

ENERGY SAVINGS:

“DO IT YOURSELF!”

INPUT FIRE

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1. Introduction: ins and outs regarding energetic resources

- Concept used to explain the change we are observing.

Ex: thermal energy, electrical energy...

Link between energy and climate change

- Energetic sector= 60% of the total amount of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions worldwide.
- The level of GHG emissions is contributed negatively to climate change.



- Unequal accessibility of modern facilities (2 billions of isolated people)
- Objectives:
 - Reduction of energetic consumption in developed countries.
 - Low-carbon development for developing countries.

Limited Energetic Resources

- Core issue:
 - Ratio of time of 1 million to one between the creation and the use of energetic sources.

Ex: coal, oil, natural gas...

What is Renewable Energy?

- Main properties of renewable energy:
 - Forms of energy available and replaced by a quicker natural process.
 - Low emissions of CO₂.

Ex: solar energy, hydro energy, wind energy, biomass...

- **Why renewable energy is crucial to fight climate change?**

- Energy source replaced by a natural process at a rate equal or faster than its consumption rate
- Available in a bigger quantity
- Less pollutant and more energy efficient

- Nuclear energy is apart:
 - Is not included into renewable energy
 - Constitutes a threat to human life
 - Clear position of WECF on nuclear (see the Critical Question)

European Union's Policy on Renewable Energy

- Climate and Energy Package, 2008:
 - Common energy policy to reduce GHG emissions
 - Objective 20-20-20
- Lisbon Treaty, 2009:
 - Legal basis given to the common policy on energy:
art.194 TFEU

Why a change is needed?

- Luxurious view on the energetic transition
- Inactivity more expensive concerning climate change (*Stern review, 2006*)
- Benefits of the transition:
 - Strengthening of the middle class
 - Job creation

2. WECF's strategy and work towards access to a sustainable energy

- **Women in Europe for a Common Future**

- Created in 1994
- International Network: over 100 Organizations from 40 different countries (Occidental and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia)
- Main objective: Push towards a change from fossil fuels and nuclear to sustainable and environmental friendly energy.
- Implementation of local projects



**Sustainable Development,
Gender and Environment Network**

- **WECF's Strategy**

- Intervene on climate change at local, national and international level.
- Connect the links between these levels.

- **Projects on energy:**

- Overall objectives
 - ✓ To ensure adaptation and mitigation to climate change for vulnerable groups.
 - ✓ To facilitate access to a sustainable, secure, sufficient and affordable energy.

- **On-going project**

Ukraine and Georgia: 2011-2014

- **Objective:**

- To improve health
- To reduce poverty
- To reinforce energetic security

- **Activity:** Training of local population to the installation of solar collectors

- **Results:**

- Improvement of the insulation of houses
- Development of domestic heating systems
- **Hot water**



- **At the international and national levels**

- Advocacy work

- Implementation work

E.g.: Negotiations under the UN Climate Change Convention



3. Outcomes of Rio+20 Conference on Energy

- Energy is a controversial issue
- Energy day on the 19th June: opportunity to secure high-level support and commitment to move towards ending energy poverty.
- Final text: no concrete measures.

- §130 : **phase out fossil fuels subsidies**

→ Paragraph deleted in the final outcome

- Add of §225: weak impact:

« Countries reaffirm the commitments they have made to phase out harmful inefficient fossil fuel subsidies [...] »

- No recognition of energy savings
- Nuclear issue?

Conclusions of Rio+20:

- Obvious lack of political will
- Mobilization of the population needed

4. How to adopt an environmental friendly lifestyle?

« A grain of sand is nothing alone but millions of grains of sand make a beach. »

- Need to start the transition locally to make it successful globally
- Essential collective efforts

At home

- Simple advice to make the difference:
 - Foster day lighting
 - Efficient insulation for windows
 - Tool up with low consumption bulbs
 - Shut off appliances on stand-by
 - Prefer the bike and the walk
 - Use eco or bio program for the washing machine



- Possibilities for individuals to get subsidies for the installation of renewable energy material

E.g.: **In France**, tax credit of 50% for the installation of appliances using renewable energy

- Tendency to cut the subsidies in Europe

Germany, first on the energetic transition

- Free energy market: choice for consumers on their supplier of energy
- Sustainable energy cooperative: cooperative movement consisting in owning together
- Communities

→ Power of cooperatives= major asset to contribute to a safe and clean energy.

- Objective: take advantage of the number:
 - To realize collective investments that could not have been accomplished through individual action.

E.g.: solar power plants, photovoltaic roof systems...



- « Feed-in tariff »: incentive for clean energy generation
 - Exists in France as well
- In the UK: proposal for a new feed-in tariff:
 - Generation of clean electricity from sources such as nuclear power!

In Your Places of Worship

- Churches as an example:
 - Encourage people to adopt ecological lifestyle, more sustainable on a faith basis
 - Encourage your place of worship to adopt sustainable practices

Ex: commitment to become a low-carbon sustainable community; print leaflets on recycled paper...

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

A faint, stylized graphic in the background shows a person from behind, holding a globe. The person is wearing a long-sleeved shirt and pants. The globe is positioned in front of them, and they appear to be supporting it. The entire graphic is rendered in a lighter shade of blue than the background.