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# Endorsement for Coalition of Asian Think Tanks

## Uniting for Asia's Renewable Energy Future

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### EXPERIENCE

<b>2020 – PRESENT</b>	<b>NEXT group</b>	CEO	Korea
<b>2021 – PRESENT</b>	<b>Presidential Carbon Neutrality Commission</b>	Commissioner	Korea
<b>2018 – PRESENT</b>	<b>Dept. of Electrical Engineering, Chungnam National University</b>	Associate Professor (tenure-track)	Korea
<b>2020 – 2022</b>	<b>Korea Energy Agency</b> (government agency)	Director (board member)	Korea
<b>2020 – 2022</b>	<b>Hydrogen Economy Council</b> (under the Prime Minister's office)	Council Member	Korea
<b>2019 – 2021</b>	<b>National Council on Climate and Air Quality</b> (a Presidential advisory body)	Member of Expert Committee	Korea



is an independent and nonpartisan think tank dedicated to developing **ground-breaking quantitative research and analysis** to accelerate **Asia's net-zero energy transition**.

## MISSION

Accelerating Asia's transition to net-zero economies through the production of ground-breaking quantitative policy research and analysis for decision-makers in government and industry

## GOALS

- Influence high-level policy decisions through bold quantitative research and analysis that present clear, strategic pathways to decarbonize Asia by 2050
- Guide the investment decisions and activities of Asia's top industries through quantitative research-based financial analysis that supports net-zero economies
- Boost public support for net-zero energy transitions by providing academics, think tanks and other influential civil society groups with access to research tools, educational programs and comprehensive, well-organized data

## Highly carbon-intensive generation mix: Exit Strategy needed

**1**

of 3 largest providers of international coal finance, financing about 5.7 billion dollars between 2013 and 2020.

\*World Resources Institute (2021)

**#2**

in the world in subsidies for coal generation, amounting to 150 million dollars in 2016.

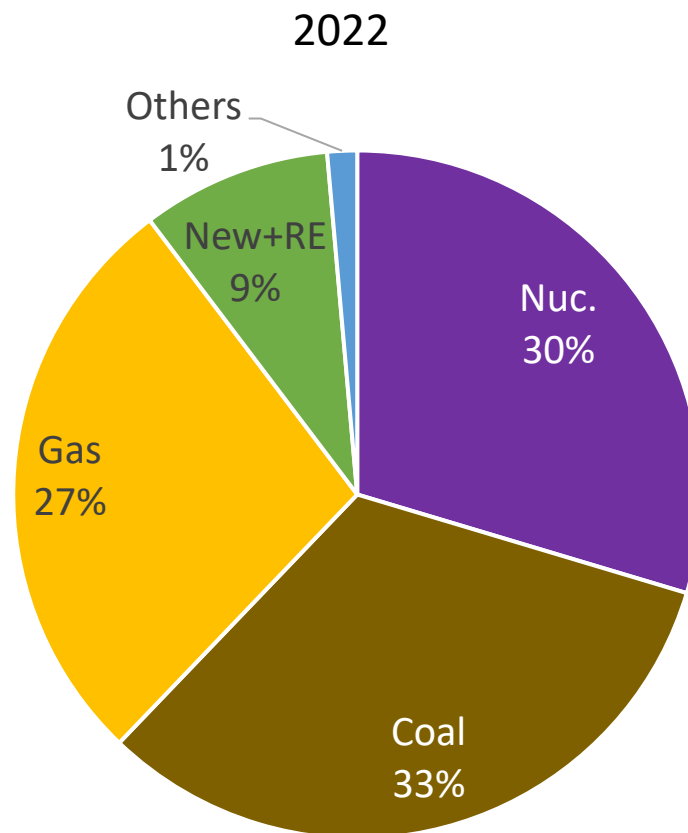
\*2017 World Energy Outlook, IEA

**7**

new coal power plants added since 2021. Their operation will last beyond 2050.

