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Title: Heating and cooling energy trends and drivers in buildings

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Keywords: buildings; thermal energy use; drivers; trends; global basis; regional basis

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Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to provide a source of information on thermal energy use in buildings, its drivers, and their past, present and future trends on a global and regional basis. Energy use in buildings forms a large part of global and regional energy demand. The importance of heating and cooling in total building energy use is very diverse with this share varying between 18-73%. Biomass is still far the dominant fuel when a global picture is considered, the role of electricity is substantially growing, and the direct use of coal is disappearing from this sector, largely replaced by electricity and natural gas in the most developed regions. This paper identifies the different drivers of heating and cooling energy demand; and decomposes this energy demand into key drivers based on a Kaya identity approach: number of households, persons per household, floor space per capita and specific energy consumption for residential heating and cooling; and GDP, floor space per GDP, and specific energy consumption for commercial buildings. This paper also reviews the trends in the development of these drivers for the present, future - and for which data were available, for the past - in 11 world regions as well as globally. Results show that in a business-as-usual scenario, total residential heating and cooling energy use is expected to more or less stagnate, or slightly decrease, in the developed parts of the world. In contrast, commercial heating and cooling energy use will grow in each world region. Finally, the results show that per capita total final residential building energy use has been stagnating in the vast majority of world regions for the past three decades, despite the very significant increases in energy service levels in each of these regions.

Response to Reviewers: Reviewer #1: This is a good paper with a lot of useful data & information. Thank you for your good input.

This might actually be the paper's biggest "fault" as the authors are trying to present a lot of information in some figures to the point the figures become unreadable; e.g. Figs 9 & 10.

Yes, authors agree. We spent a lot of time trying to find the best way to put all this information in the figures. Nevertheless, following the reviewers advice, we have modified Figures 9 & 10 to have more resolution but without losing information.

Even in the others figures the authors could do a better job in presenting the data, e.g. use 2D not 3D pie charts (e.g. Fig 1 which I had a hard time reading some of the legend and corresponding sectors) and expand the y-axis scale to make the bar-data clearer (e.g. PAO & PAS in Fig. 8).

About using 2D instead of 3D, we did review the figures and we thought that the biggest problem was that the numbers were unreadable over the patterns, therefore we modified the position of the numbers and the patterns and colours of the pie slices to have more resolution in the figures. About Figure 8, we wanted to show the relative magnitude of building energy use in the different regions in the world, and we thought that this was more important than getting the detail of the values in this particular figure; therefore we have not changed the figure. Other figures focus on highlighting the changes in these regions, too, much better.

Other minor issues:

- Line 18 on page 3; biofuels should be biomass.

Thank you for your observation, we have made the change.

- The equation at bottom of pg 3 needs to be numbered.

Thank you for your observation, the equation is now numbered.

- The font used in the equations on pg 4 is small.

Yes, thank you for your kind observation. The font of the equation is too small and we have modified them.

- MEA is actually better known as MENA (Middle East and North Africa)

In "GEA, 2012: Global Energy Assessment – Towards a Sustainable Future", Middle East and North Africa is called MEA. We use this classification and this nomenclature in the paper.

- There is an issue in the order of the figures' numbers; on pg 7 the authors discuss Fig 10 1st then move back to Fig 9

Right, we have corrected this mistake.

- It will be best of the data in section 4.2.2 is shown in a Table format to allow future researchers to be able to cite/use accurate data rather than having to read/approximate for the highly congested figures.

Thank you for your good suggestion. Figures 13 data is now added in a table as an Annex of the paper.

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Heating and cooling energy trends and drivers in buildings

Diana Ürge-Vorsatz¹, Luisa F. Cabeza², Susana Serrano², Camila Barreneche², Ksenia Petrichenko¹

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to provide a source of information on thermal energy use in buildings, its drivers, and their past, present and future trends on a global and regional basis. Energy use in buildings forms a large part of global and regional energy demand. The importance of heating and cooling in total building energy use is very diverse with this share varying between 18-73%. Biomass is still far the dominant fuel when a global picture is considered, the role of electricity is substantially growing, and the direct use of coal is disappearing from this sector, largely replaced by electricity and natural gas in the most developed regions. This paper identifies the different drivers of heating and cooling energy demand; and decomposes this energy demand into key drivers based on a Kaya identity approach: number of households, persons per household, floor space per capita and specific energy consumption for residential heating and cooling; and GDP, floor space per GDP, and specific energy consumption for commercial buildings. This paper also reviews the trends in the development of these drivers for the present, future – and for which data were available, for the past - in 11 world regions as well as globally. Results show that in a business-as-usual scenario, total residential heating and cooling energy use is expected to more or less stagnate, or slightly decrease, in the developed parts of the world. In contrast, commercial heating and cooling energy use will grow in each world region. Finally, the results show that per capita total final residential building energy use has been stagnating in the vast majority of world regions for the past three decades, despite the very significant increases in energy service levels in each of these regions.

Keywords: buildings; thermal energy use; drivers; trends; global basis; regional basis

1. Introduction and aims

Buildings and activities in buildings contribute to a major share of global environmental concerns [1]. Environmental pressures influenced by the quantity and quality of the energy in buildings are indoor and outdoor air pollution, related and additional health risks and damages, and energy dependence and insecurity. Buildings energy use is a major contributor to energy-related challenges to sustainable development such as deaths attributable to indoor cooking, insufficient energy resources to fuel economic development, lack of access to modern energy services for everyone, and climate change.

Much of these environmental problems are due to the energy that fuel buildings and activities within them [1-3]. More concretely, in 2010 the building sector used approximately 115 EJ globally, accounting for 32% of global final energy demand (24% for residential and 8% for commercial) [4] and 30% of energy-related CO₂ emissions [5]. The building sector is also

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4 responsible for approximately two-thirds of halocarbon and approximately 25-33% of black
5 carbon emissions [3]. Moreover, the building sector used 23% of the global primary energy and
6 30% of the global electricity. Literature documents (such as Levine et al. 2007 [6] and the IEA
7 [5]) that the energy consumption in buildings is growing and is expected to grow dynamically
8 due to many reasons. However, there is limited consistent literature on understanding how
9 this energy use is developing worldwide on a regional basis, and how different trends that
10 influence energy use in buildings develop both on a historical basis as well as in the future.
11 The authors of this paper have found a major literature gap in this area when working on
12 assessing the literature for the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC. Understanding underlying
13 trends in drivers and past energy use is crucial for future projections, modeling activities,
14 policy design aimed at addressing environmental and social problems related to energy use in
15 buildings, etc.
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18 Therefore the purpose of this paper is to fill in this gap by a robust, detailed review and
19 assessment of available data and literature related to building energy use and its drivers.
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Attributing trends in energy use to drivers can be done using different methods; this paper
uses the Kaya identity approach, consistently with the main underlying analytical framework
used in the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC. However, when such approach is used,
decomposition is very different for building energy end-uses mainly driven by physical
characteristics such as building architecture and climate, i.e. heating and cooling, as opposed
to energy end-uses whose consumption is driven mainly by the number of people in residential
buildings or by activity in commercial and public buildings¹ such as appliance use (e.g. washing
machines, telephones, etc.). As a result, decomposition analysis is also different for these two
categories of building energy end-uses. Accordingly, this paper focuses on thermal energy
uses, mainly heating and cooling with occasional coverage of hot water when it is difficult to
disentangle these; while Cabeza et al. (2014) [7] cover trends in and drivers of energy end-uses
related to appliances and other electricity-using equipment. The paper serves as a
comprehensive, consistent and detailed resource for historic, present and future data on and
trends in heating and cooling energy use and its drivers on a global as well as detailed regional
basis that is also consistent with the related analysis and data presented by the Fifth
Assessment Report of the IPCC. The interpretation of these data and trends is left for other
papers as these can be different based on different approaches, purposes and methods; this
paper serves as the basis for such work.

The paper will first present the main trends in the global building energy consumption as
relevant to heating and cooling. Then the methodology for the decomposition analysis is
reviewed. Trends in heating and cooling energy use and its drivers are analyzed in detail in the
following sections. Finally the influence of the drivers on the regional level is presented. The
primary purpose of this paper is to serve a source of the data, and not to understand in detail
the trends of the different drivers, which would be the purpose of further research.

2. Background: Key trends in global building energy use

According to the IEA [5], Figure 1 shows that in the commercial sector, buildings decreased the
use of coal from 21% in 1980 to 3% in 2010 and the use of oil from 28% to 15%, meanwhile,
the use of natural gas remained constant at about 23-25% and the use of renewable at about
2-3%, and finally the use of electricity and heat increased from 26% in 1980 to 54% in 2010. On

¹Energy use in both types of end-uses is strongly determined by behavioral and cultural factors that are
not covered in most of the decomposition and driver analysis beyond affluence or GDP.

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4 the other hand, in the residential sector (so-called “services” in the ETP 2012), the use of coal
5 decreased from 10% in 1980 to 4% in 2010, the use of oil decreased from 15% to 10%, the use
6 of natural gas increased from 17% to 20% and the use of renewables stayed constant at about
7 41-42%; in the residential sector the use of electricity and heat increased only from 16% in
8 1980 to 25% in 2010. It can be seen that in 2010, the world buildings energy consumption was
9 quite distributed in different final energy carriers (renewables, electricity and heat, and natural
10 gas dominating), while in the commercial sector more than half of the energy used is electricity
11 and heat, and renewables are a very small part.
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14 Figure 2 shows the total energy consumption in residential buildings by final energy carrier and
15 by region [5]. It can be seen that in all OECD countries, Americas and non-OECD-Europe and
16 Eurasia natural gas, followed by electricity, is the mostly used energy source, while in the rest
17 of the regions biofuels-biomass and waste is the predominant energy source.
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20 Figure 3 shows that space heating is 32-33% of the total energy use in buildings (in residential
21 and commercial buildings, respectively) [4]. Domestic hot water represents 24% in residential
22 buildings and 12% in commercial buildings. This paper only deals with part of the energy use in
23 buildings: total final energy use from 1980 to 2010 and thermal energy for heating and cooling
24 from 2010 to 2050, including hot water (from now on, called “heating and cooling building
25 energy use (H&C BEU)”)
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27 28 **3. Methodology**

29 30 **3.1. Drivers decomposition**

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32 Drivers contributing to significant increases in building energy use are population migration to
33 cities, decreasing household size, increasing levels of wealth and lifestyle changes, including an
34 increase in personal living space, the types and number of appliances and equipment and their
35 use. 85% of growth in building energy use until 2050 will come from urban areas, 70% of the
36 total from developing country cities [8]. Rapid economic development accompanied by
37 urbanization and shifts from informal to formal housing is propelling significant building
38 activity in developing countries [9].
39

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41 Building-related emissions and mitigation strategies have been decomposed by identity logics,
42 known as the Kaya decomposition, referring to one of the first authors to use it [10,11], or
43 Kaya identity [12]. The factors commonly used are CO₂ intensity, energy intensity, structural
44 changes, and economic activity, or the IPAT approach (Income-Population-Affluence-
45 Technology approach) [13-16]. After its application to energy systems it has found widespread
46 use in climate economics, e.g. [17]. Therefore, the authors of this paper will use this concept in
47 identifying the drivers of the heating and cooling energy trends, such as activity drivers (A), use
48 intensity drivers (TEI – technological energy intensity), and energy intensity drivers (SEI –
49 structural/systemic energy intensity), not considering therefore the carbon intensity driver (CI)
50
51 (Eq. 1):
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$$53 \quad CO_2emissions = CI * TEI * SEI * A \quad \text{eq.1}$$

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55 Drivers of energy consumption in buildings are many and from different nature. Carbon
56 efficiency drivers are fuel switch to low-carbon fuels, building-integrated renewable energy
57 sources, and other supply-side decarbonisation; technological efficiency drivers are efficiency
58 improvement of individual energy-using devices; systemic efficiency drivers are those which
59 produce energy use reductions due to architectural, infrastructural and systematic measures;
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and demand reduction drivers are all measures that are beyond technological efficiency and decarbonisation measures, such as impact on floor space, service levels, behavior, lifestyle, and use and penetration of different appliances. Here we will encapsulate all those drivers in the KAYA decomposition.

Heating and cooling energy use in residential buildings (H&C BEU) can be decomposed in several drivers following the Kaya identity methodology, as shown in Eq. 2:

$$E_{resid}[kWh] = h \cdot \frac{p}{h} \cdot \frac{A}{p} \cdot \frac{E}{A} \quad \text{eq. 2}$$

where:

- E_{resid} is the energy use for heating and cooling in residential buildings
- h is the number of households (activity driver)
- $\frac{p}{h}$ is the number of persons living in each household, also called household size (activity driver)
- $\frac{A}{p}$ is the floor area [m²] per person (use intensity driver)
- $\frac{E}{A}$ is the energy [kWh] used for heating or cooling each unit of floor area [m²], also called *specific energy consumption* (energy intensity driver).

For commercial buildings, the heating and cooling use decomposed in drivers is presented in Eq. 3:

$$E_{com} = GDP \cdot \frac{A}{GDP} \cdot \frac{E}{A} \quad \text{eq. 3}$$

where:

- E_{com} is the energy use for heating and cooling in commercial buildings
- GDP is the Gross Domestic Product [2005 US\$] (activity driver)
- $\frac{A}{GDP}$ is the floor area [m²] per GDP (use intensity driver)
- $\frac{E}{A}$ is the energy [kWh] used for heating or cooling each unit of floor area [m²], also called *specific energy consumption* (energy intensity driver).

3.2. Data sources

The *world population* (p) from 1980 to 2050 was obtained from United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs [18]. The data was very complete and the only data missing is from countries with very little influence in the population of that region².

The *number of households* (h) was obtained from the United Nations [19]. This document gives data for every 15 years in the period 1985-2050, and estimates of the growth in each period. Data presented in this paper has been calculated for the period 1980-2050 in 10 years periods.

²Countries missing were Gibraltar in WEU; Antigua and Barbuda, Bermuda, Dominica, and St Kitts and Nevis in LAM; Seychelles in AFR; Chinese Taipei in CPA; and Kiribati in PAS.

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4 Again the data was very complete and the only data missing is from a few countries, having
5 only to highlight the missing data from Korea³.

6 The data on *floor area (m²)* for the past was not available. The data on floor area dynamics and
7 building heating and cooling energy use under Frozen Efficiency Scenario for future projections
8 have been taken from the High Energy Building (3CSEP-HEB) model developed by the Centre
9 for Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Policy (3CSEP) and commissioned by the Global
10 Building Performance Network (GBPN [8]). The main aim of the 3CSEP-HEB model is to analyze
11 heating and cooling energy use (understood as space heating and cooling as well as water
12 heating) and related CO₂ emissions trends in buildings at the global and regional levels till
13 2050. For detailed information regarding the model's methodology, flow chart and
14 assumptions, see [8]. This model is based on the performance-oriented approach to buildings
15 energy analysis, considering buildings as holistic systems rather than the sum of the
16 components. Therefore, for the space heating and cooling the overall energy performance of
17 buildings is analyzed, regardless of the individual measures applied in each building. For water
18 heating, however, the diversity of possible solutions is taken into account and for each
19 individual technology, an average achievable efficiency is assumed.
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23 There are three scenarios within the 3CSEP-HEB model with different levels of ambition for
24 energy efficiency best-practices proliferation: Deep Efficiency, Moderate Efficiency and Frozen
25 Efficiency scenario. In this paper, only the Frozen Efficiency scenario is used in order to
26 demonstrate future building heating and cooling energy trends and floor area dynamics. The
27 Frozen Efficiency scenario pictures a hypothetical future of global and regional building stocks
28 in case no policy and technological developments will be taking place by 2050. It is reflected in
29 the assumption that energy performance of new and retrofit buildings does not improve as
30 compared to the 2005 levels. A similar assumption is used for water heating energy use: the
31 fuel mix and efficiency of water heaters are "frozen" at the base year level. New advanced
32 buildings are assumed only in Germany as 5% and in Austria as 10% of their new building stock
33 and no advanced retrofit buildings are considered in any of the regions. New buildings
34 consume 10-20% more than the national building codes or regional averages, while retrofit
35 buildings consume only 10% less than standard buildings. Retrofit rate is fixed at 1.4% for all
36 regions.
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39 Estimation and projection of the floor area is the core part of the model. It is based on a
40 comprehensive multi-level building classification, which distinguishes between buildings
41 located in different regions, climate zones, urban and rural areas. The classification includes
42 different building types: residential (single-family or multifamily) and commercial & public
43 (C&P) buildings (offices, educational buildings, restaurants and hotels, retail and others) and
44 different vintages: standard, new, advanced new, retrofit, advanced retrofit. Standard
45 buildings are those ones, which had been built earlier than 2005, new and retrofit (and
46 advanced new and retrofit) buildings refer to the ones constructed and renovated
47 (respectively) during a particular year within the analyzed period.
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50 All outlined building vintages and types are involved in the modelled annual building stock
51 dynamics. Every year a certain share of the standard building stock (usually around 0.5%) is
52 demolished and a certain portion is renovated (1.4-3%). Construction of new buildings is
53 driven by factors, which differ for residential and commercial buildings. For the former it is
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57 ³Countries missing were Korea in PAO, Gibraltar in WEU; Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, and Montenegro
58 in EEU; Antigua and Barbuda, Bermuda, Dominica, French Guyana, Grenada, St Kitts and Nevis, St
59 Lucia, and St Vincent and Grenadine in LAM; Angola, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Sierra Leone,
60 and South Africa (1980&1990) in AFR; Lebanon in MEA; Chinese Taipei in CPA; and Afghanistan and
61 Kiribati in PAS.
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4 population dynamics and region-specific floor area per capita. Estimation of the commercial
5 floor area is determined by GDP (Market Exchange Rate) projections. C&P floor area of the
6 region in 2005 is divided by GDP in 2005 and this constant is multiplied by GDP for each year to
7 result in the C&P floor area demanded by each region.

