

## Seminar on Energy and Climate Change

### Renewables

Júlia Seixas  
mjs@fct.unl.pt

# INNOVATIVE RENEWABLES

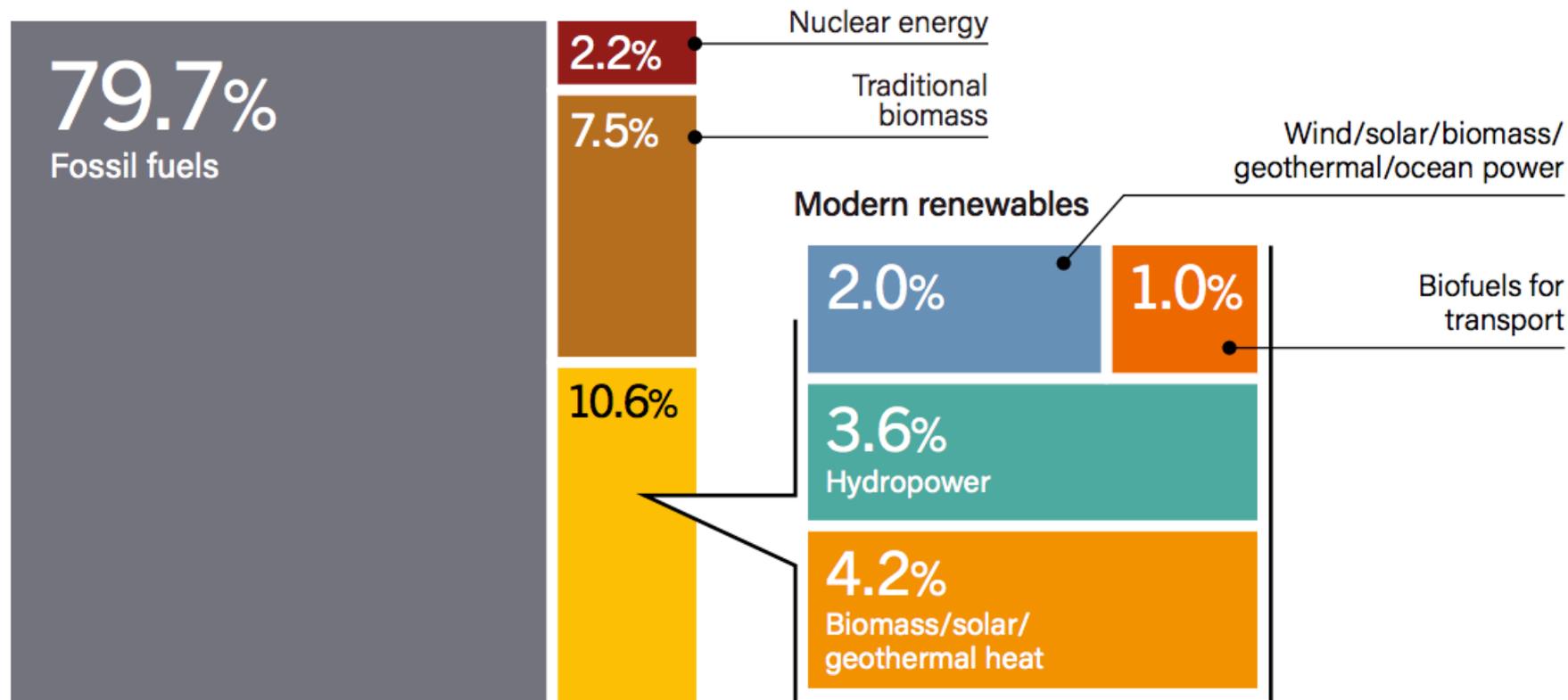


High altitude wind

Exemple #1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vMTchVXedkk>

# Renewables represent a very small share of the world energy system

**FIGURE 1.** Estimated Renewable Share of Total Final Energy Consumption, 2017

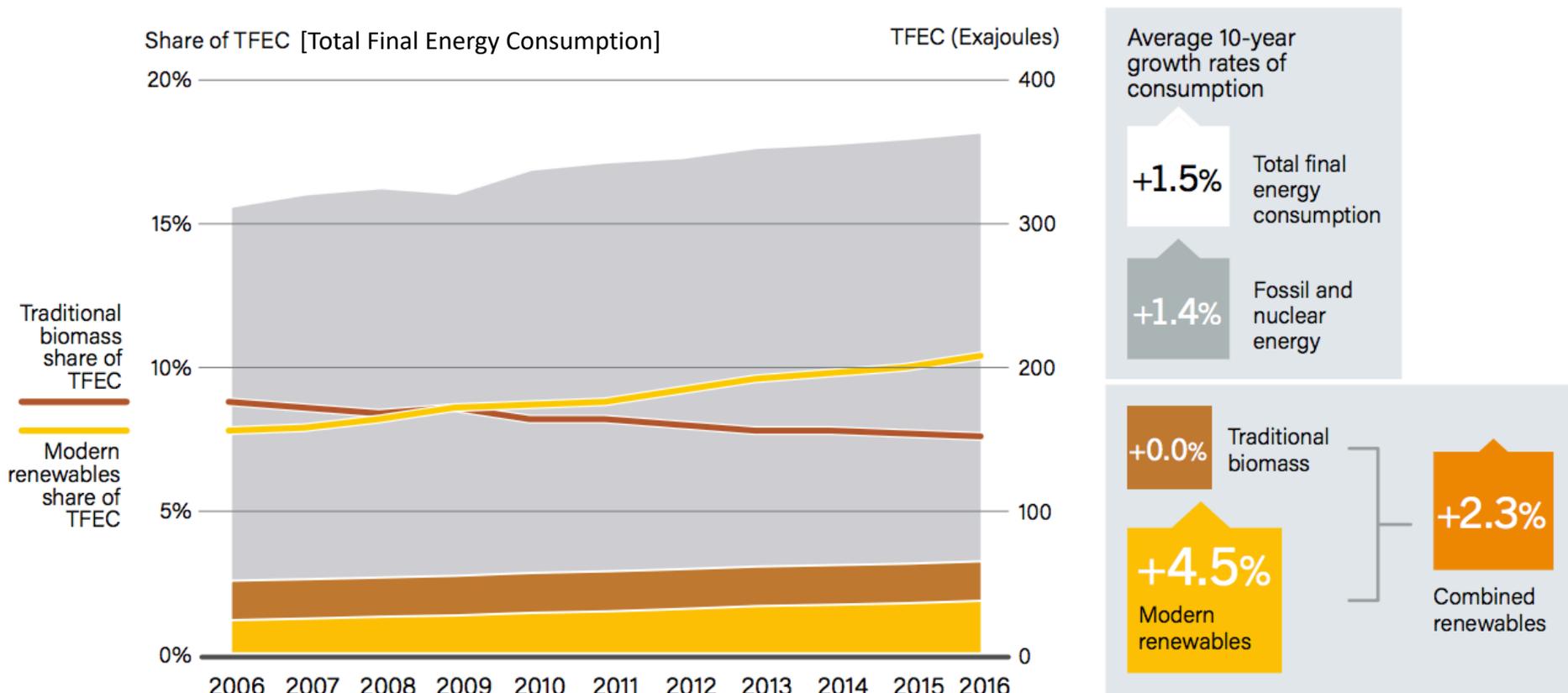


Note: Data should not be compared with previous years because of revisions due to improved or adjusted data or methodology. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Source: Based on OECD/IEA and IEA SHC. See endnote 54 for this chapter.

# Renewables growth (+2.3%) is higher than (fossil + nuclear) growth (+1.4%), 2006-2016

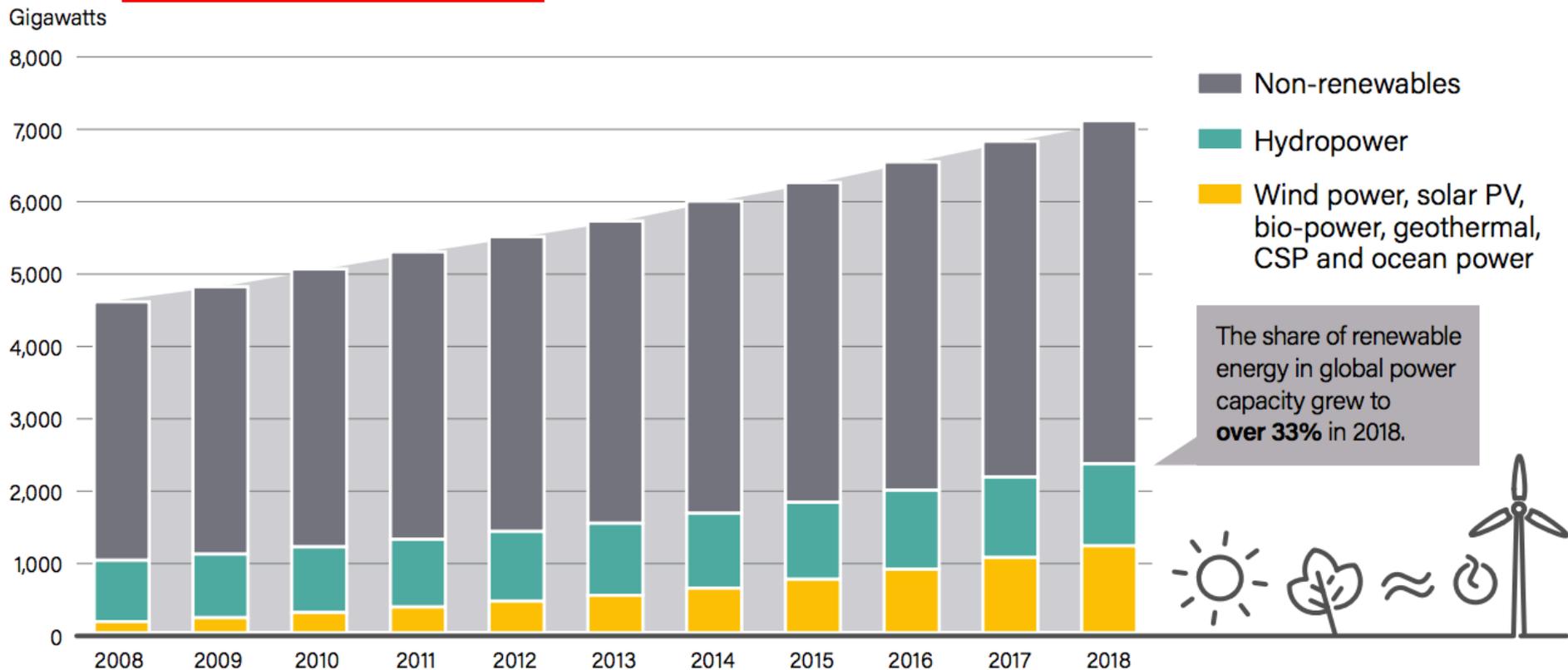
**FIGURE 2.** Growth in Global Renewable Energy Compared to Total Final Energy Consumption, 2006-2016



Source: Based on OECD/IEA. See endnote 57 for this chapter.

# A bit more than 1/3 of global installed capacity for power production is renewable based.

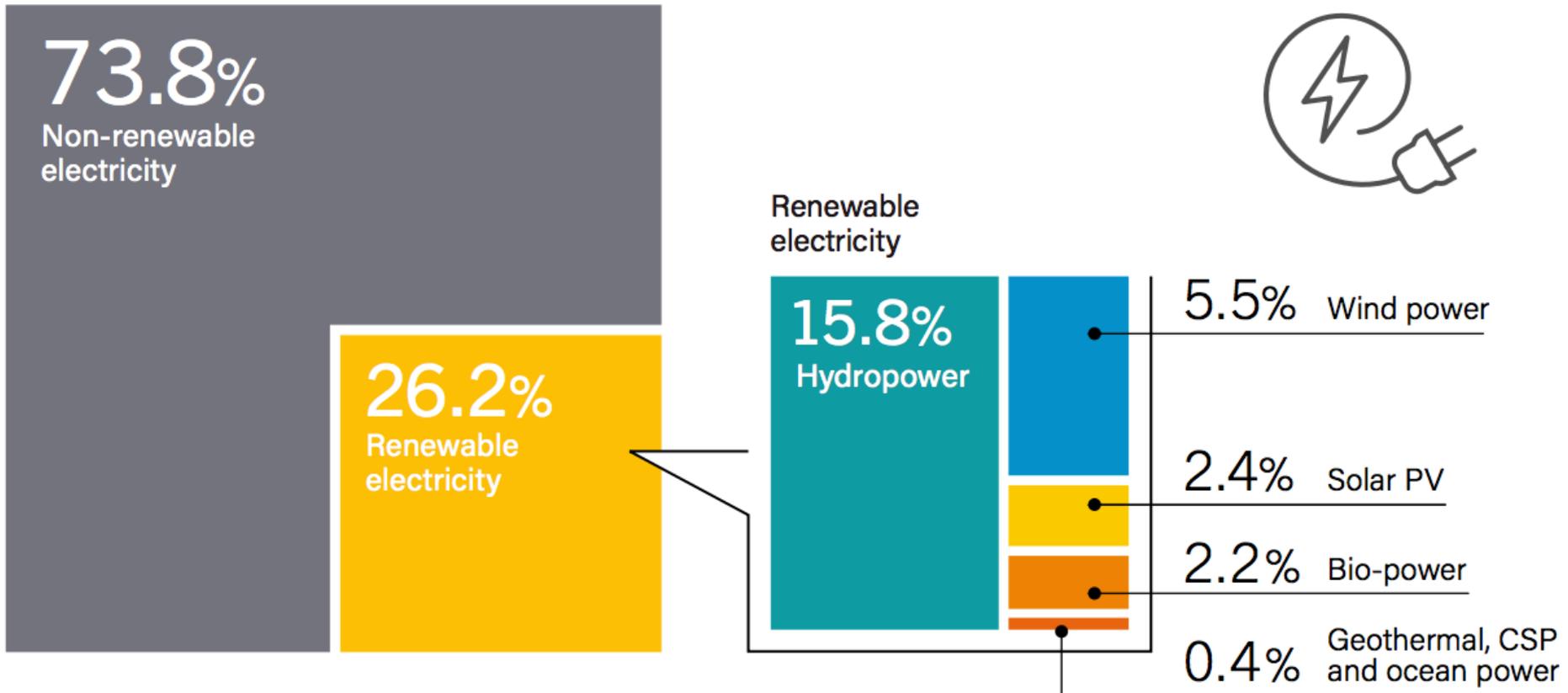
**FIGURE 7. Global Power Generating Capacity, by Source, 2008-2018**



Source: See endnote 190 for this chapter.

