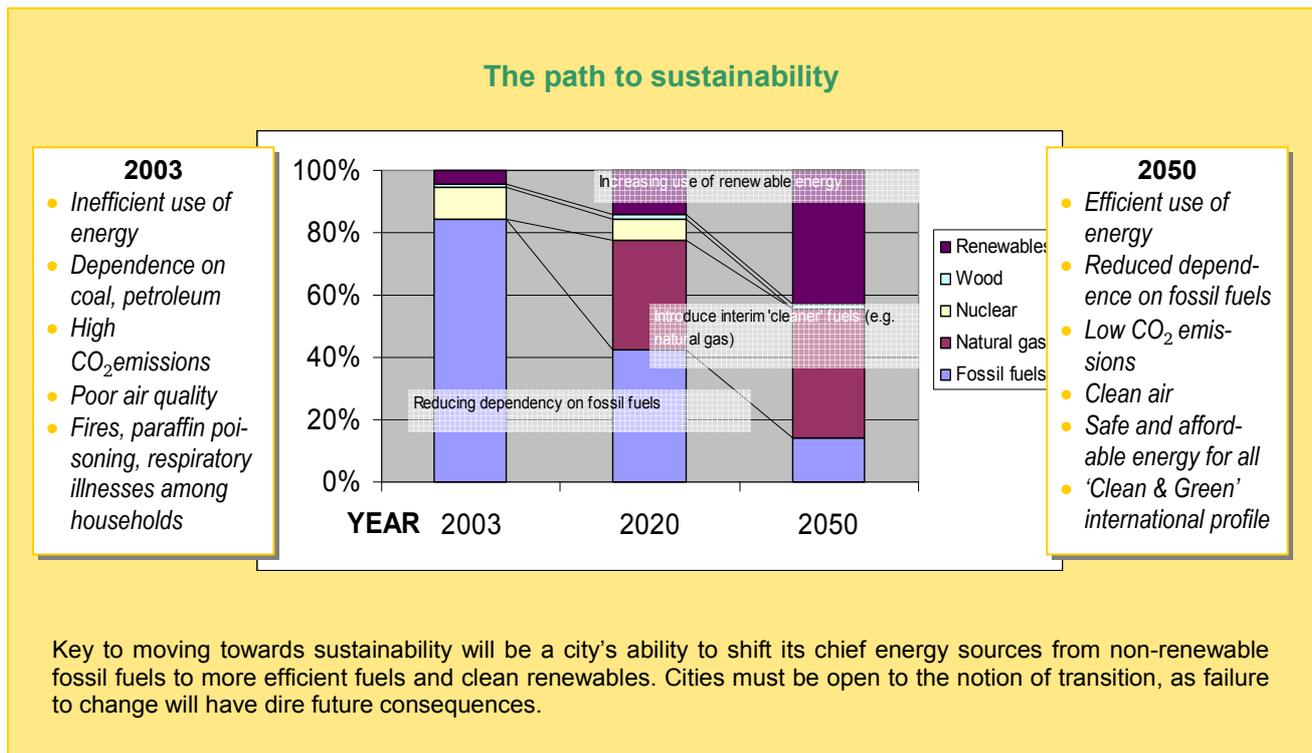


## 3. City action towards a sustainable energy path

It is the responsibility of leaders in *all* tiers of government, commerce, industry and civil society to promote action towards more efficient and renewable energy use. The focus here is on what *cities* can do to promote action.



### 3.1 A sustainable energy strategy for your city

Energy is the lifeblood of a city and runs through every area of a city's functioning. Departmentalization within local government often means that cities do not have a complete understanding of energy use, energy issues and energy initiatives within its boundaries. These need to be gathered and understood in order to inform longer term energy planning.

- Step 1:** Develop a State of Energy Report. This summarises current energy use, energy supply and key energy issues in a city.
- Step 2:** Develop a Sustainable Energy Strategy. This will coordinate energy planning with an overarching city energy vision and set realistic renewable and energy efficiency targets based on current data.
- Step 3:** Develop an Action Plan. This maps out how the targets are going to be achieved.

## 3.2 The first steps

It makes sense to begin with those sustainable energy interventions which cities can implement relatively easily and cost effectively. Within South African cities these key interventions have been identified as:

- Installing solar water heaters
- Energy efficient lighting implementation
- Energy efficient building practices
- Transport modal shift from private to public

Each of these interventions will result in (to a greater or lesser degree) reduced energy consumption, reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and economic and social benefits for all city dwellers, particularly the poor.

### Are you a City on the move?

	YES	NO
Are we steadily <b>moving from dirtier fossil fuels</b> ?		
Are we promoting <b>interim cleaner options</b> such as natural gas?		
Are we <b>promoting renewable energy</b> “low hanging fruit” such as solar water heaters?		
Are we <b>pursuing energy efficiency aggressively</b> in all sectors?		
Are we promoting <b>passive solar / efficient design</b> of buildings?		
Are we improving access to <b>safer and healthier energy</b> sources for the poor?		
Are we keeping the cost of <b>energy affordable</b> for the poor?		
Are we balancing these concerns with <b>economic growth</b> ?		