8 The data on *Gross Domestic Product (GDP)* for the past was obtained from the IAE statistics
9 [20]. Projections for GDP were borrowed from the scenarios of the MESSAGE model developed
10 by International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) for the Global Energy
11 Assessment [21-23]. All GDP data is in 2005 US\$.

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14 There was no data available on the thermal space heating and cooling and domestic hot water
15 energy used in buildings for the past (*E*). The only data available was for total energy used in
16 buildings, available from the IAE statistics [20]. This data is used as indicative in some parts of
17 the paper. The data was very complete and the only data missing is from given years in a few
18 countries with very little influence in the global values of the regions⁴.

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21 In order to estimate projections of energy use for space heating and cooling for a certain year,
22 region, climate zone, building type and building vintage respective floor area results are
23 multiplied by the data on specific energy consumption. These data are coming from the
24 database of exemplary buildings developed by 3CSEP through the analysis of a great variety of
25 sources (see detailed information on the data sources in [24]). However, due to insufficient
26 data availability for all required data-points and limited data precision, certain assumptions
27 had been made to fill in the gaps for certain regions.

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30 Different building vintages have different levels of specific energy consumption for space
31 heating and cooling. General rules-of-thumbs applicable to all regions are: (1) standard
32 buildings are the most energy-consuming; (2) specific energy consumption of retrofit buildings
33 constitutes a certain share of the one of standard ones (usually 70-90% depending on the
34 scenario); (3) energy performance of new buildings is in compliance with the average level of
35 the Building Codes or corresponds to the regional level (or 10-20% higher depending on the
36 scenario); (4) energy performance of advanced buildings is coming from reported regional
37 best-practices and is approximately at the passive house level (15-30 kWh/m²/yr depending on
38 the building type and climate zone); (5) specific energy consumption for space heating and
39 cooling of advanced retrofit buildings is usually slightly higher than the one of advanced new
40 buildings; (6) if an advanced performance level is reached in a certain building, it can be
41 replicated in other buildings belonging to the same building type and climate zone.

42 43 44 **3.3. Regional distribution**

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46 All results are presented either globally for the world or for the different regions as grouped by
47 IPCC [25,26]. The regions considered are presented in Figure 4.

48 49 50 **4. Results**

51 52 53 **4.1. Overview of the global trends in the key drivers**

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57 ⁴Countries missing were Gibraltar (2000) and Malta (1980) in WEU; Albania(1980-1990), Bosnia (1980),
58 Croatia (1980), FYROM (1980), Serbia (1980), Montenegro (1980-1990-2000), and Slovenia(1980) in EEU;
59 All (1980), Azerbaijan (1980), and Kyrgyzstan (1980-1990-2000) in FSU; Algeria(1990-2000), Bahrain
60 (1980), Egypt(1990), Iraq(1980-1990-2000), Lebanon (1980-1990), Libya (1980-1990-2000), Qatar
61 (1980), and Syria (1980) in MEA; and DPR Korea (1980-1990-2000) in CPA.

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4 | [Error! Reference source not found.](#)Table 1 shows the global residential heating and cooling
5 energy consumption projections and its drivers from 2010 to 2050. It can be seen that the
6 global specific energy consumption is not projected to increase. The global floor area per
7 capita is projected to increase only around 38% in the next four decades. Because each
8 household has to be serviced (one kitchen, one or two bathrooms, etc.) the energy demand
9 increases due to that. Per capita floor area is expected to increase by almost 50%, so people
10 will live in much more space than today in 40 decades; in total this is going to drive the global
11 floor space in 41%. Moreover, the diversity between regions and countries is very high in this
12 driver due to historical trends. This is shown in [Figure 5](#)~~Figure 5~~, where it can be seen that
13 India has the higher number of persons per household, but with a trend very similar to the
14 global one. Such a trend is also followed by another developing country such as Egypt. Mexico
15 and Brazil show a higher decreasing slope, but China has the highest decreasing slope,
16 probably due to its policies of only one child allowed per couple. It is interesting to see that the
17 developed countries show a lower number of persons per household, with a higher decreasing
18 slope in Japan than in the others countries shown, US, Hungary and Sweden (with the lowest
19 number of person per household in the world).
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23 Table 1 also shows that while population is increasing by 41% from 2010 to 2050, the number
24 of household will almost double (115%) and floor space increases by 94%. This reinforces that
25 the number of households is a better indicative driver to use for residential energy
26 consumption projections than population.
27

28 In Figure 5 it can also be seen that in general per capita household size is largely converging (as
29 seen in the selected countries) to between 2 and 3, except for China where it is expected to be
30 1.3 by 2050. The shrinking household size has an important effect in the BEU by fewer
31 opportunities of sharing energy services such as heated, cooled and lighted living space,
32 laundering, refrigerators, etc.
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35 Figure 6 shows that between 2010-2050, in a frozen scenario, the global heating and cooling
36 energy consumption increases by 80%. It can be seen that in the whole period evaluated
37 (1980-2050) the strongest driver is the increase of number of households, which is growing
38 stronger even in the next three decades. Projections show that the size of households is
39 decreasing due to urbanization, divorce rates [28], mobility of young people, etc., driving
40 energy use up. It should be highlighted that because the past global heating and cooling
41 energy consumption was not available, in Figure 6 and following figures the total energy
42 buildings use is included as a rough estimate.
43
44

45 Table 2 shows that although population is increasing the commercial building energy used is
46 more related to economy activity, and economy activity will increase much more than
47 population, therefore more dynamic increase is expected in the commercial sector than in the
48 residential one. [Figure 9 and Figure 10 show the trends in the drivers of energy consumption in
49 residential and commercial buildings by key world region, respectively.](#) In Figure 10 it can be
50 seen that while the residential building energy use only increased by 65% (Figure 9), the
51 commercial one almost doubled. The frozen scenario used in this paper shows that in the
52 future, residential energy use projects an increase of 80% between 2010 and 2050, while for
53 the commercial energy use will increase about 75%. While GDP increases by 220% energy use
54 is expected to increase only 83% due to the elasticity of floor area by GDP decreasing.
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57 Both in residential and commercial building sectors a slight decrease in specific energy
58 consumption is expected, since this value is the composite of two big trends in both type of
59 buildings, one is the continuous efficiency gains and the other is the continued service levels in
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4 space conditioning (today not all areas are heated or air conditioned to full thermal comfort
5 levels, especially in some regions of the world, as will be shown below).

6 **4.2. Regional analysis of the trends in the drivers**

8 **4.2.1. Trends in heating and cooling energy consumption**

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10 For residential buildings Figure 8 shows that basically by mid-century five regions will
11 dominate the world buildings heating and cooling energy use, NAM, WEU, CPA, with SAS
12 dominating it. Residential energy use is increasing strongly only in six regions, while it is
13 stagnating or decreasing in the other six regions considered. For example, in CPA it is heavily
14 increasing until 2040 and then it starts stagnating.

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16
17 Comparing residential and commercial buildings, residential energy use dominates being at
18 least a factor of two or more higher all over the world except in CPA, where the commercial
19 buildings energy use already today exceeds the residential one.

20
21 Finally, Figure 8 also shows that commercial buildings energy use keeps increasing during the
22 studied period basically everywhere except for PAO and a small decrease in SAS at the end of
23 this period.

24
25
26 Figure 9 shows that the global trends mark very different trends in the different regions. For
27 example in SAS the building heating and cooling energy use (H&C BEU) could increase by
28 fivefold by the end of the period, while in WEU it will decrease even in the frozen efficient
29 scenario. The most dynamic increases are expected in LAM, MEA, AFR, SAS and PAS. Each of
30 these regions at least will triple their residential H&C BEU until the middle of the century.

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32
33 As for the drivers, the changes in household size (p/h) are more moderate. Many regions it has
34 decreased approx. 10-20% since 1980 to 2010 (NAM, WEU, EEU, MEA and SAS) and only a few
35 ones was this figure above 30-65% (LAM, FSU, CPA, PAO, PAS and AFR). For the future,
36 household size is expected to continue its most dynamic decrease to almost halve in CPA,
37 MEA, AFR, SAS, PAS and LAM. In developed regions this driver will decrease only moderately
38 (from 10% to 25%).

39
40
41 The per capita floor area of buildings is not available for past trends. It is expected to
42 significantly grow until 2050 in several regions with over-doubling in LAM, MEA, SAS, and PAS.
43 In some developed regions it is actually projected to decrease such as in NAM and WEU
44 around 11-12%, likely because of the limited availability of land, due to urbanization (in
45 developed regions urban dwellings are smaller), and divorce [28]. Interestingly in some
46 developing regions household size is also not expected to increase that significantly, such as
47 CPA and AFR, which maybe the composite result of increasing trends by increasing affluents
48 and increasing urbanization that tends to limit floor space.

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50
51 Specific energy consumption also cannot comment on the past due to the lack of floor space
52 and H&C data. In terms of the future, this driver is not going to change significantly during the
53 period due to the two opposite trends driving this indicator, efficiency increase and service
54 levels increase. It will exhibit the largest, but still moderate, in CPA and SAS, with about
55 roughly 38% and 33% increase respectively. It is projected to stagnated or very moderate
56 decrease or increase in EEU (-6%), FSU (-7%), WEU (-12%), NAM (-16%), LAM (-4%), MEA (3%),
57 PAS (0%), AFR (-4%), and PAO (-8%). In regions relying in biomass heating, with a shift of fuel
58 significant efficiency gains may be obtained, but again they may be compensated by more
59 space heated to higher temperatures.

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4 In Figure 10 it can be seen how for commercial buildings the building H&C energy use is
5 expected to increase in every regions, although at different rates. A big increase, almost
6 tripled, will be seen in FSU, EEU, PAS, SAS, LAM and AFR. The strongest increase will be in MEA,
7 increasing by fivefold. The most moderate increases are expected in NAM (21%), WEU (21%)
8 and PAO (20%).
9

10 The key driver of commercial H&C BEU, GDP, is expected to grow in every region, again with
11 very different trends. For instance, while PAO will only increase by 30%, and NAM and WEU by
12 roughly 60-80%, other regions will multiply their GDP such as FSU, LAM, PAS, CPA and MEA
13 (five to six fold), EEU (over fourfold), and SAS and AFR (more than ten times). How this very
14 dynamic increase exactly influences H&C CBEU will largely be determined by the elasticity
15 changes of commercial floor space to GDP trends.
16
17

18 Similarly to the residential sector, trends in specific energy consumption are going to be
19 significantly less dramatic than the other drivers. SEC is likely to remain mostly constant or
20 moderate change, most notably it is expected to decrease by over 33% in WEU, due to strong
21 building energy efficiency regulations (in the frozen efficiency scenario). The one region where
22 will have a notable increase is SAS (32%), which trend is likely to be driven by the substantially
23 increased use of air conditioning of commercially spaces.
24
25

26 Figure 11 shows the residential and commercial total building energy use per capita. It
27 demonstrates a very important trend in BEU, it attests in the last three decades residential
28 BEU has roughly stagnated in the vast majority of the world (NAM, WEU, EEU, LAM, AFR, SAS,
29 CPA and PAS). It increased notably only in FSU (30%), PAO (25%) and MEA (80%). In all other
30 regions it has either slightly decreased or increased by less than 10%. This trend is robust
31 against the level of development and climate type, because each type of region shows this
32 trend, even in the very dynamically developing, such as CPA and SAS. This is an unexpected
33 trend if we consider the big increase in affluence. In contrast, commercial BEU increased in all
34 regions. Most notably it increased in MEA, PAS and CPA; by over two to three fold. In regions
35 like WEU, SAS, PAO, LAM and EEU the increase is between 20-60%. The increase was less than
36 10% in NAM, AFR and FSU.
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38

39 With regard to the importance of heating and cooling in total building energy use, the picture
40 is very diverse with 18–73%, and the trends are not trivial (Figure 12). The highest shares of
41 thermal building conditioning in these sectors energy use are in the commercial buildings of
42 developing countries in hot (and partially humid) climates: 73% in CPA and 64% in SAS. This is
43 likely to be the result of a thermally poorly built commercial building sector (such as appealing
44 large glazed surfaces that result in major heat gains), supplied with inefficient cooling
45 technologies, combined with the fact that the penetration of other electricity-using
46 commercial equipment is not so high yet as in the most developed countries. Other regions
47 with high thermal conditioning energy use shares are the residential buildings in NAM (52%),
48 FSU (48%) and EEU (55%), and WEU (46%). In the FSU and EEU this is due to the legacy of poor
49 thermal efficiency of the building stock due to the high energy price subsidies in the soviet era
50 [27], in combination with cold climates. In North America and WEU, it is also likely to point at
51 the fairly low level of thermal efficiency of the building stock and heating/cooling equipment.
52 Heating and cooling plays the smallest role in commercial buildings in MEA (18%) and PAO
53 (20%), and residential buildings in AFR (20%). While the latter is expected due to the climate
54 and diverse ways of adaptation to living in a hot climate, the first two are more surprising
55 because these shares are lower than in the residential sector (over double in share – 49%-
56 in PAO and slightly higher in MEA with 24%), and commercial buildings are often cooled more
57 than residential ones due to higher needs of more comfortable temperatures to ensure
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4 productivity and due to higher internal heat gains due to more electricity-using equipment and
5 lighting during the day.
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7 **4.2.2. Trends in specific space heating and cooling and domestic hot water energy** 8 **consumption** 9

10 Since sometimes it is difficult to separate space heating and cooling (SH&C) energy use and
11 domestic hot water (DHW) energy use, Figure 13 includes both H&C and DHW in residential
12 and commercial buildings separately [\(data from Figure 13 is detailed in Table 3, in the Annex of](#)
13 [this paper\)](#). DHW in residential buildings represents a small end use of heating and cooling,
14 with largest shares in EEU homes and LAM (closer to 35-40%), in the other regions it is only
15 between 20 to 30%. In most regions commercial water heating energy use represents a smaller
16 share both in absolute and relative terms than residential, except in FSU, Africa and the Pacific.
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20 The relation of energy intensity in the commercial vs. residential sector is different in the
21 different regions. The largest difference is in CPA, where energy intensity in commercial
22 buildings is almost double the residential sector in 2010, and in MEA, SAS, PAS and AFR is 10-
23 30%. . The relationship between residential and commercial energy intensity does not change
24 throughout the projection period, except in FSU, where the presently higher commercial
25 energy intensity will gain more in efficiency terms than the residential sector, and will
26 consume less in 2050 per sq. meter.
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29 By far the highest the SH&C figures are in FSU, largely due to the legacy of communist energy
30 subsidies as well as to a harsh climate. In the other developed regions, with mostly moderate
31 continental climate, both residential and commercial sets are a bit under 150 kWh/m²/year.
32 And, in the frozen efficiency scenario will only decrease substantially in WEU, due to strong
33 building efficiency policies. Heating and cooling energy intensity is projected to increase only in
34 SAS and CPA slightly, with a bit stronger increase in the next two decades in SAS.
35
36

37 In the less developed regions of the world and CPA, residential SH&C is around 50
38 kWh/m²/year, and it is not expected to grow significantly even until the end of the projection
39 period despite the projected increases in affluence, floor space, and service levels.
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42 **5. Limitations and research needs** 43

44 It is important to acknowledge that there is a significant uncertainty in all these figures with
45 the accuracy of input data and thus projections significantly varying across regions and
46 variables. Data on population GDP, households are more reliable, whereas, floor space,
47 building energy use, specific energy consumption are much more uncertain, especially in most
48 developing countries, where such data are neither collected nor reported.
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51 As a result there is a significant need for a more consistent and comprehensive data collection
52 and reporting related to building energy use worldwide, with some minor exceptions.
53 Whereas projections have been made for the building related energy use, heating and cooling
54 related data from the past is not available except for some regions. A highlight on data missing
55 is the present and past floor space for many regions.
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58 **6. Conclusions** 59 60 61

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4 The purpose of this paper was to provide an authoritative, consistent and comprehensive
5 source of information on thermal energy use in buildings, its drivers, and their past, present
6 and future trends on a global and regional basis; in a consistent manner with data and trends
7 efforts of researchers contributing to the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate
8 Change (IPCC). Such information serves as the basis for relevant modeling work, policy
9 preparatory work and other research. Therefore the paper did not intend to interpret these
10 trends beyond some clear, simple interactions, but invites researchers to analyze and assess
11 this information.
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14 Energy use in buildings forms a large part of global and regional energy demand – with 32% of
15 global final energy demand, 30% of energy-related CO₂ emissions, app. one third of black
16 carbon emissions. Thermal energy uses account for an important, but variable part of this
17 demand. Globally, over 60% of residential and almost 50% of commercial building energy is
18 demanded for thermal uses; with higher contribution from water heating in residential
19 buildings, and from cooling in commercial. Within this, space heating comprises 32-33% of
20 global total building energy use. The importance of heating and cooling in total building energy
21 use is very diverse with this share varying between 18-73%. The highest are in the commercial
22 buildings of developing countries in hot (and partially humid) climates: 73% in CPA and 64% in
23 SAS, and the smallest in commercial buildings in MEA (18%) and PAO (20%), and residential
24 buildings in AFR (20%).
25

