

Clean, green and better: Policy priorities in a post-COVID-19 world

Wednesday, September 9, 8:00 AM (EDT)

Webinar: Climate Investment Funds

An unprecedented crisis, an unparalleled opportunity Peter Martin, Principal Economist | Wednesday, September 9, 8:00 AM (EDT)







Three scenarios for the post-pandemic future

Will Covid-19 accelerate the energy transition?



Full recovery

- Vaccination ends the pandemic
- Fiscal and monetary stimulus revives economies
- Global GDP growth returns to 2.5% per annum trend rate over 2025-40
- World trade and travel return to previous trends
- Oil demand growth resumes, reaching a peak in the late 2030s
- Coal demand hits a plateau



Go it alone

- Vaccination effectiveness is limited
- Slower recovery from the world recession
- Governments put up more barriers to trade
- Industries shorten supply chains
- Global GDP growth weaker; averages 2% per annum over 2025-40
- Weaker international action to curb emissions



Greener growth

- Fiscal stimulus includes measures to accelerate the energy transition
- Renewables, EVs, storage and grid supported by grants and tax breaks
- Global GDP growth 2.5% trend rate
- Carbon pricing strengthens in most leading economies
- Trade and travel reflect costs of carbon
- Regulation and incentives accelerate energy efficiency gains

Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Indian Economy

Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General, RIS

COVID-19: The Exit Plan?



Macroeconomic Impact

Output

- Real GDP growth in second half of 2019-20 is 3.6%, the lowest registered in recent yeas (as per 2011-12 prices)
- Negative output gap, estimated to be (-) 12% of potential output.
- Services sector growth-5% in 2019-20, lowest in last three decades.
- Merchandise exports and imports declined by 5.1% and 7.8% respectively.

Consumption & Investment

- Govt. consumption (11.8% in 2019-20) continues to be the saviour for the economy during COVID period
- Factor income loss (capital and labour) of 68 days lockdown

Macroeconomic Impact (2)

Employment

- Industrial Outlook Survey and Consumer Confidence Survey indicating pessimistic employment conditions in Q4 of 2019-2020.
- Self-employed and causal labourers account for 51.3 % of urban workforce. The entire segment was affected during the lockdown period.

Macroeconomic Impact (3)

- Long Term Repo Operation (LTRO) in Feb 2020 for durable liquidity at policy repo rate for 1-3 years.
- Targeted LTRO (TLTRO) in March 2020 for 3 years basically to address the credit freeze and rollover issues
- TLTRO 2.0 in April 2020 for NBFC liquidity crisis.
- Special Refinance to NABARD/SIDBI/NHB

V-, U- or L-Shaped Recovery?

- Green shoots are visible, but not credible yet.
- "Unlock phases" characterized by gradual opening of sectors are not unlocking fears and boost businesses an activities as expected.
- *Atmanirbhar Bharat*, despite being a radical economic package is unlikely to help in short-term recovery.
- Demand for separate 'fiscal stimulus' package needs to be examined.
- Recovery would depend on response of domestic industry to incentives and capital support announced as part of *Atmanirbhar Bharat* scheme.

Renewable Energy: New Initiatives

- 'First World Solar Technology Summit
- 175 GW cumulative RE installed capacity by 2022
- Solar power capacity increased by 14 times in last
 5 years
- Global rank of 4th and 5th in wind and solar power deployment
- During 2013-19, RE power deployment doubled creating 10 million man-days of employment
- Domestic manufacturing of solar PV

Transition to Clean Energy

- Closure of transport, construction and manufacturing sectors
- Investing in Least cost energy solutions (e.g. LED bulbs at affordable prices)
- RE projects during COVID-19, extended the completion of project period and more incentives.
- ISA aims to create a World Solar Bank with authorised capital of \$15 billion to fund projects though a SPV.
- Government announced about US \$1.4 Billion worth of lines of credit (LOCs) for covering 27 solar projects across 15 countries.

GREEN RECOVERY PHASE – MAKING CAPITAL FLOW AGAIN





Impact on Capital Investments

- Under tight fiscal space and competing social priorities, capital investment programs gets postponed or cancelled
- Borrowing for recovery phase has direct impact on credit rating and pricing for EMDEs
- 'Build Back Better' recovery with green infrastructure through leveraging scarce public financing



EXAMPLE TRENDS IN INVESTOR RISK PERCEPTIONS OF EMDEs





Around 40% of sovereign issuances in international capital markets in the last 4-5 months are from EMDEs, but the risk perception and pricing premium remains higher than pre-crisis levels.



MOBILIZING CAPITAL FOR BUILDING BACK BETTER

- Recovery efforts and financing can facilitate the transition through building enabling environment for green infrastructure, including building institutions, policy and regulatory framework
- Stimulus better targeted with long-term perspective, but also makes policy choices that mitigates negative externalities.
- New capital flow for recovery should focus on shovel ready clean energy and green infrastructure projects with private sector participation can enhance multiplier effect
- Without specific policy measures, EMDEs may not revert to clean energy and low carbon infrastructure investments in their restructuring and recovery phases.

