



## GLOBAL RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSITION - ISSUES AND OPTIONS

Mahmood Ahmad Water, Energy and Food Nexus (WEFnex) Knowledge Hub RIZQ/YUNUS Bangkok, Thailand, Director of CPRU, Nusrat Jahan College email:mahmood4404@gmail.com

Bhetwal Puja Water, Energy and Food Nexus (WEFnex) Knowledge Hub RIZQ/YUNUS Bangkok, Thailand email: bhetwalpuja2@gmail.com

Arifa younas Natural resource Management Researcher at CPRU, Nusrat Jahan College, Darul Rehmat, Chenab Nagar email:arifayounas490@gmail.com





## CONTENT



- **01** Abstract
- 02 Introduction
- Trends in renewable energy developments
- Core issues and options in the Global Renewable energy transition
- O5 Deeper Dive into key energy policies
- O6 Innovative Stories in Energy Transition
- Conclusion and future work

### **Energy Transition over Time**



### ndustrial

& animal

od and ss and water mills tralized, iciency, and

### Industrial Revolution 2.0

Use of coal and steam engines

Mechanization electricity from coal

growing energy demand



### Oil, Gas & Grid Expansion 3.0

Rise of petroleum and natural gas

Rise of national electric grids

Nuclear power introduced

Rural and industrial sectors Electrictfied



## Digital Era & Decarbonization 4.0

Smart grids and IoT-enabled Integration of renewables Big Data, blockchain, and predictive maintenance **Energy storage** systems and demandmanagement Carbon capture and storage



#### AI-Driven Renewable Transition 5.0

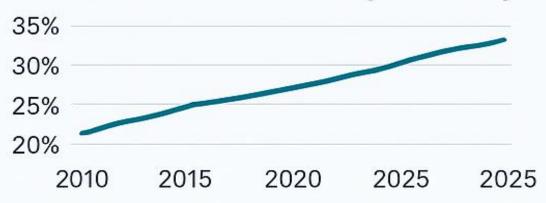
Al-based grid optimization and forecasting Robotics infrastructure maintenance Hydrogen economy Bioenergy with carbon capture (BECCS) Peer-to-peer (P2P) energy trading via blockchain Net-zero, decentralized, and resilient energy ecosystems Development of energy intensive data centers

# From Fossil Fuels to Renewables: A Global Turning Point

- Climate change & energy security driving massive shift to renewables
- Global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at record highs; temperatures +1.2 °C above pre-industrial levels
- Transition focuses on solar, wind, hydro, and modern bioenergy



