



FORUM: United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)

TOPIC: Facilitating the supply of modern and sustainable energy services in Less Economically Developed Countries (LECDs)

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POSITION: President

PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

Esteemed delegates,

To begin with, my name is Antonia Pouloupoulou and I have the utmost honour of serving as the President of the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) in the 5th AMLMUN conference.

First of all, I would like to welcome you all to the world of MUN and additionally share my journey in it with you. I am currently a 10th grade student at Anavryta Model Lyceum, while I have participated in these conventions for the last four years. Therefore, I am delighted to observe that other pupils have taken the initiative to explore this enticing yet demanding leisure, just like I did.

Secondly but equally significant is introducing you to this integral committee, where we will be discussing up-to-date topics regarding the fate of our environment. In our sessions, I sincerely hope we find efficient solutions and contribute to a fruitful and interactive debate.

Last but not least, this study guide has been structured so as to aid you throughout your preparation for this conference and constitute a thorough companion during its procedure. This notwithstanding, if you experience any confusion and predicaments concerning our matter, feel free to contact me in the following email! toniapouloupoulou11@gmail.com

Best regards,
Antonia Pouloupoulou.

TOPIC INTRODUCTION

In this day and age, modern and sustainable energy sources have become part and parcel of nations' domestic growth, because of their economic and environmental benefits. As a result, UN Member States have made endeavours to employ these sources and furthermore to facilitate others' access to them, as well.



First and foremost, a cause for the aforementioned mobilisation is this kind of energy's positive impact on nations and especially on LEDCs. More specifically, as for the environmental aspect, modern and sustainable energy sources have proven to cut down on countries' carbon footprint and to simultaneously promote the creation of "greener" occupations and, subsequently, economies. Moreover, finance-wise, they have the capability of ensuring more robust and reliable energy intake, while in the long-run, they lead to saving costs despite their initial high prices.

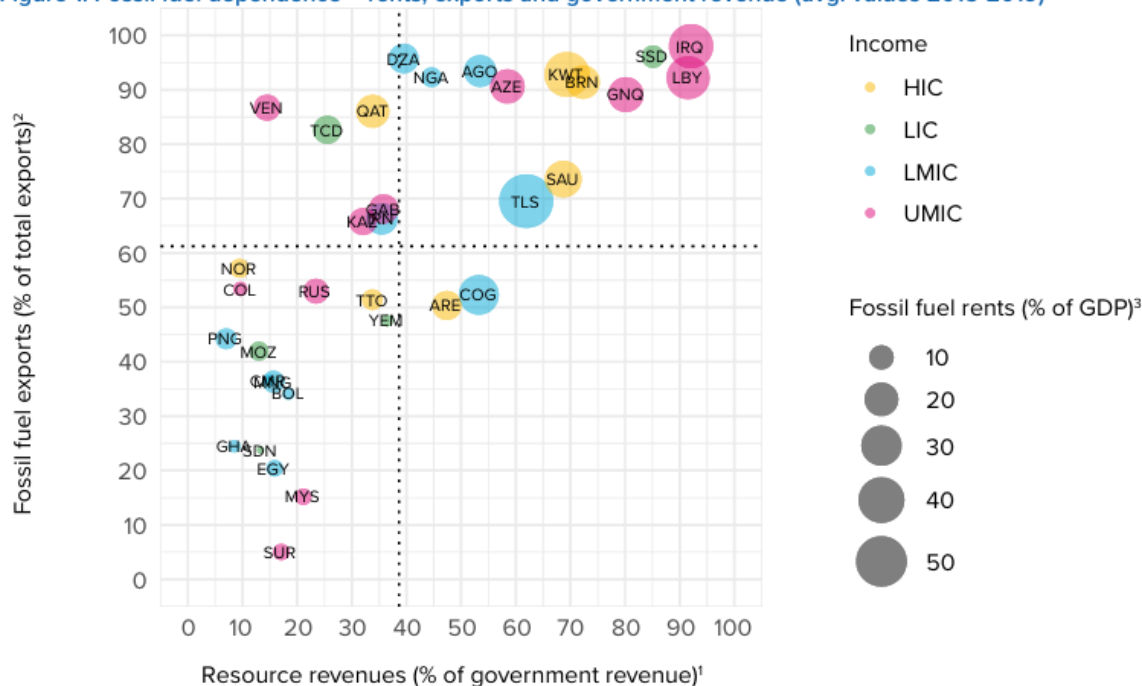
Thus, there is no doubt that they play a major role in LEDCs' well-being. On one hand, with this initiative, they may acquire the opportunity to meet the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and, in doing so, find the remedy for multiple internal problems. On the other hand, this strategy looks out to the fabrication of national action plans for this domain, in order to adapt to growing and divergent needs. Hence, the supply of these energy sources to LEDCs can undeniably ameliorate their progress. Secondly, the fact that many of them are rich in mixed natural resources has led many to believe that they have high potential to pull off this goal.

However, throughout this attempt, many obstacles have emerged that hinder the realisation of this project. For instance, when taking into consideration that approximately 41% of LEDCs economically rely on fossil fuels¹, the integration of modern and sustainable energy sources might result in the obsolescence of their assets. Moreover, a common trait that has been noted among these nations is their minimal economic complexity, which ultimately leads to the difficulty of including more viable technologies, since they often utilize less eco-friendly means. Consequently, the facilitation of the previously-stated project has partially been considered as counter-productive.

In conclusion, despite the advantageous facets of modern and sustainable energy supplies, there are still various factors that need to be addressed in order to adopt new mediums. So, in the UNEP committee for the second topic, you will be called to find feasible and realistic ways to include new and innovative energy sources in LEDCs' agenda without inflicting major setbacks to their economies.

¹ "Conclusion and Implications." *International Monetary Fund (IMF)*, pp. 26–27, www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2023-05/Global%20Decarbonization%20in%20Fossil%20Fuel%20Export-Dependent%20Economies.pdf. Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

Figure 1: Fossil fuel dependence – rents, exports and government revenue (avg. values 2015-2019)



The figure includes 35 of the 40 highly fossil fuel-dependent countries and it demonstrates their income status and fossil fuel rents.²

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Energy Source

“Energy sources are natural or artificial resources that we use to obtain the energy we need for all kinds of activities that are part of the global society in which we live”.³

Sustainable

“Involving the use of natural products and energy in a way that does not harm the environment”.⁴

² Jensen, Lars. “United Nations Development Programme Global Decarbonization in Fossil Fuel.” *United Nations Development Programme*, May 2023, www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2023-05/Global%20Decarbonization%20in%20Fossil%20Fuel%20Export-Dependent%20Economies.pdf. Accessed 14 July 2026.