# Approximately, 1/4 of global electricity production is from renewable sources

FIGURE 8. Estimated Renewable Energy Share of Global Electricity Production, End-2018

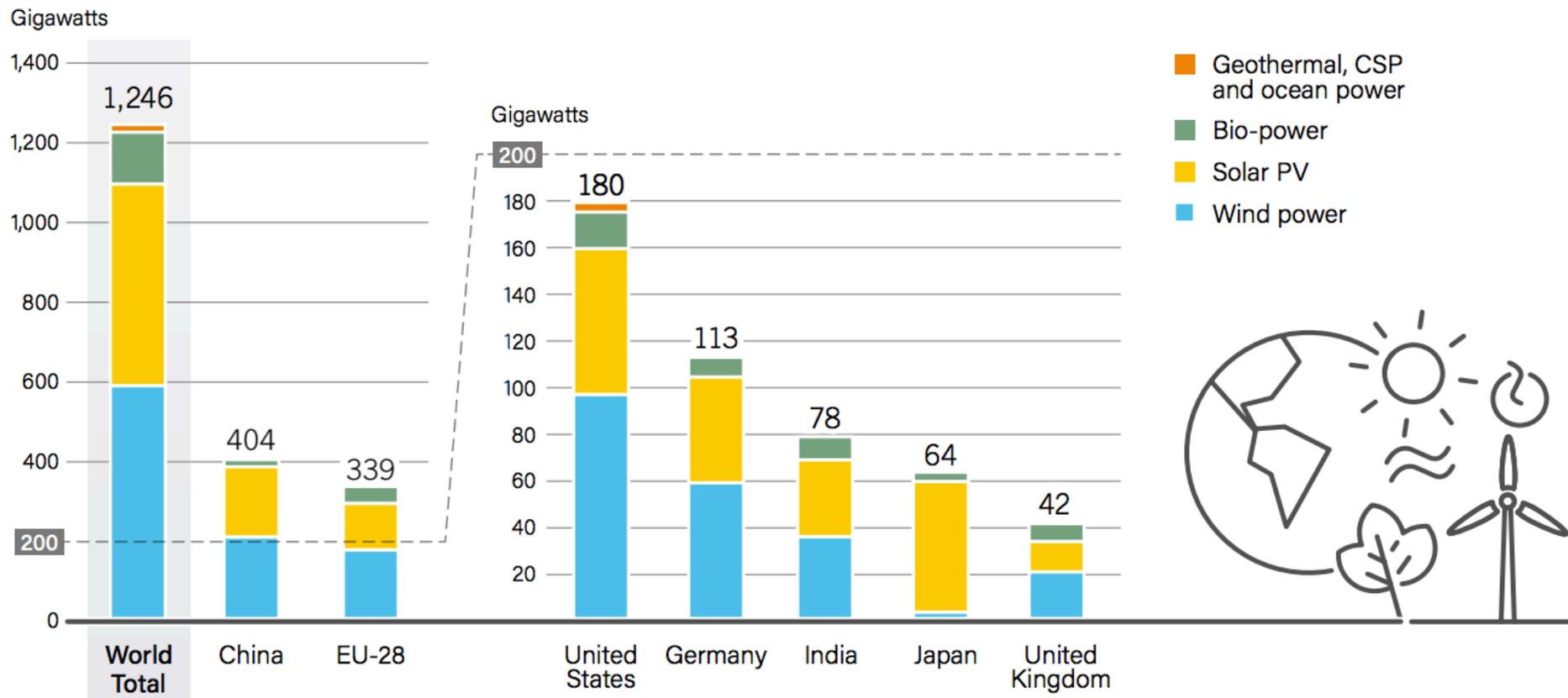


Note: Data should not be compared with previous versions of this figure due to revisions in data and methodology.

Source: See endnote 192 for this chapter.

# Higher renewable installed capacity (>200GW) in China and EU28, in 2018

**FIGURE 9.** Renewable Power Capacities in World, EU-28 and Top 6 Countries, 2018



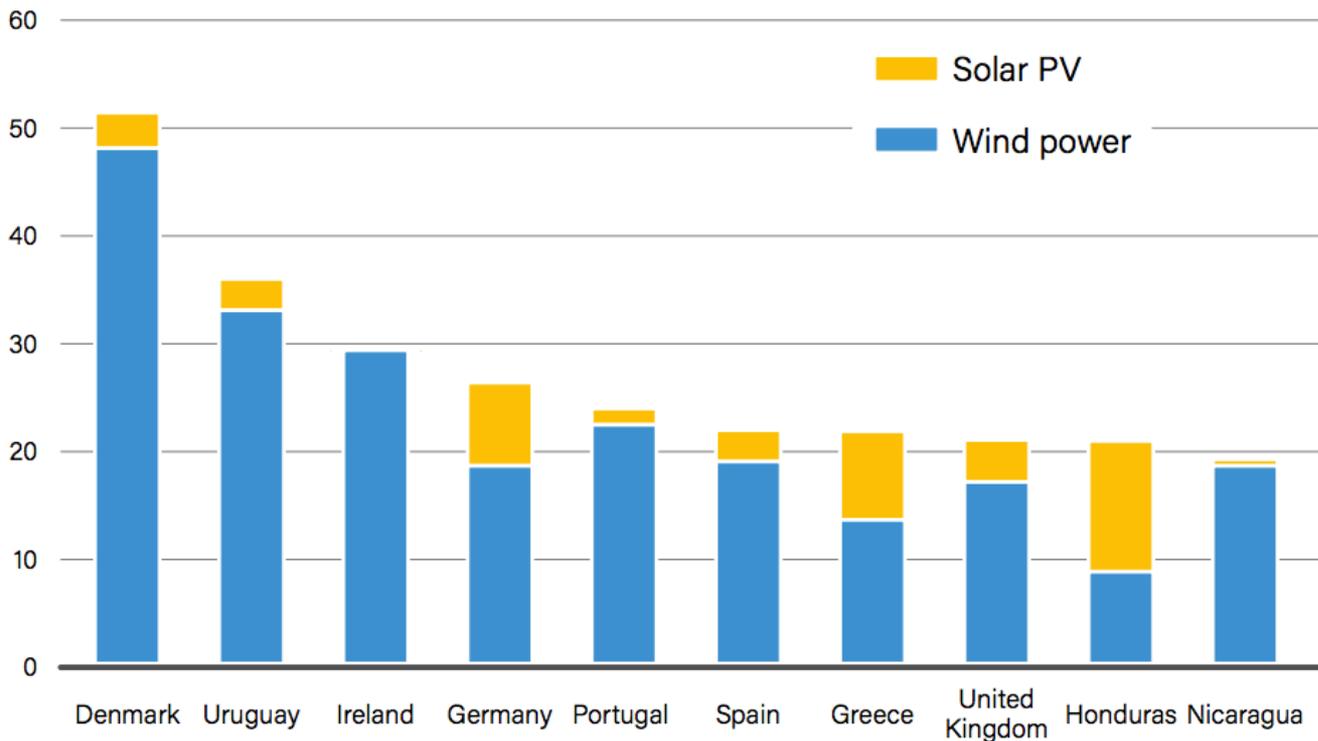
Note: Not including hydropower.

Source: See endnote 195 for this chapter.

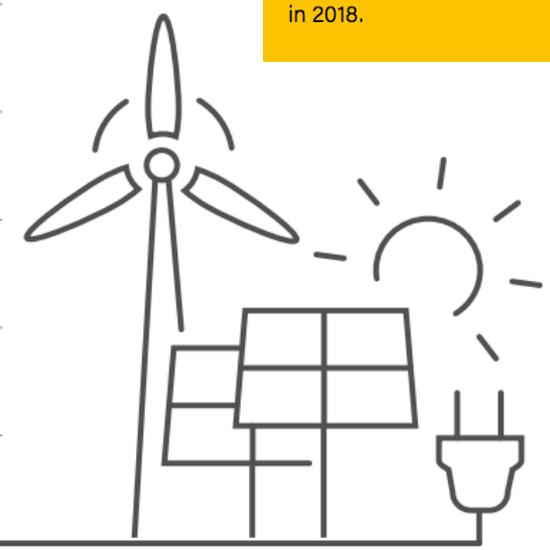
# Portugal is at Top10 of countries with highest share of renewable electricity in 2018

FIGURE 10. Share of Electricity Generation from Variable Renewable Energy, Top 10 Countries, 2018

Share of total generation (%)



At least nine countries produced more than **20%** of their electricity from wind energy and solar PV in 2018.

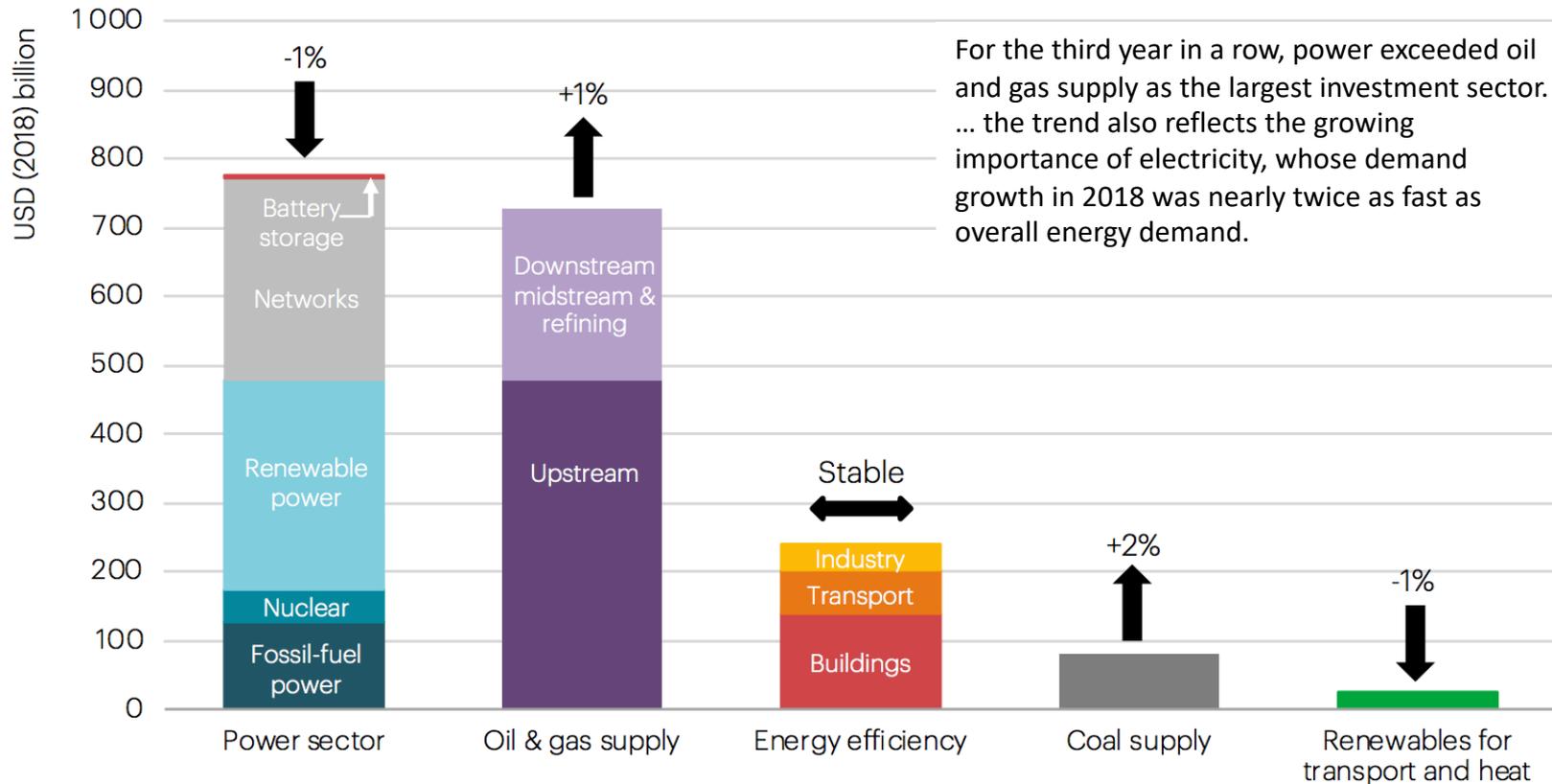


Note: This figure includes the top 10 countries according to the best available data known to REN21 at the time of publication.

Source: See endnote 203 for this chapter.

