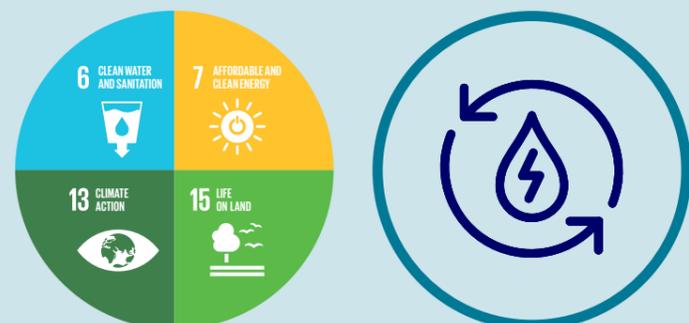


# Renewable resources

Renewable resources are natural resources that can be replenished naturally in the course of time. Some renewable resources, such as solar and wind energy, have essentially an endless supply. Other resources take time and effort to renew, such as water, wood and oxygen. Although it will take a very long time to replenish them, many precious metals are also considered renewable. They are often not destroyed during extraction and use and can therefore be re-used.

## How to limit the use of finite resources?

- > Strive for a 100% renewable energy system
- > Find renewable (bio-based) raw materials as feedstock for industrial processes
- > Integrate water systems and increase water and energy efficiency



### The Triodos perspective

For a transition from a resource-intensive economy to a sustainable economy, it's essential to reduce demand for non-renewable natural resources. They should be used as efficiently as possible and, when possible, renewable natural resources should be used.

The energy sector will need to undergo a deep transformation, including full decarbonisation of the power sector. We strive for a 100% renewable energy system that enables sustainable economic development and limits the rise in global temperature to well below 2°C. Renewable energy can take different forms: solar, wind, hydro, geothermal. We exclude nuclear energy, because it is inherently unsafe and the issue of nuclear waste as yet unresolved.

We also need to find more renewable (bio-based) raw materials as feedstock for industrial processes. Demand for raw materials, such as oil, metals and minerals, will continue to increase. Instead of tackling the projected production shortfall by stepping up the exploration, we should optimise the use and recycling of these raw materials (although low concentrations can

make this technologically highly challenging). We should also develop alternative materials that will provide the functionality needed in the application. This is the only natural way to reduce dependence on raw materials that are in limited supply.

When new water facilities are designed, or existing water structures modernised, attention must be paid to sustainability. We favour the integration of water systems to better align supply and demand, delivering the 'right water for the right need', reducing treatment costs and the length of pipe needed to fulfil specific water needs.

We also need water systems that use, treat, store and reuse water and energy more efficiently. Furthermore, we must start extracting the significant resources (nutrients and energy) found in wastewater rather than discarding them as waste.

100% renewable energy system

## Investing in renewable resources

### RENEWABLE ENERGY

Our SRI funds invest in companies that offer solutions towards a zero-carbon energy system. Companies that generate green sources of energy would qualify. Manufacturers across the clean energy value chain, such as solar panel producers, windmill producers, companies providing energy storage solutions, such as battery storage developers, and developers of smart grid technologies, are also investable.

### BIO-BASED MATERIALS

We invest in suppliers of bio-based raw materials. Companies active in the field research of new bio-based materials may also be interesting. In our assessment we are always careful, however, that the production of bio-based materials does not compete with agricultural resources to produce food.

### WATER

Our SRI funds seek to finance the transition to more integrated water systems. Solutions that improve water and energy efficiency along the water value chain are also interesting.