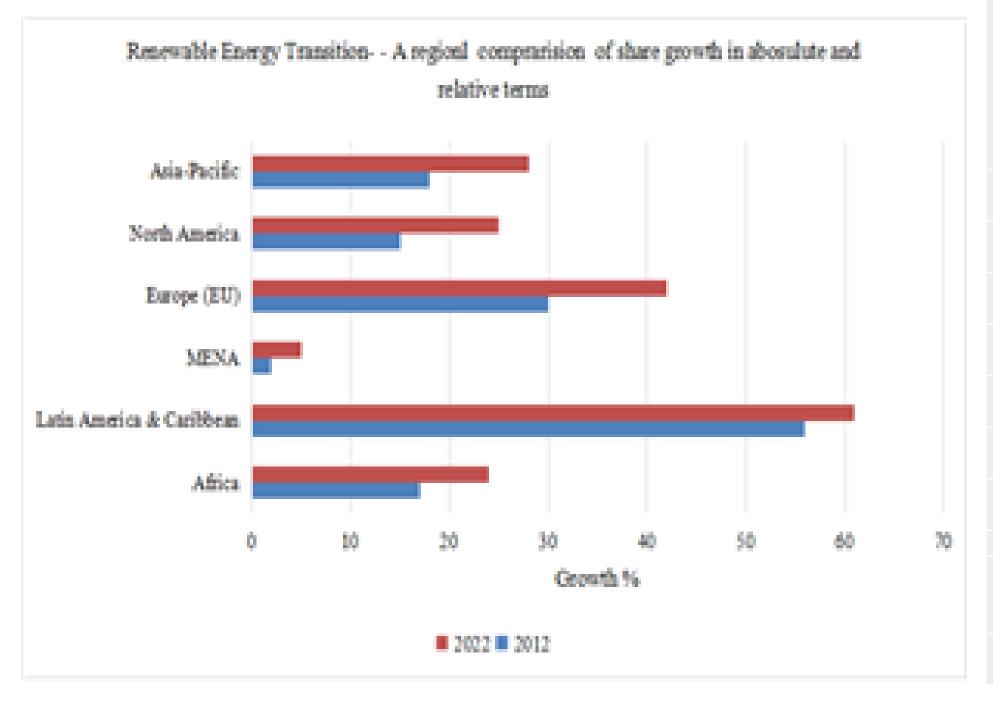
#### Renewable Share Rising Globally



### Glance at Global Profile



Figure 1. Regional Growth in Renewable Electricity (2012–2022).



**TABLE 1. THE GLOBAL ENERGY LANDSCAPE 2005-2025** 

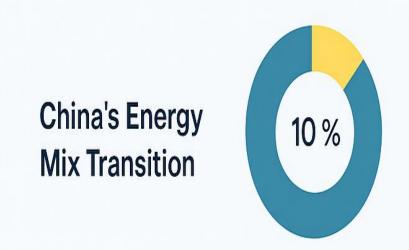
Country/Region	Renewable Energy Share (%) 2005	Renewable Energy Share (%) 2015	Renewable Energy Share (%) (ets) 2025	Main Renewable Subsectors Driving Growth	Source
Pakistan	17	30	41.6	Hydropower	[ <u>24</u> ], [ <u>25</u> ], [ <u>26</u> ]
India	10-15	22.5	35-40 %	Solar, Wind, Small Hyro	[ <u>27], [25], [28]</u>
China	10-5	20-25	30-35	Wind , Solar , Large Hydro	[ <u>27], [25], [28]</u>
United Sates	7-8	10-12	20-25	Solar	[ <u>24], [27], [28]</u>
European Union	15-20	25-30	35-40	Wind, Solar, Biomass	[ <u>24], [27], [28]</u>
Bangladesh	1-2	3-5	10	Solar, Biomass	[ <u>25], [28]</u>
Ghana	5-7	8-10	10-15	Biomass, Solar	[ <u>25], [28]</u>
Thailand	5-7	10-15	15-20	Biomas, Solar	[ <u>25], [28]</u>
Indonesia	4-5	10-12	20-25	Geothermal, Hydropower, Biomass	[ <u>25</u> ],
Bhutan	90	100	100	Hydropower	[ <u>27], [25], [24]</u>

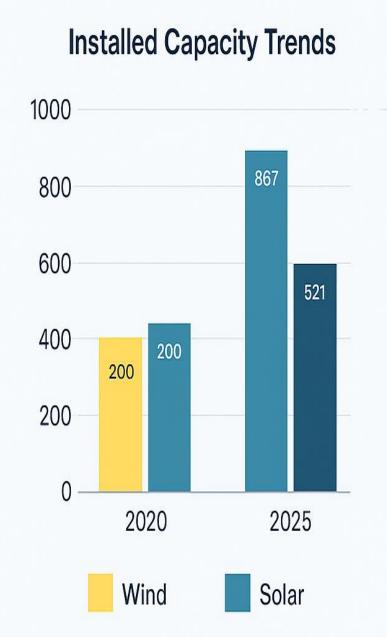
### **Main Points:**

- •Added **277 GW solar** in 2024–25 (+45%)
- → 887 GW total solar capacity.
- •Wind power: +80 GW  $\rightarrow$  total **521 GW**.
- •Solar's share in electricity generation: **4.1**% **(2020)** → **12.4**% **(2025)**.
- •Wind + solar capacity now exceed coal and gas.
- •Challenges: Grid congestion, storage limits, and coal reliance for baseload.
- •Policy focus: **Grid modernization, power** market reforms, and storage investment.

