



# **GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSITION *MODELLING CHALLENGES***

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Abu Dhabi | June 3, 2015

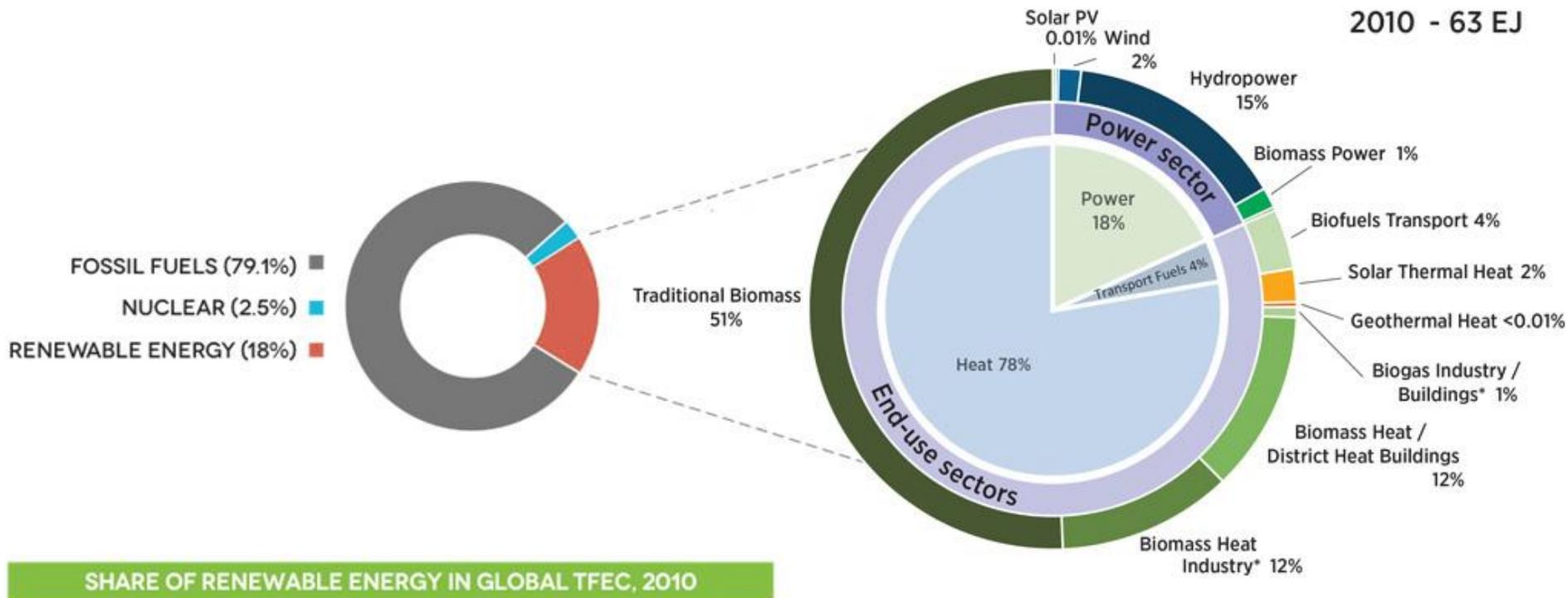
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## Some policy questions related to the ongoing renewable energy transition

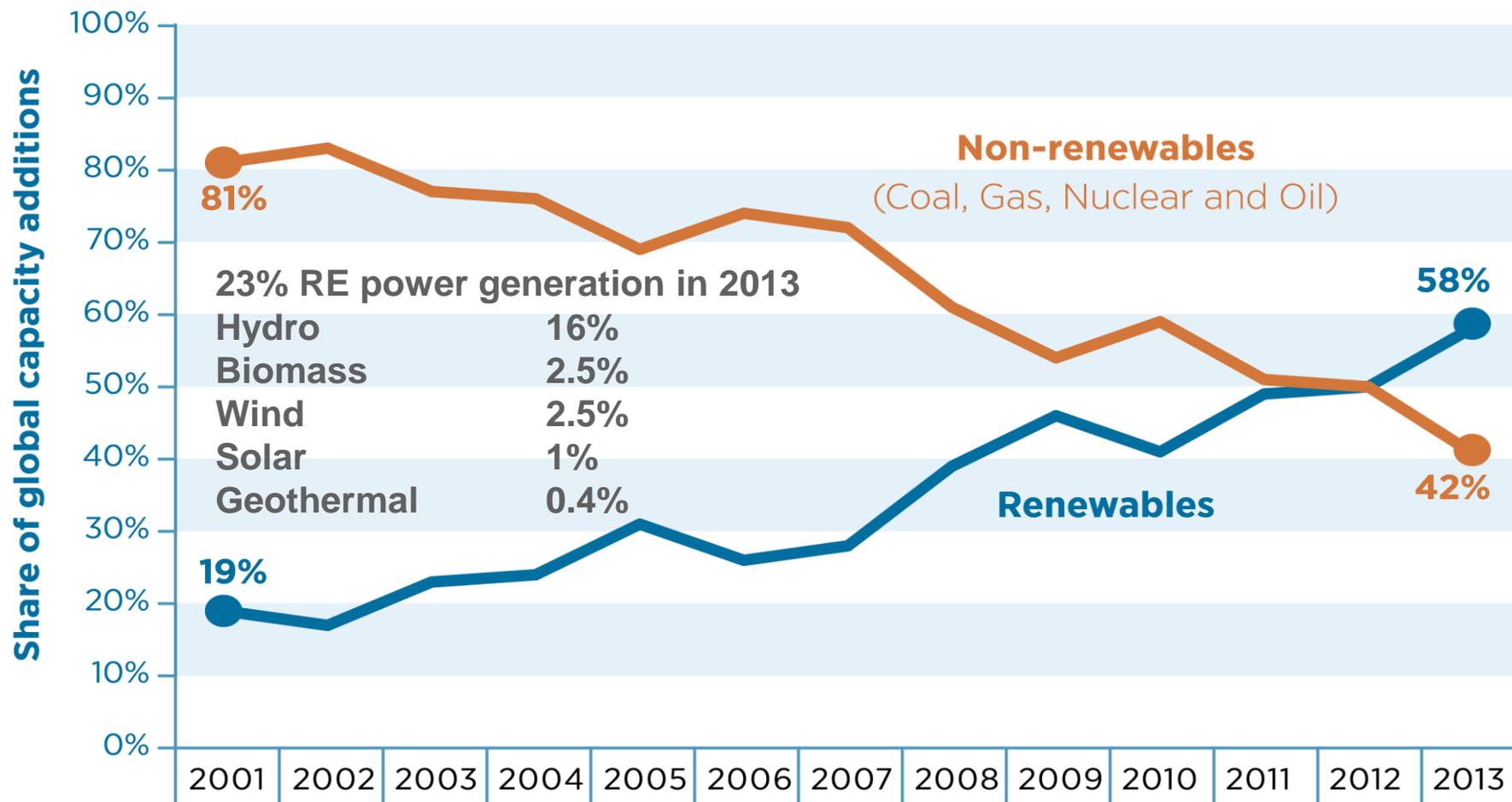
- How can RE help to meet policy targets – energy security, environment, economic targets?
- What is the optimal RE target?
- How much VRE can our power system accommodate? Will the lights stay on?
- How to limit the cost of an RE transition, is RE affordable?
- How much biomass is available and can be deployed sustainably?
- What level of investment is needed and how can this be financed?
- What is the best policy instrument choice?
- What can we expect from innovation and technological change?

