



IEAGHG Information Paper 2018-IP34; IEA's World Energy Outlook 2018

The IEA this week launched its flagship report, World Energy Outlook (WEO) 2018. The World Energy Outlook 2018 examines future patterns of a changing global energy system at a time of increasing uncertainties and finds that major transformations are underway for the global energy sector, from growing electrification to the expansion of renewables, upheavals in oil production and globalisation of natural gas markets. Across all regions and fuels, policy choices made by governments will determine the shape of the energy system of the future.

WEO 2018 details global energy trends and what possible impact they will have on supply and demand, carbon emissions, air pollution and energy access. Its scenario-based analysis outlines different possible futures for the energy system, contrasting the path taken by current and planned policies with those that can meet long-term climate goals under the Paris Agreement, reduce air pollution, and ensure universal energy access.

The full report plus the press release and a summary report of WEO 2018 can be found at <https://www.iea.org/weo2018/>

Dr Fatih Birol, the Executive Director, launched the report and his presentation can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SeXOH8xQFLE>.

In his presentation, Dr Birol indicated that in 2018 global CO₂ emissions would reach an all-time historical high, which is not a good result ahead of the COP24 discussions in Poland next month.

The IEA conclude that there is no single solution to turn emissions around: renewables, efficiency and a host of innovative technologies, including storage, CCUS & hydrogen, are all required.

Coal plants make up one-third of global energy related CO₂ emissions today and half are less than 15 years old. Policies are, therefore, needed to support CCUS, efficient operations and technology innovation.

WEO 2018 has this time focused on electricity and modelled an electric future. Increased electrification leads to a peak in oil demand and it also avoids 2 million air pollution related premature deaths, but disappointingly does not necessarily lead to large CO₂ emissions reduction

The WEO 2018 slides can be found at: <https://www.iea.org/media/presentations/WEO2018-Presentation.pdf>

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