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Flexibility in Clean Energy System Transition and the Role of Hydropower

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Seminar on Water and Energy Technology
Innovation in the process of urbanization
9:00-12:00, 8 November, 2018, Beijing, China

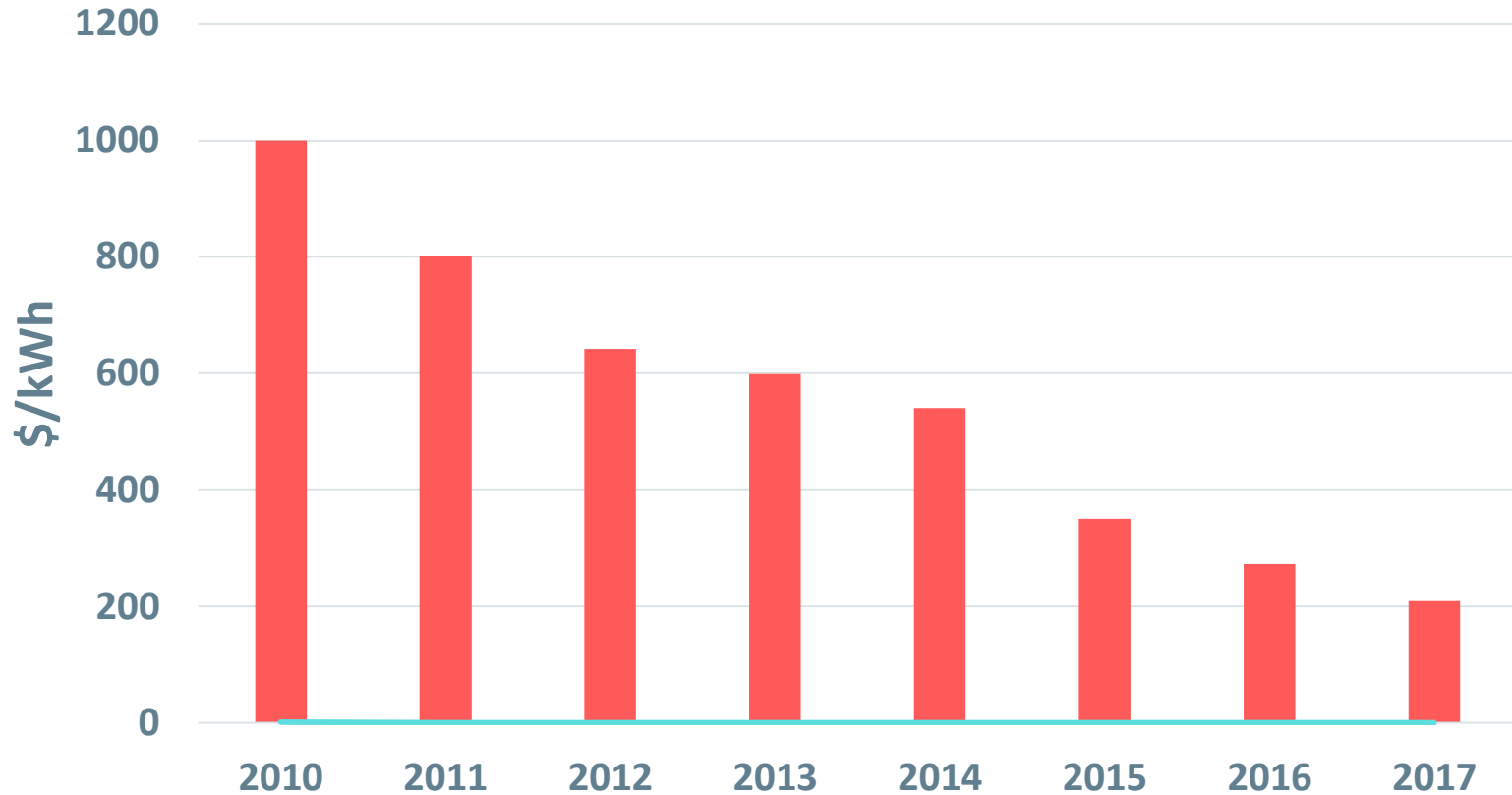
Shifting global narrative on clean energy transition and needs for acceleration

- The clean energy transition is faster than anticipated
- It is largely no longer about the cost, but a conducive and functional power system/market in which flexibility is essential – power sources, transmission network, as well as demand side management
- Reaching the global climate target requires acceleration of the clean energy transition

Electric Viechel



Lithium-ion battery prices (battery pack price, \$/kWh)



