




## A SHORT INTRODUCTION

# Sustainable Energy for All

for Creation Time 2012



Photo: solar panels on Caloundra Uniting Church, Queensland, Australia

Photo of wind farm: [Chrishna](#) 

### *SUITABLE FOR YOUR CHURCH MAGAZINE OR NEWSLETTER*

Energy is a gift from God as part of his creation but one we hardly notice... until there's a power cut! But one in five people in the world has no access to electricity and misses out on tools, communication and so many opportunities we take for granted. Two in five rely on burning anything from wood to animal excrement for cooking and heating, and the smoke and gas from this damage both environment and health: two million people a year are estimated to die as a result.

The United Nations has made 2012 the Year of Sustainable Energy for All, with a target of giving the whole world reliable and clean energy by 2030. But this is not just a subject for the developing world. Here we need to make radical changes to move away from electricity generated by climate-change causing and increasingly expensive fossil fuels to renewable options, together with greater efficiency and lower consumption. These alternatives are proving controversial and we still have some issues to resolve, but we are running out of time to achieve the targets that scientists are saying are needed.

This may seem like something we can leave to the experts but, as Christians, we have twin responsibilities both to care for the poor and to care for the planet. So we need to be aware of the issues and know what we can do as individuals and as churches to take action. This is why Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) is making Sustainable Energy its theme for the 2012 Creation Time season, and we hope you will make use of the materials in churches, home groups and as individuals.

Creation Time takes place each year between 1 September and 4 October. CTBI's downloadable resources including sermon notes, prayers of intercession, group study resources and liturgical material are available at [www.ctbi.org.uk/creationtime](http://www.ctbi.org.uk/creationtime)