

Global energy efficiency improvement in the long term: a demand- and supply-side perspective

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Received: 16 March 2010 / Accepted: 18 October 2010 / Published online: 4 November 2010
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Abstract This study assessed technical potentials for energy efficiency improvement in 2050 in a global context. The reference scenario is based on the World Energy Outlook of the International Energy Agency 2007 edition and assumptions regarding gross domestic product developments after 2030. In the reference scenario, worldwide final energy demand almost doubles from 293 EJ in 2005 to 571 EJ in 2050 and primary energy supply increases from 439 EJ in 2005 to 867 EJ in 2050 (excluding non-energy use). It is estimated that, by exploiting the technical potential for energy efficiency improvement in energy demand sectors, this growth can be limited to 8% or 317 EJ final energy demand and 473 EJ primary energy supply in 2050. This corresponds to a potential for demand-side energy efficiency improvement of 44% in 2050, in comparison to reference energy use. In addition, a potential exists for improving energy efficiency in the transformation sector. In 2005, as much as 33% of primary energy supply is lost in the transformation and distribution of primary energy. It

is estimated that this share can be reduced to 19% in 2050 by, e.g. improving energy efficiency of fossil-fired power generation (assuming no changes in the fuel mix for power generation). Including the potential for energy efficiency improvement in energy demand sectors, total primary energy supply would then decrease by 10% from 439 EJ in 2005 to 393 EJ in 2050. This contributes to a total potential for energy efficiency improvement of 55% in 2050 in comparison to reference primary energy supply.

Keywords Energy efficiency · Global energy use · Energy scenario

Introduction

In the period 1990–2005 global primary energy supply increased by 30% from 367 to 479 EJ. In the reference scenario of the IEA World Energy Outlook 2007 edition, global energy supply grows by another 55% to 742 EJ in 2030 (IEA 2007a). Fossil fuels account for 80% of primary energy supply in 2005 and are expected to have the same share in energy supply in 2030, under business as usual conditions. Fossil fuel combustion is a major source for greenhouse gas emissions and accounts for 75% of total greenhouse gas emissions in 2005 (WRI 2008). Energy efficiency is a key measure to reduce fossil fuel consumption and thereby greenhouse gas emissions. Assumptions regarding the potential for energy

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efficiency improvement are therefore an important input in long-term energy and greenhouse gas emission scenarios (e.g. IPCC (2007), IEA (2008a) and WBCSD (2005)). Few studies are however available that give details on the potential for energy efficiency improvement, in a global context, while looking at both energy demand and energy supply sectors.

The goal of this study is to estimate global energy efficiency potentials for energy demand and supply sectors for the period 2005–2050, based on available literature sources and own calculations. It is based on scenario studies done for UBA (2010) and for the Greenpeace–EREC Energy [r]evolution study (see Krewitt et al. 2007 and 2009), where it is assumed that a certain percentage of the technical potentials are implemented in the Energy [R]evolution scenario.

A number of global energy scenarios are used as inputs to determine technical potentials. These are, e.g. IEA's Energy Technology Perspectives (IEA ETP 2008) and the World Business Council on Sustainable Development's scenario for 2050 (WBCSD 2005). The IEA ETP developed several scenarios for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. One of them is the BLUE Map scenario, in which specific measures to improve energy efficiency are looked at in terms of market share and percentage of improvement in 2050.

This paper is structured as follows. First, the approach and data sources are described in the 'Approach and data sources' section followed by the results in the 'Results' section. The 'Discussion of uncertainties' section gives a discussion of uncertainties and the 'Conclusions' section presents conclusions.

Approach and data sources

This section describes the approach used to calculate the technical potentials for energy efficiency improvement. This is defined as the energy use that can be reduced by implementing technical measures, in comparison to the level of energy use in a reference scenario, where current trends continue and no large changes take place in the production and consumption structure of the economy. Measures aimed at influencing behavioural change are not taken into account. This section first gives a description of the reference scenario ('Reference scenario' section) followed by a description of the method used for calculating technical potentials ('Technical potentials' section).

Reference scenario

The reference scenario is based on the World Energy Outlook (WEO) of the International Energy Agency edition 2007 (IEA 2007a), for the period 2005–2030. For the period 2030–2050, the WEO scenario is extended by gross domestic product (GDP) forecasts from Simon et al. (2008). The economic growth assumptions are summarised in Table 1. Under the reference scenario, global GDP grows by 440% from US \$63,720 billion in 2005 to US \$279,100 billion in 2050 (in 2006 dollars, PPP). Population increases from 6.5 billion in 2005 to 9.2 billion in 2050.

The regional disaggregation in this study is the same as the one used in the WEO 2007 edition; OECD Europe, OECD North America, OECD Pacific, transition economies, China, India, rest of developing

Table 1 GDP development projections (average annual growth rates; 2010–2030: IEA (2007a) and 2030–2050: Simon et al. (2008))

	2010	2015	2020	2030	2040	2050
OECD Europe	2.6%	2.2%	2.0%	1.7%	1.3%	1.1%
OECD North America	2.7%	2.6%	2.3%	2.2%	2.0%	1.8%
OECD Pacific	2.5%	1.9%	1.7%	1.5%	1.3%	1.2%
Transition economies	5.6%	3.8%	3.3%	2.7%	2.5%	2.4%
India	8.0%	6.4%	5.9%	5.7%	5.4%	5.0%
China	9.2%	6.2%	5.1%	4.7%	4.2%	3.6%
Rest of developing Asia	5.1%	4.1%	3.6%	3.1%	2.7%	2.4%
Latin America	4.3%	3.3%	3.0%	2.8%	2.6%	2.4%
Africa	5.0%	4.0%	3.8%	3.5%	3.2%	3.0%
Middle East	5.1%	4.6%	3.7%	3.2%	2.9%	2.6%
World	4.6%	3.8%	3.4%	3.2%	3.0%	2.9%

Asia, Latin America, Africa and Middle East (see IEA 2007a).

In this study, we first look at the growth of final energy demand and secondly at the development of primary energy supply. Final energy demand (shortly energy demand) is defined as energy use by end use sectors (industry, transport, buildings and others) either in the form of electricity or in the form of heat or fuels. Primary energy supply (shortly energy supply) is defined as primary energy supplied by supply sectors (e.g. power generation, energy distribution companies and refineries) to end use sectors. The losses that occur in energy supply are here called transformation losses and include distribution losses. By first looking at energy demand, the lowest possible energy use can be calculated in 2050 by implementing both technical measures in energy demand sectors and energy supply sectors.

The growth of energy demand as a result of GDP growth depends on the development of the energy intensity of the economy. Energy intensity is in this study defined as final energy use per unit of gross domestic product. The energy intensity in an economy tends to decrease over time. Changes in energy intensity can be a result of a number of factors, e.g.:

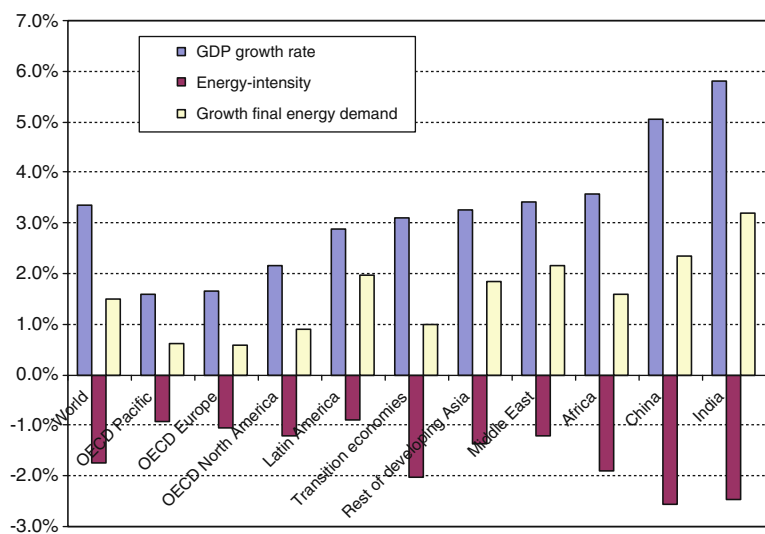
- Autonomous energy efficiency improvement, which occurs due to technological developments. Each new generation of capital goods is likely to be more energy efficient than the one before.

- Policy-induced energy efficiency improvement as a result of which economic actors change their behaviour and invest in more energy efficient technologies or improve energy management.
- Structural changes that can have a downward or upward effect on the economy's energy intensity. An example of a downward effect is a shift in the economy away from energy-intensive industrial activities to service-related activities. Also there can be demand saturation in certain sectors or countries. For instance, in a country with already comparatively high volumes of passenger travel, the increase of GDP may lead to a lower than linear increase of passenger travel and thereby decreasing energy intensity.

Only the first two are regarded in this study as energy efficiency improvement. Energy efficiency improvement is defined as the decrease in specific energy consumption per physical unit of energy service (e.g. GJ/tonne crude steel, MJ/passenger-km, MJ/m² floor surface, etc.).

For the calculation of the technical potentials, it is important to know the energy intensity decrease in the reference scenario that is a result of energy efficiency improvement and the energy intensity decrease that results from structural changes. The energy intensity decrease in the reference scenario differs per region, ranging from 1% to 2.5% per year as average, for the period 2005–2050 (see Fig. 1).

Fig. 1 Growth final energy demand in average % per year in period 2005–2050. Data for period 2005–2030 is based on IEA (2007a) and data for period 2030–2050 is extrapolated based on trend energy intensity in period 2005–2030 and GDP growth rates of Simon et al. (2008)



The share of energy intensity decrease due to autonomous or policy-induced energy efficiency improvement is not available for this study, except for transport (see also the ‘Transport’ and ‘Discussion of uncertainties’ sections). For sectors other than transport, we assume that autonomous and policy-induced energy efficiency improvement is equal to 1% per year, based on historical developments of energy efficiency improvement in buildings and industries (see, e.g. Blok (2005) and Odyssee (2005)). When calculating the potential for energy efficiency improvement, the energy efficiency that already occurs in the reference scenario is subtracted from the total potential in order to calculate the remaining potential relative to the reference scenario. More detailed explanations are included in the ‘Technical potentials’ section.

Figure 1 shows annual GDP growth rates, annual energy intensity decrease and the resulting annual growth in final energy demand per region in the reference scenario. Global energy intensity decreases from 4.6 MJ/US\$ to 2.0 MJ/US\$ in the period 2005–2050 (or 1.8% per year).

Final energy demand is projected to increase most in India and China (3.2% and 2.4% per year, respectively), followed by Middle East (2.2% per year) and Latin America (2.0% per year). Energy demand increase is lowest in OECD Europe, OECD Pacific and OECD North America (between 0.6% and 0.9% per year), due to lower GDP growth rates.

The reference scenario covers energy use of four sectors: (1) transport, (2) industry, (3) buildings and others (e.g. agriculture) and (4) transformation sector. Per sector, a distinction is made between electricity

demand and fuel and heat demand. Fuel and heat demand is shortly referred to as fuel demand. This study only focuses on energy-related fuel, power and heat use. Non-energy use (including feedstock use in petrochemical industry) is excluded. It is assumed that the share of non-energy use in industries in 2050 is the same as in 2030.

Figure 2 shows the reference scenario for final energy demand for the world by sector.

Global final energy demand is expected to grow by 95%, from 293 EJ in 2005 to 571 EJ in 2050. The relative growth in the transport sector is largest, where energy demand is expected to grow from 84 EJ in 2005 to 183 EJ in 2050. Fuel demand in buildings and agriculture is expected to grow slowest from 91 EJ in 2005 to 124 EJ in 2050.