# Breakdown of Global Renewable Energy Use in 2010

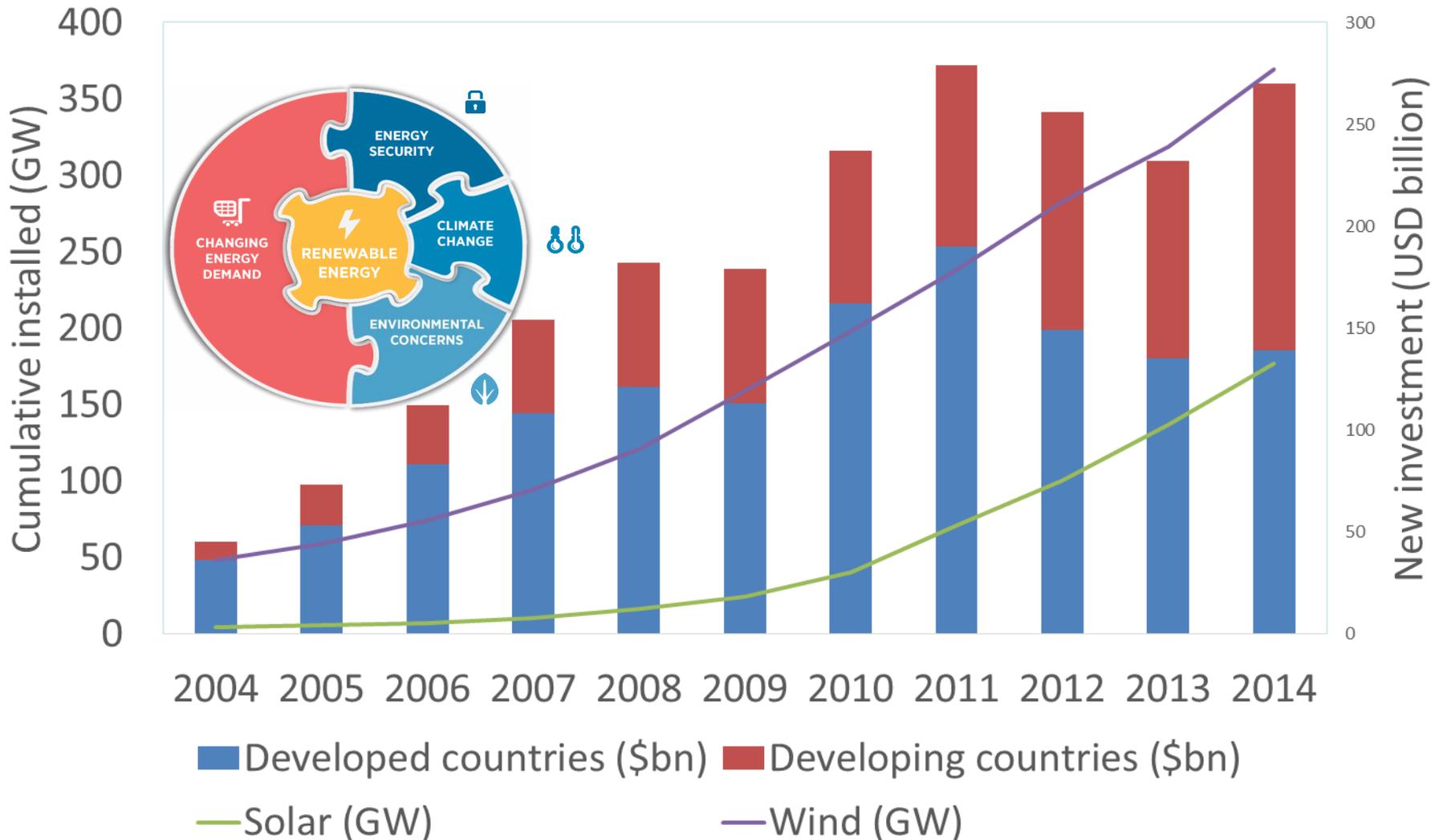
**Globally 18% RE in Total Final Energy Consumption (TFEC)  
Half is traditional biomass, 8.4% modern renewables**



