GLOBAL SOLAR COUNCIL
The Global Solar Council (GSC) was established by leading regional and national solar associations. It will unify the entire solar power sector at an international level, share best practices, and work collaboratively to accelerate solar electricity deployment worldwide.

**SOLAR TESTIMONIALS OF POLICY LEADERS**

**UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon**

“We need to bring sustainable energy to every corner of the globe with technologies like solar energy mini-grids, solar powered lights, and wind turbines.”

**President of USA, Barack Obama**

“For decades, we’ve been told that it doesn’t make economic sense to switch to renewable energy. Today, that’s no longer true. In fact, the solar industry now employs twice as many Americans as mining coal.”

**President of France, François Hollande**

“Countries who have the most sun represent only a small part of the global production of solar power...How can we reduce energy inequality? By technology and by financing.”

**Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi**

“Our goal is to make solar energy an integral part of our life and reach it to the most unconnected villages and communities.”
SOLAR ALREADY COST-EFFECTIVE TODAY

Today solar is one of the cheapest forms of electricity globally. The levelized cost of solar electricity (LCOE) is 80% lower than it was during COP-15 in Copenhagen in 2009. In fact, every solar market segment has reduced prices faster than any other generation source in history:

**Solar Cost Reduction Development Over Time Compared to Other Power Sources**

**The Levelised Cost of Electricity from Renewable, Fossil and Nuclear Technologies (2014)**

**Solar is already the least cost option in many regions, and prices will continue to decline rapidly.** Utility-scale PV system costs will halve by 2040 to only $0.69 per watt ($2014), according to Bloomberg New Energy Finance.

**Recent Notable Long-Term Fixed Price Solar Contracts**

- Brazil: $0.08 / kWh
- Dubai: $0.058 / kWh
- Germany: $0.09 / kWh
- India: $0.07 / kWh
- United States: $0.038 / kWh

**India LCOE for Large-Scale PV Versus Fossil Fuels**

($/ MWh, nominal, capacity factors are 16 to 21%)

**Source:** IRENA 2015

**Source:** BNEF New Energy Outlook 2015
Solar is the most versatile and democratic form of power available because it can be used in many sizes and applications anywhere in the world. Not only does solar have more generating potential over a wider area than any other source – and can be used for smart on-grid distributed generation, it is a disruptive leapfrog technology uniquely suited to empower the 1.3 billion people who currently lack access to electricity.

Solar power also has the highest share of popular support of any electricity technology.

**MOST PEOPLE WITHOUT ACCESS TO ELECTRICITY LIVE IN AREAS WITH HIGH SOLAR RESOURCES**

*Source: NASA, IEA*

Solar is the only source of power that can be used in basically any size and uncounted applications: from large utility-scale power plants to grid-connected residential rooftop systems; from beautiful building-integrated architecture and smart digitalized houses to simple solar home systems; from large installations on commercial buildings for self consumption and backup to hybrid installations in mines to reduce diesel consumption; from solar car ports to consumer electronics.

**There is a solar system and type for anyone anywhere.**
SOLAR KEY TO MEETING CLIMATE GOALS

It is already one of the fastest growing electricity sources globally. Starting in 2022 and beyond, each year more emissions-free solar will be installed than any other energy source, including all fossil fuels combined - and this estimate stems from the moderate central scenario of BNEF.

SOLAR POWER - THE FASTEST GROWING ELECTRICITY SOURCE BY 2022

Global gross annual capacity additions by technology, 2015-2040 (GW)

![Graph showing annual capacity additions by technology from 2015 to 2040.](image)

Source: BNEF New Energy Outlook 2015

Even if implemented aggregated and globally scaled up, the government commitments (INDCs) submitted to COP-21 in Paris are not enough to keep the average global warming below 2°C. But if national governments set the right market conditions, solar - with its quickly decreasing cost and versatility - is the top candidate to help closing the gap of the INDCs.

Estimates from Bloomberg New Energy Finance see total solar power generation capacity up to 5 Terrawatt (TW) in 2040, reaching a penetration level of close to 20%.

THE POTENTIAL OF SOLAR IS HUGE - FORECASTS FOR GLOBAL INSTALLATIONS & PENETRATION

![Graph showing potential of solar installations and penetration from 2012 to 2040.](image)

Source: BNEF New Energy Outlook 2015
The principal members of the Global Solar Council are national and regional solar associations from both established and emerging markets, including China, Europe, India, other Asian countries, Middle East, Australia, South America and the United States. Founded by 17 members at COP-21, the Global Solar Council is seeking additional partners to work together to accelerate solar penetration rates and tackle climate change.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

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