Figure 3 shows the final energy demand per region in the reference scenario.

In the reference scenario, final energy demand in 2050 is largest in China (121 EJ), followed by OECD North America (107 EJ) and OECD Europe (68 EJ). Final energy demand in OECD Pacific and Middle East is lowest (28 and 31 EJ, respectively).

Table 2 shows final energy demand, final energy demand per capita and primary energy supply by world region. Primary energy supply is based on the conversion efficiency (ratio: final energy demand/primary energy supply) of the transformation sector, which is also included in the table. The conversion efficiency is based on the development of the conversion efficiency in the period 2030–2050 in IEA (2007a).

In terms of final energy demand per capita, there are still large differences between world regions in

Fig. 2 Final energy demand (EJ) in reference scenario per sector worldwide

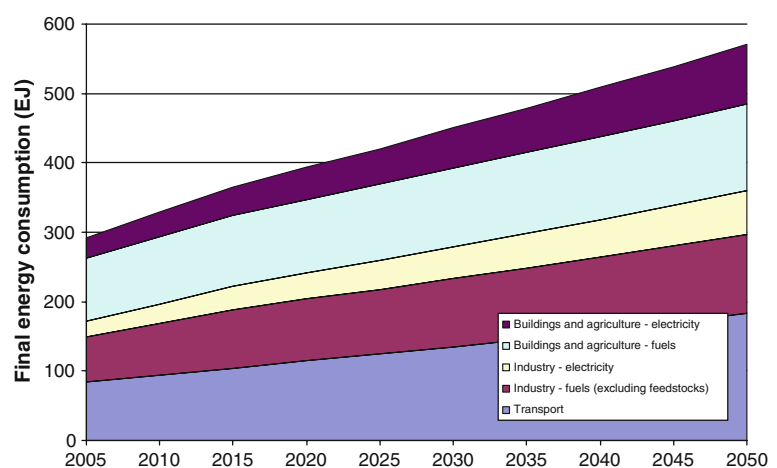
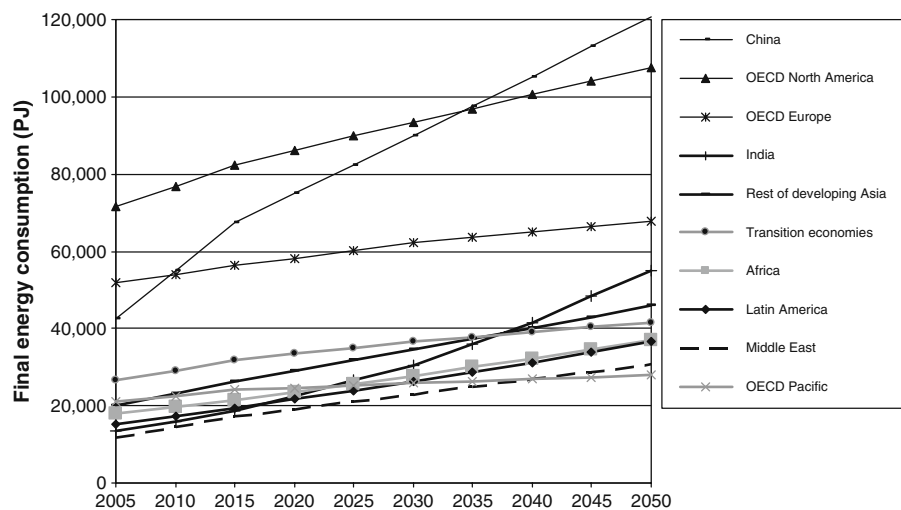


Fig. 3 Final energy demand (PJ) in reference scenario per region

2050 in the reference scenario. Energy demand per capita is highest in OECD North America (186 GJ/capita), followed by OECD Pacific and transition economies (156 and 142 GJ/capita, respectively). Final energy demand in Africa, rest of developing Asia, India and Latin America is expected to be lowest (19, 30, 33 and 58 GJ/capita, respectively).

In the reference scenario, global primary energy supply grows from 439 PJ in 2005 to 867 PJ in 2050. Non-OECD countries show the strongest growth of primary energy supply from 218 PJ in 2005 to 556 PJ in 2050. Total energy supply in OECD countries grows from 214 to 299 EJ in the same period. This means that

the share of non-OECD countries in total primary energy use grows from 50% in 2005 to 71% in 2050.

The conversion efficiency in 2005 ranges from 62% for China to 78% for Latin America, with a worldwide average of 67%. The major share of transformation losses occur in the power generation sector. In 2005, this corresponds globally to 80% of total transformation losses, including electricity transmission and distribution losses (based on IEA 2007b). The remaining transformation losses occur mainly in oil refining and coal transformation (e.g. coking). The low conversion efficiency for China is mainly a result of the large share of coal-fired power generation at

Table 2 Final energy demand and primary energy supply

	Final energy demand (EJ)		Final energy demand (GJ/capita)		Primary energy supply (EJ)		Conversion efficiency (%)	
	2005	2050	2005	2050	2005	2050	2005	2050
OECD North America	71	107	164	186	106	157	68%	68%
OECD Pacific	21	28	105	156	32	43	66%	64%
OECD Europe	52	68	97	120	72	89	72%	76%
Transition economies	27	42	78	142	42	64	63%	65%
India	13	55	12	33	21	92	64%	60%
China	43	121	32	85	68	202	62%	60%
Rest of developing Asia	20	46	21	30	28	66	72%	70%
Latin America	15	37	34	58	20	48	78%	76%
Middle East	12	31	63	89	18	49	65%	63%
Africa	18	37	20	19	25	51	74%	72%
World	293	571	45	62	439	867	67%	66%

low efficiency. The relatively high efficiency for Latin America is mainly a result of a high share of hydropower in power generation. In IEA statistics, the conversion of electricity generated by hydropower to primary energy input is 100%.

Technical potentials

The technical potential for energy efficiency improvement is calculated on basis of literature sources and own calculations. The potentials incorporate technical measures and do not include energy savings potentials by behavioural or organizational changes or structural changes (e.g. modal shift in transport). Besides current best practices also emerging technologies are taken into account as well as improved material efficiency. We assume that the measures can be implemented after 2010 and that equipment or installations are replaced at the end of their lifetime. More detailed assumptions are given in the following sections: ‘Transport’, ‘Industry’, ‘Buildings and others’ and ‘Transformation sector’.

Transport

Data regarding energy use per transport mode are based on the WBCSD transport scenario (IEA/SMP

2004). This scenario is consistent with the IEA WEO 2007 in terms of global energy demand for transport in 2050.

Transport accounts for nearly 30% of final energy demand worldwide, in 2006 (IEA 2007b). For most regions, the share of transport in energy demand is expected to increase by 2050. Especially India, China and Africa show a sharp increase of the share of transport in energy demand from 12% to 15% in 2005 to 26–30% in 2050 (IEA/SMP 2004). International marine shipping is not included in this study, due to a lack of regional data. Energy use from international marine shipping amounts to 9% of worldwide transport energy demand in 2005 and 7% in 2050 (IEA/SMP 2004).

Figure 4 gives the breakdown of final energy demand in the reference scenario for transport by mode in 2005 and 2050. The largest share of global energy use in transport is consumed by light duty vehicles (LDV; 48%), followed by trucks (26%). In 2050, the share of LDV decreases to 44% of final energy demand in transport because of an expected growth in air transport, corresponding to 13% in 2005 and 19% in 2050 (IEA/SMP 2004). The shares for the other modes remain fairly the same.

For passenger transport (cars, air, rail, 2- and 3-wheel and buses), the potentials for energy efficiency

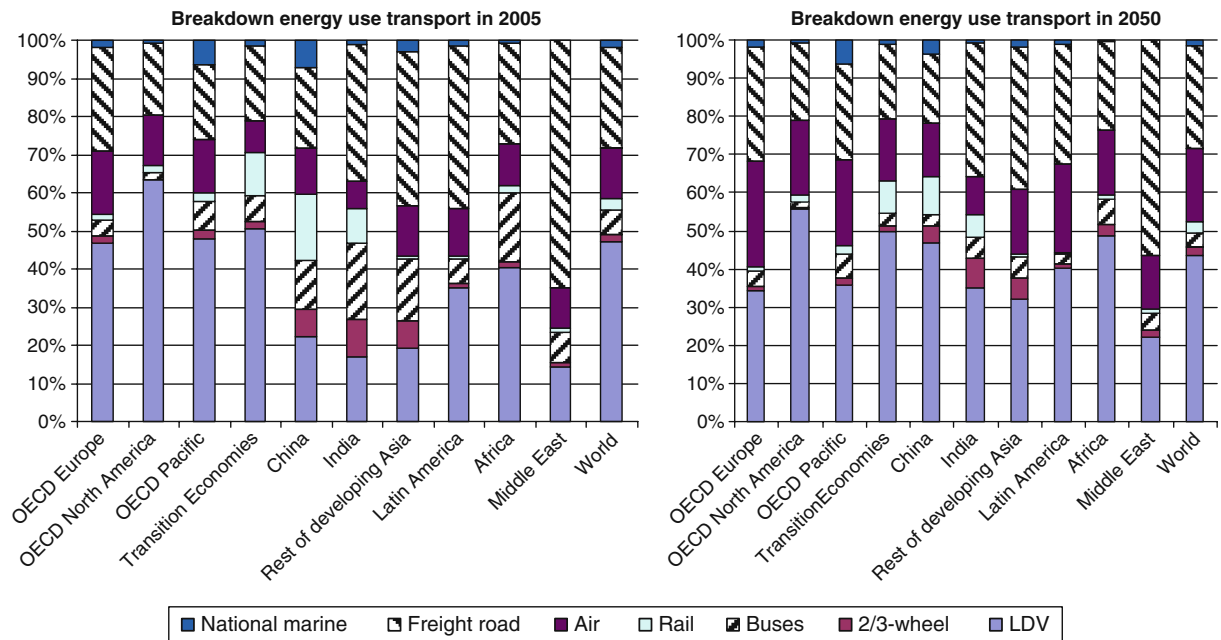


Fig. 4 World final energy use per mode 2005 (IEA/SMP 2004)

improvement are based on data regarding specific energy use in MJ per passenger-km or MJ per vehicle-km. For freight transport (road, rail and national marine), the potentials are based on data regarding MJ per tonne-km.

Passenger transport Many technologies can be used to improve the fuel efficiency of passenger cars. Examples are energy efficiency improvements in engines, weight reduction and friction and drag reduction (see for instance Smokers et al. 2006). The impact of the various measures on fuel efficiency can be substantial. Hybrid vehicles, combining a conventional combustion engine with an electric engine, have relatively low fuel consumption. The most well-known today is the Toyota Prius, which has a fuel efficiency of 4.0 l gasoline equivalent¹/100 km (1.3 MJ/v-km; Toyota 2010). Further developments are underway of new concept cars with specific fuel use as low as 3.0 l gasoline equivalent/100 km (1.0 MJ/v-km). There are suggestions that applying new light materials, in combination with the new propulsion technologies, can bring fuel consumption levels down to 1.0 l gasoline equivalent/100 km (Blok 2005). SRU (2005) gives a technical potential in 2050 for diesel cars of 1.6 l gasoline equivalent/100 km and for petrol cars 2.0 l gasoline equivalent/100 km in Europe. We assume that fuel consumption of average cars in OECD Europe can be as low as 2.0 l gasoline equivalent/100 km in 2050 and we adapt the same improvement percentage in efficiency (about 3.2% per year) for other regions.