# China's Renewable Surge: World's Energy Powerhouse

- Added 277 GW solar in 2024-25 (+45%) → 887 GW total solar capacity
- Wind power: +80 GW → total 521 GW
- Solar's share in electricity generation:
   4.1% (2020) → 12.4% (2025)





### **Main Points:**

**Achieved 100 GW solar target** (2025) — up from **3 GW in 2014**.

Attracted **\$90** billion

investment and 300,000 solar jobs.

Target: 500 GW clean power by 2030 – half

of national electricity from renewables.

Transition driven by **economic opportunity**, not ideology.

Innovations in **business models, financing,** and market design enabled success.

Example: Development of solar parks, utility reforms, and timely payments to investors.

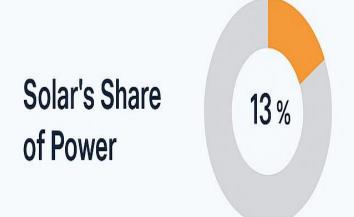
# India's Solar Revolution: Doubling Down on Clean Power

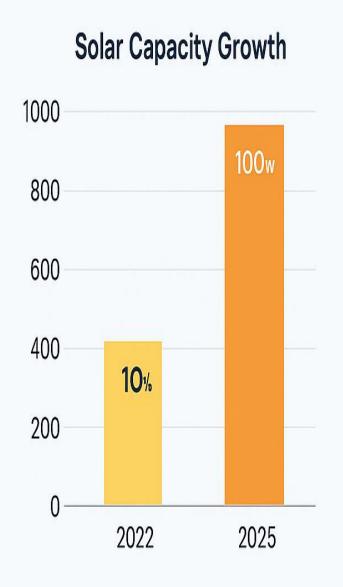




500 GW clean power goal by 2030

Economic and climate leadership





### **Main Points:**

- •Target: 50% emission reduction by 2030 (conditional on \$101 billion financing).
- •Energy transition goals: 60% renewables, 30% electric vehicles, coal import ban.

### •Policies:

- Net Metering (2015)  $\rightarrow$  3.2 GW rooftop solar by 2024.
- Smart grid pilots (PEPCO, DISCOs).

### •Challenges:

- Grid losses, theft, under-investment in T&D.
- Load-shedding persists despite surplus generation.
- •Nature-based solutions: Ten Billion Tree Tsunami & Recharge Pakistan.

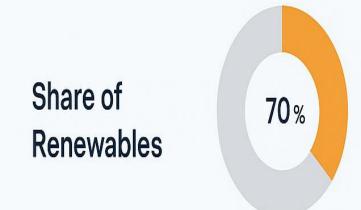
#### **Visuals:**

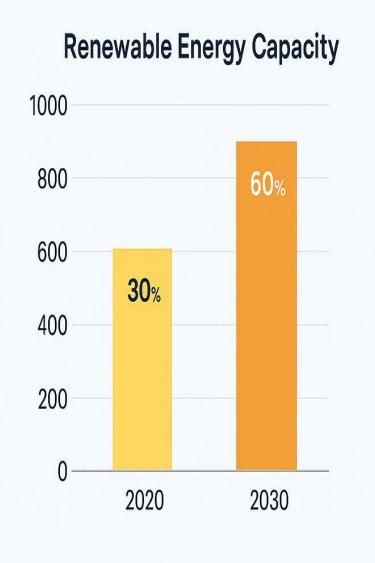
- •Map of Pakistan with renewable projects.
- •Icons: solar rooftops, EVs, tree planting.