# Investment in fossil (2<sup>nd</sup>+4<sup>rd</sup> columns) higher than investment in renewable power system (1<sup>st</sup> column, except fossil-fuel power)

Global energy investment in 2018 and change compared to 2017

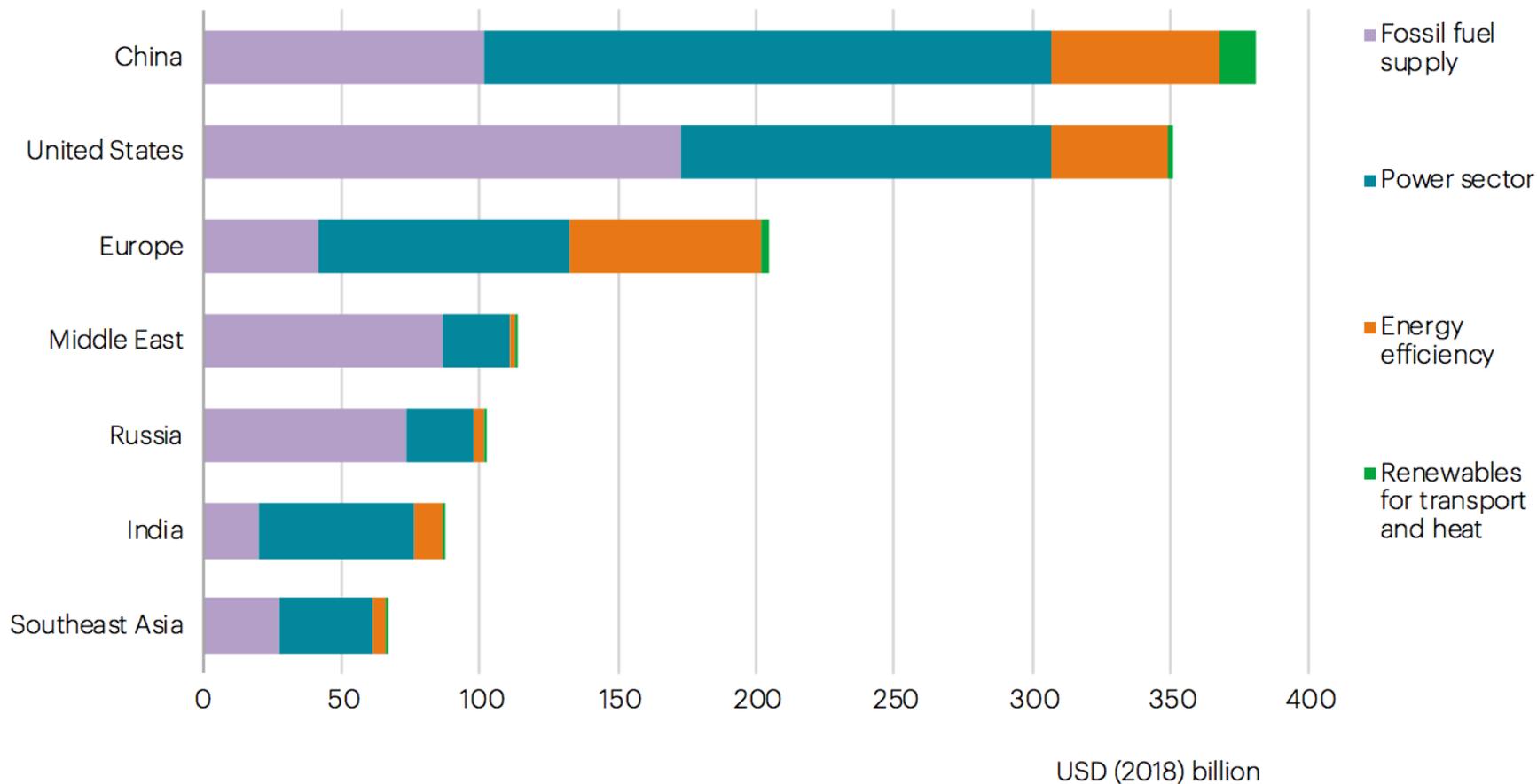


For the third year in a row, power exceeded oil and gas supply as the largest investment sector. ... the trend also reflects the growing importance of electricity, whose demand growth in 2018 was nearly twice as fast as overall energy demand.

Note: Investment is measured as the ongoing capital spending in energy supply capacity and incremental spending on more efficient equipment and goods (in energy efficiency). The scope and methodology for tracking energy investments is found in the Annex of this report as well as at [iea.org/media/publications/wei/WEI2019-Methodology-Annex.pdf](https://www.iea.org/media/publications/wei/WEI2019-Methodology-Annex.pdf). Renewables for transport and heat include biofuels for transport and solar thermal heating. Electricity networks include transmission and distribution.

# China remained the largest market for total energy investment in 2018

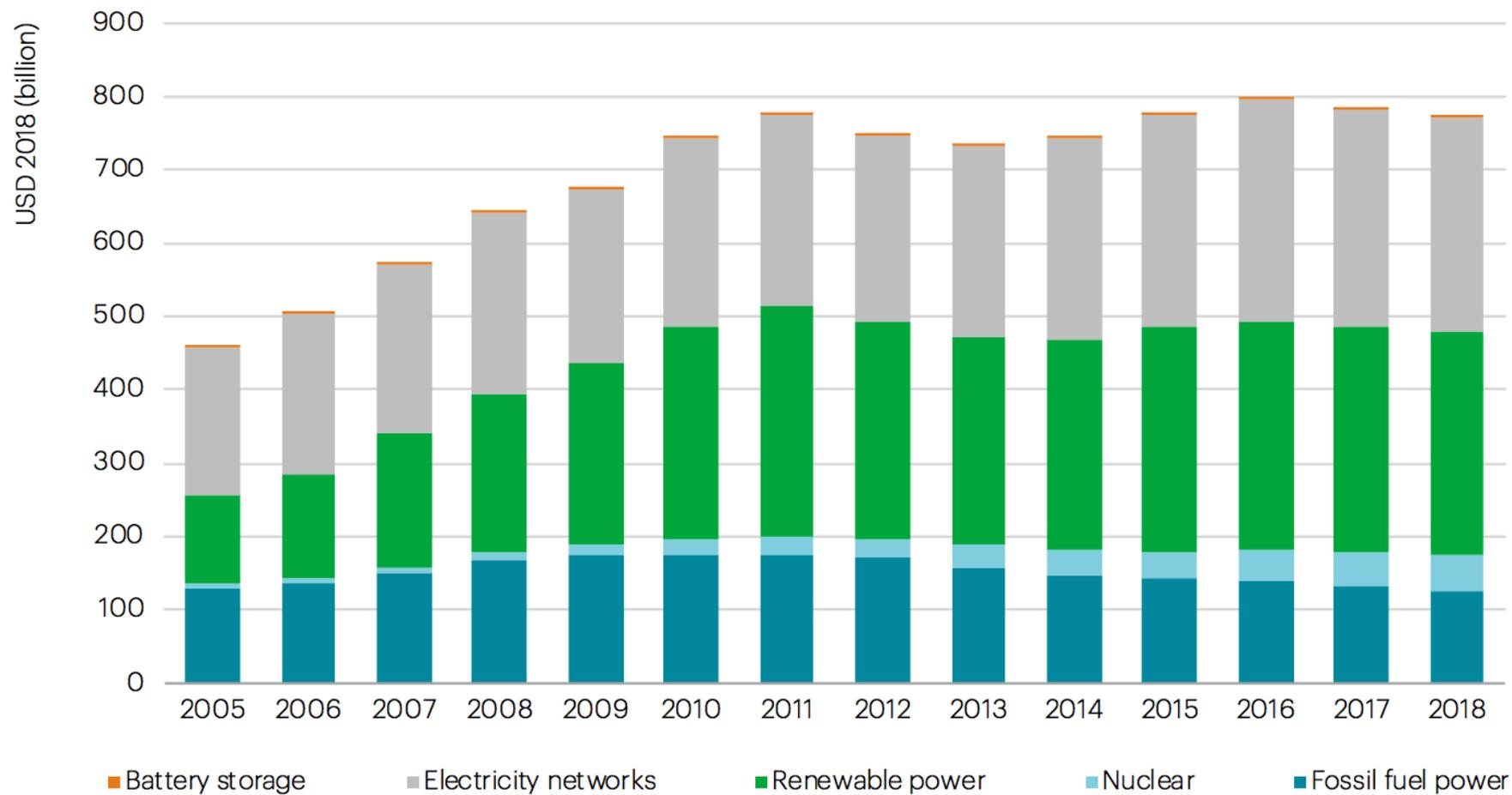
Energy investment by sector in selected markets in 2018



# Global electricity investment declined by 1% in 2018...



Global investment in the power sector by technology

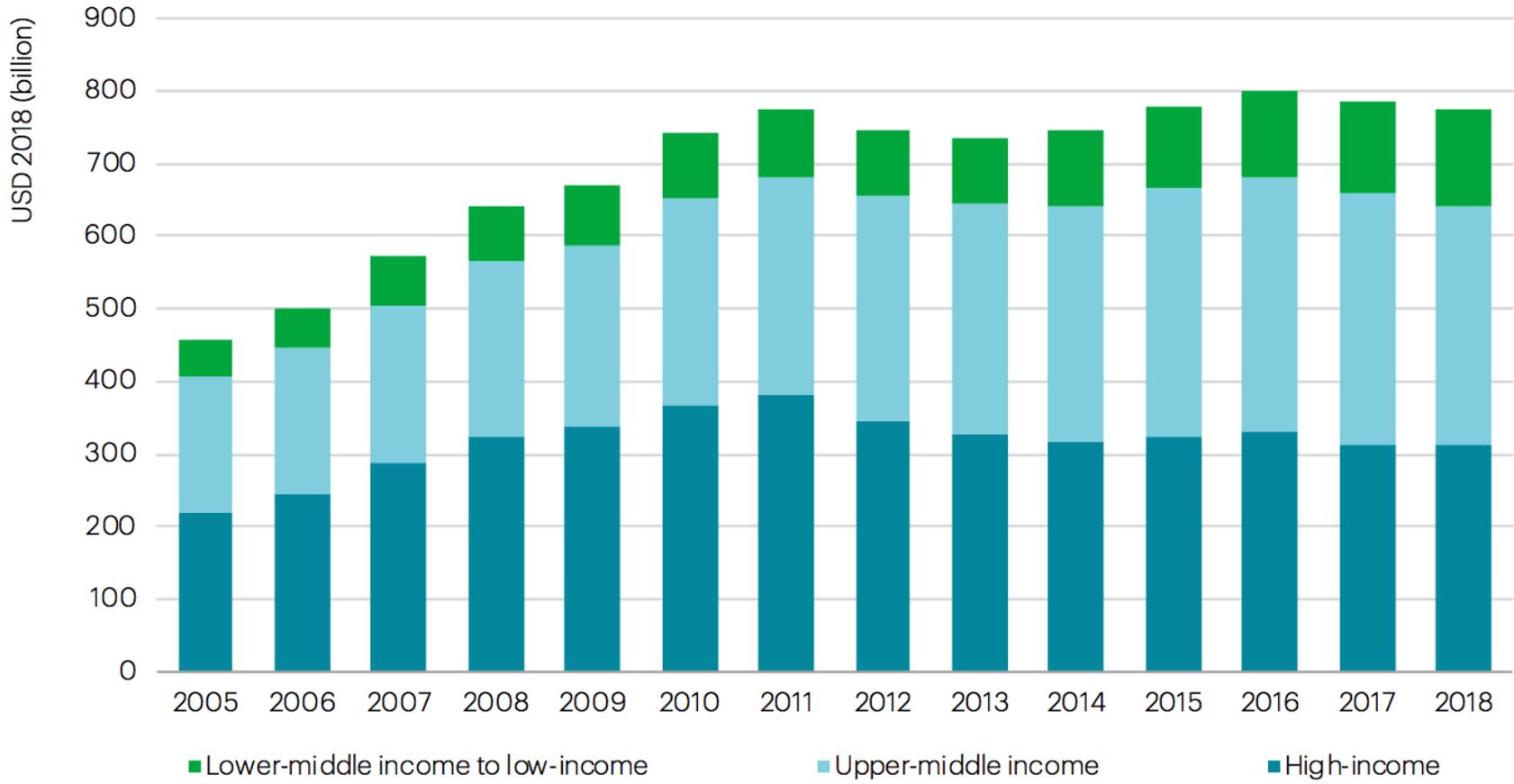


Note: Investment is measured as the ongoing capital spending in power capacity. The scope and methodology for tracking energy investments is found in the Annex of this report as well as at [iea.org/media/publications/wei/WEI2019-Methodology-Annex.pdf](https://www.iea.org/media/publications/wei/WEI2019-Methodology-Annex.pdf).



# Power investment is shifting towards emerging & developing economies...

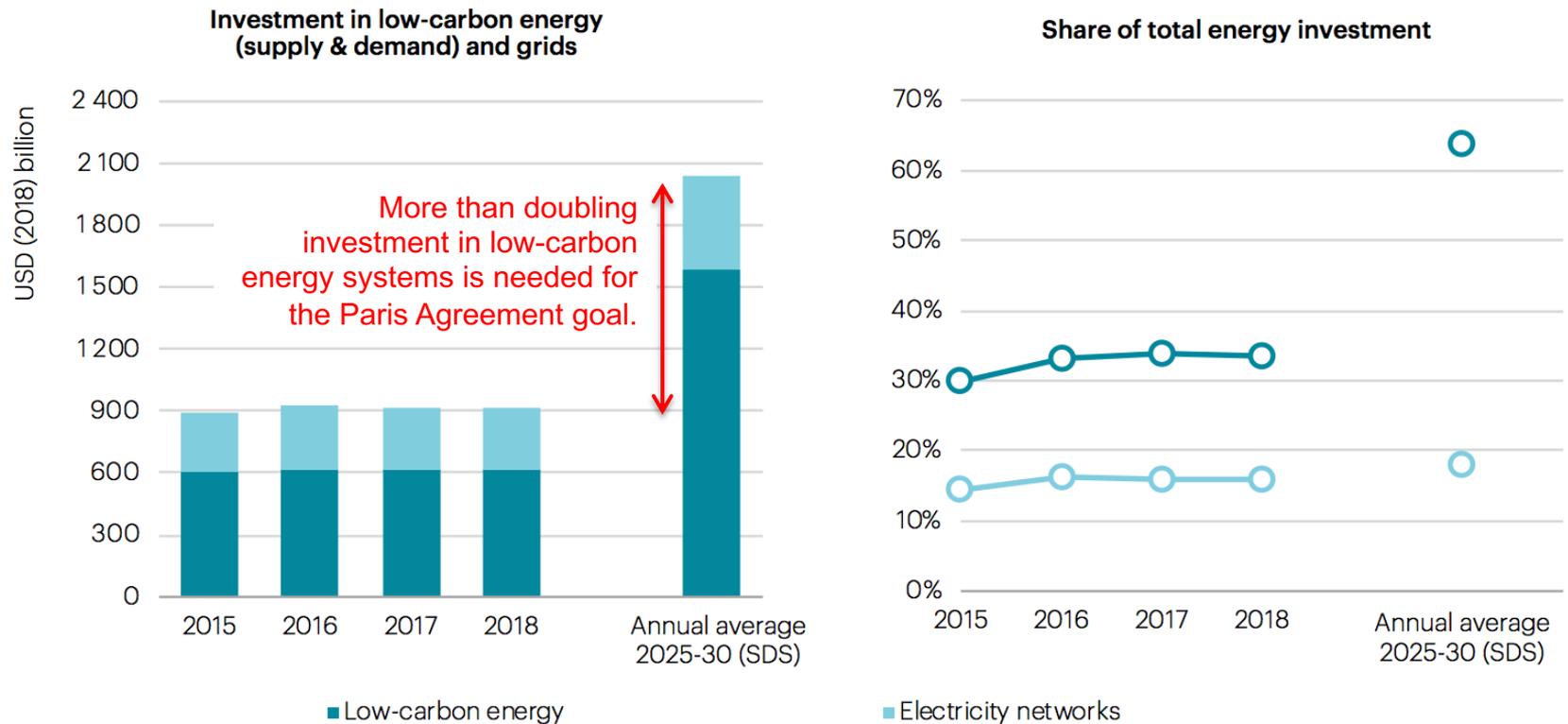
Global investment in the power sector by region, classified by current income level



Note: Income categories are defined on the basis of gross national income/capita (current USD) thresholds by region, as of 2018, from World Bank (2019).

