



REN21 Webinar 25 March 2020

Sub-Saharan African Cities: an overview





Sustainable low carbon settlements



Technical support



Energy poverty



Capacity building



Knowledge management



Network and facilitation

WHAT WE DO

Urban areas are characterised by congestion and informality



- Access to electricity is low, at 32% (16% rural, 59% urban), and power outages are common
- One in three people in SSA have access to electricity
- The predominant energy source remains traditional biomass, with 730 million of the current 1 billion population relying on this source for cooking



The Sub-Saharan priority is development.

- African cities and towns are partly formed – infrastructure is inadequate
- They are characterised by severe poverty and inequity
- Incomes are low, prevalence of slums is high
- Access to modern and safe energy is limited, with severe welfare consequences.





The demand for energy is growing rapidly across Sub-Saharan Africa, yet it in 2014 accounted for only 4% of the global total, despite the region's population comprising 13% of the world's population.

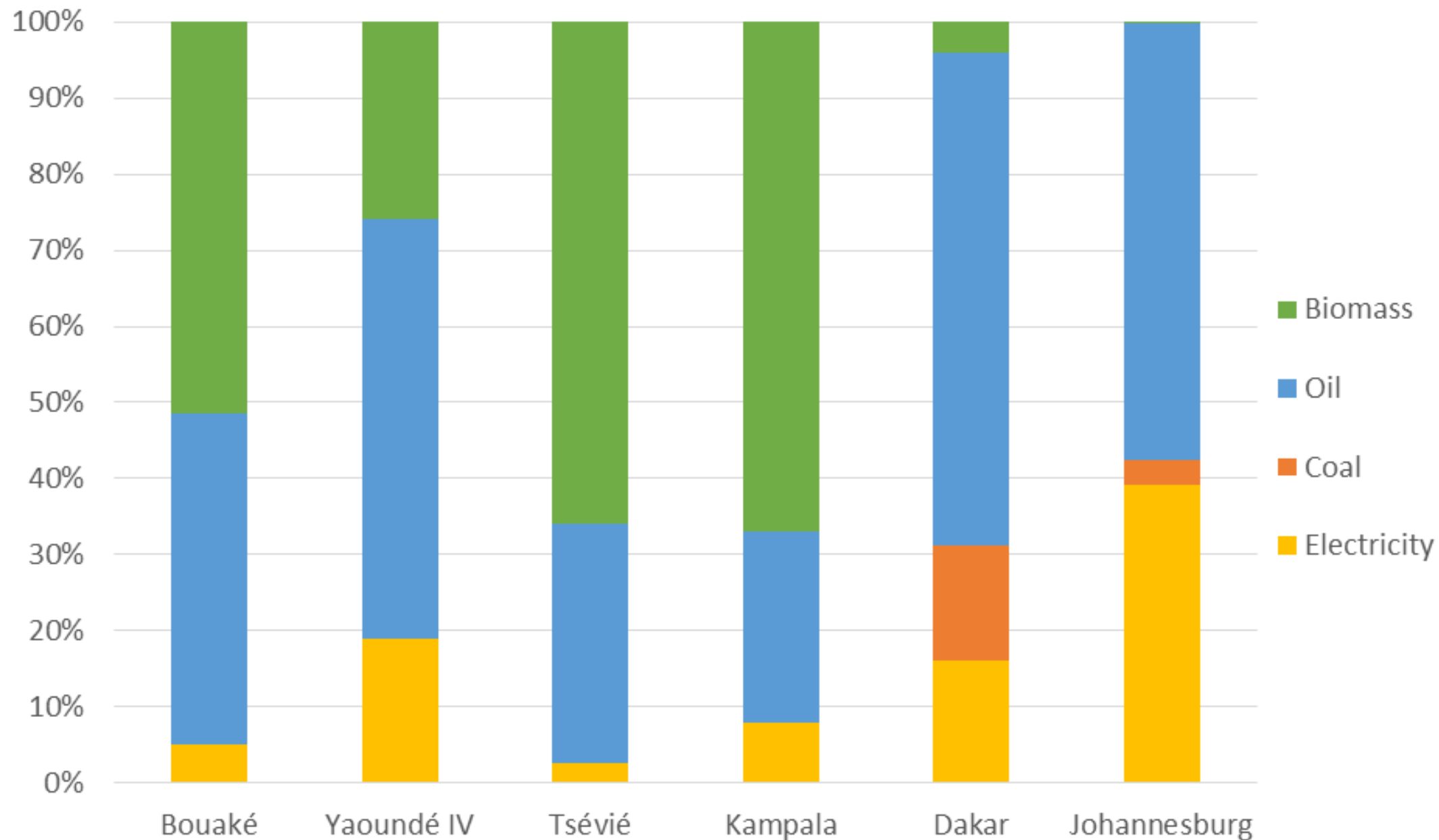
Energy is relatively expensive by global standards because of inefficiencies and costly forms of supply.