26
27 Biomass is still far the dominant fuel when a global picture is considered, covering most of the
28 energy needs of the poor in the least developed countries, used with very low efficiencies. The
29 role of electricity is substantially growing, presently accounting for over half of commercial
30 building energy use. In developed countries, it fuels 12-43 % of building energy needs. The
31 direct use of coal is disappearing from this sector, largely replaced by electricity and natural
32 gas in the most developed regions.
33

34
35 The paper has identified the different drivers of heating and cooling energy demand; and
36 decomposed this energy demand into key drivers based on a Kaya identity approach: number
37 of households, persons per household, floor space per capita and specific energy consumption
38 for residential heating and cooling; and GDP, floor space per GDP, and specific energy
39 consumption for commercial buildings. The rest of the paper then focused on reviewing the
40 trends in the development of these drivers for the present, future – and for which data were
41 available, for the past (the lack of comprehensive global data on either floor space or heating
42 energy consumption) in 11 world regions as well as globally.
43

44
45 The development of these key drivers influences building energy use in different directions,
46 although presently the composite in a business-as-usual scenario almost exclusively is a
47 projected growth. Although autonomous and policy-induced efficiency gains are bringing
48 specific energy consumption down in every region where heating and cooling energy service
49 levels are saturated (in areas where indoor temperatures of used spaces are far from
50 comfortable levels these values will continue to increase despite efficiency improvements), the
51 very dynamic increases in the number of households – either driven by population increase,
52 immigration, or by fragmenting households -, combined with in most regions still increasing
53 per capita living space, significantly outpace this improvement. Trends in drivers are similar for
54 the commercial sector: dynamically increasing commercial activity, indicated by GDP, is the
55 strongest factor in driving heating/cooling energy use in this building type up, but this growth
56 is moderated by a slowly decreasing elasticity, i.e. less new floor area per GDP, as well as
57 gradual efficiency gains. Nevertheless, commercial heating and cooling energy use is still
58 expected to strongly grow until the middle of the century, with an app. 84% projected increase
59 by 2050 as compared to 2010. This figure is 79% for residential heating and cooling.
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5 In a business-as-usual scenario, total residential heating and cooling energy use is expected to
6 more or less stagnate, or slightly decrease, in the developed parts of the world (NAM, WEU,
7 FSU, PAO). In contrast, commercial heating and cooling energy use will grow in each world
8 region. Most dynamic growth in the next four decades is expected in SAS (including India)
9 where the baseline scenario indicates an increase by almost six fold. Even considering the
10 uncertainty of this number, the very large expected increase is much higher than any other
11 world region – with (AFR, MEA, PAS, LAM and PAS) less than tripling. Specific energy
12 consumption is expected to decrease in all world regions, even if very slowly, except for CPA
13 and SAS where a 10-25% increase is expected throughout the period due to increasing service
14 levels.
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16
17 A somewhat surprising, but robust trend is that per capita total final residential building
18 energy use has been stagnating in the vast majority of world regions for the past three
19 decades, despite the very significant increases in energy service levels in each of these regions,
20 indicated by many new appliances supplying more comfort in homes, including a major boost
21 in entertainment, information, communication and media services. Perhaps this trend is the
22 most important in this paper: if efficiency gains can continue to compensate for improvements
23 in energy service levels on an individual basis, this could provide opportunities to turn global
24 building energy use down in the longer term – but this is the scope of another paper.
25
26

27 28 **Acknowledgements**

29
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4 **Figure captions**
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7 Figure 1. World total final buildings energy consumption by final energy carrier [5].

8 Figure 2. Residential buildings total energy consumption by final energy carrier [5].

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10 Figure 3. Final building energy consumption in the world by end-use in 2010 (“Others”
11 category includes IT equipment, etc.) [4].
12

13 Figure 4. Regions considered [25].
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15 Figure 5. Person per household in some selected countries. Data from United Nations [18,19].
16

17 Figure 6. Trends in the different drivers of energy consumption in residential buildings in the
18 world 1980-2050. Data for h and p are from United Nations [18,19], total building energy use
19 (1980-2010) is from IEA [3], projections on floor area and heating and cooling energy use
20 (2010-2050) are based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].
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23 Figure 7. Trends in the different drivers of energy consumption in commercial buildings in the
24 world 1980-2050. Data for h and p are from United Nations [18,19], total building energy use
25 (1980-2010) is from IEA [3], projections on floor area and heating and cooling energy use
26 (2010-2050) are based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].
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29 Figure 8. Heating and cooling energy consumption in the building sector in the different
30 regions of the world in residential and commercial buildings, 2010 - 2050. Projections (2010-
31 2050) are based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].
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34 Figure 9. Trends in the drivers of energy consumption in residential buildings by key world
35 region. Data for h and p are from United Nations [18,19], total building energy use (1980-2010)
36 is from IEA [3], projections on floor area and heating and cooling energy use (2010-2050) are
37 based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].
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40 Figure 10. Trends in the drivers of consumption in commercial buildings by key world regions
41 1980-2050. Note that in order to show the trends in different world regions better, the scale
42 varies by region. Data for h and p are from United Nations [18,19], total building energy use
43 (1980-2010) is from IEA [3], projections on floor area and heating and cooling energy use
44 (2010-2050) are based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1]
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47 Figure 11. Residential and commercial per capita total energy use by key world region
48 [MWh/per capita/year] in 1980 and 2010. Data E from IEA statistics [3] and p from United
49 Nations [12].
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52 Figure 12. Heating and cooling energy consumption in 2010 of residential and commercial
53 buildings in the different world regions. Total building energy use is from IEA [3], projections
54 on heating and cooling energy use is based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].
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Figure 13. Specific Energy used for Heating, Cooling and Hot water in Residential and Commercial Buildings by key world region in kWh/m² (2010 – 2050). Data based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].

ANNEX

Table 3. Data of specific Energy used for Heating, Cooling and Hot water in Residential and Commercial Buildings by key world region in kWh/m² (2010 – 2050). Data based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].

	RESIDENTIAL									
	SH&C [kW/m²]					HW [kW/m²]				
	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
PAO	<u>126.1</u>	<u>122.4</u>	<u>119.1</u>	<u>116.0</u>	<u>113.4</u>	<u>36.6</u>	<u>36.6</u>	<u>36.6</u>	<u>36.6</u>	<u>36.6</u>
NAM	<u>147.5</u>	<u>138.4</u>	<u>131.0</u>	<u>124.9</u>	<u>119.7</u>	<u>36.4</u>	<u>36.4</u>	<u>36.4</u>	<u>36.4</u>	<u>36.4</u>
WEU	<u>128.3</u>	<u>123.1</u>	<u>118.4</u>	<u>114.2</u>	<u>110.4</u>	<u>32.0</u>	<u>32.0</u>	<u>32.0</u>	<u>32.0</u>	<u>32.0</u>
EEU	<u>152.6</u>	<u>148.1</u>	<u>144.8</u>	<u>141.8</u>	<u>139.1</u>	<u>80.2</u>	<u>80.2</u>	<u>80.2</u>	<u>80.2</u>	<u>80.2</u>
FSU	<u>205.1</u>	<u>198.4</u>	<u>194.5</u>	<u>191.6</u>	<u>189.0</u>	<u>46.4</u>	<u>46.4</u>	<u>46.4</u>	<u>46.4</u>	<u>46.4</u>
LAM	<u>63.3</u>	<u>60.2</u>	<u>59.5</u>	<u>59.3</u>	<u>59.6</u>	<u>40.0</u>	<u>40.0</u>	<u>40.0</u>	<u>40.0</u>	<u>40.0</u>
AFR	<u>56.2</u>	<u>53.4</u>	<u>52.9</u>	<u>53.0</u>	<u>53.4</u>	<u>17.5</u>	<u>17.5</u>	<u>17.5</u>	<u>17.5</u>	<u>17.5</u>
MEA	<u>55.6</u>	<u>55.1</u>	<u>56.0</u>	<u>57.4</u>	<u>58.0</u>	<u>12.9</u>	<u>12.9</u>	<u>12.9</u>	<u>12.9</u>	<u>12.9</u>
CPA	<u>37.4</u>	<u>41.2</u>	<u>43.8</u>	<u>46.8</u>	<u>47.5</u>	<u>9.9</u>	<u>11.9</u>	<u>13.7</u>	<u>15.8</u>	<u>17.8</u>
SAS	<u>60.1</u>	<u>77.1</u>	<u>85.0</u>	<u>89.2</u>	<u>88.2</u>	<u>24.0</u>	<u>24.0</u>	<u>23.9</u>	<u>24.0</u>	<u>24.0</u>
PAS	<u>46.4</u>	<u>45.5</u>	<u>45.6</u>	<u>45.9</u>	<u>46.5</u>	<u>18.6</u>	<u>18.6</u>	<u>18.6</u>	<u>18.6</u>	<u>18.6</u>

	COMMERCIAL									
	SH&C [kW/m²]					HW [kW/m²]				
	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
PAO	<u>87.3</u>	<u>83.2</u>	<u>80.3</u>	<u>77.9</u>	<u>75.8</u>	<u>46.3</u>	<u>46.3</u>	<u>46.3</u>	<u>46.3</u>	<u>46.3</u>
NAM	<u>144.7</u>	<u>138.4</u>	<u>133.3</u>	<u>128.5</u>	<u>124.6</u>	<u>23.6</u>	<u>23.6</u>	<u>23.6</u>	<u>23.6</u>	<u>23.6</u>
WEU	<u>120.1</u>	<u>103.1</u>	<u>91.5</u>	<u>83.0</u>	<u>76.5</u>	<u>12.6</u>	<u>12.6</u>	<u>12.6</u>	<u>12.6</u>	<u>12.6</u>
EEU	<u>141.4</u>	<u>137.0</u>	<u>134.1</u>	<u>132.4</u>	<u>131.4</u>	<u>16.2</u>	<u>16.2</u>	<u>16.2</u>	<u>16.2</u>	<u>16.2</u>
FSU	<u>231.2</u>	<u>198.1</u>	<u>173.9</u>	<u>158.4</u>	<u>150.4</u>	<u>66.2</u>	<u>66.2</u>	<u>66.2</u>	<u>66.2</u>	<u>66.2</u>
LAM	<u>79.4</u>	<u>74.0</u>	<u>70.2</u>	<u>68.0</u>	<u>67.6</u>	<u>27.8</u>	<u>27.8</u>	<u>27.8</u>	<u>27.8</u>	<u>27.8</u>
AFR	<u>61.2</u>	<u>61.9</u>	<u>63.0</u>	<u>63.9</u>	<u>64.3</u>	<u>20.6</u>	<u>20.6</u>	<u>20.6</u>	<u>20.6</u>	<u>20.6</u>
MEA	<u>50.0</u>	<u>48.3</u>	<u>47.0</u>	<u>46.8</u>	<u>46.8</u>	<u>39.9</u>	<u>39.9</u>	<u>39.6</u>	<u>39.9</u>	<u>39.9</u>
CPA	<u>84.9</u>	<u>90.3</u>	<u>93.1</u>	<u>93.4</u>	<u>90.5</u>	<u>12.7</u>	<u>15.3</u>	<u>17.8</u>	<u>20.4</u>	<u>22.9</u>
SAS	<u>99.6</u>	<u>128.1</u>	<u>141.6</u>	<u>148.4</u>	<u>139.3</u>	<u>24.0</u>	<u>24.0</u>	<u>23.9</u>	<u>24.0</u>	<u>24.0</u>
PAS	<u>66.4</u>	<u>60.5</u>	<u>57.7</u>	<u>56.1</u>	<u>55.9</u>	<u>28.4</u>	<u>28.4</u>	<u>28.4</u>	<u>28.4</u>	<u>28.4</u>

Heating and cooling energy trends and drivers in buildings

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to provide a source of information on thermal energy use in buildings, its drivers, and their past, present and future trends on a global and regional basis. Energy use in buildings forms a large part of global and regional energy demand. The importance of heating and cooling in total building energy use is very diverse with this share varying between 18-73%. Biomass is still far the dominant fuel when a global picture is considered, the role of electricity is substantially growing, and the direct use of coal is disappearing from this sector, largely replaced by electricity and natural gas in the most developed regions. This paper identifies the different drivers of heating and cooling energy demand; and decomposes this energy demand into key drivers based on a Kaya identity approach: number of households, persons per household, floor space per capita and specific energy consumption for residential heating and cooling; and GDP, floor space per GDP, and specific energy consumption for commercial buildings. This paper also reviews the trends in the development of these drivers for the present, future – and for which data were available, for the past - in 11 world regions as well as globally. Results show that in a business-as-usual scenario, total residential heating and cooling energy use is expected to more or less stagnate, or slightly decrease, in the developed parts of the world. In contrast, commercial heating and cooling energy use will grow in each world region. Finally, the results show that per capita total final residential building energy use has been stagnating in the vast majority of world regions for the past three decades, despite the very significant increases in energy service levels in each of these regions.

Keywords: buildings; thermal energy use; drivers; trends; global basis; regional basis

1. Introduction and aims

Buildings and activities in buildings contribute to a major share of global environmental concerns [1]. Environmental pressures influenced by the quantity and quality of the energy in buildings are indoor and outdoor air pollution, related and additional health risks and damages, and energy dependence and insecurity. Buildings energy use is a major contributor to energy-related challenges to sustainable development such as deaths attributable to indoor cooking, insufficient energy resources to fuel economic development, lack of access to modern energy services for everyone, and climate change.

Much of these environmental problems are due to the energy that fuel buildings and activities within them [1-3]. More concretely, in 2010 the building sector used approximately 115 EJ globally, accounting for 32% of global final energy demand (24% for residential and 8% for commercial) [4] and 30% of energy-related CO₂ emissions [5]. The building sector is also

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4 responsible for approximately two-thirds of halocarbon and approximately 25-33% of black
5 carbon emissions [3]. Moreover, the building sector used 23% of the global primary energy and
6 30% of the global electricity. Literature documents (such as Levine et al. 2007 [6] and the IEA
7 [5]) that the energy consumption in buildings is growing and is expected to grow dynamically
8 due to many reasons. However, there is limited consistent literature on understanding how
9 this energy use is developing worldwide on a regional basis, and how different trends that
10 influence energy use in buildings develop both on a historical basis as well as in the future.
11 The authors of this paper have found a major literature gap in this area when working on
12 assessing the literature for the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC. Understanding underlying
13 trends in drivers and past energy use is crucial for future projections, modeling activities,
14 policy design aimed at addressing environmental and social problems related to energy use in
15 buildings, etc.
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18 Therefore the purpose of this paper is to fill in this gap by a robust, detailed review and
19 assessment of available data and literature related to building energy use and its drivers.
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Attributing trends in energy use to drivers can be done using different methods; this paper
uses the Kaya identity approach, consistently with the main underlying analytical framework
used in the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC. However, when such approach is used,
decomposition is very different for building energy end-uses mainly driven by physical
characteristics such as building architecture and climate, i.e. heating and cooling, as opposed
to energy end-uses whose consumption is driven mainly by the number of people in residential
buildings or by activity in commercial and public buildings¹ such as appliance use (e.g. washing
machines, telephones, etc.). As a result, decomposition analysis is also different for these two
categories of building energy end-uses. Accordingly, this paper focuses on thermal energy
uses, mainly heating and cooling with occasional coverage of hot water when it is difficult to
disentangle these; while Cabeza et al. (2014) [7] cover trends in and drivers of energy end-uses
related to appliances and other electricity-using equipment. The paper serves as a
comprehensive, consistent and detailed resource for historic, present and future data on and
trends in heating and cooling energy use and its drivers on a global as well as detailed regional
basis that is also consistent with the related analysis and data presented by the Fifth
Assessment Report of the IPCC. The interpretation of these data and trends is left for other
papers as these can be different based on different approaches, purposes and methods; this
paper serves as the basis for such work.

The paper will first present the main trends in the global building energy consumption as
relevant to heating and cooling. Then the methodology for the decomposition analysis is
reviewed. Trends in heating and cooling energy use and its drivers are analyzed in detail in the
following sections. Finally the influence of the drivers on the regional level is presented. The
primary purpose of this paper is to serve a source of the data, and not to understand in detail
the trends of the different drivers, which would be the purpose of further research.

2. Background: Key trends in global building energy use

According to the IEA [5], Figure 1 shows that in the commercial sector, buildings decreased the
use of coal from 21% in 1980 to 3% in 2010 and the use of oil from 28% to 15%, meanwhile,
the use of natural gas remained constant at about 23-25% and the use of renewable at about
2-3%, and finally the use of electricity and heat increased from 26% in 1980 to 54% in 2010. On

¹Energy use in both types of end-uses is strongly determined by behavioral and cultural factors that are
not covered in most of the decomposition and driver analysis beyond affluence or GDP.