# Total investment across low-carbon energy – including supply and efficiency – has stalled in recent years and needs a rapid boost to keep Paris in sight

Global investment in low-carbon energy, including efficiency, and electricity networks compared with investment needs (SDS)



Note: Low-carbon energy investment includes energy efficiency, renewable power, renewables for transport and heat, nuclear, battery storage and carbon capture utilisation and storage. SDS = Sustainable Development Scenario.

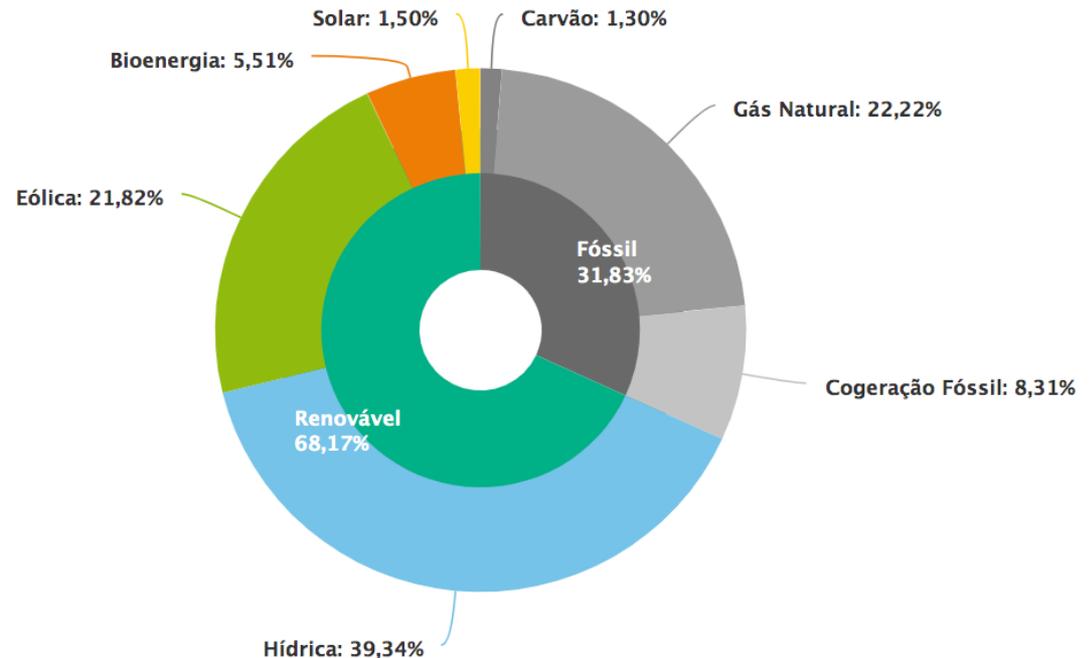
# RENEWABLES IN Portugal: one shot!

## Balanço da Produção de Eletricidade de Portugal Continental (fevereiro de 2020)



Em fevereiro de 2020, as fontes de energia renovável contribuíram com 68,17% do total da geração de eletricidade.

Fonte: REN



EXPLORE MORE here:



<https://www.apren.pt/pt/energias-renovaveis/producao>

## **Key concepts to understand the role of renewables in energy systems:**

- **LCOE (levelized cost of electricity)**
- **Learning curves**
- **Capacity factor**
- **Dispatchability**
- **Energy system value**

# HOW TO COMPARE THE COST OF ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION FROM DIFFERENT TECHNOLOGIES?

**Table 5.1: Typical capital and operating costs for power plants. Note that these costs do not include subsidies, incentives, or any "social costs" (e.g., air or water emissions)**

Technology	Capital Cost (\$/kW)	Operating Cost (\$/kWh)
Coal-fired combustion turbine	\$500 — \$1,000	0.02 — 0.04
Natural gas combustion turbine	\$400 — \$800	0.04 — 0.10
Coal gasification combined-cycle (IGCC)	\$1,000 — \$1,500	0.04 — 0.08
Natural gas combined-cycle	\$600 — \$1,200	0.04 — 0.10
Wind turbine (includes offshore wind)	\$1,200 — \$5,000	Less than 0.01
Nuclear	\$1,200 — \$5,000	0.02 — 0.05
Photovoltaic Solar	\$4,500 and up	Less than 0.01
Hydroelectric	\$1,200 — \$5,000	Less than 0.01

Basic economics of power generation, transmission and distribution, PennState Univ  
<https://www.e-education.psu.edu/eme801/node/530>

Why is it not possible to make direct comparison among different technologies?

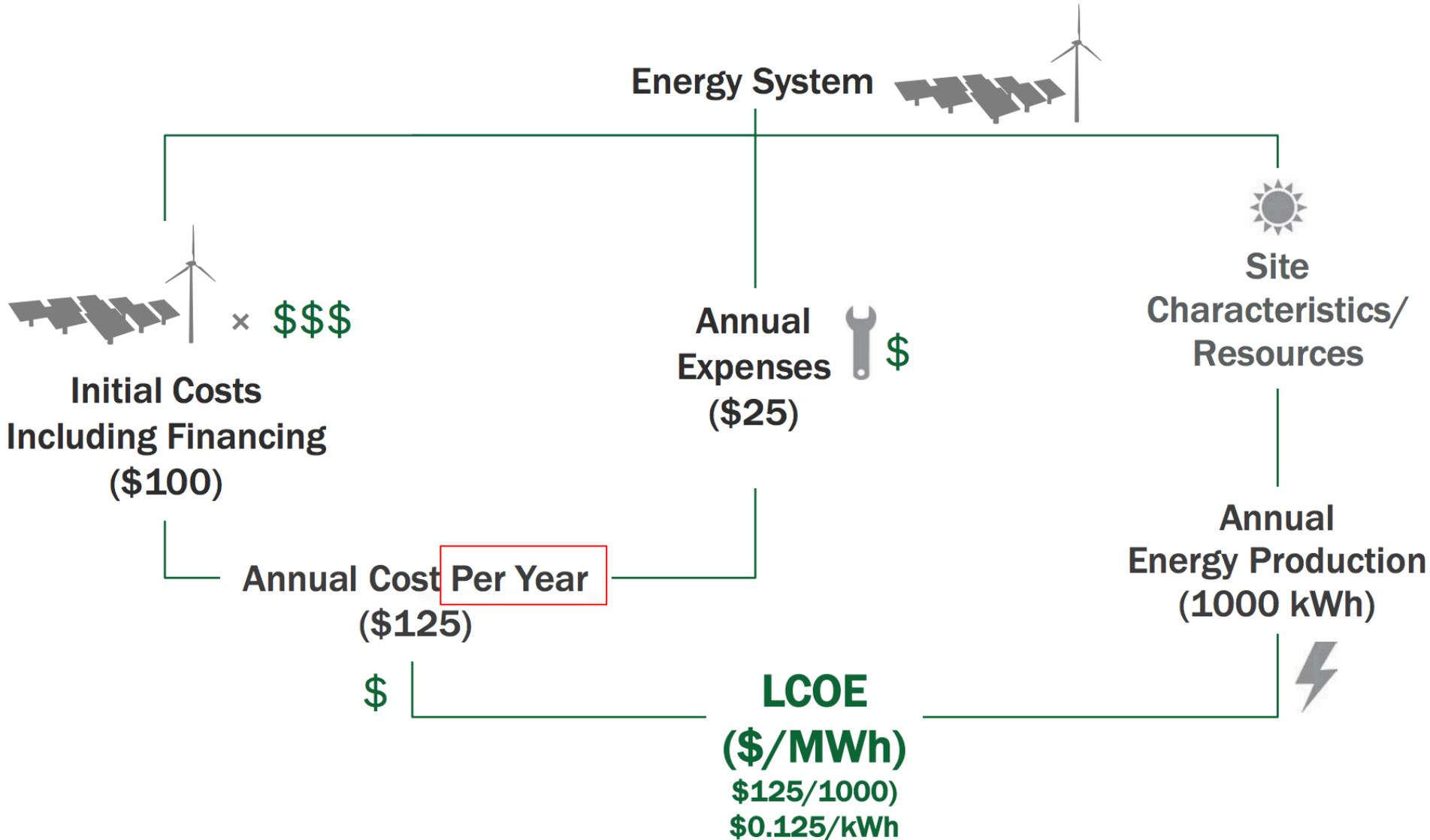
# Key Concept: Levelized Cost of Energy (LCOE)



- Measures lifetime costs divided by energy production
- Calculates present value of the total cost of building and operating a power plant over an assumed lifetime.
- Allows the comparison of different technologies (e.g., wind, solar, natural gas) of unequal life spans, project size, different capital cost, risk, return, and capacities

Critical to making an informed decision to proceed with development of a facility, community or commercial-scale project

# Simple LCOE Concept

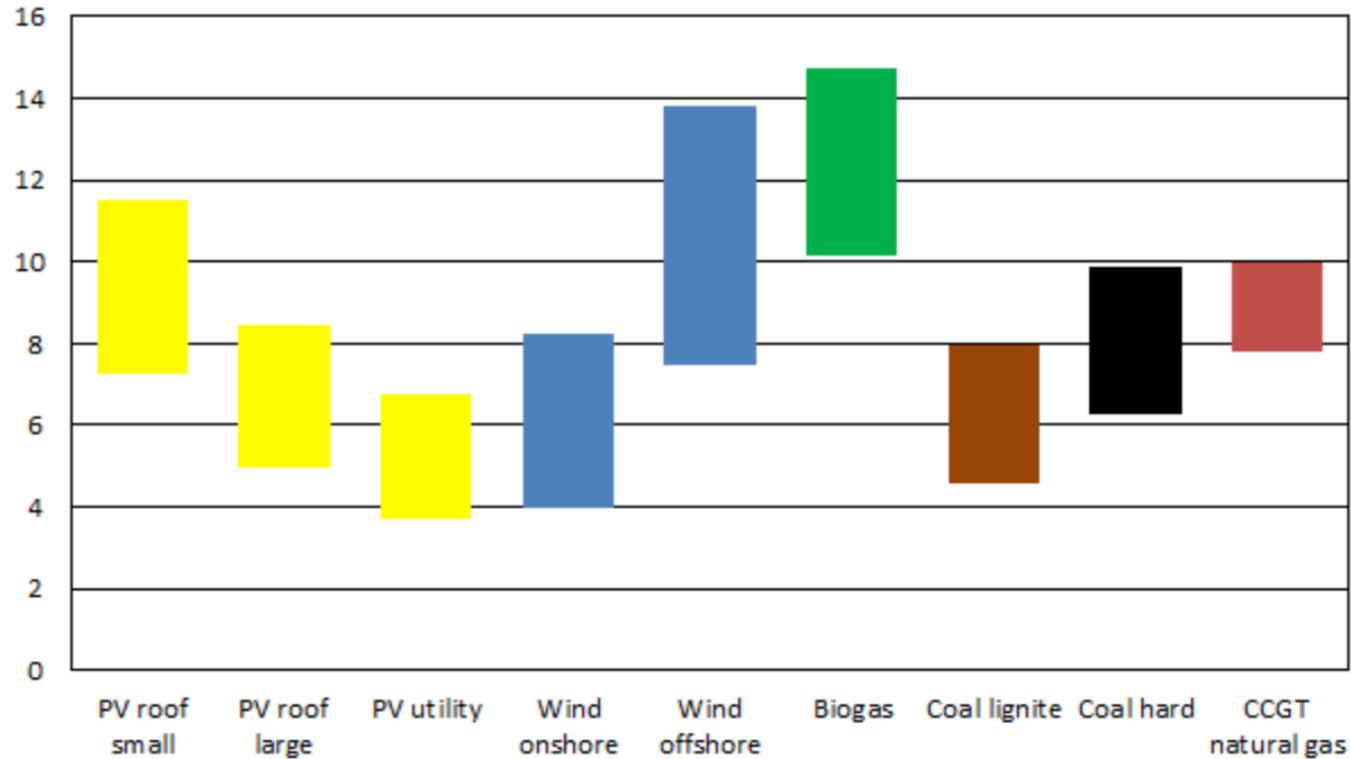


Adapted from European Wind Energy Association, "Economics of Wind Energy,"

[http://www.ewea.org/fileadmin/ewea\\_documents/documents/00\\_POLICY\\_document/Economics\\_of\\_Wind\\_Energy\\_March\\_2009\\_.pdf](http://www.ewea.org/fileadmin/ewea_documents/documents/00_POLICY_document/Economics_of_Wind_Energy_March_2009_.pdf)