# Renewables Dominate New Power Sector Capacity Additions

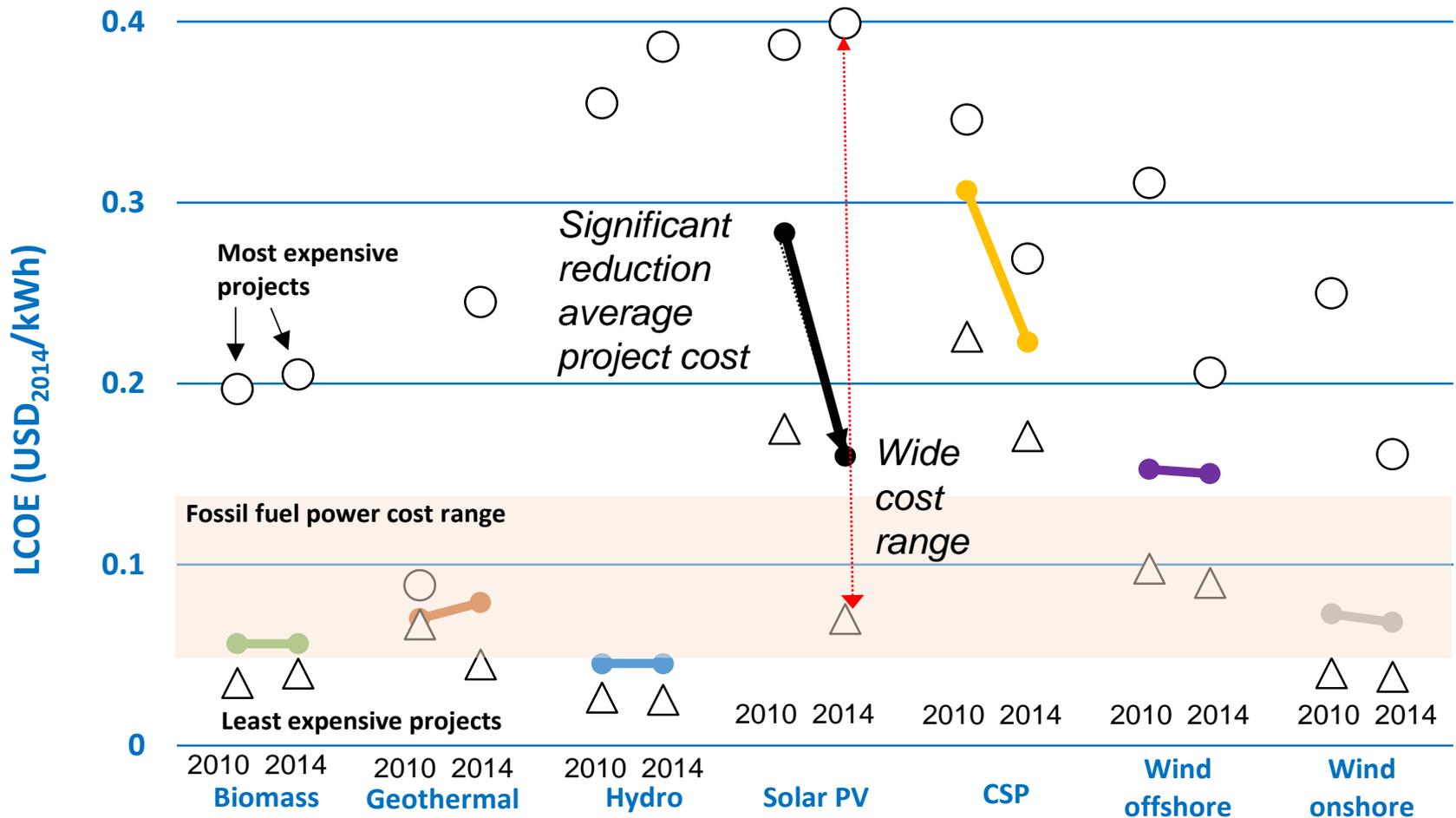


# Global Investment in Renewable Energy Capacity additions rise, unit cost fall



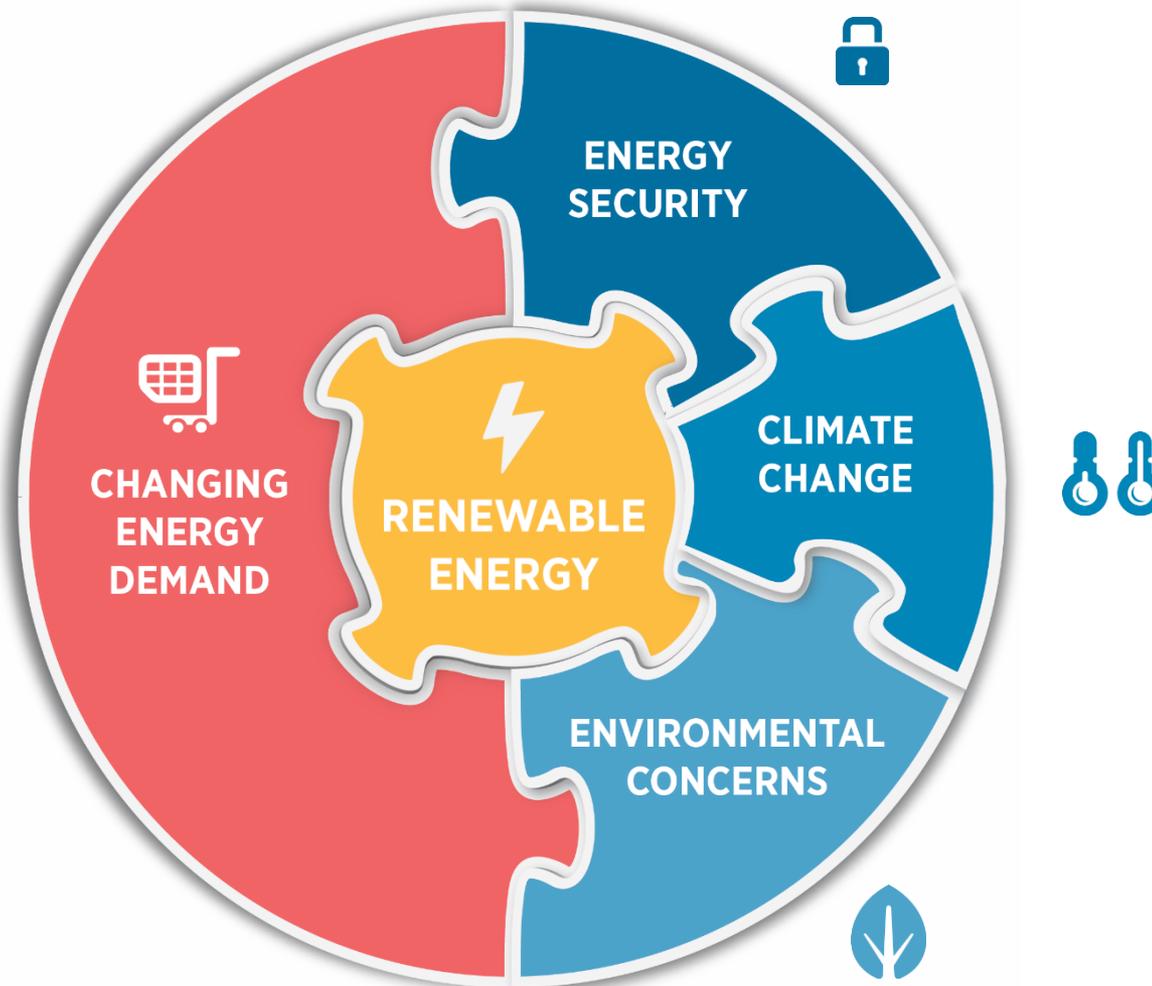
# Significant cost differences persist

## An opportunity to accelerate deployment



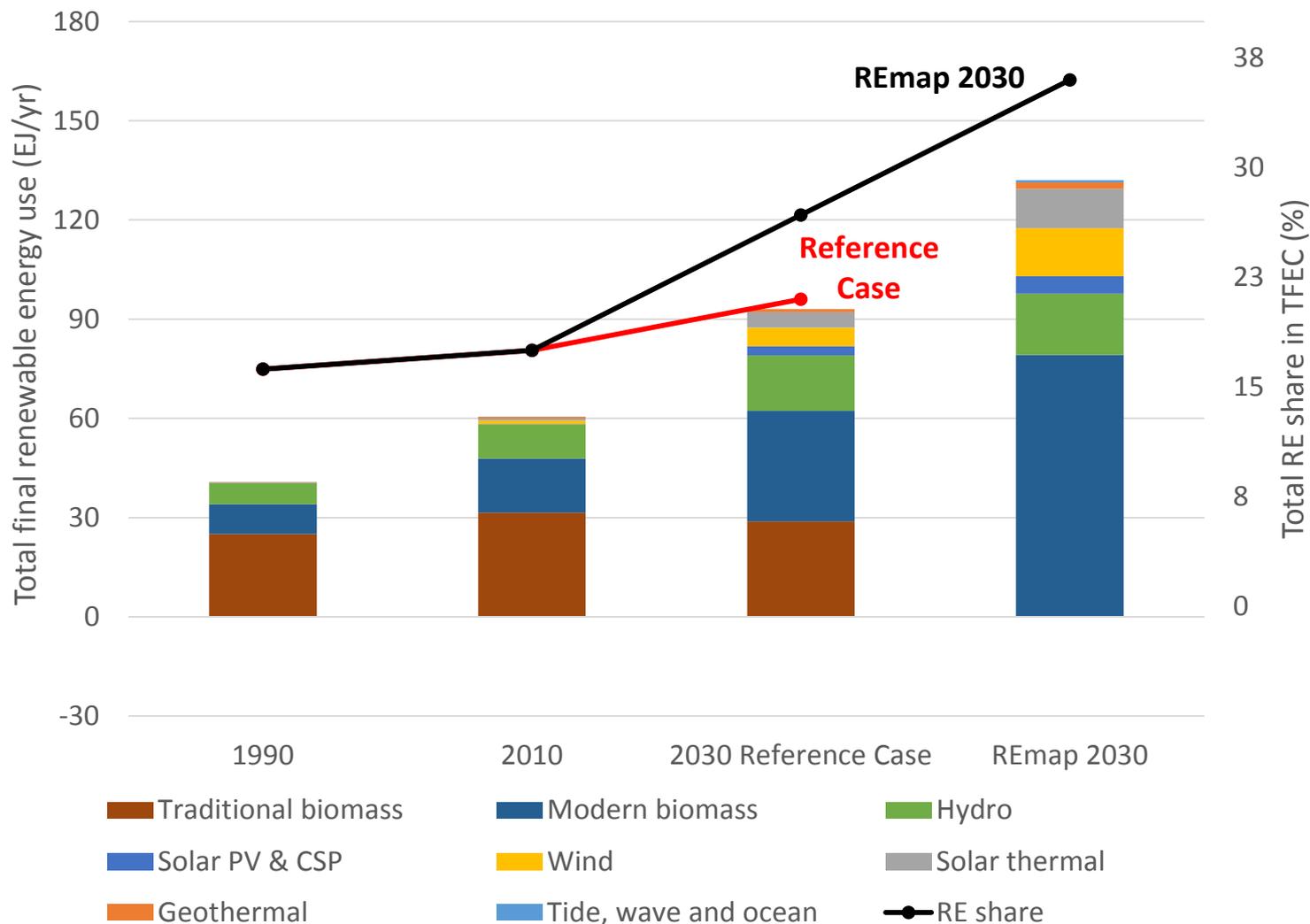
Left side: 2010  
Right side: 2014

# Drivers for Renewable Energy Vary



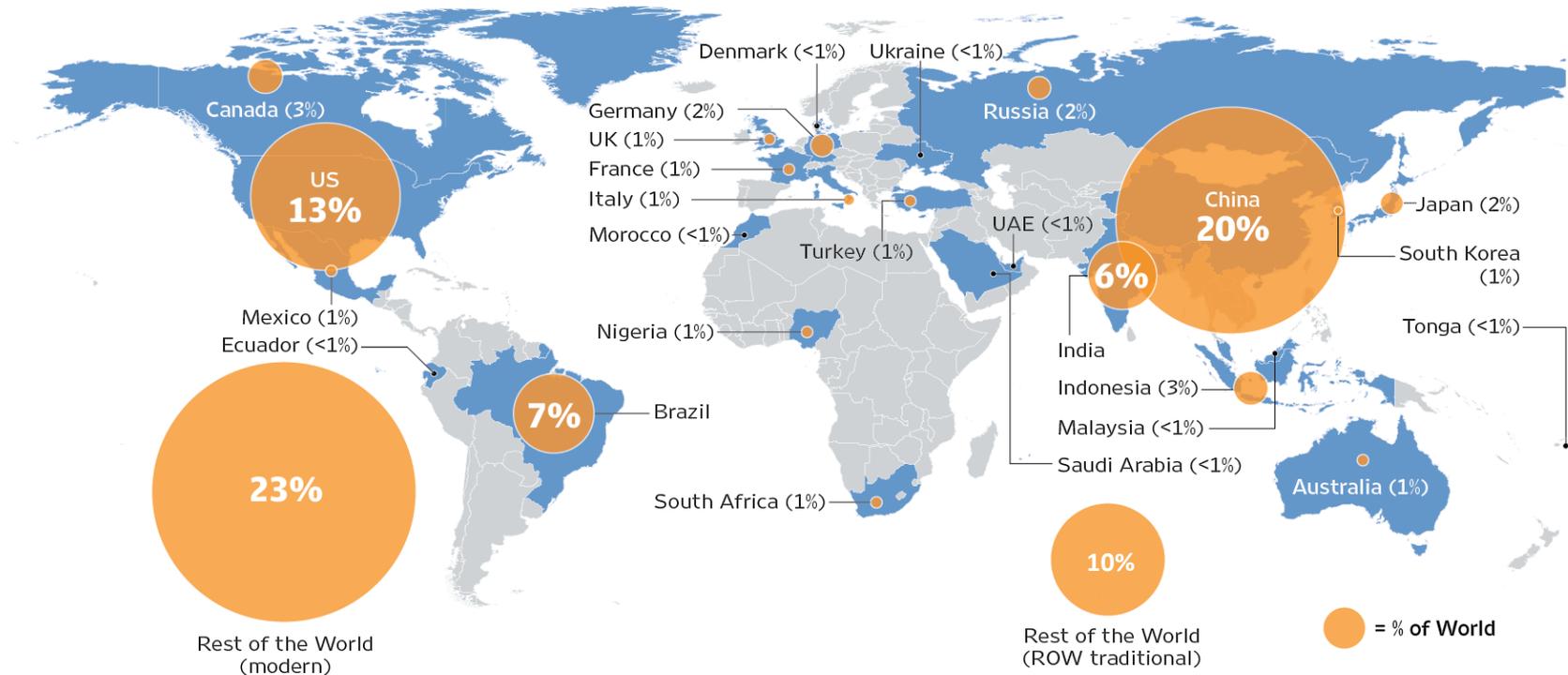
- **Doubling the RE share from 18% in 2010 to 36% in 2030 is technically achievable with existing technologies**
  - Higher shares in power generation
  - More attention needed for heating and transportation fuels
  - Efficiency, access and RE policies need to be coordinated
- **Doubling is affordable when externalities are accounted for**
  - However these are not reflected in today's prices and markets are distorted because of energy subsidies
  - Macro-economic benefits include more jobs; economic activity; health benefits; a cleaner environment; a higher level of energy security
- **Biomass is key resource**
- **Potential exists in all countries, and differentiated action**