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4 the other hand, in the residential sector (so-called “services” in the ETP 2012), the use of coal
5 decreased from 10% in 1980 to 4% in 2010, the use of oil decreased from 15% to 10%, the use
6 of natural gas increased from 17% to 20% and the use of renewables stayed constant at about
7 41-42%; in the residential sector the use of electricity and heat increased only from 16% in
8 1980 to 25% in 2010. It can be seen that in 2010, the world buildings energy consumption was
9 quite distributed in different final energy carriers (renewables, electricity and heat, and natural
10 gas dominating), while in the commercial sector more than half of the energy used is electricity
11 and heat, and renewables are a very small part.
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14 Figure 2 shows the total energy consumption in residential buildings by final energy carrier and
15 by region [5]. It can be seen that in all OECD countries, Americas and non-OECD-Europe and
16 Eurasia natural gas, followed by electricity, is the mostly used energy source, while in the rest
17 of the regions biomass and waste is the predominant energy source.
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20 Figure 3 shows that space heating is 32-33% of the total energy use in buildings (in residential
21 and commercial buildings, respectively) [4]. Domestic hot water represents 24% in residential
22 buildings and 12% in commercial buildings. This paper only deals with part of the energy use in
23 buildings: total final energy use from 1980 to 2010 and thermal energy for heating and cooling
24 from 2010 to 2050, including hot water (from now on, called “heating and cooling building
25 energy use (H&C BEU)”)
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27 28 **3. Methodology**

29 30 **3.1. Drivers decomposition**

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32 Drivers contributing to significant increases in building energy use are population migration to
33 cities, decreasing household size, increasing levels of wealth and lifestyle changes, including an
34 increase in personal living space, the types and number of appliances and equipment and their
35 use. 85% of growth in building energy use until 2050 will come from urban areas, 70% of the
36 total from developing country cities [8]. Rapid economic development accompanied by
37 urbanization and shifts from informal to formal housing is propelling significant building
38 activity in developing countries [9].
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41 Building-related emissions and mitigation strategies have been decomposed by identity logics,
42 known as the Kaya decomposition, referring to one of the first authors to use it [10,11], or
43 Kaya identity [12]. The factors commonly used are CO₂ intensity, energy intensity, structural
44 changes, and economic activity, or the IPAT approach (Income-Population-Affluence-
45 Technology approach) [13-16]. After its application to energy systems it has found widespread
46 use in climate economics, e.g. [17]. Therefore, the authors of this paper will use this concept in
47 identifying the drivers of the heating and cooling energy trends, such as activity drivers (A), use
48 intensity drivers (TEI – technological energy intensity), and energy intensity drivers (SEI –
49 structural/systemic energy intensity), not considering therefore the carbon intensity driver (CI)
50 (Eq. 1):
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$$52 \quad CO_2emissions = CI * TEI * SEI * A \quad eq.1$$

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56 Drivers of energy consumption in buildings are many and from different nature. Carbon
57 efficiency drivers are fuel switch to low-carbon fuels, building-integrated renewable energy
58 sources, and other supply-side decarbonisation; technological efficiency drivers are efficiency
59 improvement of individual energy-using devices; systemic efficiency drivers are those which
60 produce energy use reductions due to architectural, infrastructural and systematic measures;
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and demand reduction drivers are all measures that are beyond technological efficiency and decarbonisation measures, such as impact on floor space, service levels, behavior, lifestyle, and use and penetration of different appliances. Here we will encapsulate all those drivers in the KAYA decomposition.

Heating and cooling energy use in residential buildings (H&C BEU) can be decomposed in several drivers following the Kaya identity methodology, as shown in Eq. 2:

$$E_{resid}[kWh] = h \cdot \frac{p}{h} \cdot \frac{A}{p} \cdot \frac{E}{A} \quad \text{eq. 2}$$

where:

E_{resid}	is the energy use for heating and cooling in residential buildings
h	is the number of households (activity driver)
$\frac{p}{h}$	is the number of persons living in each household, also called household size (activity driver)
$\frac{A}{p}$	is the floor area [m ²] per person (use intensity driver)
$\frac{E}{A}$	is the energy [kWh] used for heating or cooling each unit of floor area [m ²], also called <i>specific energy consumption</i> (energy intensity driver) .

For commercial buildings, the heating and cooling use decomposed in drivers is presented in Eq. 3:

$$E_{com} = GDP \cdot \frac{A}{GDP} \cdot \frac{E}{A} \quad \text{eq. 3}$$

where:

E_{com}	is the energy use for heating and cooling in commercial buildings
GDP	is the Gross Domestic Product [2005 US\$] (activity driver)
$\frac{A}{GDP}$	is the floor area [m ²] per GDP (use intensity driver)
$\frac{E}{A}$	is the energy [kWh] used for heating or cooling each unit of floor area [m ²], also called <i>specific energy consumption</i> (energy intensity driver).

3.2. Data sources

The *world population* (p) from 1980 to 2050 was obtained from United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs [18]. The data was very complete and the only data missing is from countries with very little influence in the population of that region².

The *number of households* (h) was obtained from the United Nations [19]. This document gives data for every 15 years in the period 1985-2050, and estimates of the growth in each period. Data presented in this paper has been calculated for the period 1980-2050 in 10 years periods.

²Countries missing were Gibraltar in WEU; Antigua and Barbuda, Bermuda, Dominica, and St Kitts and Nevis in LAM; Seychelles in AFR; Chinese Taipei in CPA; and Kiribati in PAS.

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4 Again the data was very complete and the only data missing is from a few countries, having
5 only to highlight the missing data from Korea³.

6 The data on *floor area (m²)* for the past was not available. The data on floor area dynamics and
7 building heating and cooling energy use under Frozen Efficiency Scenario for future projections
8 have been taken from the High Energy Building (3CSEP-HEB) model developed by the Centre
9 for Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Policy (3CSEP) and commissioned by the Global
10 Building Performance Network (GBPN [8]). The main aim of the 3CSEP-HEB model is to analyze
11 heating and cooling energy use (understood as space heating and cooling as well as water
12 heating) and related CO₂ emissions trends in buildings at the global and regional levels till
13 2050. For detailed information regarding the model's methodology, flow chart and
14 assumptions, see [8]. This model is based on the performance-oriented approach to buildings
15 energy analysis, considering buildings as holistic systems rather than the sum of the
16 components. Therefore, for the space heating and cooling the overall energy performance of
17 buildings is analyzed, regardless of the individual measures applied in each building. For water
18 heating, however, the diversity of possible solutions is taken into account and for each
19 individual technology, an average achievable efficiency is assumed.
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23 There are three scenarios within the 3CSEP-HEB model with different levels of ambition for
24 energy efficiency best-practices proliferation: Deep Efficiency, Moderate Efficiency and Frozen
25 Efficiency scenario. In this paper, only the Frozen Efficiency scenario is used in order to
26 demonstrate future building heating and cooling energy trends and floor area dynamics. The
27 Frozen Efficiency scenario pictures a hypothetical future of global and regional building stocks
28 in case no policy and technological developments will be taking place by 2050. It is reflected in
29 the assumption that energy performance of new and retrofit buildings does not improve as
30 compared to the 2005 levels. A similar assumption is used for water heating energy use: the
31 fuel mix and efficiency of water heaters are "frozen" at the base year level. New advanced
32 buildings are assumed only in Germany as 5% and in Austria as 10% of their new building stock
33 and no advanced retrofit buildings are considered in any of the regions. New buildings
34 consume 10-20% more than the national building codes or regional averages, while retrofit
35 buildings consume only 10% less than standard buildings. Retrofit rate is fixed at 1.4% for all
36 regions.
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39 Estimation and projection of the floor area is the core part of the model. It is based on a
40 comprehensive multi-level building classification, which distinguishes between buildings
41 located in different regions, climate zones, urban and rural areas. The classification includes
42 different building types: residential (single-family or multifamily) and commercial & public
43 (C&P) buildings (offices, educational buildings, restaurants and hotels, retail and others) and
44 different vintages: standard, new, advanced new, retrofit, advanced retrofit. Standard
45 buildings are those ones, which had been built earlier than 2005, new and retrofit (and
46 advanced new and retrofit) buildings refer to the ones constructed and renovated
47 (respectively) during a particular year within the analyzed period.
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50 All outlined building vintages and types are involved in the modelled annual building stock
51 dynamics. Every year a certain share of the standard building stock (usually around 0.5%) is
52 demolished and a certain portion is renovated (1.4-3%). Construction of new buildings is
53 driven by factors, which differ for residential and commercial buildings. For the former it is
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57 ³Countries missing were Korea in PAO, Gibraltar in WEU; Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, and Montenegro
58 in EEU; Antigua and Barbuda, Bermuda, Dominica, French Guyana, Grenada, St Kitts and Nevis, St
59 Lucia, and St Vincent and Grenadine in LAM; Angola, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Sierra Leone,
60 and South Africa (1980&1990) in AFR; Lebanon in MEA; Chinese Taipei in CPA; and Afghanistan and
61 Kiribati in PAS.
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4 population dynamics and region-specific floor area per capita. Estimation of the commercial
5 floor area is determined by GDP (Market Exchange Rate) projections. C&P floor area of the
6 region in 2005 is divided by GDP in 2005 and this constant is multiplied by GDP for each year to
7 result in the C&P floor area demanded by each region.

8 The data on *Gross Domestic Product (GDP)* for the past was obtained from the IAE statistics
9 [20]. Projections for GDP were borrowed from the scenarios of the MESSAGE model developed
10 by International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) for the Global Energy
11 Assessment [21-23]. All GDP data is in 2005 US\$.

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14 There was no data available on the thermal space heating and cooling and domestic hot water
15 energy used in buildings for the past (*E*). The only data available was for total energy used in
16 buildings, available from the IAE statistics [20]. This data is used as indicative in some parts of
17 the paper. The data was very complete and the only data missing is from given years in a few
18 countries with very little influence in the global values of the regions⁴.

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21 In order to estimate projections of energy use for space heating and cooling for a certain year,
22 region, climate zone, building type and building vintage respective floor area results are
23 multiplied by the data on specific energy consumption. These data are coming from the
24 database of exemplary buildings developed by 3CSEP through the analysis of a great variety of
25 sources (see detailed information on the data sources in [24]). However, due to insufficient
26 data availability for all required data-points and limited data precision, certain assumptions
27 had been made to fill in the gaps for certain regions.

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30 Different building vintages have different levels of specific energy consumption for space
31 heating and cooling. General rules-of-thumbs applicable to all regions are: (1) standard
32 buildings are the most energy-consuming; (2) specific energy consumption of retrofit buildings
33 constitutes a certain share of the one of standard ones (usually 70-90% depending on the
34 scenario); (3) energy performance of new buildings is in compliance with the average level of
35 the Building Codes or corresponds to the regional level (or 10-20% higher depending on the
36 scenario); (4) energy performance of advanced buildings is coming from reported regional
37 best-practices and is approximately at the passive house level (15-30 kWh/m²/yr depending on
38 the building type and climate zone); (5) specific energy consumption for space heating and
39 cooling of advanced retrofit buildings is usually slightly higher than the one of advanced new
40 buildings; (6) if an advanced performance level is reached in a certain building, it can be
41 replicated in other buildings belonging to the same building type and climate zone.

42 43 44 **3.3. Regional distribution**

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46 All results are presented either globally for the world or for the different regions as grouped by
47 IPCC [25,26]. The regions considered are presented in Figure 4.

48 49 50 **4. Results**

51 52 53 **4.1. Overview of the global trends in the key drivers**

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57 ⁴Countries missing were Gibraltar (2000) and Malta (1980) in WEU; Albania(1980-1990), Bosnia (1980),
58 Croatia (1980), FYROM (1980), Serbia (1980), Montenegro (1980-1990-2000), and Slovenia(1980) in EEU;
59 All (1980), Azerbaijan (1980), and Kyrgyzstan (1980-1990-2000) in FSU; Algeria(1990-2000), Bahrain
60 (1980), Egypt(1990), Iraq(1980-1990-2000), Lebanon (1980-1990), Libya (1980-1990-2000), Qatar
61 (1980), and Syria (1980) in MEA; and DPR Korea (1980-1990-2000) in CPA.

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4 **Error! Reference source not found.** shows the global residential heating and cooling energy
5 consumption projections and its drivers from 2010 to 2050. It can be seen that the global
6 specific energy consumption is not projected to increase. The global floor area per capita is
7 projected to increase only around 38% in the next four decades Because each household has
8 to be serviced (one kitchen, one or two bathrooms, etc.) the energy demand increases due to
9 that. Per capita floor area is expected to increase by almost 50%, so people will live in much
10 more space than today in 40 decades; in total this is going to drive the global floor space in
11 41%. Moreover, the diversity between regions and countries is very high in this driver due to
12 historical trends. This is shown in Figure 5, where it can be seen that India has the higher
13 number of persons per household, but with a trend very similar to the global one. Such a trend
14 is also followed by another developing country such as Egypt. Mexico and Brazil show a higher
15 decreasing slope, but China has the highest decreasing slope, probably due to its policies of
16 only one child allowed per couple. It is interesting to see that the developed countries show a
17 lower number of persons per household, with a higher decreasing slope in Japan than in the
18 others countries shown, US, Hungary and Sweden (with the lowest number of person per
19 household in the world).
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23 Table 1 also shows that while population is increasing by 41% from 2010 to 2050, the number
24 of household will almost double (115%) and floor space increases by 94%. This reinforces that
25 the number of households is a better indicative driver to use for residential energy
26 consumption projections than population.
27

28 In Figure 5 it can also be seen that in general per capita household size is largely converging (as
29 seen in the selected countries) to between 2 and 3, except for China where it is expected to be
30 1.3 by 2050. The shrinking household size has an important effect in the BEU by fewer
31 opportunities of sharing energy services such as heated, cooled and lighted living space,
32 laundering, refrigerators, etc.
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35 Figure 6 shows that between 2010-2050, in a frozen scenario, the global heating and cooling
36 energy consumption increases by 80%. It can be seen that in the whole period evaluated
37 (1980-2050) the strongest driver is the increase of number of households, which is growing
38 stronger even in the next three decades. Projections show that the size of households is
39 decreasing due to urbanization, divorce rates [28], mobility of young people, etc., driving
40 energy use up. It should be highlighted that because the past global heating and cooling
41 energy consumption was not available, in Figure 6 and following figures the total energy
42 buildings use is included as a rough estimate.
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44
45 Table 2 shows that although population is increasing the commercial building energy used is
46 more related to economy activity, and economy activity will increase much more than
47 population, therefore more dynamic increase is expected in the commercial sector than in the
48 residential one. Figure 9 and Figure 10 show the trends in the drivers of energy consumption in
49 residential and commercial buildings by key world region, respectively. In Figure 10 it can be
50 seen that while the residential building energy use only increased by 65% (Figure 9), the
51 commercial one almost doubled. The frozen scenario used in this paper shows that in the
52 future, residential energy use projects an increase of 80% between 2010 and 2050, while for
53 the commercial energy use will increase about 75%. While GDP increases by 220% energy use
54 is expected to increase only 83% due to the elasticity of floor area by GDP decreasing.
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57 Both in residential and commercial building sectors a slight decrease in specific energy
58 consumption is expected, since this value is the composite of two big trends in both type of
59 buildings, one is the continuous efficiency gains and the other is the continued service levels in
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4 space conditioning (today not all areas are heated or air conditioned to full thermal comfort
5 levels, especially in some regions of the world, as will be shown below).

6 **4.2. Regional analysis of the trends in the drivers**

8 **4.2.1. Trends in heating and cooling energy consumption**

9
10 For residential buildings Figure 8 shows that basically by mid-century five regions will
11 dominate the world buildings heating and cooling energy use, NAM, WEU, CPA, with SAS
12 dominating it. Residential energy use is increasing strongly only in six regions, while it is
13 stagnating or decreasing in the other six regions considered. For example, in CPA it is heavily
14 increasing until 2040 and then it starts stagnating.

15
16
17 Comparing residential and commercial buildings, residential energy use dominates being at
18 least a factor of two or more higher all over the world except in CPA, where the commercial
19 buildings energy use already today exceeds the residential one.

20
21 Finally, Figure 8 also shows that commercial buildings energy use keeps increasing during the
22 studied period basically everywhere except for PAO and a small decrease in SAS at the end of
23 this period.

24
25
26 Figure 9 shows that the global trends mark very different trends in the different regions. For
27 example in SAS the building heating and cooling energy use (H&C BEU) could increase by
28 fivefold by the end of the period, while in WEU it will decrease even in the frozen efficient
29 scenario. The most dynamic increases are expected in LAM, MEA, AFR, SAS and PAS. Each of
30 these regions at least will triple their residential H&C BEU until the middle of the century.

31
32
33 As for the drivers, the changes in household size (p/h) are more moderate. Many regions it has
34 decreased approx. 10-20% since 1980 to 2010 (NAM, WEU, EEU, MEA and SAS) and only a few
35 ones was this figure above 30-65% (LAM, FSU, CPA, PAO, PAS and AFR). For the future,
36 household size is expected to continue its most dynamic decrease to almost halve in CPA,
37 MEA, AFR, SAS, PAS and LAM. In developed regions this driver will decrease only moderately
38 (from 10% to 25%).

