Energy Technology Perspectives 2017

Catalysing Energy Technology Transformations

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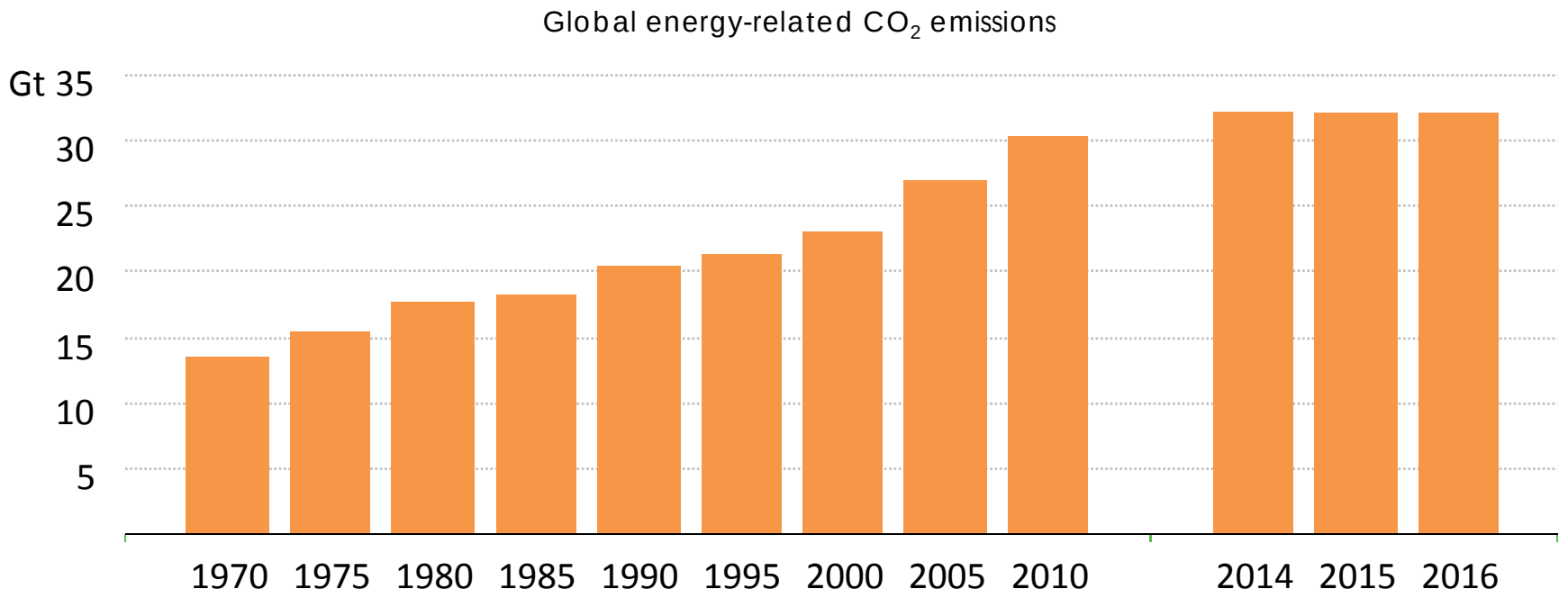
IEA

Key points of orientation

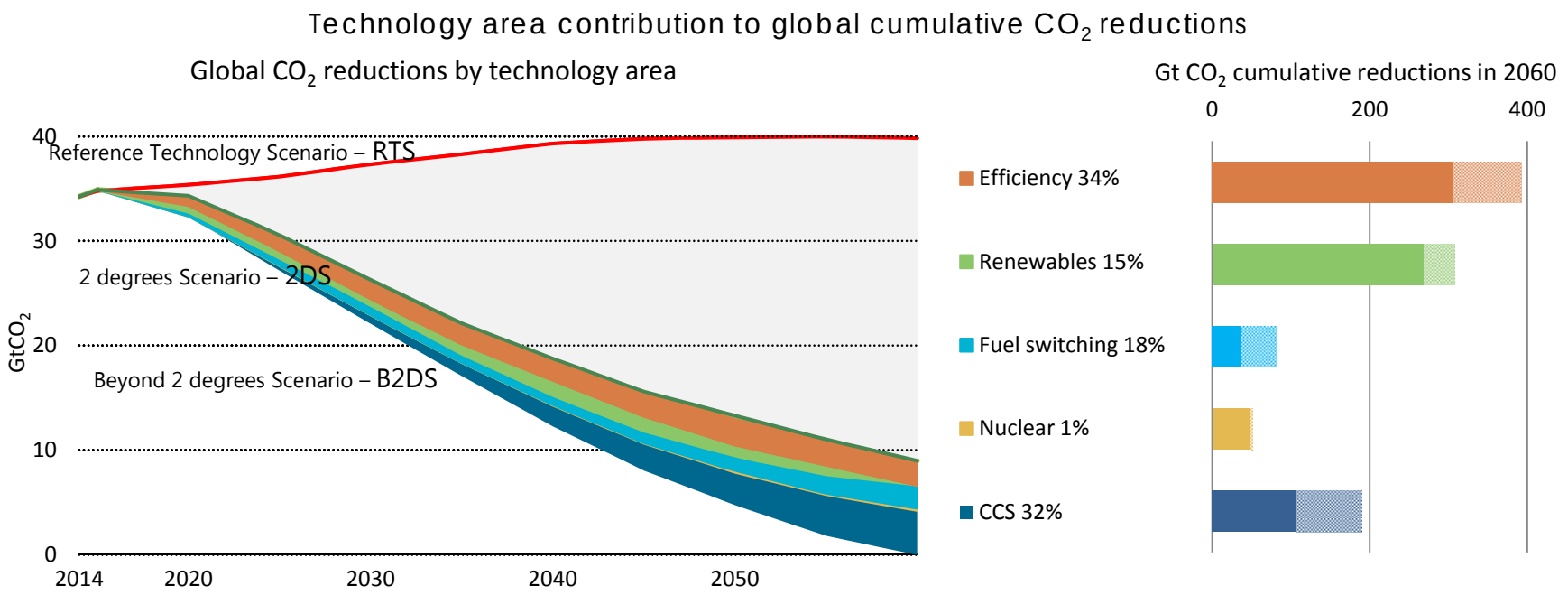
- Global energy markets are changing rapidly
  - *Renewables supplied half of global electricity demand growth in 2016, and increase in nuclear capacity reached highest level since 1993*
  - *Global energy intensity improved by 2.1% in 2016*
  - *Electric car sales were up 40% in 2016, a new record year*
- The energy sector remains key to sustainable economic growth
  - *1.2B people lack access to electricity; 2.7B people lack access to clean cooking*
  - *Largest source of GHG emissions today, around two-thirds of global total*
  - *Largest source of air pollution, linked to 6.5 million premature deaths per year*
- There is no single story about the future of global energy
  - *Fast-paced technological progress and changing energy business models*

Global CO_2 emissions flat for 3 years – an emerging trend?