## Pakistan's Energy Transition: Ambitious Renewable Energy ols



- 60% renewable energy target
- 15% from domestic resources
- USD 101 billion for energy transition





Pakistan possesses immense mineral wealth—valued at nearly US\$8 trillion

# Developing Countries – Innovation & Localization



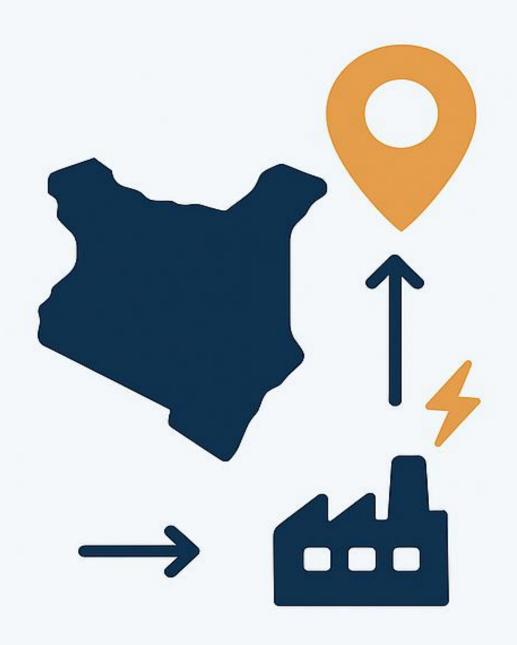
**Government planning** 



Market design



**Capacity building** 



### CORE ISSUES AND OPTIONS IN THE GLOBAL RENEWABLE ENERGY



## A. Uneven GlobalDistribution andRegional Disparities

**TRANSITION** 

- Despite progress, the world remains off track to meet climate goals.
- Current renewable installations fall short of the **11.2 TW target** needed by **2030**.
- Achieving the 1.5°C pathway requires doubling annual additions to about 1,043
   GW.
- Regional disparities persist in renewable energy adoption.
- Europe reached a 44% renewable share in 2023.
- China, India, and Bangladesh still rely heavily on fossil fuels.
- This uneven transition highlights global inequities in clean energy adoption and policy implementation.

## B. US Policy Reversals Might Affect Global Trend

- In early 2025, the U.S. energy transition faced major setbacks.
- President Trump's "Unleashing American Energy" Executive Order reversed key clean energy policies.
- The order prioritized fossil fuel expansion over renewable energy development.
- Support for renewables and electric vehicles was significantly reduced.
- The U.S. withdrew from the Paris Agreement, undermining climate commitments.
- These actions created regulatory uncertainty and stalled renewable progress across the nation.

## C.. Grid Integration and Infrastructure Constraints

- China achieved rapid renewable expansion in 2024, adding 277 GW of solar and 80 GW of wind capacity.
- Despite record installations, much of this capacity remains underutilized.
- The main causes are transmission bottlenecks and limited energy storage.
- These **infrastructure gaps** highlight that renewable success needs more than just capacity growth.
- Modernized grids and flexible power systems are essential for efficient integration of renewables.

## D. Structural Challenges in Developing Countries

- South and Southeast Asian countries continue to face structural barriers to renewable energy adoption.
- India awarded 59 GW of renewable capacity in 2024, but transmission and contractual delays have stalled nearly 40 GW of projects.
- Bangladesh is still in the early stages of renewable development, with renewables making up only 4.5% of total capacity.
- The country remains heavily reliant on fossil fuels.
- Indonesia also continues to depend on coal despite having vast renewable potential.
- These challenges highlight the urgent need for stronger infrastructure, effective policy enforcement, and greater financial support for clean energy transition.

### DEEPER DIVE IN TO KEY POLICIES





#### A. U.S. Renewable Energy Policy Setbacks

- The 2025 policy rollback halted clean energy momentum, delaying over \$14 billion in renewable projects.
- It undermined **U.S. leadership and competitiveness** in green innovation and technology.
- Reviving progress demands targeted manufacturing incentives, state-driven action, and long-term policy stability to strengthen renewables and grid resilience.



**China's control** of EV batteries and rare earths has created major global supply dependencies.

The **2025 export restrictions** disrupted industries and intensified geopolitical tensions.

Nations like the **U.S. are pursuing diversification**, green innovation, and **strategic partnerships** — including possible collaboration with Pakistan — to reduce relianc

#### **C.Grid Transmission Under-Investment**

**India's 2024 renewable drive** awarded 59 GW, but **40 GW is stalled** by grid, PPA, and land issues.

**Global trend:** auctioned capacity often exceeds infrastructure readiness, leading to curtailment and delays.

**Key fixes:** coordinate grid and capacity expansion, invest in **smart grids**, and **streamline regulations** to speed deployment.