# Global Renewable Energy Use Change



# Mapping Out the Renewable Energy Transition

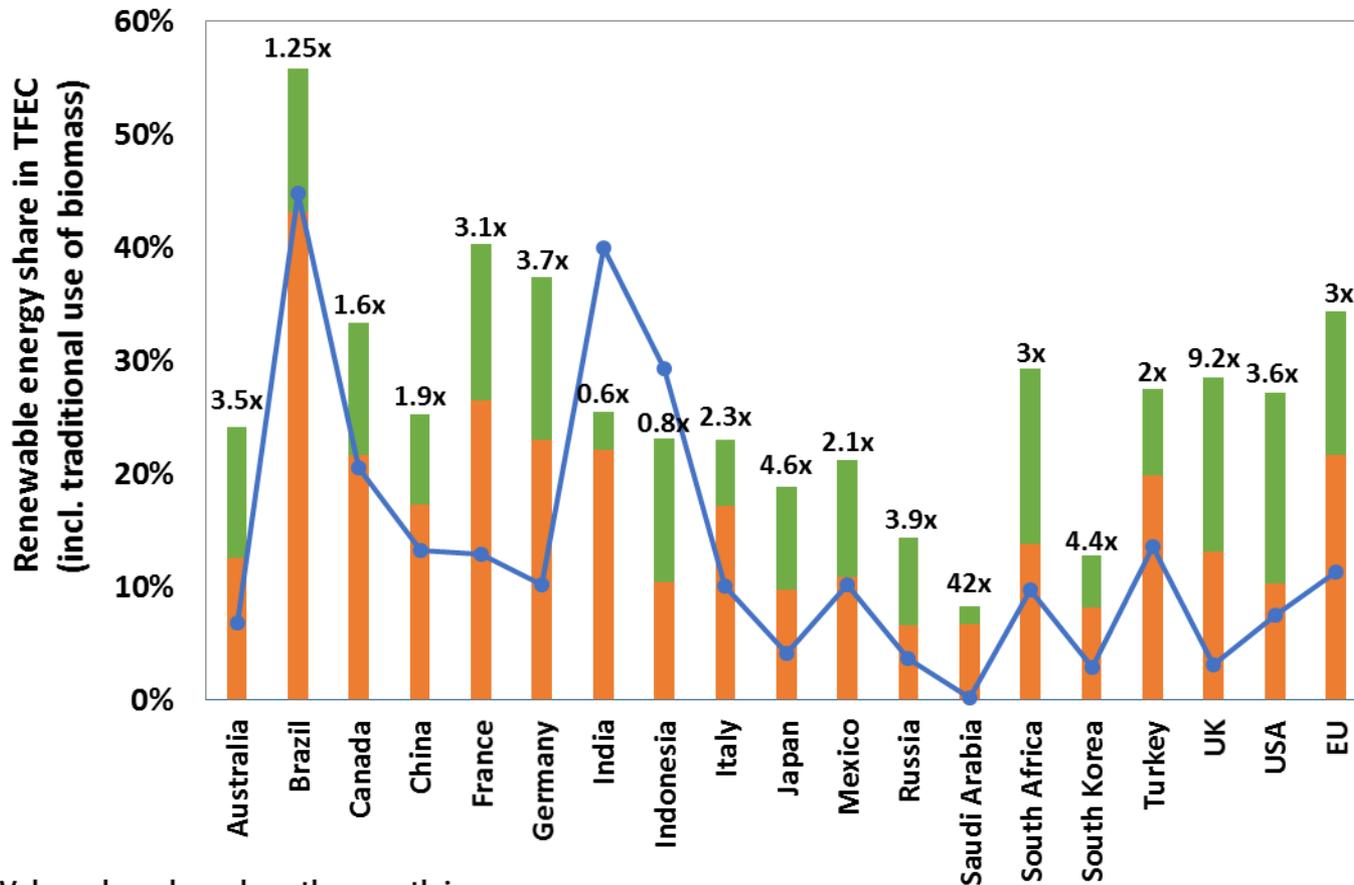
Breakdown of Total Global Renewable Energy Use in 2030 (%)



26 countries – 75% of global energy consumption – Realistic potential to scale-up renewables