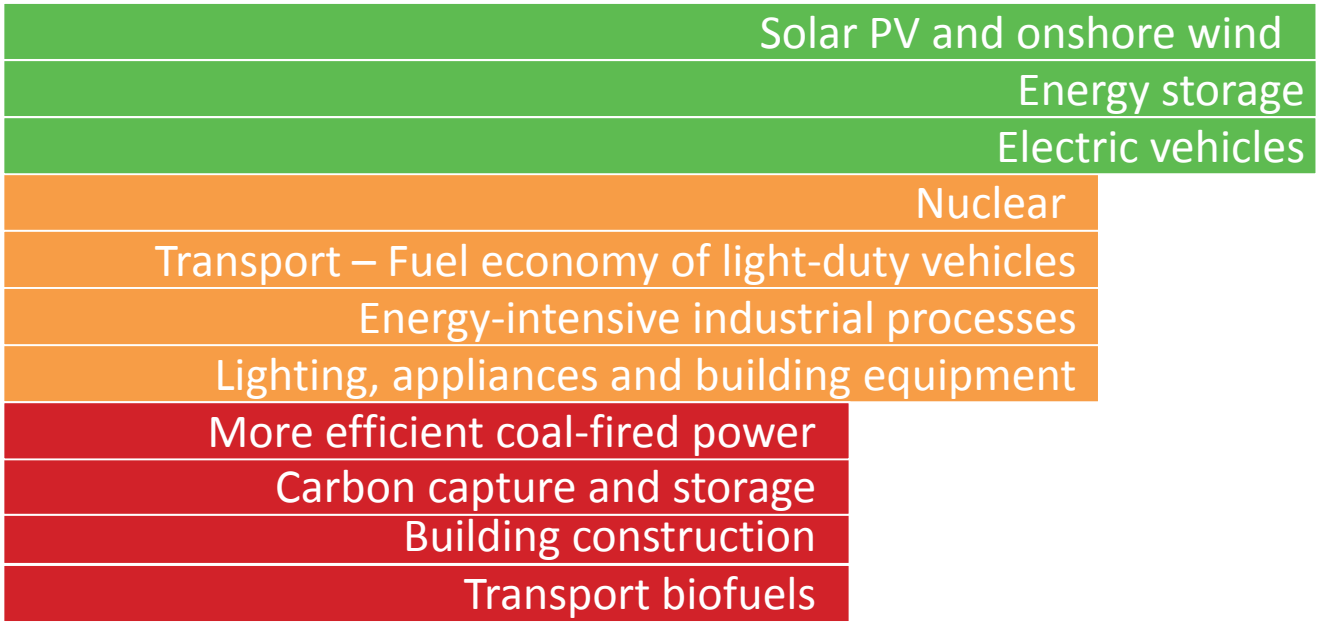
IEA analysis shows that global CO_2 emissions remained flat in 2016 for the third year in a row, even though the global economy grew, led by emission declines in the US and China.

How far can technology take us?



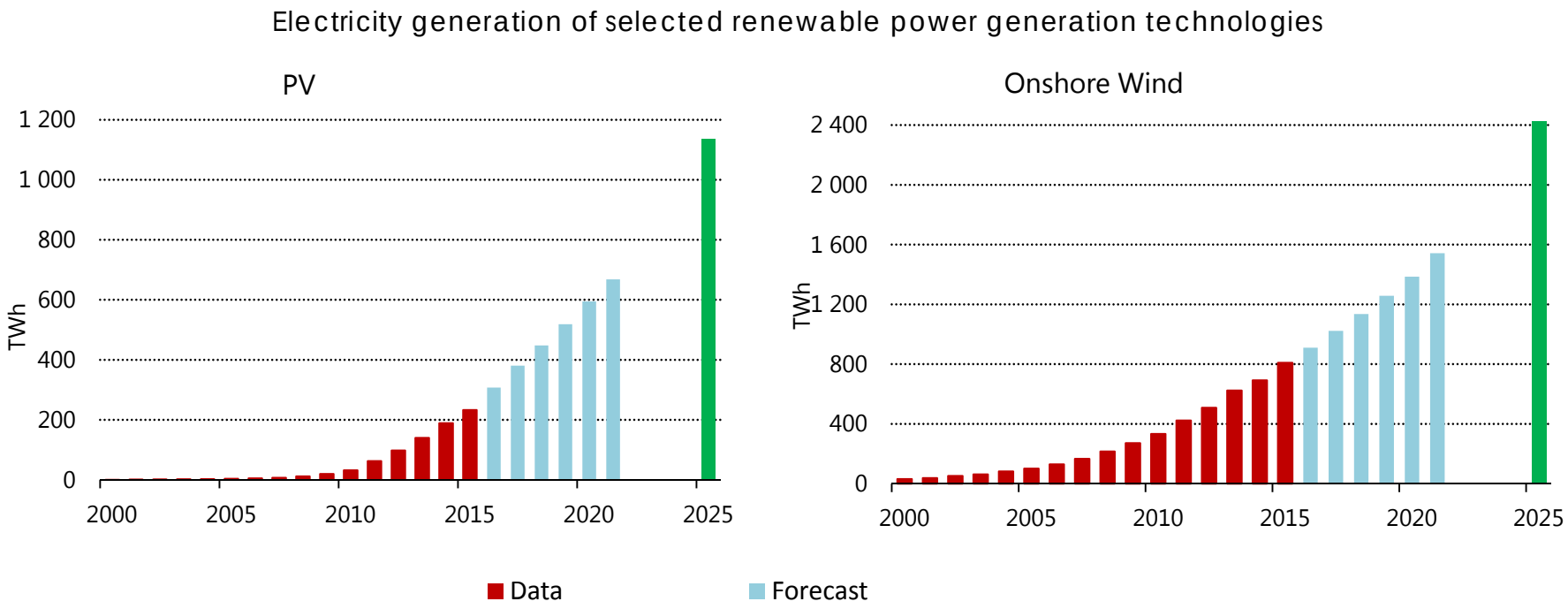
Pushing energy technology to achieve carbon neutrality by 2060 could meet the mid-point of the range of ambitions expressed in Paris.

The potential of clean energy technology remains under-utilised



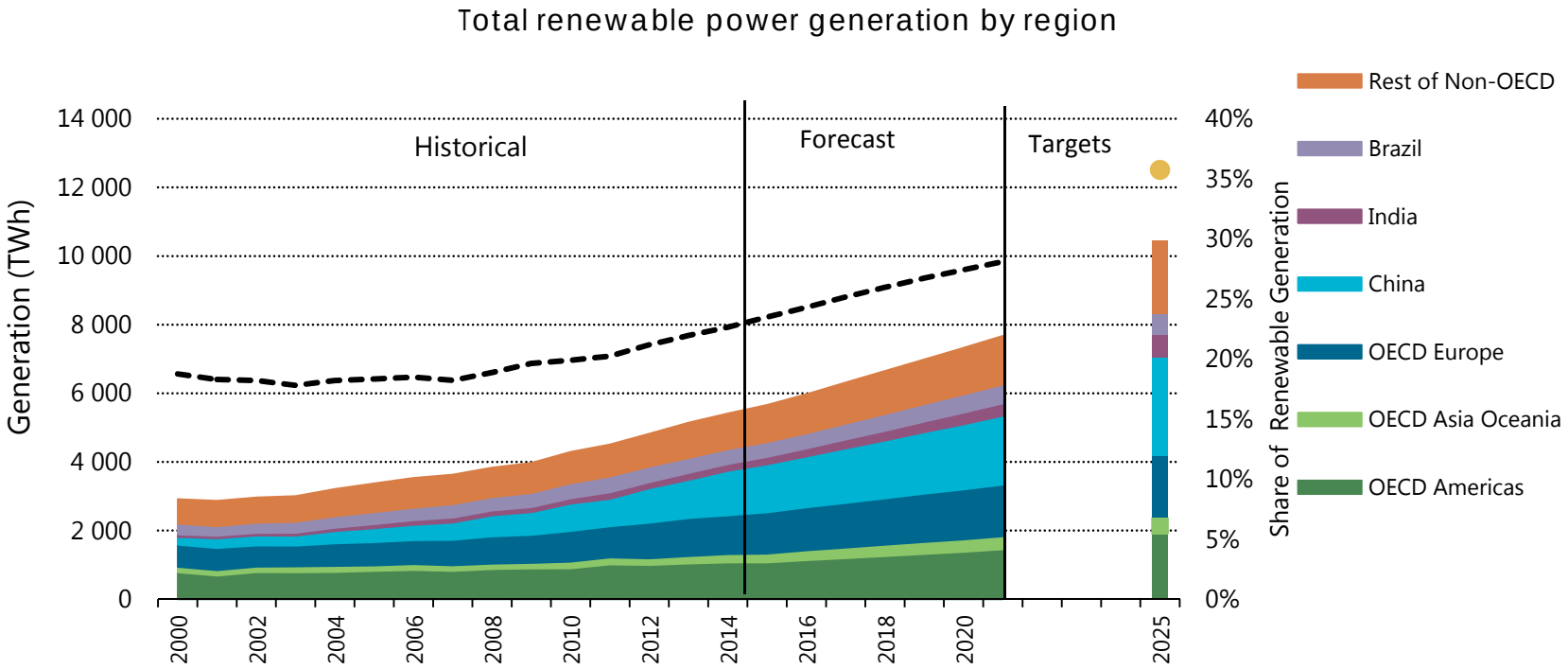
Recent progress in some clean energy areas is promising, but many technologies still need a strong push to achieve their full potential and deliver a sustainable energy future

