is a close relationship between renewable energy and global development. Utilising and increasing the use of existing renewable technologies contributes effectively and sustainably to meeting mankind's basic needs such as nutrition, heat and light as well as health and education.

Fighting Poverty

Adding energy to the list of key elements in development aid programmes is a must for all cooperation projects. Increasing the use of renewable energy in the world's poorest countries promotes self-sufficiency, in terms of both food and economy, and boosts local entrepreneurship.

Supporting Education

Ensuring distribution of electrical energy to homes, schools and public buildings in developing countries contributes to altering the priorities of social activities by reducing the time children are obliged to spend out of their homes collecting wood for cooking and heating. Extending the use of renewable energy sources to non-industrialised countries helps to establish the right of local populations to education and study.

Ensuring Health and Hygiene

Use of renewable technologies helps to improve the health of rural communities by making it possible to preserve and refrigerate medicines, sterilise equipment and safely dispose of medical waste. Availability of electrical energy also enables people to access services conducive to healthy lifestyles.

Promoting the Role of Women

In developing countries, women are responsible for procuring the resources necessary for the wellbeing of their families and communities, such as drinking water, food and fuel for cooking and heating. The availability of renewable technologies would reduce the time spent on these activities, freeing women to focus attention more on education and the development of micro-entrepreneurial activities.

Contributing to Environmental Sustainability

Developing countries pay the highest price for environmental abuse since they are unable to protect themselves from the challenges posed by climate change. Environmental degradation jeopardises local activities based primarily on agriculture and fishing. REs represent a solution that is immediately available and offers reliable energy resources and services that are accessible and ecologically sustainable. Switching to use of alternative energy sources is essential in order to protect the entire planet.



IT'S EASY

To help achieve global sustainable development, all we need to do is make good use of the planet's natural resources.

Energy for Life is an educational campaign whose aim is to increase awareness and use of renewable energy sources by raising public awareness about the real possibility of providing global access to energy through use of alternative sources.

Investing in alternative energy sources is an extremely valuable opportunity to fight poverty and climate change by reducing dependence from importations of oil and by stimulating research and technological innovation.

Energy coming from the sun, blown by the wind and created by the motion of the sea has the power to transform our current energy system and provide balanced and environment-friendly economic development.




JOIN US

The Energy for Life initiative is taking place in nine countries. The campaign's promoters are Italy, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Malta, Brazil, Tanzania, Laos and Cambodia. Its aim is to create a shared awareness of the opportunities and benefits of increasing the use of renewable energy sources and the problems associated with climate change and depleting reserves of non-renewable and high-pollutant energy sources.

Any citizens, institutions, companies or organisations can join the Energy for Life campaign and promote its content by initiating actions and programmes on sustainable energy use.



www.energy-for-life.info

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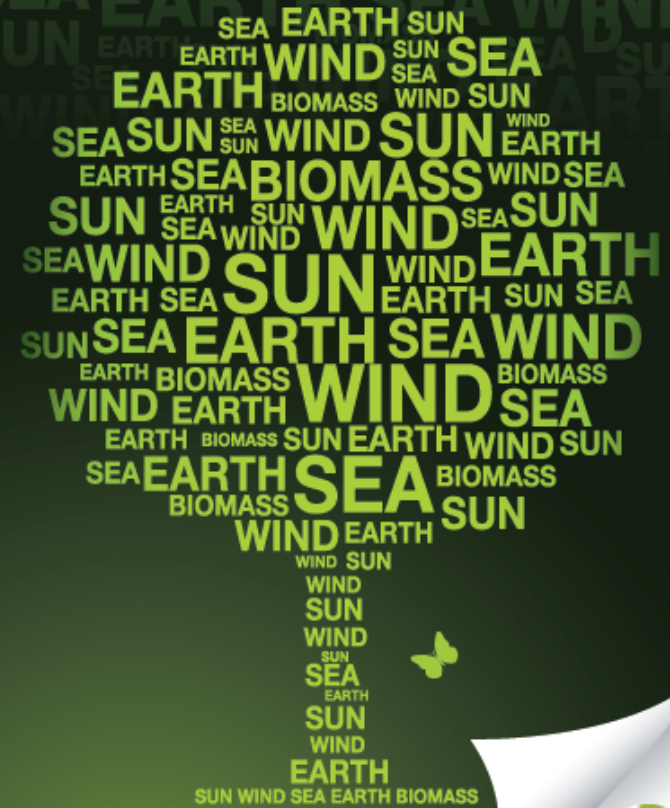



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Papelación ecológica paper

A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE IS MADE OF SIMPLE THINGS



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