³ “Energy Sources: How Can They Be Classified?” *Moeve*, www.moeveglobal.com/en/planet-energy/green-energy/types-and-applications-of-energy-sources. Accessed 15 July 2026.

⁴ “Sustainable Adjective - Definition, Pictures, Pronunciation and Usage Notes | Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary at Oxfordlearnersdictionaries.Com.” *Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries*, www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/sustainable. Accessed 14 July 2026.



Modern

“New and intended to be different from traditional styles”.⁵

Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs)

“Low-income countries confronting severe structural impediments to sustainable development. They are highly vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks and have low levels of human assets”.⁶

More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs)

“Countries with high incomes and high conditions of living”.⁷

Stranded Assets

“Investments that lose their value well before the end of their expected economic life”.⁸

Economic Diversity

“The extent to which a community’s economy consists of different types of businesses and organizations”.⁹

Economic Complexity

“The amount of knowledge that is embedded in the productive structure of an economy. It resides on the premise of hidden capabilities—fundamental endowments underlying the productive structure”.¹⁰

⁵ “Modern Adjective - Definition, Pictures, Pronunciation and Usage Notes | Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary at Oxfordlearnersdictionaries.Com.” *Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries*, www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/us/definition/english/modern. Accessed 14 July 2026.

⁶ “The Least Developed Countries (LDC) Category | Economic Analysis and Policy Division.” *UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs*, policy.desa.un.org/least-developed-countries?language_content_entity=en. Accessed 27 July 2026.

⁷ “The World Categorized into Medcs NICs and Ledcs | Ukessays.Com.” *UKESSAYS.COM*, www.ukessays.com/essays/economics/the-world-categorized-into-medcs-nics-and-ledcs-economics-essay.php. Accessed 27 July 2026.

⁸ “What Are Stranded Assets? Definition, Examples, Risks | Continuuiti.” *CONTINUUITI*, continuuiti.com/blog/stranded-assets/. Accessed 14 July 2026.
leteera.com/ledc-definition-geography-explained/. Accessed 14 July 2026.

⁹ “What Is Economic Diversity? Understanding Its Definition & Impact.” *Jobs Pirk*, www.jobspikr.com/blog/what-is-the-definition-of-economic-diversity/. Accessed 14 July 2026.

¹⁰ “Economic Complexity Unfolded: Interpretable Model for the Productive Structure of Economies.” *PLoS One*, U.S. National Library of Medicine, pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC6080758/#sec001. Accessed 07 Aug. 2026.

Energy Transition

“The global energy sector’s shift from fossil-based systems of energy production and consumption – including oil, natural gas and coal – to renewable energy sources like wind and solar, in order to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2050”.¹¹

Energy Transition Index

“Tracks energy transition progress across 120 countries, measuring both how energy systems perform today and whether the conditions for future progress are in place”.¹²

Transition Readiness

“A country's ability to steer its energy transition effectively”.¹³

Energy Sustainability Gaps

“The discrepancy between our sustainable energy ambitions and the current realities of energy production and consumption”.¹⁴

Energy Security

“The capability to establish an efficient, sustainable, and affordable energy system that meets the demands of people's lives and their daily activities”.¹⁵

Climate Change

“Long-term change in the average weather patterns that have come to define Earth’s local, regional and global climates”.¹⁶

Fossil Fuel

“Non-renewable energy sources originating from decomposing plants and animals”.¹⁷

¹¹ “What Is Energy Transition?” *S&P Global*, www.spglobal.com/en/research-insights/market-insights/what-is-energy-transition. Accessed 16 July 2026.

¹² 2026, *WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM*, reports.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Energy_Transition_Index_2026.pdf, Accessed 17 July 2026.

¹³ “3.2 Transition Readiness - Fostering Effective Energy Transition 2024 | World Economic Forum.” *WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM*, www.weforum.org/publications/fostering-effective-energy-transition-2024/in-full/3-2-transition-readiness/. Accessed 17 July 2026.

¹⁴ *Energy Sustainability Gaps*, energy.sustainability-directory.com/term/energy-sustainability-gaps/. Accessed 20 July 2026.

¹⁵ “Energy Security: Definition and Importance.” *SafetyCulture*, safetyculture.com/topics/energy-security. Accessed 06 Aug. 2026.

¹⁶ “What Is Climate Change? - NASA Science.” *NASA*, science.nasa.gov/climate-change/what-is-climate-change/. Accessed 07 Aug. 2026.

¹⁷ “Fossil Fuel: Types, Uses, and Environmental Impact.” *MET Group*, met.com/en/media/energy-insight/fossil-fuels/. Accessed 08 Aug. 2026.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Modern and Sustainable Energy

One common perception concerning different ventures to save the world is modern and sustainable energy sources and evidently their supply to all nations. Nevertheless, what are they?

Wholly, these sources are a combination of two smaller categories: “sustainable” and “modern”. On one hand, sustainable energy sources constitute a means of gathering, using, procuring and allocating numerous types of energy, in order to mitigate future detrimental consequences on the environment. In other words, they help to reserve existent energy sources, on the condition that potential negative outcomes are prevented. On the other hand, modern energy demonstrates a shift towards greener technologies, which take into account today’s humanitarian and financial concepts. More specifically, it strives for both the improvement of delivery methods and decreasing their environmental risks, such as degradation and pollution.

In brief, these two concepts structure a new, more gentle way of satisfying capital needs, by utilizing the rising technological strategies and by setting altruistic priorities. Examples of this kind of energy are wind power, hydropower and solar energy.

Objectives of Modern and Sustainable Energy

Modern and Sustainable Energy is based on three pillars. These pillars are the requirements with which a type of energy may be characterized as “Modern and Sustainable” and which determine whether their supply is prosperous. These are:

Energy Security

Energy Security sets out for economic closure when it comes to importing, exporting and trading resources on a national level. Still, it is the only criteria which is debatable, because there are dissimilar opinions about it. Initially, nations perceived this concept as economic independence, whereas others obtained a local trade-concentrated approach. In other words, the first ones vouched for the lack of financial reliance on external factors (e.g. other nations, alliances, funding organizations) and the latter ones emphasized the value of safely expanding regional markets in areas such as local start-up businesses, networks and economic cooperation. Afterwards, a new perspective interpreted energy security as a mode of contributing to the internal development of countries.