39
40
41 The per capita floor area of buildings is not available for past trends. It is expected to
42 significantly grow until 2050 in several regions with over-doubling in LAM, MEA, SAS, and PAS.
43 In some developed regions it is actually projected to decrease such as in NAM and WEU
44 around 11-12%, likely because of the limited availability of land, due to urbanization (in
45 developed regions urban dwellings are smaller), and divorce [28]. Interestingly in some
46 developing regions household size is also not expected to increase that significantly, such as
47 CPA and AFR, which maybe the composite result of increasing trends by increasing affluents
48 and increasing urbanization that tends to limit floor space.

49
50
51 Specific energy consumption also cannot comment on the past due to the lack of floor space
52 and H&C data. In terms of the future, this driver is not going to change significantly during the
53 period due to the two opposite trends driving this indicator, efficiency increase and service
54 levels increase. It will exhibit the largest, but still moderate, in CPA and SAS, with about
55 roughly 38% and 33% increase respectively. It is projected to stagnated or very moderate
56 decrease or increase in EEU (-6%), FSU (-7%), WEU (-12%), NAM (-16%), LAM (-4%), MEA (3%),
57 PAS (0%), AFR (-4%), and PAO (-8%). In regions relying in biomass heating, with a shift of fuel
58 significant efficiency gains may be obtained, but again they may be compensated by more
59 space heated to higher temperatures.

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4 In Figure 10 it can be seen how for commercial buildings the building H&C energy use is
5 expected to increase in every regions, although at different rates. A big increase, almost
6 tripled, will be seen in FSU, EEU, PAS, SAS, LAM and AFR. The strongest increase will be in MEA,
7 increasing by fivefold. The most moderate increases are expected in NAM (21%), WEU (21%)
8 and PAO (20%).
9

10 The key driver of commercial H&C BEU, GDP, is expected to grow in every region, again with
11 very different trends. For instance, while PAO will only increase by 30%, and NAM and WEU by
12 roughly 60-80%, other regions will multiply their GDP such as FSU, LAM, PAS, CPA and MEA
13 (five to six fold), EEU (over fourfold), and SAS and AFR (more than ten times). How this very
14 dynamic increase exactly influences H&C CBEU will largely be determined by the elasticity
15 changes of commercial floor space to GDP trends.
16
17

18 Similarly to the residential sector, trends in specific energy consumption are going to be
19 significantly less dramatic than the other drivers. SEC is likely to remain mostly constant or
20 moderate change, most notably it is expected to decrease by over 33% in WEU, due to strong
21 building energy efficiency regulations (in the frozen efficiency scenario). The one region where
22 will have a notable increase is SAS (32%), which trend is likely to be driven by the substantially
23 increased use of air conditioning of commercially spaces.
24
25

26 Figure 11 shows the residential and commercial total building energy use per capita. It
27 demonstrates a very important trend in BEU, it attests in the last three decades residential
28 BEU has roughly stagnated in the vast majority of the world (NAM, WEU, EEU, LAM, AFR, SAS,
29 CPA and PAS). It increased notably only in FSU (30%), PAO (25%) and MEA (80%). In all other
30 regions it has either slightly decreased or increased by less than 10%. This trend is robust
31 against the level of development and climate type, because each type of region shows this
32 trend, even in the very dynamically developing, such as CPA and SAS. This is an unexpected
33 trend if we consider the big increase in affluence. In contrast, commercial BEU increased in all
34 regions. Most notably it increased in MEA, PAS and CPA; by over two to three fold. In regions
35 like WEU, SAS, PAO, LAM and EEU the increase is between 20-60%. The increase was less than
36 10% in NAM, AFR and FSU.
37
38

39 With regard to the importance of heating and cooling in total building energy use, the picture
40 is very diverse with 18–73%, and the trends are not trivial (Figure 12). The highest shares of
41 thermal building conditioning in these sectors energy use are in the commercial buildings of
42 developing countries in hot (and partially humid) climates: 73% in CPA and 64% in SAS. This is
43 likely to be the result of a thermally poorly built commercial building sector (such as appealing
44 large glazed surfaces that result in major heat gains), supplied with inefficient cooling
45 technologies, combined with the fact that the penetration of other electricity-using
46 commercial equipment is not so high yet as in the most developed countries. Other regions
47 with high thermal conditioning energy use shares are the residential buildings in NAM (52%),
48 FSU (48%) and EEU (55%), and WEU (46%). In the FSU and EEU this is due to the legacy of poor
49 thermal efficiency of the building stock due to the high energy price subsidies in the soviet era
50 [27], in combination with cold climates. In North America and WEU, it is also likely to point at
51 the fairly low level of thermal efficiency of the building stock and heating/cooling equipment.
52 Heating and cooling plays the smallest role in commercial buildings in MEA (18%) and PAO
53 (20%), and residential buildings in AFR (20%). While the latter is expected due to the climate
54 and diverse ways of adaptation to living in a hot climate, the first two are more surprising
55 because these shares are lower than in the residential sector (over double in share – 49%-
56 in PAO and slightly higher in MEA with 24%), and commercial buildings are often cooled more
57 than residential ones due to higher needs of more comfortable temperatures to ensure
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4 productivity and due to higher internal heat gains due to more electricity-using equipment and
5 lighting during the day.
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7 **4.2.2. Trends in specific space heating and cooling and domestic hot water energy** 8 **consumption** 9

10 Since sometimes it is difficult to separate space heating and cooling (SH&C) energy use and
11 domestic hot water (DHW) energy use, Figure 13 includes both H&C and DHW in residential
12 and commercial buildings separately (data from Figure 13 is detailed in Table 3, in the Annex of
13 this paper). DHW in residential buildings represents a small end use of heating and cooling,
14 with largest shares in EEU homes and LAM (closer to 35-40%), in the other regions it is only
15 between 20 to 30%. In most regions commercial water heating energy use represents a smaller
16 share both in absolute and relative terms than residential, except in FSU, Africa and the Pacific.
17
18

19 The relation of energy intensity in the commercial vs. residential sector is different in the
20 different regions. The largest difference is in CPA, where energy intensity in commercial
21 buildings is almost double the residential sector in 2010, and in MEA, SAS, PAS and AFR is 10-
22 30%. . The relationship between residential and commercial energy intensity does not change
23 throughout the projection period, except in FSU, where the presently higher commercial
24 energy intensity will gain more in efficiency terms than the residential sector, and will
25 consume less in 2050 per sq. meter.
26
27

28 By far the highest the SH&C figures are in FSU, largely due to the legacy of communist energy
29 subsidies as well as to a harsh climate. In the other developed regions, with mostly moderate
30 continental climate, both residential and commercial sets are a bit under 150 kWh/m²/year.
31 And, in the frozen efficiency scenario will only decrease substantially in WEU, due to strong
32 building efficiency policies. Heating and cooling energy intensity is projected to increase only in
33 SAS and CPA slightly, with a bit stronger increase in the next two decades in SAS.
34
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36 In the less developed regions of the world and CPA, residential SH&C is around 50
37 kWh/m²/year, and it is not expected to grow significantly even until the end of the projection
38 period despite the projected increases in affluence, floor space, and service levels.
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41 **5. Limitations and research needs** 42 43

44 It is important to acknowledge that there is a significant uncertainty in all these figures with
45 the accuracy of input data and thus projections significantly varying across regions and
46 variables. Data on population GDP, households are more reliable, whereas, floor space,
47 building energy use, specific energy consumption are much more uncertain, especially in most
48 developing countries, where such data are neither collected nor reported.
49

50 As a result there is a significant need for a more consistent and comprehensive data collection
51 and reporting related to building energy use worldwide, with some minor exceptions.

52 Whereas projections have been made for the building related energy use, heating and cooling
53 related data from the past is not available except for some regions. A highlight on data missing
54 is the present and past floor space for many regions.
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57 **6. Conclusions** 58 59 60 61 62

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4 The purpose of this paper was to provide an authoritative, consistent and comprehensive
5 source of information on thermal energy use in buildings, its drivers, and their past, present
6 and future trends on a global and regional basis; in a consistent manner with data and trends
7 efforts of researchers contributing to the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate
8 Change (IPCC). Such information serves as the basis for relevant modeling work, policy
9 preparatory work and other research. Therefore the paper did not intend to interpret these
10 trends beyond some clear, simple interactions, but invites researchers to analyze and assess
11 this information.
12

13
14 Energy use in buildings forms a large part of global and regional energy demand – with 32% of
15 global final energy demand, 30% of energy-related CO₂ emissions, app. one third of black
16 carbon emissions. Thermal energy uses account for an important, but variable part of this
17 demand. Globally, over 60% of residential and almost 50% of commercial building energy is
18 demanded for thermal uses; with higher contribution from water heating in residential
19 buildings, and from cooling in commercial. Within this, space heating comprises 32-33% of
20 global total building energy use. The importance of heating and cooling in total building energy
21 use is very diverse with this share varying between 18-73%. The highest are in the commercial
22 buildings of developing countries in hot (and partially humid) climates: 73% in CPA and 64% in
23 SAS, and the smallest in commercial buildings in MEA (18%) and PAO (20%), and residential
24 buildings in AFR (20%).
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26
27 Biomass is still far the dominant fuel when a global picture is considered, covering most of the
28 energy needs of the poor in the least developed countries, used with very low efficiencies. The
29 role of electricity is substantially growing, presently accounting for over half of commercial
30 building energy use. In developed countries, it fuels 12-43 % of building energy needs. The
31 direct use of coal is disappearing from this sector, largely replaced by electricity and natural
32 gas in the most developed regions.
33

34
35 The paper has identified the different drivers of heating and cooling energy demand; and
36 decomposed this energy demand into key drivers based on a Kaya identity approach: number
37 of households, persons per household, floor space per capita and specific energy consumption
38 for residential heating and cooling; and GDP, floor space per GDP, and specific energy
39 consumption for commercial buildings. The rest of the paper then focused on reviewing the
40 trends in the development of these drivers for the present, future – and for which data were
41 available, for the past (the lack of comprehensive global data on either floor space or heating
42 energy consumption) in 11 world regions as well as globally.
43

44
45 The development of these key drivers influences building energy use in different directions,
46 although presently the composite in a business-as-usual scenario almost exclusively is a
47 projected growth. Although autonomous and policy-induced efficiency gains are bringing
48 specific energy consumption down in every region where heating and cooling energy service
49 levels are saturated (in areas where indoor temperatures of used spaces are far from
50 comfortable levels these values will continue to increase despite efficiency improvements), the
51 very dynamic increases in the number of households – either driven by population increase,
52 immigration, or by fragmenting households -, combined with in most regions still increasing
53 per capita living space, significantly outpace this improvement. Trends in drivers are similar for
54 the commercial sector: dynamically increasing commercial activity, indicated by GDP, is the
55 strongest factor in driving heating/cooling energy use in this building type up, but this growth
56 is moderated by a slowly decreasing elasticity, i.e. less new floor area per GDP, as well as
57 gradual efficiency gains. Nevertheless, commercial heating and cooling energy use is still
58 expected to strongly grow until the middle of the century, with an app. 84% projected increase
59 by 2050 as compared to 2010. This figure is 79% for residential heating and cooling.
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5 In a business-as-usual scenario, total residential heating and cooling energy use is expected to
6 more or less stagnate, or slightly decrease, in the developed parts of the world (NAM, WEU,
7 FSU, PAO). In contrast, commercial heating and cooling energy use will grow in each world
8 region. Most dynamic growth in the next four decades is expected in SAS (including India)
9 where the baseline scenario indicates an increase by almost six fold. Even considering the
10 uncertainty of this number, the very large expected increase is much higher than any other
11 world region – with (AFR, MEA, PAS, LAM and PAS) less than tripling. Specific energy
12 consumption is expected to decrease in all world regions, even if very slowly, except for CPA
13 and SAS where a 10-25% increase is expected throughout the period due to increasing service
14 levels.
15

16
17 A somewhat surprising, but robust trend is that per capita total final residential building
18 energy use has been stagnating in the vast majority of world regions for the past three
19 decades, despite the very significant increases in energy service levels in each of these regions,
20 indicated by many new appliances supplying more comfort in homes, including a major boost
21 in entertainment, information, communication and media services. Perhaps this trend is the
22 most important in this paper: if efficiency gains can continue to compensate for improvements
23 in energy service levels on an individual basis, this could provide opportunities to turn global
24 building energy use down in the longer term – but this is the scope of another paper.
25
26

27 28 **Acknowledgements**

29
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34
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4 **Figure captions**
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7 Figure 1. World total final buildings energy consumption by final energy carrier [5].

8 Figure 2. Residential buildings total energy consumption by final energy carrier [5].

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10 Figure 3. Final building energy consumption in the world by end-use in 2010 (“Others”
11 category includes IT equipment, etc.) [4].
12

13 Figure 4. Regions considered [25].
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15 Figure 5. Person per household in some selected countries. Data from United Nations [18,19].
16

17 Figure 6. Trends in the different drivers of energy consumption in residential buildings in the
18 world 1980-2050. Data for h and p are from United Nations [18,19], total building energy use
19 (1980-2010) is from IEA [3], projections on floor area and heating and cooling energy use
20 (2010-2050) are based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].
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23 Figure 7. Trends in the different drivers of energy consumption in commercial buildings in the
24 world 1980-2050. Data for h and p are from United Nations [18,19], total building energy use
25 (1980-2010) is from IEA [3], projections on floor area and heating and cooling energy use
26 (2010-2050) are based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].
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29 Figure 8. Heating and cooling energy consumption in the building sector in the different
30 regions of the world in residential and commercial buildings, 2010 - 2050. Projections (2010-
31 2050) are based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].
32
33

34 Figure 9. Trends in the drivers of energy consumption in residential buildings by key world
35 region. Data for h and p are from United Nations [18,19], total building energy use (1980-2010)
36 is from IEA [3], projections on floor area and heating and cooling energy use (2010-2050) are
37 based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].
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40 Figure 10. Trends in the drivers of consumption in commercial buildings by key world regions
41 1980-2050. Note that in order to show the trends in different world regions better, the scale
42 varies by region. Data for h and p are from United Nations [18,19], total building energy use
43 (1980-2010) is from IEA [3], projections on floor area and heating and cooling energy use
44 (2010-2050) are based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1]
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47 Figure 11. Residential and commercial per capita total energy use by key world region
48 [MWh/per capita/year] in 1980 and 2010. Data E from IEA statistics [3] and p from United
49 Nations [12].
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52 Figure 12. Heating and cooling energy consumption in 2010 of residential and commercial
53 buildings in the different world regions. Total building energy use is from IEA [3], projections
54 on heating and cooling energy use is based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].
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Figure 13. Specific Energy used for Heating, Cooling and Hot water in Residential and Commercial Buildings by key world region in kWh/m² (2010 – 2050). Data based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].