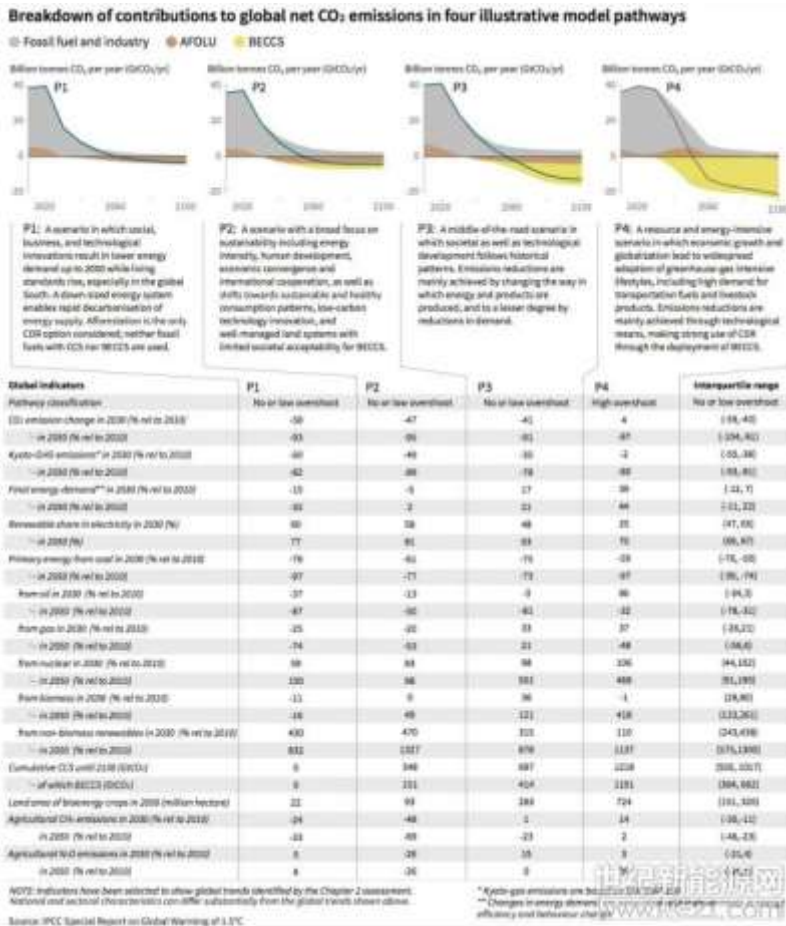
Data source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance

Renewable energy (exclude large hydro) share of power generation : EU

In the past decade, the EU has moved significantly on increasing the penetration of renewable energy power generation

Countries	2007	2017
UK	1%	28%
Denmark	24%	69%
Spain	13%	29%
Italy	10%	32%
Germany	11%	37%
CHINA		7.84%

To still have the possibility of reaching the 1.5 °C target, the share of renewable electricity need to be 70% to 85% by 2050



This requires power market transformation and investment...

- According to IEA data, 2015, the share of renewable energy in the electricity generation was only 23%.
- Electric power system will need significant capacity for large scale energy storage capacity that combines pumped storage hydro, battery, gas, hydrogen, etc.
- And to increase the renewable penetration to the expected level by the IPCC 1.5 report, the world would need to eliminate coal power and invest \$2.4 trillion a year in green energy technologies. According to Bloomberg New Energy Finance, global investment in renewable energy is only \$138.2 billion USD during the first half of 2018

**“ Power market transformation
is a race for flexibility”**

What are required to enhance the flexibility?

Integration
一体化

What are required to enhance the flexibility?

Energy storage capacity
儲能

What are required to enhance the flexibility?

Smart Grid
智能化

What are required to enhance the flexibility?

Aggregation
集成

What are required to enhance the flexibility?

Decentralized/Distributed
多元化

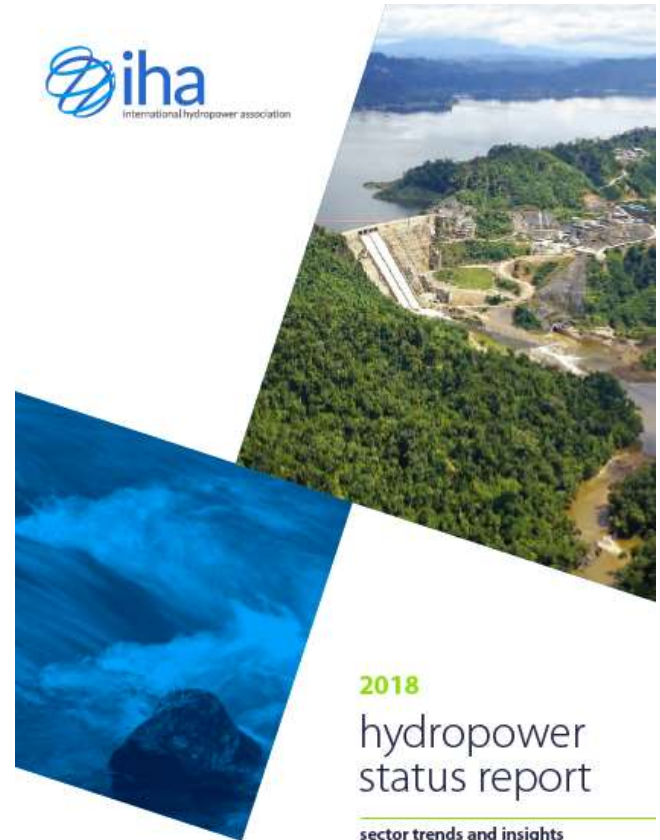
What are required to enhance the flexibility?

Market Design
市场设计

The role of hydropower – a new dimension in sustainable hydropower use and integration

