

Sustainable Energy for All

Energy is central to nearly every major challenge, and opportunity, the world faces today. Be it jobs, security, climate change, food production, or increasing incomes, access to sustainable energy for all is essential for strengthening economies, protecting ecosystems, and achieving equity.

In fact, more than 1.4 billion people worldwide have no access to electricity, and 1 billion more only have intermittent access. Some 2.5 billion people—almost half of humanity—rely on traditional biomass for cooking and heating.

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon made sustainable energy one of the five priorities that will guide his second five-year term. Specifically, he will direct the UN to extend energy's reach in order to combat endemic poverty. Universal access to energy, improved efficiency, and enhanced deployment of renewable sources are ambitious goals, and the Secretary-General is leading a Sustainable Energy for All initiative to make them achievable.

This initiative will call for private-sector and national commitments and attract global attention to the importance of energy for development and poverty alleviation. The goal is to meet three objectives by 2030:

- ensuring universal access to modern energy services
- doubling the rate of improvement in energy efficiency
- doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix

In recognition of the importance of energy access for sustainable economic development and supporting achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, the UN General Assembly has designated 2012 as the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All.

 sustainableenergyforall.org



A family in Tarialan, Mongolia, uses a solar panel to generate power for their ger. (UN Photo)

The 2012 International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) Comes to Washington, D.C.

The American Chemical Society will host the International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) from 21–30 July 2012. IChO provides chemistry students the opportunity to compete at the highest levels and establish networks that go beyond cultures and borders. As part of its ongoing commitment to science, technology, engineering and math education, The Dow Chemical Company is investing \$2.5 million to bring the IChO to the USA for the first time since 1992.

The International Chemistry Olympiad is an annual competition for the world's most talented chemistry students at the secondary school level. Nations around the world send a team of four students, who are tested on their chemistry knowledge and skills in a five-hour laboratory practical and five-hour written theoretical examination. Through a special donation, IUPAC offers support for the participation of countries with limited financial resources. The priorities for the use of this support are: bringing additional students if there are less than four in the team, bringing an additional mentor if there are less than two, or support to reduce the participation fee of a country.

 www.icho2012.org



InChI 1.04

In September 2011, version 1.04 for Standard and Non-Standard InChI/InChIKey was released, which now supports the chemical elements up to 112, copernicium. The inchi-1 executable (both Windows and Linux versions) now allows the processing of multiple input files in a single run (common file name wildcards are recognized). In addition, version 1.04 also fixes a number of minor bugs.