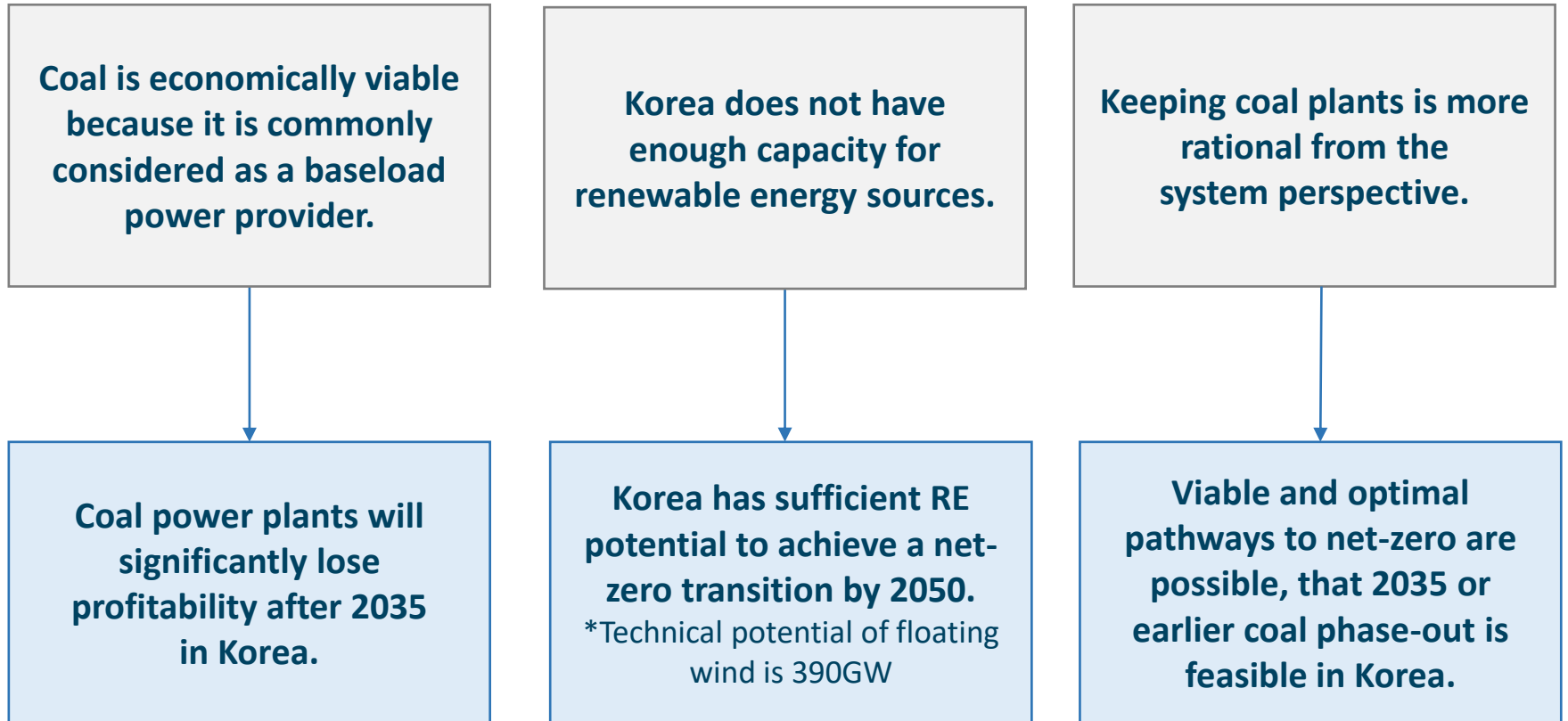
**59**

coal plants are currently in operation. Half of them are expected to close by 2030 and 34 by 2050.



