

Environmental Technologies

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Environmental technology, also known as green and clean technology, covers a range of equipment and techniques that can be applied to environmental protection in a very broad sense. They are developed for their potential to conserve the natural environment (with a low environmental impact), enhance and protect biodiversity, improve water quality, offer resource efficiency, minimise waste, deliver a form of sustainable development, and to decelerate the negative affects caused from climate change.

Article 13's United Nations Global Compact ([UNGC](#)) [commitment](#) incorporate our efforts to 'encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies' (Principle 9). See our UNGC events pages (URL:

http://www.article13.com/csr/ungc_our_csr_events.asp).

Environmental technologies offer a management process for minimising the ecological impacts of economic production while enhancing the competitive edge of organisations. They are becoming more and more commonplace and have become a major industrial sector in their own right, through receiving huge investment, governmental support, and private and public involvement. Organisations are now seeing environmental technologies as a competitive force and a tool for competitive advantage; enabling access to the ever growing areas of sustainable development and clean technology. There are new groundbreaking technological developments within the areas of renewable energy, water management, low carbon technology, and the transport industry (e.g. hybrid vehicles). Below are just some of the current and used environmental technologies:

1. [Paper thin displays](#): Electronic paper, containing microcapsules along with particles that carry electric charges on a steel foil. Offers a thin flexible display that looks very much like real paper and can be reused over and over.
2. [Desalination](#): Removing the salt and minerals out of seawater. This is one way to provide drinkable water in parts of the world where supplies are limited.
3. [Green roof](#): These are structural components that help to mitigate the effects of urbanisation on water quality by filtering, absorbing or detaining rainfall. They also act as a carbon sink, making the air quality better and reducing carbon emissions from entering the atmosphere.

New innovations in environmental technology have the potential to pave a sustainable way for the future through making important contributions to our lives, and the environment we live in. Some particularly useful resources are:

Article 13 case study

- [Hydrogen fuel transport](#): hydrogen fuel cell buses with zero carbon emissions, which help develop a potential solution to mitigating carbon change.

General resources

- Green technology pages from the [Guardian newspaper](#).
- [Green Technology Tent](#) – shining the light on international environmental technologies.