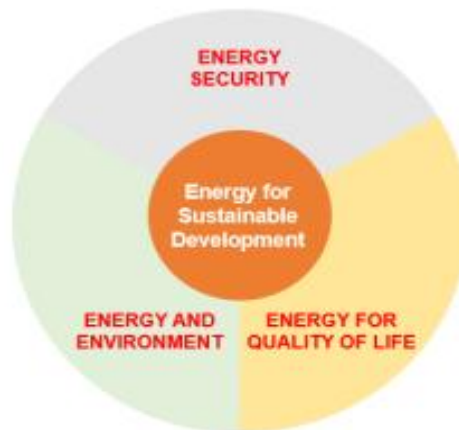
Energy for Quality of Life

Secondly, sustainable energy sources focus both on citizens' life conditions and on simplifying their access to these facilities. Apparently, in this pillar, the affordability and the quality of this service are prioritized, with the aim of evoking an amelioration in financial and societal fields.

Energy and Environment

Lastly, the final and third segment addresses the on-going environmental challenges, which are heightened by non-viable energy sources, such as climate change, air and water pollution. Most importantly, it emphasizes the need to cut down on CO₂ emissions and change to more secure alternatives, since 60% of greenhouse gases are attributed to energy vapors.¹⁸

Energy for Sustainable Development



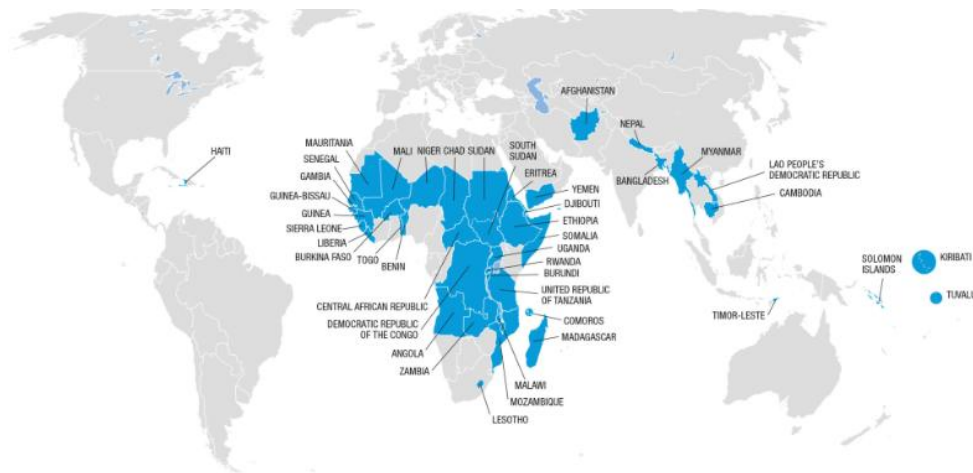
The three pillars of sustainable energy¹⁹

The task of supplying modern and sustainable energy sources to LEDCs

Notably, LEDCs are nations which have not yet developed as much as other countries and have been characterized as such since 1971. Even if the LEDCs are not the exact same countries from the 20th century, almost all of them are still facing extreme poverty, illegal or unregistered business activities and principally lack of economic complexity. Accordingly, supplying renewable energy sources, which are sustainable, to them is of great significance and it has notwithstanding beneficial and harmful aspects.

¹⁸ "Defining Sustainable Energy." *UNECE*, pp. 20.

¹⁹ "Defining Sustainable Energy." *UNECE*, pp. 20.

Map of LEDCs.²⁰

Advantages of Supply

As mentioned before, modern and sustainable energy sources advances are attached to all nations' economy, ecosystems, community and diplomatic relations. The following virtues could be applied to LEDCs, on the condition that energy supplies were properly carried out.

To begin with, the growing use of clean energy has sparked economic growth among nations. According to the International Energy Agency's (IEA) research in 2023, several countries managed to increase the amount of goods they produce annually -thanks to the energy shift- ranging from a 3.5%-7.7% rise on a national level and a 10% increase globally²¹. Furthermore, the findings demonstrate that this field is expanding due to the fact that investments on clean energy technology augment. Eventually, projects' expectations have been reached by several nations (United Kingdom, United States of America, India, China), and there is hope of further success.

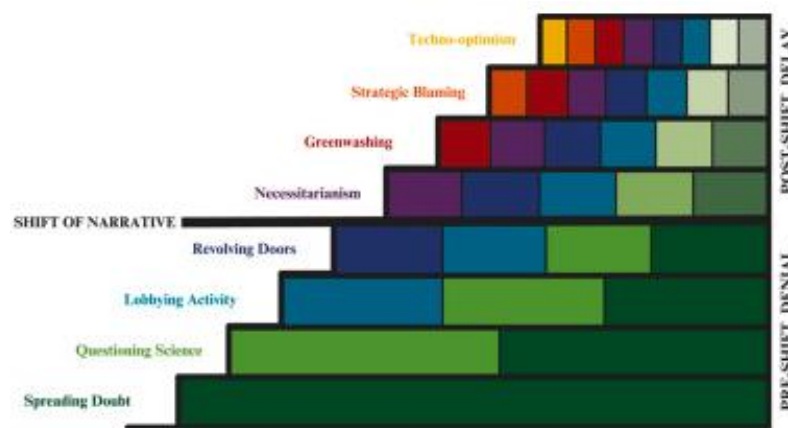
In a second place, these sources have accelerated the energy transition and limited pollution in water and earth habitats. Alternatively, Member States have been able to cut down on fossil fuel usage and their dependence on them. Most significantly, the air pollution numbers have declined and therefore the mortality rates, which are attributed to this cause, have experienced a similar demise. Except for that, this situation has made international trade less dependent on wars' conditions, so that more diverse economies and qualified import and export products have been encouraged.

²⁰ "UN List of Least Developed Countries | UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)." *UN Trade and Development UNCTAD*, unctad.org/topic/least-developed-countries/list. Accessed 16 July 2026.

²¹ "Clean Energy Is Boosting Economic Growth – Analysis - IEA." *International Energy Agency (IEA)*, www.iea.org/commentaries/clean-energy-is-boosting-economic-growth. Accessed 08 Aug. 2026.

Thirdly, the exponential progress of modern and sustainable energy is the cause behind the employment of a higher percentage of citizens. As the United Nations and International Energy Agency (IEA) have estimated, this emerging factor has given financial refuge to almost 13.7 million people in 2022 and another 16.2 million civilians the next year²². As for LEDCs, this particular trait can patently aid in minimizing poverty and ameliorate their living conditions.

