# European Energy Challenges

*Points arising from European energy review organised on the 26th of January 2016 by the Windsor Energy Group and the Embassy of the Netherlands. The speakers of the event were:*

- *Marten Westrup: European Commission DG Energy*
- *Merei Wagenaar: Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs*
- *Jan-Willem van der Ven: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development*
- *Lord Oxburgh: Carbon Capture and Storage Association*Notes:
- The EU is continuing to develop the concept of an energy union.
- This seeks to ensure security of supply, competitive pricing and sustainability.
- The Dutch presidency will encourage more regional energy cooperation.
- There will be a focus on how to realise wind-power in the North Sea.
- Energy efficiency will be encouraged by clear labelling on products to guide consumer choice.
- The EU will continue to encourage more effective energy markets.
- Technological innovation to make heating and cooling devices more effective.
- Building more energy interconnectors will add to energy security.

In addition to energy efficiency and renewable energy the investment criteria for new energy projects include:

  - Water Efficiency
  - Material Efficiency
  - Adaptation to Climate change
  - Environmental Protection
  - Technology transfer

- Sustainable resource financing has doubled in terms of volume and as a share of the EBRD's total new business, from 15% to 30% since 2006
- Examples of EBRD range of investments include investments to increase plastic recycling in a Turkish pipe producer, supporting biomass and CHP in Latvia and Estonia, increasing energy efficiency in some of Mongolia's commercial buildings and Improving Tajikistan hydropower.
- The Paris goal of eliminating carbon fuels is unachievable as fossil fuels remain competitive and readily available - other energy sources tend to be more expensive and limited.
- The competitiveness of fossil fuels in relation to other energy sources
- Energy demand increases as world population grows.

- The challenge lies in reducing the emissions and therefore there is an imperative to find to find solutions for carbon capture and storage.
- Currently the technology for carbon capture and storage is too expensive. The challenge is to find cheaper systems that can be used in poor emerging countries.
- Nuclear will remain part of the mix but new nuclear is likely to involve small modular facilities.

## Photos



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