## Levelized cost of electricity for Germany

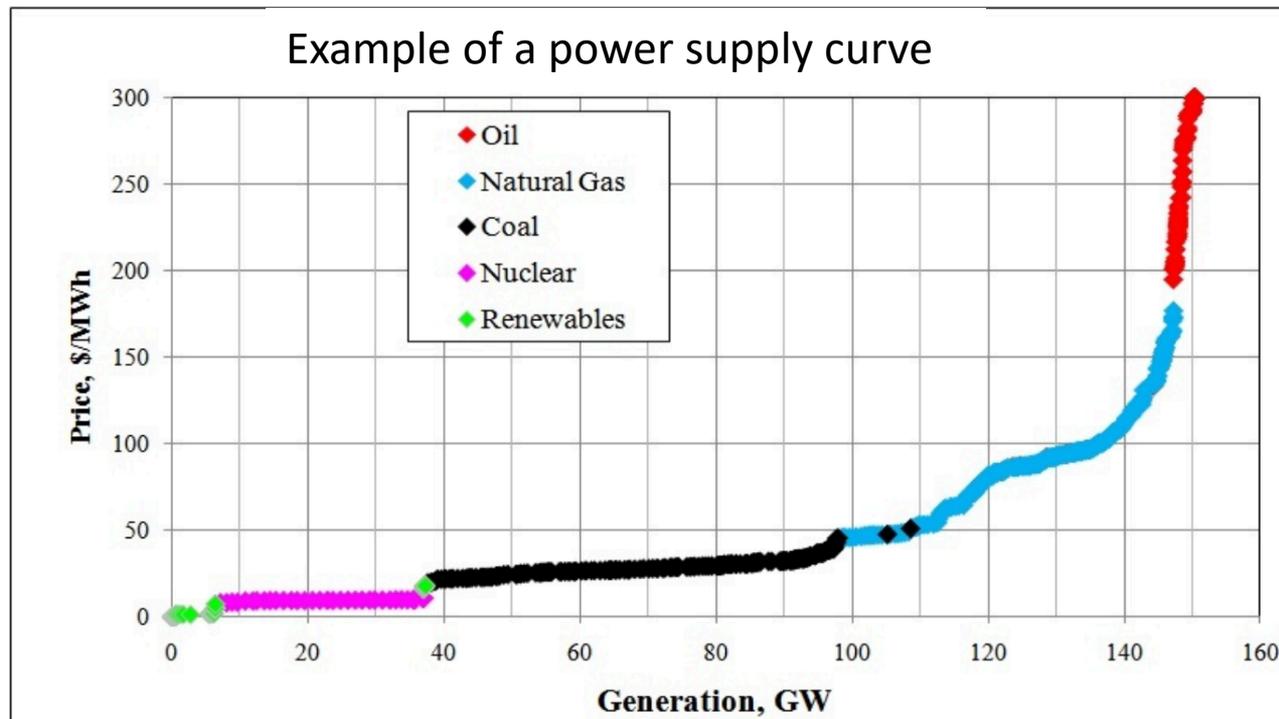
in EuroCent/kWh, source: Fraunhofer ISE; March 2018



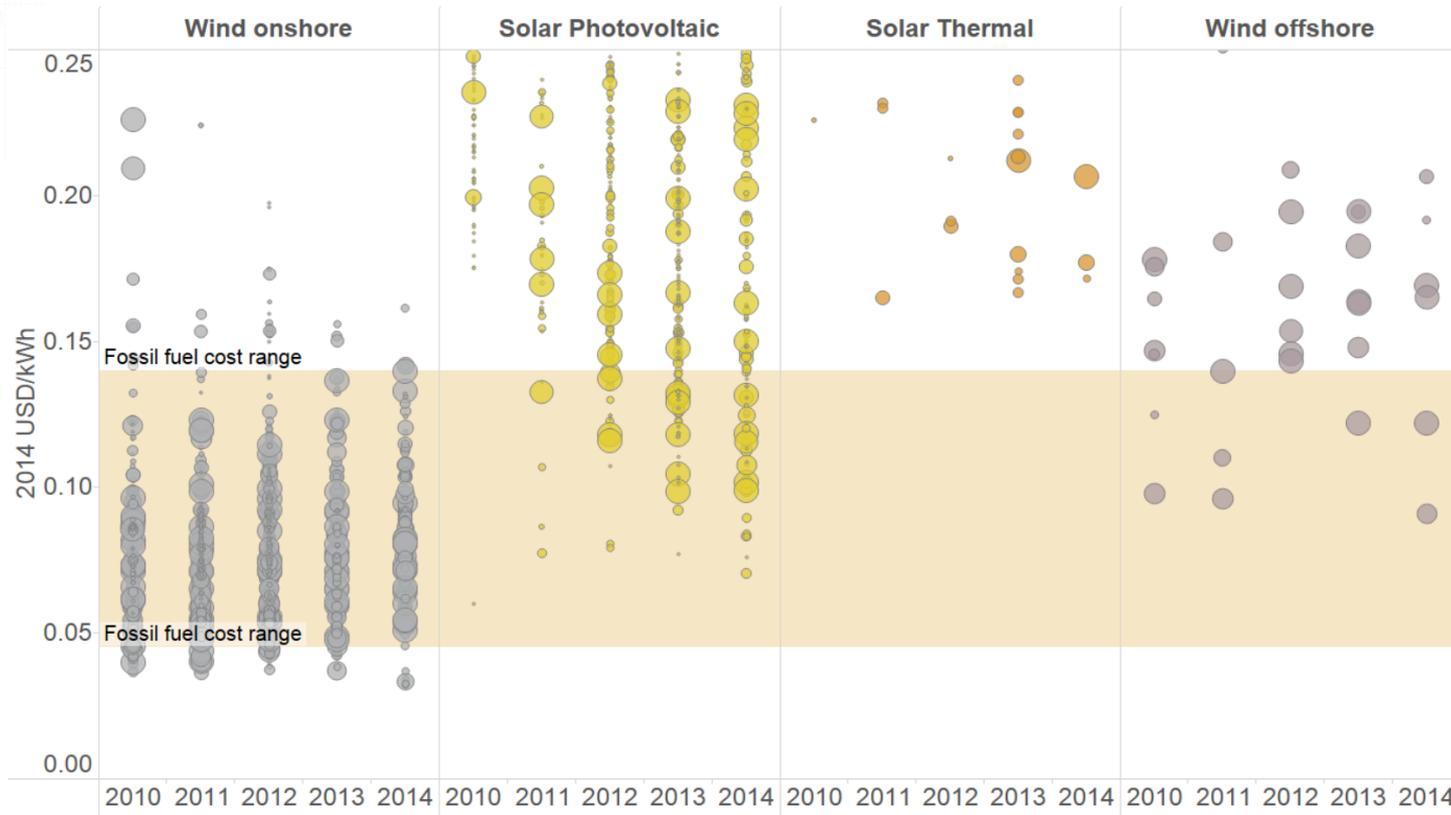
Comparison of the levelized cost of electricity for some newly built renewable and fossil-fuel based power stations in EuroCent per kWh (Germany, 2018)

# HOW TO DECIDE TO PUT A POWER PLANT OPERATING WITHIN A POWER SYSTEM?

A supply curve consists of a series of discrete steps, each step having two components: the cost of an energy resource and the capacity or energy available at that cost. The first component (the cost of energy from PV) may be expressed as the “levelized cost of electricity” (LCOE).



# New renewable power technologies: Rapidly maturing

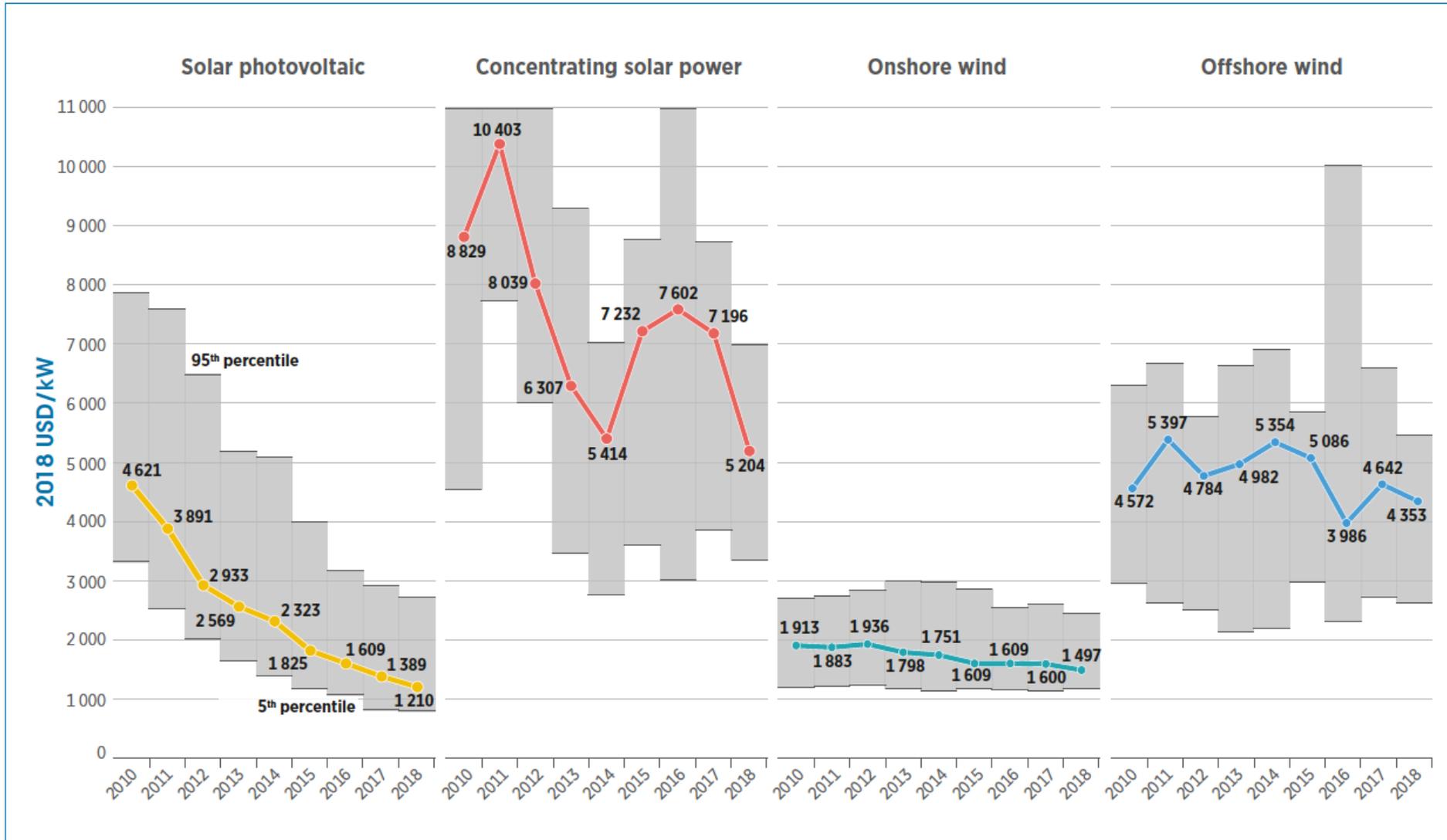


Note: each circle represents a utility-scale project, centre of circle is LCOE value and diameter of circle the project size

<https://www.irena.org/publications/2016/Jun/The-Power-to-Change-Solar-and-Wind-Cost-Reduction-Potential-to-2025>

LCOE changes along the time, because technologies become mature (CAPEX reduces)

**Figure S.2** Global weighted average total installed costs and project percentile ranges for CSP, solar PV, onshore and offshore wind, 2010–2018



2016

2030

2050

2016

2030

2050

Technology		CF Range		CAPEX Range		OPEX			LCOE Range	
		Min. (%)	Max. (%)	Min. (\$/kW)	Max. (\$/kW)	Fuel Costs (\$/MWh)	Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr)	Variable O&M (\$/MWh)	Min. (\$/MWh)	Max. (\$/MWh)
Dispatchable										
Coal	PC	53%	85%	\$ 3,896	\$ 3,896	\$ 19	\$ 33	\$ 5	\$ 74	\$ 105
	IGCC	53%	85%	\$ 4,180	\$ 4,180	\$ 19	\$ 54	\$ 8	\$ 84	\$ 118
	CCS-30%	53%	85%	\$ 5,392	\$ 5,392	\$ 21	\$ 69	\$ 7	\$ 102	\$ 145
	CCS-90%	53%	85%	\$ 5,962	\$ 5,962	\$ 25	\$ 80	\$ 10	\$ 117	\$ 166
Natural Gas	CT	8%	30%	\$ 898	\$ 898	\$ 28	\$ 12	\$ 7	\$ 59	\$ 122
	CC	56%	87%	\$ 1,050	\$ 1,050	\$ 19	\$ 10	\$ 3	\$ 30	\$ 36
	CC-CCS	56%	87%	\$ 2,192	\$ 2,192	\$ 22	\$ 33	\$ 7	\$ 49	\$ 61
Nuclear		92%	92%	\$ 6,070	\$ 6,070	\$ 7	\$ 99	\$ 2	\$ 63	\$ 63
Biopower		56%	56%	\$ 3,942	\$ 4,070	\$ 39	\$ 53	\$ 5	\$ 107	\$ 109
Geothermal		80%	90%	\$ 5,100	\$ 13,601	\$ 0	\$ 145	\$ 317	\$ 76	\$ 219
CSP with 10-hr TES		44%	60%	\$ 7,842	\$ 7,842	\$ 0	\$ 67	\$ 4	\$ 95	\$ 128
Non-Dispatchable										
Wind	Land-based	11%	48%	\$ 1,523	\$ 1,744	\$ 0	\$ 51	\$ 0	\$ 22	\$ 166
	Offshore	31%	51%	\$ 3,776	\$ 8,152	\$ 0	\$ 131	\$ 0	\$ 95	\$ 241
Photovoltaic	Utility	15%	27%	\$ 1,774	\$ 1,774	\$ 0	\$ 14	\$ 0	\$ 35	\$ 63
	Commercial	12%	20%	\$ 2,591	\$ 2,591	\$ 0	\$ 18	\$ 0	\$ 69	\$ 113
	Residential	13%	21%	\$ 3,782	\$ 3,782	\$ 0	\$ 23	\$ 0	\$ 92	\$ 153
Hydropower		60%	66%	\$ 3,956	\$ 7,383	\$ 0	\$ 41	\$ 0	\$ 35	\$ 69

