

Renewable energy global statistics icebreaker

Cut up and distribute a set of cards to each small group, remembering to shuffle them. Challenge participants to match the numbers to the details.

Check and discuss the answers, giving more detail where appropriate for age and ability.

Statistic	Detail	Additional detail for teacher/leader
1.2 billion	People in the world who have no access to electricity.	(Source: Global Tracking Framework – Sustainable Energy for All, p38)
3 billion	Number of people without clean and safe energy for household cooking.	The proportion of the world's population with access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking increased from 51 per cent in 2000 to 58 per cent in 2014, although there has been limited progress since 2010. The absolute number of people relying on polluting fuels and technologies for cooking, such as solid fuels and kerosene, however, has actually increased, reaching an estimated three billion people. (Source: sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg7)
84	Percentage of people without access to electricity who live in rural areas.	In Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Burkina Faso and the Central African Republic, connection fees are more than the average monthly income (Alstone et al., 2015). As a result, even once a community is connected to the grid, it is common for many households to remain unconnected for decades (World Bank, 2008). An estimated 84 per cent of electricity-poor households and communities live in rural areas, often further from the grid than those in urban areas (IEA, 2011). (Source: Beyond Coal: Scaling up clean energy to fight global poverty, 2016, p5, Overseas Development Institute. This document is available at: cafod.org.uk/About-us/Policy-and-research)
291 million	Children who go to primary schools with no electricity.	Electric lighting allows schools to operate outside daylight hours. Longer classroom hours can allow additional classes to accommodate more students and reduce class sizes. Students without electric lighting at home can stay at school to study and complete homework, leading to better grades. Evening classes can also be run for other members of the community. Teachers can prepare for lessons, mark homework, conduct staff meetings and carry out administrative tasks. (Source: Poor people's energy outlook 2014, p40, Practical Action)

4.3 million	Number of deaths each year where indoor pollution from cooking smoke was a contributing factor.	Children under five are particularly vulnerable. (Source: Burden of disease from Household Air Pollution, World Health Organisation, 2012)
48	Number of developing nations who have committed to 100 per cent domestic renewable energy as soon as possible.	The Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) is an international partnership of countries highly vulnerable to a warming planet. The Forum serves as a South-South cooperation platform for participating governments to act together to deal with global climate change. At their 2016 meeting in Marrakech they made this commitment. (Source: thecvf.org/marrakech-vision/)
3	Percentage of World Bank energy spending which goes towards local, renewable energy and clean cooking.	The World Bank is an international organisation with a mission to end poverty around the world. Yet currently only a tiny proportion, less than 3 per cent, of its spending on energy access goes towards local, renewable energy and clean cooking which we know benefits the poorest communities. To really make a difference in tackling poverty, we need to shift the balance. (Source: Still failing to solve energy poverty, 2016, Sierra Club and Oil Change International)
7.45 billion	People who live on Earth.	(Source: worldometers.info/)
7	Sustainable Development Goal which aims to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.	In 2015, nearly 200 countries committed to 17 new global goals – the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – to eradicate poverty and protect the earth. This included a commitment under SDG7 to "ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all" by 2030. CAFOD overseas partners were among those who shared their experience to inform the final goals. (More on the SDGs at: sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs)





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People in the world who have no access to electricity





3 billion

People who do not have clean, safe energy for household cooking





Percentage of people without access to electricity who live in rural areas





291 million

Children who go to primary schools with no electricity





4.3 million

Number of deaths each year where indoor pollution from cooking smoke was a contributing factor





Number of developing nations who have committed to 100% domestic renewable energy as soon as possible





Percentage of
World Bank
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7.45 billion

People who live on earth





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Sustainable Development Goal to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

