



Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Goal 7 Targets:

7.1) By 2030, ensure **universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy** services.

7.2) By 2030, **increase** substantially **the share of renewable energy** in the global energy mix.

7.3) By 2030, **double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency**.

7.a) By 2030, **enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology**, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology.

7.b) By 2030, **expand infrastructure** and **upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services** for all **in developing countries**, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States, and land-locked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support.

See page 4 for further resources on goal 7 and renewable energy.

Take action toward achieving goal 7

Take action locally:

- **Congregational actions:** *Engage members of your congregation in action either through volunteering, advocacy, exercises, or wider congregational changes.*
 - **Create a carpool/rideshare program at your congregation** using [groupcarpool.com's sign-up sheets](http://groupcarpool.com) to lower your collective fuel energy use. Bring together members who live in similar areas to take turns driving one another to and from church.
 - **Hold a bike/walk to church program** during warmer months for those who are willing and able.
 - **Check out these [100 ways](#) to increase your energy efficiency** and consider implementing some in your congregation.
 - **Start a local campaign urging your local university or government to divest from fossil fuel companies as budget source.** Check [here](#) to find the closest campaign near you and collect signatures for it. Look [here](#) to learn more about the fossil fuel divestment campaign as a whole.
 - **Share the [UUA's 2014 Business Resolution to divest](#) from fossil fuel companies.**
 - **Implement some of the ideas listed in this [Renewable Congregation Campaign](#)** started by the [Emerson UU congregation](#) in Georgia in your own congregation to become a more renewable space.
- **Petitions:** *Sign the following petitions advocating for increased use of renewable energy sources in the U.S. and Canada. Collect signatures at your congregation by book a table during coffee hour.*
 - **[Urge large independent fuel retailers in the U.S. \(Costco, Walmart, Kroger, Wawa\) to install alternative, cleaner fuel](#) options at their pumps.**
 - **[Tell President Obama to prevent big oil companies from drilling](#) off the coasts of the U.S., and to invest in clean energy instead.**
 - **[Urge Governor Larry Hogan of Maryland to sign the Clean Energy Jobs Act](#)**, ensuring that 25% of the state of Maryland's energy comes from renewable sources by 2020, and to create new jobs in the state's solar industry.
 - **[Call on the government of Canada to set a renewable energy target of 100% by the year 2050.](#)**
 - **[Tell the Bureau of Land Management to stop leasing taxpayer-owned land to fossil fuel companies](#) for coal mining.**
 - **[Tell these universities in the U.S. and Canada to divest](#) from all investments in the fossil fuel industry.**
- **Films for screening:** *Host a film screening and discussion of any of the following documentaries on renewable energy in the U.S. and Canada at your congregation.*
 - **[Carbon Nation](#):** A film on sustainable replacements for carbon-based energy sources. For information on hosting a film screening, see [here](#).
 - **[Pump](#):** A documentary on the United States' dependency on oil and the monopoly that oil companies have in the US. *Currently available on Netflix for screening.*
 - **[Fuel](#):** Environmental activist Josh Tickell takes viewers on a road trip across the U.S. in a biodiesel-converted van to explore America's dependence on fossil fuels and create a call to action to work toward energy independence and cleaner air.