2016

2030

2050

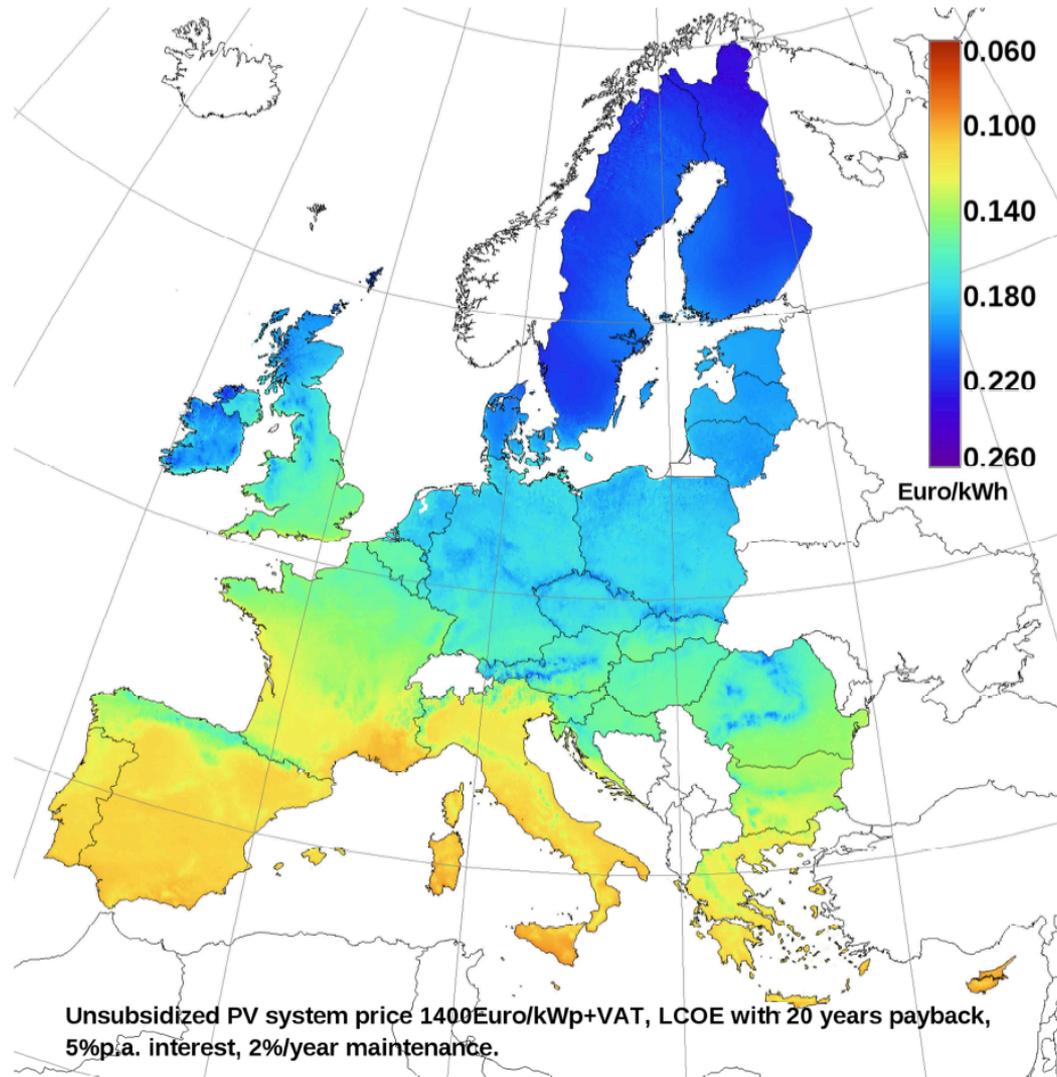
2016

2030

2050

		CF Range		CAPEX Range		OPEX			LCOE Range	
Technology		Min. (%)	Max. (%)	Min. (\$/kW)	Max. (\$/kW)	Fuel Costs (\$/MWh)	Fixed O&M (\$/kW-yr)	Variable O&M (\$/MWh)	Min. (\$/MWh)	Max. (\$/MWh)
Dispatchable										
Coal	PC	53%	85%	\$ 3748	\$ 3748	\$ 20	\$ 33	\$ 5	\$ 85	\$ 120
	IGCC	53%	85%	\$ 3,898	\$ 3,898	\$ 17	\$ 54	\$ 8	\$ 90	\$ 128
	CCS-30%	53%	85%	\$ 5,099	\$ 5,099	\$ 21	\$ 69	\$ 7	\$ 113	\$ 164
	CCS-90%	53%	85%	\$ 5,638	\$ 5,638	\$ 21	\$ 80	\$ 10	\$ 125	\$ 181
Natural Gas	CT	8%	30%	\$ 849	\$ 849	\$ 41	\$ 12	\$ 7	\$ 76	\$ 147
	CC	56%	87%	\$ 997	\$ 997	\$ 28	\$ 10	\$ 3	\$ 42	\$ 48
	CC-CCS	56%	87%	\$ 1,983	\$ 1,983	\$ 34	\$ 33	\$ 7	\$ 64	\$ 77
Nuclear		92%	92%	\$ 5,803	\$ 5,803	\$ 7	\$ 99	\$ 2	\$ 72	\$ 72
Biopower		56%	56%	\$ 3,706	\$ 3,928	\$ 39	\$ 51	\$ 5	\$ 115	\$ 117
Geothermal		80%	90%	\$ 4,922	\$13,125	\$ 0	\$ 145	\$ 317	\$ 83	\$ 240
CSP with 10-hr TES		44%	60%	\$ 5,784	\$ 5,784	\$ 0	\$ 50	\$ 4	\$ 88	\$ 119
Non-Dispatchable										
Wind	Land-based	16%	51%	\$ 1,299	\$ 2,046	\$ 0	\$ 47	\$ 0	\$ 32	\$ 147
	Offshore	33%	52%	\$ 2,514	\$ 5,909	\$ 0	\$ 127	\$ 0	\$ 74	\$ 193
Photovoltaic	Utility	15%	27%	\$ 819	\$ 819	\$ 0	\$ 7	\$ 0	\$ 22	\$ 40
	Commercial	12%	20%	\$ 1,108	\$ 1,108	\$ 0	\$ 8	\$ 0	\$ 40	\$ 66
	Residential	13%	21%	\$ 1,493	\$ 1,493	\$ 0	\$ 9	\$ 0	\$ 50	\$ 83
Hydropower		60%	66%	\$ 3,956	\$ 7,105	\$ 0	\$ 41	\$ 0	\$ 45	\$ 83

LCOE changes with countries, because physical conditions, e.g. sun hours in the case of PV (amount of electricity varies)



[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/269100308\\_Cost\\_Maps\\_for\\_Unsubsidised\\_Photovoltaic\\_Electricity](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/269100308_Cost_Maps_for_Unsubsidised_Photovoltaic_Electricity)

**Fig. 1 Distribution of the levelised cost of PV electricity in Europe.**

# HOW TO REFER TO THE LOCAL CONDITIONS OF A RENEWABLE POWER TECHNOLOGY?

**Capacity factor** is the ratio of the actual electrical energy produced in a given period of time, to the hypothetical maximum possible electrical energy output over that period.

What factors limit the electricity generation along the day or along the year?

- availability of the technology (e.g. maintenance)
- availability of the resources (sun: daily profile; hydro: seasonal profile), depending on the local

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Annual Capacity Factor} &= \frac{\text{Actual generation}}{\text{Maximum generation}} \\ &= \frac{10,000 \text{ kWh}}{2 \text{ kW} * 8760 \text{ hr}} = 57\% \\ &\quad \text{Number of total hours in a year}\end{aligned}$$

**The capacity factor (CF) is directly related with natural endogenous conditions and impacts the amount of electricity generated: higher CF more electricity produced**

# Capacity factors varies with technology and along the year (also with the regions of the planet)

**Table 6.7.B. Capacity Factors for Utility Scale Generators Not Primarily Using Fossil Fuels, January 2013-February 2018**

Period	Nuclear	Conventional Hydropower	Wind	Solar Photovoltaic	Solar Thermal	Landfill Gas and Municipal Solid Waste	Other Biomass Including Wood	Geothermal
<b>Annual Factors</b>								
2013	89.9%	38.9%	32.4%	NA	NA	68.9%	56.7%	73.6%
2014	91.7%	37.3%	34.0%	25.9%	19.8%	68.9%	58.9%	74.0%
2015	92.3%	35.8%	32.2%	25.8%	22.1%	68.7%	55.3%	74.3%
2016	92.3%	38.2%	34.5%	25.1%	22.2%	69.7%	55.6%	73.9%
2017	92.2%	45.2%	36.7%	27.0%	21.8%	70.9%	50.7%	76.4%
<b>Year 2016</b>								
January	98.5%	43.6%	33.9%	15.2%	6.8%	68.3%	58.5%	73.4%
February	95.3%	43.8%	39.6%	22.9%	19.5%	67.6%	61.2%	73.2%
March	89.9%	45.9%	40.2%	24.9%	19.6%	67.2%	55.8%	72.5%
April	88.1%	44.6%	39.3%	27.2%	20.9%	69.3%	45.8%	68.8%
May	90.5%	42.8%	34.2%	30.2%	28.9%	72.9%	47.0%	73.9%
June	94.2%	40.6%	30.5%	30.3%	33.5%	72.0%	54.7%	71.2%
July	94.5%	36.1%	31.9%	31.7%	36.9%	70.9%	59.3%	72.2%
August	96.1%	33.0%	24.5%	31.7%	29.2%	70.3%	63.5%	73.0%
Sept	90.9%	28.6%	30.4%	28.5%	30.2%	67.9%	58.5%	75.5%
October	81.7%	29.3%	36.4%	24.0%	19.1%	63.8%	48.9%	74.6%
November	90.9%	32.8%	35.3%	20.4%	14.4%	72.6%	54.9%	77.7%
December	96.7%	37.9%	38.8%	16.2%	7.0%	73.4%	59.6%	80.1%

The efficiency is directly related with technological development and impacts the amount of electricity generated: higher efficiency generates more electricity for the same capacity.

## PV cells efficiency evolution

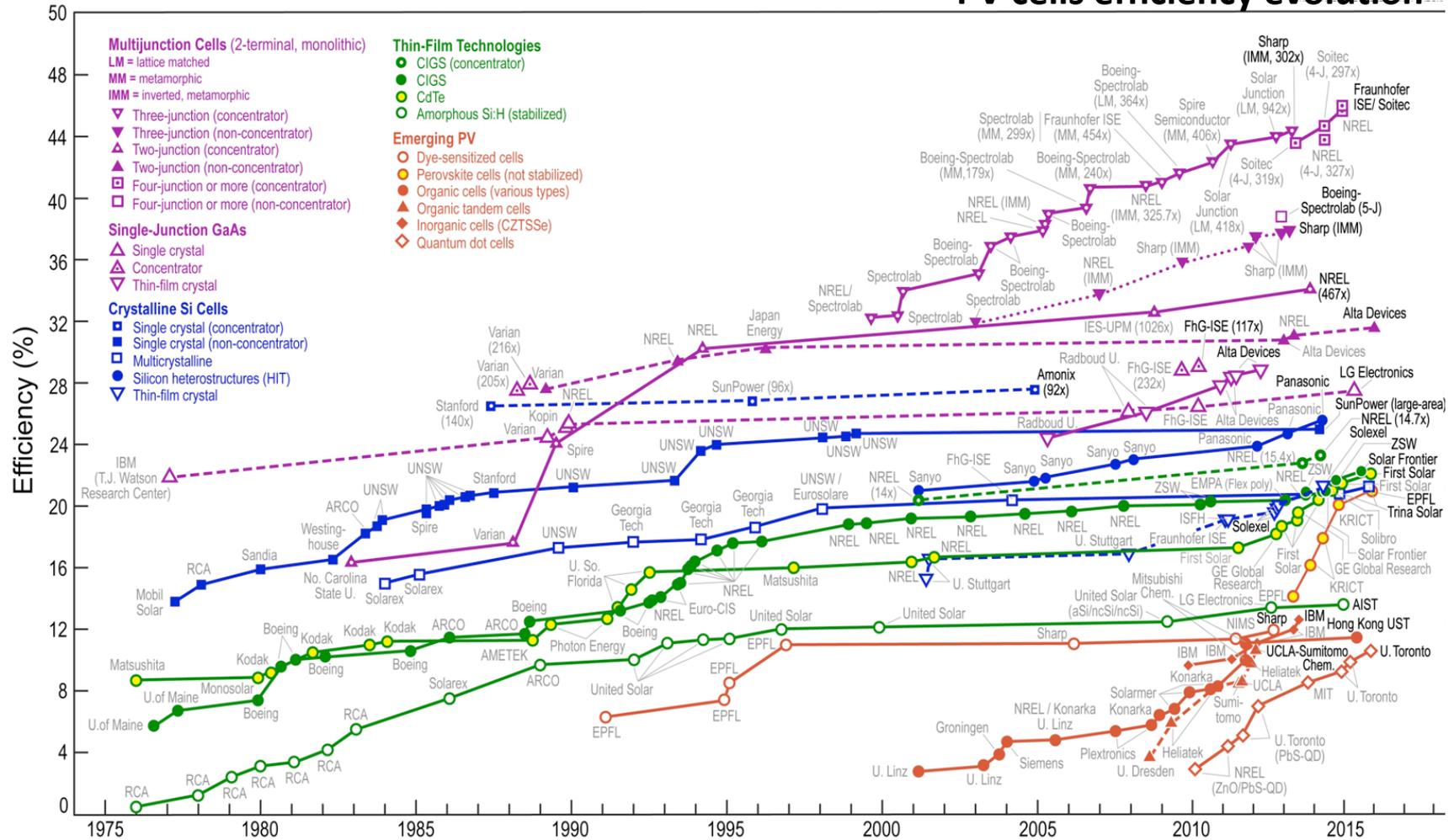
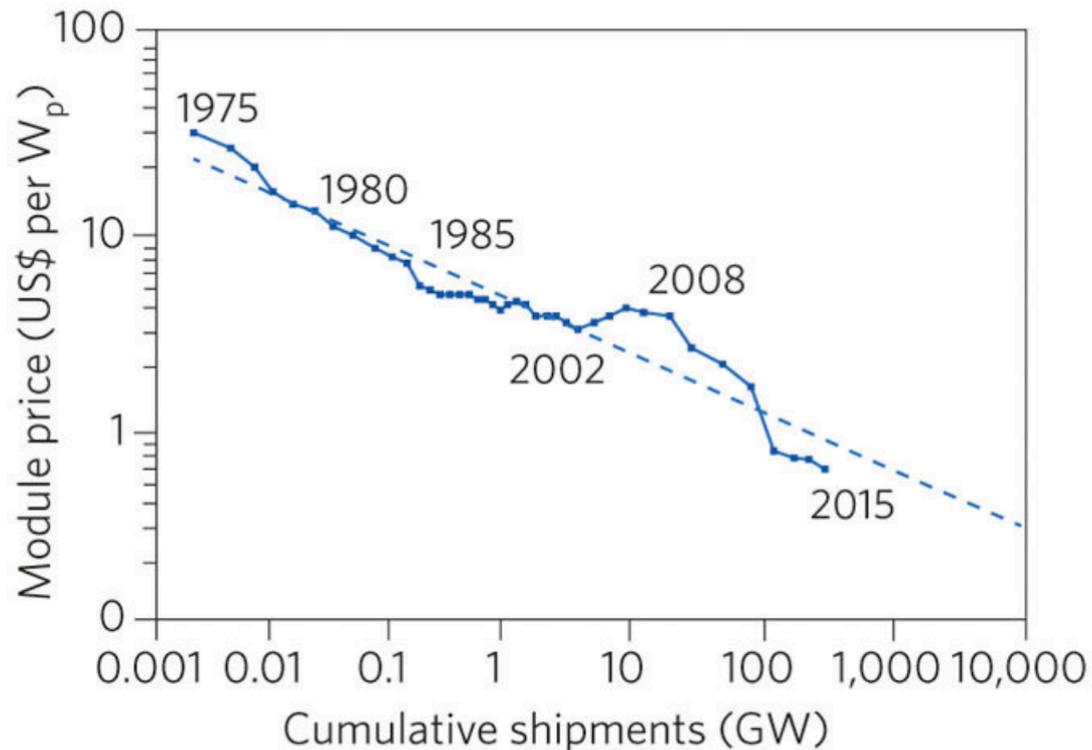


Figure 1 - Best research-Cell Efficiencies (Source: NREL 2016)

# HOW TO ASSESS COST EVOLUTION?

Figure 2 : Historical learning curve for PV modules.

