

**[Article 03] Renewable Energy - Powering a Safer Future,**  
United Nations, Last Accessed: July 2024  
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Important: *This article was rewritten to make it easier for students to understand.*

## **Renewable Energy - Powering a Safer Future**

### **Energy and Climate Change**

Energy is needed for things like making electricity and heating. Right now, we get a lot of our energy by burning coal, oil, and gas. This makes greenhouse gases that trap heat and make the Earth warmer, which causes climate change. To stop this, we need to use less of these fuels and more clean energy like solar and wind. Clean energy doesn't run out and doesn't make the air dirty. Today, most of our energy still comes from coal, oil, and gas, but more and more is coming from clean energy.

### **Renewable Energy Sources Are Everywhere**

Many countries have to buy coal, oil, and gas from other countries. This can be a problem if the prices change or if there are other issues. Clean energy, like solar and wind, is available in every country. By 2050, almost all of our electricity could come from clean energy. Using clean energy can help countries become more independent, create jobs, and help people out of poverty.

### **Renewable Energy Is Cheaper**

Today, making electricity from solar and wind is cheaper than using coal, oil, or gas in many places. The cost of solar power has gone down a lot, and the cost of wind power has also dropped. This makes clean energy more affordable for everyone. By 2030, most of the world's electricity could come from clean energy, which would help reduce the greenhouse gases causing climate change.

### **Renewable Energy Is Healthier**

Almost everyone in the world breathes dirty air that can make them sick. Burning coal, oil, and gas causes most of this air pollution. Using clean energy like solar and wind can help make the air cleaner and healthier for everyone. In 2018, dirty air from fossil fuels cost a lot of money and hurt many people's health.

### **Renewable Energy Creates Jobs**

Investing in clean energy creates more jobs than investing in coal, oil, and gas. For every dollar spent on clean energy, three times more jobs are created. By 2030, there could be millions of new jobs in clean energy, like making electric cars and energy-saving appliances. It's important to make sure that everyone benefits from these new jobs.

### **Renewable Energy Makes Economic Sense**

A lot of money is spent to support the coal, oil, and gas industries. In 2022, this was about \$7 trillion. Investing in clean energy needs a lot of money too, but it will save money in the long run by making the air cleaner and fighting climate change. Clean energy is more reliable and helps protect against price changes and other problems.