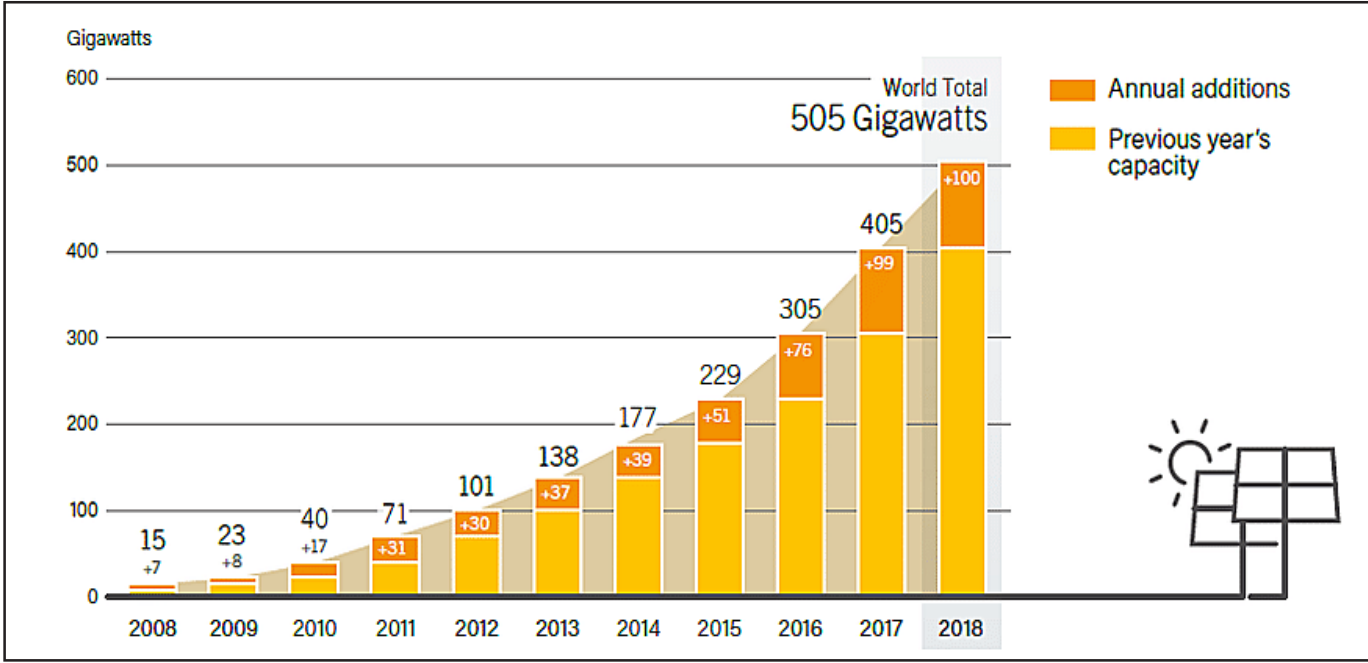


# SOLAR ENERGY: rapid growth continues



*Just 10 years ago, no one had any idea that solar would see such rapid growth. With installed capacity doubling every few years, solar is now poised to become the dominate energy source on planet Earth. But governments need to promote and encourage this energy transition if we are to succeed in our fight against climate change.*

## Solar fastest growing energy on the planet

**Why?** Massive ramp up in global production of solar panels, improved technology in manufacturing and improved solar conversion efficiency are all causing low prices and widespread availability.

By the end of 2015, solar had become the cheapest form of energy in some 30 countries around the world. Now it has reached “grid parity” pretty well everywhere.

Total solar installed worldwide reached some 650 gigawatts last year. While this is only 3% of global energy needs, that percentage is rising “exponentially,” meaning it is doubling every few years (as shown in the graph above). The International Energy Association expects installed solar to reach 7.4 terawatts (7,400 GW) by 2050, making it then the world’s largest single source of energy.

**ANY SIZE MAKES SENSE:** Solar makes sense at any scale, from huge solar farms powering cities, to small roof-top arrays powering your home, or tiny panels powering a wristwatch.

**SOLAR IS RELIABLE:** no moving parts, very low maintenance, 25-year warranties on solar panels.

**ZERO POLLUTION:** no emissions during their 50-year-plus lifetimes. Widely accepted as a critical part of our fight against climate change.

**AVAILABLE:** everybody has some solar energy, You probably have enough sunlight falling on the roof of your home to supply all of your energy needs including powering your electric vehicle. Solar technology has matured and become widely available along with trained solar designers, suppliers and installers.