



Energy Solutions

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I would like to start by thanking the organizers of this OECD Forum for allowing me to express my views on the crucial subject of energy in a cleaner future.

My intention is to share some ideas and opinions with you on a subject I consider of special economic, environmental and social relevance at the present time: renewable energies and their contribution to sustainable development.

When I speak of sustainable development I am referring to that which contains three fundamental elements: an economic development maintainable over time; a development that will allow us to leave our planet in good condition for coming generations; and a development in which everybody has the opportunity to participate.

But, prior to any steps being taken towards economic reactivation, the need to fight climate change is a necessary and extremely pressing prerequisite for sustainable development.

In the fight against climate change, the key element is development of renewable energies as an alternative to fossil fuels. Furthermore, development and generalization of these energies is a great opportunity for economic reactivation and, therefore, for the development we pursue.

From my point of view, the existing energy model, where more than 80% of primary energy sources are fossil fuels, is exhausted.

First because there is extensive agreement among experts on the fact that within 10 to 20 years peak oil will be reached.

Second because fossil fuel consumption are causing slow and progressive warming of our planet. The solution to this great energy challenge lies in a new model based on renewable energies. This affirmation is based on the certainty that the sun is our latest natural energy source. In a single hour, the earth receives more energy from the sun than we consume in a full year.

Clean air is a global public asset and as such, the economic mechanisms of the "market" can hardly take its deterioration into consideration.

And he added:

“I know they're gearing up for a fight as we speak. My message to them is this: So am I.”

I myself believe that renewable energies are a great opportunity to escape from the crisis and also the most efficient mechanism we possess to fight climate change. We cannot, and must not, ignore this opportunity. We owe it to our children.

Thank you all for your time and attention.