Low incomes make energy affordability a serious problem.

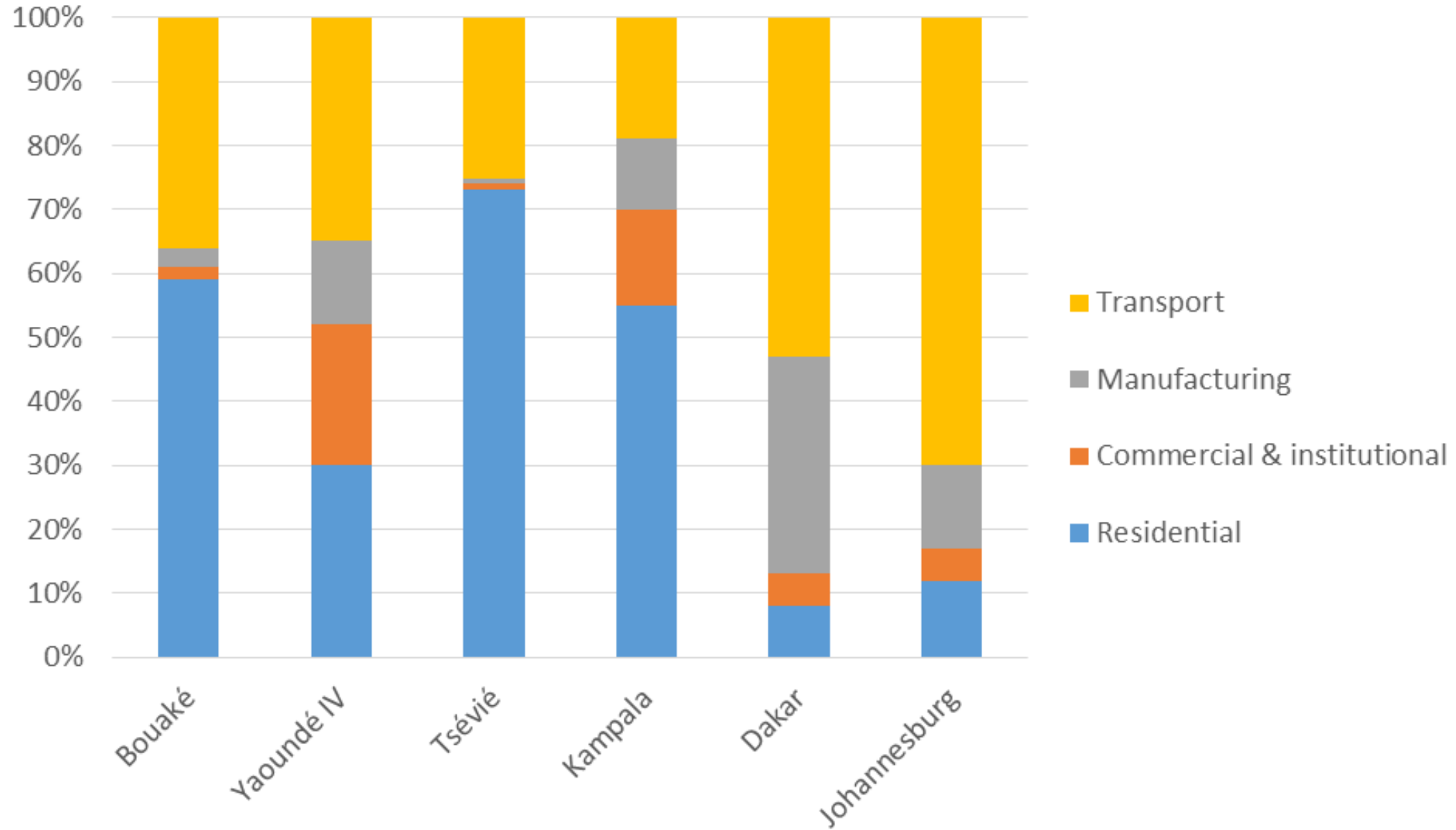
Significantly, much of available energy is used up in the transport sector, a consequence of inefficient transport networks.

