In a context of repeated social, economic and environmental crises, the challenges of sustainable development, climate change and energy are ever present. Our development models have shown their limits and their inability to bring answers to shared issues.

There is an urgent need to reconsider many economic, technological, political and social assumptions in order to act as quickly as possible to stabilise the climate. We must also account for the conditions that support fair and balanced societal development, in a spirit of equity and solidarity between industrialised countries, economies in transition and developing countries.

Having said that, it can be easy to feel powerless and to doubt one’s ability to act when faced with models and assumptions that are widely perceived as indisputable. Yet, nothing would be worse than to yield to what may appear as unchangeable fate. With each challenge comes an infinite number of opportunities and we all have a role to play in the transition towards sustainable development.

As an informal network since 2007 and an international non-governmental and non-profit organisation based in France since 2011, ENERGIES 2050 was born with the certainty that our trajectories of development can be corrected.

Gathering members and partners from more than fifty nationalities, the NGO works in France and internationally on the Great Transition, including the energy transition, sustainable territories and cities and the shift towards a more humane, plural and united society, bringing peace and respecting the common goods of humanity.

ENERGIES 2050’s activities are organised around five complementary pillars:

- Implementation of demonstrative and replicable projects, accompanied by technical studies and research in order to provide an evidence base for innovative approaches;
- Organising and participating in workshops, round-tables and conferences, to maximise opportunities for debate and sharing experience;
- Publishing of research and project results, to bring together and share knowledge;
- Educating, training and building capacity so that everyone can have the information and knowledge necessary to act;
- Communicating to a large audience in order to inform, inspire and mobilise.

Above: ENERGIES 2050 works for a sustainable future, taking into account the different challenges faced by industrialised countries, economies in transition and developing countries in a spirit of solidarity and equality

Right: Stéphane Pouffary
ENERGIES 2050’s actions and research simultaneously take place at the local level – as the anchorage point for implementing and testing new approaches – and at the global level, since the idea is to share and spread successful experiences while learning from the mistakes made.

Lima must be a Conference of ambition, concrete engagement and equity. Demonstrating opportunities through concrete action is essential in order to give everyone the desire to act and the certainty that his or her actions will contribute to the implementation of a shared solution.

Today, more than ever, the challenges we face are much more complex and interrelated than those we have experienced in the past. ENERGIES 2050 wants to be a source of inspiration and has therefore founded, or is involved in, several international initiatives which include:

- **The Francophonie’s Initiative for Sustainable Cities**, cofounded by ENERGIES 2050 and the Institute of la Francophonie for Sustainable Development (IFDD, subsidiary organ of the International Organization of la Francophonie, which gathers 77 states and governments). The Initiative aims to provide cities with a range of solutions that they can apply and adapt according to their priorities and context, as part of a systemic approach and long-term vision. In practice, it is like building a puzzle in which each piece is independent and essential but only useful when connected to the others as part of a planned, optimised and coherent strategy. As an example of concrete action through the Initiative, a module “Training for professionals of the construction and building sector and urban planning, about the challenges of energy transition” is, since 2011, being delivered in 14 African countries in partnership with the African School of Architecture and Urban Professions (EAMAU).

- **ethiCarbon®, a global carbon initiative** created by ENERGIES 2050, provides a comprehensive and ethical approach to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through carbon offset projects that are combined with social solidarity and development activities aiming to engage everyone in a long-term vision. The ethiCarbon® initiative is destined to all types of stakeholders willing to limit their climate, social and environmental impacts. Using the dedicated ethiCarbon® carbon calculator, these stakeholders can assess the GHG emissions associated with their activities. They can choose to offset or balance this impact by supporting carbon solidarity activities implemented under the ethiCarbon® initiative. The innovation of ethiCarbon® lays in the willingness to create a “personal” link between the “offsetters” and the beneficiaries of the carbon solidarity projects, the aim being to encourage the “real concern – real care” concept, which is at the core of the long-term behavioural changes needed.

- **Shake Your Earth**, an annual worldwide citizen mobilisation founded by ENERGIES 2050, which involves the participation of civil society organisations in many places across the world, on the same day and on an identical theme. The first three editions have already resulted in an inspiring mobilisation: “Sustainable development: Why? How? My career and me in 20 years” (2012); “The energy transition: For whom? Why? How? And me?” (2013) and “Climate Change, solidarity and me” (2014). The goal is that any citizen, wherever he or she lives, can take ownership of a global issue whilst considering the local implications for their daily life.

The Lima Conference and the road to the 2015 Paris Climate Conference as well as the adoption of a post-2015 development agenda will be a particularly important collective momentum to design the future of our societies.

ENERGIES 2050 has produced an advocacy document called the “**Future we want make**” to counteract the “Future we want” outcome report of the Rio+20 Summit in 2012. The time for advocacy has passed, we must now move on to transforming knowledge into actions and constraints into opportunities. We need each one of us to become a visionary Leader towards a different and positive future. Only concrete decisions and actions will allow us to transform visions into transparent realities. ENERGIES 2050 will be part of the change. Do not hesitate to join us!

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Stéphane Pouffary is Founder and Honorary President of ENERGIES 2050. He has been working in the field of international cooperation for over 25 years. Mr Pouffary specialises in climate change, sustainable development, renewable energy, energy efficiency, buildings, cities and territorial challenges, governance and behavioural change. Under his inspiration and leadership, ENERGIES 2050, as an international non-profit NGO, is implementing concrete projects and initiatives, locally and internationally, as well as mobilising citizens around the world to make the places in which we live more sustainable.

**Contact Details:**

ENERGIES 2050
688, chemin du Plan
06410 BIOT, FRANCE
stephane.pouffary@energies2050.org
Phone : +33 (0)6 80 31 91 89
www.energies2050.org