Key dimensions for Building Back Better



Source: OECD



GREEN RECOVERY – FOCUS ON WHERE AND HOW TO INCREASE CAPITAL FLOW

- Not all EMDEs are considering green stimulus or include green infrastructure spending for recovery. There are clear exceptions in the middle-income space with at/near investment grade countries.
- Clean Energy policy measures (such as scaling up renewable energy, energy transition strategies, energy efficiency improvements) are focus areas of some middle-income countries (e.g., India, South Africa,)
- In addition to Clean Energy, policy measures for green transport (e.g., Public Transit systems, Sustainable Mobility, Electric Buses) are incentivizing capital investments in Chile and Colombia
- How to increase capital flow in EMDEs with increased private investments
 - 1. Increased role for multilaterals, bilaterals, DFIs, climate funds and green finance to improve policy framework and address financing gap and complement private financing/PPPs. Project financing has not reverted to pre-COVID levels.
 - 2. Domestic development banks have an active role in minimizing sovereign public finances. Examples include IREDA (India), BNDES (Brazil), FDN (Colombia), etc.
 - 3. Innovative structures, intermediary facilities and risk mitigation and credit enhancement instruments are critical to mobilize private investments.
 - 4. ESGs are key investment criterion for global investors





Policy Priorities for a Green COVID Recovery

Elizabeth Press Director, Planning and Programme Support, IRENA

Webinar: Accelerating clean energy investments: policy priorities for a green (COVID) recovery

Cumulative clean energy investments between 2021 and 2023 in the Transforming Energy Scenario (USD₂₀₁₉ trillion)







Immediate employment and GDP benefits

Changes in energy sector jobs resulting from transition-related investment (Transforming Energy Scenario compared to Planned Energy Scenario, 2021-2023)





+ 1.0% GDP on average between 2020 – 2023 compared to PES

Employment along several important renewable value chains





Transformed energy = resilient economies and societies







Innovation is a priority for sustainable recovery

Simon Bennett, International Energy Agency CIF webinar on Policy priorities in a post-COVID-19 world, 9 September 2020

An unparalleled decline in energy investment

Total global energy investment



Disruption from Covid-19 is expected to push 2020 energy investment down by almost \$400 billion. All parts of the world are affected, but major producers of oil & gas have seen the largest falls

Net-zero emissions is not viable without a lot more innovation

Global CO₂ emissions reductions in the Sustainable Development Scenario, relative to baseline trends



Technologies at prototype or demonstration stage today contribute almost 35% of the emissions reductions to 2070; a further 40% comes from technologies that are at early stages of adoption.

Net-zero emissions is not viable without a lot more innovation



Rapidly commercialising today's newest & most promising technologies would help save enough CO₂ emissions to reach net-zero by 2050. Lack of policy support could delay achieving net-zero emissions.

R&D spending on net-zero emissions priorities is not sufficient

Global public low-carbon energy R&D allocated to specific technology areas, 2019



Note: total public R&D for low-carbon energy technologies is USD 25 billion

Today, only around one quarter of public R&D spending applied to low-carbon energy technologies is for electrification, CCUS, bioenergy and hydrogen, the key areas for reaching net-zero emissions.

Five key principles to fast-track clean energy innovation

- 1. Prioritise, track and adjust.
- 2. Raise public R&D and market-led private innovation.
- 3. Address all links in the value chain.
- 4. Build enabling infrastructure.
- 5. Work globally for regional success.

These five key innovation principles were presented to the IEA Clean Energy Transition Summit on 9 July 2020. The IEA is working to support several major emerging economies to integrate them into policy.





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CLIMATE FINANCE AND COVID-19 RECOVERIES

Lessons from the Climate Investment Funds

ABENGC,

















BOOSTING GREEN ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Renewable Energy Provides **new jobs and supports sectors, MSMEs** hit hard by global recession (Mexico, India) Increases **energy security;** strengthens **local supply chains; reduces costs** (Morocco, Maldives)

Energy Efficiency busi

Boosts productivity while reducing costs, assisting businesses and households in recovery (Turkey, Mexico)



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STRENGTHENING POLICIES AND INSTITUTIONS

Policy Reform TA and capacity building coupled with large investments can help **trigger or support clean energy policies** (Mexico, Kazakhstan, Kenya) Institutional Strengthening Institutional capacity strengthening can support greener, more resilient COVID-19 recoveries while preparing for future shocks and transitions (Morocco, Maldives)



SUPPORTING VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Energy Access Improves health, education, and livelihoods for COVID-19-affected communities, individuals, and households (Nepal, Ethiopia, Kenya, Honduras).

Cleaner Energy Sustainable transport and clean cookstoves can decrease susceptibility to COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses (Colombia, Honduras).



Q & A Thank you!

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