

Digest of Green Reports and Studies

Title	<i>Toward a Sustainable Energy Future</i>
Author	Multiple Contributors
Organization	International Energy Agency (IEA), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
Author Contact	None
Publication Type	Book
Publication Date	2001
# of Pages	256 pp
URL	http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/future2001.pdf
Summary	<p>This book was prepared by multiple contributors from the International Energy Agency (IEA). Written in 2001, the IEA states; “the purpose of this book is to contribute to provide context for understanding sustainable development in the energy sector.” The book reviews green policies around the world based on two criteria. The first is whether they “reduce our exposure to large-scale risks” and the second is if they help to create a balance between the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development’s (OECD) three pillars of sustainable development; economic, environmental, and social. The effect of globalization, policies, and future actions on each of these pillars is also discussed. Towards the end of the book nonmember countries (of the IEA) and their effect on the IEA’s progress is addressed. The conclusion presents a policy framework that would support sustainable development.</p>
Key Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “All countries – developed and developing – will need to design their own policy mix; it is clear that national circumstances will affect the scope for action and the appropriate policy choice in and between countries.” • The three pillars, economic, social, and environmental, will be sustainable only if they grow without impeding on the growth of each other. • IEA-member governments will want to change their energy policies in order to best support sustainable development (some of these changes include): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Safeguarding energy supplies.” - “Promoting further improvements in energy efficiency.” - “Ensuring that energy markets operate in a competitive and transparent manner with minimum distortions.” - Following a clear guideline for making decisions. - “Encouraging the systematic introduction of the best technological solutions where energy investments are made.” • Coherence is extremely important in policymaking because it can help to “establish credibility and trust between different stakeholders.”
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Energy policies must balance the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.” • “They (energy policies) must contribute to the management of risk and the improvement of flexibility.” • “Energy policies should result from processes in which information and research are consciously managed and decision-making is well integrated, with broad stakeholder involvement.” • Policies that address the necessary issues, including changing our current direction of energy use, need to be developed and enforced if we want to achieve a sustainable use. • It is important to engage non-member countries in the environmental issues that the International Energy Agency is dealing with. • In order for policies to maintain sustainability they need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Strive for balance among the economic, the social and the environmental dimension and account for interactions between them.” - “Manage the different dimensions of risk that can pose threats to sustainable development of, and stemming from, the energy sector.” - “Contribute to the management of social risk by promoting reliable and affordable access to energy.”
Definition of “Green”	None
Methodology	Literature/historical Research
Data Sources Cited	World Economic Outlook, OECD Environmental Data, World Bank, UNDP, UNDESA, WEC, U.S. Department of Energy.
Report Geography	World
Green Occupations Cited	None

Green Industries Cited	Renewable energy, truck, petroleum, oil, nuclear, wind power.
Keywords	Sustainability; globalization; policy framework; globalization; developing countries.
Legislation Cited	None
Bibliography (Y/N)	Y
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