Finally, another benefit is “Renewable Energy Diplomacy”. Energy Diplomacy -and not solely the renewable one- constitutes the notion of diplomatic talks, which have taken place with the goal of solidifying the energy transition. Through globally discussing these matters, countries with contradictory opinions cooperate and strengthen their efforts of reaching a consensus and vicariously deepen their diplomatic relations.



The characteristics of corporations before and after shifting to sustainable energy²³

Technical difficulties in the due process

As for the practical component of this subject, energy transition in LEDCs has come across a wide variety of vices. This circumstance has decelerated present efforts of all countries to tackle this affair. Ultimately, this hardship is related to their unpredictability, infrastructure and their impact on finance and trade.

To begin with, wind and solar power, which are the mainstream examples of green energy, have been deemed unpredictable. These electricity-producing factors are not constantly accessible, owing to their programming,

²² “Renewable Energy – Powering a Safer Future.” *United Nations Climate Action*, www.un.org/en/climatechange/raising-ambition/renewable-energy. Accessed 08 Aug. 2026.

²³ “Orchestrating the Narrative: The Role of Fossil Fuel Companies in Delaying the Energy Transition - Sciencedirect.” *ScienceDirect*, www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1364032125000322. Accessed 27 July 2026.



which leads to the mandatory installation of energy storage and back-up production machinery. Regardless of the additional gadgets and costs, many LEDCs are not yet ready for this alteration. This is proven by their energy transition index, which is a classification system analyzing the socioenvironmental national advances in their technology, security, sustainability and afterwards estimating in percentages the efficiency of present and future energy transitioning endeavours. When these calculations reach overall 50-53%²⁴, it is indicated that LEDCs' infrastructure is not optimal to foster the full transition, in which case there would be a score of at least 70%, and thus the final outcome is even now undecided.

Moreover, these sources' infrastructure is not yet adapted to all territories' standards, especially to those which are still reliant on conventional energy.²⁵ Namely, their application has been examined in MEDCs, whose terrain is undeniably different from the one of LEDCs, since they have divergent climate and weather conditions. Similarly, the established models of this technology are also based on more developed economies, resulting in a deficit of practicality and affordability, when dealing with their integration in LEDCs.

As for the marketing sectors, modern and sustainable energy services possess market and cost competitiveness as a baseline. Nevertheless, the majority of civilians in the previously-stated countries experience extreme poverty, with 55% of them not having access to electricity.²⁶ Correspondingly, their energy usage per capita²⁷ is also low, the needed contesting pricing will not be ensured and, thus, the survival of such businesses. On the other hand, given that there will be correspondence and usage of them, stability is not assured, because of the rising geopolitical tensions. For instance, these disruptive behaviors influence in a major way the demand of the facilities, which in turn may deteriorate LEDCs' economy.

Last but not least, international trade and the energy supply is adversely impacted by the current defective situation. The result of the on-going imbalance poses higher trade restrictions and dependence on either

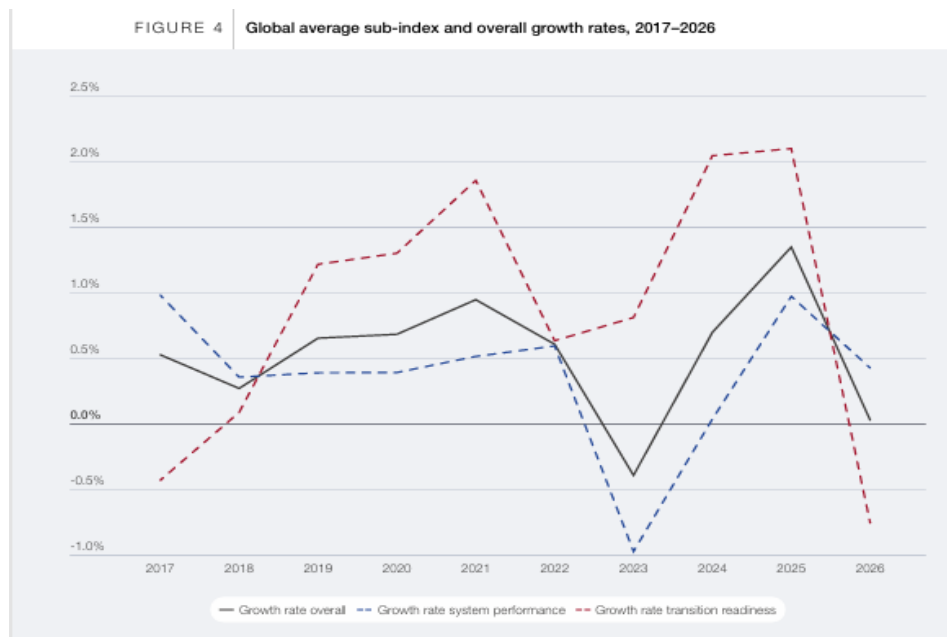
²⁴ "Overall Results." *WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM in Collaboration with Accenture*, pp. 13–18, Accessed 17 July 2026.

²⁵ "Conventional Energy: Definition, Importance, Uses & Example." *TATA POWER*, www.tatapower.com/glossary/c/conventional-energy. Accessed 18 July 2026.

²⁶ "Over Half of the People in Least Developed Countries Lack Access to Electricity | UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)." *UN Trade & Development (UNCTAD)*, unctad.org/topic/least-developed-countries/chart-july-2021. Accessed 12 Aug. 2026.

²⁷ "Per Capita | English Meaning - Cambridge Dictionary." *Cambridge Dictionary*, dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/per-capita. Accessed 18 July 2026.

import or export between specific countries.²⁸ Hence, success is strongly tied to external, fluid factors, which heighten the existing tariffs both in manufacturing and agriculture.



Global average sub-index and overall growth rates, 2017–2026²⁹

Possible consequences on LEDCs

After noting the positive and the negative aspects of modern and sustainable energy sources, the potential casualties of their application to LEDCs are now evident. These consequences will undoubtedly affect their agenda and create more risks in their future. However, which theoretical aspects do they affect?

Generally, their natural resources and more importantly their future utilization will be the subject of deep controversy. This is due to the fact that LEDCs are rich in conventional energy sources, which most likely will become stranded assets. To be more thorough, 26%, 34% and 90% of their gas, oil and coal reserves respectively will have to be conserved without any prospective exploitation, as proven by the UN trade and development programme³⁰. The

²⁸ "Trade Restrictions." *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia*, archive.unescwa.org/trade-restrictions. Accessed 18 July 2026.