China is the largest single market for global renewable energy use

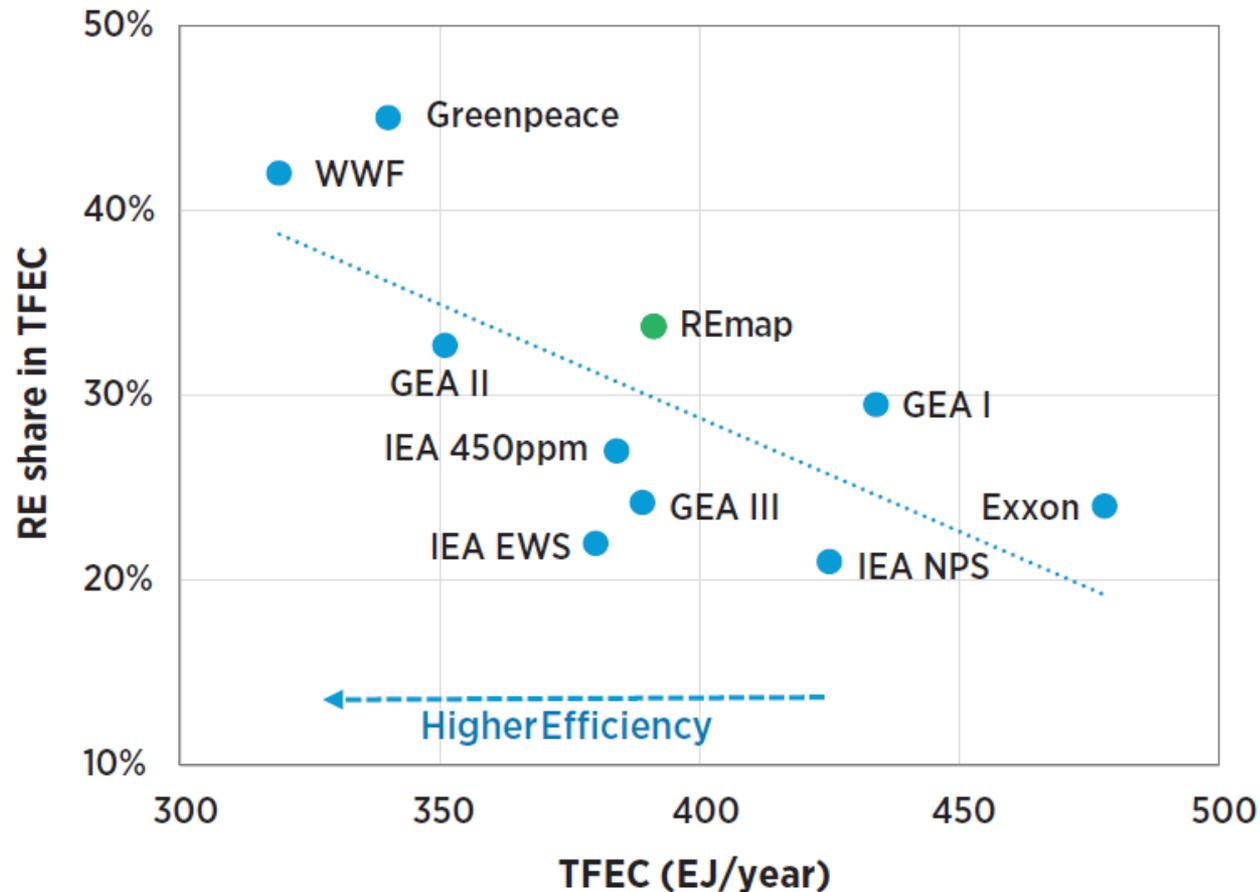
# Country RE Potentials, 2030



Values above bars show the growth in RE share between 2010 and REmap 2030

2030 Reference Case REmap 2030 2010

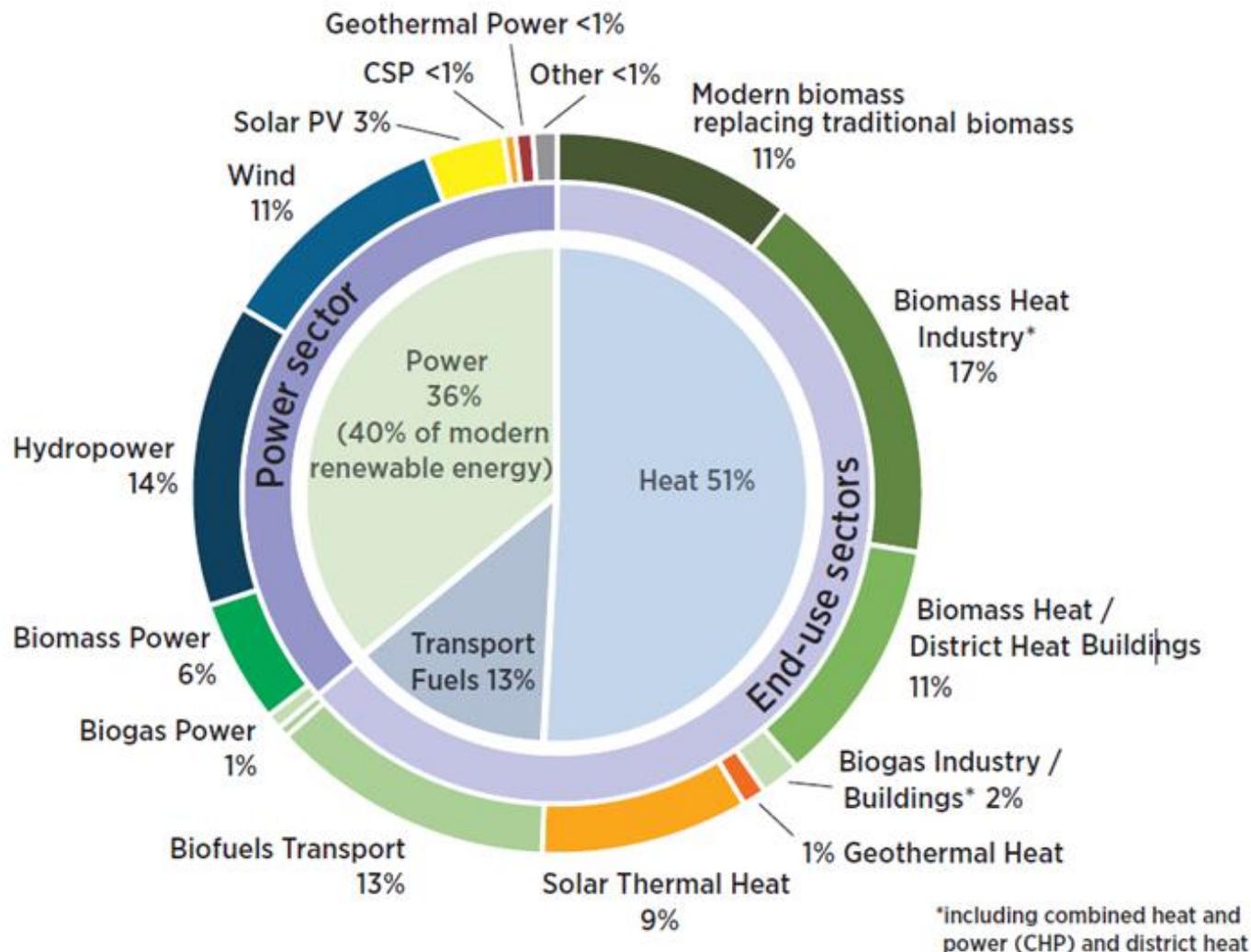
# Scenario Studies for 2030 Synergies between Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Share



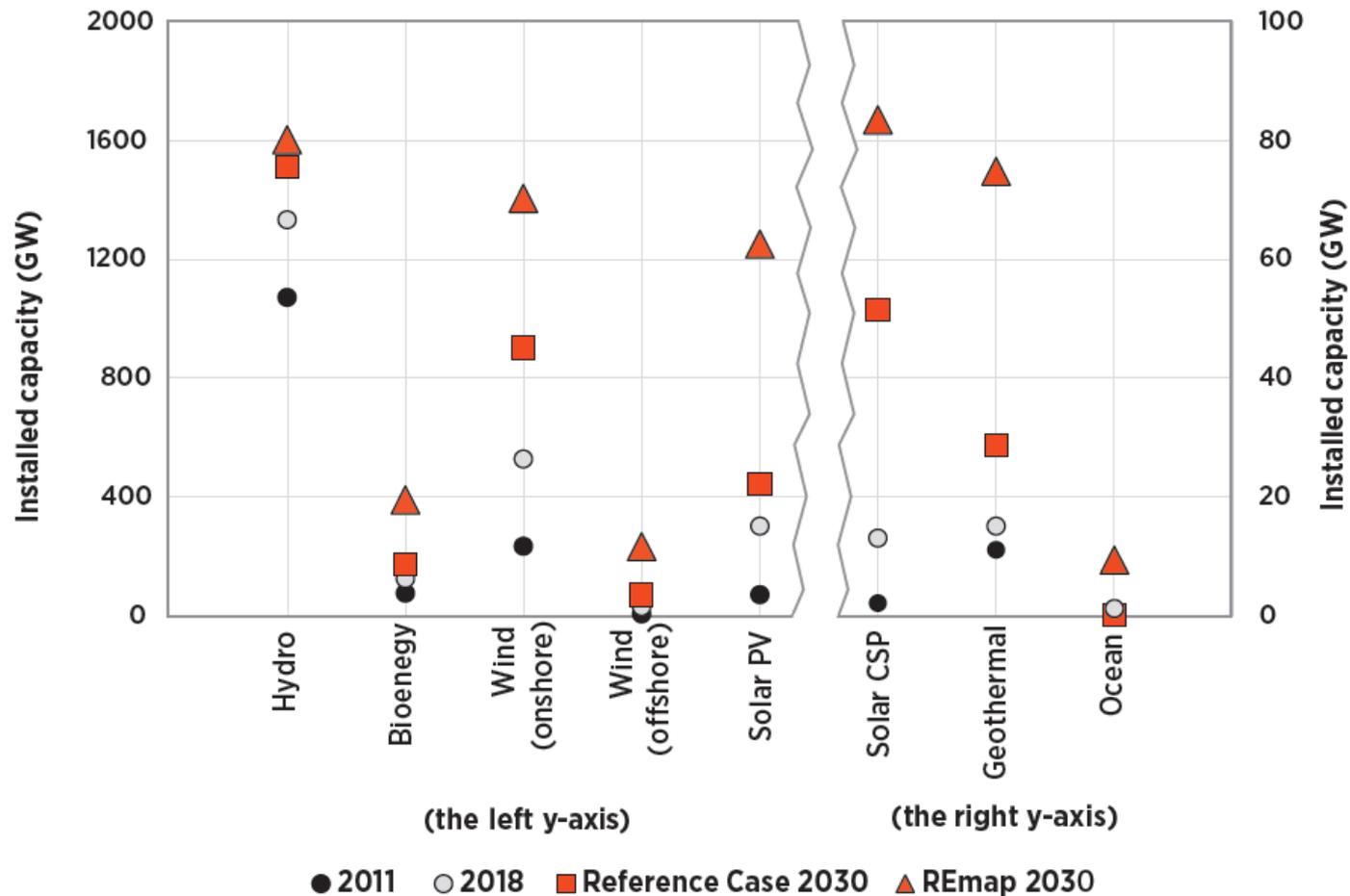
**EWS:** Efficient World Scenario; **GEA:** Global Energy Assessment; **NPS:** New Policies Scenario; **WWF:** World Wildlife Fund

# Global RE Use in 2030 including REmap Options

Remap 2030 – 132 EJ (final energy) 60% is biomass

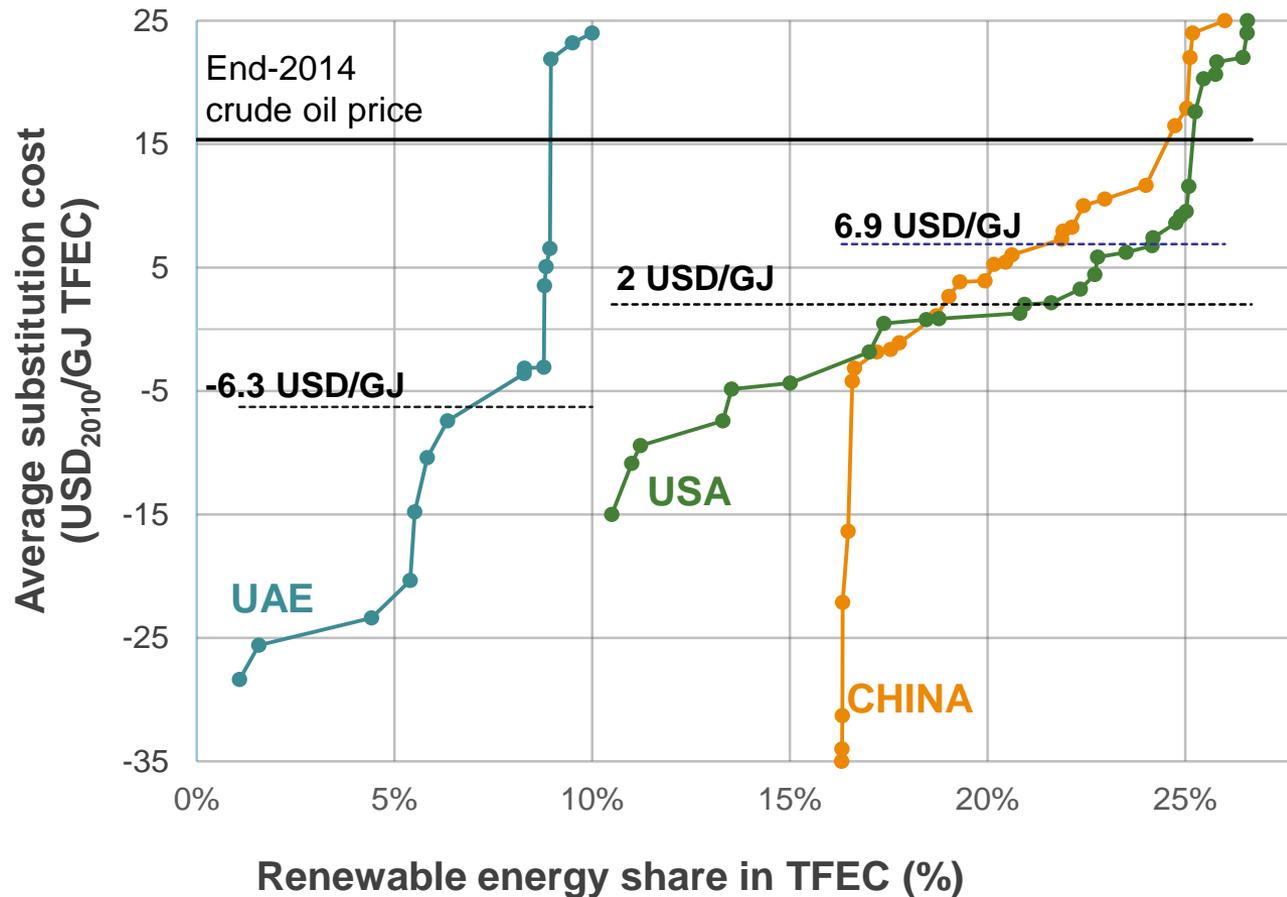


# Opportunities in power generation growth potential is under-estimated



- Renewable energy share in power generation increases to 44%
- Variable renewable energy share in total generation 17% (solar PV & wind)

