## **Solar Energy for a Sustainable Future**

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### **Optimality, Survivability and Sustainability**





#### A Framework of Sustainable Development: Integration of Time and E<sup>4</sup> (Modified by Wang, 2001)





## **Sustainability: E**<sup>4</sup>

"The Linkages between Energy Systems and Economic Development, Social Equity, and Environmental Protection indicate that a Change in present Energy System is required if Sustainable Development Pathways are to be realized." (Johansson, 2005)



Sustainable Development and Sustainable Energy System

### Sustainable Energy System is an Instrument for Sustainable Development

#### AND

### Sustainable Energy System cannot be Achievable without a Sustainable Development System



**Concerns About Conventional Fuels** 

Solution:

#### 1.) Renewable Resources or Inexhaustible Resources;

#### 2.) Energy Efficiency and Conservation (Cassedy, 2000)



### Major Challenges of the Current Electricity Sector

- Increasing Costs of Energy to produce Electricity
- Environmental Impacts (Regulatory Pressure to mitigate Carbon Emissions: Climate Change)
- Vulnerability (Thermal Power Plants: low-lying Coastal Areas)
- Generation & Transmission Inefficiency
- Aging T&D Infrastructure and Costly Grid Installation (lagging Investments)
- Needs for Dispersed Small-Scale Generation (Increasing the Resiliency and Flexibility of the System)
- Incapability to accommodate Demand for Modern Energy Services including On-Site Generation and Demand Response Program
- > Accommodation of Major New End Uses such as Plug-In Vehicles
- > Power System with continuously 'Perfect Balance'
- Unidirectional in Nature, suffering from Domino Effect Failures



## **Energy Decentralization**

Characteristics of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Energy Economy may be Decentralization

- Hydrogen may become the Main Fuel for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- As with Cellular Phones, Decentralized Energy Technologies could be less expensive Way of providing Energy
- Fuel Cells: nearly as Economical on a Small Scale as on a Large One
- Small-scale, Modular Technologies could be cheaper (Mass Production of a Model T)
- Natural Gas could form a Kind of Bridge to Hydrogen (Flavin, 1999)



### **Framework of a Spatially Integrated Electricity Resources Planning**





#### German RE Electricity Production (GWh) and Shares (%): 1990 -2012

Year	Hydro	On- Shore Wind	Off- Shore Wind	Biomass	Solar PV	Geo- thermal	Total Renewabl e	Total Electricity Generated	RE Share
1990	15,580	71		1,434	1		17,086	551,148	3.1
1995	20,747	1,500		2,013	11		24,271	539,356	4.5
2000	24,867	9,513		4,737	64		39,181	576,191	6.8
2005	19,576	27,229		14,025	1,282	0	62,112	614,972	10.1
2010	20,958	37,619	174	33,866	11,729	28	104,374	610,373	17.1
2011	17,674	48,315	568	37,603	19,340	19	123,519	602,531	20.5
2012 %	21,200 3.6	45,325 7.6	675 0.1	40,850 6.9	28,000 4.7	25	136,075 22.9	594,216	22.9

Source: Morey & Kirsch, 2014



### Average Price for PV Rooftop Systems in Germany (10kWp – 100kWp) (Fraunhofer ISE)



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## **Germany: Policy Review**

- 2000 FIT: 0.5 euro/kWh from PV; 20 years
  - New Installations after 2000: 5% decrease to stimulate R&D
- 2004 Goal: 12.5% Renewable Electricity by 2010
  - Sooner than expected: 14.2% by 2007
- 2008 Goal Adjustment
  - By 2020, Renewable Electricity from earlier Plan of 20% to 30%;
  - Lower the FIT Rate for PV; increase Rate for Wind
- 2010 further Decrease of PV FIT Rate
  - To catch up with the Decrease of Product Price and stimulate further R&D
  - 2011 New Installations were more than Twice the Forecasted (catch the last bus!)
- 2012: -15% FIT; -29% within the Next Year



#### **Residential Electricity Price Composition for a Sample of Germany and U.S. Utilities**

German Residential Electricity Price in 2013 (38.5¢ per kWh) Sample of 16 U.S. Utilities for Residential Electricity Price in 2013 (16.1¢ per kWh on the average)



