

SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER



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GOAL 7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

By Chester Yuen
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7 AFFORDABLE AND
CLEAN ENERGY



In the last issue, we learned the importance of the ocean, the problems that life under sea is currently facing and how it has a huge impact to the world. This month we put our focus on energy, which directly link to the well-being and prosperity around the globe. Meeting the world's demand for energy has gradually become a challenge that we will encounter for the upcoming years.



**ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE,
RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND
MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL**

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CLEAN ENERGY



THE GOAL:

According to the United Nations 16 sustainable development goals (SDG) as mentioned in the first issue, affordable and clean energy is 7 in the list. The goal aims access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all by 2030. This goal is divided into 5 sub-goals used as indicators to reach the big aim.



WHAT IS ENERGY?

In simple terms energy is the ability to do work; whenever you stand or walk, you are using chemical energy caused by respiration in your body, whenever you are turning on a switch you are using electricity energy generated by a source, or whenever you are driving a car, you are using energy generated by combustion of gasoline. As you can see, energy is used in many forms in the world and it may not seem obvious that the world's energy is becoming limited.

WHERE DO ENERGIES COME FROM?

There are many sources of energy in the modern world. Usually, they are divided into 2 different categories, renewable energy and non-renewable energy. The idea of the two sources of energy is self-explanatory, one will not run out, one will. Non-renewable sources have been used for the past 3000 years. While, renewable sources are rather new, being firstly introduced in 1860. The idea of renewable energy is to replace non-renewable energy sources once they run out. Renewable sources includes solar, wind, Hydroelectric, etc. and non-renewable sources includes fossil fuels, oil, coal etc.

IMPORTANCE OF ENERGY:

Energy is a necessity to live nowadays. Energy powers transport systems, communication, and cooking just to name a few. For developing cities such as Hong Kong, having a reliable and affordable energy resource becomes another challenge striving forwards. The new technology of different renewable energy allows a steady approach to the goal. Having a wealthy energy source can also drive the economy and sustain societies in a country. However, energy is not as easily accessible as you think in some countries. More than a billion people still lack access to electricity, While 3 billion people still rely on dirty coal like dead animal for cooking. Human cannot live without food and shelter; food requires energy to cook and shelter requires energy to build and access, therefore it is an indispensable resource and it is important to save it.



QUESTION TIME:

Can you guess how many percent of renewable energy accounts to the energy mix in Hong Kong?

a) 48%

b) 24%

c) 28%

d) 35%

Answer: C

PROMBLEMS:

Most of the non-renewable energy sources are combusted in order to push a turbine which then transfers this energy into electricity form. However in the consequences of doing so, we have produced a lot of carbon emissions (CO₂) also called greenhouse gases. These greenhouse gases is what rises the global temperature as mentioned in the second issue. Moreover, energy mostly depends on reliability, efficiency and finance cost. Here is a table showing renewable energy against non-renewable energy: (some renewable energy is factored by weather)

Energy Source	Financial cost	Reliable	Efficient	Pollution	Sustainable
Non-renewable	Cheap	✓	✓	✓	✗
Renewable	expensive	✗	✗	✗	✓

As seen from the table it is indeed very difficult to find the balance between affordable and clean energy. Since renewable energy is clean, however expensive, whereas non-renewable energy is cheap but produce a lot of pollution.





Put in Solar Panels

Did you know it's now cheaper to build and run solar energy than gas? Panels also reduce electricity bills and increase property value.



Install LED Lighting

LED lights use less energy, and release only 28kg CO2 per year (compared to incandescent's 172kg). Not only will your electricity cost go down, but you'll save on lightbulbs too with their longer life span.



Go Electric

EVs can save your business money with lower running costs, avoiding congestion charges and by taking advantage of the grants available. Plus, they reduce air pollution - nice!



Monitor Energy Use

By tracking your energy usage, you can see exactly where all of your energy is being used and at what times. You can use this data to help you make decisions about where adjustments are needed.



Switch Your Energy Provider

Switching energy providers may feel like a hassle, but there's potential for huge savings if you switch to the right one. We can help you find your perfect fit, that aligns with your budget and sustainability goals.



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WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Energy must be used sparingly and with the utmost efficiency. The non-renewable sources of energy are finite and must be conserved. We simply cannot afford to be wasteful; energy is a precious resource. Neither do we want the pollution caused by burning them.

Here are ways you could reduce your energy consumption: **TAKE**

ACTION NOW!

- Take shower rather than baths, or take shorter periods of shower
- Turn off lights, air conditioning while not using the room or not necessary
- Reduce recycle and reuse
- Travel by foot or cycle rather than driving a private car
- Cherish the use of electricity and save energy

Remember every little small things counts towards a more affordable, and clean energy for a sustainable future

Have a think?

What have you done recently to save energy?

SUSTAINABILITY AVIATION

NEWSFLASH

TOTE BAG PAINTING WORKSHOP:

We had proposed a new tote bag painting workshop for the first time. The objective of the event (proposed and conducted by Alicia Cheung, QA summer intern) is to promote staffs to create their own unique recycling tote bag rather using plastic bags for daily usage. It is an eco-friendly painting experience; we use environmental friendly paint which is non-toxic and VOC-free to develop your creativity safely and freely. At the end of the day, our company wish to promote and raise awareness on sustainability to our colleagues through these events.



OLD UNIFORM FOR A SECOND HOME:

Hactl has released a rather new project by partnering with St. James Jockey Club to reuse old uniforms and turning them into durable and stylish bags, as well as cute teddy bear off cuts. A kilogram of polyester requires 125MJ which is a massive amount. This project saves energy and water in the making of new textiles. Moreover, it saves wastes and landfill disposals.



Source: https://www.hongkongairport.com/en/sustainability/environment/greenestairportupdates/From_uniforms_to_upcycled_treasures