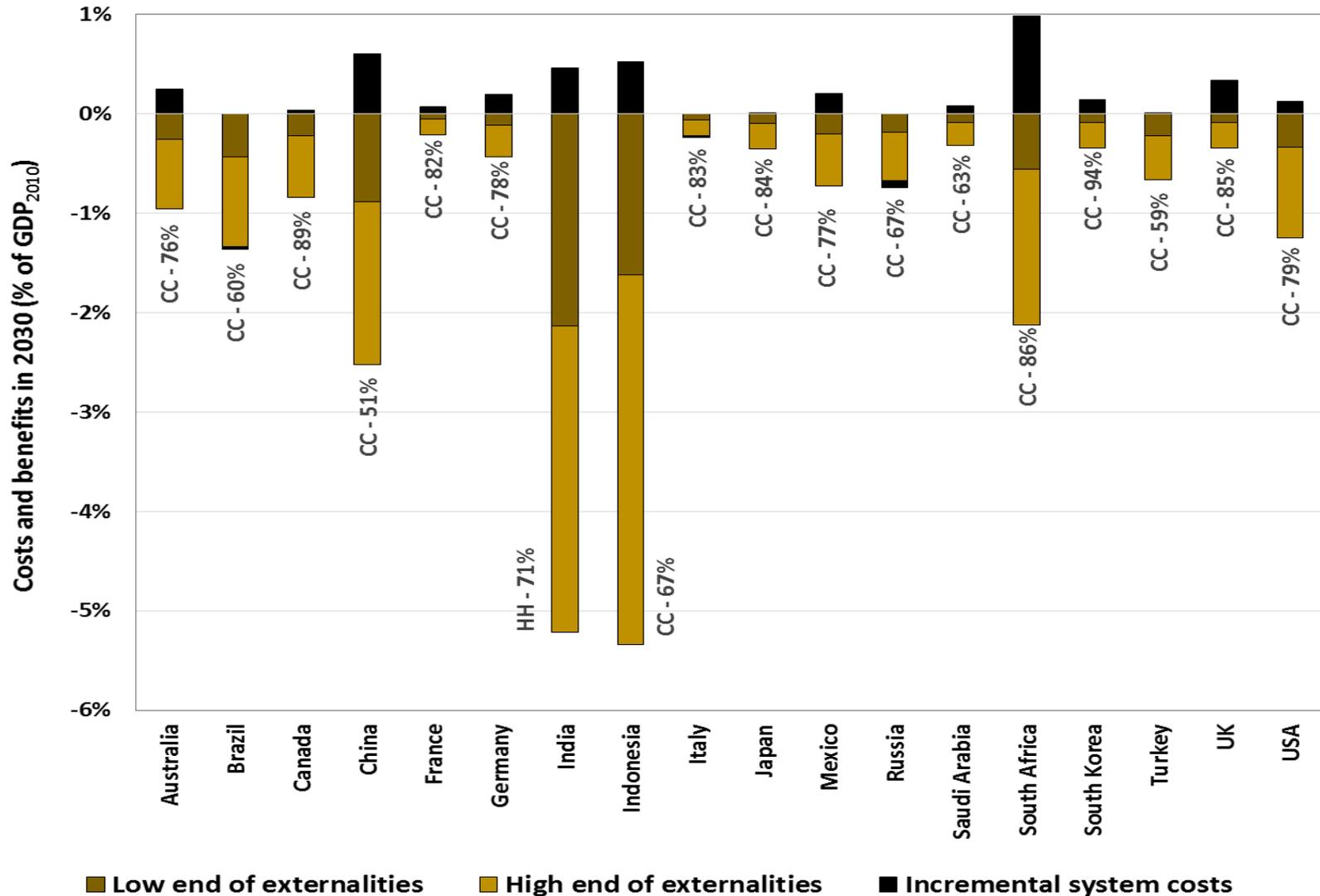
## REmap Options Cost-supply Curve in 2030



- US & China together fight climate change based on new GHG emission targets
- Cooperation can cut GHG emissions by 13% compared to BaU in 2030