## D.Hydropower Excellence and Circular Economy Innovation

**Nepal leads in renewables**, producing **over 95% of its power from hydropower** and exporting surplus energy to India and Bangladesh.

Major projects like *Arun-3* and *Upper Trishuli-1* aim to lift capacity to **28,500 MW by 2035**. Beyond hydro, Nepal promotes **circular energy**, expanding **waste-to-bio-CNG**, **biogas**, and **off-grid solar**, now serving **3.6 million+ people**.

### Business as usual not an option





### O1 Strategic Insights:

- Phase out fossil fuel subsidies and align grid expansion with renewable growth.
- Foster equitable access by integrating decentralized systems and inclusive policies.

### 02 Multi-Channel Mastery:

- Balance large-scale deployment with localized microgrids and digital integration.
- Promote innovation in storage, circular energy recovery, and surplus monetization.

### 03 Data-Driven Precision:

- Track transition progress with transparent, evidence-based policy metrics.
- Use real-time data to reduce curtailment and optimize renewable utilization.

### Technology's Role in the Energy Transition

Technology plays a central role in the energy transition by accelerating the shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy systems through *innovations like AI, IoT, and blockchain, which optimize grids, forecast renewables, and decentralize energy markets.* 

The three scopes for carbon emissions measurement are vital for evaluating sustainability—Scope 1: direct emissions from company-owned sources (Ex: Company vehicles, boilers); Scope 2: indirect emissions from purchased energy; and Scope (example Electricity for offices/factories) 3: all other indirect emissions along the value chain (Suppliers, product use/disposal), which are the most challenging and typically largest.

Recent policy reversals in the U.S. signal weakened ambition for renewable energy deployment, particularly affecting Scope 3 compliance, with many oil and tech giants intensifying focus on Scopes 1 and 2 but struggling or selectively reporting on Scope 3, especially under changing regulatory environments







#### 1. Need to Speed Up Global Transition

- •Renewable deployment is growing, yet **global progress lags behind Paris Agreement targets**.
- •Fossil fuel dependence and uneven investment across regions threaten **net-zero goals**.
- •Urgent need to align **policy, finance, and technology** for a just transition.

#### 2. Structural and Policy Barriers

- •Uneven regional development leads to capacity gaps between developed and developing nations.
- •Policy reversals and regulatory uncertainty undermine investor confidence.
- •Financing limitations and high capital costs restrict renewable expansion in low-income economies.

#### 3. Pathways to Inclusive Sustainability

- •Technological innovation: Smart grids, storage, and circular energy systems.
- •Financial innovation: Green bonds, blended finance, and risk guarantees for emerging markets.
- •Policy innovation: Stable long-term frameworks, localization of value chains, and community ownership models.
- •Promotes **equitable access**, **resilience**, and **shared prosperity** in the energy transition.

### **Accelerating the Global Energy Transition**

- 1. \*\*Need to Speed Up Global Transition\*\*
- Renewable deployment is advancing but not fast enough to meet climate goals.
- Fossil fuel dependence and uneven regional progress threaten net-zero pathways.
- Coordinated policy, technology, and finance are vital for acceleration.
- 2. \*\*Structural and Policy Barriers\*\*
- Regional disparities and financing gaps delay renewable deployment.
- Policy reversals and regulatory uncertainty hinder investment confidence.
- Limited access to affordable finance constrains developing economies.
- 3. \*\*Pathways to Inclusive Sustainability\*\*
- Technological innovation: Smart grids, storage, circular energy systems.
- Financial innovation: Green bonds, blended finance, risk guarantees.
- Policy innovation: Stable frameworks, local value chains, equitable energy access.



