

*European Union Briefing
New York, 7 October 2009*

Sustainable Development:

***Promotion of New and Renewable
Sources of Energy
(Report of the Secretary-General)***

Division for Sustainable Development

UN-DESA



Background

General Assembly reaffirmed in its Resolution 62/197 the importance of energy for sustainable development, especially the need for the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy.

The General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its 64th session a report on the implementation of its resolution 62/197.





The world is facing the challenges of global warming and increasing global energy demand. This requires greater energy diversification and an increase in the share of renewable energy in the global future energy supply.



Adequate national policies and programmes must create an enabling regulatory framework to ensure:

Research, development, deployment and transfer of renewable energy technologies, especially to developing countries

Public and private investments in renewable energy at local, national and international levels

Public-Private Partnerships and international cooperation.

A Major Transformation of the World Energy System

To increase *energy access*

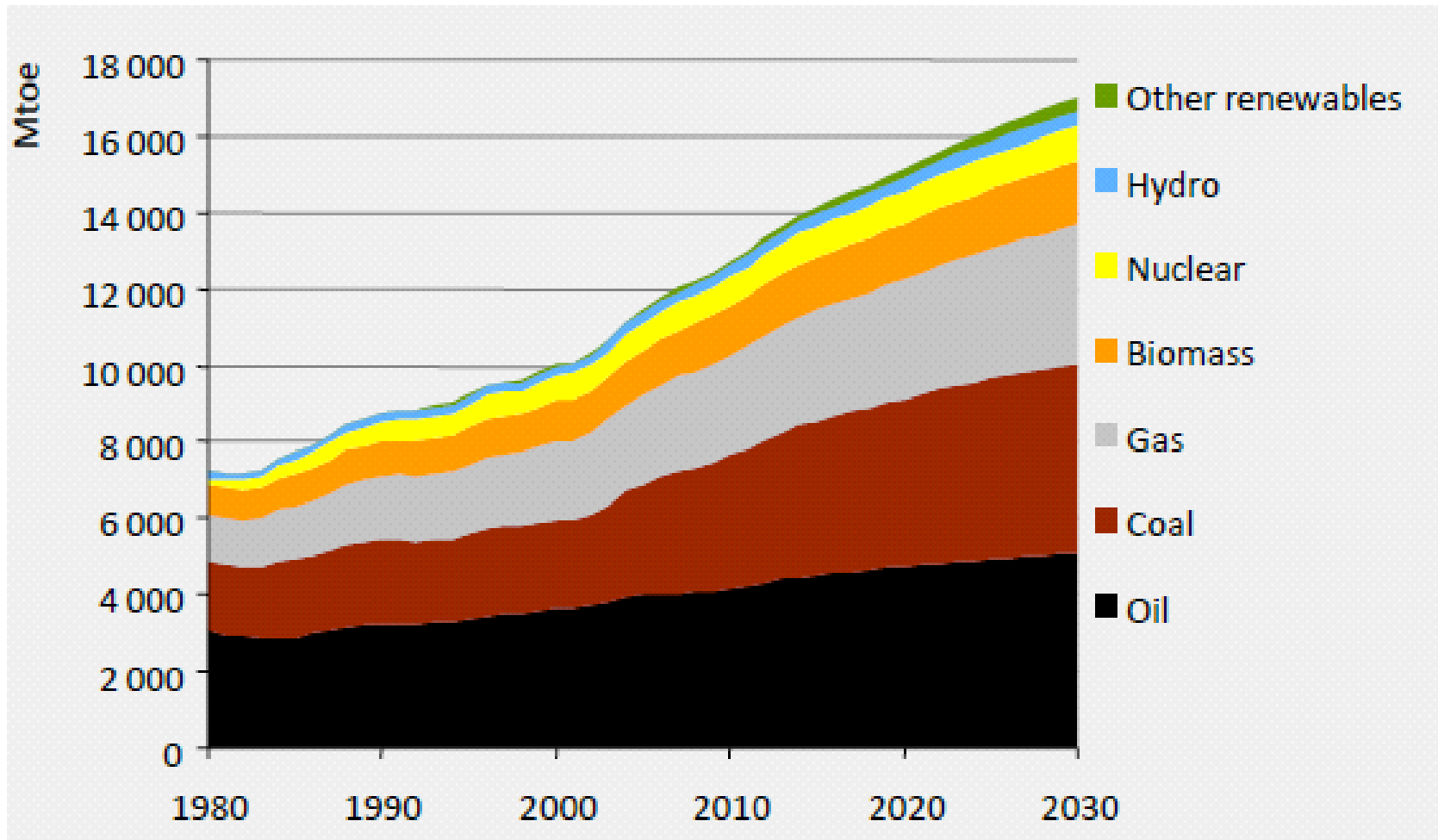
To satisfy dramatic increase in energy demand