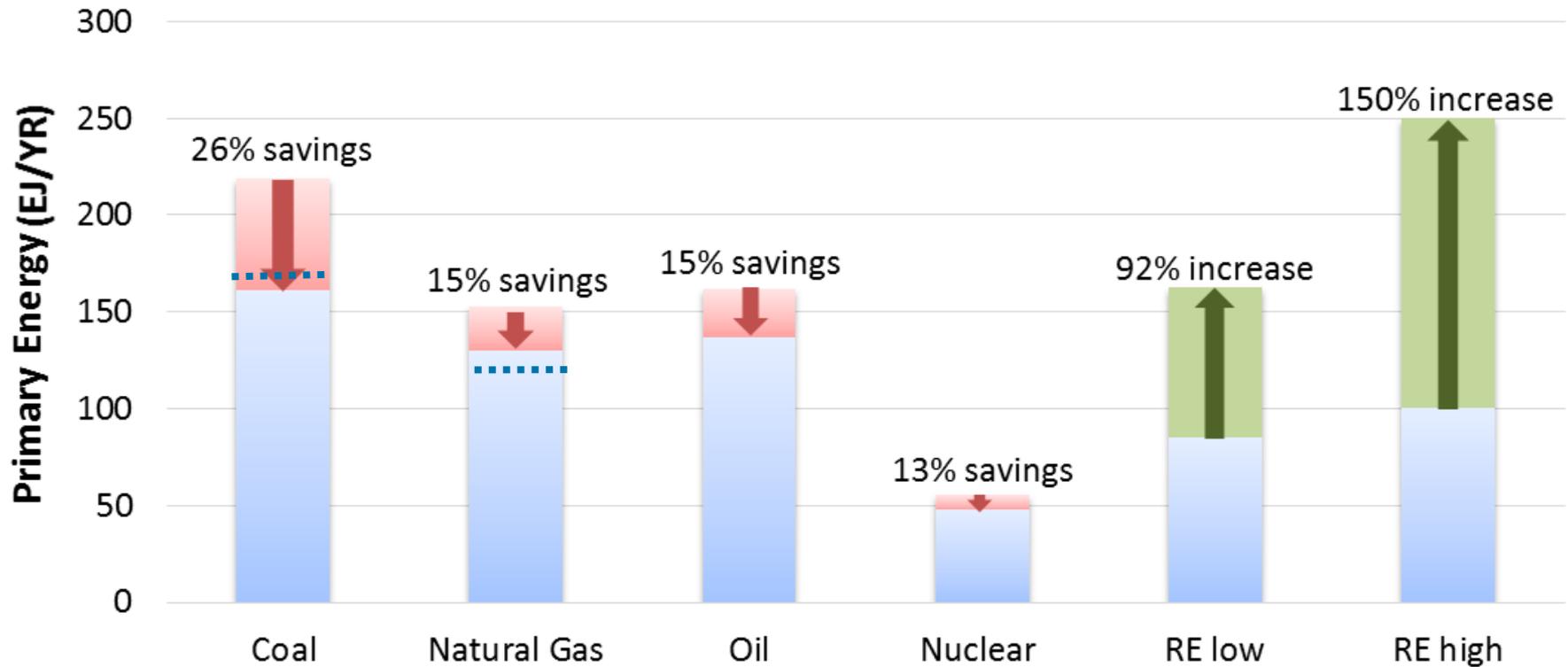
# Cost and Benefits

## Externalities are not well understood



# Energy Supply Consequences

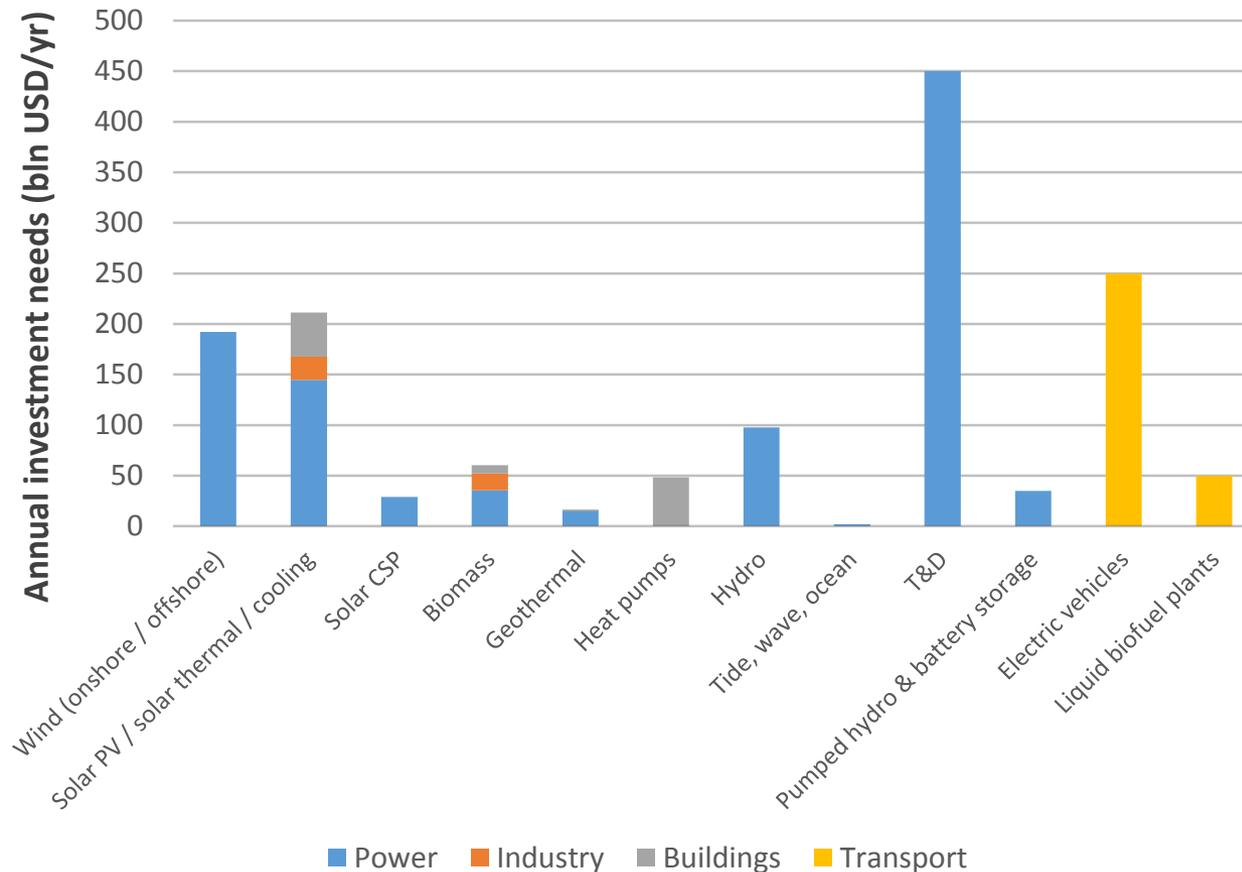
## RE can be the largest Energy Source by 2030



..... Indicates 2012 level

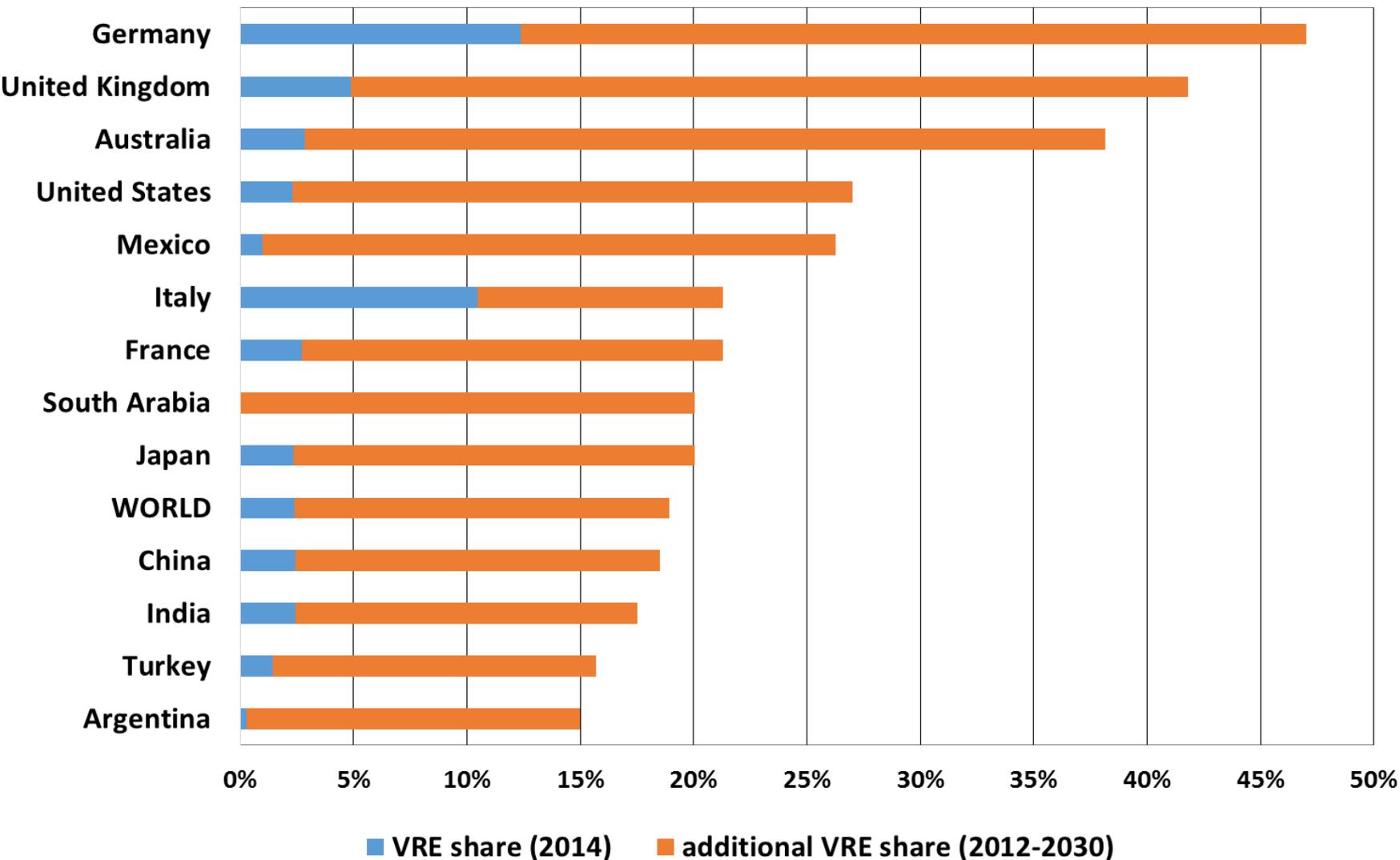
- The doubling of renewables will mostly offset coal consumption
- Fossil fuel substitution yields 8.6 Gt CO<sub>2</sub> reduction – on par with the role of efficiency

# Market Opportunities between now and 2030



- Between now and 2030, **USD 650 bln/yr** investment needs in RE technologies
- By 2030, biomass feedstock market of **USD 550-1,500 bln/yr**