²⁹ "Overall Results." *WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM*, pp. 13.

³⁰ "Least Developed Countries Cannot Afford to Strand Their Assets, given Their Development Challenges - Development Matters." <https://Oecd-Development-Matters.Org/2021/11/25/Least-Developed-Countries-Cannot-Afford-to-Strand-Their-Assets-given-Their-Development-Challenges/>, OECD, oecd-development-matters.org/2021/11/25/least-developed-countries-cannot-afford-to-strand-their-assets-given-their-development-challenges/. Accessed 14 July 2026.

stop of non-renewable energy usage is critical for LEDCs, since 38 of them are financially reliant on exporting commodities, one of which is fossil fuels.

Another apparent consequence is the possibility that they will be more inclined to further lean into already profitable initiatives, even if they are not sustainable. Today, LEDCs are up against grand debts, which have multiplied 3 times from 2011 to 2019 and were calculated to be \$33 billion³¹. Apart from that, they are more susceptible to climate change owing to their geographic position, which is a heavy burden to their people. Therefore, energy transition poses an unimaginable peril to their society's daily conditions and that is why they were -and still are- discouraged from full transitioning without guaranteed aid.

Summary of the current situation

In conclusion, the supply of modern and sustainable energy sources is largely beneficial and plays an integral role in their development from an economic, environmental and societal standpoint. Nevertheless, this alteration hides a lot of obstacles which hinder the actualization of these efforts. As a result, these events have to be taken into account, in order to facilitate any kind of transportation, whose final destination is LEDCs.

MAJOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED

China

From the beginning of the concept of clean energy, there have been certain countries which were immediately incentivized and ready to provoke change. One of those nations was China.

To begin with, China has prematurely accomplished a couple of its sustainable targets. In 2024, they reached their wind and solar capacity goal of 1,200 GW and they took part in close to 8,000 suggested projects for this topic. That period of time and the following year, they also invested more than 350 billion USD on low-emissions electricity initiatives and in total they almost doubled their investments in renewable energy technologies.³² In addition, they are the nation which has mostly abided by Climate Finance.³³ A part of Climate Finance poses as Sustainable Energy supply, to

³¹ "Four Key Challenges Facing Least Developed Countries | UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)." *UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)*, unctad.org/news/four-key-challenges-facing-least-developed-countries. Accessed 18 July 2026.

³² "China – World Energy Investment 2025 – Analysis - IEA." *International Energy Agency (IEA)*, www.iea.org/reports/world-energy-investment-2025/china. Accessed 11 Aug. 2026.

³³ "What Is Climate Finance? - Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment." *The London School of Economics and Political Science, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment*, www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/explainers/what-is-climate-finance-and-where-will-it-come-from/. Accessed 20 July 2026.



which China has provided the most assets and mobilization, according to the World Resources Institute.

Ethiopia

In Africa, the nation which is most famous for its renewable energy sources is Ethiopia and justifiably so. In this country, there is potent hydropower infrastructure, which has the capability of opening new pathways to citizens with no access to electricity. Along with the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam, which generated 5,150 MW of electricity for privileged sustainable tasks last year,³⁴ there is the Asella wind farm taking advantage of wind power and their collaboration with SEforALL -an organization devoted to this cause- for modifying the cooking culture, since it is mostly based on fossil fuels. Lastly, these programmes are seen as a way to smooth over transnational disputes, because of their positive results.

Kenya

After a lot of discussion and goal-setting, Kenya is leading the way in the African continent with renewable energy infrastructure. Beginning with these installations, it is clearly setting out to procure people with qualified living conditions and a middle-income economic status. Furthermore, they undertook ventures in order to accomplish these aims, such as the Garissa Solar Power Plant in 2018 and the Lake Turkana Wind Power Project in 2019, which greatly encompass the modern and sustainable energy sources of wind and solar power. Complimenting these technologies are the lessons they provide through their universities, which emphasize on the use of clean energy in rural areas and which are the product of cooperation with the EU.

Republic of Korea (RoK)

The Member State following China's example is South Korea, which has made large and comprehensive contributions for our matter. To be more specific, their most significant characteristic is their eagerness to cooperate with other nations for the actualization of many purposes, including the solution of this question. This is evidenced by their specialized institution, also known as Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), which was founded on 1st of April 1991. The agency is sacredly devoted to "Contributing to the advancement of international cooperation through various cooperative projects to promote friendly and cooperative relationships and mutual exchanges between the Republic of Korea and developing countries and achieve poverty reduction, improvement of the quality of life,

³⁴ "Ethiopia Emerges as Africa's Renewable Energy Powerhouse through Bold Hydropower and Wind Initiatives – Ethiopian Electric Power." *Ethiopian Electric Power*, www.eep.com.et/?article=ethiopia-emerges-as-africas-renewable-energy-powerhouse-through-bold-hydropower-and-wind-initiatives. Accessed 20 July 2026.

sustainable development, and humanitarianism of developing countries”, as stated in their website.³⁵

South Africa

One of the LEDCs which has chosen not to fight a global issue alone is South Africa. As a developing country, South Africa along with the UN, has taken the plunge to extinguish the sustainable energy gap with various approaches, the most important of which is Just Energy Transition (JET).³⁶ Through this initiative, they take into consideration the susceptibility of different communities, while they advertise these values and the principles of efficiency and innovation. Apart from that, they strongly support coordination and information-sharing between nations, so as to facilitate world efforts. Practically, they have increased their sustainability by building wind farms throughout the country’s coast, so as to boost access to electricity and regional welfare.

European Union (EU)

Even if LEDCs are not members of the European Union (EU), the EU has made obvious efforts to help them prosper, especially in trade. In 2017, the aid for trade (Aft) strategy, which was an initiative with the aim of utilizing trade for retrofitting supplies, changed their attention from a global outlook to a more concentrated view on LEDCs. Through the Aft, which simultaneously encompassed sustainability targets, the EU made it its mission to increase this kind of exchange between MEDCs and LEDCs. In addition to this alteration, in 2021, due to the trade policy review and the joint communication on the Global Gateway strategy, which wished to ameliorate infrastructure for viable technology, the EU Member States were called to favor the aforementioned group when it came to receiving and launching sustainable products. Thus, some technical difficulties of facilitating these supplies were fortunately extinguished and these developing countries projected better chances of completing the UN standards, owing to the EU.