Savings for air transport are based on Akerman (2005). He reports that 65% lower fuel intensity is technically feasible by 2050. This is applied to 2005 energy intensity (2.6 MJ/p-km) and results in 0.6 MJ/p-km by 2050.

The company Enova Systems estimates possible energy savings for buses of 50% on average. For minibuses, the ACEEE reports (DeCicco et al. 2001) a 55% fuel economy improvement by 2015. Because no studies are available that estimate energy efficiency of buses in 2050, we assume that for buses, including minibuses, an energy efficiency improvement potential of 55% in 2050, in comparison to the energy intensity level in 2005.

¹ One litre of gasoline equivalent is to 32 MJ (lower heating value).

For two and three wheelers, the potential is based on IEA/SMP (2004), where 0.3 and 0.5 MJ/p-km are the lowest values, respectively. The uncertainty in these potentials is high. However, two and three wheelers account only for 2% of transport energy demand.

Freight transport Elliott et al. (2006) give possible savings for heavy- and medium-duty freight trucks. The list of reduction options is expanded by Lensink and De Wilde (2007). For medium-duty trucks, a fuel economy saving of 50% is reported by 2030 (mainly due to hybridization); for heavy-duty trucks, savings are estimated at 39% by 2030. We applied these percentages to 2005 energy intensity data, calculated the fuel economy improvement per year and extrapolated this improvement rate until 2050. For heavy-duty trucks, this corresponds to 1.0 MJ/t-km in 2030 and 0.54 MJ/t-km in 2050. Schäfer and Jacoby (2006) estimates that for trucks, 0.94 MJ/t-km is possible by a reduction of rolling resistance, improved diesel engines and improved aerodynamics. Van Laar (1993) estimates that the energy requirement of heavy-duty freight trucks can be as low as 0.5 MJ/t-km.

Savings for passenger and freight rail were taken from Fulton and Eads (2004). They report a historic improvement in fuel economy of passenger rail of 1% per year and freight rail between 2% and 3% per year. Since no other sources are available for this study, we assume for the technical potential scenario 1% improvement of energy efficiency per year for passenger rail and 2% for freight rail.

National marine savings were taken from Lensink and De Wilde (2007). They report 20% savings in 2030 for inland navigation as a realistic potential. To get to the potential in 2050, we applied these percentages to 2005 energy intensity data, calculated the fuel economy improvement per year and extrapolated the yearly improvement rate to 2050.

Summary Table 3 shows specific energy consumption by region and transport mode in the reference scenario and in the technical potential scenario.

Table 4 shows energy efficiency improvement for transport by region, based on the decrease in specific energy consumption in 2050 in comparison to 2005 (Table 3) and on the breakdown of transport in p-km and t-km by mode in 2050 (see Tables 14 and 15 in the Appendix).

Table 3 Specific energy consumption by transport mode and region in reference scenario and technical potential scenario (values for reference scenario 2005 and 2050 from IEA/SMP 2004)

	Freight (MJ/t-km)			Passenger (MJ/p-km)		
	2005	Reference 2050	Technical potential 2050	2005	Reference 2050	Technical potential 2050
	Medium freight			Buses		
OECD Europe	5.0	3.8	1.4	0.7	0.8	0.4
OECD North America	4.2	3.2	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.5
OECD Pacific	5.8	4.4	1.7	0.6	0.7	0.3
Transition economies	5.9	4.0	1.7	0.5	0.6	0.3
China	6.1	4.1	1.7	0.4	0.5	0.2
India	6.2	4.2	1.8	0.4	0.5	0.2
Rest of developing Asia	5.5	3.7	1.6	0.4	0.5	0.2
Latin America	5.4	3.7	1.6	0.5	0.6	0.3
Africa	7.1	4.8	2.0	0.4	0.5	0.2
Middle East	6.3	4.3	1.8	0.5	0.6	0.3
World Average	5.4	3.9	1.5	0.5	0.6	0.2
	Heavy freight			Two-wheel		
OECD Europe	1.6	1.2	0.5	1.2	0.9	0.3
OECD North America	1.5	1.2	0.5	1.4	1.0	0.3
OECD Pacific	1.7	1.3	0.5	1.0	0.9	0.3
Transition economies	1.9	1.3	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.3
China	2.0	1.3	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.3
India	2.0	1.4	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.3
Rest of developing Asia	1.9	1.3	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.3
Latin America	1.9	1.3	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.3
Africa	2.0	1.4	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.3
Middle East	2.0	1.3	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.3
World Average	1.7	1.3	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.3
	Freight rail			Three-wheel		
OECD Europe	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.9	0.9	0.5
OECD North America	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.9	0.9	0.5
OECD Pacific	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.9	0.9	0.5
Transition economies	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.8	0.5
China	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.5
India	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.5
Rest of developing Asia	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.5
Latin America	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.5
Africa	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.5
Middle East	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.5
World Average	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.5
	National marine			LDV (litre/100 v-km)		
OECD Europe	1.2	0.8	0.6	7.8	5.9	2.0
OECD North America	0.7	0.5	0.4	11.5	10.0	3.0
OECD Pacific	0.3	0.2	0.2	10.2	7.5	2.6
Transition economies	1.2	0.8	0.6	10.0	8.5	2.6
China	1.2	0.8	0.6	11.5	8.5	2.9

Table 3 (continued)

	Freight (MJ/t-km)			Passenger (MJ/p-km)		
	2005	Reference 2050	Technical potential 2050	2005	Reference 2050	Technical potential 2050
India	1.2	0.8	0.6	11.0	8.2	2.8
Rest of developing Asia	1.2	0.8	0.6	11.5	8.4	2.9
Latin America	1.2	0.8	0.6	11.4	8.3	2.9
Africa	1.2	0.8	0.6	13.5	9.3	3.5
Middle East	1.2	0.8	0.6	11.6	8.3	3.0
World Average	0.7	0.5	0.4	10.4	8.5	2.8
All regions				Air		
				2.6	1.9	0.9
All regions				Passenger rail		
				0.3	0.3	0.2

Globally, the resulting technical potential for energy efficiency improvement in transport amounts to 2.8% per year. As the energy efficiency improvement already occurring in the reference scenario is 0.5% per year (IEA/SMP 2004), a potential of 2.3% per year exists in comparison to the reference scenario.

Figure 5 shows the development of transport energy demand in the reference scenario and the resulting energy demand in the technical potential scenario, based on the energy efficiency improvement in Table 4.

Industry

The worldwide average share of industry in total final energy demand is about 30%. The share in Africa is lowest with 16% in 2050. The share in China is highest with 43% in 2050. For the industry sector, technical potentials for energy efficiency improvement are based on (1) implementing best practice and emerging technologies and (2) increased material efficiency (including recycling).

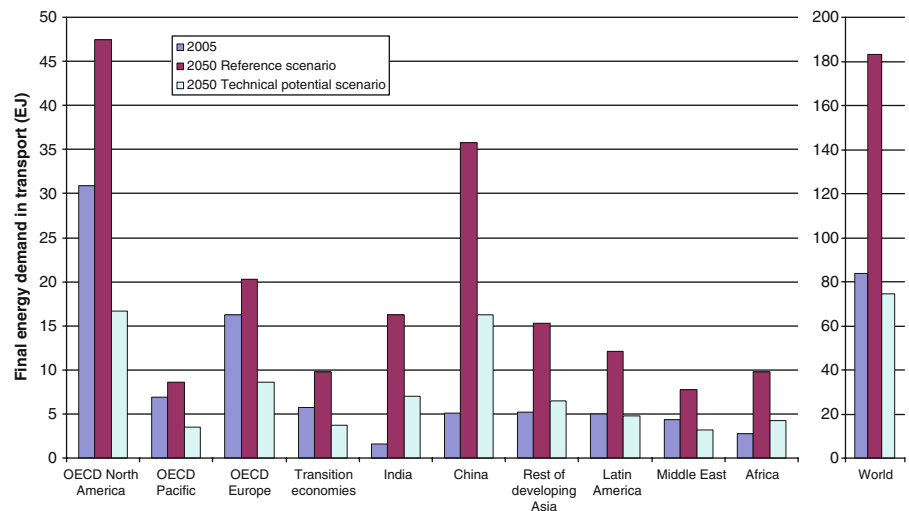
IEA (2008a, b, c) estimates an average potential of 19–32% by implementing best available techniques

Table 4 Energy efficiency improvement transport in period 2010–2050 (%/year)^a

Region	Energy efficiency improvement potential (%/year)	Autonomous energy efficiency improvement in reference scenario (%/year)	Energy efficiency improvement in comparison to reference scenario (%/year)
World	2.8%	0.5%	2.3%
OECD North America	3.0%	0.4%	2.6%
OECD Europe	2.9%	0.6%	2.3%
OECD Pacific	2.8%	0.6%	2.2%
Transition economies	2.8%	0.4%	2.4%
India	2.4%	0.3%	2.1%
China	2.4%	0.4%	2.0%
Rest of developing Asia	2.6%	0.5%	2.1%
Latin America	2.9%	0.5%	2.4%
Middle East	2.9%	0.7%	2.2%
Africa	2.8%	0.7%	2.1%

^a Energy efficiency improvement here refers to a decrease in specific energy consumption (in MJ/p-km for passenger transport and MJ/t-km for freight transport)

Fig. 5 Energy demand in transport in reference scenario and technical potential scenario (EJ)



(BAT) globally and an additional potential of 20–30% for new technologies. Together, this amounts to a potential of 35–52% for implementing BAT and emerging technologies, varying per sector. We use an average of 45% in our calculations. In order to illustrate the potential of best practice and emerging technologies in industry, we give a couple of examples for a few energy-intensive industrial processes: cement production, ammonia production, chlorine production and aluminium production.

- Cement production:* Two important processes in producing cement are clinker production and the blending of clinker with additives to produce cement. Clinker production is the most energy-intensive step in cement production. The current state of the art kilns consume 3.0 GJ/tonne clinker. The thermodynamic minimum is 1.8 GJ/tonne clinker, but strongly depends on the moisture content of the raw materials and fuels. The global average specific energy consumption per tonne clinker equals 4.2 GJ per tonne (based on REEEP 2008). Based on current state of the art this implies a savings potential of 30%.
- Ammonia production:* Ammonia production consumed more energy than any other process in the chemical industry and accounted for 18% of the energy consumed in this sector. Ammonia is mainly applied as a feedstock for fertilizer production. Current best practice energy intensity

(excluding feedstock)² is 8 GJ/tonne ammonia (Sinton et al. 2002). Average energy use for ammonia production in 2005 is equivalent to 15 GJ/tonne³ NH₃ (REEEP 2008). This corresponds to an average savings potential of 45% based on current best practice technology.

- Chlorine production:* Chlorine production is the main electricity consuming process in the chemical industry, followed by oxygen and nitrogen production. The most efficient production process for chlorine production is the membrane process that consumes 2,600 kWh/tonne chlorine, which is already close to the most efficient technology considered feasible (IEA 2008a, b, c and Sinton et al. 2002). At the moment, however, the mercury process is still commonly used for chlorine production, with an energy intensity of around 4,000–4,500 kWh/tonne chlorine. Worldwide, the average energy intensity for chlorine production is around 3,600 kWh/tonne⁴ chlorine (IEA 2008a, b, c and Sinton et al. 2002). This corresponds to a savings potential of 28% for electricity use in chlorine production, based on the application of membrane technology.