Solar PV and Wind are still leading the transition…



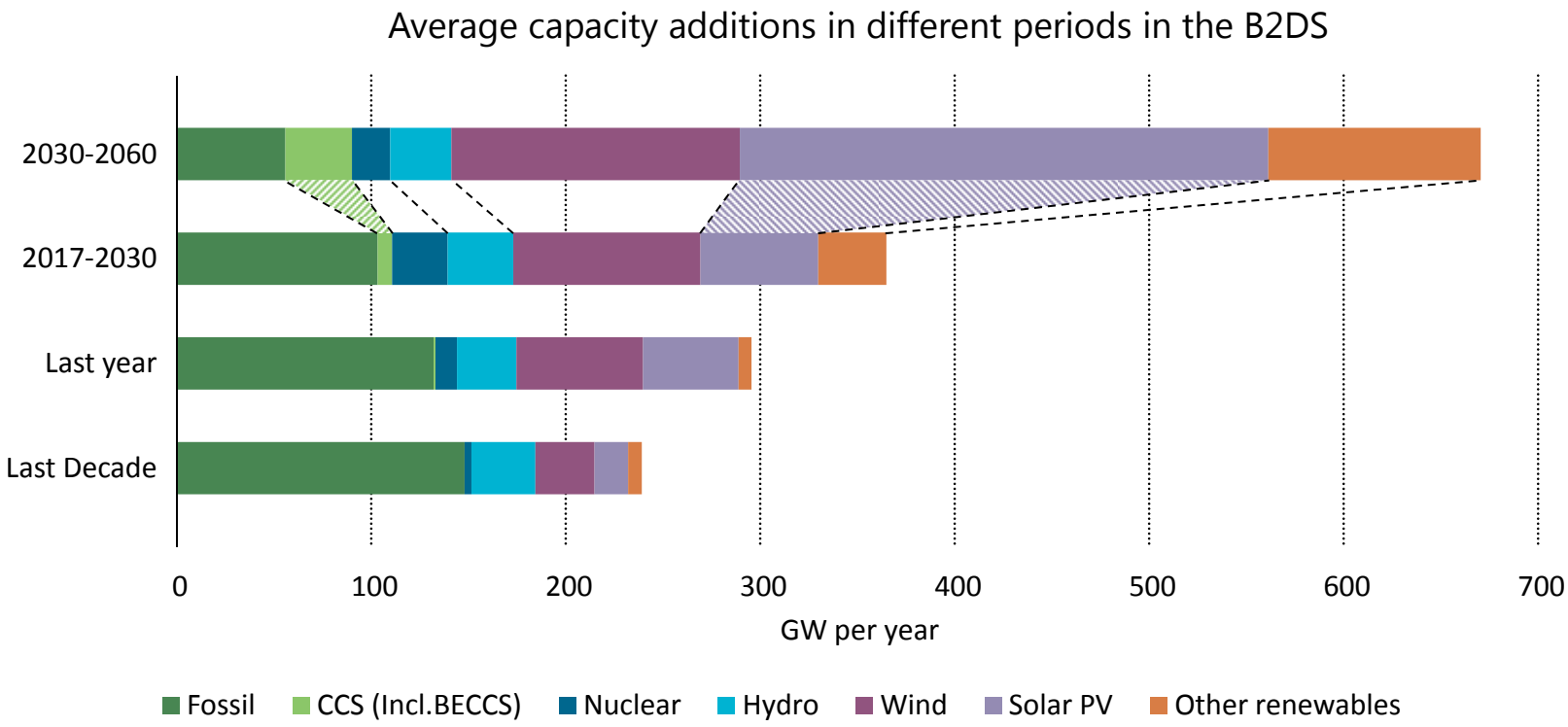
Solar PV and onshore wind electricity generation are expected to grow by 2.5 times and by 1.7 times, respectively, over 2015-20.

… but can't make up for other low-carbon generation sources



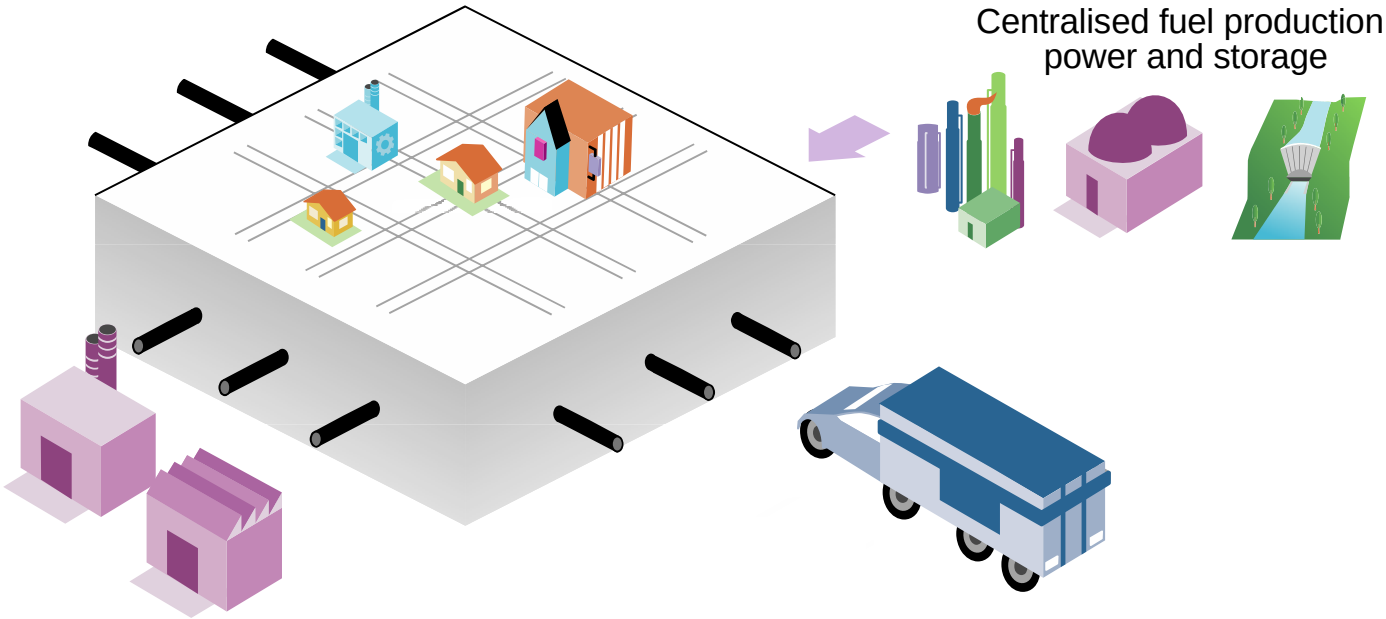
While renewable power additions keep breaking records, they need to grow much faster to reach the 2DS electricity generation targets. Progress on early-stage technologies also needs to accelerate.

Can we push up the low-carbon power deployment pace?