Among the development needs of SSA is the need to increase power generation capacity

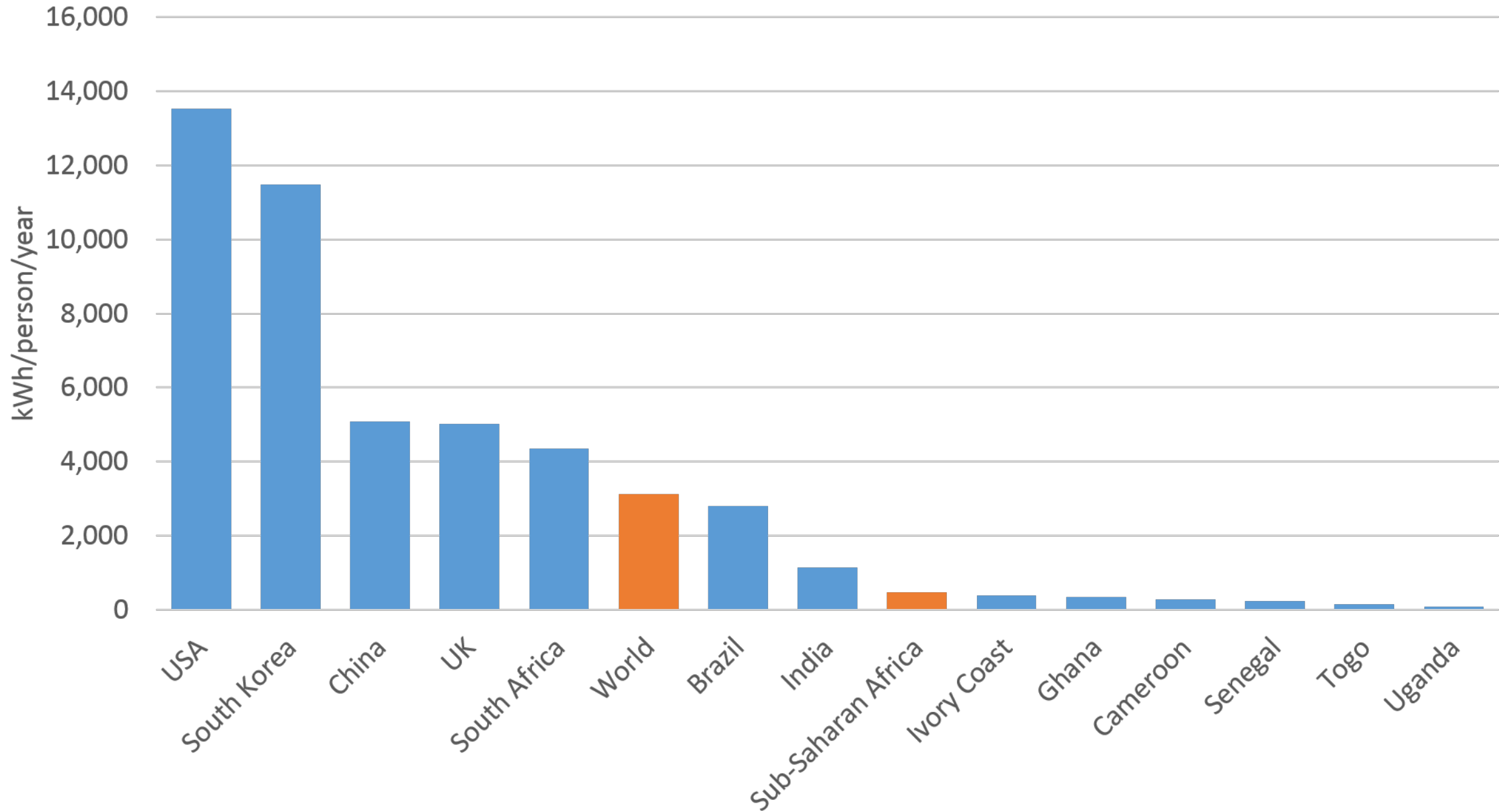