Global status of hydropower

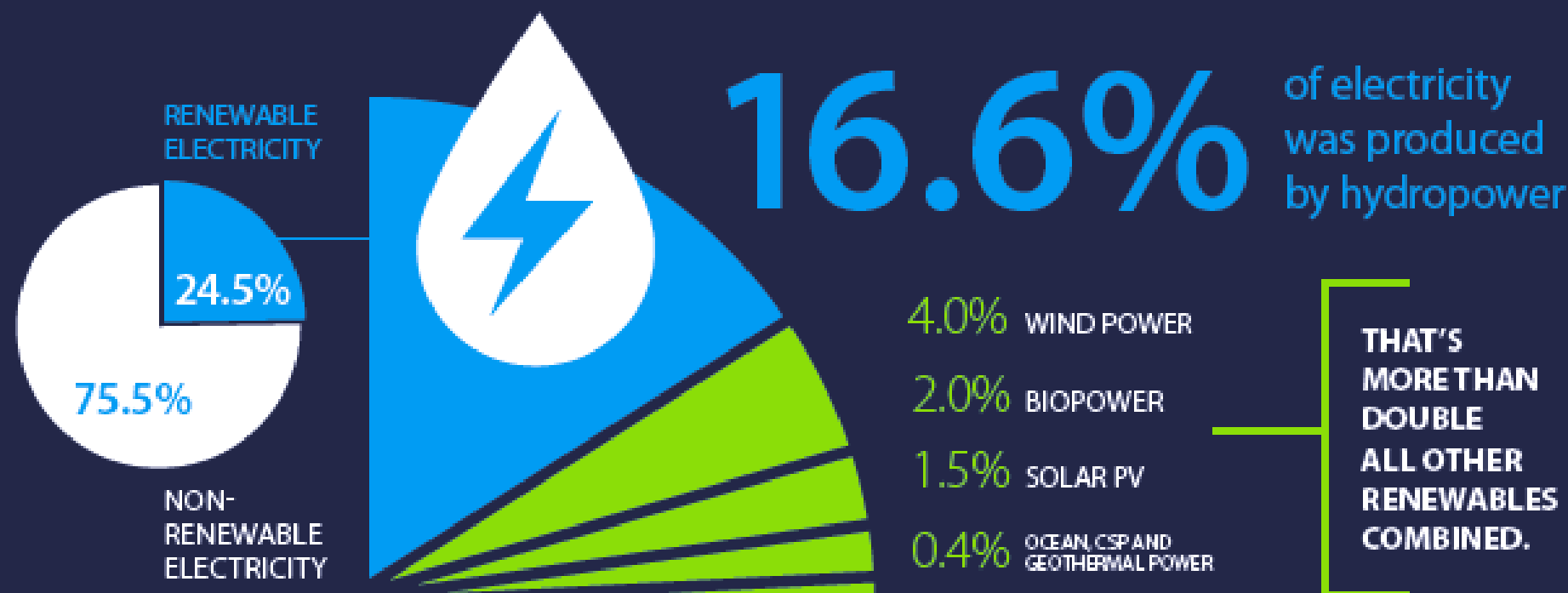
- Globally, installed hydropower capacity reached 1,267 GW in 2017, 4,185 terawatt hours (TWh) in electricity was generated.
- Newly added capacity in 2017 was 21.9 GW, including 3.2 GW of pumped storage, bringing global pumped storage capacity to 153 GW.
- It has significant benefits for reducing carbon emission, as well as other coal related air pollutants.



SHARE OF GLOBAL ELECTRICITY GENERATION

Source: REN21 2017

Hydropower is the world's largest source of renewable electricity generation.



Role of hydro: Range of issues

Technical:

- System design
- Scheduling and optimization
- Forecasting and uncertainty

Planning and operation

- Operational planning – multiple actors. Stakeholder planning
- Operation schemes
- Flexibility and optimization

Role of hydro: Range of issues

Risk, ecological and other impacts

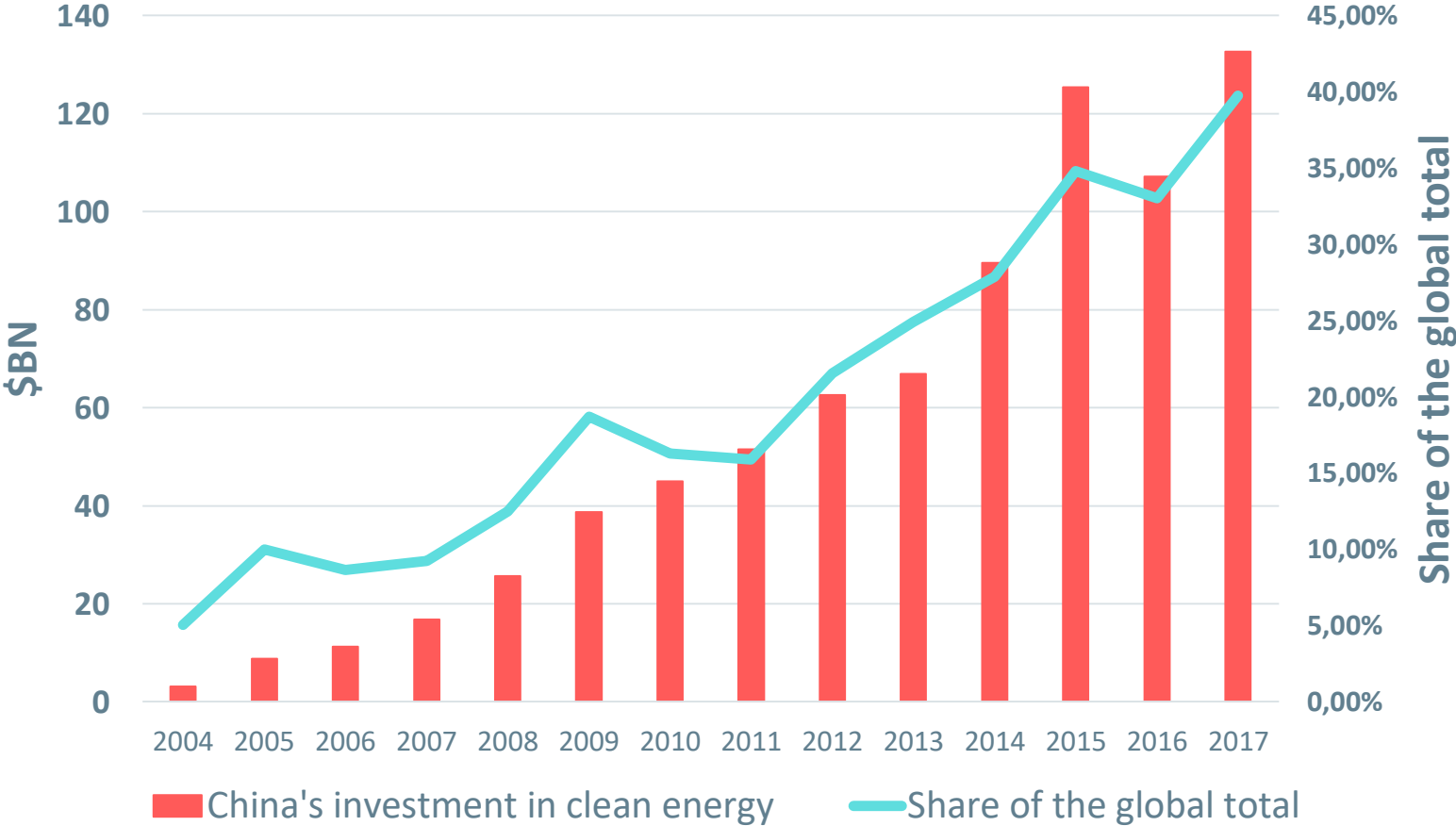
- System risks due to variable power generations
- Ecological impacts of large-scale wind/solar power integration with hydropower
- Other impacts on the integration of hydro, wind and solar power