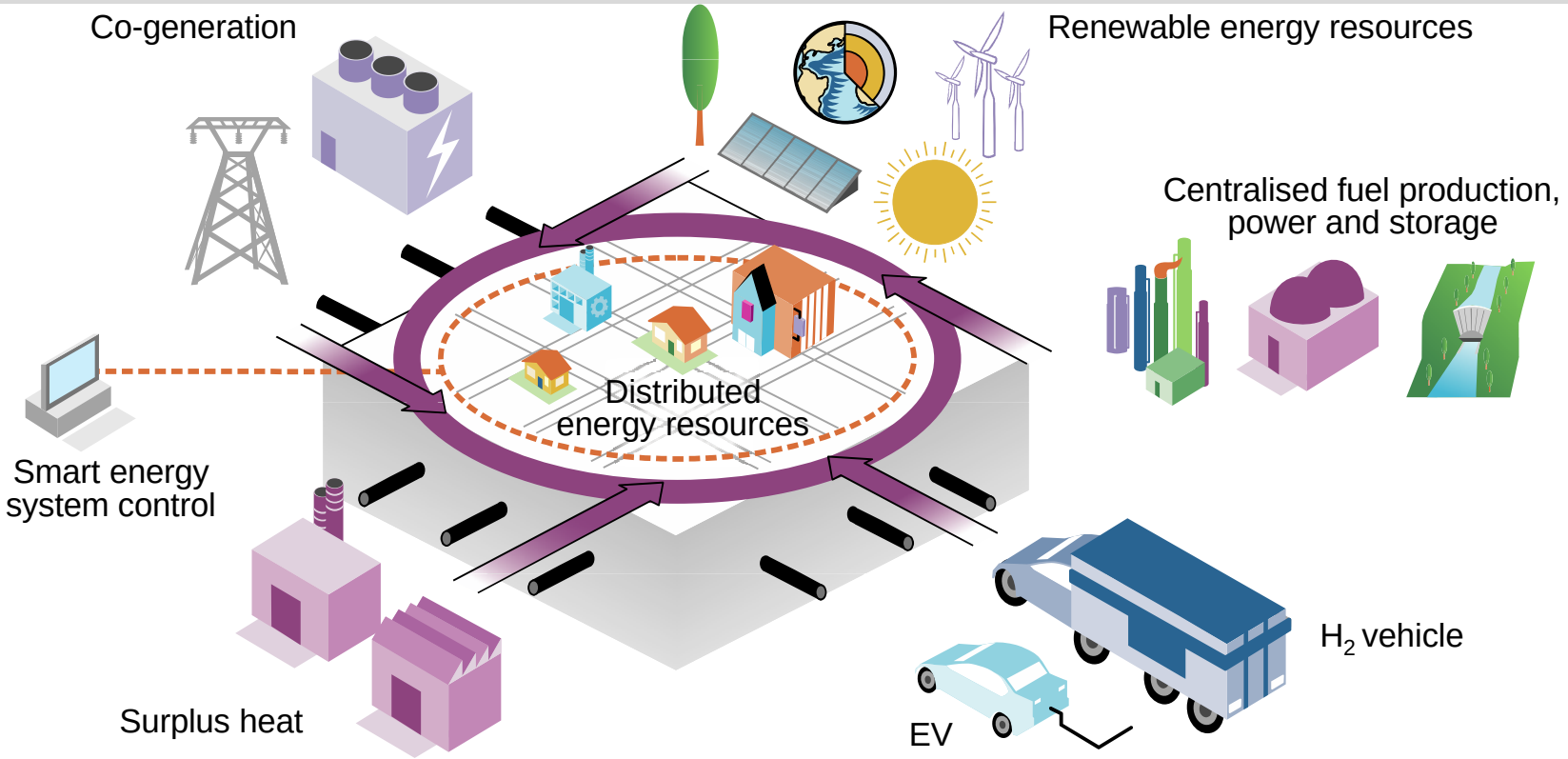
Recent successes in solar and wind
will have to be extended to all low-carbon solutions, and brought to a scale never experienced before.

Systems Integration is essential for a sustainable energy future



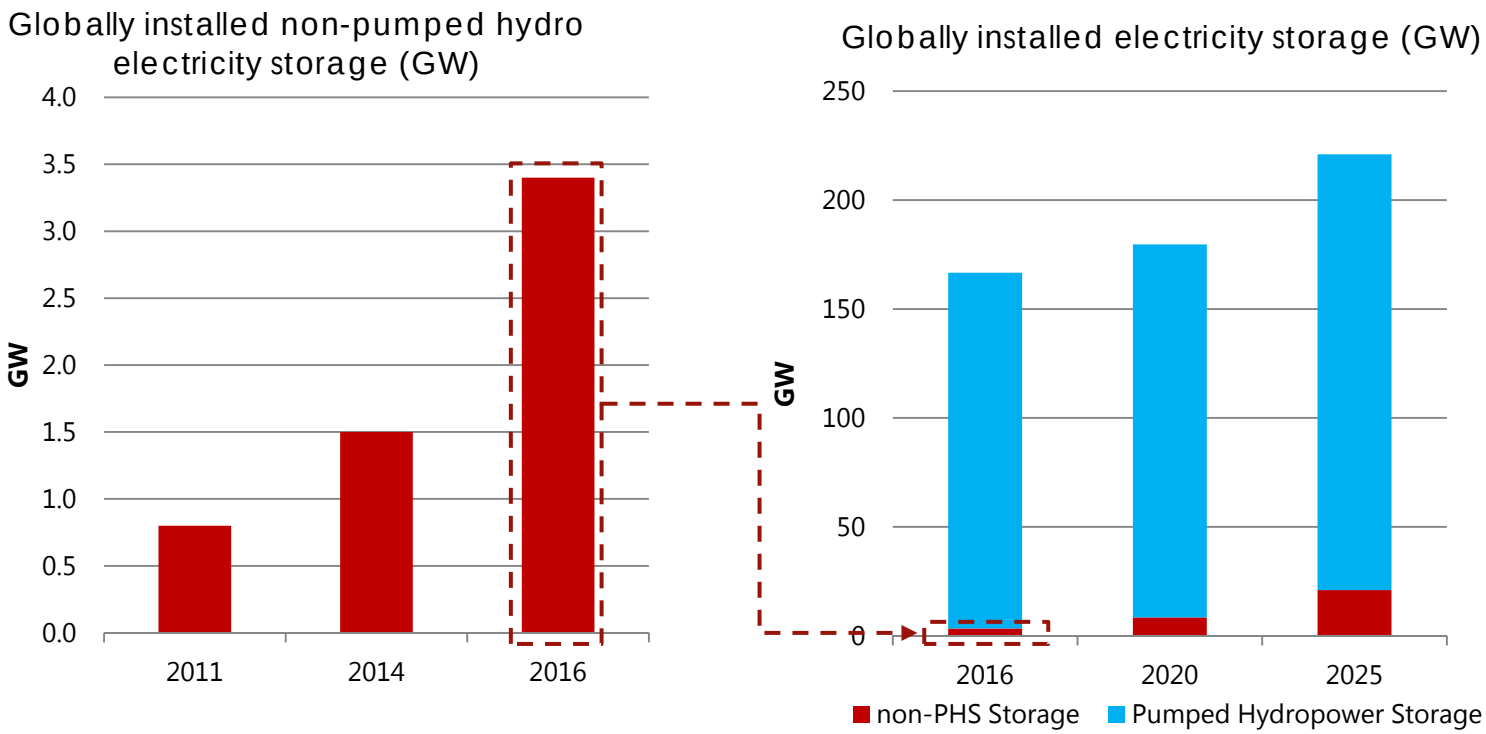
We need to move away from a one-directional energy delivery philosophy