² Around 20 GJ/tonne NH₃

³ 15 GJ/tonne NH₃ for the European Union, 18 GJ/tonne for the United States, 20 GJ/tonne for Russia, 30 GJ/tonne for China and 23 GJ/tonne for India

⁴ 3,000 kWh/tonne in Japan, 3,500 kWh/tonne in Western Europe and 4,300 kWh/tonne in the United States

- *Aluminium production:* The worldwide energy intensity for aluminium production is 15.3 MWh per tonne of aluminium in 2006 (based on USGS 2008 and International Aluminium Institute 2008). The theoretical minimum energy requirement for electrolysis is 6.4 MWh/tonne (IEA 2008a, b, c). The current best practice is 12–13 MWh per tonne (Worrell et al. 2008), which implies an improvement potential of 20%.

A second means of reducing energy use in industries is material efficiency, by which is meant a reduction of the amount of primary material needed to fulfil a specific function. This can be achieved by, e.g. re-designing a product to a lower material intensity by reducing the amount of material needed to manufacture a unit of a product or material recycling, where secondary material is produced by recycling of material (Worrell et al. 1995).

In order to estimate the potential for material efficiency, we look into a couple of examples:

- *Iron and steel recycling:* The energy efficiency for iron and steel production is influenced by the technologies used and the amount of scrap input. The energy intensity for recycled steel is around 70–75% lower than the energy intensity for primary steel. The most energy-intensive part of steel making is the reduction of iron oxide. The higher the share of iron in total steel production (i.e. the lower the share of scrap input used) the higher the specific energy consumption. In 2005, 35% of all crude steel production is derived from scrap (IEA 2006). The potential for recycling steel depends on the availability of scrap. Neelis and Patel (2006) estimate that the potential for the share of scrap in total steel production can be between 60% and 70% by 2100. Based on 70% lower energy intensity for recycled steel and 50% steel recycling in 2050 (average of 35% in 2005 and 65% in 2100), this results in 14% savings due to steel recycling in 2050.
- *Aluminium recycling:* The production of primary aluminium from alumina (made out of bauxite) is an energy-intensive process. Secondary aluminium, produced out of recycled scrap uses only 5% of the energy demand for primary production because it involves remelting of the metal instead of the electrochemical reduction process (Phylipsen, 2000). Around 16 million tonnes of aluminium was recycled in 2006 worldwide, which fulfilled around 33% of the global demand for aluminium (46 million tonnes; World Aluminium 2008). Of the total amount of recycled aluminium, approximately 17% comes from packaging, 38% from transport, 32% from building and 13% from other products. Recycling rates of aluminium can be further increased, e.g. in Sweden, 92% of aluminium cans are recycled and in Switzerland 88%, while the European average is only 40% (European Aluminium Association 2008). The recycling rates for building and transport applications also show a wide range from 60% to 90% in various countries. If the recycling rate of aluminium can be increased from 33% to 50% of aluminium production in 2050, this would lead to energy savings of 22% in 2050.
- *Cement production—reduce clinker content:* The energy use per tonne cement ranges from 1.2 to 5 GJ/tonne cement and depends largely on the share of clinker in cement production (ENCI 2002). Substantial energy savings can be obtained by reducing the amount of clinker required. One option to reduce clinker use is by substituting clinker by industrial by-products such as coal fly ash, blast furnace slag or pozzolanic materials (e.g. volcanic material). The relative importance of additive use can be expressed by the clinker to cement ratio. The clinker to cement ratio for current cement production ranges from 25% to 99% and the average clinker to cement ratio equals 80% (ENCI 2002). If this ratio would be reduced to 50%, this corresponds to an energy savings potential of 35%, assuming sufficient substitution material is available.
- *Material efficiency of plastics production:* Worrell et al. (1995) estimate a technical potential for material efficiency in (virgin) plastics production of 31%, of which 45% can be achieved by efficient product design, 35% by recycling, 12% by good housekeeping and 8% by material substitution. Hekkert et al. (1998) indicate that it is possible to reduce CO₂ emissions related to packaging in Europe by more than 50% in the period 2000–2020 by lighter packaging, reusable packaging, material substitution and the use of recycled material.

The examples above identify three important ways of improving material efficiency: (1) increased recycling (iron and steel, aluminium and plastics show a potential of 14%, 22% and 11%, respectively), (2) efficient product design (this could increase energy efficiency of plastics production by 15%) and (3) material substitution (e.g. replacing clinker in cement could reduce energy use by 35% and 2% for plastics production). The potential per industrial subsector differs. For the total potential for material efficiency in industry in 2050, we assume 30% of which efficient design is estimated to have a technical potential of ~15%, recycling of ~10% and other measures of ~5% (e.g. material substitution).

Together with the implementation of best practice technologies and emerging technologies, this leads to a savings potential of 62% in 2050, which corresponds to 2.4% per year in the period 2010–2050. Since we assume that 1% energy efficiency improvement occurs in the baseline, based on historical development of energy efficiency improvement (Blok (2005) and Odyssee (2005)), this means that ~1.4% per year energy efficiency improvement can be achieved additional to the baseline.

Summary For all regions, the same savings potential is assumed for industry of 1.4% per year in comparison to the reference scenario. Figure 6 shows the resulting energy demand in the technical potential scenario and in the reference scenario by world region.

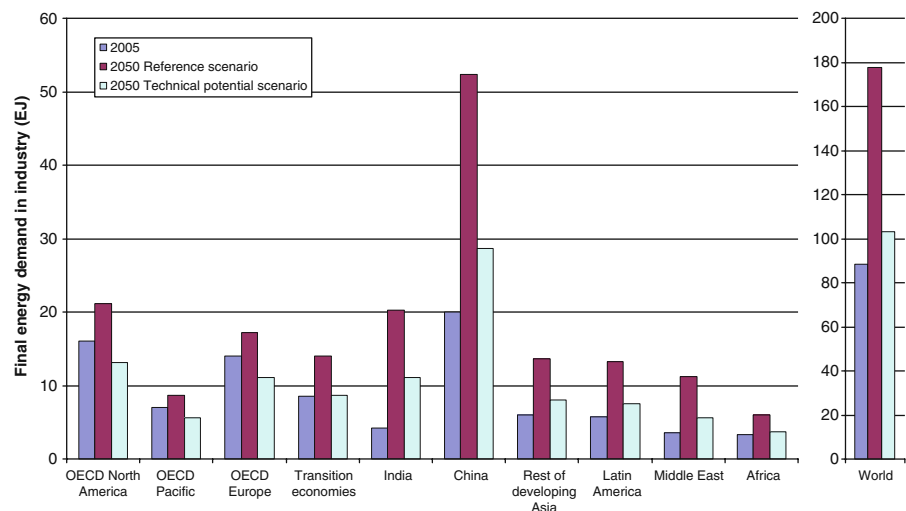
Buildings and others

Energy consumed in buildings (including agriculture) represents approximately 40% of global final energy consumption. The share of residential buildings is largest and accounts for 50–80% of energy demand in buildings (depending on region), followed by commercial buildings (10–50%) and agriculture (1–10%). The potential for energy efficiency improvement is calculated per type of energy use: fuel and heat use (space heating, cooking, hot water use) and electricity consumption (lighting, standby power, cold appliances, other appliances and air conditioning).

Fuel and heat use Fuel and heat use account for 75% of final energy demand in buildings (and 52% in primary energy demand). Fuel and heat is mainly used for hot water production, cooking and for space heating. Space heating accounts for the largest share of fuel and heat use, around 80% globally, followed by hot water production (15%) and cooking (5%; Bertoldi and Atanasiu 2006, IEA 2006 and WBCSD 2005).

An indicator for the energy efficiency of space heating is the energy demand per square metre floor area per heating degree day (HDD). Heating degree days is the number of degrees that a day's average temperature is below 18°C, the temperature below which buildings are usually heated. Typical current heating demand for dwellings is 50–110 kJ/m²/HDD (based on IEA 2007c), while dwellings with a low-

Fig. 6 Energy demand in industry in reference scenario and technical potential scenario (EJ)



energy use consume below 32 kJ/m²/HDD.⁵ Technologies to limit energy demand of new dwellings are (WBCSD 2005; IEA 2006; Joosen et al. 2002):

- Triple-glazed windows with low-emittance coatings, which reduce heat loss to 40% compared to windows with one layer. The low-emittance coating prevents energy waves in sunlight coming in and thereby reduces cooling need.
- Insulation of roofs, walls, floors and basement. Proper insulation reduces heating and cooling demand by 50% in comparison to average energy demand.
- Passive solar energy, which makes use of the supply of solar energy by means of building design (building's site and window orientation). The term 'passive' indicates that no mechanical equipment is used. All solar gains are brought in through windows.
- Balanced ventilation with heat recovery. Heated indoor air passes to a heat recovery unit and is used to heat incoming outdoor air.

Current specific space heating demands in dwellings in OECD countries are given in Table 5. An explanation for the difference could be a difference in comfort level. For the technical potentials, we assume that no change in the comfort level in comparison to the reference scenario occurs.

For the technical potential, it is assumed that starting in 2010, all new dwellings can be low-energy dwellings using 32 kJ/m²/HDD for OECD regions. For transition economies, we assume the average of OECD savings potential. For non-OECD countries, no data is available. Therefore, the potentials for space heating in non-OECD countries are based on Ürge-Vorsatz and Novikova (2008). They estimate a total energy efficiency improvement potential of 1.4% per year for the period 2005–2030 for developing regions for both new dwellings and for improving energy efficiency in existing houses ('retrofitting'). Here, we assume that this improvement rate can be achieved for the period 2010–2050.

⁵ This is based on a number of zero-energy dwelling in The Netherlands and Germany, consuming 400–500 m³ natural gas per year, with a floor surface between 120 and 150 m². This results in 0.1 GJ/m²/year and is converted by 3,100 heating degree days to 32 kJ/m²/HDD.

Table 5 Space heating demands in OECD dwellings in 2004 (IEA 2007c)

Region	Specific space heating (kJ/m ² /HDD)
OECD Europe	113
OECD North America	78
OECD Pacific	52

For existing houses in OECD countries, the potential for efficiency improvement by retrofitting is based on IEA (2006). Important retrofit options are more efficient windows and insulation. According to IEA (2006), the former can save 39% of space heating energy demand of current buildings, while the latter can save 32% of space heating or cooling energy demand. IEA (2006) reports that average energy consumption in current buildings in Europe can decrease by more than 50%. Here, 50% is used as the technical potential for OECD Europe in 2050. For the other OECD regions, the same relative reduction in comparison to OECD Europe is assumed as for new buildings, to take into account current average efficiency of dwellings in the regions. This means that potential savings in existing buildings in OECD North America amount to 41% and in OECD Pacific to 27%.

To calculate overall potentials for space heating demand in dwellings in OECD countries and transition economies, the share of buildings built after 2010 in total dwelling stock in 2050 is estimated. The UNECE database (UNECE 2008) contains data on total dwelling stock, dwelling stock increase (new construction) and population. It is assumed that the total dwelling stock grows along with population. The number of existing dwellings decreases every year due to a certain replacement. On average, this is about 1.3% of total dwelling stock per year, meaning 40% replacement in 40 years (this is equivalent to an average house lifetime of 100 years). Table 6 gives the share of new dwellings in the total dwelling stock per region. The low growth rate for new dwellings in OECD Pacific is due to a decrease of population by 11% from 200 million in 2005 to 178 million in 2050. OECD North America on the other hand has a population growth of 32% from 436 million in 2005 to 577 million in 2050.

Table 6 Forecasted share of new dwellings (of share of dwelling stock) in 2050

Region	Existing buildings	New dwellings due to replacement of old buildings as share of total dwellings in 2050	New dwellings due to population growth as share of total in 2050
OECD Europe	52%	41%	7%
OECD North America	36%	29%	35%
OECD Pacific	55%	44%	1%
Transition economies	55%	45%	0%

Total savings for space heating energy demand are calculated by multiplying the savings potentials for new and existing houses with the forecasted share of dwellings in 2050 to get a weighted reduction percentage (see Table 7).