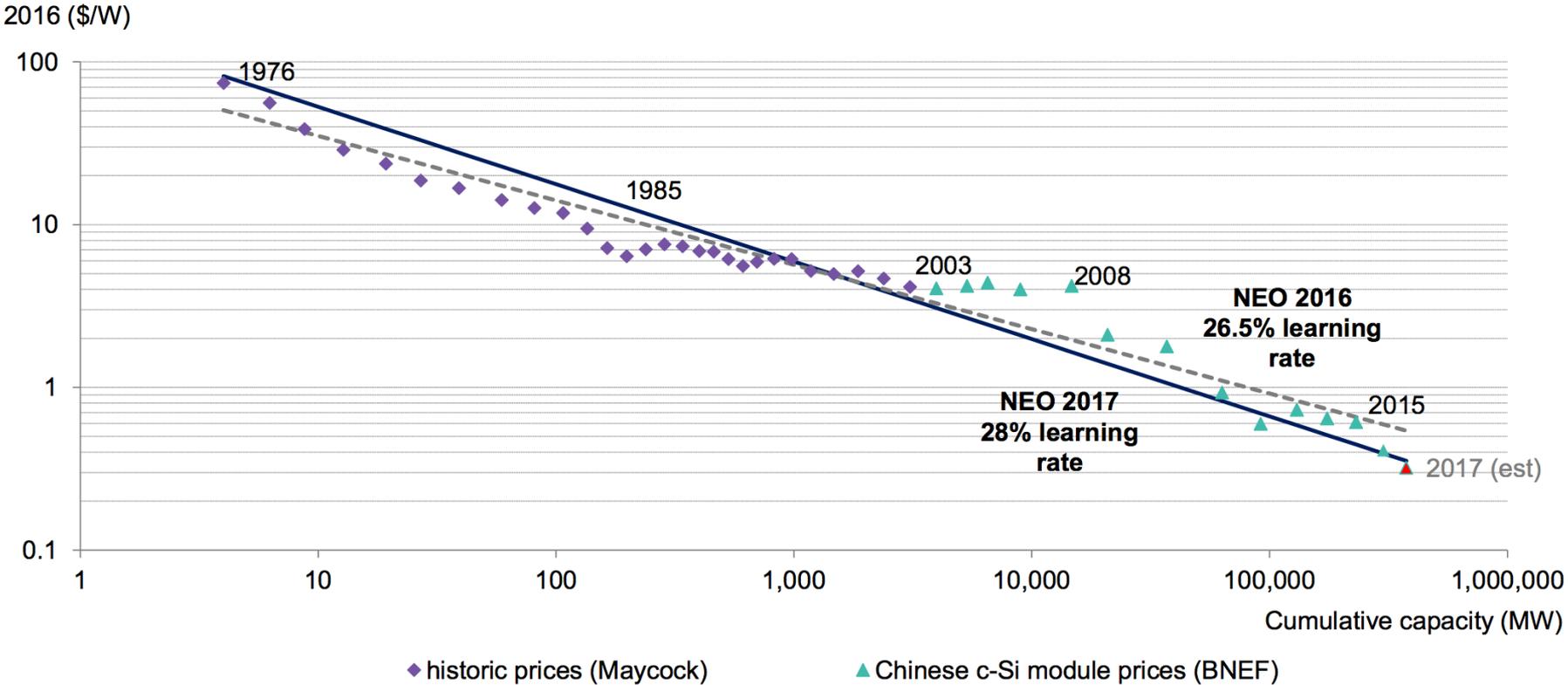
From: [Solar power needs a more ambitious cost target](#)



The dashed line shows the average decline in module price as a function of cumulative production, which from 1975 to 2015 has been approximately 18% for every doubling of cumulative production. Note that price is an imperfect proxy for cost in the short term. For example, above-average declines in price between 2008 and 2012 comprise a cost-reduction component as well as a profit margin compression component. Over long periods, however, price trends should reflect underlying cost trends.  $W_p$ , peak power output in watts. Data taken from GTM Research PV Cost Database, 2016.

# Learning curves are usually linear trends from logarithmic scales

## Solar technology is getting cheaper, faster



Source: Maycock, Bloomberg New Energy Finance

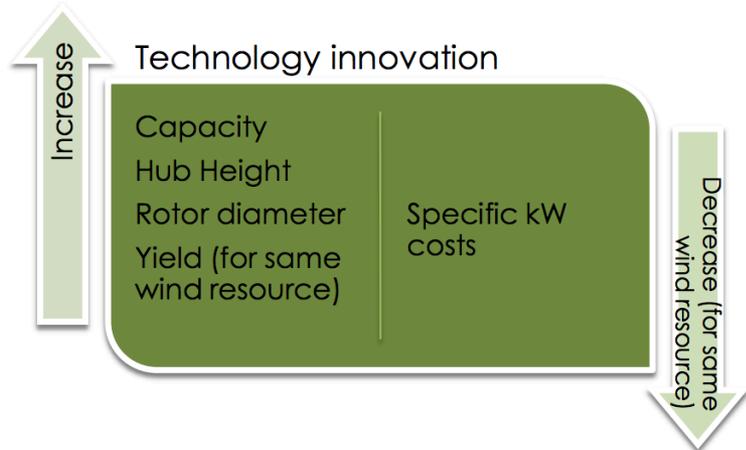
# Onshore wind

## The cost of onshore wind farms will continue to fall

Historically every doubling of global capacity has meant:

6% declined in investment costs

9% decline in LCOE



1983-2014 Global weighted average investment costs declined by two thirds:

- USD 4766/kW to USD 1623/kW

Drivers Increased economies of scale

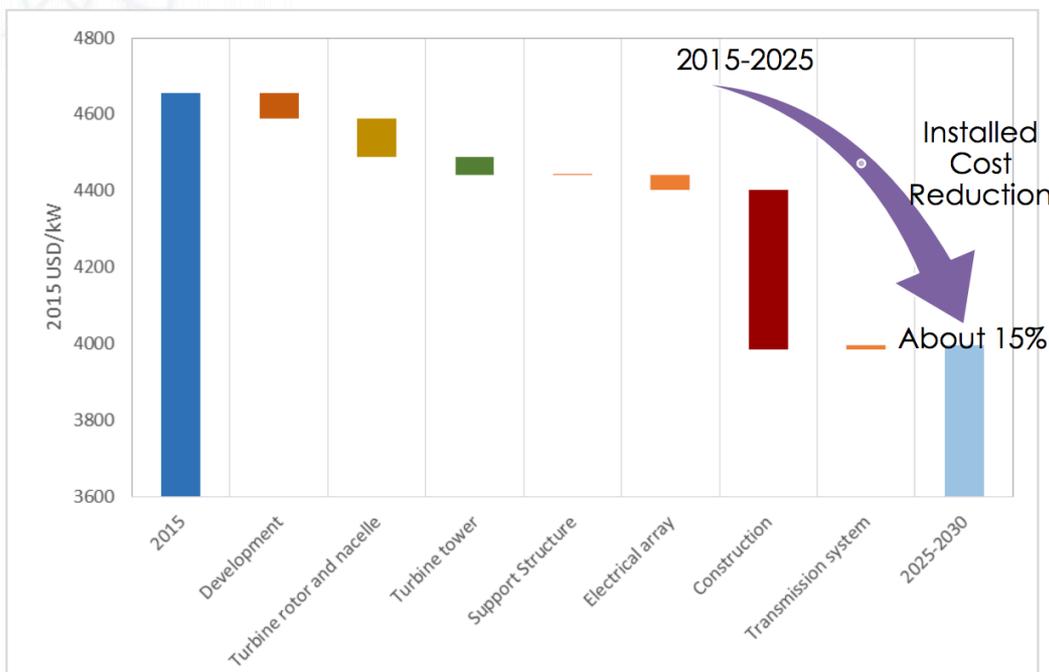
- Broader market (100+ countries)
- Greater competition in VC
- Technology innovation

US 1998-2014

- Avg. turbine capacity: +170%
- Avg. Hub height: +48%
- Avg. rotor diam.: +108%

# Offshore wind: Installed costs

There are incremental opportunities to reduce capital costs by 2025 across the entire wind farm, from interconnection to project development



Inst.  
costs

Reduction driven by:

- construction and installation (about 60% of total cost reduction potential)

Other

- Incremental cost reductions for turbine rotors and nacelles

Projected installed cost reductions for offshore wind, 2015 to 2025

## CSP: a set of technologies

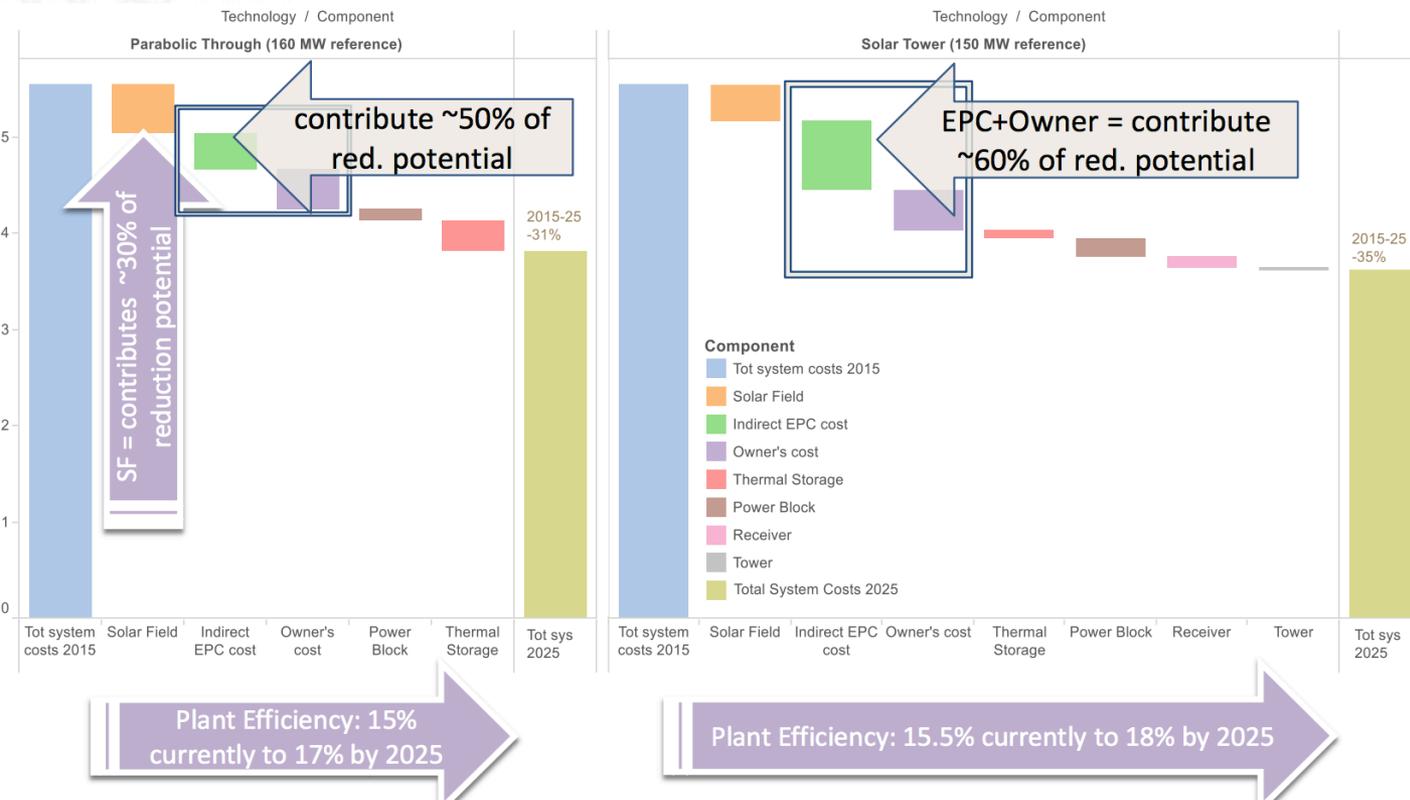


- Deployment is in its infancy (~5 GW)
- Cost reduction potential is good. IRENA analysis is focusing on parabolic trough (PT) and solar tower (ST)
- Solar towers have greater cost reduction potential with higher operating temperatures and lower cost thermal energy storage
- Cheap thermal energy storage allows dispatchable power -> potentially more valuable generation (particularly in high RE scenarios)

# Concentrating solar power

Deployment in its infancy!