Systems Integration is essential for a sustainable energy future



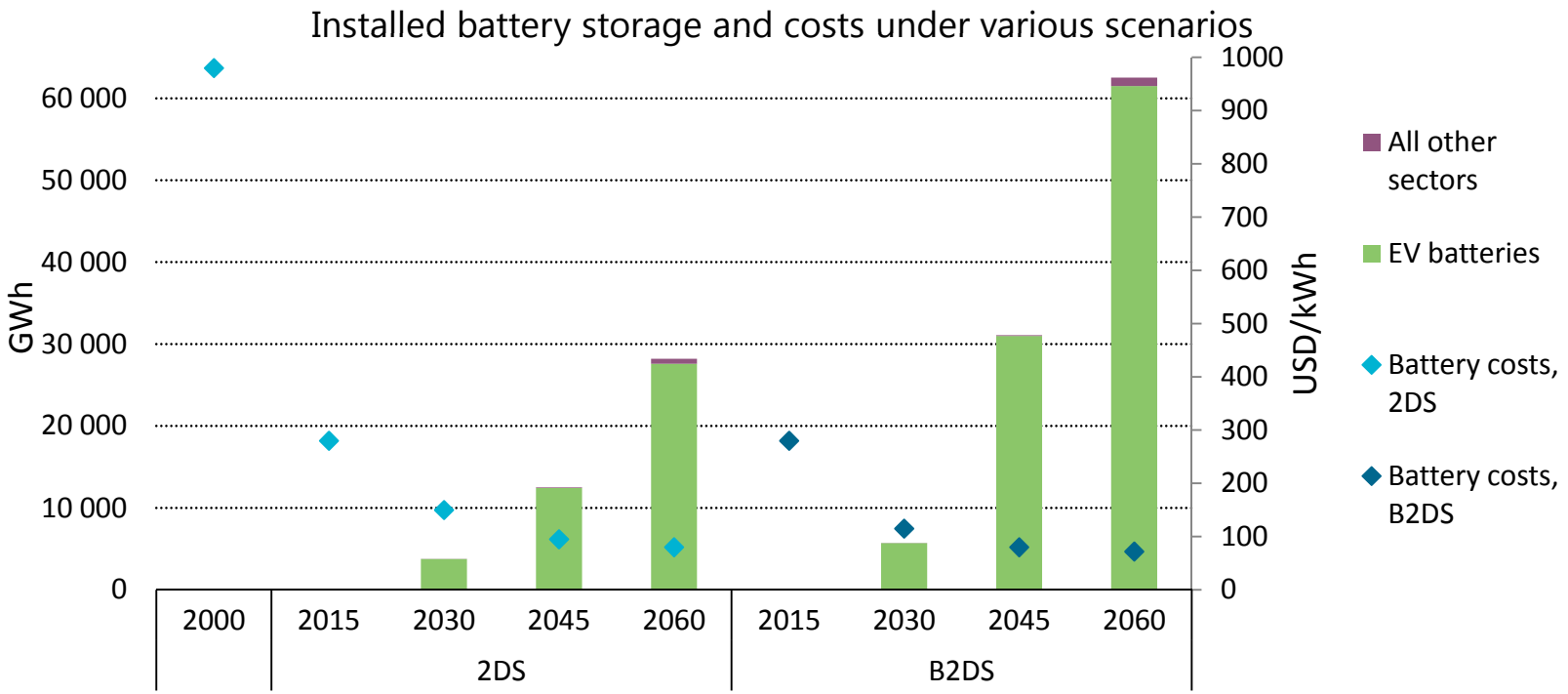
We need to move away from a one-directional energy delivery philosophy to a digitally-enhanced, multidirectional and integrated system that requires long-term planning for services delivery.

The value of storage is starting to drive new solutions



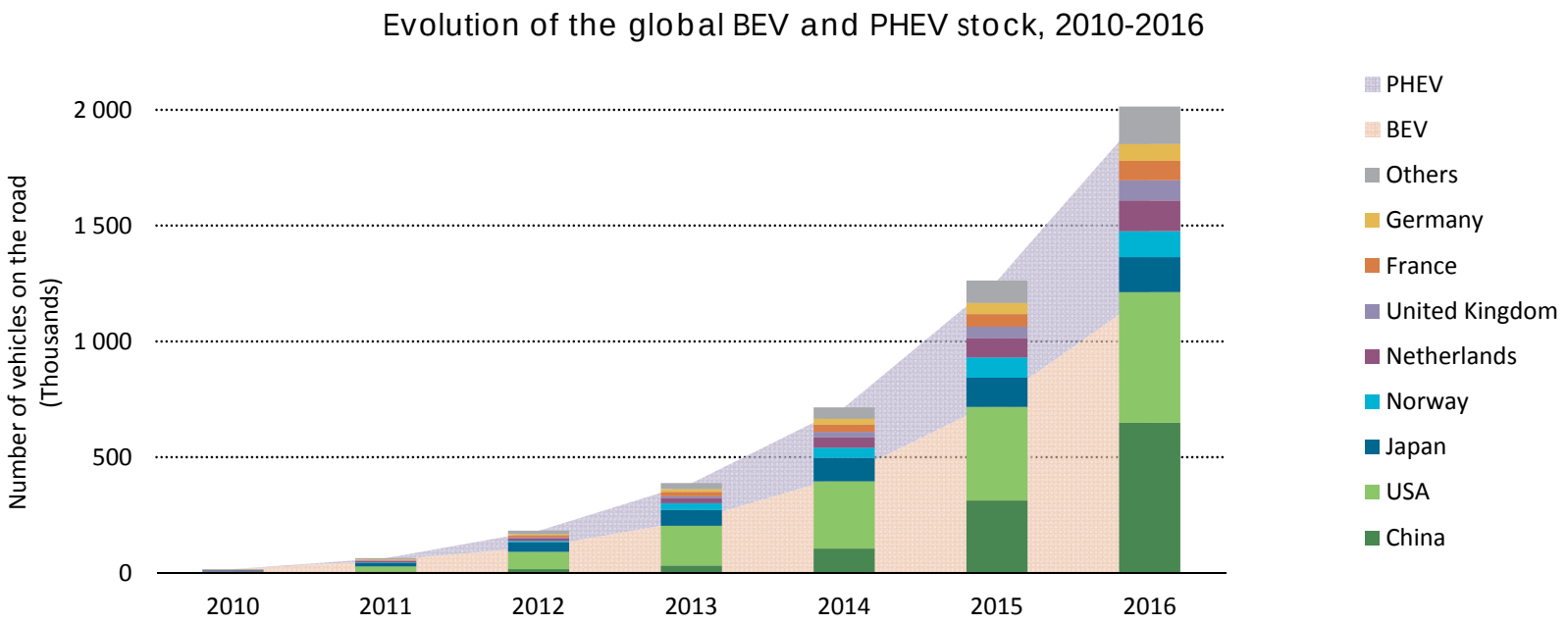
Positive market and policy trends supported a year-on-year growth of over 50% for non-pumped hydro storage
But near-term storage needs will remain largely answered by existing or planned pumped hydro capacity.