For space heating in buildings in the services sector, the same percentual savings as for dwellings are assumed. Also for fuel use for hot water and cooking, we assume the same percentual reduction as is assumed for space heating per region. This is done because no sources are available that give potentials for these two types of energy use. Note that the share of these two is small in comparison to space heating. Measures for reducing fuel use for hot water consumption are, e.g. the use of heat recovery units to use heat from waste water, the use of efficient boilers and limitation of excess water flow. Hot water that goes down the drain carries energy with it. Heat recovery systems can capture energy to preheat cold water entering the water heater. A heat recovery system can recover as much as 70% of this heat and recycle it back for immediate use (Enviroharvest 2008).

Electricity use The breakdown of electricity use per type of appliance is different per region. In this

scenario, a convergence is assumed for the different types of electricity demand per region in 2050. Based on Bertoldi and Atanasiu (2006), IEA (2006), and WBCSD (2005), the following breakdown for electricity use in 2050 is assumed for all regions:

- Standby (8%)
- Lighting (15%)
- Cold appliances (15%)
- Appliances (30%)
- Air conditioning (8%)
- Other (e.g. electric heating; 24%)

Standby power consumption Standby power consumption is the ‘lowest power consumption which cannot be switched off (influenced) by the user and may persist for an indefinite time when an appliance is connected to the main electricity supply’ (UK MTP 2008). Standby power accounts for 20–90 W per home in developed nations, ranging from 4% to 10% of residential electricity use (Meier et al., 2004). Globally, standby power consumption in residential electricity use is estimated to range from 3% to 12% (Meier, 2001). Efficiency recommendations of the US FEMP and Energy Star Label (US FEMP

Table 7 Specific space heating demand (kJ/m²/HDD) in dwellings (% share in total dwellings in 2050)

	Average dwellings in 2004	New dwellings (> 2010)	Retrofitted dwellings in 2050	Average dwelling in 2050	Energy efficiency improvement in 2050 in comparison to 2004
OECD Europe	113	35 (48%)	57 (52%)	46	59%
OECD North America	78	35 (64%)	47 (36%)	39	50%
OECD Pacific	52	35 (45%)	38 (55%)	37	29%
Transition economies	81 (assumption, average OECD)	35 (45%)	49 (55%)	43	47%
Other non-OECD countries	NA	NA	NA	NA	46%

2007) assume best practice levels for all equipment of 1 W or less. A study by Harmelink et al. (2005) reported significant savings (up to 77%) if a standby standard of 1 W per appliances would be enforced. WBCSD (2005) reports a worldwide savings potential between 72% and 82%. For the technical potential, a savings potential of 82% in 2050 is assumed.

Lighting An indicator for the efficiency of lighting is the luminous efficacy (lm/W) of average lamps used in a region. The luminous efficacy is a ratio of the visible light energy emitted (the luminous flux) to the total power input to the lamp. It is measured in lumens per watt (lm/W). The maximum efficacy possible is 240 lm/W for white light. The current best practice is 75 lm/W for fluorescent lights (future fluorescent lights 100 lm/W) and 115 lm/W for white LEDs (future LEDs 150 lm/W; LEDS Magazine 2007). The luminous efficacy of incandescent lamps is 10–17 lm/W. For the technical potential in 2050, we assume that the average luminous efficacy can be increased to 100 lm/W in all regions, taking into account that it might not be possible to use LEDs for all purposes.

Table 8 below shows the luminous efficacy per region and the technical potential in 2050. This is based on Bertoldi and Atanasiu (2006) and Waide (2007), where national lighting consumption and CFL penetration data is presented by region. This information is combined with the luminous efficacy per lamp type as given above.

Cold appliances Energy efficiency improvement for cold appliances is based on the situation in the EU. In 2003, 103 TWh was consumed by household cold appliances in the EU-15 countries (15% of total 2004 residential end use). An average energy label A++ cold appliance uses 120 kWh per year, while a comparable appliance of energy label B uses on average 300 kWh per year (and C label 600 kWh per year; EuroTopten 2008a). The average energy label of appliances sold in EU-15 countries is still label B in 2008. If only A++ appliances were sold, energy consumption would be 60% less. The average lifetime of a cold appliance is 15 years, meaning that 15 years from the introduction of only A++ labelled appliances, 60% less energy would be used in EU-15 countries (EuroTopten 2008a).

European Commission (2005) estimates a savings potential for cold appliances of 3.5% per year for the period 2003–2010. We use this energy efficiency improvement rate for the period 2010–2050. This means that for EU-15 the average cold appliance would use 72 kWh per year in 2050.

Other appliances WBCSD (2005) estimates a savings potential for other electric appliances of 70% in 2050. We use this potential in the scenario (equivalent to 3.0% per year improvement in the period 2010–2050). Main energy consuming appliances are computers, servers and set-top boxes. For example: the average desktop computer uses about 120 W (the monitor 75 W and the central process-

Table 8 Average luminous efficacy of residential lamps

Region	Luminous efficacy (lm/W)	Technical potential for energy efficiency improvement in 2050 ^a	% energy efficiency improvement per year
OECD Europe	40	60%	2.3%
OECD Pacific (based on Japan)	65	35%	1.1%
OECD North America	30	70%	3.0%
Transition economies (TE)	20	80%	3.9%
China	50	50%	1.7%
Other regions (India, Rest of developing Asia, Latin America, Africa, Middle East)	20 ^b	80%	3.9%
Global	40	60%	2.4%

^a The technical potential refers to the degree to which the luminous efficacy in lm/W can be improved if the average luminous efficacy is improved to 100 lm/W

^b For other developing regions no information is available. We assume the same luminous efficacy as for transition economies

ing unit 45 W). Best practice monitors in 2008 (EuroTopen 2008b) used only 18 W (15 in.), which is 76% less than average. In 2010, TFT-LED monitors are available that use 12.5 W (18 in; Philips 2010).

Air conditioning For air conditioning, we assume a savings potential of 70% in 2050, based on WBCSD (2005). The potential takes into account that a share of conventional air conditioners is replaced by solar cooling and geothermal cooling and that the remaining units use refrigerant Ikon B. Tests with the refrigerant Ikon B show possible energy consumption reductions of 20–25% compared to regularly used refrigerants (US DOE EERE 2008). Solar cooling is the use of solar thermal energy or solar electricity to power a cooling appliance. To drive the pumps, only 0.05 kW of electricity is needed (instead of 0.35 kW for regular air conditioning; Austrian Energy Agency 2006); this results in a savings potential of 85%. Besides efficient air conditioning equipment, it is as important to reduce the need for air conditioning. Important ways to reduce cooling demand are: insulation to prevent heat from entering the building, reduce the amount of inefficient appliances present in the house (such as incandescent lamps, old refrigerators, etc.) that give off unusable heat, use cool exterior finishes

(such as cool roof technology (US EPA 2007) or light-coloured paint on the walls) to reduce the peak cooling demand (as much as 10–15% according to ACEEE (2007)), improve windows and use vegetation to reduce the amount of heat that comes into the house and use ventilation instead of air conditioning units.

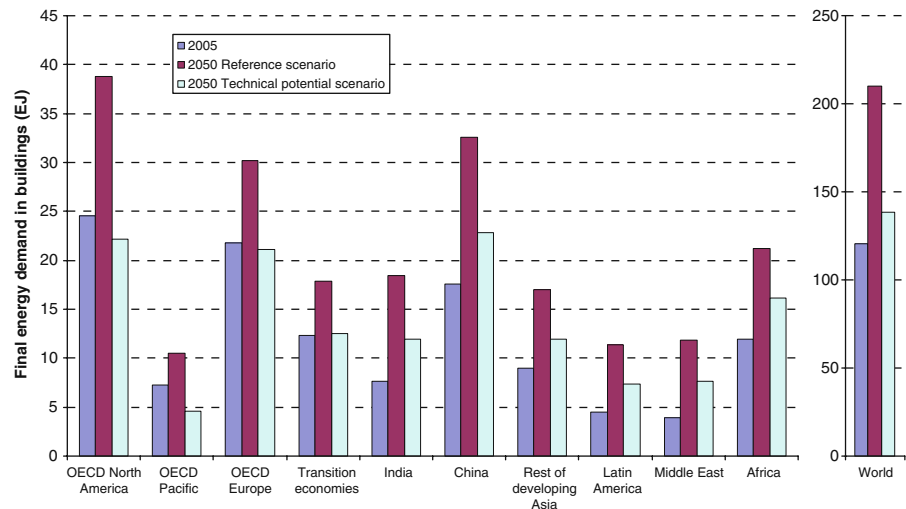
Summary Table 9 shows energy efficiency improvement for buildings by region. The potential for electricity demand reduction is estimated to be 3% per year and thereby, higher than the potential for fuel and heat demand, which is 1.5–2% per year. The reason for this can be found in the longer life time of buildings (typically more than 50 years), in comparison to the lifetime for electric appliances (typically 5–15 years).

The overall technical potential for energy demand reduction in buildings is estimated to be 2.2% per year, globally. Since we assume that 1% energy efficiency improvement occurs in the baseline, based on historical development of energy efficiency improvement (Blok (2005) and Odyssee (2005)), this means that ~1.1% per year energy efficiency improvement can be achieved in addition to the baseline. Figure 7 shows the resulting development of energy demand in buildings in the technical potential scenario.

Table 9 Technical energy efficiency potential for different types of energy uses within the buildings sector (% per year period 2010–2050)

	Fuel and heat consumption	Electricity consumption (%/year)						Total potential (%/year)
	Space heating and others	Standby	Lighting	Appliances	Cold appliances	Air conditioning	Other/average	
OECD Europe	2.3%	4.2%	2.3%	3.0%	3.5%	3%	3.1%	2.6%
OECD North America	1.8%		3.0%				3.2%	2.5%
OECD Pacific	0.9%		1.0%				2.8%	2.0%
Transition economies	1.6%		3.9%				3.4%	2.0%
China	1.4%		1.7%				3.0%	2.0%
India	1.4%		3.9%				3.4%	2.2%
Rest developing Asia	1.4%							2.0%
Middle East	1.4%							2.2%
Latin America	1.4%							2.2%
Africa	1.4%							1.8%
World	1.7%	4.2%	2.4%	3%	3.5%	3%	3.1%	2.2%

Fig. 7 Energy demand in buildings in reference scenario and technical potential scenario (EJ)



Transformation sector

Since power generation accounts for the largest share of losses in the transformation sector (70% in 2005), we look at transformation losses in power generation in detail. For the remaining losses, we assume the same technical potential for energy efficiency improvement as in industries. It mainly involves oil refining 9%, oil/gas extraction and coal mining 6%, distribution losses 6% and iron and steel (blast furnaces and coke ovens) 6%.

Figure 8 shows the fuel mix for power generation by region, based on electricity output in 2005 and 2050. In 2005, 40% of global power generation is generated by coal, 7% by oil and 20% by natural gas. Nuclear power and hydropower correspond to 15% and 16% of power generation in 2005, respectively. By 2050, the fuel mix in the reference scenario is not expected to have changed much. By then, 70% of power is expected to be generated from fossil fuels, 9% by nuclear power and 21% by renewable energy sources. The fuel mix in 2050 is based on the development of the fuel mix in the World Energy Outlook in the period 2005–2030. For the technical potential scenario, we assume that the fuel mix for power generation in 2050 is the same as in the reference scenario (see also the “Discussion of uncertainties” section).