International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

As its name suggests, IRENA has contributed significantly to the smooth flow of our topic’s events. This agency’s target is securing a safe energy transition, whereas its expertise lands on partnerships and the actions that succeed them. To begin with, they have formed alliances with the target of instituting renewable energy in less-resourceful territories. For example, some of them are Global Geothermal Alliance

³⁵ “Featured Partner - Koica - South-South Galaxy.” *United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation*, SOUTH-SOUTH GALAXY, southsouth-galaxy.org/featured-partner/koica. Accessed 20 July 2026.

³⁶ “What Is a Just Energy Transition? | Oxfam.” *OXFAM*, www.oxfamamerica.org/explore/stories/what-is-a-just-energy-transition/. Accessed 20 July 2026.



(GGA), Global Offshore Wind Alliance (GOWA) and the SIDS Lighthouses Initiative,³⁷ which bring together countries with similar objectives, resulting in their cooperation. Then, they sparked initiatives with a focus on renewable energy usage, some of which are Utilities for Net Zero Alliance (UNEZA), Empowering Lives and Livelihoods – Renewables for Climate Action and the Global Initiative on Transitioning Remote Communities to Renewable Energy. Lastly, they have also created projects like Accelerated Partnership for Renewables in Africa (APRA), which directly address the second topic of our committee.

Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL)

Globally, the number of organizations which are concentrated on supplying sustainable energy sources to all countries counts up to one. This organization goes under the name “Sustainable Energy for All” and in short “SEforALL”. From its founding in 2012, SEforALL has been completely dedicated and busy with achieving its three targets, one of which is modern energy’s availability.

As for its journey, during its first years, it focused on stressing the vital role of energy in our planet. In 2013, it initiated the Global Tracking Framework (GTF), in order to document the progress and at-the-time state of each nation, regarding the adoption of clean energy. The next year, a SEforALL’s forum took place in New York, where this matter was discussed. In the following years, their projects were prioritized and executed, according to the places where modern and sustainable energy was needed the most. This was achieved through their 5-year Strategic Framework for Results, which was adopted in 2016 and drifted countries’ attention to LEDCs. Owing to the impression that advances were slow, from that year and onward, they specialized in each country and what entailed was a more unique and efficient approach.

Today, SEforALL is not working alone. On the contrary, it collaborates with all countries and other international organizations. In brief, it paves the way for facilitating the supply of modern and sustainable energy to all nations, including LEDCs.

United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

As for the agencies which are involved in modern and sustainable energy supply to LEDCs, the organization which ranks in the second place is certainly UNDP. This organization has not solely invested in constructive programmes with other

³⁷ “Partnerships.” *International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)*, www.irena.org/Energy-Transition/Partnerships. Accessed 21 July 2026.

parties, but it has helped individually all nations, regardless of their economies, to safely transition into clean energy.

On one hand, UNDP has provided LEDCs with renewable energy sources. More specifically, Nepal, Equatorial Guinea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Central African Republic have been given micro-hydropower plants, which procured more than 400,000 residencies with access to electricity. In accordance to that, fossil fuel levels were considerably decreased, while their enterprise models were tested for their positive impact on their community and finance. With UNDP's aid, another 12 developing countries, located in West Africa, created 4,000 energy enterprises allowing 4 million citizens to find job positions. Moreover, other nations, like the Comoros and Sudan, have been assisted in exploiting their renewable energy sources and ameliorating their market sector for this domain.³⁸

On the other hand, programmes were structured by this group, so as to solve our issue. Firstly, specific principles have been set for the sustainable energy supply, which advocate for just energy transition, supporting the use of clean energy and inclusive, contextual regulations. Secondly, several projects have come to life, such as the Bioenergy for Sustainable Rural Development project,³⁹ the International Solar Alliance, The Parliamentary Action for Renewable Energy (PARE), the United for Efficiency (U4E) platform and UNDP's De-risking Renewable Energy Investments.⁴⁰ Lastly, alliances have been struck between UNDP, UNEP, the World Bank and nations for facilitating their actions.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT
18 th of November 1971	Establishment of the term "LEDCs"
1 st of April 1991	Creation of Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)
2011	Adoption of Standardised Classification Systems

³⁸ "United Nations Development Programme Delivering Sustainable Energy." *United Nations Development Programme*, www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/publications/UNDP%20Energy%20Strategy%202017-2021.pdf. Accessed 21 July 2026.

³⁹ "Increasing Access to Affordable, Reliable and Sustainable Energy." *United Nations Development Programme* (UNDP), pp. 31, www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/publications/UNDP%20Energy%20Strategy%202017-2021.pdf. Accessed 21 July 2026.

⁴⁰ "Increasing the Share of Renewable Energy in the Global Energy Mix." *United Nations Development Programme* (UNDP), pp. 40–41, www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/publications/UNDP%20Energy%20Strategy%202017-2021.pdf. Accessed 21 July 2026.

2012	Founding of Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL)
21 th of December 2012	Adoption of UN Resolution A/67/215
May of 2013	Initiation of the Global Tracking Framework (GTF)
September of 2015	Publication and adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
June 2016	Adoption of 5-year Strategic Framework for Results by SEforALL
4 th of November 2016	UN Member States sign the Paris Agreement
17 th of November 2016	Creation of the Least Developed Countries Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Initiative for Sustainable Development (LDC REEEI)
2017	Shift of aid for trade (Aft) strategy's focus to LEDCs
2018	The commence of the Energy Charter Treaty's Operation
19 th of July 2019	Full operation of the Lake Turkana Wind Power Project in Kenya
23 rd of December 2019	Finalization of the Garissa Solar Power Plant in Kenya
23 rd of February 2021	EU trade policy review
1 st of December 2021	Creation of the joint communication on the Global Gateway strategy
2024	China reaches its wind and solar capacity goal of 1,200 GW and almost doubles its investments in renewable energy technologies
9 th September of 2025	Finalization of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam

RELEVANT UN TREATIES, CONVENTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7)

In September of 2015, the UN Member States decided to adopt 17 goals, which were set so as to be achieved by 2030 and were called "Sustainable Development Goals". The final 17 goals sought for a better future and the resolution of international complications.



Despite all 17 SDGs, our relevant object of discussion is the seventh SDG (SDG7), which concentrates on “Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy for All”. This target was established, in order to bridge the energy sustainability gap between MEDCs and LEDCs, which had widened in 2015. In an endeavor to complete its unique and demanding task, four smaller subsections of this goal were structured and namely these were Affordability,⁴¹ Reliability,⁴² Sustainability, Modernity. These dimensions talked about the necessity for energy services to be available price-wise and at the same time sufficiently qualified for use. Therein, this goal also endorsed that proposed technologies are beneficial to the environment and up-to-date with current demands, as nuanced annual reports were filled in by nations.