- **Book club reads:** *Consider forming a book club with a few members of your congregation to read and discuss any of the following books on renewable energy use in the U.S. and Canada.*
 - [**Harness the Sun: America's Quest for a Solar-Powered Future**](#) – Environmental activist Philip Warburg explores the solar revolution in the U.S., introducing readers to the leaders of the movement, the political response to it, and the concerns of conservationists and local citizen groups to the growth of solar energy.
 - [**Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution - and How It Can Renew America**](#) – New York Times Columnist Thomas Friedman argues that the best way for the U.S. to address climate change is to embrace renewable energy industries.
 - [**The Boom: How Fracking Ignited the American Energy Revolution and Changed the World**](#) – Russell Gold outlines the history of fracking and its development, shedding light upon both sides of this controversial environmental topic, calling upon both supporters and critics of fracking to consider other viewpoints.
- **NGOs working toward the cause:** *Hold a fundraiser or collection plate for any of the following NGOs working to reduce poverty in the U.S. and Canada.*
 - [**Fuel Freedom Foundation**](#): A non-partisan organization that aims to reduce the United States' dependence on fuel by opening the transportation market to more affordable sources of renewable energy.
 - [**Environmental and Energy Study Institute**](#): A U.S.-based NGO that uses environmental research to conduct advocacy work, and offers environmental policy solutions to the government.
 - [**Greenpeace \(USA and Canada\)**](#): An NGO that mobilize communities and advocate for greener environmental policy, including that regarding renewable energy in [Canada](#) and the [U.S.](#)
 - [**Fossil Free Canada**](#): A national campus-based fossil fuel divestment movement that urges universities across Canada to divest from the fossil fuel industry.

Take action internationally:

- **Petitions:** *Sign the following petitions advocating for increased use of renewable energy sources across the globe. Collect signatures at your congregation by book a table during coffee hour.*
 - [**Urge the government of Australia to protect the Great Barrier Reef from coral bleaching**](#) by transitioning from fossil fuel use to renewable energy sources.
 - [**Tell the U.S. government to end offshore drilling**](#) in the Atlantic Ocean and the Arctic.
 - [**Urge Pope Francis to divest the Vatican bank from all investments in the fossil fuel industry.**](#)
- **Films for screening:** *Host a film screening and discussion of any of the following documentaries on renewable energy across the world at your congregation.*
 - [**Powerful: Energy for Everyone**](#) – A documentary following David Chernushenko's trip through Europe seeking answers for renewable energy.
 - [**Switch**](#): A documentary on the energy transition to cleaner sources of energy and its impact across the globe. Request to host a film screening at your congregation [here](#).

- [**Catching the Sun**](#) – A documentary film on the developing clean energy movement, featuring the success stories of clean energy technologies in China and the stories of employees seeking work in the solar energy industry in the U.S. Use this [film screening guide](#) to help plan your event.
- **Book club reads:** *Consider forming a book club with a few members of your congregation to read and discuss any of the following books on renewable energy across the world.*
 - [**The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind**](#) -- William Kamkwamba shares his experience building a windmill from scrap materials to power electricity in his home in Malawi as a young boy.
 - [**The Great Transition: Shifting from Fossil Fuels to Solar and Wind Energy**](#) – Lester Brown and several contributors detail the acceleration of alternative energy development across the globe.
 - [**The Third Industrial Revolution: How Lateral Power Is Transforming Energy, the Economy, and the World**](#) Jeremy Rifkin compares the growth of internet technology and renewable energy industries to the industrial revolution, outlining the future jobs the industry could create and his vision of the coming economic era.
- **NGOs working toward the cause:** *Hold a fundraiser or collection plate for any of the following NGOs working to increase renewable energy use across the world.*
 - [**Gravity Light**](#): A lantern that generates light from batteries, designed to eliminate the use of kerosene lamps and their harmful effects. Donate to their [indiegogo campaign](#) to assist in the distribution of these lights in developing communities.
 - [**Solar Electric Light Fund \(SELF\)**](#): An NGO that provides solar panels for schools, homes, health clinics, electric pumps, and more in communities without access to electricity across the world.
 - [**LuminAID**](#): A solar-powered inflatable flashlight created for disaster response in developing communities after the 2010 Earthquake in Haiti. Make a donation by [sponsoring a light](#), or buy a light for your household or congregation with the [Give Light Get Light program](#), and one will be delivered to one of their partner NGOs in the field responding to disasters.

Further resources on goal 7 and education:

- [**Goal 7 targets and related publications**](#) on renewable energy and the development of clean energy sources.
- [**UN facts and figures**](#) on Goal 7 and the renewable energy worldwide.
- [**Global Goals images**](#) relating to Goal 7: Pass these around at your congregation to raise awareness of the seventh goal!
- [**United Nations Industrial Development Organization publications**](#) on renewable energy and climate change.