# Potential for variable RE, 2030

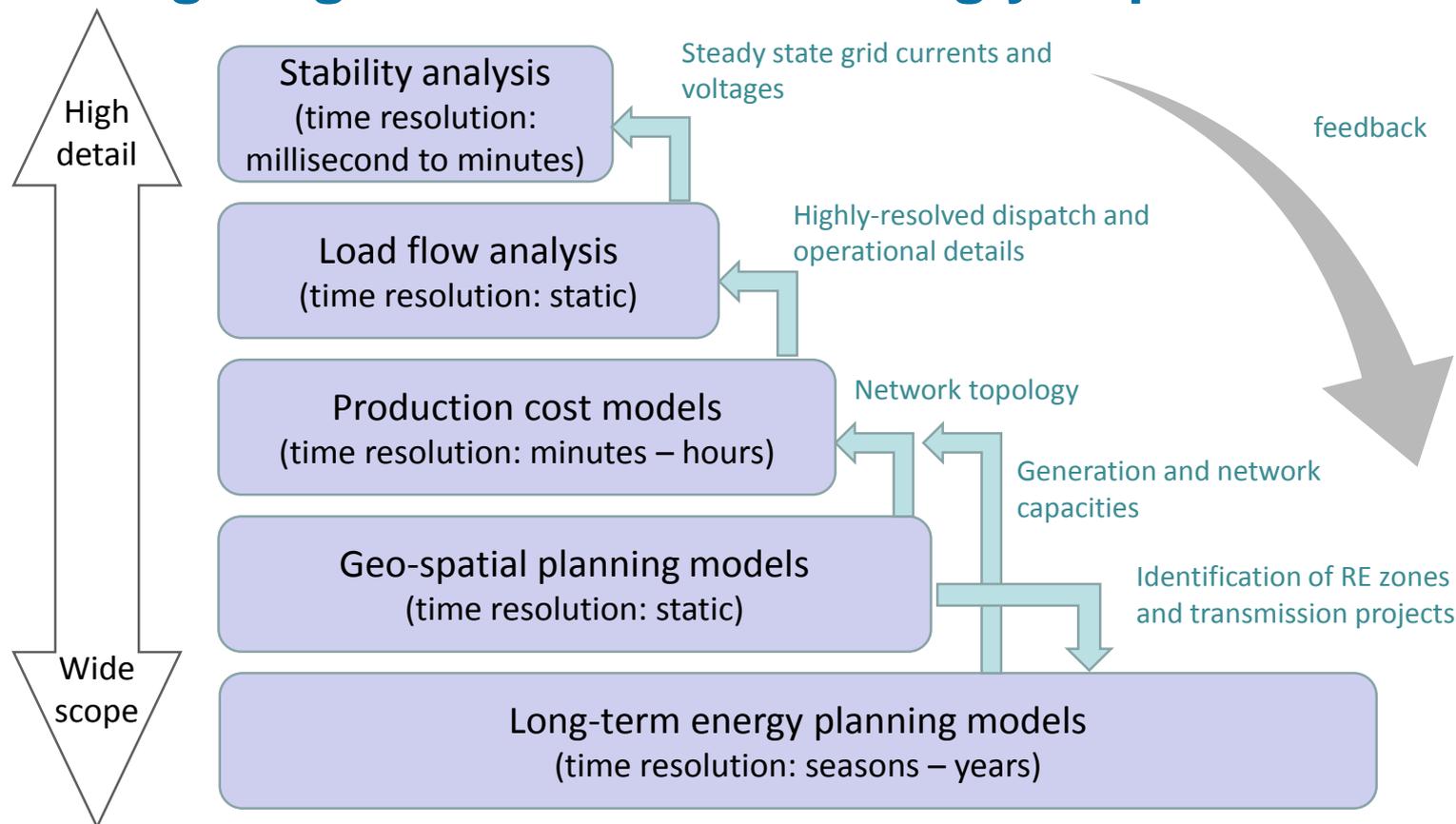


- Viability of long-term RE targets
  - Challenged by system operators and policy makers on the ground of system reliability
- Interlinkages with grid planning
- Policy makers, system operators, and energy modellers do not communicate enough

In the context of developing countries;

- Assess how properties of VRE are relevant for long term policy making
  - Identify pillars of a robust long-term planning methodology
  - Bridge inter-stakeholder knowledge gaps
- Enhance the IRENA's energy planning advisory service

## With higher VRE share, the coordination among different planning stages become increasingly important



→ IRENA Lunch time seminar on Day 2

## Electricity Access

- What is electricity access? A light, a TV, an A/C, an EV?
- How much grid expansion, how much minigrid/offgrid
- Are minigrids a transition stage towards centralized grids or can they be a substitute
- Business cases – perfect foresight/rational decision making/economies of scale
  - Blackouts don't exist in such a world

# Opportunities for renewables in off-grid systems – how to model niches

**Some 1.16 billion people without electricity access today**

**26 million households served through off-grid systems**

**50 – 250 GW potential to hybridise existing diesel generator capacity, 12 GW on islands**

**1 million telecom towers in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa**



Source: World Bank

# The technical solutions

## Smart grid technologies

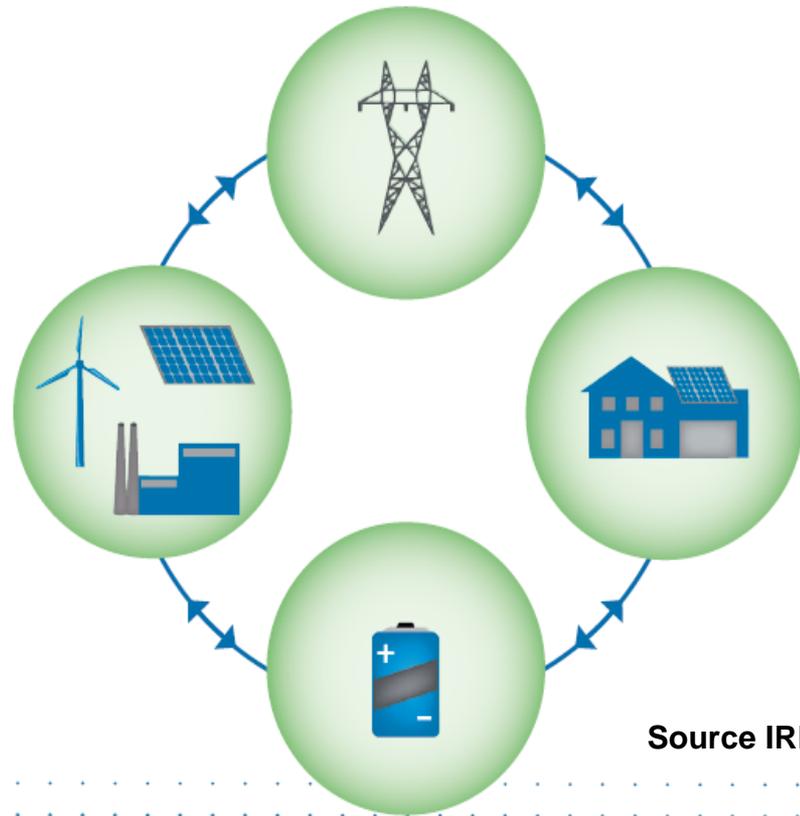
- ✓ Advanced control systems
- ✓ Distribution automation
- ✓ Smart / grid friendly inverters
- ✓ Smart advanced metering
- ✓ Data collection technologies
- ✓ Forecasting

## Energy storage solutions

- ✓ Batteries
- ✓ Flow Batteries
- ✓ Flywheels
- ✓ Thermal storage
- ✓ Pumped hydro

## Demand side options

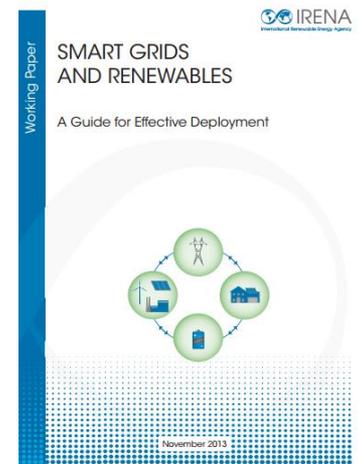
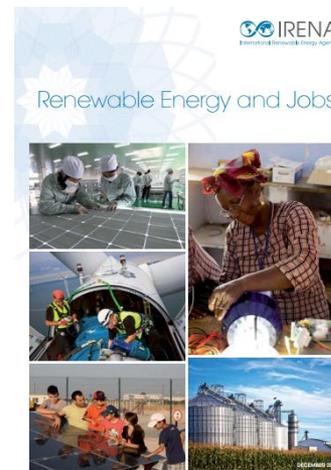
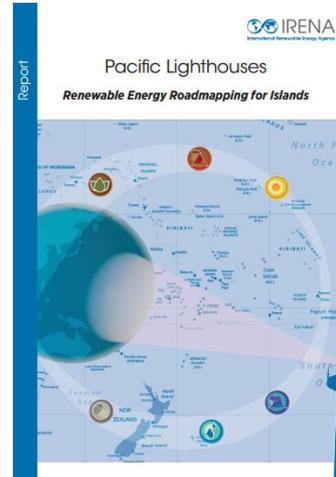
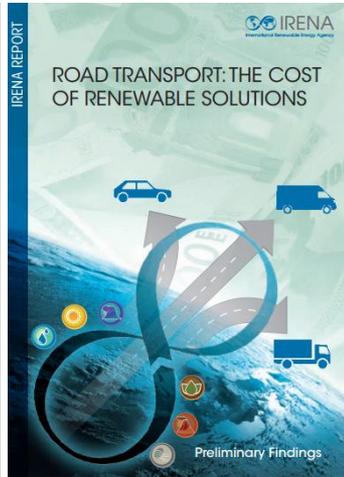
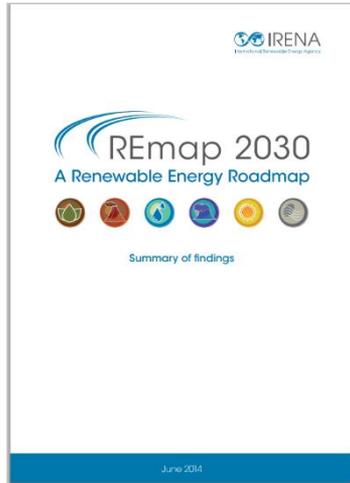
- ✓ Demand response
- ✓ Electric vehicles
- ✓ Desalination
- ✓ Ice cooling systems



Source IRENA

- Markets complement systems engineering
- Use ongoing data revolution for power system management
- Pricing reflecting cost
- Wholesale vs retail prices – very different decision environments
- Need for capacity markets – or not?
- Valuation of grid services (frequency and voltage control, etc)
- Perfect competition rarely reflects reality, how to model imperfections
- Also business models deserve more attention

# Thank You!



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