We focus primarily on the technical potential for improving the energy efficiency of fossil-fired power generation because 75% of losses in power generation

occur in fossil-fired power generation and because it is of most concern for causing climate change and pollution.

The efficiency of fossil-fired power generation is calculated by the following formula: $E = \frac{P}{I}$

Where: E = energy efficiency of power generation, P = power production in region (based on gross output, including auxiliary electricity consumption) and I = total fuel input for power generation in region (in lower heating value)

Currently, the global average conversion efficiency for fossil-fired power generation is 32% for coal, 34% for gas and 34% for oil in 2005 (IEA 2007a, b, c). The current best practice energy efficiency⁶ corresponds to 60% for gas-fired power generation, 50% for oil-fired power generation and 47% for coal-fired power generation (European Commission (2006a, b), Hendriks et al. (2004), VGB Powertech (2004), Graus and Worrell, 2009). Currently, a demonstration coal plant is being constructed in Europe with a steam temperature of 700°C. The energy efficiency of this plant is expected to be in the range of 52% to 55%. Commercial availability of the technology is expected after 2020 (Tech-wise A/S, 2003a).

We assume that the lifetime of a fossil power plant is 30–40 years, based on the lifetime of retired plants in the World Electric Power Plants Database (Platts, 2008). This means that by 2050 most power plants in

⁶ Net design energy efficiency, auxiliary power consumption is excluded.

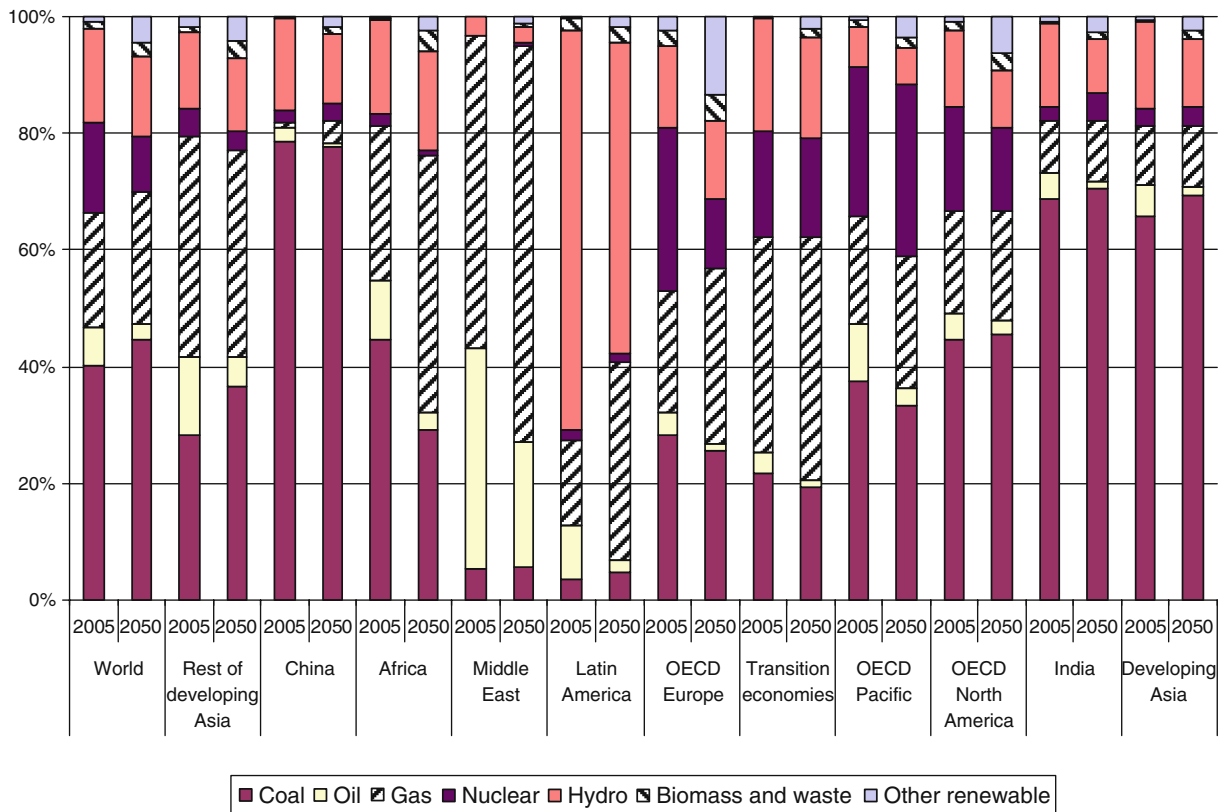


Fig. 8 Fuel mix for power generation based on electricity output (TWh)

operation today will have been replaced. We assume that by 2050 the energy efficiency of power plants can be 50%⁷ for coal-fired plants, 50% for oil-fired plants and 60% for natural gas-fired plants. This corresponds to an average efficiency for fossil-fired power generation of 53% in 2050, based on 64% coal-fired power generation, 33% gas-fired power generation and 4% oil-fired power generation, corresponding to the fossil fuel mix in the reference scenario in 2050. This is an improvement potential of 38% in the period 2010–2050 and corresponds to 1.2% energy efficiency improvement per year.

The energy efficiency improvement potential differs per region and depends on the fuel mix for fossil-fired power generation and the current energy efficiency. In most regions, coal and gas are the predominant source for fossil power generation. In the Middle East also, oil is used to a large extent of power generation (40% in 2005).

⁷ Assuming best practice for coal-fired power plants increases quite strongly in the next decade to 52–55%.

Table 10 shows the average energy efficiency for fossil-fired power generation in 2005 and in 2050 based on realizing the technical potential. Also the energy efficiency improvement potential as percentage per year is shown.

For power generation by renewable sources and nuclear power, we assume an energy efficiency improvement potential of 0.35% per year, which corresponds to an improvement of 13% in the period 2010–2050. This is based on the potential for nuclear and hydro power generation, which produce the largest share of non-fossil power generation in the reference scenario. Existing older nuclear power plants have typical efficiencies of 33%, whereas new nuclear power plants can reach efficiencies of 39% (Kloosterman 2006). This is an energy efficiency improvement of 15%. We, theoretically, assume that all nuclear power plants in operation in 2005 will be replaced by 2050 by more efficient ones. The output of existing hydro power plants can be increased through retrofitting. Improvements in technology, design and used materials can result in increased

Table 10 Average energy efficiency fossil-fired power generation in 2005 and 2050 and improvement potential per year

	2005	2050	Energy efficiency improvement (%/year) 2010–2050
OECD Pacific	41%	53%	0.6%
OECD Europe	39%	53%	0.8%
OECD North America	38%	52%	0.8%
Rest of developing Asia	38%	54%	0.9%
Africa	36%	53%	1.0%
Latin America	36%	55%	1.1%
Middle East	32%	56%	1.4%
China	28%	50%	1.4%
India	28%	51%	1.5%
Transition economies	19%	56%	2.7%
World	33%	53%	1.2%

efficiency and output, reduced losses, greater reliability and an extended service life. Alstrom (2002) reports an average increase of 12% in the output of large hydropower plants resulting from refurbishment in the USA. Based on these values, we come to an average efficiency improvement of 13% for non-fossil power generation in the period 2010–2050.

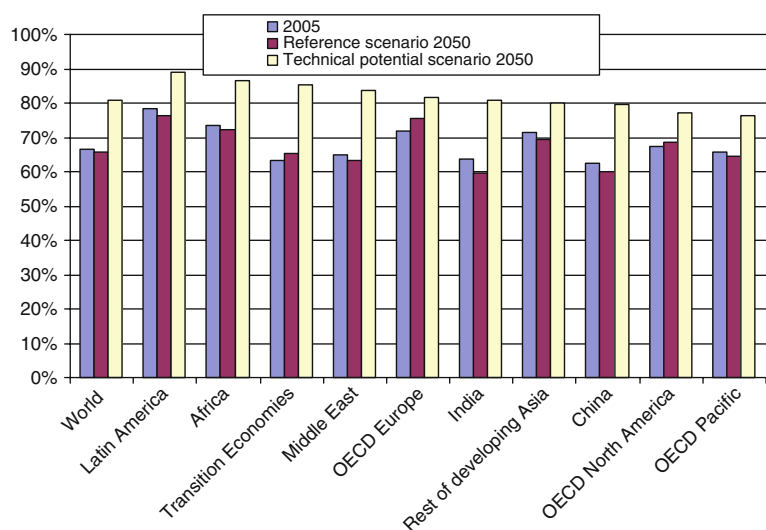
Summary Figure 9 shows the conversion efficiency for the transformation sector in 2005 and in 2050 per region, which in 2005 equals 68% globally and in 2050 81% (assuming the same fuel mix as in reference scenario).

Note that the energy efficiency improvement of power generation technologies will lead to a slight

shift in the fuel input mix for power generation. The share of energy input in nuclear and hydro power plants increases somewhat in 2050 (from 12% to 15% and from 6% to 7%, respectively). The share of energy input in natural gas plants decreases somewhat (from 24% to 21%), due to a higher energy efficiency improvement in gas-fired power plants than in nuclear and hydro plants.

Results

Based on the assumptions regarding technical potentials as described in the ‘Approach and data sources’ section, a technical potential scenario is calculated. In

Fig. 9 Conversion efficiency of transformation sector (ratio: final energy demand/primary energy demand)

this scenario, final energy demand in 2050 is 44% below the level in the reference scenario; 317 EJ instead of 571 EJ and 8% above energy demand in 2005, which was 293 EJ. Primary energy supply is equal to 393 EJ in 2050, which is 10% below energy supply in 2005, which was 439 EJ and 55% lower than energy supply in the reference scenario in 2050, which was 867 EJ.

Table 11 gives the increase or decrease of global energy demand in 2050 in comparison to 2005 per sector. Tables 16 and 17 in the Appendix give a breakdown of energy demand and supply by sector and region. Note that non-energy use (e.g. feedstocks in petrochemical industry) is excluded. The energy savings potential for the transformation sector is based on a theoretical approach, where the fuel mix for energy supply is assumed to be the same as in the reference scenario (see also the “Discussion of uncertainties” section).

Energy efficiency improvement in the transformation sector contributes to 19% of the total savings in primary energy supply in 2050, in comparison to reference primary energy supply. This shows that energy efficiency improvement in energy supply can play a significant role in global energy efficiency improvement. However, energy demand reduction should be a first priority since the energy demand sectors contribute to 81% of the total potential, first by direct energy demand reduction (54%) and second by indirect energy savings due to reduced energy losses in the transformation sector (28%).

The absolute savings by energy efficiency in the transformation sector depend on the level of energy demand. In this study, first energy savings for energy demand sectors are taken into account and then savings in the transformation sector. However, if no savings are made in energy demand, the absolute savings in the transformation sector would be 80% higher and correspond to 159 EJ instead of 88 EJ.

Figure 10 shows the level of primary energy supply per region in 2005 and in 2050, for the reference scenario and the technical potential scenario. For the OECD countries and the region transition economies, the primary energy supply in 2050 is lower in the technical potential scenario than in 2005, whereas for the developing regions the primary energy supply in 2050 is higher than in 2005.