Energy consumption by energy carrier



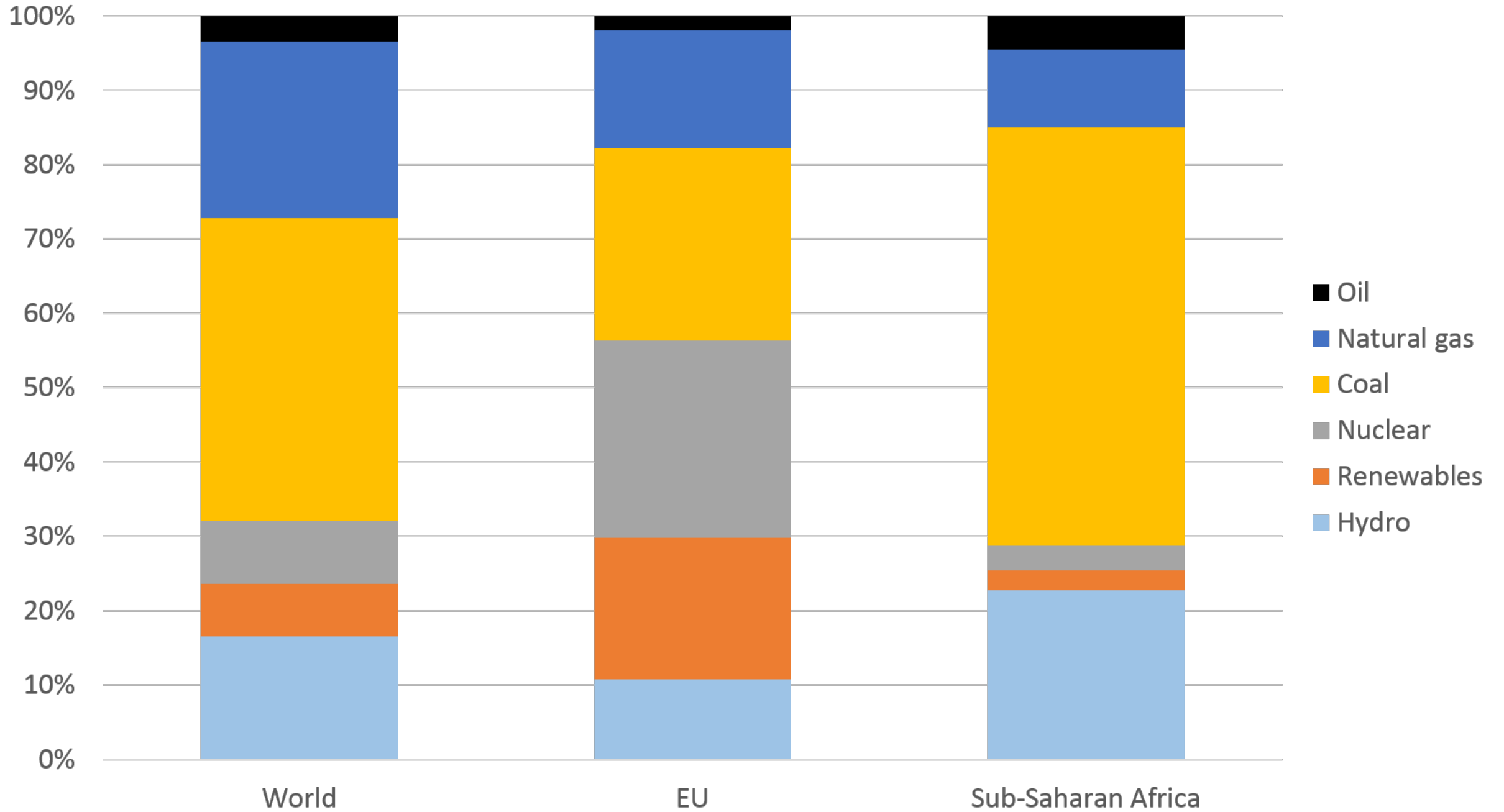