Regulatory frameworks – power market design and reform:

- Enabling market conditions – price mechanism
- Ancillary service
- Market integration

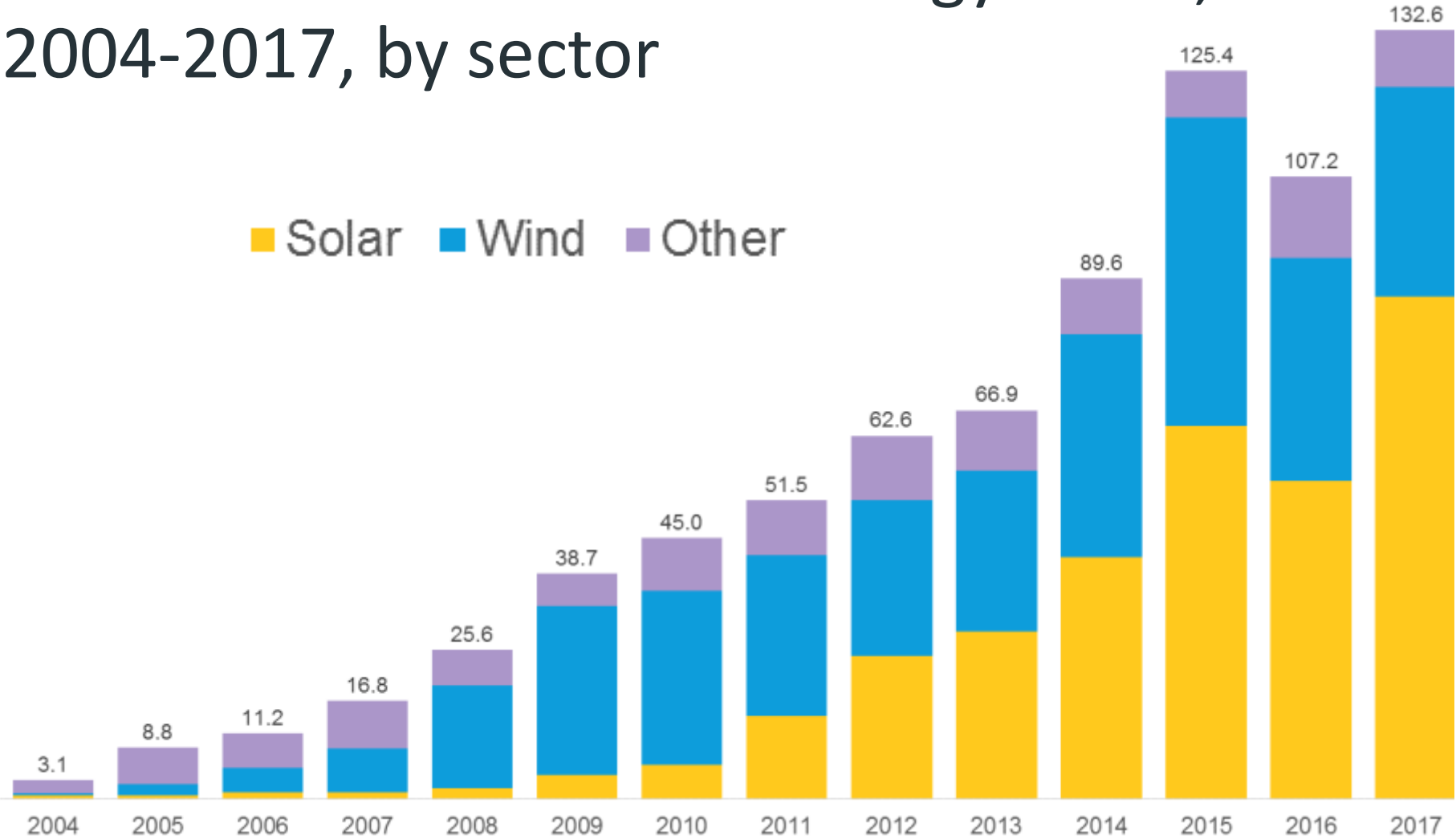
Key Challenges – Renewable curtailment in China