To improve efficiencies

To shift to low-carbon and environmentally-sound technologies

Renewable Energy can play a crucial role

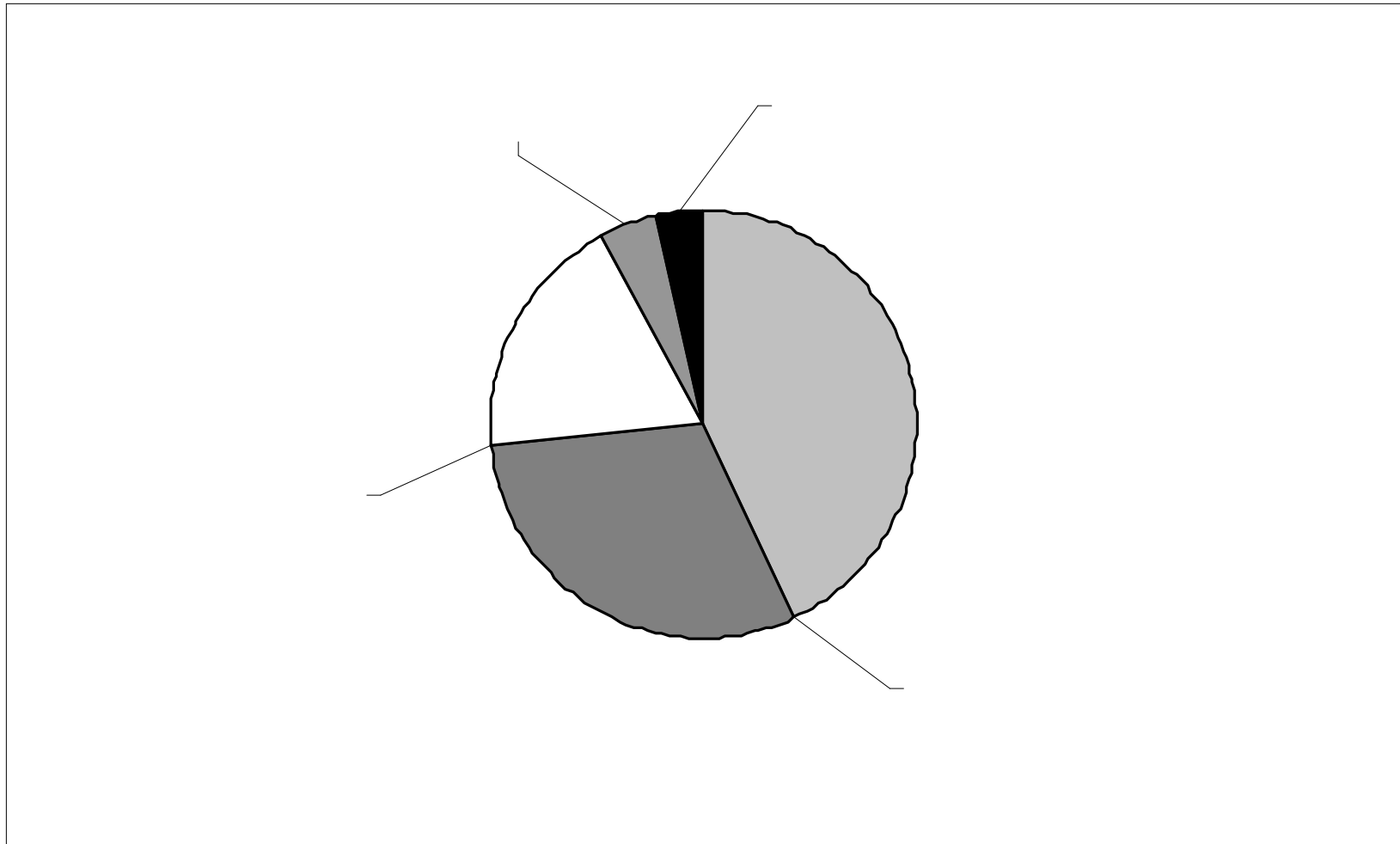
World Primary Energy Demand (IEA Reference Scenario)



Source: IEA, WEO 2008.

*Renewable energy share of
global final energy consumption*

Renewable electric power capacity by share type



Source: REN21: Renewables Global Status Report, 2009 Update .

Renewable Energy Investments 2008-2009

Investments in 2008 in renewable energy power capacity additions surpassed conventional capacity additions

2008 Global renewables investment increased by 13% to \$117 billion. Investments in developing countries increased by 27%

A 53% decrease in investment in the first quarter of 2009

Barriers to Renewable Energy Technology development and transfer

Technical potential of renewable energy is huge

Costs of renewable energy technologies

Cost comparisons vary considerably and depend on many factors

Some factors include: availability and capacity factors, size, geographic location and financial factors



International Cooperation

International financial institutions (WB, GEF, regional development banks) provide funding

Many UN agencies promote renewable energy (UNDESA, UNIDO, UNEP, UNDP, HABITAT, etc.)

Many international partnerships contribute to promotion of renewables such as: the African-European Union Energy Partnership, DESERTEC, Regional Centre for RE in Middle East and North Africa, etc.

International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

Concluding Remarks (ii)

Policies must be stable, consistent and predictable

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Thank you!

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