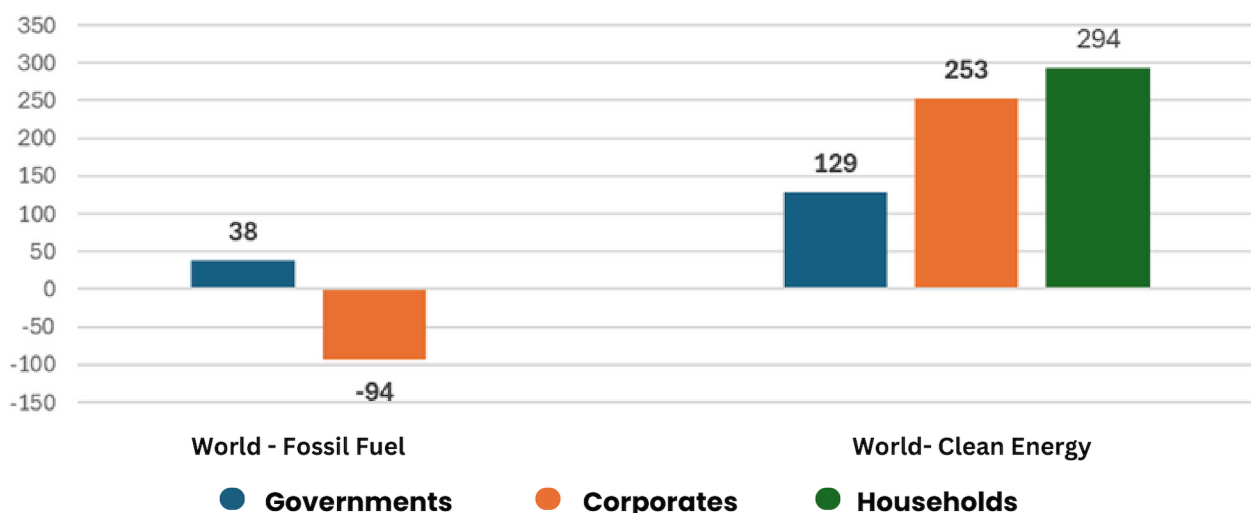


A shift in Clean Energy Investments and the future of Solar

While investment in ESG and clean technology has been a divisive topic in recent years, particularly in the United States, it is clear that the overarching trend in terms of energy investment is tilted towards clean energy. The IEA recently released its World Energy Investment report, in which it highlighted the areas where investment has been taking place and where it has fallen. One interesting point was the change in energy investment between 2016 and 2023, comparing fossil fuels to clean energy. While Governments are still investing \$38bn in fossil fuels compared to 2016 levels, corporate investment in the fossil fuel industry has fallen by \$94bn in 2023 compared to 2016 levels. Conversely, corporate investment in the clean energy increased by \$253bn in 2023 compared to 2016 levels, while Governmental spending also increased by \$129bn compared to 2016 levels. However, the key story here is the worldwide Household investment in clean energy, with a change of \$294bn in 2023 compared to 2016. What this shows is that despite the sometimes-negative press associated with clean technologies, households around the world are embracing the change and are willing to invest in technologies that benefit the earth. This will only become more prevalent as access to these technologies increases and the cost of acquiring them lowers, whether through government schemes or lower costs from corporate players.

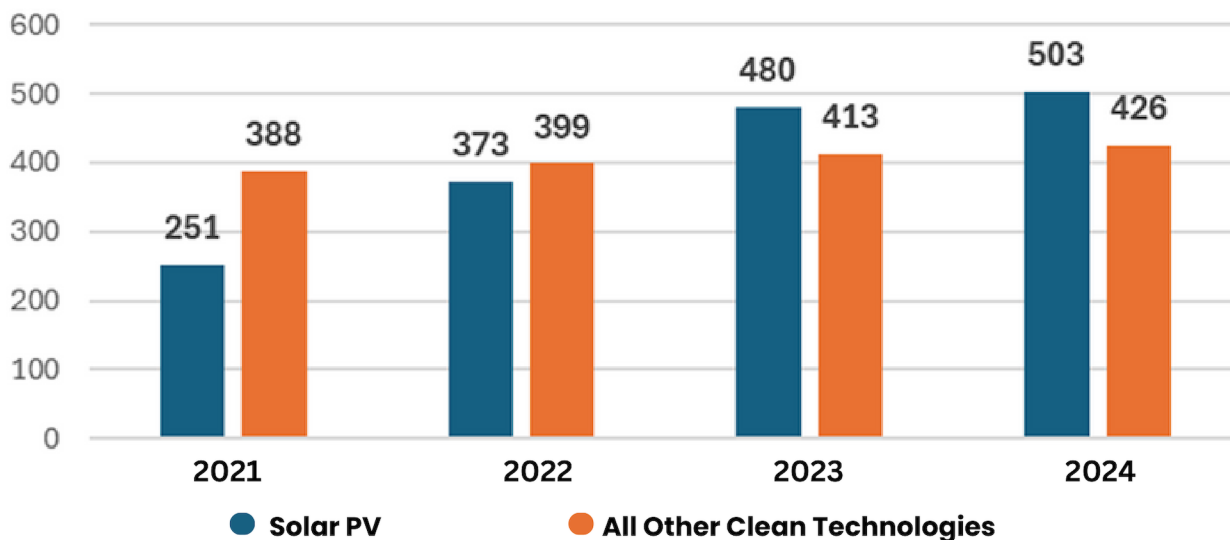
Change in Energy Investment Volume by Sector and Fuel Category, 2023 v 2016



Source – Seaspray Private

The IEA report also highlighted how the investment in solar technology has now surpassed all other forms of renewable and clean technologies combined on a global scale. In 2021, global investment in solar technology topped \$251bn, compared to \$388bn for all other forms. However, last year in 2023 solar investment reached \$480bn, almost double the figure from 2021, while all other forms amounted to \$413bn. The IEA also estimated that for 2024, global investment in solar technology alone will be \$503bn. It is clear from this chart that going forward on a global scale solar technology will be the main driver of renewable energy production.

Solar Investment vs all other Clean Technologies (\$BN)



Source – Seaspray Private