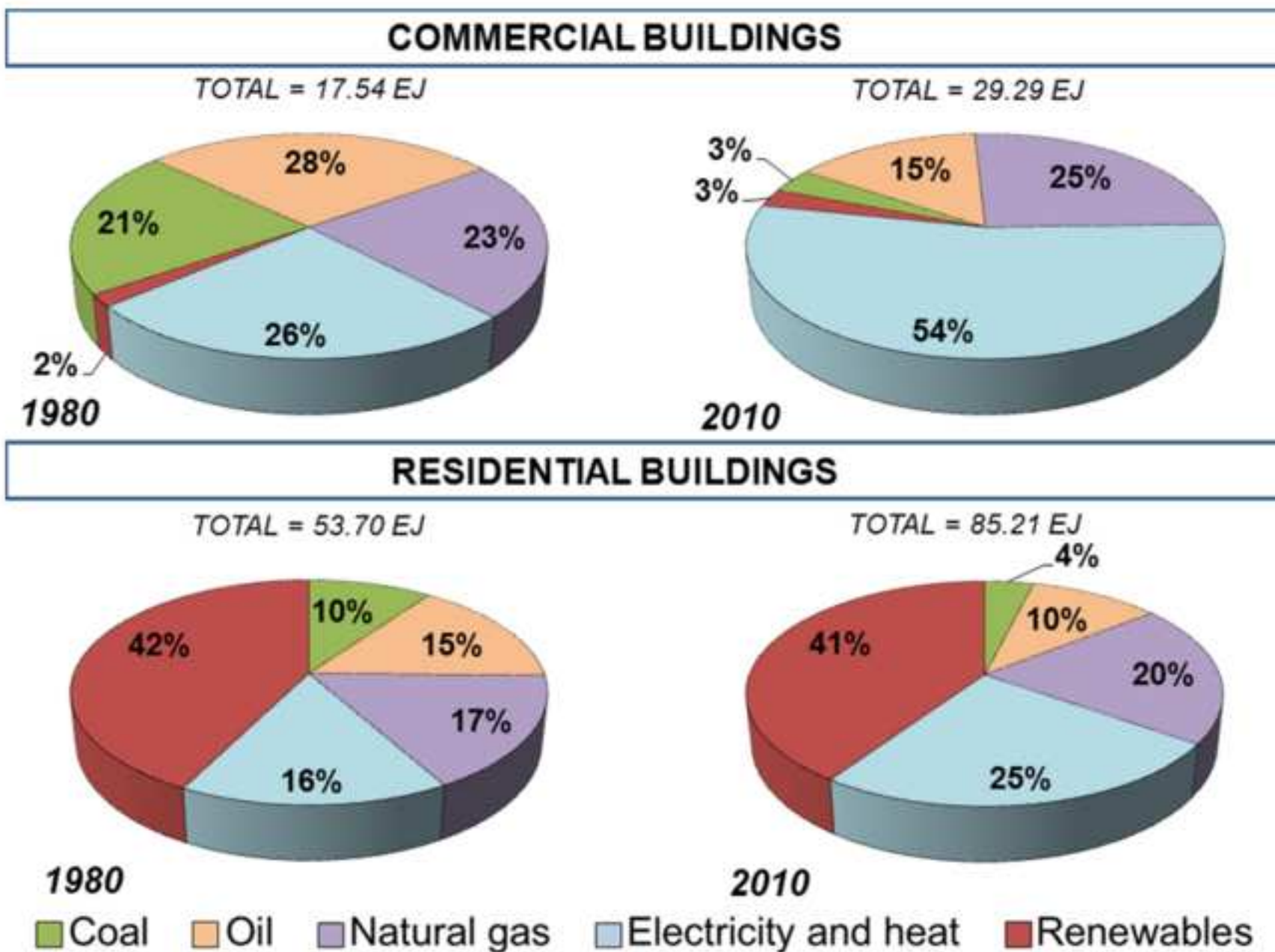


Figure 1

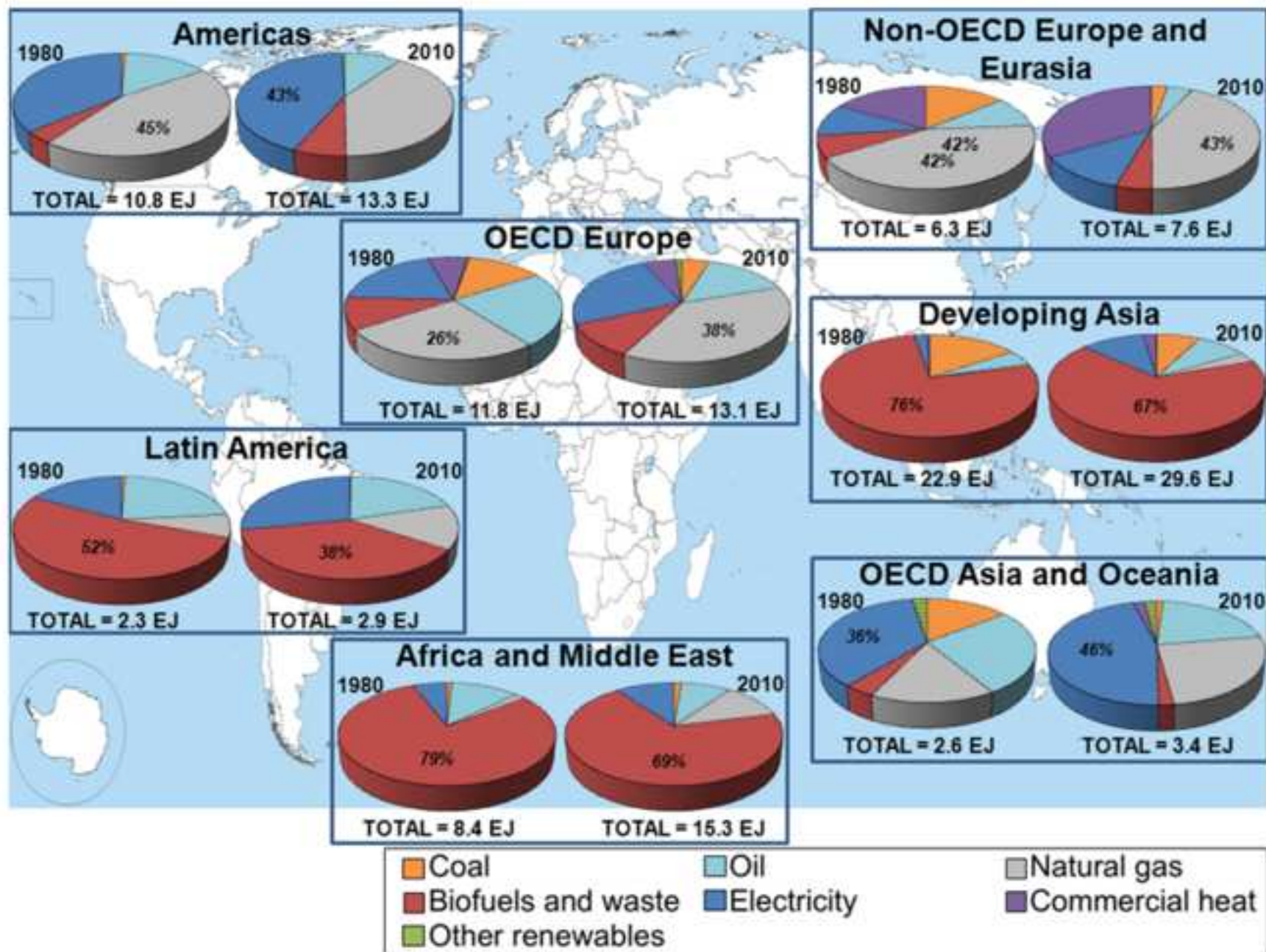


Figure 2

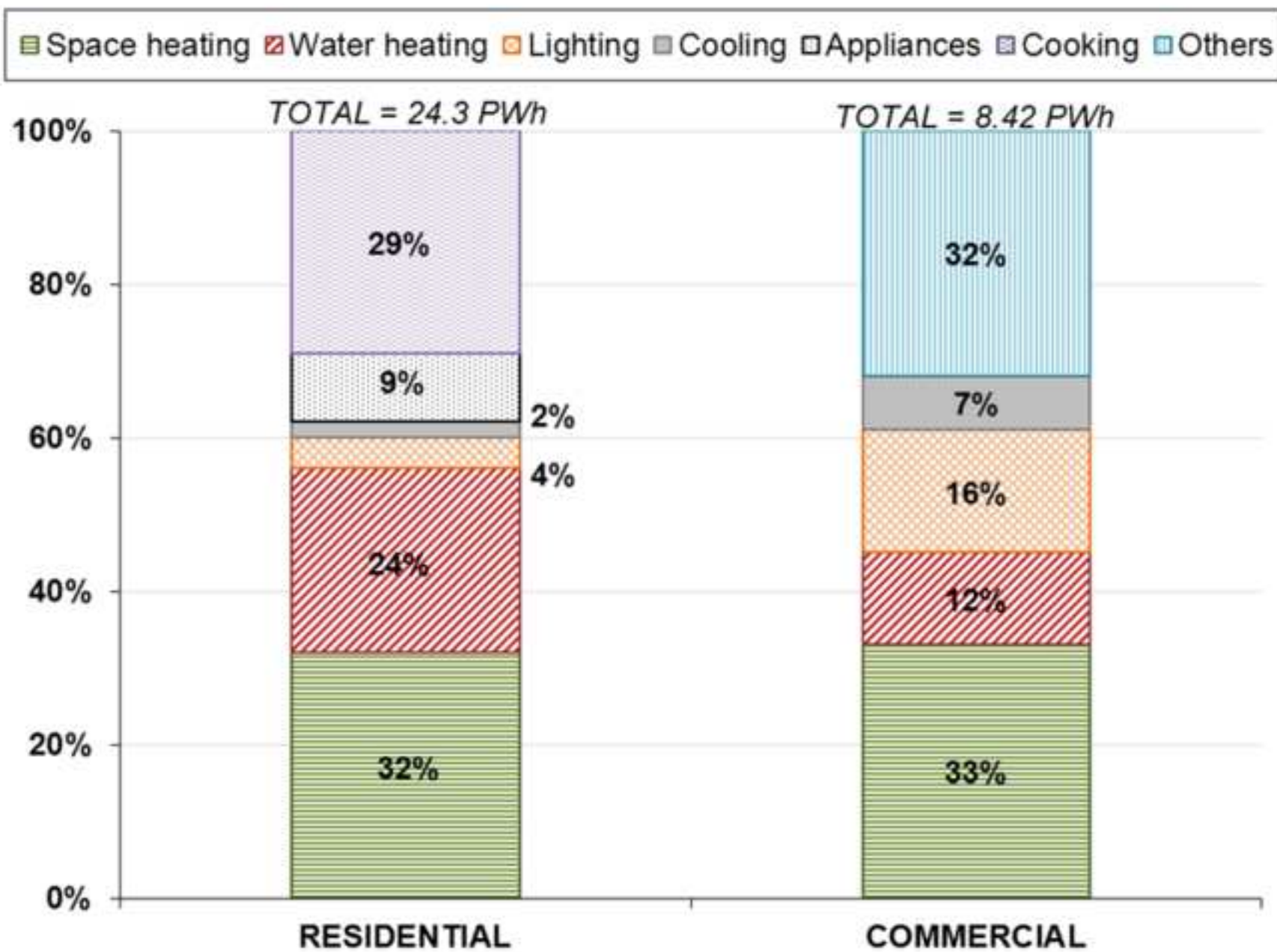


Figure 3

Figure

[Click here to download high resolution image](#)

NAM: North America

LAM: Latin America

WEU: Western Europe

EEU: Central and Eastern
Europe

MEA: North Africa and Middle East

AFR: Sub-Saharan Africa

FSU: Former Soviet Union

CPA: Centrally Planned Asia

SAS: South Asia

PAS: Other Pacific Asia

PAO: Oceania (Pacific OECD
Countries)