# Tackling Misbeliefs on Generation Mix in Korea

## Long-held misbeliefs about coal generation in Korea:



**Less fossil-fuel, More renewable @ 2030**

# NEXT group's Position

Korean government defines ammonia co-firing as “clean coal technology” and plans to increase its portion to 2.1% (including hydrogen) of whole generation by 2030 (10<sup>th</sup> Basic Electricity Supply and Demand Plan (2022-2036), 2021)

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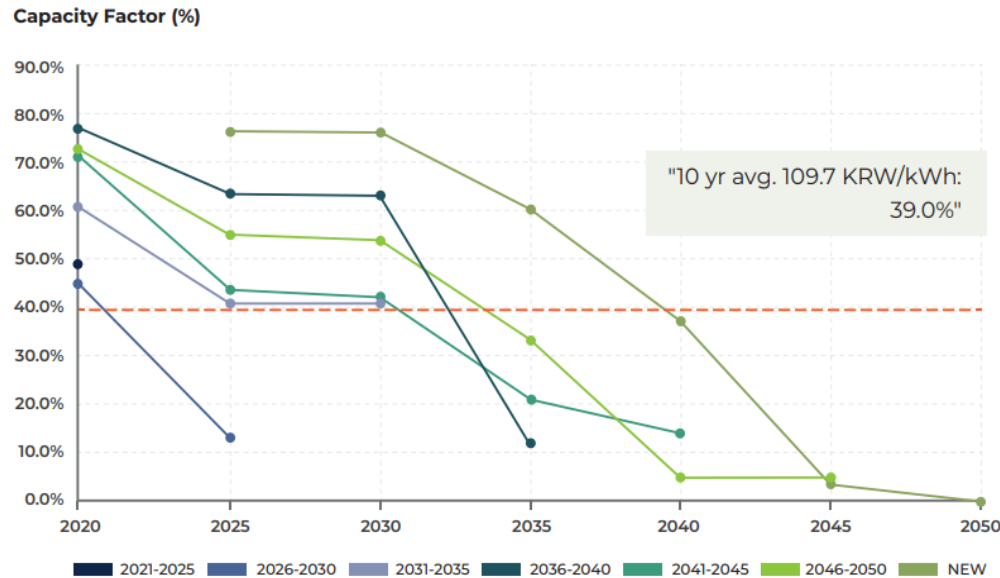
*opposes ammonia-coal co-firing and is doubtful of CCS on generation facilities. They are unprofitable, and very costly.*

Ammonia  
co-firing



Carbon  
Capture &  
Storage

Decreasing Capacity Factor of Coal Plants



Unprofitable  
&  
Expensive  
Options

# Net-zero Energy Transition in Southeast Asia

## Current Status

- Coal accounts for more than 40% of power generation
- Electricity demand is expected to increase three to sixfold by 2050 due to rapid economic development.
- Possesses abundant, proven & cost-effective renewable energy potential (IEA, IRENA).

## Challenges

- Meeting the carbon neutrality goal is conditional on enormous intl. financial support (i.e. needs an annual investment of \$ 190 billion to reach its climate goals by 2030 (IEA, 2022)).
- Long-time and continued reliance on cheap fossil-fuels/ immediate priorities for economic development/ and lack of policy governance lowers transparency, slow down investment and thus, energy transition.

## Opportunities

- Many partnership opportunities exist for financial and technical support and human resources exchange.
- Many opportunities exist for global supply chain integration among the partner countries and allies (i.e. critical minerals).
- ***High demand exists in data-based research and analysis for policy alignment and planning.***

**NEXT group endorses the Coalition of Asian Energy Think Tanks Joint Statement - Uniting for Asia' Renewable Energy Future.**

**This Coalition of Asian Energy Think Tanks is an important platform that gathers the expertise, knowledge and finance needed to accelerate the net-zero transitions of Asian neighbors, and raise voice collectively to draw tangible policy improvement in the region.**

As a think tank based in South Korea, we will share our expertise in data-driven climate policy research and experience in collaborating with various stakeholders, including decision-makers, to strengthen the decarbonization efforts of the Southeast Asian neighbors.



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# THANK YOU

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