



GAS IS **ESSENTIAL**
TO HUMAN
PROGRESS AND
GLOBAL GROWTH



Gas is Essential to Human Progress and Global Growth

The IGU supports the Paris Agreement and the Nationally Determined Contributions to reduce GHG emissions and advocates and supports the industry's efforts to significantly decarbonise the global energy system.

As the world faces growing uncertainty, the Gas* industry is essential to building more prosperous, secure, and sustainable societies for everyone. It is doing so through energy diversification, innovation, and collaboration.

* "Gas" includes natural gas, low-carbon, decarbonised and renewable gases (including hydrogen, biomethane, synthetic gas, e-methane).



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The world is navigating existential industrial, energy, financial, and political uncertainty.¹

Gas and its evolving technologies support the renewable energy supply by overcoming intermittency and instability. **Together, they can enable net-zero pathways, energy security & access issues.**

¹ Global Risks Report 2023 World Economic Council.

The future of energy is highly uncertain. Estimates of future Gas demand and the relative mix vary widely.

They differ widely as economic growth in emerging economies is highly uncertain, and they vary widely even across deep decarbonisation scenarios². The pace of change is also highly uncertain, not least between different jurisdictions, from those fast-growing developing nations to the slower-growing advanced economies. Prosperous, secure, and sustainable societies have access to reliable and affordable energy. More than 3 billion people worldwide lack clean energy, and Gas is a commercially and environmentally attractive solution to improve their lives.³



Together, **Gas and renewable energy** can become an **unstoppable force** in tackling climate change, energy security and access issues.



How can it be done?

Accelerating

Replacing

Increasing

Providing

Maximising

Accelerating

By accelerating the transition to meet the world's net-zero pledges, natural gas and liquified natural gas (LNG) support the effective and reliable scaling of renewable energies and accelerate efficiency gains.

Replacing

By replacing coal for power generation and industrial use, Gas can reduce coal's high emissions.

Increasing

By increasing the Gas use across all industrial and private applications, enhanced sustainability and public health benefits can be obtained by tackling poor air quality and health problems deriving from dirtier fuels, as air pollution is one of the greatest environmental risks to health.





Providing

By providing a poverty-break platform for underdeveloped and developing economies, from clean cooking to national industries, these economies can scale rapidly to meet their geographical and social potential, using an energy source much cleaner and more sustainable than coal or wood, ensuring that wild and endangered habitats remain protected.

Maximising

By maximising operational efficiencies and decarbonisation, the Gas industry continues its path to be future-ready and, with a focus on innovation, is deploying technologies to minimise its environmental footprint by driving down supply chain emissions.

A photograph of several large, white industrial pipes and valves set in a grassy field. The pipes are supported by thin metal legs. One valve has a prominent blue handwheel. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

The IGU, therefore, urges the world's key stakeholders to:

1. Implement

Implement prudent, achievable and efficient result-driven regulations to aggressively and urgently reduce economy-wide methane emissions, including their improved measurement, inventory, reporting and verification.

2. Incentivise

Incentivise the global switching to cleaner fuels by investing in clean technologies, including low-carbon gases and carbon capture and storage. Well-designed policies that could include emissions pricing, air quality regulations, emissions standards, or special incentives in the absence of a universal price on emissions can support the more rapid scaling of these technologies.

3. Adopt

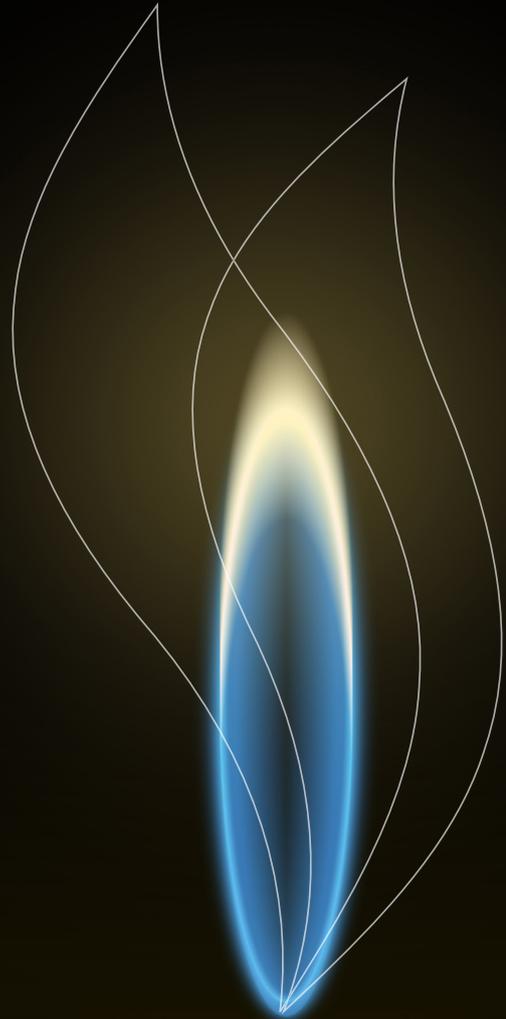
Adopt technology-neutral policies, such as carbon pricing regimes, and avoid prescriptive technology choices in order to enable a wide range of energy sources, including gases, across different applications and in different locations as these will be critical to a successful global energy transition and an optimised investment allocation.

4. Recognise

Recognise, respect and support regional differences as Gas usage varies across countries and global regions. Policies that have cross-border implications (i.e. sustainable investment criteria or carbon-leakage policies) will need to be recognised and adapted to these differences.

5. Ensure

Ensure access to finance as policies that raise the cost of capital for Gas investments will hurt developing regions the most. They will raise the risk of declining Gas supply, insufficient to meet demand, and unfairly disadvantage developing regions which are already struggling to provide their citizens with access to affordable and reliable energy.



Many IGU members seek to enhance the value of capital and wealth of skills, experience and partnerships to accelerate the deployment of zero and low-carbon gases, such as renewable natural gas, biomethane, hydrogen and e-methane, as well as the sustained deployment of decarbonisation technologies, especially carbon capture, utilisation and storage.

IGU is therefore committed to working with its members and undertaking the necessary efforts – at national, regional and international levels – so that legislators have an informed, evidence-backed view on the often conflicting realities of energy sustainability and energy security.

IGU encourages all its members to step up decarbonisation efforts, including adopting a zero-methane emissions culture, focusing on the deployment of monitoring, verification and emissions reduction technologies. The IGU applauds many members who have already committed to reducing their methane emissions by at least 30% and operating with near-zero leaks by 2030.



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