CAPEX could decline by one-third by 2025



**PT** -31% CAPEX (15-25)

- USD 5550/kW to USD 3800/kW 2025

**ST** -35% CAPEX (15-25)

- USD 5450/kW to USD 3600/kW

Indirect EPC costs + Owner's costs also major contributors to reduction potential

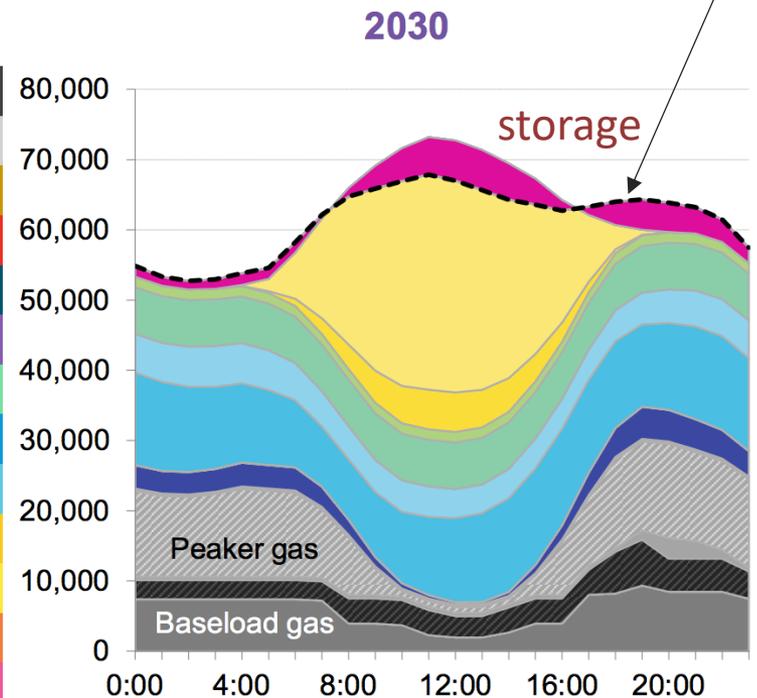
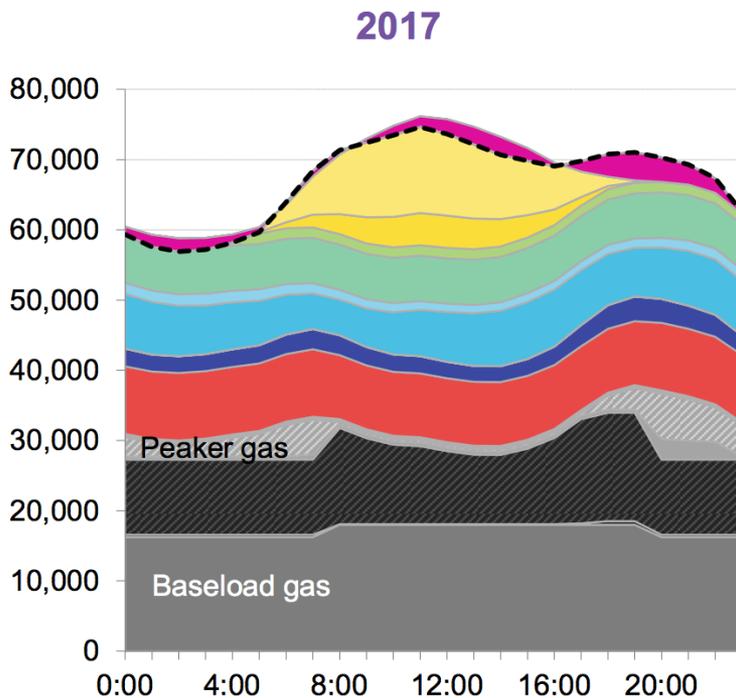
# HOW TO MANAGE THE VARIABILITY OF RENEWABLES [VRE: VARIABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY]?

A dispatchable source of electricity refers to an electrical power system, such as a power plant, that can be turned on or off; in other words **they can adjust their power output supplied to the electrical grid on demand**. Most conventional power sources such as coal or nuclear power plants are dispatchable in order to meet the always changing electricity demands of the population. In contrast, many renewable energy sources are intermittent and non-dispatchable, such as wind power or solar power which can only generate electricity while their energy flow is input on them.

# HOW TO MANAGE THE VARIABILITY OF RENEWABLES?

*“despachibility”*

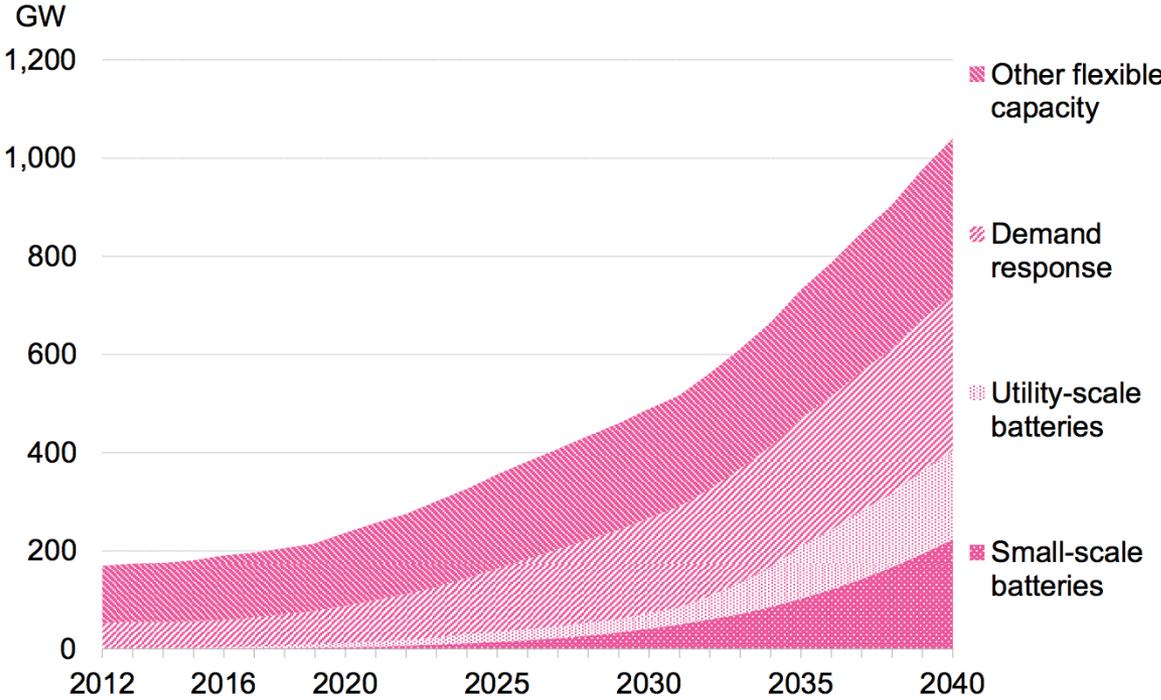
## Germany hourly dispatch



Source: Bloomberg New Energy Forecast

Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance

# Demand response and batteries help meet peak demand and help balance the grid



Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance



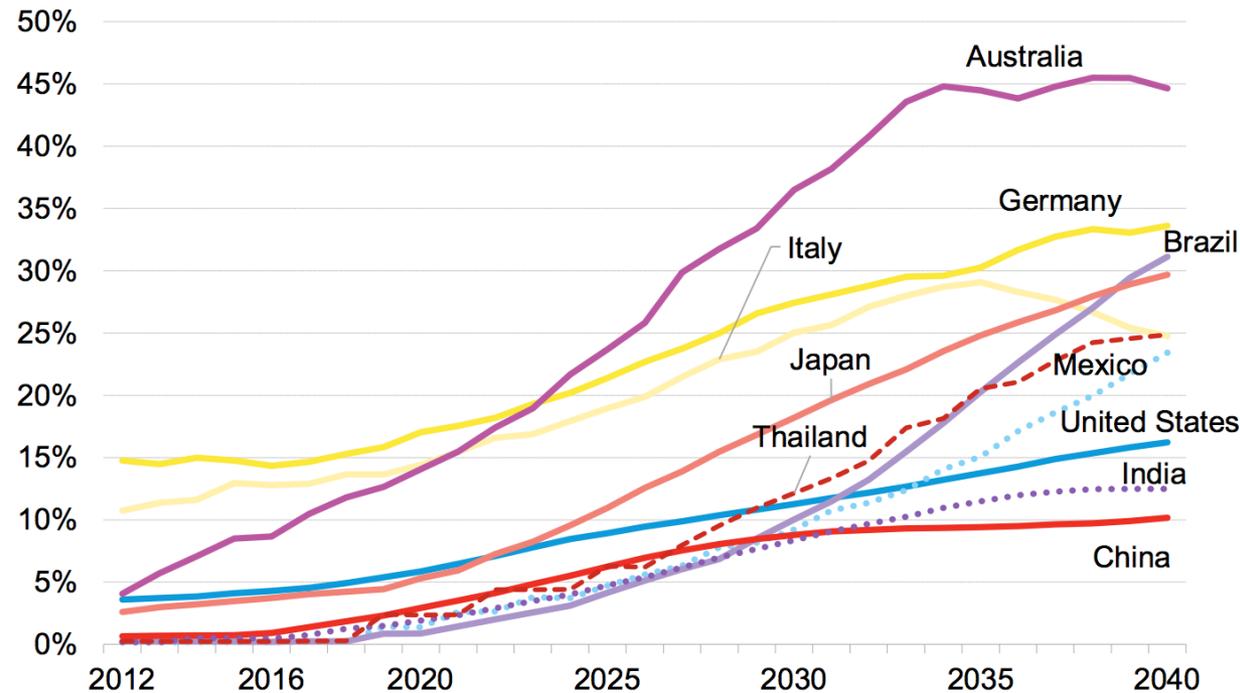
Top 5 markets in 2040	
China	343GW
U.S.	200GW
India	127GW
Japan	62GW
Germany	30GW

# MANAGEMENT OF VRE IS INCREASING



## Australia, Germany, Japan, Brazil – most decentralized

### Decentralization ratio



Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance Note: decentralization ratio is the ratio of non-grid-scale capacity to total installed capacity.

Mainland Portugal: electricity consumption was ensured only by renewable sources between 4 pm on Friday, 9 March, and 1 pm on Monday, 12 March. SEE EXPLANATION [HERE](#)

# IS LCOE ENOUGH TO CAPTURE THE VALUE OF RENEWABLES?

## FROM COST TO VALUE:

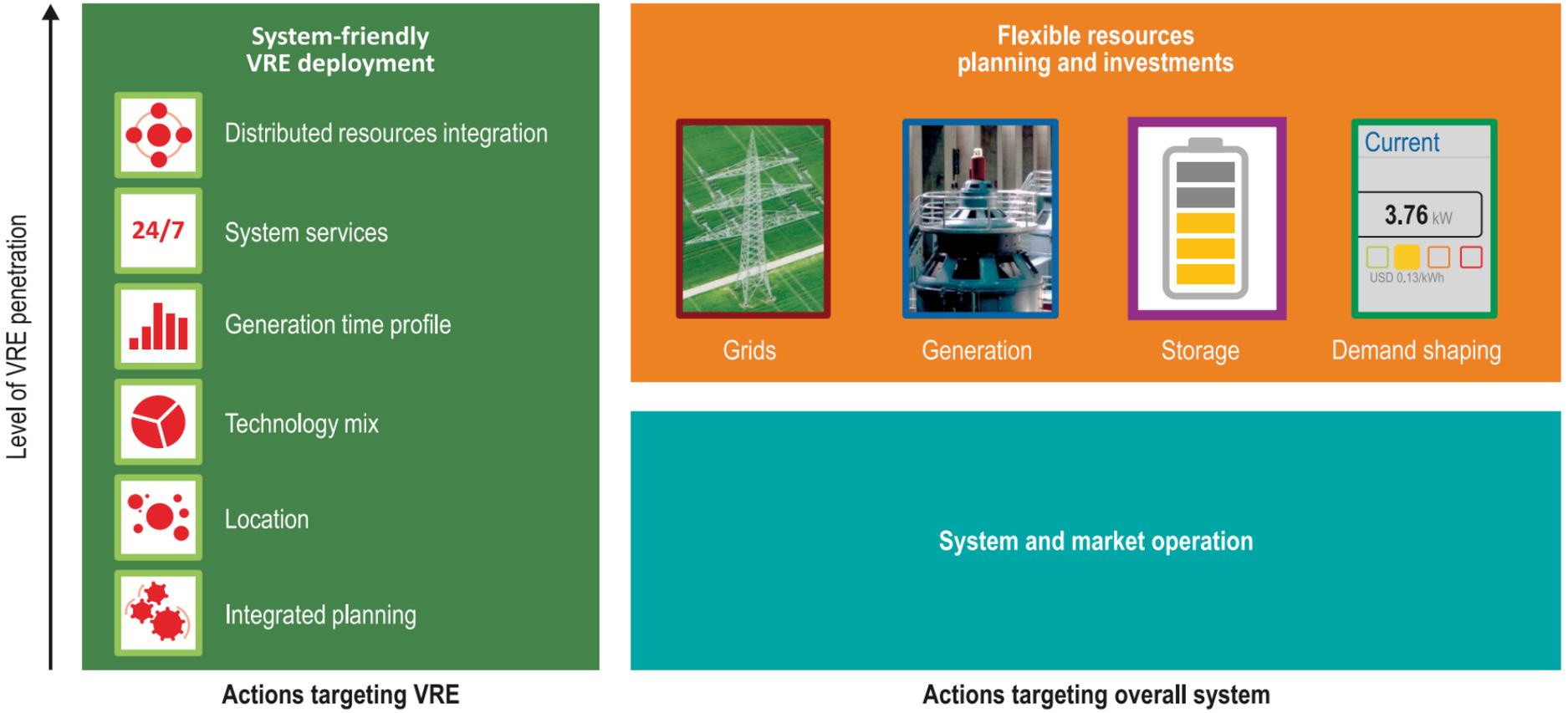
The development and deployment of renewable energy (RE) can make a contribution to energy, environmental and economic policy in three interacting areas.

- 1) energy security (including smart grids);
- 2) reduction of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions and other environmental impacts (air pollution reduction);
- 3) economic development (jobs creation)
- 4) new businesses based on local empowerment schemes (*prosumers*)

**LCOE is not enough! → energy systems analysis**

<https://webstore.iea.org/download/direct/309>

## Figure ES.2 • Three pillars of system transformation



**Key point:** VRE can facilitate system integration in combination with improved operations and investment in flexible resources.