Figure 11 shows the final energy demand and primary energy supply in the period 2005–2050 in the

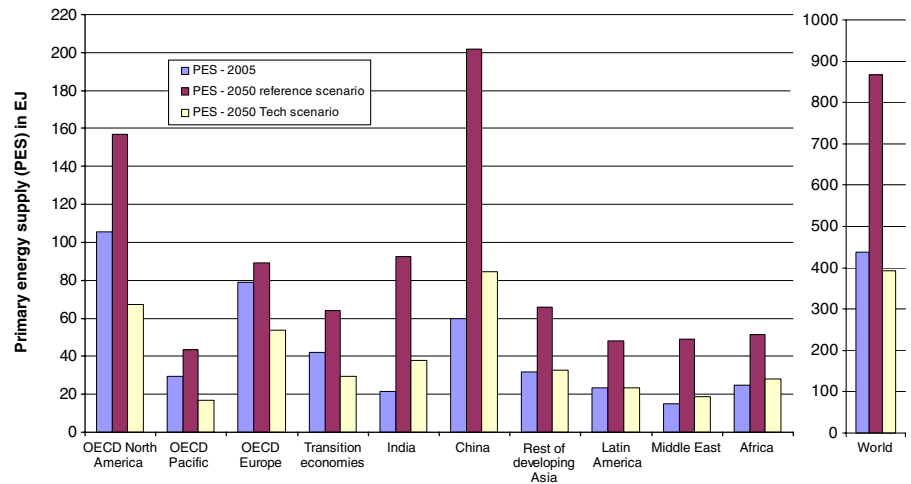
Table 11 Energy demand and supply in 2005 and 2050

Sector	Reference scenario		Technical potential scenario		Savings 2050 in comparison to reference 2050 (EJ)	Savings as share in primary energy savings (%)	Growth energy use in 2005/2050	Reduction in 2050 in comparison to reference 2050
	2005 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)				
Industry	88	178	103	75	75	16%	+17%	42%
Transport	84	183	75	108	108	23%	-11%	59%
Buildings and Agriculture	121	210	139	71	71	15%	+15%	34%
Total final energy demand	293	571	317	254	254	54%	+8%	44%
Energy losses in transformation/distribution	146	296	76 ^a	220	220	46%	-48%	75% ^b
-Savings due to reduced demand				132	132	28%		
-Savings due to efficiency improvement transformation sector				88	88	19%		
Total primary energy supply	439	867	393	474	474	100%	-10%	55%

^a Results from energy efficiency improvement in demand side as well as supply side

^b 45% excluding demand side energy efficiency improvement

Fig. 10 Primary energy supply (PES) per region in reference scenario and technical potential scenario for 2005 and 2050



reference scenario and in the technical potential scenario.

Comparison to other studies The potential for reducing primary energy supply by implementing technical measures for energy efficiency improvement was calculated here to be 55% in comparison to the reference scenario, leading to a total primary energy supply of 393 EJ in 2050. As a comparison, most scenario assessment studies aimed at keeping global temperature increase below 2°C (based on models as GET, IMAGE, IMCP and MESSAGE) have primary energy supply levels of 400–600 EJ/year in 2050 (Hoogwijk and Hoehne 2005). Based on this analysis, these primary energy supply levels are technically feasible. A higher global temperature increase than 2°C, in comparison to pre-industrial level, is expected

to have adverse effects (see, e.g. IPCC (2007) and Meinshausen et al. (2009)).

Table 12 gives a summary of energy demand and GDP growth in comparison to the Greenpeace/EREC Energy [R]evolution scenario (Krewitt et al. 2009), the IEA BLUE Map scenario (IEA 2008a, b, c) and the EC WETO CC scenario (European Commission 2006b). Note that the energy demand projections in the Greenpeace/EREC Energy [r]evolution are partly based on the technical potentials as calculated in this paper. In the Energy [r]evolution study, it is assumed that a certain percentage of the technical potentials are implemented.

The IEA ETP BLUE MAP scenario (IEA 2008a, b, c) gives a potential of 33% of final energy demand that can be reduced in 2050 in comparison to baseline energy demand in 2050, by implementing new far-reaching

Fig. 11 Global energy demand and supply in reference scenario and technical potential scenario

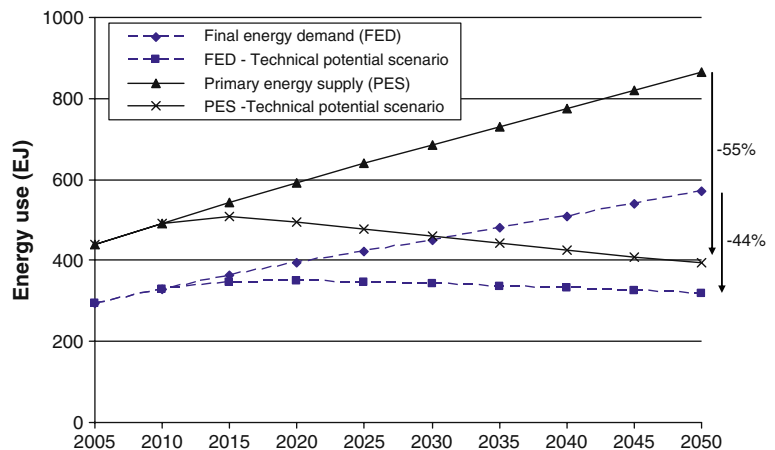


Table 12 Energy demand in scenarios up to 2050 (excluding non-energy use)

	Reference scenario 2050	Technical potential scenario	Greenpeace/EREC (2008) Energy [R]evolution	IEA BLUE Map (2008)	EC WETO CCC
Final energy demand in 2050 (EJ)	571	317	350	431	498
GDP growth in period 2005–2050 (%)	440%	440%	440%	430%	320%
Energy-intensity decrease (final energy demand/GDP) in period 2005–2050 (%/year)	1.8	3.1	2.9	2.5	1.5
–Energy efficiency improvement (%/year) ^a	1.0	2.3	2.1	1.7	
–Structural change (%/year)	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	
Primary energy supply in 2050 (EJ)	867	393	481	~670	813
Conversion efficiency (ratio final energy demand/primary energy supply)	66%	81%	73%	64%	61%

^a Energy efficiency refers to a decrease in energy use per unit of activity (passenger-km, tonne product)

energy policies. This would correspond to an implementation of 75% of the technical potential as calculated here.

The difference in primary energy supply of the different scenarios is partly a result from the difference in conversion efficiency. The technical potential scenario and the Greenpeace/EREC scenario include a sharp reduction of losses in energy conversion and supply, while the IEA Blue Map and the EC WETO CCC scenario show a small decrease in conversion efficiency.

Discussion of uncertainties

The savings percentages are based on a number of different literature sources, ranging from sources that describe technological improvements in physical units (e.g. GJ/v-km) to relative improvements in a certain time period. The savings potentials in the latter are based on assumptions regarding stock turnover that may not be compatible to the reference scenario used here. Also in some cases, studies are used that give a potential for a certain region that may not be applicable to another region. This leads to uncertainty in the results inherent to a study with a time horizon of 40 years. The study therefore merely aims to show the potentially important role energy efficiency can play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Table 13 shows the main data concerns in this study by sector.

Other measures beside technical measures The calculations are based on technical measures, which are either already available or are expected to become available in the next decades. There is an additional potential to reduce energy demand by behavioural or organizational changes, such as a modal shift in transport from car to rail or different temperature/comfort setting in space heating, which is outside the scope of this study.

Carbon capture and storage The calculations for the supply side do not take into account the implementation of carbon capture and storage. The use of carbon capture and storage (CCS) at a power plant reduces the electric efficiency by 11–25% (Hendriks et al., 2004). Fuel input in fossil-fired power plants accounts for 15% of primary energy use in 2050, in the technical potential scenario. If fuel input increases by 11–25%, due to the capture of CO₂, global primary energy use in 2050 would increase by a maximum of 1.7–3.8%. In this case, all fossil power plants would be equipped with CCS.

Energy efficiency improvement for fossil power plants would decrease due to the application of CCS from 1.2% per year to 0.8% per year, in the technical potential scenario. In spite of the implementation of CCS, there is still energy efficiency improvement in fossil power plants because new best practice power plants have a significantly higher efficiency than current global averages. The situation per country however may be different. A country with already a high average fossil

Table 13 Areas for data improvement by sector

Sector	Areas for data improvement
Industry	Global estimates were used to calculate energy efficiency potentials for industry, because limited regional specific data were available for this study. This could be improved by looking at national statistics and potential studies.
Transport	Detailed data regarding energy use in transport by region was available in IEA/SMP (2004). This source is however quite old and data might have changed in the meantime so more recent sources would be preferred.
Buildings and others	In general there is a high uncertainty in data regarding energy use in buildings due to sector divergence. More specifically, there was a lack of data for non-OECD countries regarding specific energy consumption of dwellings. Furthermore, for all regions the potential for services sector was assumed to be the same as for dwellings due to lack of data.
Transformation sector	For coal transformation and oil refineries the same energy efficiency potentials are assumed as for industries. These estimates could be improved by using specific data for these sub sectors. For power generation, the main focus was on fossil power generation. For renewable and nuclear power generation technologies few data on energy efficiency improvement was available. These estimates could therefore be improved.

efficiency might decrease due to large scale CCS implementation.

If CCS is applied to all fossil power generation in the reference scenario, the conversion efficiency for the transformation sector would change from 81% to 79% in 2050.

Rebound effect The rebound effect (see, e.g. Wei (2010) and Sorrel and Dimitropoulos (2008)) is not taken into account in this study. The savings achieved by implementing technical measures could be offset by higher use of energy services, e.g. if costs of using a certain energy service are reduced the demand for it could increase. The size of the effect is uncertain. Since the energy efficiency improvement here does not only involve cost-effective measures but also non-cost-effective measures, it is not expected that the rebound effect would play a large role. Moreover, policy design can reduce the impact of the rebound effect.

Fuel mix energy supply The fuel mix of energy supply in the technical potential scenario is assumed to be the same as the fuel mix in the reference scenario. The energy savings in the technical potential scenario however can have an impact on the fuel mix used in the energy supply sector, e.g. due to higher savings in electric appliances than in heating of buildings. Furthermore, one would expect that in a case where strong energy efficiency improvement is encouraged, fuel mix changes from fossil fuels to other energy sources would also be stimulated. It was

outside the scope of this study to look at fuel switches in the energy supply sector. A change in fuel mix could however influence energy efficiency of the transformation sector. An increase in the use of renewable energy sources would have a downward effect on primary energy supply because in IEA statistics the conversion efficiency from primary to final energy is 100% for wind, water and photovoltaics. Note that this is not the case for biomass, which has an energy efficiency below 100%.

For transport, similarly, no changes in fuel mix are assumed. Some studies suggest however that changing to electric vehicles poses another energy efficiency improvement option. ECN (2009) estimates that electric cars can be 40% more efficient than gasoline or diesel cars. These savings are however counterbalanced by increased conversion losses in power generation. The potential for reducing primary energy supply by electrification of transport is therefore not expected to be large, unless renewable energy is used for power generation.

Recent trends This study was based on the IEA WEO 2007 edition. In the meantime, the 2009 edition is available (IEA, 2009). The 2009 edition has a lower global final energy demand in 2030 in comparison to the 2007 edition; 438 PJ in comparison to 478 PJ (including non-energy use). The difference is mainly caused by lower GDP growth rates due to the recent financial and economic crisis, leading to a 14% lower global GDP in 2030 in comparison to the 2007 edition. This lower GDP level in 2030 would have an

effect on the energy use and related potentials in 2050. If we use the lower GDP growth rates for the period 2005–2030, primary energy supply in 2050 would be 794 EJ in the reference scenario in comparison to 867 EJ in the presented analysis. In the technical potential scenario, primary energy supply would then reduce from 393 EJ to 358 EJ in 2050, assuming the same energy efficiency improvement potential of 55%. Primary energy supply in 2050 would then be 19% below primary energy supply in 2005.

