

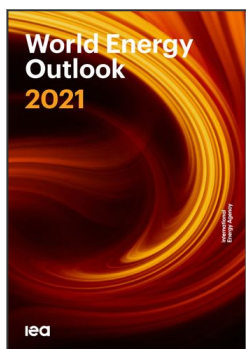
The *World Energy Outlook 2021 (WEO-2021)* is a special edition. It is designed to inform the energy and climate debates at the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP26) in November 2021 and beyond. As such, it departs from the usual *WEO* structure in the way it organises and presents the material and analyses. The *WEO-2021* chapters are:

- Chapter 1 provides an overview of key themes, drawing on material from the other chapters and augmented with additional analysis.
- Chapter 2 presents the latest energy data to set the scene and describes the scenarios used in this year's analysis, the assumptions that underpin them, and how and why they differ from each other.
- Chapter 3 focuses on the gap between the announced pledges, made by governments in the run-up to COP26, and the goal to limit the rise of the global average temperature to 1.5 °C, and examines in detail how this gap can be closed.
- Chapter 4 examines what it will take to implement the announced pledges, and looks broadly at the projections for energy demand and electricity across all of our scenarios.
- Chapter 5 continues the multi-scenario approach and explores the outlook for various fuels.
- Chapter 6 presents a cross-cutting thematic discussion of the various energy security hazards that could arise during energy transitions, both in domestic energy systems and internationally.

The chapter structure for future editions of the *Outlook* series remains open, but other new elements in the *WEO-2021* are set to remain as integral parts of the *WEO* approach. The main example is the Net Zero Emissions by 2050 Scenario (NZE), first released as part of the landmark IEA report in May 2021 – *Net Zero Emissions by 2050: A Roadmap for the Global Energy Sector*. The topic covered by this scenario is not new to the *WEO*, as analysis of possible pathways to 1.5 °C has featured in all recent *Outlooks*, but the NZE now joins the stable of core IEA scenarios that will be regulatory updated and featured in the *WEO* series of analyses and publications.

In discussion of fuels, the *WEO* now makes more regular use of the terms “solid, liquid and gaseous” fuels, rather than coal, oil and natural gas. This allows us to take a broader view of the roles of different types of fuel and the energy services that they provide. For example, gaseous fuels can include not only natural gas, but also biogas, hydrogen and synthetic gas. In rapid energy transitions, these low-carbon fuels take a progressively larger share of the market.

In addition, note that the generic energy values in this *WEO* are expressed in exajoules (EJ), whereas they were previously expressed in million tonnes of oil equivalent (Mtoe). One EJ is equivalent to 23.88 Mtoe.



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