Energy poverty

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Lecture outline

- Energy, development, inequality
- Energy poverty in energy-unintensive countries
- Energy poverty in energy-intensive countries











Energy poverty and fuel poverty: the meaning

- Energy poverty = lack of (physical) access to modern energy services
- Fuel poverty = inability to adequately heat (or provide necessary energy services in) one's home at affordable cost
- Often in literature however: energy poverty = fuel poverty
- No agreement on how to measure energy/fuel poverty

=> What policies shall be drafted to address the issue?

Energy poverty in energy-unintensive countries/regions



Energy poverty in energy-unintensive countries/regions

Reliance on biomass

- Indoor air pollution
- Time and effort in collecting biomass
- Unsustainable harvesting practices



Premature annual deaths from household air pollution and other diseases



Sources: Mathers and Loncar (2006); WHO (2008); Smith et al., (2004); WHO (2004) and IEA analysis.

100% reliance on wood

Share of energy consumption in the United States (1776-2014)



Energy poverty in energy-unintensive countries/regions

Energy poverty alleviation pathway: breaking the missing return on investment problem

- Scattered and small demand for energy
- Low purchasing power

=> Centralized solutions do not work

=> Micro-solutions need to be developed

Energy poverty in energy-intensive countries

- Recognized and reflected only recently (UK as a frontrunner effects of market liberalization?)
- EU gathers data and discusses appropriate policies (defining vulnerable consumers) (see for example <u>https://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/documents/INSIGHT_E_Energy%20Poverty%20-%20Main%20Report_FINAL.pdf</u>)

- The issue of redistribution
- The social sustainability environmental sustainability nexus

Equity and redistribution

- Should energy be subsidized?
- If yes, what and how?

Subsidized energy prices

- Alleviate (energy) poverty
- Foster purchasing power and consumer demand
- Burden state treasury
- Encourage overconsumption
- Challenge competitiveness of energy suppliers
- Leak to unintended groups

Natural gas wholesale market in Poland

- Goal: to decrease natural gas price for the end customers
- Tool: mixing cheap domestic production (30%) with expensive imports (70%) to reduce the wholesale price
- Result: even more expensive imports

Natural gas retail market in the Ukraine

- Goal: affordable heat for households
- Tool: regulated retail gas price (subsidies equaled to 5.6% of GDP)
- Result: overconsumption which contributed to the political and national security crisis of 2014

Natural gas retail market in the Ukraine



Natural gas retail market in the Ukraine



The social sustainability – environmental sustainability nexus

Should the following measures/technologies be subsidized?

- Thermal efficiency of buildings
- Large scale renewable energy production sites
- Decentralized renewable energy sources
- Electrical mobility

The measurement issue: Energy Efficiency

How would you measure energy efficiency?



How would you measure energy efficiency?

- Energy intensity: GDP/energy consumption
- Energy consumption per capita

Energy efficiency: the best of the best (USD2005 GDP PPP/kgoe)

1981-1985 1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	2006-2010	
Country name	÷ 2006	÷ 2007	÷ 2008	÷ 2009 ÷ 2010	
Lesotho	136.1	142.1			/
Vanuatu	26.4	25.0			<
Kiribati	21.9	20.0			<
Hong Kong SAR, China	19.5	19.3	20.0	18.4	\sim
Solomon Islands	17.7	18.0			/
Comoros	16.3	16.8			/
Guinea-Bissau	15.8	15.4			<
Cape Verde	13.8	14.8			/
Singapore	10.9	14.6	13.9	12.5	\sim
Peru	14.3	14.4	15.1	14.4	~
Gambia, The	15.5	14.0			<
Dominica	13.1	13.4			/
Panama	11.5	13.4	14.2	13.2	\sim

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Energy efficiency: the worst of the worst (USD2005 GDP PPP/kgoe)

Tanzania	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7	\sim
Kazakhstan	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	~/
Iceland	2.6	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.0
Ukraine	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.3	\sim
Zambia	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	\sim
Togo	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	<u> </u>
Ethiopia	2.4	1.9	2.0	2.2	
Mozambique	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.9	~
Trinidad and Tobago	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.5	<u> </u>
Turkmenistan	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.7	<u> </u>
Uzbekistan	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.5	~
Congo, Dem. Rep.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	\sim

Energy consumption: the lowest (kgoe per capita)

	1981-1985	1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	2006-2010	
Country name			÷ 2006	÷ 2007	÷ 2008	÷ 2009 ÷ 2010)
Lesotho			9	9			<hr/>
Timor-Leste			57	58			
Comoros			64	60			<u> </u>
Guinea-Bissau			64	67			4
Gambia, The			74	84			
Kiribati			107	116			4
Solomon Islands			122	129			4
Eritrea			150	150	137	142	~~
Vanuatu			143	157			4
Djibouti			174	170			<hr/>
Bangladesh			178	184	192	201	_

Energy consumption: the highest (kgoe per capita)

Country name	÷ 2006	÷ 2007	÷ 2008	÷ 2009	÷ 2010	
Czech Republic	4,464	4,430	4,281	4,004	4,022	
Turkmenistan	3,934	4,512	4,570	3,933		\frown
Korea, Rep.	4,421	4,584	4,669	4,701	5,044	
Russian Federation	4,706	4,733	4,850	4,561		\sim
Netherlands	4,700	4,844	4,837	4,729	5,016	\sim
Belgium	5,509	5,367	5,470	5,300	5,221	\sim
Sweden	5,529	5,472	5,380	4,883	5,414	\sim
Saudi Arabia	6,380	5,650	5,888	5,888		<u></u>
Oman	5,548	5,765	6,235	5,554		\sim
Norway	5,817	5,849	6,249	5,849	6,332	\sim
Australia	5,910	5,929	6,019	5,971	5,636	\sim
Finland	7,076	6,953	6,641	6,213	6,639	\sim
United States	7,692	7,749	7,481	7,045	7,232	·
Canada	8,224	8,248	8,001	7,532	7,486	

GDP vs. Energy Efficiency (Top 40 Economies by GDP)