Stock turnover We assume that industrial sites that are currently in operation will have been replaced by 2050 by new more efficient ones, taking into account a typical lifetime of industrial sites of 30–40 years. However, there is a trend of extending lifetime of industrial plants by retrofitting parts of the site and thereby increase its use to more than 40–50 years. In terms of energy efficiency improvement, this development is disadvantageous because the energy efficiency gain than can be reached by constructing a new site, where the design specifications are not limited by existing plant layout, is much higher than the energy efficiency gain that can be reached by retrofitting (part of) an existing site (Worrell and Biermans 2003). The potentials as calculated here can therefore only be achieved when the trend to extend lifetimes of industrial sites is discouraged.

Energy efficiency improvement in reference scenario It is assumed that autonomous energy efficiency improvement in the reference scenario is equal to 1% per year for industry and buildings, based on historical developments (see “Reference scenario” section). The precise underlying assumptions in the World Energy Outlook are however unknown. For transport, the energy efficiency improvement is based on the IEA/SMP transport model, where energy efficiency improvement is equal to 0.5% per year as global average. If we assume that this also applies to the buildings and industry sectors, global final energy demand would reduce to 268 EJ in 2050 (53% reduction in comparison to baseline) and primary energy supply would decrease to 332 EJ in 2050 (62% reduction in comparison to baseline in 2050 and 24% reduction in comparison to 2005 level).

Combined heat and power generation The potential for energy efficiency improvement in the transformation sector is based on the fuel mix of the reference scenario. The option of increased use of combined heat and power generation to improve efficiency is not taken into account in this study. There may therefore be an additional potential for energy efficiency improvement by increasing the use of combined heat and power generation. Combined heat and power generation can increase the conversion efficiency in the transformation sector and can thereby reduce primary energy supply further. The contribution of combined heat and power generation (CHP) in energy supply depends on a number of factors such as remaining heat demand in end use sectors (industry and buildings) and the capacity of installed thermal power plants in 2050. IEA (2008b) estimates that the use of CHP can increase from 11% of electricity generation in 2005 to 24% of electricity generation in 2030. This is a growth of 3.2% per year. If we assume that this growth rate is feasible until 2050, CHP plants would generate 45% of power generation in 2050. As a comparison, CHP plants in Denmark produce currently 52% of power generation (IEA 2008c). A share of 45% in power generation would mean that 20% of heat demand in industry and buildings is fulfilled by CHP plants in 2050, assuming 40% power efficiency and 50% heat efficiency for CHP plants in 2050. Primary energy supply could then be further reduced by 7% in the technical potential scenario to 365 PJ.

Conclusions

Since greenhouse gas emissions from energy use account for around 75% of global greenhouse gas emissions, reducing energy use and greenhouse gas intensity of energy use is one of the most important targets of policies aimed at stabilizing greenhouse gas emissions. This study shows that energy efficiency improvement by implementing technical measures can play a large role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from energy use. Under business as usual conditions, global energy supply is expected to nearly double by 2050 compared to 2005. Technical energy efficiency measures can reduce energy supply by 2050 to 393 EJ, which is 55% below the reference level in 2050 (867 EJ) and 10% below the 2005 level

(432 EJ). This makes energy efficiency improvement a key part in any greenhouse gas abatement strategy, to be complemented by a decrease in greenhouse gas intensity of energy supply, by more renewable energy use or CCS. Reducing energy use, and more specifically reducing fossil fuel use, has a number of side benefits such as an increase in security of energy supply and a reduction of environmental concerns of fossil fuel use such as air pollution.

The largest share of the savings potential is found in the energy demand sectors. Energy efficiency improvement of energy demand leads to direct energy savings in the sector itself and to indirect energy savings by reduced transmission and distribution losses, together taking up 81% of estimated savings. Energy savings by improved energy efficiency in the transmission and distribution sectors are responsible for the remaining share of 19% savings.

Non-OECD countries show the largest growth of primary energy supply in the reference scenario ranging from a growth of 51% for transition economies to 190% for China and 330% for India, for the period 2005–2050. OECD countries show a lower

growth of 26% for OECD Pacific, 33% for OECD Europe and 48% for OECD North America. In most non-OECD countries (except transition economies and Latin America), the energy efficiency improvement in the technical potential scenario is not sufficient to compensate for the growth in energy supply in the reference scenario. This means that even in the technical potential scenario primary energy supply in 2050 would grow by 13% in Africa, 23% in Middle East, 42% in China and 77% in India. In OECD countries on the other hand, energy supply would decrease by 43% for OECD Pacific, 32% for OECD Europe and 36% for OECD North America.

Acknowledgement This paper is based on different scenario studies for Greenpeace/EREC and UBA in cooperation with DLR. The views expressed in this paper do not necessarily reflect their views. A part of this paper was presented at the IAEE European Conference on 9 September 2009.

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Appendix

Table 14 Passenger and freight transport in passenger-km (p-km) and in tonne-km (t-km) in 2005 (IEA/SMP 2004)

2005	p-km							t-km			
	LDV	Two wheels	Three wheels	Buses	Minibuses	Pass rail	Air	Medium trucks	Heavy trucks	Freight Rail	National Marine
OECD North America	6.9E+12	3.3E+10	0.0E+00	5.56E+11	4.1E+10	5.05E+10	1.5E+12	2.8E+11	2.9E+12	2.7E+12	2.8E+11
OECD Europe	4.3E+12	2.3E+11	0.0E+00	9.05E+11	6.6E+10	3.27E+11	1.0E+12	2.0E+11	2.0E+12	2.7E+11	2.7E+11
OECD Pacific	1.5E+12	1.5E+11	0.0E+00	6.85E+11	8.6E+10	2.56E+11	3.7E+11	1.3E+11	3.1E+11	1.6E+11	1.3E+12
Transition economies	1.1E+12	1.1E+11	0.0E+00	3.83E+11	1.9E+11	3.47E+11	1.4E+11	6.0E+10	2.7E+11	1.9E+12	5.0E+10
China	4.3E+11	5.1E+11	1.5E+11	5.61E+11	6.6E+11	5.41E+11	2.0E+11	7.3E+10	2.2E+11	1.6E+12	2.5E+11
Rest of developing Asia	4.2E+11	6.8E+11	1.4E+11	1.05E+12	7.9E+11	9.90E+10	2.5E+11	1.2E+11	6.8E+11	3.4E+10	1.2E+11
India	2.0E+11	4.2E+11	1.1E+11	6.36E+11	4.8E+11	5.03E+11	6.6E+10	4.7E+10	2.7E+11	3.6E+11	2.6E+10
Middle East	1.9E+11	5.1E+10	0.0E+00	2.55E+11	1.9E+11	9.03E+10	1.2E+11	1.7E+11	4.1E+11	3.3E+10	0.0E+00
Latin America	8.6E+11	8.8E+10	0.0E+00	3.82E+11	2.9E+11	1.42E+10	2.7E+11	1.8E+11	7.1E+11	1.3E+11	7.6E+10
Africa	3.4E+11	7.1E+10	0.0E+00	4.33E+11	5.1E+11	1.98E+10	9.8E+10	3.8E+10	1.5E+11	1.3E+11	1.4E+10
World Average (stock-weighted)	1.6E+13	2.3E+12	4.1E+11	5.84E+12	3.3E+12	2.25E+12		1.3E+12	7.9E+12	7.3E+12	2.4E+12

Table 15 Passenger and freight transport in passenger-km (p-km) and in tonne-km (t-km) in 2050 (IEA/SMP 2004)

2050	p-km							t-km			
	LDV	Two wheels	Three wheels	Buses	Minibuses	Pass rail	Air	Medium trucks	Heavy trucks	Freight Rail	National Marine
OECD North America	9.7E+12	5.3E+10	0.0E+00	5.56E+11	4.1E+10	7.26E+10	4.7E+12	6.2E+11	6.3E+12	5.1E+12	5.9E+11
OECD Europe	4.7E+12	2.5E+11	0.0E+00	9.04E+11	6.6E+10	5.43E+11	2.9E+12	3.7E+11	3.8E+12	4.5E+11	5.2E+11
OECD Pacific	1.7E+12	1.7E+11	0.0E+00	6.84E+11	8.5E+10	4.62E+11	1.0E+12	2.9E+11	6.9E+11	2.8E+11	2.8E+12
Transition economies	3.0E+12	2.2E+11	0.0E+00	3.64E+11	2.0E+11	7.46E+11	1.0E+12	2.3E+11	1.1E+12	4.7E+12	1.6E+11
China	5.3E+12	1.4E+12	1.4E+11	5.34E+11	6.9E+11	1.91E+12	1.6E+12	4.7E+11	1.4E+12	6.1E+12	1.0E+12
Rest of developing Asia	3.0E+12	1.6E+12	1.3E+11	9.98E+11	8.2E+11	2.80E+11	1.6E+12	6.0E+11	3.4E+12	8.0E+10	4.1E+11
India	2.1E+12	1.4E+12	9.8E+10	6.06E+11	5.0E+11	1.62E+12	5.8E+11	3.1E+11	1.8E+12	1.4E+12	1.1E+11
Middle East	7.7E+11	1.3E+11	0.0E+00	2.42E+11	2.0E+11	2.40E+11	5.0E+11	5.0E+11	1.2E+12	7.5E+10	0.0E+00
Latin America	3.8E+12	2.9E+11	0.0E+00	3.63E+11	3.0E+11	2.09E+10	2.2E+12	6.5E+11	2.6E+12	2.4E+11	2.3E+11
Africa	1.8E+12	3.9E+11	0.0E+00	4.12E+11	5.3E+11	5.39E+10	7.0E+11	1.7E+11	6.9E+11	3.8E+11	4.8E+10
World Average (stock-weighted)	3.6E+13	5.9E+12	3.7E+11	5.66E+12	3.4E+12	5.95E+12	1.7E+13	4.2E+12	2.3E+13	1.9E+13	5.9E+12

Table 16 Final energy demand and primary energy supply by region in 2005 and 2050

	Final energy demand (FED)			Primary energy supply (PES)		
	Reference scenario		Technical potential scenario	Reference scenario		Technical potential scenario
	2005 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)	2005 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)
World	293	571	316	439	867	392
OECD North America	71	107	52	106	157	67
OECD Pacific	21	28	14	29	37	17
OECD Europe	52	68	41	79	105	53
Transition economies	27	42	25	42	64	29
India	13	55	30	21	92	38
China	43	121	68	60	174	85
Rest of developing Asia	20	46	27	32	77	33
Latin America	15	37	20	23	58	24
Middle East	12	31	17	15	40	19
Africa	18	37	24	25	51	28

Table 17 Final energy demand by sector and region in 2005 and 2050

	Industry			Transport			Buildings and others		
	Reference scenario	Technical potential scenario		Reference scenario	Technical potential scenario		Reference scenario	Technical potential scenario	
	2005 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)	2005 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)	2005 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)	2050 (EJ)
World	88	178	103	84	183	75	121	210	138
OECD North America	16	21	13	31	47	17	25	39	22
OECD Pacific	7	9	6	7	9	3	7	11	5
OECD Europe	14	17	11	16	20	9	22	30	21
Transition economies	9	14	9	6	10	4	12	18	13
India	4	20	11	2	16	7	8	18	12
China	20	52	29	5	36	16	18	33	23
Rest of developing Asia	6	14	8	5	15	7	9	17	12
Latin America	6	13	8	5	12	5	4	11	7
Middle East	4	11	6	4	8	3	4	12	8
Africa	3	6	4	3	10	4	12	21	16

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