Energy consumption by sector



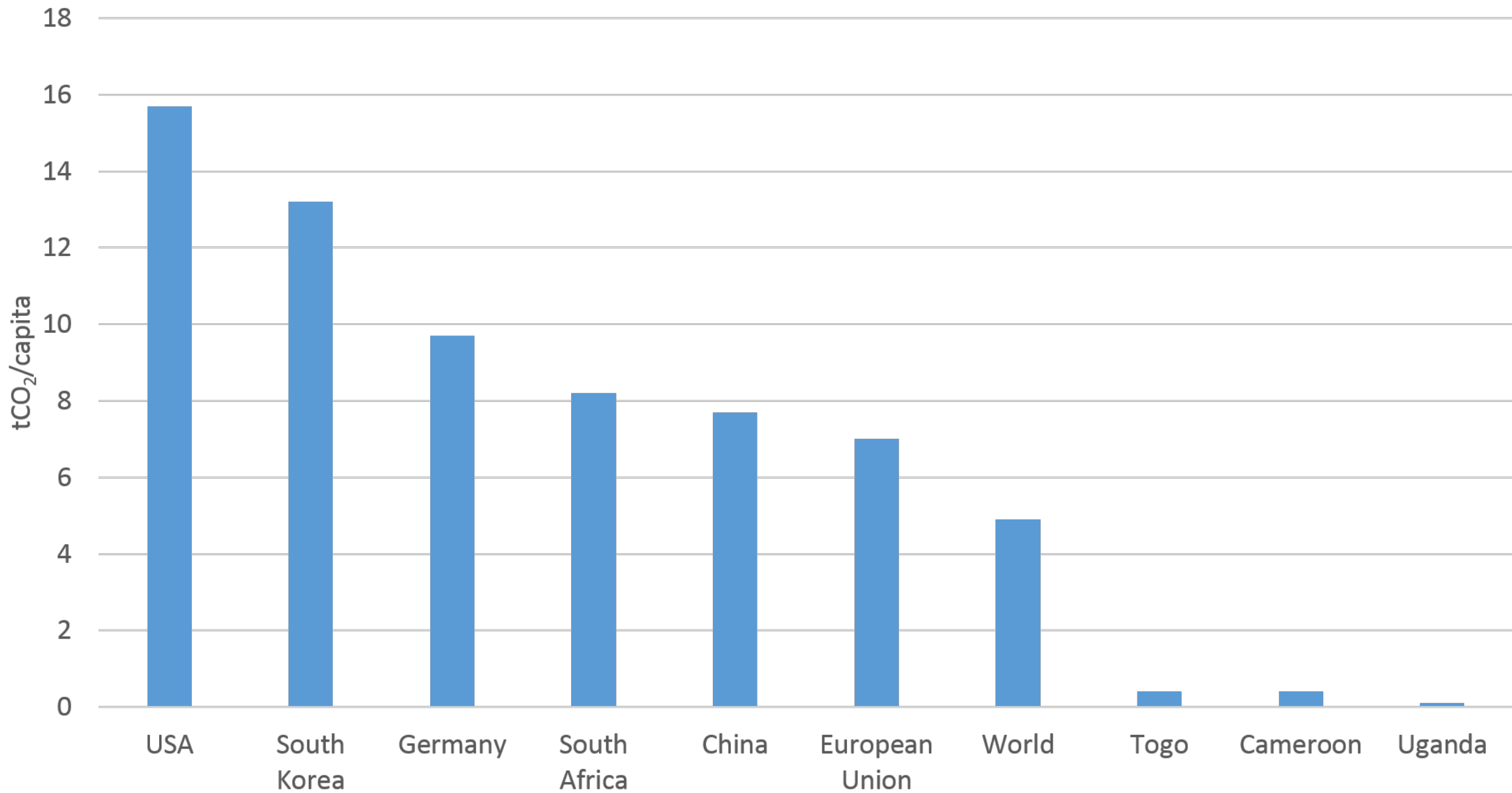
Electricity consumption per person per year



