

Putting reportage into context

DEMYSTIFYING THE ENERGY SECTOR

EnAct will back each web documentary with feature articles, news briefs, editorials, fact sheets, interactive elements and social media activity to create opportunities for readers to build their understanding of the energy sector in incremental steps.

The solutions reporting will place a strong focus on sustainability, drawing attention to the need to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and transform the global energy system.

EnAct will also explore what is stalling the transition to adequate, reliable, affordable energy supply in diverse contexts, delving into topics such as policy barriers, financing gaps, energy security, the structure of energy markets, the geopolitics of energy supply and demand, and consumer behaviour.

REPORTAGE 1

What is energy?

- Types of energy
- Measuring energy / power per unit
- Understanding the energy mix
- Are we running out of resources?
- What counts as “clean”?
- **Transforming the system:** low-carbon options; energy efficiency as a fuel; electrification of the global energy system.

REPORTAGE 2

How do you use energy?

- How energy demand drives supply
- Differences in per-capita consumption
- Relationship between income and energy demand
- Where will demand grow in the future?
- Energy demand by sector (production, transport, industry, buildings, etc.) and energy intensity
- **Transforming the system:** projections for future demand; decoupling economic growth from energy intensity.

REPORTAGE 3

How do we get energy?

- Generation
- Transmission and delivery/distribution
- Balancing demand and supply
- Choosing which capacity to develop; life-span and lock-in

- **Transforming the system:** produce with less carbon, transport effectively, use more efficiently.

REPORTAGE 4

What are the benefits of energy?

- Economic development
- Improved health and social development
- Communication
- Education
- **Transforming the system:** counting costs of energy production; monetizing benefits.

REPORTAGE 5

What determines the cost of energy?

- Demand and supply; cost of production and distribution
- Oil price and competition among fuels
- How do energy markets work? Liberalized vs. regulated markets
- Are we paying the real price? Subsidies: pros and cons
- How prices influence what resources get developed or used
- Who ends up being “energy poor” and why?
- **Transforming the system:** what would universal access cost? Making low-carbon options price competitive; accounting for externalities; the investment challenge; embedded energy.

REPORTAGE 6

What are the environmental impacts of energy?

- Production, transit and consumption all have impacts; energy responsible for 63% of GHG emissions
- Understanding greenhouse gases
- The relationship between emissions and climate change
- Taking responsibility for the past into the future
- Changing patterns of demand and emissions
- Deforestation from biomass consumption
- **Transforming the system:** the chance to build cleaner infrastructure; creating a carbon market or other incentives.

REPORTAGE 7

Where does energy come from?

- Energy security
- Import/export patterns
- The geopolitics of energy supply
- **Transforming the system:** What power shifts are associated with a low-carbon system?

REPORTAGE 8

Who are the energy sector players?

- Producers, utility companies and system operators
- Governments and regulators
- Traders and investors
- Intergovernmental agencies, NGOs, etc.
- Consumers

- **Transforming the system:** the financing challenge; who needs to do what?

REPORTAGE 9

Tracking clean energy technology development

- Solar, wind, hydro and geothermal power, biofuels
- Electrification
- Carbon capture and storage
- Coal, oil and gas: can they really be cleaned up?
- Smart grids, smart consumers
- **Transforming the system:** research, development, demonstration and deployment.

REPORTAGE 10

What is the role of energy policy?

- Ensuring energy security
- Regulating national resources
- Health and safety of consumers
- Applying policy instruments to influence the behaviour of energy sector players
- How policy trickles down through industry to consumers
- The rebound effect: when consumers react in unexpected ways
- **Transforming the system:** a holistic approach to energy policy; negotiating international agreements; implementing national/local policy.

STORIES ENACT IS ALREADY FOLLOWING

- **Transforming rural Nepal:** Without power, remote villages offer few opportunities for employment; when men migrate to the city or abroad, the already heavy workload of women doubles. In partnership with local agencies, ENERGIA is creating opportunities for women to become energy entrepreneurs.
- **Rebuilding Liberia:** A decade after the civil wars, counting the costs of reconstructing the energy system, and assessing the impacts on health, education and industry.
- **Afghanistan on the brink:** When international troops leave in late 2014, one job will be left unfinished: a transmission and distribution system linking northern supply with southern demand.
- **A solar future for India:** As energy entrepreneurs prove the concept of customized solutions for India's poorest people, the government launches a strategy to support innovation and scale-up.