Can we enact a storage revolution



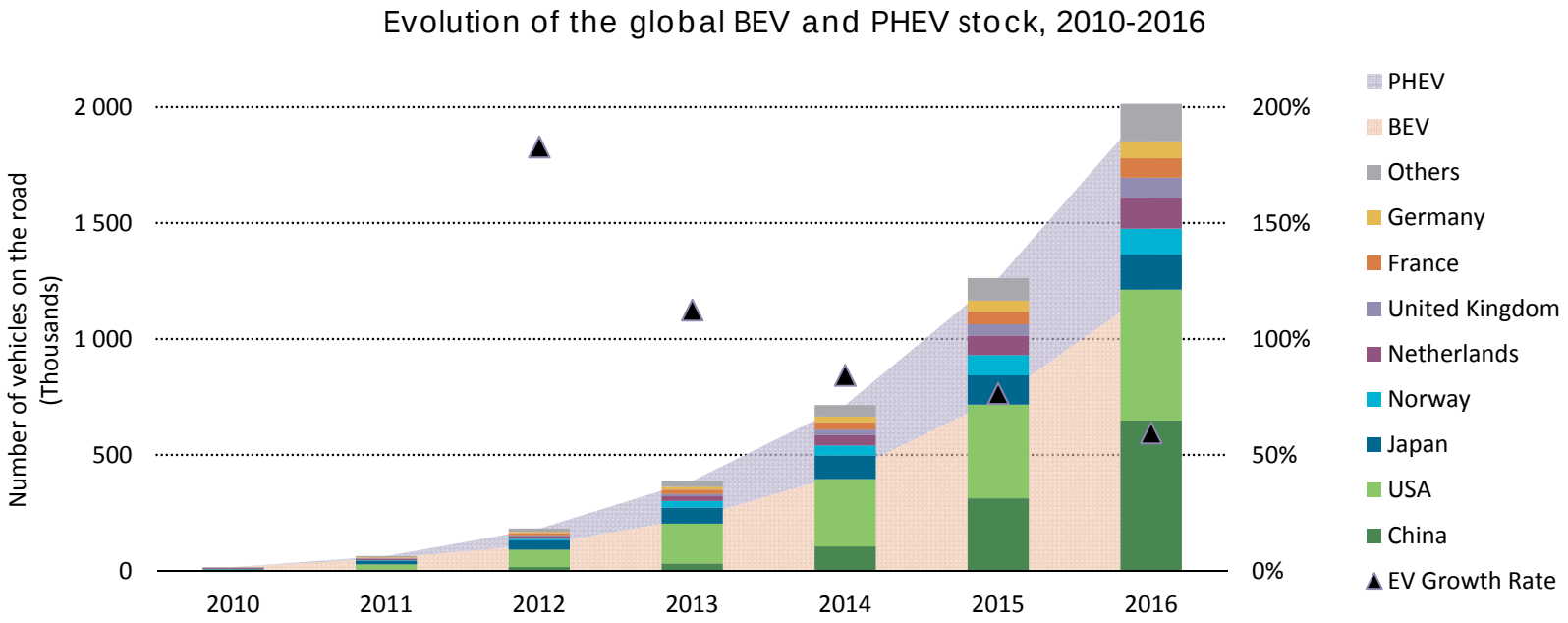
Batteries experience a huge scale-up in the B2DS, with EV battery markets leading other sectors in size

EVs are still on track,



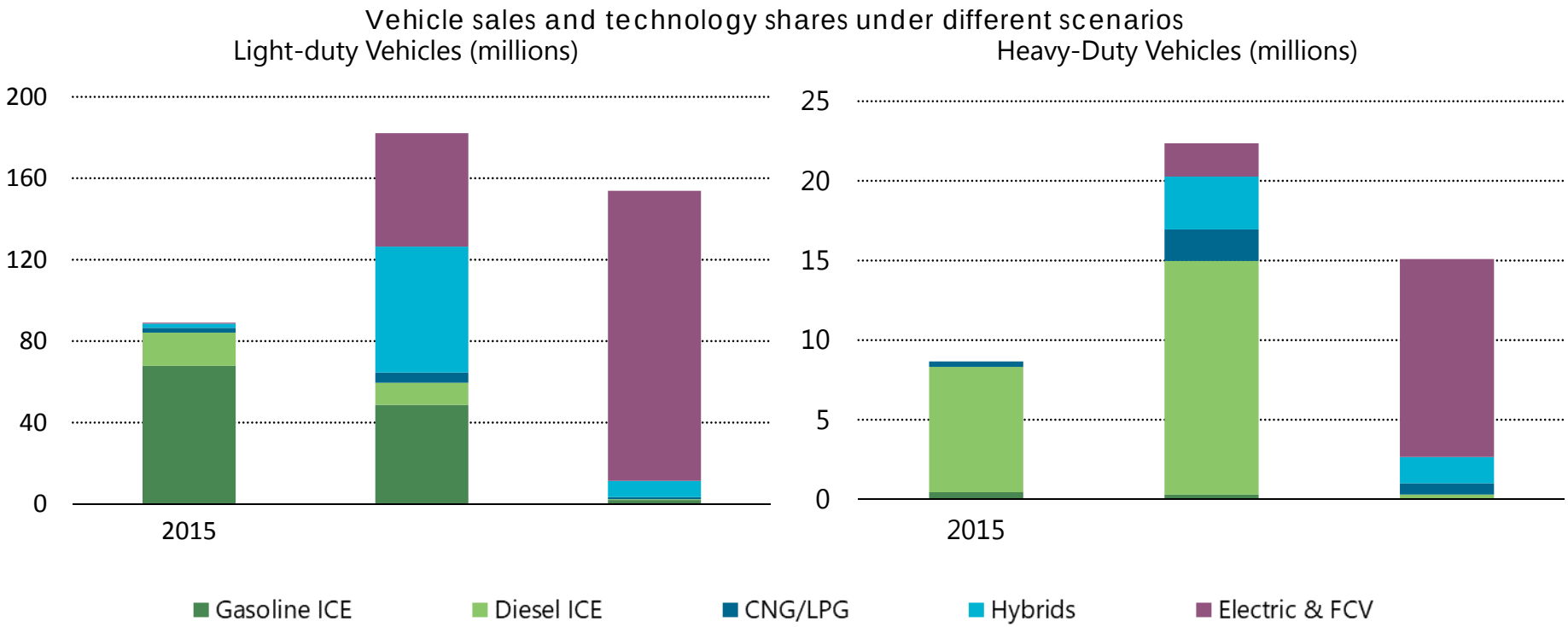
The global PEV car stock has reached 2 million units in circulation last year,

EVs are still on track, but need continued support



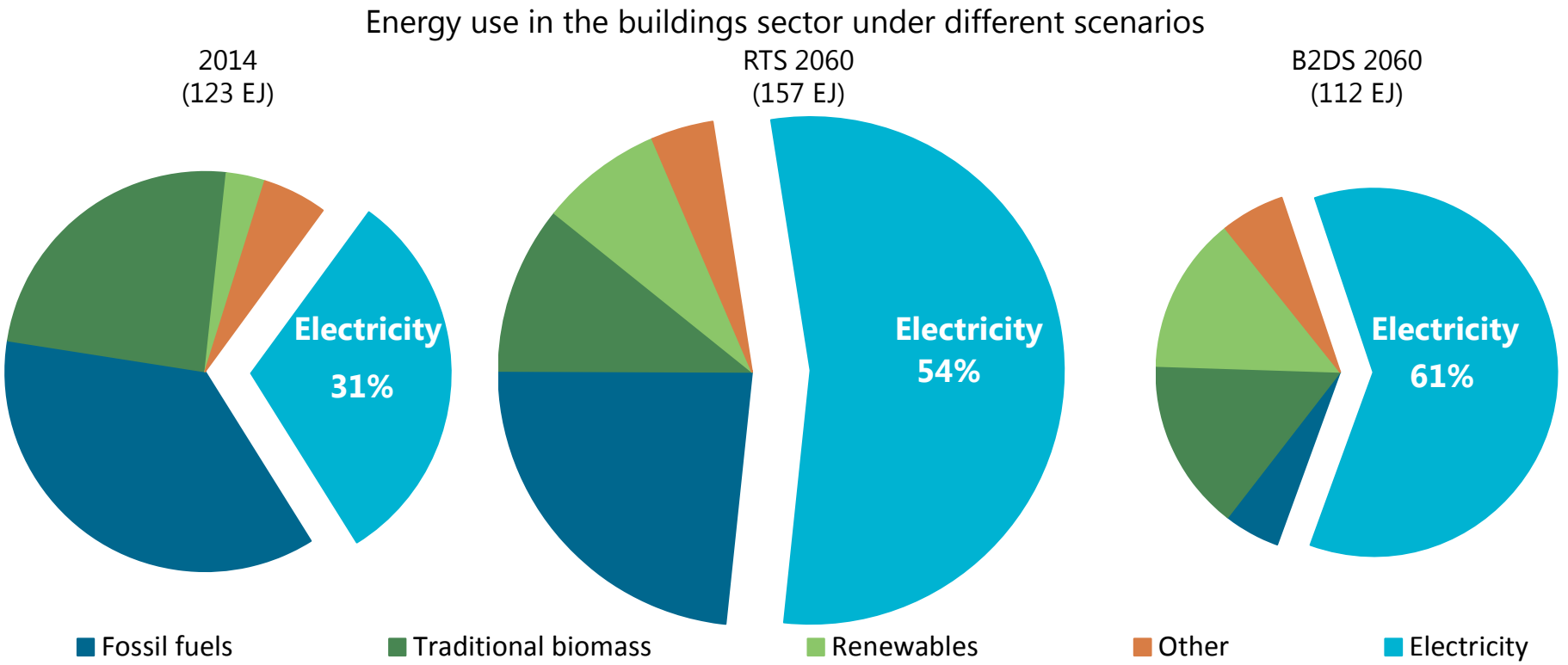
The global PEV car stock has reached 2 million units in circulation last year, but sales growth went from 70% last year to 40% this year, suggesting an increasing risk to start diverging from a 2DS trajectory.