Average RE + EE Surcharge for the U.S case is about 2% in contrast to about 20% in the case of Germany suggests that Germany's enthusiastic embrace of RE is adding 10 times as much to its residential rate compared to the U.S. Source: Morey & Kirsch, 2014

### Japan's Solar PV Installations (1992 – 2012)



Source: Muhammad-Sukki, et al., 2014



## New Feed-In-Tariff Scheme: Japan

- Before the New FIT (July 2012), Japan funded the Sunshine Project for the Residential Sector
- New FIT after the Fukushima Event incorporated Other Renewable Energy Sources besides Solar PV, namely Wind, Geothermal, Hydro and Biomass
- The Scheme is aimed at achieving between 20% and 35% of the Energy from the Renewables by 2030
- The Scheme is targeted at Non-Residential Segments, such as Large-Scale PV Projects, in the Commercial and Industrial Sectors



### 70 MW Solar Plant Launched in Kagoshima Prefecture (Aerial view)



Launched by KYOCERA Corporation, this 70 MW solar plant of total cost of ¥27 billion covers an area of 1,270,000m<sup>2</sup> and expected to produce 78.8GWh annually



## **Energy Transformation**

The Interplay of Technology, Policy, and Finance has always determined the Rate at which Clean Technologies advance

- The Key to our Energy Future lies in exploiting two Opposing Forces without having them undermine each other: Silicon Valley's Free-Market Culture of Innovation and Washington's Power
- Government needs to cultivate potentially Transformative Energy Ideas by creating an equivalent of the Pentagon's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)
- The Challenge is to establish European-Style Stability without constraining ourselves to anemic European Levels of Innovation.

(Green, 2009)



#### **Direct and Internal Factors:** Affecting Energy Decisions of Energy Sectors





# **Policy Interventions: DG Technology Focus**

#### Policies to support Sustainable Energy Technology Innovation include:

- Front-end Technology Nurturing: RD&DD
- Back-end Incentives: Tax Credits, Loan Guarantees, low-cost Financing, Price Guarantees, Government Procurement, etc.
- Back-end Regulatory and Mandates: Emission Taxes, RPS, Fuel-Economy Standards

(Weiss and Bonvillian, 2009)



### **Smart Grid: The New Paradigm**

- Upstream Smart Grid: To lessen the Likelihood and Severity of Blackouts and to operate the System more efficiently overall
- Downstream Smart Grid: responding to Prices, smaller Local Generators (DG), and much greater Levels of Storage–Three Physical Landmarks
- A System that previously flowed Power only from large Central Sources to Downstream Customers will flow in both Directions from locally-based Generation and Storage

(Fox-Penner, 2010)



## **Strategies for Attitudinal Change**

- Identify Opinion Leaders (Innovators and early Adopters)
- Force of Law and enticing Incentives
- Education and effective Communication
- Through religious Beliefs
- Small Group Management of Common Resources
- Actions of Peers and direct Appeals (Modified from Gardner, 2001)



# **Drivers of Change**

### Playing a Part in producing rapid Change toward Sustainability

- Civil Society: crucial in Campaign
- NGOs: framing Issues
- Private Business: visionary Leadership
- State Power: political Base
- Scientific Community: information Base
- Media: information: pivotal Position

(Gardner, 2001)



## **Community Cooperatives: Electricity Generation**

### Germany

- Utilities are responsible for purchasing electricity produced by civil renewable cooperatives for 20 years with fixed price
- 100 Community Renewable Cooperatives are created each Year
- 650 Community Renewable Cooperatives are responsible for 47% of total Renewable Investment in 2012
- Soft Loan (1%) for Renewable Investors by Utility Companies and 1.5% by Germany Reconstruction Bank
- 370,000 Renewable Employees, contributing Regional Economic Development
- ROI (5-9%) is higher than Bank Interest Rate (around 1%) (Hankook Ilbo, September 29, 2014)

## Sustainable Energy Revolution

### Change is not easy, but possible

- The Abolition of Slavery
- Nonviolent Movement in India
- The End of Apartheid in South Africa
- The Unification of West and East Germany
- Communist Regime Collapse, etc.

#### (Modified from Gardner, 2001)