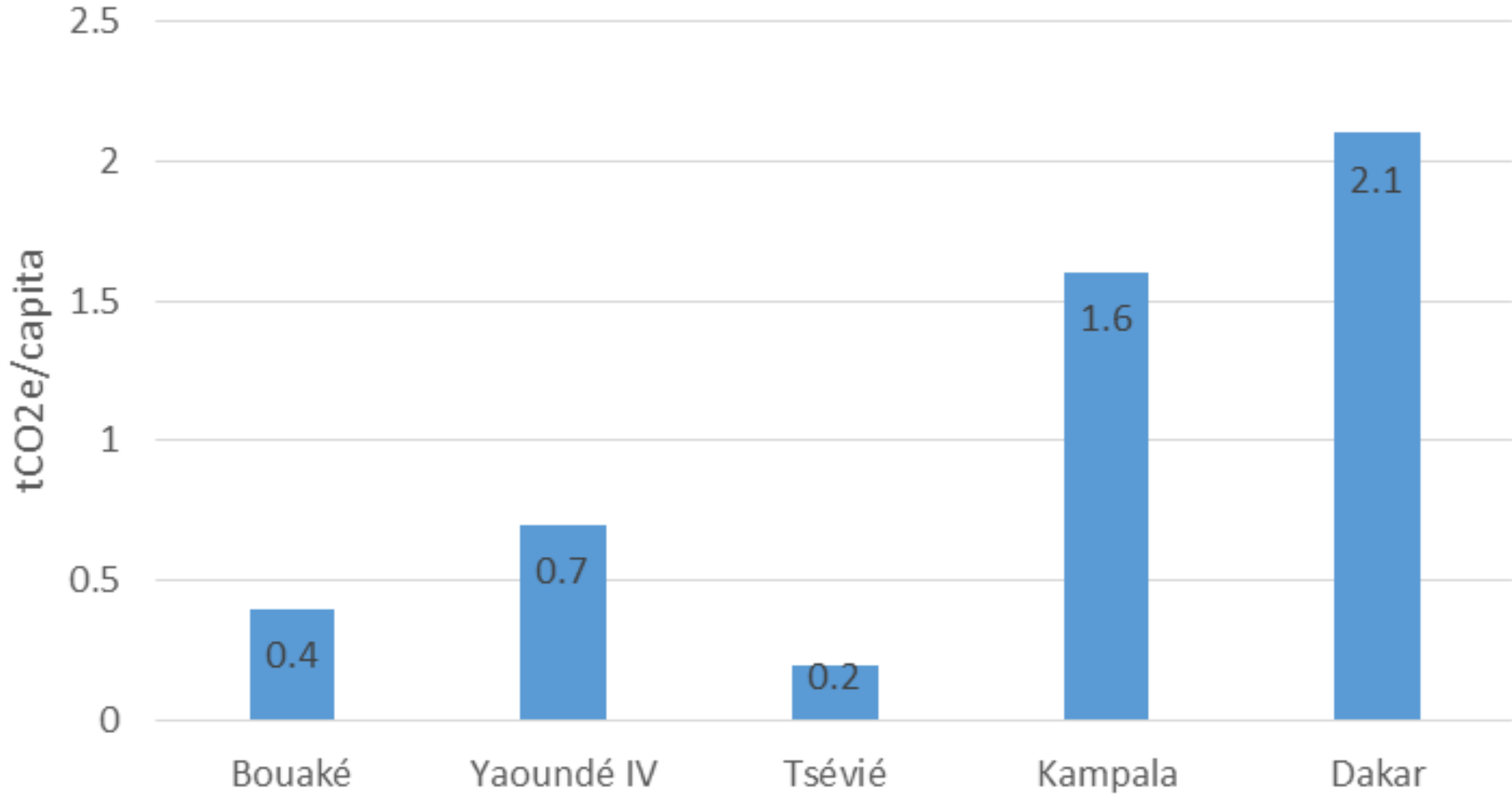
Electricity production by source (MWh)



Carbon dioxide emissions per person by country (2017)



Per capita emissions in the base year







The role of local government in sustainable energy transitions

- Mandates need to be devolved
- Budgets should follow mandates
- Regulations should align
- Strong governance and leadership is required
- Funding for research and data collection to support decision-making

Supporting local government to promote and mainstream sustainable energy and climate change response



POLICIES/IMPLEMENTATION

From evidence to policy to implementation

Local government knows what it has to do

- **Alignment of policies**
- **Regulation regarding generation of power**
- **Governance and leadership**
- **Review of fiscal arrangements**
- **Financing climate change**
- **Awareness and communication**



Photograph by Bablu Virinder-Singh
(Sustainable Energy Africa archives)

