



SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

An Overview

Energy is central to nearly every major challenge and opportunity the world faces today however 840 million people have no access to electricity worldwide, with access at its lowest in rural areas of the developing world. 3 billion people rely on wood, coal, charcoal or animal waste for cooking and heating, exposing them to harmful pollutants (SDG 3) and poor air quality (SDG 11). Indoor air pollution from using combustible fuels for household energy caused 4.3 million deaths in 2012, with women and girls accounting for 6 out of every 10 of these.

Energy is the dominant contributor to climate change, accounting for around 60% of total global greenhouse gas emissions. The share of renewable energy in final energy consumption reached 17.5% in 2015, and the ratio of energy used per unit of GDP is also declining. There is, however, more to be done, especially as energy demand rises. Increased energy efficiency and the increased use of renewable energy, as well as the review of regulatory frameworks and implementation of innovative business models, can support new economic growth and job opportunities (SDG 8) and is crucial to creating more sustainable and inclusive communities that can mitigate and adapt to climate change (SDG 11 & 13).

SDG 7 Keywords

This list is comprised of the Scopus queries generated by Elsevier in order to identify research that supports SDG 7, as part of the assessment undertaken by the global THE Impact League.

energy efficiency	energy consumption	energy transition	clean energy technology
energy equity / justice	fuel switching	energy poverty	energy policy
renewables	2000 Watt society	smart (micro)grid	smart meter
affordable electricity	electricity consumption	reliable electricity	clean fuel
clean cooking fuel	fuel poverty	energiewende	life cycle assessment
photochemistry and renewable energy	photovoltaic	photocatalytic water splitting	hydrogen production
water splitting	lithium-ion batteries	heat network	district heat
residential / domestic energy consumption	energy security	rural electrification	energy ladder
energy access	energy conservation	low-carbon society	hybrid renewable energy systems
energy development and developing countries	foreign development aid and renewable energy	energy governance	official development assistance and electricity

SDG 7 Targets & Indicators

Consider if your research could support a specific target in order to maximise impact.

TARGETS		INDICATORS	
7.1	By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	7.1.1	Proportion of population with access to electricity
		7.1.2	Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology
7.2	By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix	7.2.1	Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption
7.3	By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency	7.3.1	Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP

<p>7.A</p>	<p>By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology</p>	<p>7.A.1</p> <p>International financial flows to developing countries in support of clean energy research and development and renewable energy production, including in hybrid systems</p>
<p>7.B</p>	<p>By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States, and land-locked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support</p>	<p>7.B.1</p> <p>Investments in energy efficiency as a percentage of GDP and the amount of foreign direct investment in financial transfer for infrastructure and technology to sustainable development services</p>

Useful Links

- [Sustainable Energy for All initiative](#)
- [UNDP Environment and Energy](#)
- [UNIDO Energy and Climate Change](#)
- [International Energy Agency](#)
- [International Renewable Energy Agency](#)
- [UN Energy](#)