Therefore, this UN convention has principally created the standards that energy sources are required to follow and it has eventually contributed to the adaptation of recommended solutions to each nation’s terms.

Energy Charter Treaty (ECT)

Commencing from an agreement between the Western Europe countries, the Energy Charter Agreement is a treaty which focuses on the economic side of multinational energy supplies. In particular, it has shielded countries from the unpredictability and the changing state of trade restrictions. Nevertheless, it also poses as a warning to developing treaties, owing to negative feedback from multiple institutions.

In its beginning, in 1998, it served only the post-Soviet nations and, afterwards, it was included in the United Nations Treaty Collection (UNTP) for its virtues. Legally, this is the document which gave investors the right to sue others, in case the seller’s legislation was altered to their disadvantage following their transaction. Off the record though, it refrains from excluding fossil fuels from its agenda, so it promotes inclusion when it comes to energy supplies. Following some years, objections broke out because of the impression that conventional energy usage was endorsed through this agreement. In the meantime, some of its signatories backed out from their deal. The outcome of this was that new modernization attempts were issued, so as to combat these challenges and prioritize sustainable sources.

To sum up, the Energy Charter Treaty provided LEDCs with secure regulations and much needed guarantees when it came down to the exchange of commodities.

⁴¹ “Affordability | English Meaning - Cambridge Dictionary.” *Cambridge Dictionary*, dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/affordability. Accessed 19 July 2026.

⁴² “Reliability | English Meaning - Cambridge Dictionary.” *Cambridge Dictionary*, dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/reliability. Accessed 19 July 2026.



Although in hindsight, it became a model to stray away from, owing to its outdated and sustainable development-hindering priorities.

Paris Agreement Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Although the Paris Agreement mainly focuses on UN Member States mobilization for reducing our global carbon footprint, it is also related to energy supplies, and especially the modern and sustainable ones. Throughout its operation for the last 10 years, it has constituted a compass for nations battling to survive the energy transition.

Firstly, taking into consideration that it seeks a solution to the climate change's negative results, it has firmly instructed the reduction of conventional energy usage, owing to the greenhouse gas that they emit. Regarding sustainable energy, it has made it one of their objectives to provide aid from developed countries to LEDCs, so as to noticeably even their access to a green and modern future. Secondly, it obliged nations to document their emission levels and their related endeavours, through the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Thereafter a 5-year-period, it has called them to discuss these data and assess world-wide progress to minimizing rising temperatures. Besides this report, it has assisted other partnerships and bodies to come to life for the sake of better collaboration between nations.

Overall, the Paris Agreement is a relevant treaty concentrating on the documentation of efforts as a means of better cooperation and the seizure of productive diplomatic relations.

UN Resolution A/67/215⁴³

On the 21th of December 2012, before the finalization of the SDGs, a resolution was passed in the General Assembly (GA) regarding the role of sustainable energy worldwide. Particularly, its clauses concerned the preparation and the actualization of the energy transition. In its contents, the preparation was appointed to the Secretary General in collaboration with Member States and relevant international organizations, whilst the superiority of renewable over conventional energy sources was stressed. In other words, the entire procedure was set to bear in mind current national conditions and, depending on them, promote and favor the use of renewable energy. In its final part, the funding for this project was discussed, which was allocated to funding agencies and Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs).⁴⁴ Concluding, the UN

⁴³ "Document Viewer." Un. Org, 2026, docs.un.org/en/A/RES/67/215. Accessed 17 Oct. 2026.

⁴⁴ "What Is an NGO? What Role Does It Play in Civil Society?" *Candid.*, learning.candid.org/ngo-definition-and-role/273914. Accessed 22 July 2026.



Resolution A/67/215 functioned as groundwork for SDG7 and other initiatives, which without it would have probably passed unnoticeable.

PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE ISSUE

Standardized Classification Systems

Since they were first used in 2011, Standardized Classification Systems (Just Energy Transition, Energy Transition Index) have posed as a means of efficiently documenting and restricting projects for the transmission of renewable and conventional energy. In other words, these systems included the adoption of respective policies for energy production, allotment and consumption. Even so, while structuring the limits of world ventures, they gave nations the opportunity of analyzing them, so as to set a clear understanding of contesting choices.

Despite this, Standardized Classification Systems provoked contradictory results. Luckily, these systems accelerated domestic and international advances in supplying sustainable energy, since they stipulated clear guidelines for its classification, reservation and dissemination. Unfortunately, they have proven to be practically inconvenient, due to different ethnic financial conditions and capabilities, disputes between nations and divergent transition readiness rates.

In our topic, they aided the creation of policies for supplying sustainable energy, such as SDG7, yet they were unable to set all nations on the same wavelength.

Least Developed Countries Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Initiative for Sustainable Development (LDC REEEI)

A previous attempt to equip LEDCs with clean energy, which has been majorly successful, is LDC REEEI. LDC REEEI is an initiative which is led and owned by LEDCs and whose purpose is the exploitation of existing mediums, so as to efficiently utilize renewable energy. Instead of exclusively concentrating on current infrastructure, it has taken hold of cooperation with other nations, building potential projects and expanding their work on to other stakeholders. This is also evidenced by their 8 separate working fields, which combine national motives with citizens' preferences.

Seemingly, its outcome is mostly comprised by praises, but some shortcomings have been noted. Commencing, LEDCs have earned the opportunity to achieve the SDGs and complete the Paris Agreement's targets because of the internal progress this initiative has caused. Founded on 17th of November 2016, it has patently taken great strides towards the resolution of our issue but it has experienced a deficit of interest, because of other ongoing global matters. The result is that almost 60% of the



population of LEDCs continue to not be entitled to electricity and that is why some question its effectiveness.⁴⁵

In conclusion, LDC REEEI is a perfect example that LEDCs are capable of taking matters into their own hands and evoking progress, which may be slowed down by external factors, though.

Energy Communities

Just like any community, Energy Communities are also a group of people who work together with the aim of achieving a common goal. In this case, citizens create a close-knit team, in which they decide together to invest in clean resources, so as to promote and corroborate the energy transition's importance. As you may notice, this is a new and more influential kind of initiative and specifically one which is not led by governments or/and organizations but citizens. There, attention is cast and usually civilians are eager to start up other projects -becoming an enterprise- or agencies are willing to cooperate with them.

