

Investing in the future

If you look around, you can see many objects, and if ask yourself, what's in common, there is only one answer – energy.

All daily objects need energy to be produced and to be used. You can say that energy is the driving force of the universe.

Unfortunately we take energy for granted, and most of us do not realise the fact, that in several decades, we will run out of our conventional sources of energy – fossil fuels. And when that happens, we need to be prepared.

We need optimistic visions for the future and not only dream about the future, but make our dreams come true. In other words, we need a new type of energy that can sustain us for centuries to come.

The good news is that we don't have to come up something revolutionary, everything we need to be energy independent is around us. There is so much energy in the wind, in the sun, in the earth itself, in the oceans, even in our garbage. All we have to do is use it. And that is already done, for quite some time now we have been utilizing the forces of nature to produce energy. The problem is in the scale – only 5% of the total produced energy is from renewable sources. But the planet has the capability to produce 1000 times the energy the world demands only from renewable sources.

Let's see what investments for the future has Japan made:

- In Hokkaido snow and ice are stored during the winter and used for production of cool air and water in the summer.
- Also organic substances of biological origin are converted into fuels, that can be transferred into electrical and heat energy.
- Japan is very rich in geothermal waters, and their power is harvested and used for heating buildings and generating of electricity.
- There are waste incineration facilities for production of hot water for domestic needs .

And Japan has the capacity to produce a lot more renewable energy, and so does the rest of the world and we must follow their example.

Given the energy and environmental issues, we all must take steps toward establishing a sustainable society in which energy is utilized efficiently with minimal impact on the environment in order to allow sustainable economic development.