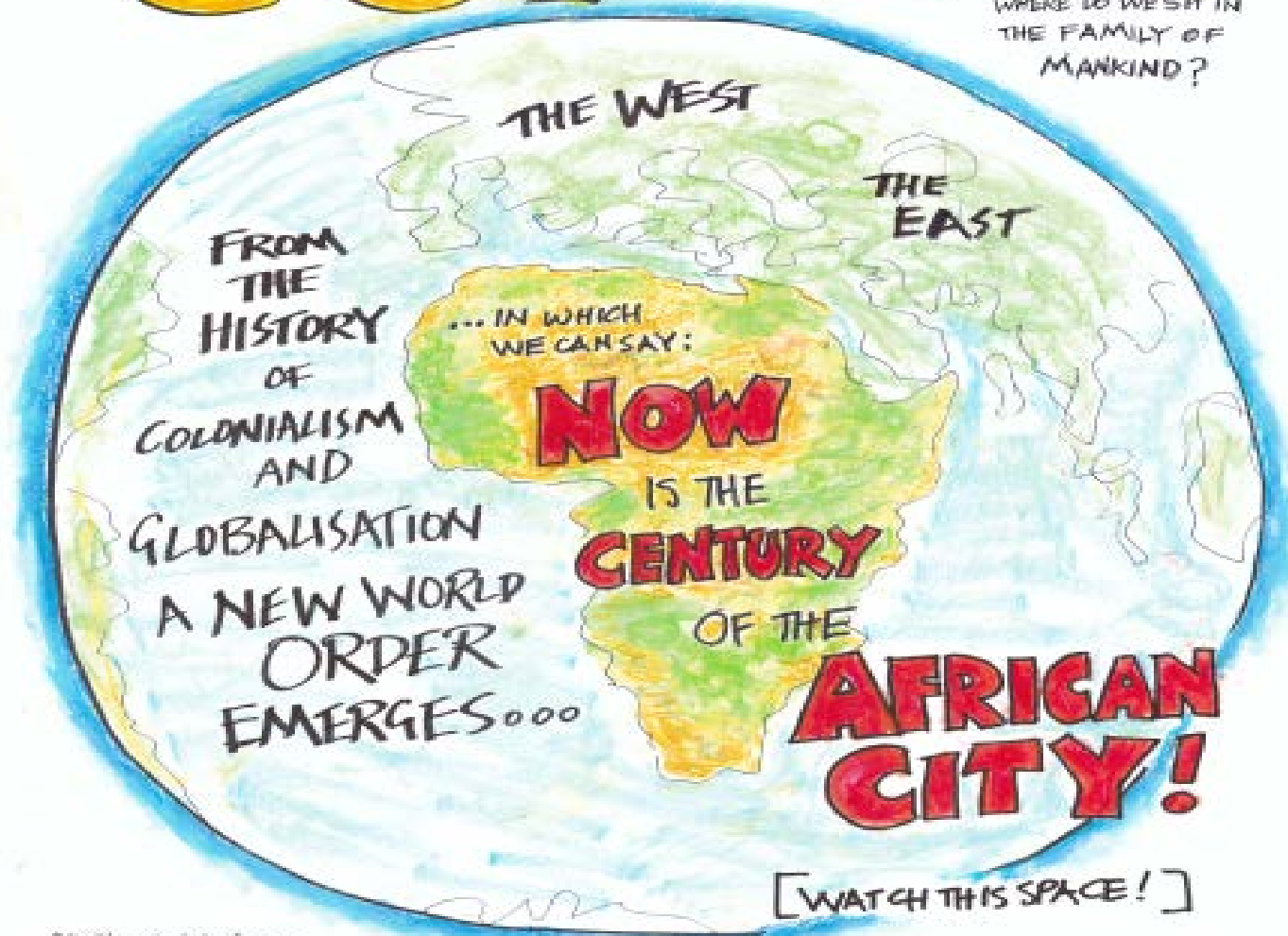
Sub Saharan African cities are pushing the boundaries and bringing about change but in order to take this to a significant scale we have to address the problem from a holistic perspective



OUT COME



AT THE DOOR
WE PART
COMPANY -
EMPOWERED?
ABANDONED?
WHERE DO WE SIT IN
THE FAMILY OF
MANKIND?





SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY
AFRICA

THANK YOU

Name Peta Wolpe

Email peta@sustainable.org.za