# Accelerating the Global Energy Transition



### Need to Speed Up Global Transition

- Renewable deployment is growing, yet global progress lags behind Paris Agreement targets
- Fossil fuel dependence and uneven investment across regions threaten net-zero goals
- Urgent need to align policy, finance, and technology for a just transition

### Structural and Policy Barriers

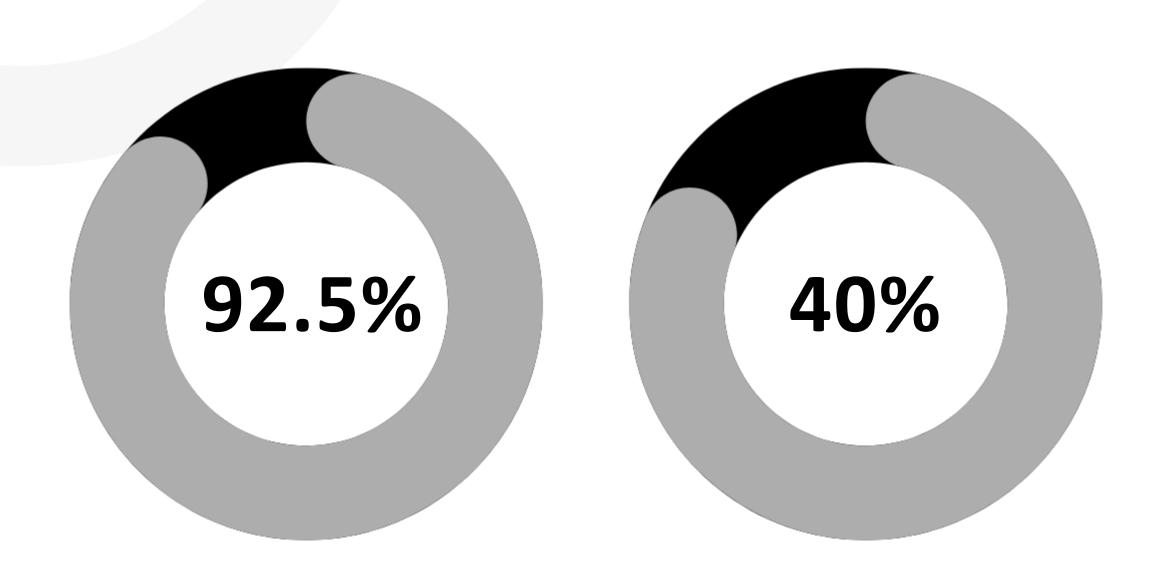
- Uneven regional development leads to capacity gaps between developed and developing nations
- Policy reversals and regulatory uncertainty undermine investor confidence

## Pathways to Inclusive Sustainability

- Technological innovation:
   Smart grids, storage
   and circular energy systems
- Financial innovation:
   Green bonds, blended
   finance, and risk guarantees
   for emerging markets
- · Policy innovation: Stable

## CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

The global renewable transition is advancing but remains off pace for climate goals. In 2024, renewables added 585 GW (about 92.5% of all new power), raising global capacity to 4,448 GW, yet only 40% of the 11.2 TW needed by 2030. Asia, led by China, dominates with over 70% of new additions, while Africa contributes less than 2%, highlighting equity gaps. Despite U.S. slowdowns from policy reversals, innovations like China's 7.75 GW pumped hydro expansion and new iron-air batteries show that technology is ready but coordinated, equitable investment is still essential.



In 2024, renewables added 585 GW (about 92.5% of all new power), raising global capacity to 4,448 GW, yet only 40% of the 11.2 TW needed by 2030



## THANK YOU

#### FOR YOUR ATTENTION

october 2025

Mahmood Ahmad Water, Energy and Food Nexus (WEFnex) Knowledge Hub RIZQ/YUNUS Bangkok, Thailand, Director of CPRU, Nusrat Jahan College

email:mahmood4404@gmail.com

Bhetwal Puja Water, Energy and Food Nexus (WEFnex) Knowledge Hub RIZQ/YUNUS Bangkok, Thailand

email: bhetwalpuja2@gmail.com

Arifa younas Natural resource management Asistant director at CPRU, Nusrat Jahan College, Darul Rehmat, Chenab Nagar email:arifayounas490@gmail.com