Investment in clean energy: China



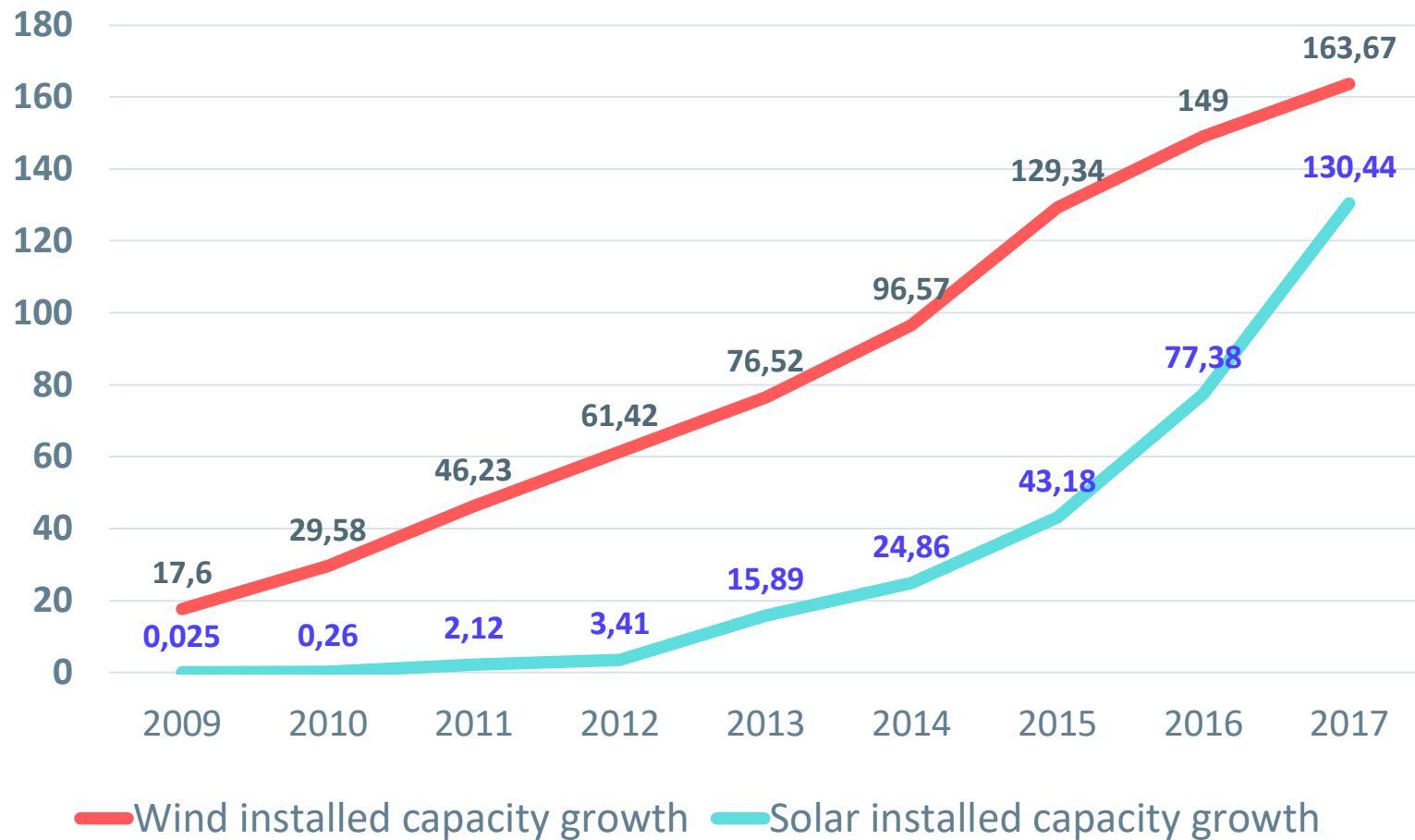
Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance

New investment in clean energy China, 2004-2017, by sector

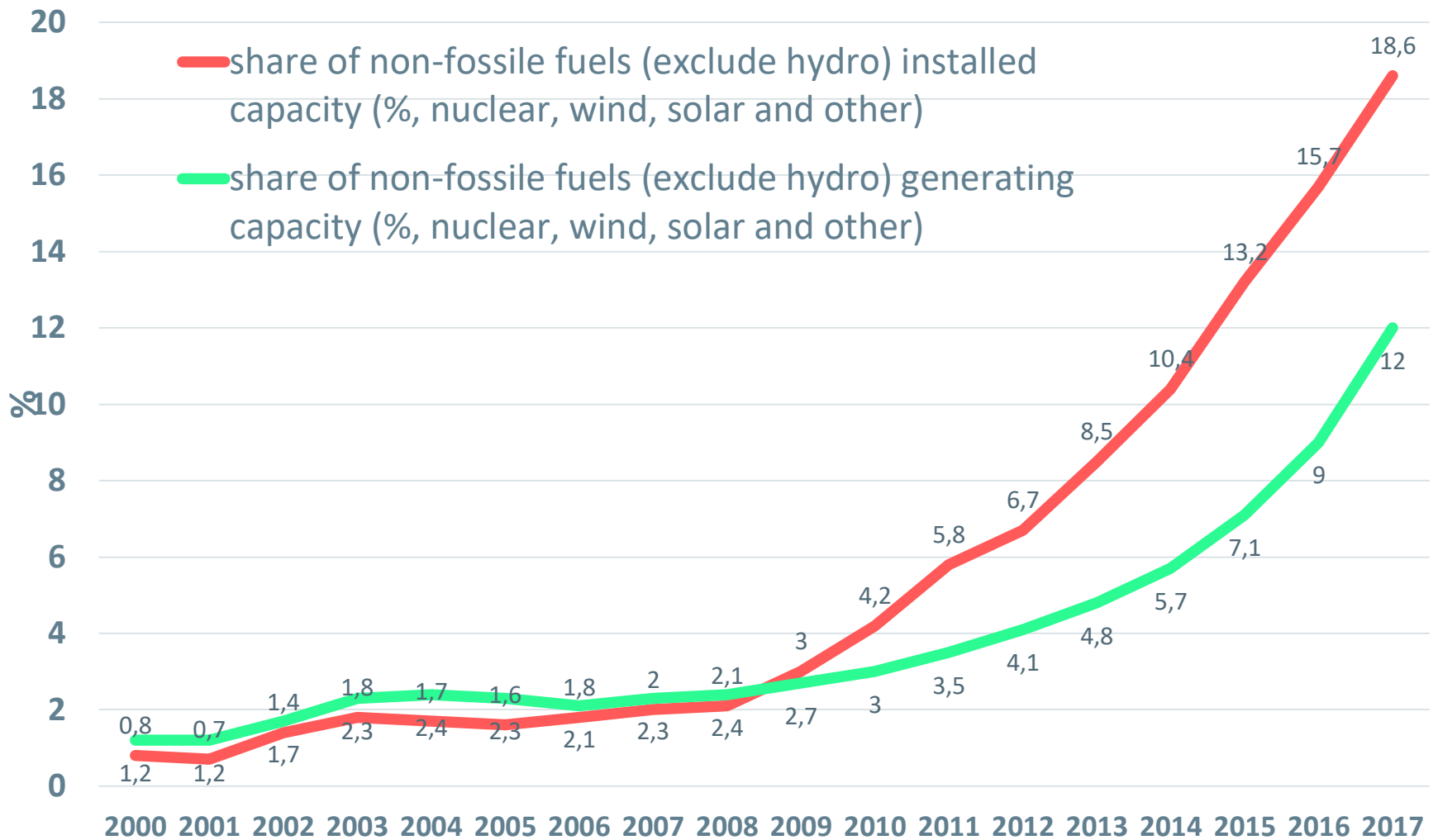


Source: BNEF, 2018

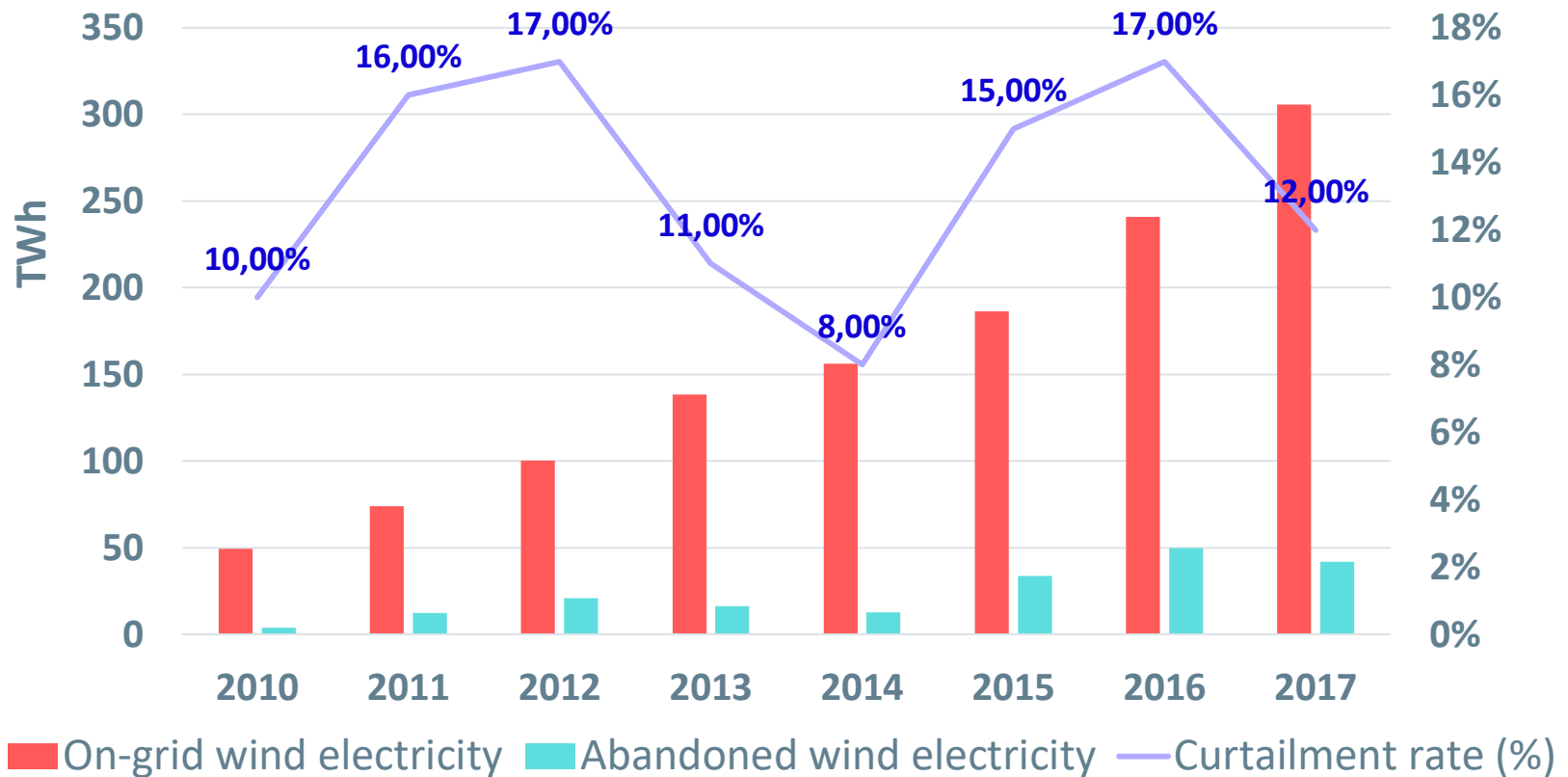
Wind and solar installed capacity (GW) in China: 2009-2017



