

## Asian Rising Energy Demand

- Growth in Asian energy demand has been fueled in recent decades by rapid industrialization and urbanization, as well as by a burgeoning middle class and adoption of middle-class lifestyles.
- In 2010, the International Energy Agency (IEA) projected that by 2035 developing (non-OECD) economies will account for over 93% of the rise in global energy demand. Asia will account for a major part of that demand. For example:
  - Energy use in non-OECD countries, led by China and India, is expected to increase 118% from 2007 to 2035.
  - China, which in 2009 overtook the US as the world’s largest energy consumer, makes up 36% of the projected rise in global energy demand.
  - Southeast Asia has also prioritized the development of a regional energy infrastructure, committing to the construction of 4500 kilometres of gas pipelines by 2020 between the 10 member states.

The need for enhanced energy security, broadly defined as access to reliable, affordable and environmentally sustainable supplies of energy, is also a driver for Asia’s energy demand. Efforts to strengthen energy security include:

- Diversifying the mix of energy resources. Specifically, this means reducing dependence on oil and exploring other sources, such as renewable (wind, solar, hydro, tidal, geothermal), natural gas and nuclear energy.
- Broadening the list of energy suppliers. Continued turmoil in the Middle East may be a particularly motivating factor for Asian countries to consider more politically stable energy suppliers such as Canada.
- Transitioning to cleaner and more efficient energy sources. For example, China, which has large coal reserves, is looking to reduce its use of coal energy and is exploring clean coal, nuclear and natural gas technologies. The transition is facilitated by the recognition of severe pollution and specific policy targets for emissions reductions.

### Top Global:

#### Net Importers of Crude Oil (2008)

- # 1. US
- #2. Japan**
- #3. China**
- #4. India
- #5. South Korea**

#### Net Importers of Coal (2009)

- 1. Japan**
- #2. China**
- #3. South Korea**
- #4. India**
- #5. Chinese Taipei

#### Net Importers of Gas (2009)

- #1. Japan**
- #3. US
- #9. South Korea**

#### Producers of Hydroelectricity (2008)

- #4. Canada
- #6. China**
- #8. India**
- #9. Japan**

#### Producers of Nuclear Electricity (2008)

- 4. South Korea**
- #5. Japan**
- #9. Canada
- #10. Russia

### Sources:

International Energy Agency: [2010 World Energy Outlook](#)

US Energy Information Administration: [International Energy Outlook 2010](#)

ASEAN Secretariat: <http://www.asean.org/documents/MPAC.pdf>

Amy Myers Jaffe. *Foreign Policy*. “[The Americas, Not the Middle East, Will Be The World Capital of Energy](#)”. Sep/Oct 2011