When it comes to the impact of energy communities to society, two conflicting sides are formed. On one of them, the advantages outweigh the disadvantages, since public awareness has increased through these teams, poverty has declined, sustainability has overpowered conventional energy and people have spoken for themselves. On the other side, the exact opposite happens, with the lack of funding, supervision, expertise and documented guidelines being emphasized.

All in all, Energy Communities are a concept which takes place in Europe and is still estranged from LEDCs. Nevertheless, it has constituted a controversial method of supplying sustainable energy, in which citizens consciously determine its use and implementation.

International Campaigns

For the most part, UN Member States and organizations, whether they are international or non-governmental, have fought for universal access to renewable energy through campaigns. Campaigns are small performances, which have been created, in order to accomplish one or more specific aims. In regard to our topic, campaigns have been launched with a wide variety of topics. For instance, people have gathered to transform the energy resources of small, remote islands and entire nations into sustainable sources, while others have viewed a lot of educational programmes created by an even larger multitude of agencies. In the end, campaigns

⁴⁵ "Over Half of the People in Least Developed Countries Lack Access to Electricity | UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)." *UN Trade & Development (UNCTAD)*, unctad.org/topic/least-developed-countries/chart-july-2021. Accessed 12 Aug. 2026.



are a greatly edifying strategy to raise awareness for an issue, but they are really common and without a target group, they could not measure up to their full potential.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Assessing and alternating the existing frameworks regarding the supply of modern and sustainable energy sources in LEDCs

These days, the existing frameworks for supplying clean energy sources to LEDCs are countless and distinct (LDC REEEI, SDG7, ECT, Paris Agreement etc.). In spite of their diversity, they may overlap and, in doing so, slow the transition from fossil fuels to sustainable sources, because they possess different goals and priorities. This obviously creates confusion and a horde of responsibilities, which are left unfinished.

In order to set thorough groundwork, their evaluation is non-negotiable. By merging or refining existing targets according to the goals which have been completed or deemed far-fetched, a more concise and feasible agenda would be formed. Another point which should be taken into consideration for the frameworks' assessment is the possibility of success. For instance, big centralized projects in areas where civilians do not have sufficient assets to pay for their services, would not be fruitful.

In conclusion, redirecting present supply policies is essential for improving success rates and reaching incomplete development goals.

Strengthening cooperation between LEDCs and international relevant stakeholders

Throughout the due process of fighting for universal sustainability, a lot of partnerships, alliances and organizations have been formulated between MEDCs and LEDCs. Regardless of their number, confidence among them has yet to be sparked. For example, developing nations keep on doubting the effectiveness of sustainable technologies due to their unpredictability and lack of guarantees. What's more to this, is that their efforts are not joined, even if the data they collect would complement one another and be more useful.

The only way to avoid stepping backwards and earn diplomatic trust is to connect with working international stakeholders. More specifically, an illustration is the gap between South-south cooperation and the EU. The first one, being the coordination of southern nations and including most of the LEDCs, is evidently more aware of their environmental status, while the latter one has made multiple applicable initiatives. Yet their endeavours have not been merged. Basically, new partnerships are not integral but their internal cooperation is, so as to build confidence between them, and subsequently adopt new measures.



Forming Energy Communities with hybrid generation in LEDCs

As mentioned before, Energy Communities have been an attempt to increase access to renewable energy sources in Europe and not in LEDCs. Concretely, there is a local group of people who work together, in order to ensure access to sustainability and energy transition. In contrast to their altruistic objective, skepticism has been cast on them, because they may be recognised as a small business without the standard procedure or paperwork. What deepens this dilemma is the fact that this community has been tested in developed but not developing countries.

Irrespective of the geographic and cultural divide between them, this action's nature is executable in LEDCs as well. In a period of high political tension, citizens have the opportunity of participating in the resolution of issues and not solely depending on centralized power⁴⁶. This means that the communities can install decentralized generation⁴⁷, which are local sustainable energy sources (solar panels, home batteries), while also benefiting -if possible- from grand ventures. Carrying out this mode of living would be followed by lower cost and carbon footprint, availability of clean energy, rise of awareness and potential regular feedback to governments regarding relevant factors.

Overall, Energy Communities are a beneficial method of facilitating modern energy supply in LEDCs, especially when it takes advantage of regional and domestic sources (hybrid generation).⁴⁸

Imposing de-risking mechanisms in trade and exchanges of sustainable technologies

In the process of facilitating access to sustainable energy, a problem emerged concerning trade restriction, exchange regulations and guarantees.⁴⁹ This issue regarded the possibility of exploitation after the finalization of transactions and the improbability of carrying through deals due to exchange barriers. When noting the recent military and political combats, this imminent danger becomes more of a reality rather than theory. Despite the recent fallouts, one more destabilizing element is the lack of assurance that investments will end up being successful and -if not- the impossibility of falling back out of agreements.

⁴⁶ "Engineering:Centralised Generation." HANDWIKI, handwiki.org/wiki/Engineering:Centralised_generation. Accessed 24 July 2026.

⁴⁷ "What Is Decentralised Energy? — Decentralised Energy Canada." *Decentralized Energy Canada (DEC)*, www.deassociation.ca/whatisde. Accessed 24 July 2026.

⁴⁸ "Hybrid Energy - Iberdrola." *Iberdrola*, www.iberdrola.com/about-us/our-innovation-model/hybrid-energy. Accessed 24 July 2026.

⁴⁹ "Trade Restrictions." *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia*, archive.unescwa.org/trade-restrictions. Accessed 18 July 2026.

When trying to suppress this insecurity, another concept became known under the name “de-risking mechanisms or tools”. These tools are ways to eradicate uncertainty and hindrances, such as planning detailed projects and their budget or funding, advising alternative measures and contingency plans, without using regional currency and defining guarantees. Along with these strategies, one treaty including these clean energy supplies’ tools could be created or the Energy Charter Treaty could be modernized, according to these terms.

Summarizing, trade conditions could be undeniably reformed, resulting in sustainable energy not being unpredictable anymore.



The illustration of nations’ dilemma in regard to modern and sustainable energy⁵⁰

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⁵⁰ “Energy Transition: Yes, No, Maybe? - By Roger Pielke Jr..” *The Honest Broker*, rogerpielkejr.substack.com/p/energy-transition-yes-no-maybe. Accessed 27 July 2026.



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