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# RENEWABLE RECOVERY GLOBAL COMPARISON

## UPDATED Media Briefing: Federal Budget

Tuesday 6 October 2020

### OVERVIEW

Since the COVID-19 crisis hit Australia’s shores, we have seen a series of stimulus measures announced to support people, jobs, and our economy – which is now in recession.

Both in Australia and globally, there have been strong calls from civil society, business, investors and financial institutions for a renewable recovery. These calls have been for stimulus measures that create jobs and stimulate the economy in the short term, while putting Australia on the path to becoming a renewable export powerhouse and the world on a path to a safe climate in the medium to long term.

In June 2020, WWF-Australia launched its campaign for an Australian renewable-led recovery. Over the past month we have seen numerous Federal Government commitments to energy- and manufacturing-based stimulus.

While these commitments are significant and important positive steps, when compared to the measures taken by other countries, including our major trading partners, it is clear there is still much to be done. We need to go further to capitalise on the huge economic and environmental opportunities that renewable industries represent for Australia.

In this briefing paper, WWF-Australia sets out how Australia’s renewable recovery stimulus compares with other countries.

## AUSTRALIA’S CLEAN RECOVERY – GLOBAL COMPARISON

Clean Recovery stimulus - Global Comparison (AUD billion)	Per capita
EU	\$400 / \$897
Germany	\$59 / \$711
France	\$58 / \$866
South Korea	\$52 / \$1,007
UK*	\$35 / \$526

Australia **	\$2.45	\$96
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Notes:

- Clean stimulus includes renewable, clean manufacturing, recycling, clean transport and nature-based stimulus measures. It does not include any measures that could extend the life of the fossil fuel industry. Where stimulus measures include both clean and fossil fuels, a percentage split of funding is assumed.
- Stimulus announcements included in this analysis have been made prior to the October 6<sup>th</sup> Federal budget.
- The international analysis is by Profession Cameron Hepburn and Brian O'Callaghan, Smith School Oxford for the Centre for Policy Development - <https://cpd.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/COVID-19-fiscal-recovery-stimulus-to-win-on-economics-and-climate-Hepburn-and-OCallaghan-1.pdf>
- \*UK figures are updated based on analysis provided by Brian O'Calahan
- \*\*Australia stimulus figures were compiled by Acacia Sustainability for WWF-Australia

## AN EXPANDED CLEAN RECOVERY

If stimulus measures that currently include support for fossil fuels, such as ARENA (in the form of CCS) and the hydrogen export hub (in the form of hydrogen from coal and gas coupled with CCS), were directed entirely to clean, renewable alternatives, the Australian Federal Clean Stimulus would rise to \$3.3 billion or \$130 per capita – a 36% increase.

Clean Recovery stimulus - Global Comparison (AUD billion)	Per capita	
EU	\$400	\$897
Germany	\$59	\$711
France	\$58	\$866
South Korea	\$52	\$1,007
UK*	\$35	\$526
Australia (all renewable)	\$3.34	\$130

If state-based clean stimulus measures already announced are also included, Australia's clean stimulus commitment would rise to \$5.7 billion or \$223 per capita – an additional 71% increase.

Clean Recovery stimulus - Global Comparison (AUD billion)	Per capita	
EU	\$400	\$897
Germany	\$59	\$711
France	\$58	\$866
South Korea	\$52	\$1,007
UK	\$35	\$526
Australia (Federal + State)	\$5.7	\$223

## CONCLUSION

On current commitments, Australia is making progress towards a renewable recovery. However, we are currently spending five times less than the conservative UK government and 10 times less than South Korea – a major trading partner.

Australia's clean recovery commitment increases if existing announcements are dedicated entirely towards clean, renewable measures and state-based clean stimulus measures are counted.

For more information: see [WWF's Renewable Recovery webpage](#) or contact Nicky Ison, WWF's Energy Transition Manager on [nison@wwf.org.au](mailto:nison@wwf.org.au), 0402 0345 80.