Source: National Bureau of Statistics of China, China Electricity Council. Global Wind Energy Council, China Photovoltaic Industry Alliance



Wind power and curtailment in China: 2010-2017



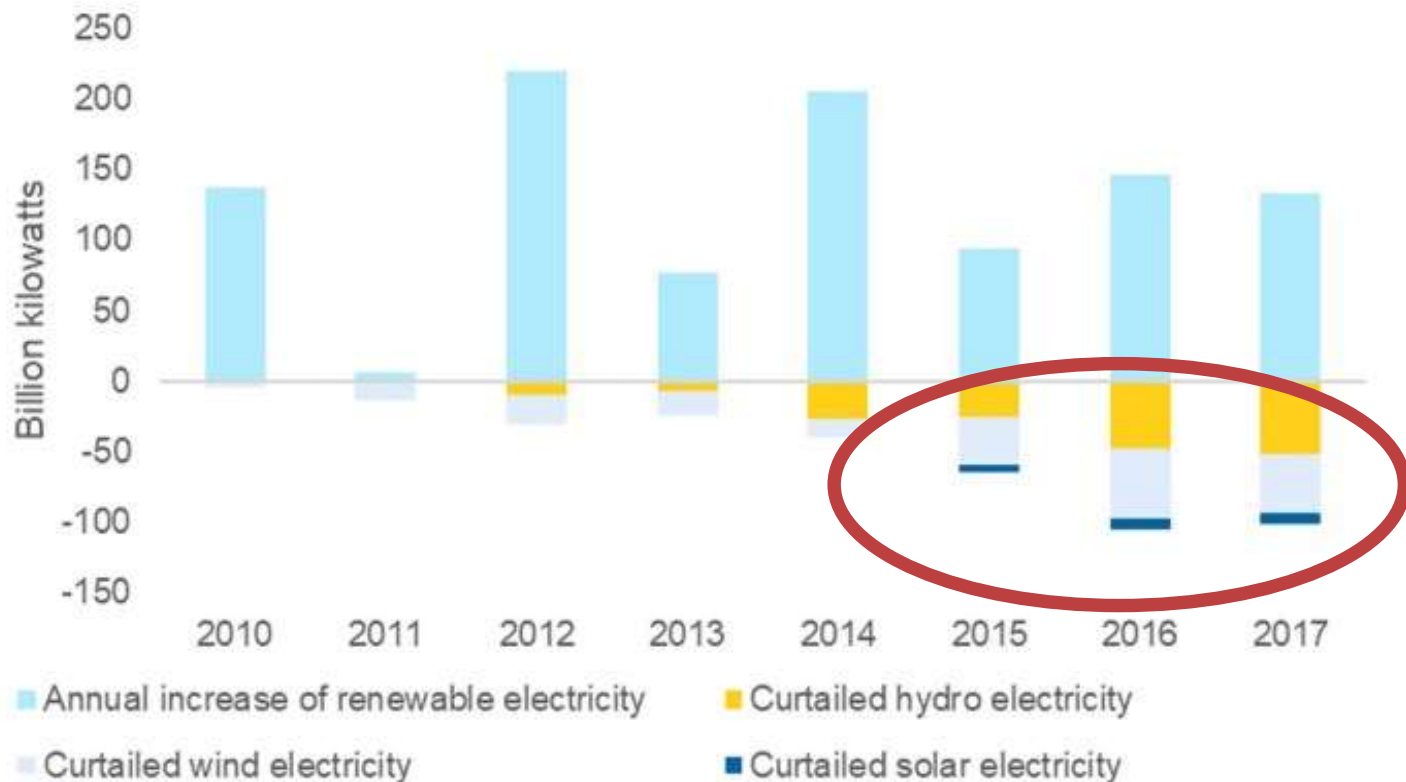
Original data sources: Wang 2014; NEA 2014; 2015;2016; 2017; 2018; recompiled from Qi et al. 2018

Wind curtailment in the Three North Provinces in China, 2016

Provinces	Abandoned wind generation (TWh)	Curtailment rate (%)	Proportion of wind power capacity (%)	Penetration rate (%)
Hebei	2.2	9%	18.8%	8.8%
Shanxi	1.4	9%	10.1%	5.4%
Inner Mongolia	12.4	21%	23.2%	11.7%
Liaoning	1.9	13%	15.1%	7.4%
Jilin	2.9	30%	18.6%	9.0%
Heilongjiang	2	19%	20.2%	9.6%
Shaanxi	0.2	7%	6.4%	1.9%
Gansu	10.4	43%	26.5%	11.2%
Ningxia	1.9	13%	25.6%	10.9%
Xinjiang	13.7	38%	22.9%	9.7%
SUM/AVG	49.00	20%	19%	9%

Close to 99% of the abandoned wind electricity are from the Three Norths

Curtailed hydro, solar, and wind electricity & annual increase in renewable electricity (2010-2017)



Wenjuan Dong and Ye Qi (Friday, May 18, 2018): Utility of renewable energy in China's low-carbon transition, <https://www.brookings.edu/2018/05/18/utility-of-renewable-energy-in-chinas-low-carbon-transition/>