Can we change the landscape of transport ?



The transportation sector already experiences technological change, but won't shed its oil dependency without assertive policies.

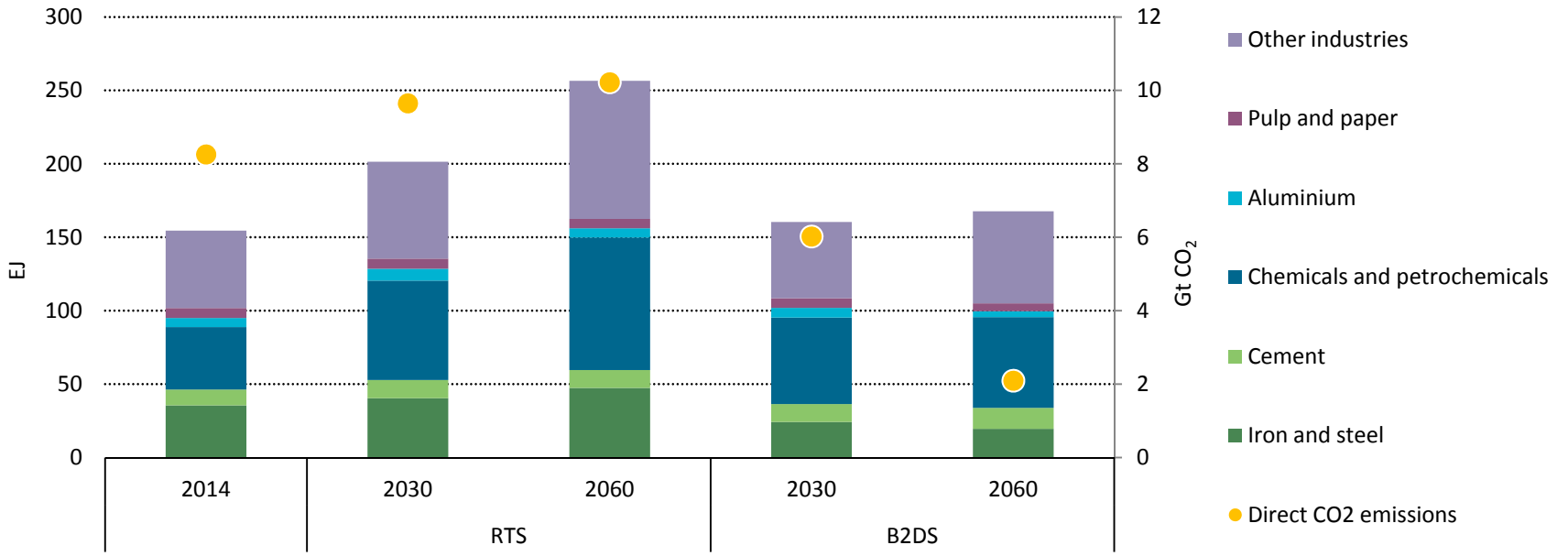
Enhanced buildings efficiency could also improve system flexibility



Efficiency technologies can provide the same level of comfort while reducing energy demand despite doubling floor area.

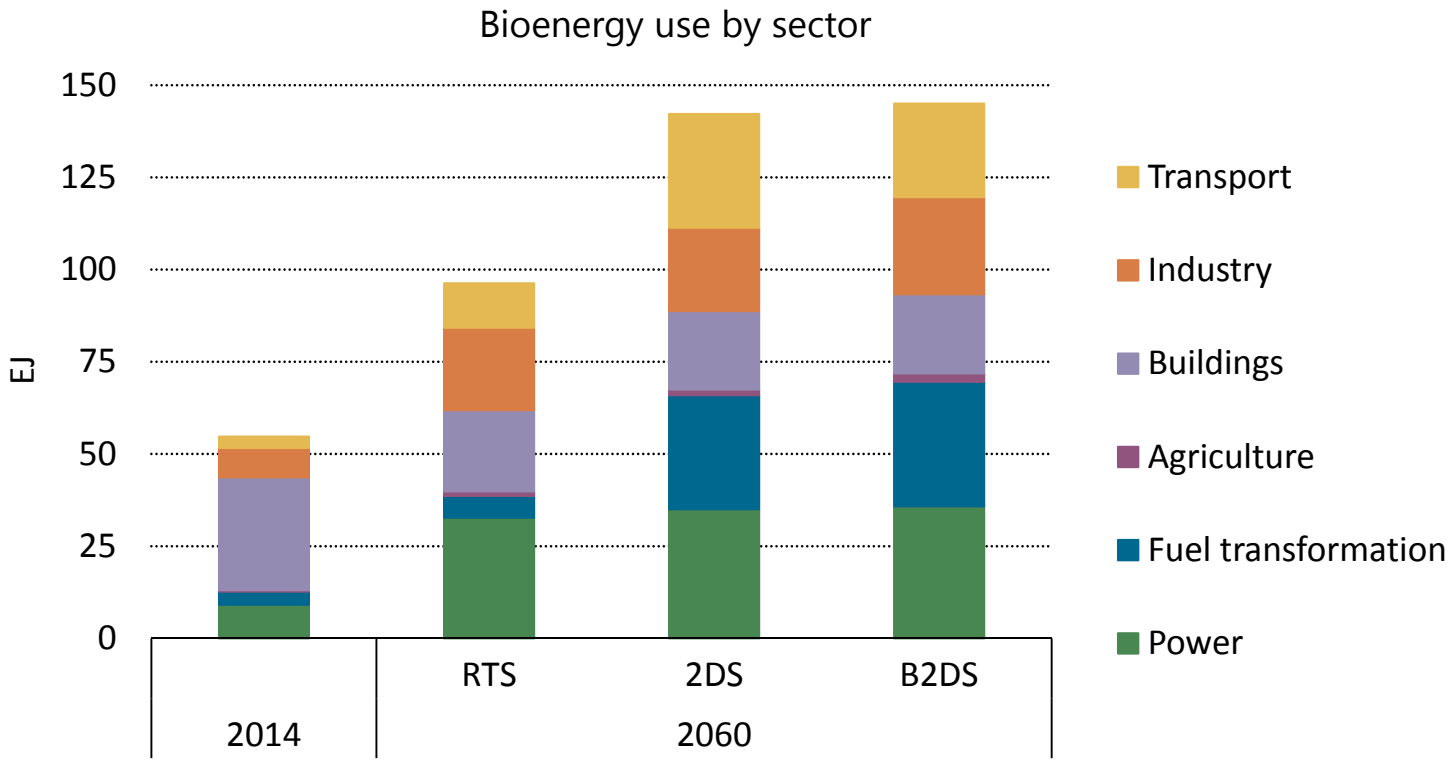
We need to produce materials more sustainably