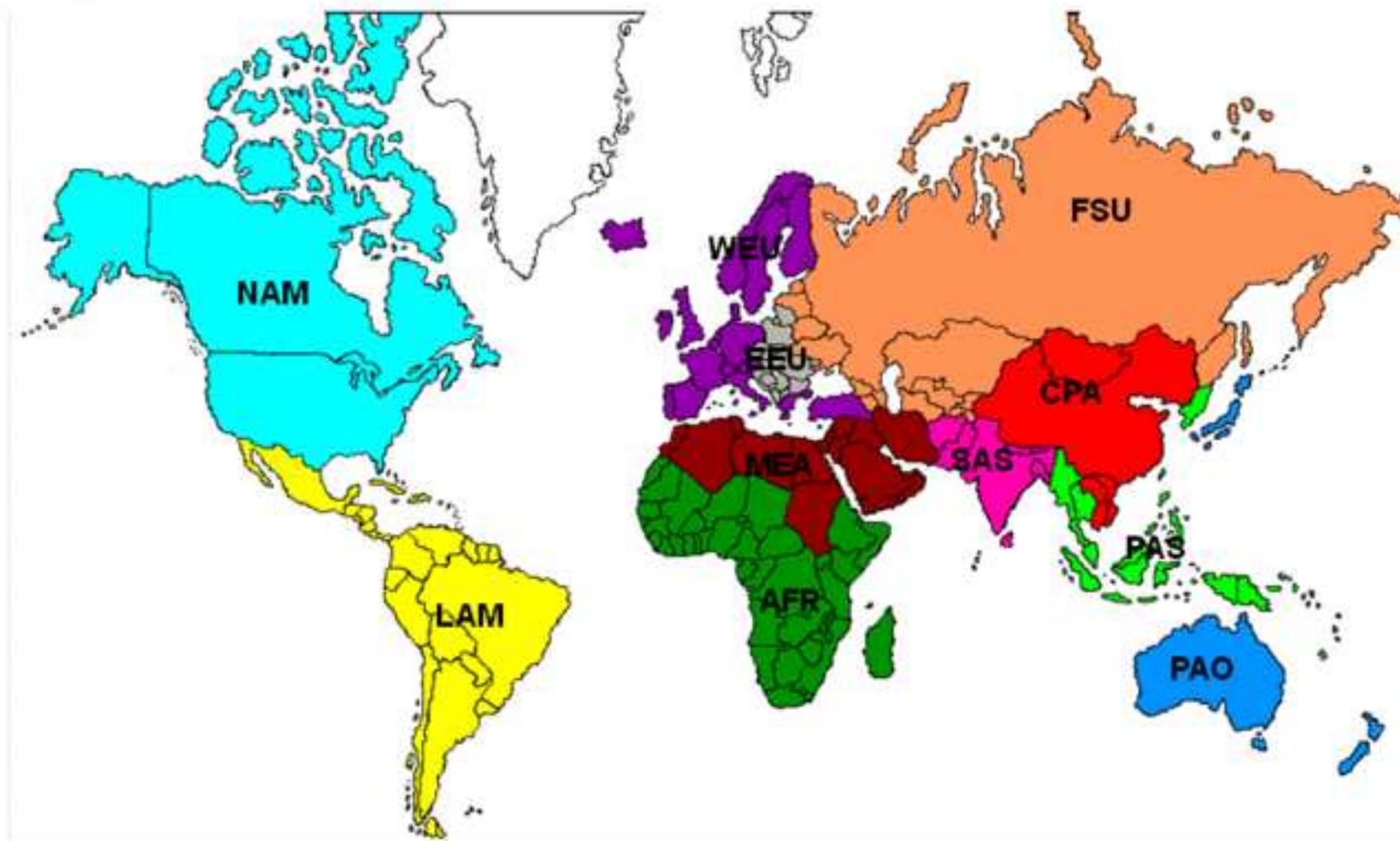


Figure 4

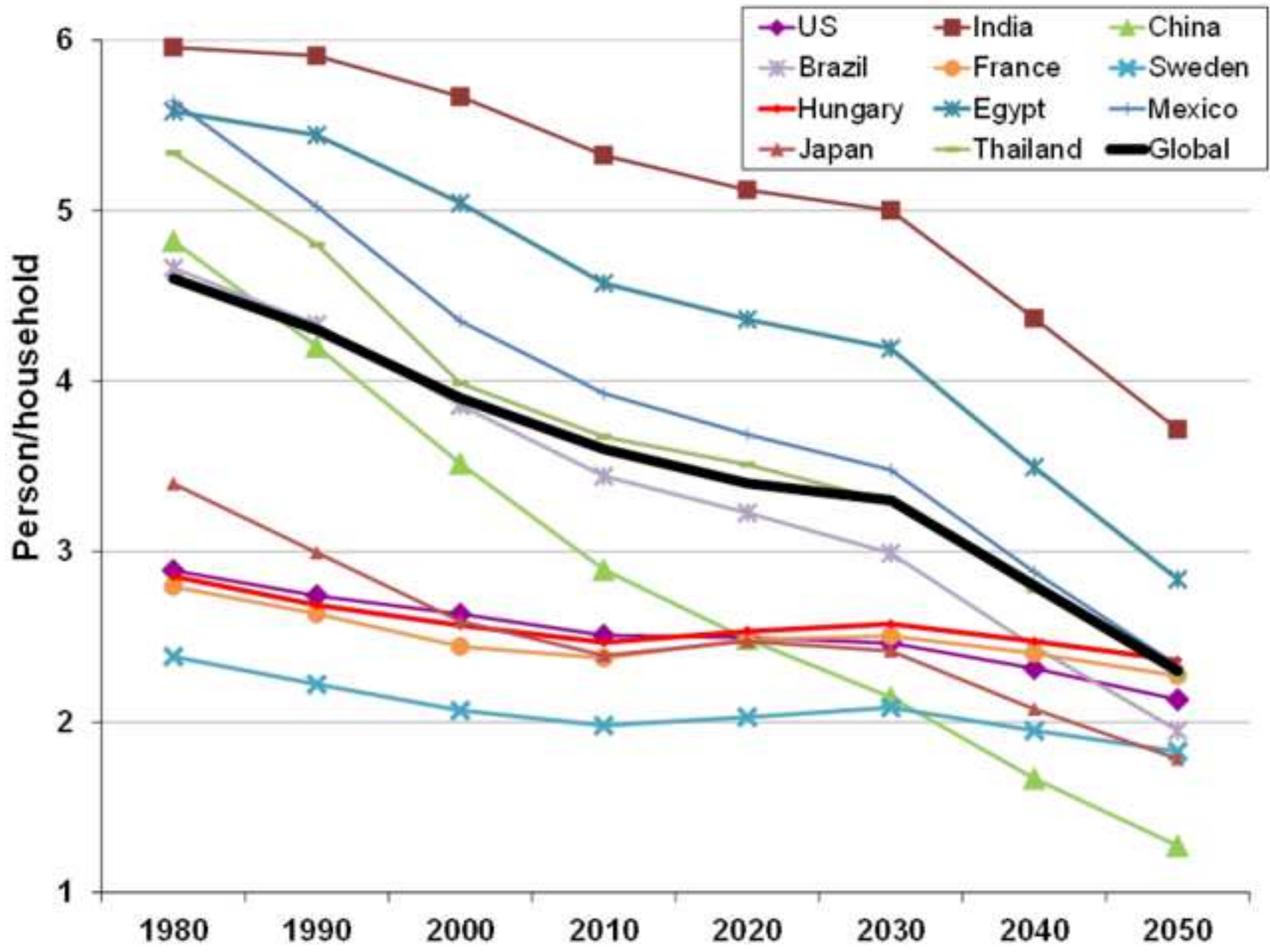


Figure 5

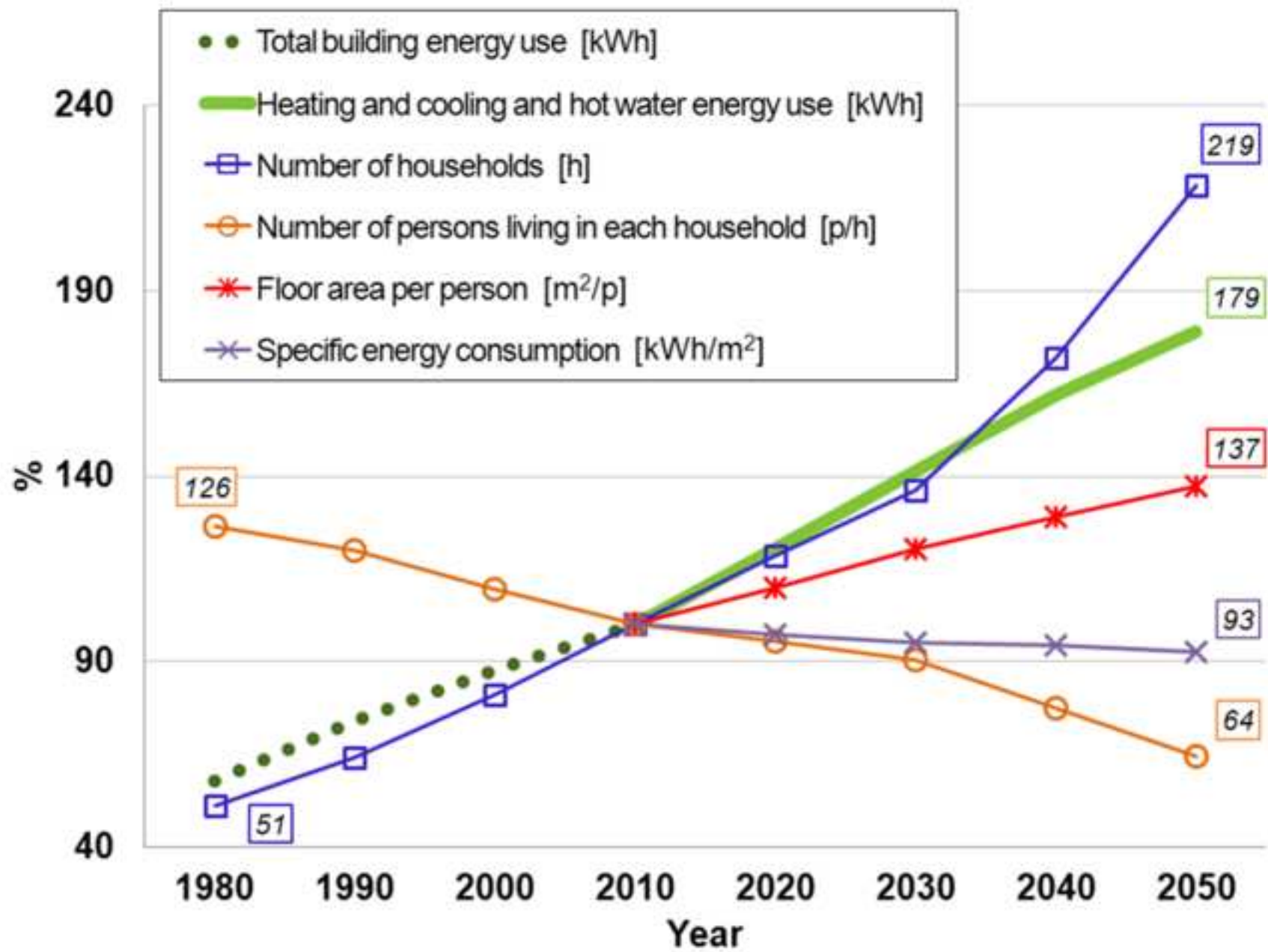


Figure 6

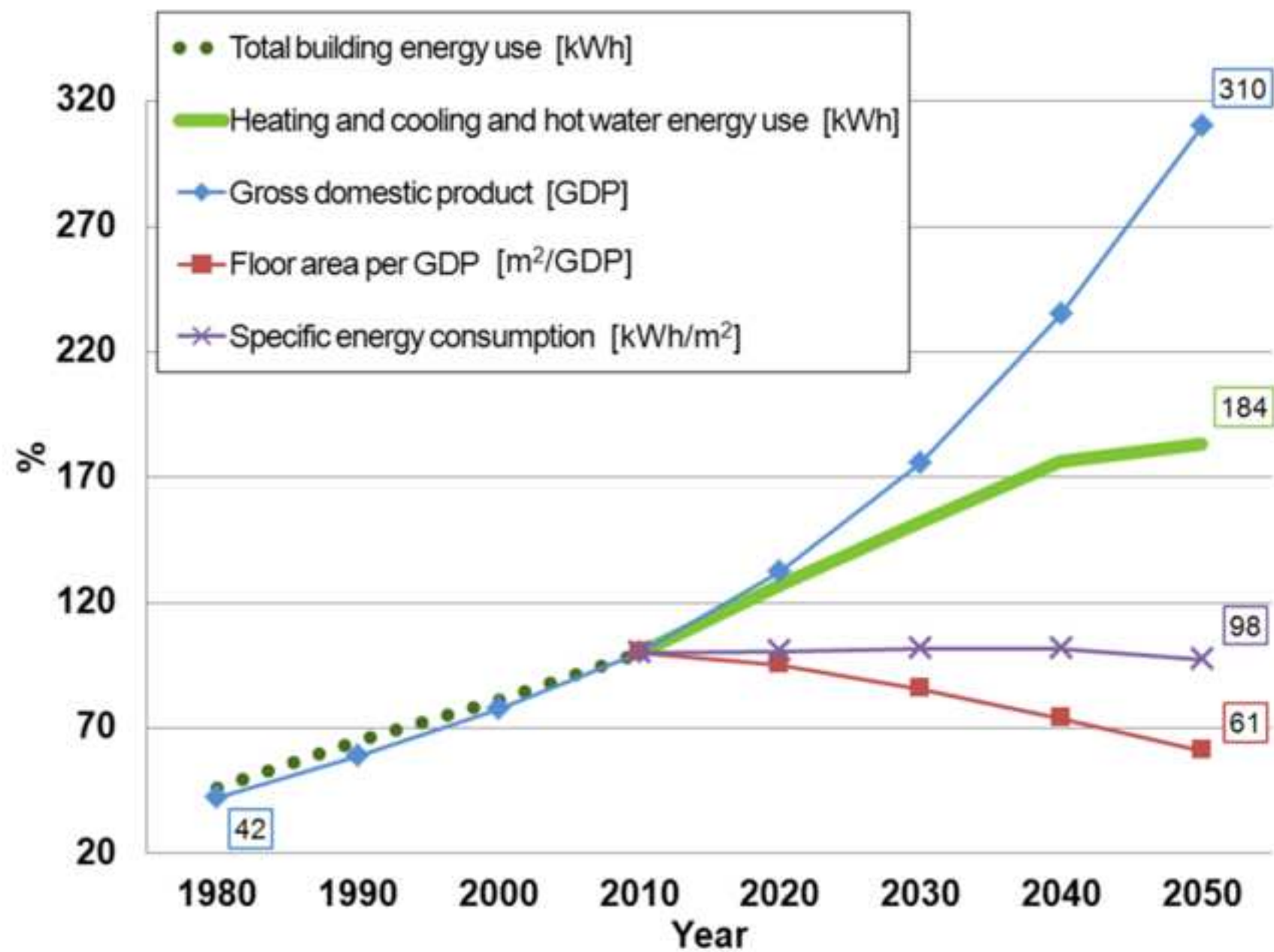


Figure 7

Figure

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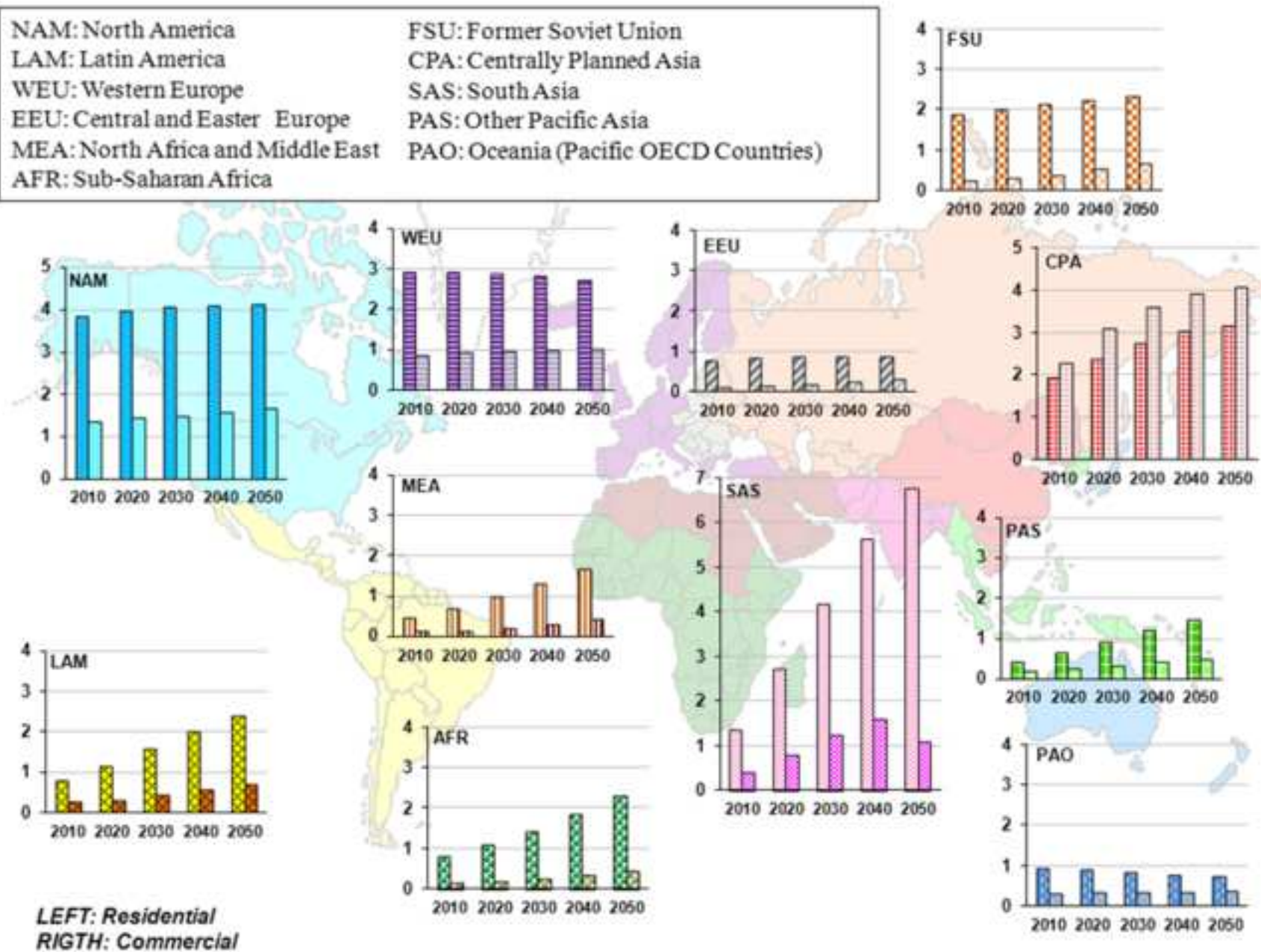


Figure 8

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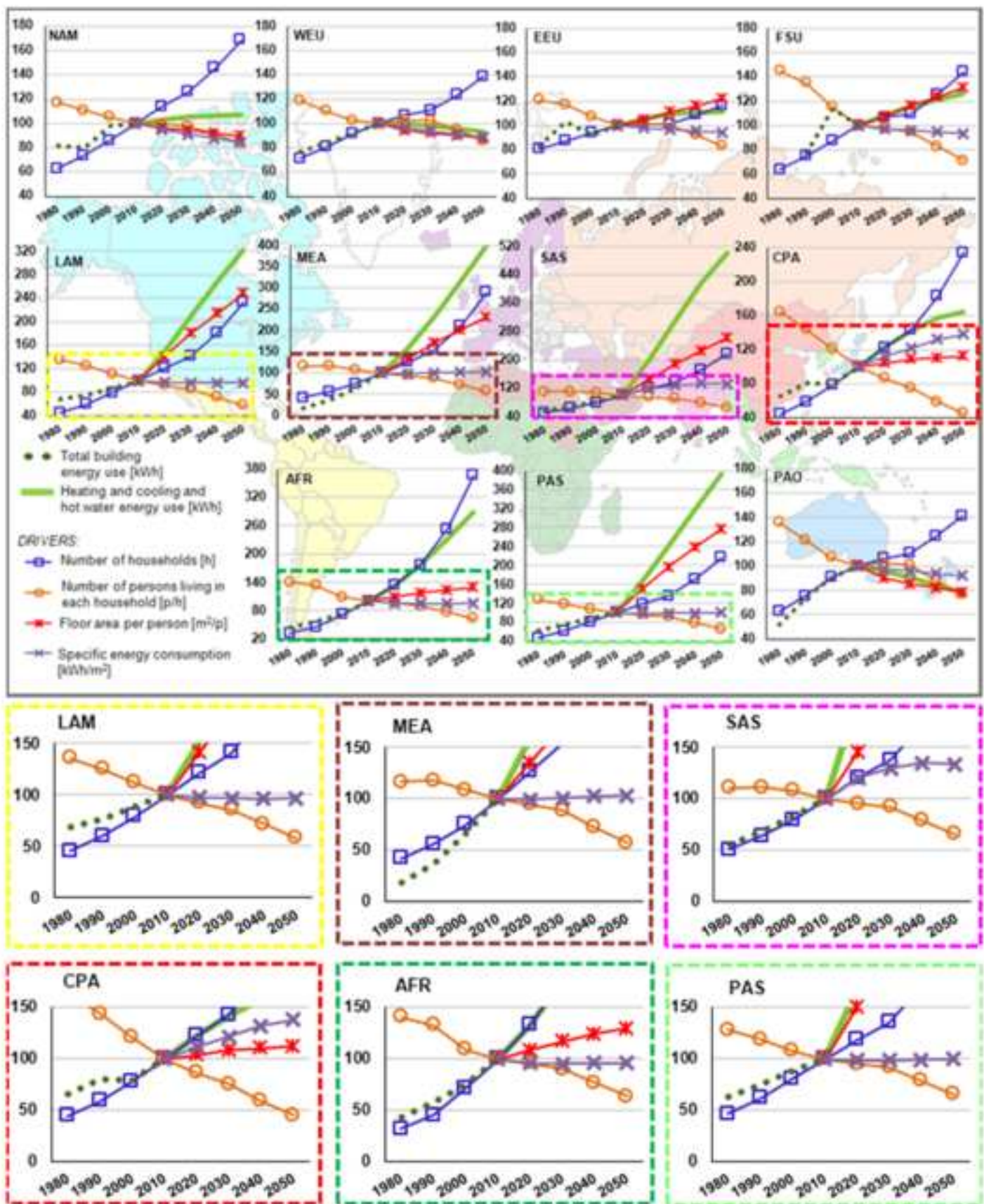


Figure 9

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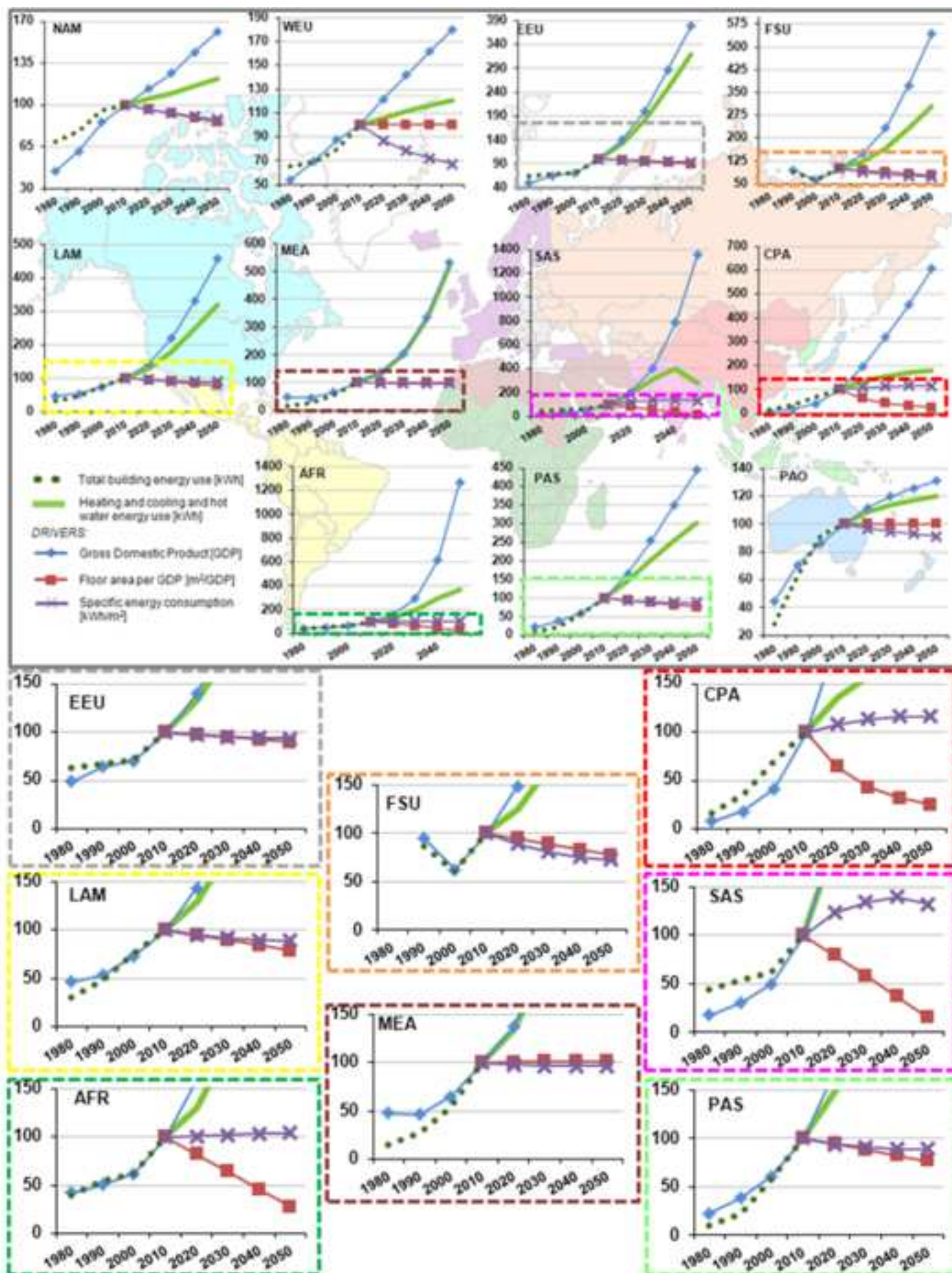