Wind power curtailment by province by the end of Q1 2018

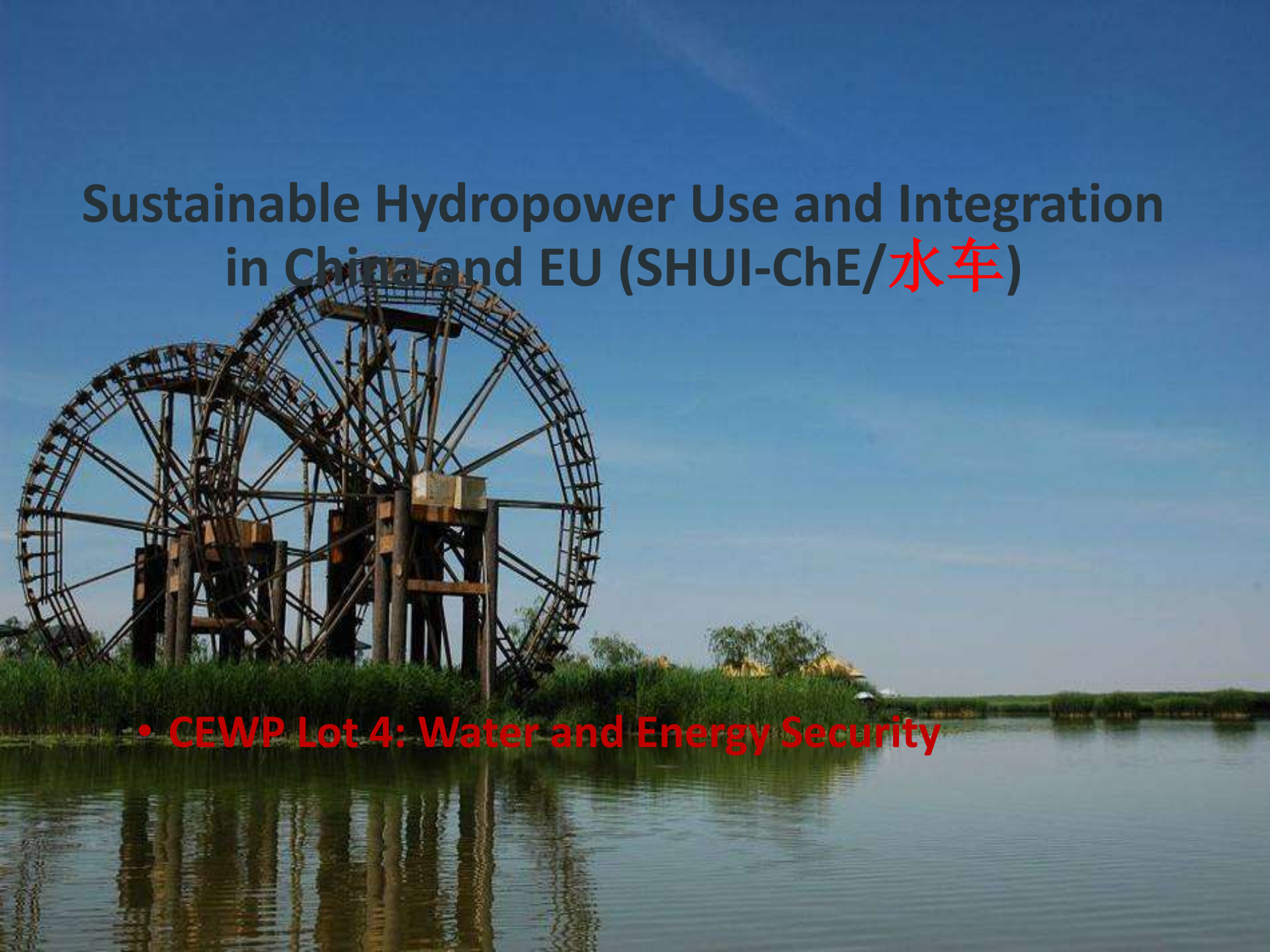
Province (autonomous region, municipality)	Cumulative grid-connected generation capacity (MW)	Electricity production (GWh)	Curtailment (GWh)	Curtailment (%)
Xinjiang	18,060	7,610	2,100	21.60%
Inner Mongolia	26,810	16,000	4,480	21.30%
Gansu	12,820	5,820	1,410	19.50%
Heilongjiang	5,700	3,390	320	8.50%
Jilin	5,050	2,510	220	8.10%
Shaanxi	3,640	2,220	60	2.80%
Hebei	12,080	8,980	240	2.60%
Ningxia	9,760	4,810	120	2.50%
Liaoning	7,190	4,260	100	2.40%
Shanxi	8,910	6,540	50	0.70%

Power market reform and opportunities for cooperation

- On sources: China will continue to build renewable and clean, especially distributed solar and possibly off-shore wind
- On the power network: connection and integration to add the needed flexibility is extremely urgent
- Storage – batteries and PSH
- Demand side – electrify and “flexify” – e.g., EV, and innovation on the heating system
- Power market design and institutional framework

Sustainable Hydropower Use and Integration in China and EU (SHUI-ChE/水车)

- CEWP Lot 4: Water and Energy Security



EU-CHINA SUSTAINABLE HYDROPOWER INNOVATION NETWORK (EC SHIN)

Overall GOAL: Enhancing sustainable hydropower in low carbon development transition in EU and China through mutual learning.

Focusing on two main dimensions

Minimizing environmental impacts and improving efficiency
(the **GREEN** dimension)

Maximizing the role of hydropower in sustainable energy system and RES transition (the **BLUE** dimension)

In four thematic/activity areas

A: Green standards in small hydropower development

B: Optimization of hydropower schemes to improve efficiency

C: Hydropower as enabler for RES transition

D: Integrated water and energy planning in EU and China

Each structured with three building blocks

Articulating the opportunities and policy space

Realizing the opportunities and addressing the implications

In-depth analysis and demonstration

Implemented in three inter-linked steps

Policy and solution oriented synthesis research

Exchange event and mutual learning

Policy brief with insights and recommendations

Thank you

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