Energy use and direct CO_2 emissions in various industrial sectors under different scenarios



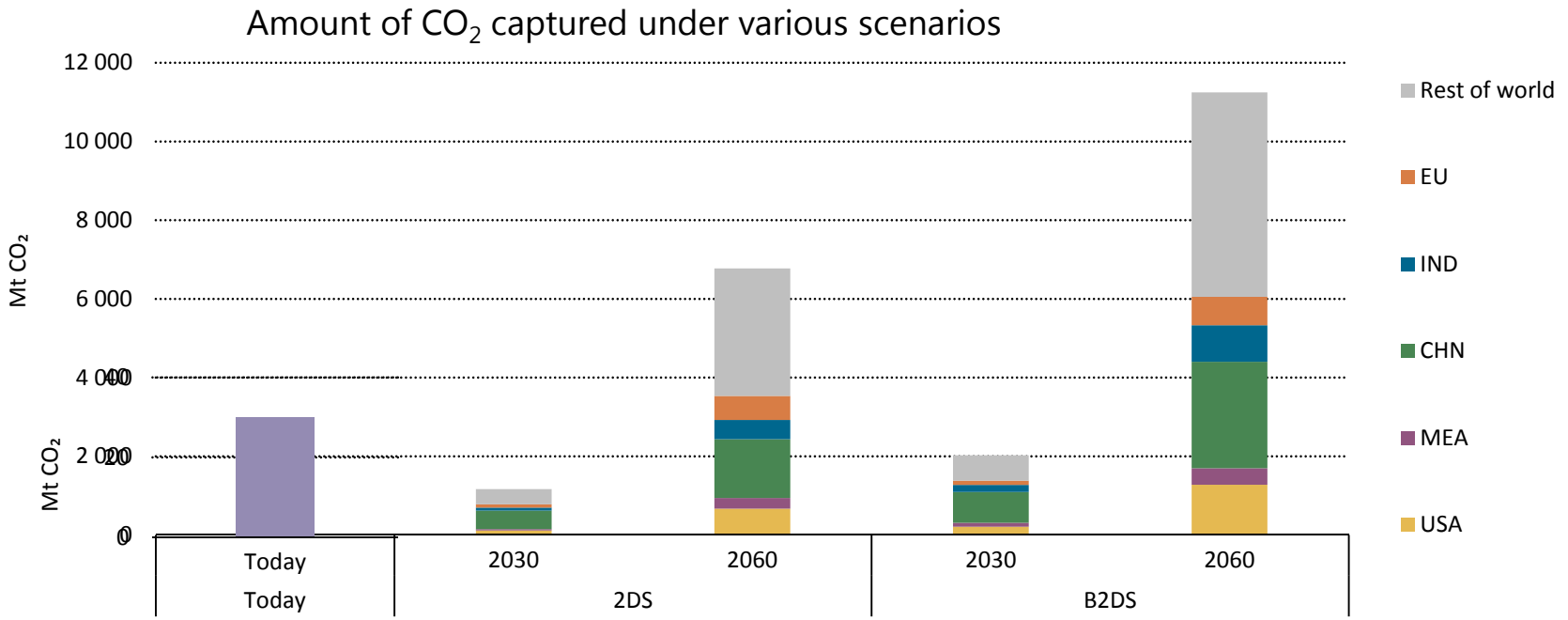
Effective policies and public-private collaboration are needed to enable an extensive roll-out of energy and material efficiency strategies as well as a suite of innovative technologies.

Optimising the use of sustainable biomass



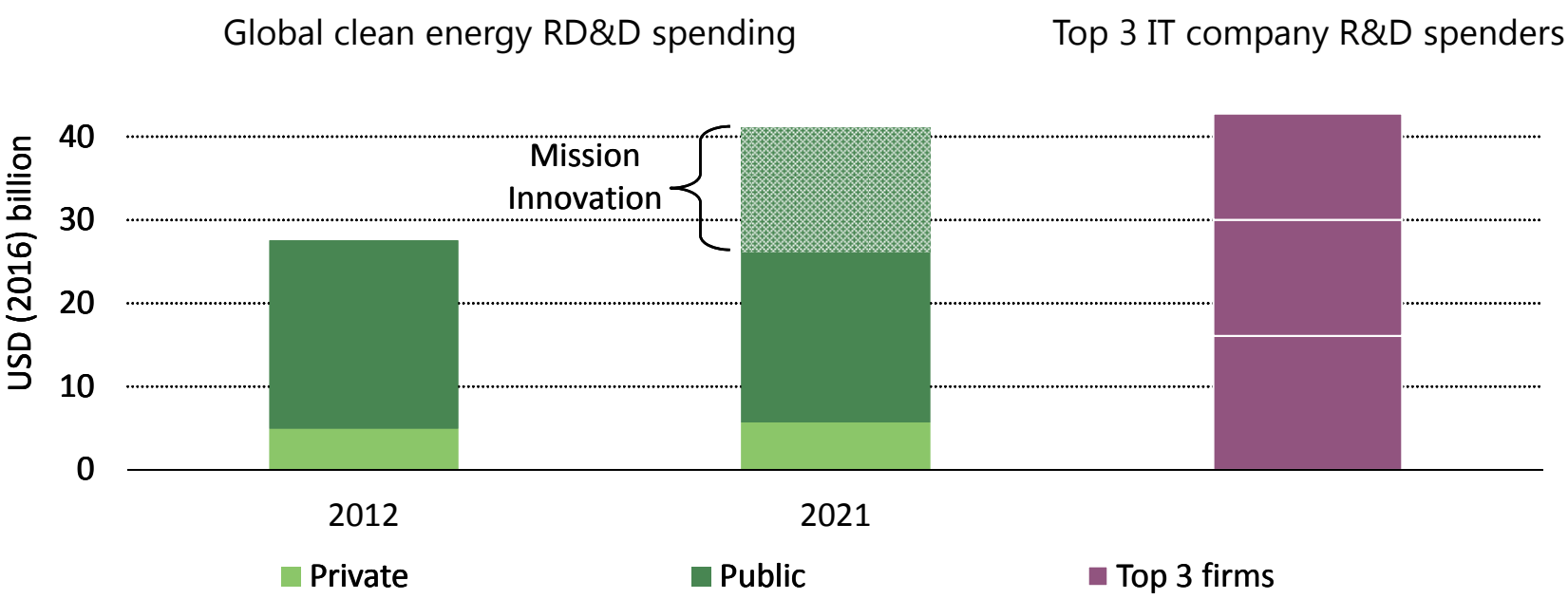
Around 145 EJ of sustainable bioenergy is available by 2060 in IEA decarbonisation scenarios, but gets used differently between the 2DS and the B2DS.

A challenging task ahead for CCS



CCS is happening today, but needs to be ramped up hundreds of times to achieve long-term goals. The role for CCS varies based on local circumstances.

Global clean energy RD&D spending needs a strong boost



Global RD&D spending in efficiency, renewables, nuclear and CCS plateaued at $26 billion annually, coming mostly from governments. Mission Innovation could provide a much needed boost.

Conclusions

- Early signs point to changes in energy trajectories, helped by policies and technologies, but progress is too slow
- An integrated systems approach considering all technology options must be implemented now to accelerate progress
- Each country should define its own transition path and scale-up its RD&D and deployment support accordingly
- Achieving carbon neutrality by 2060 would require unprecedented technology policies and investments
- Innovation can deliver, but policies must consider the full technology cycle, and collaborative approaches can help

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