Figure 10

Figure

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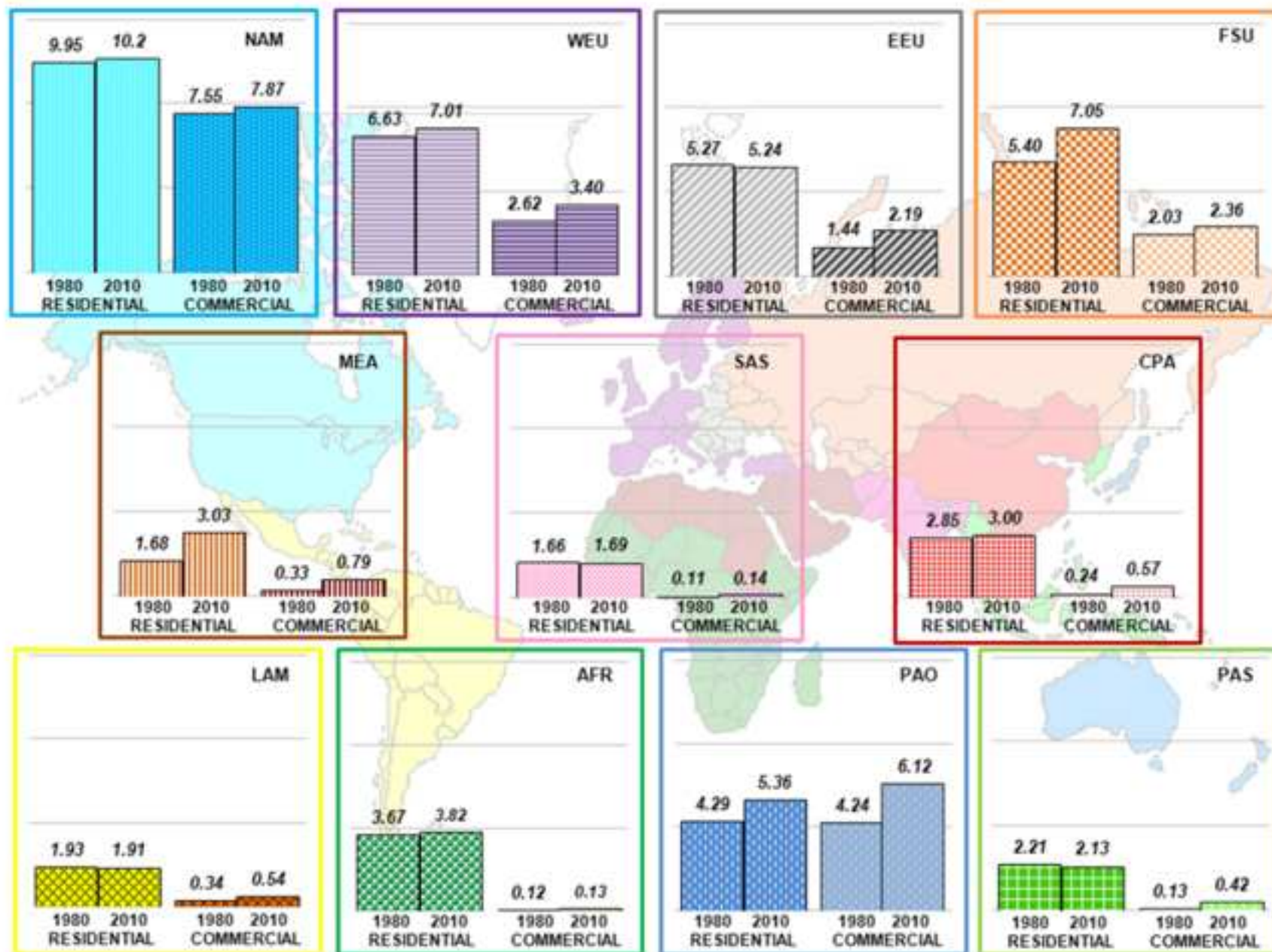


Figure 11

Figure

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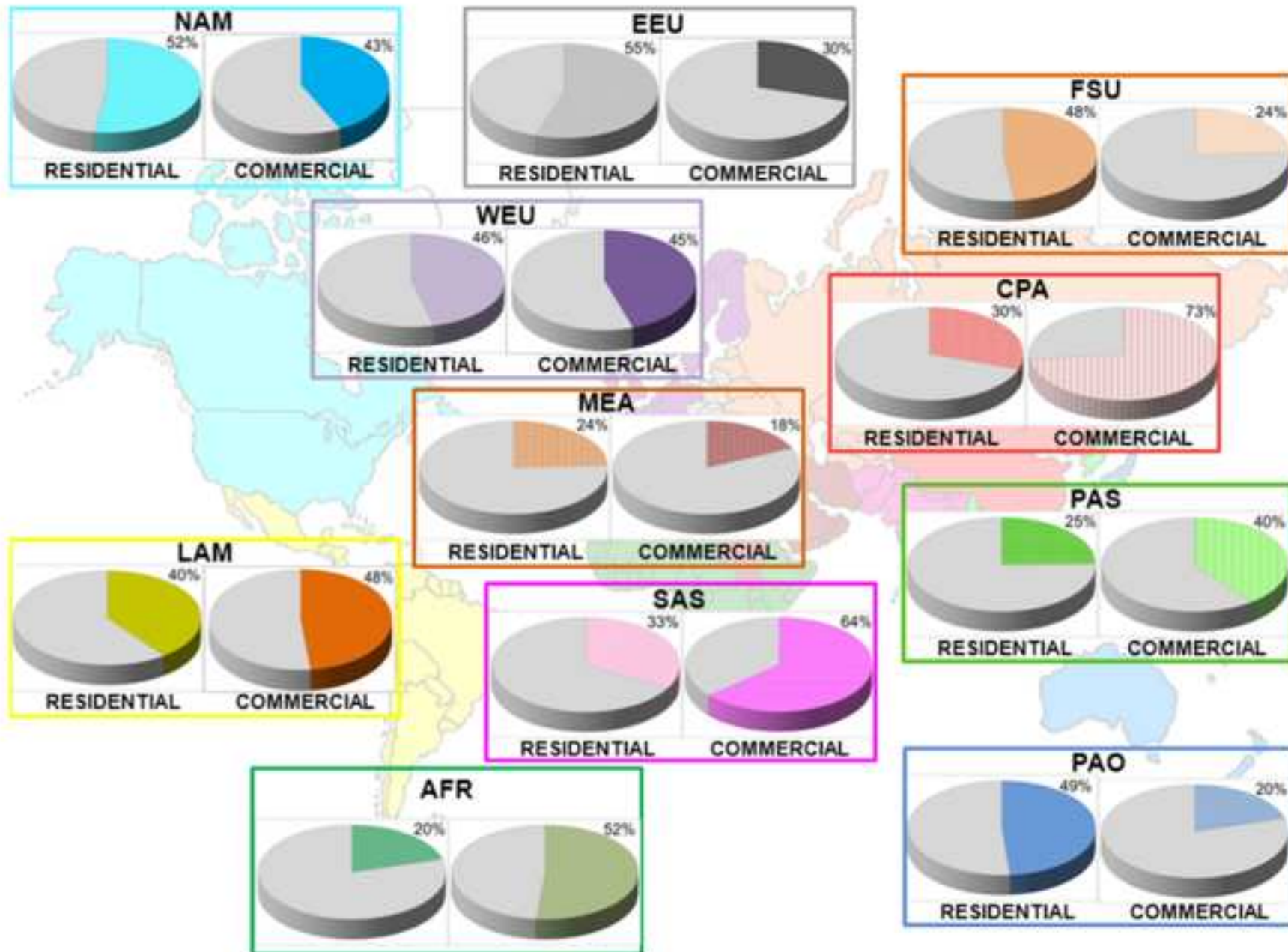


Figure 12

Figure

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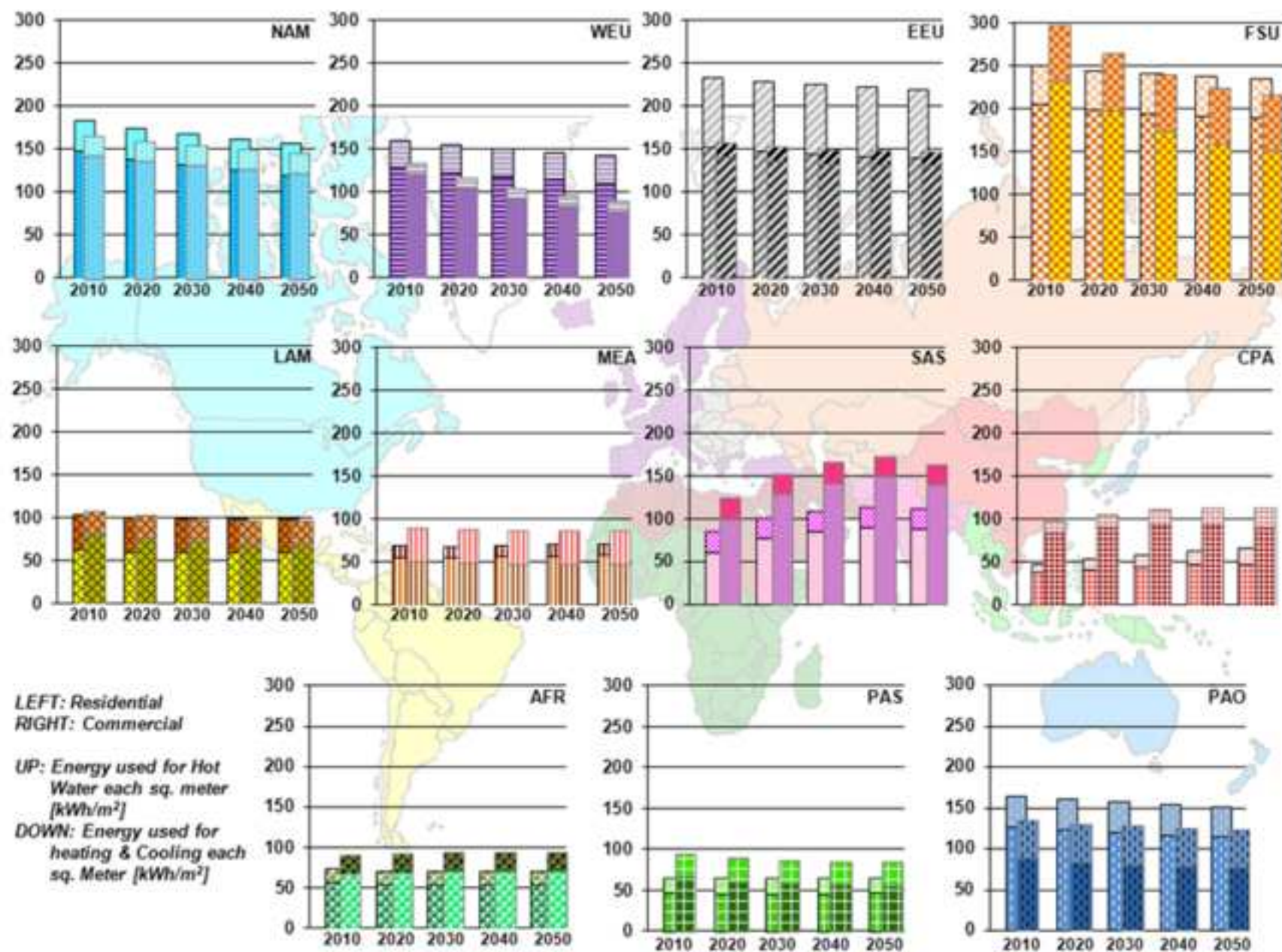


Figure 13

Tables

Table 1. Global residential heating and cooling energy consumption projections (based on a frozen efficiency scenario) and its drivers 2010-2050. Data from [1].

Year	Energy (PWh)	Kaya drivers				Other drivers	
		Households (h, billions)	Persons per household (p/h)	Per capita floor area (m ² /p)	Specific energy consumption (kWh/m ² /year)	Population (billions)	Floor area (m ²)
2010	16	1.9	3.6	20.7	110	6.8	1.41·10 ¹¹
2020	19	2.2	3.4	22.7	110	7.7	1.76·10 ¹¹
2030	22	2.6	3.3	25.0	110	8.4	2.11·10 ¹¹
2040	26	3.2	2.8	26.8	100	9.1	2.43·10 ¹¹
2050	28	4.1	2.3	28.5	100	9.6	2.74·10 ¹¹

Table 2. Global commercial heating and cooling energy consumption projections (based on a frozen efficiency scenario) and its drivers 2010-2050. Data from [1].

Year	Energy (PWh)	Kaya drivers			Other drivers
		GDP (2005 US\$)	Floor area/GDP (m ² /2005 US\$)	Specific energy consumption (kWh/m ² /year)	Floor area (m ²)
2010	6.0	5.0·10 ¹³	9.9·10 ⁻⁴	120	4.98·10 ¹⁰
2020	7.6	6.6·10 ¹³	9.4·10 ⁻⁴	120	6.27·10 ¹⁰
2030	9.1	8.8·10 ¹³	8.4·10 ⁻⁴	120	7.45·10 ¹⁰
2040	10	12·10 ¹³	7.3·10 ⁻⁴	120	8.65·10 ¹⁰
2050	11	16·10 ¹³	6.0·10 ⁻⁴	120	9.37·10 ¹⁰

Table 3. Data of specific Energy used for Heating, Cooling and Hot water in Residential and Commercial Buildings by key world region in kWh/m² (2010 – 2050). Data based on a frozen efficiency scenario [1].

RESIDENTIAL										
	SH&C [kW/m ²]					HW [kW/m ²]				
	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
PAO	126.1	122.4	119.1	116.0	113.4	36.6	36.6	36.6	36.6	36.6
NAM	147.5	138.4	131.0	124.9	119.7	36.4	36.4	36.4	36.4	36.4
WEU	128.3	123.1	118.4	114.2	110.4	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0
EEU	152.6	148.1	144.8	141.8	139.1	80.2	80.2	80.2	80.2	80.2
FSU	205.1	198.4	194.5	191.6	189.0	46.4	46.4	46.4	46.4	46.4
LAM	63.3	60.2	59.5	59.3	59.6	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0
AFR	56.2	53.4	52.9	53.0	53.4	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5
MEA	55.6	55.1	56.0	57.4	58.0	12.9	12.9	12.9	12.9	12.9
CPA	37.4	41.2	43.8	46.8	47.5	9.9	11.9	13.7	15.8	17.8
SAS	60.1	77.1	85.0	89.2	88.2	24.0	24.0	23.9	24.0	24.0
PAS	46.4	45.5	45.6	45.9	46.5	18.6	18.6	18.6	18.6	18.6
COMMERCIAL										
	SH&C [kW/m ²]					HW [kW/m ²]				
	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
PAO	87.3	83.2	80.3	77.9	75.8	46.3	46.3	46.3	46.3	46.3
NAM	144.7	138.4	133.3	128.5	124.6	23.6	23.6	23.6	23.6	23.6
WEU	120.1	103.1	91.5	83.0	76.5	12.6	12.6	12.6	12.6	12.6
EEU	141.4	137.0	134.1	132.4	131.4	16.2	16.2	16.2	16.2	16.2
FSU	231.2	198.1	173.9	158.4	150.4	66.2	66.2	66.2	66.2	66.2
LAM	79.4	74.0	70.2	68.0	67.6	27.8	27.8	27.8	27.8	27.8
AFR	61.2	61.9	63.0	63.9	64.3	20.6	20.6	20.6	20.6	20.6
MEA	50.0	48.3	47.0	46.8	46.8	39.9	39.9	39.6	39.9	39.9
CPA	84.9	90.3	93.1	93.4	90.5	12.7	15.3	17.8	20.4	22.9
SAS	99.6	128.1	141.6	148.4	139.3	24.0	24.0	23.9	24.0	24.0
PAS	66.4	60.5	57.7	56.1	55.9	28.4	28.4	28.4	28.4	28.4