

As governments consider the stimulus packages required for rapid and sustained economic recovery, the IRENA Coalition for Action urges them to:

- 4. Prioritise renewable energy in any stimulus measures and commit to phasing out support for fossil fuels.** Stimulus packages for any sector should include conditions to reduce emissions and accelerate the transition to a clean, low-carbon economy. Within the energy sector, fossil-fuel subsidies must be steered towards investments in low-carbon infrastructure, as well as towards research and innovation to support higher shares of renewables, particularly in end uses such as transport and heating and cooling. With higher reliance on renewables, countries and communities can benefit from more stable energy prices and greater energy independence, along with reducing emissions and fulfilling climate objectives.
- 5. Provide public financial support to safeguard the industry and mobilise private investment in renewable energy.** The crisis has had disruptive effects on private finance for renewable energy deployment. To align short-term relief measures with long-term economic and sustainability goals, governments should prioritise financial incentives for the renewable energy sector. By establishing a “no harm” principle for lending recipients, governments and financial institutions could steer key energy investments increasingly towards renewables. Furthermore, governments can provide additional lines of credit and credit guarantees, as well as special relief funds for fragile industries, such as small and medium-sized enterprises.
- 6. Enhance the role of renewable energy in industrial policies.** Governments have a historic opportunity to examine domestic industrial capabilities and supply chains, making these fit for the global shift to a clean, low-carbon economy. Along with renewable energy itself, governments can support other industries with an enabling role, such as green hydrogen, storage and digital solutions. Existing economic activities and local capabilities must be fully leveraged to maximise the socio-economic benefits of renewables, including GDP growth, job creation and improved human health.
- 7. Revise labour and education policies to foster a just transition and help workers make the shift into renewable energy jobs.** The transformation of the energy system brings vast opportunities to develop local value chains. Governments must invest in programmes to equip their societies with the knowledge and skills needed for the clean, low-carbon economy. The renewable energy sector can provide valuable support through workforce training and retraining programmes.
- 8. Strengthen international co-operation and action to accelerate renewable energy deployment in line with global climate and sustainability objectives.** COVID-19 has impacted the whole world and risks disproportionately affecting developing countries in the months and years ahead. Greater collaboration is needed between governments and across the international community to devise clear action plans, supported by appropriate funding. Long-term stimulus plans could pool funding from public and private sources in order to de-risk projects and ensure access to finance for centralised and decentralised renewable energy.

The actions outlined above would support a sustainable economic recovery, make societies more resilient, and help to fulfil the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In responding to the crisis, governments are currently in a position to recognise the benefits of renewables, continue building broad public support for the transformative decarbonisation of societies, and pave the way for a clean, low-carbon economy.

Members of the IRENA Coalition for Action

Abengoa Solar	Environment Development Action in the Third World (ENDA)	Institut de le Francophonie pour la développement durable (IFDD)	RES4Africa Foundation
ACCIONA	European Geothermal Energy Council (EGEC)	Institute for Sustainable Energy Policies (ISEP)	Renewables Grid Initiative (RGI)
Access Power	European Renewable Energies Federation (EREF)	International Solar Energy Society (ISES)	RenewableUK Cymru
AMEA Power	Falck Renewables	kiloWattsol	Revelle Group
Association Congolaise pour le Développement Agricole (ACDA)	Finergreen	Mainstream Renewable Power	REVOLVE
Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE)	First Solar	MAKE	Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI)
Arizona State University (ASU)	Folkecenter	Masdar	Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy
Ashoka – Innovators for the Public	FTI Consulting	Middle East Solar Industry Association (MESIA)	Skypower
Bester Energy	German Renewable Energies Agency (GREA)	National Solar Energy Federation of India	SolarCoin Foundation
Boston Consulting Group	German Solar Association	National Wildlife Federation	Solar Head of State
Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)	Global Solar Council (GSC)	Network Consulting Group	SolarPower Europe
Chinese Photovoltaic Industry Association	Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC)	Novozymes	Sunlabob Renewable Energy
Chinese Renewable Energy Industries Association (CREIA)	Global Women's Network for the Energy Transition (GWNET)	Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (OSEA)	Syndicat des Énergies Renouvelables (SER)
Cleanergy	Gold Standard	Ørsted	TERI School of Advanced Studies
Clean Energy Business Council MENA	Graded	Planet Energy Now	The Nature Conservancy
Climate Action Network (CAN)	Greenpeace International	Power for All	Trina Solar
Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)	Iberdrola SA	Practical Action	United Nations Foundation
Desertec University Network (DUN)	ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability	Qway Energy	Vestas Wind Systems
Dii Desert Energy	International Geothermal Association (IGA)	Rahimafrooz Renewable Energy	WaterPower Canada
Dulas	International Hydropower Association (IHA)	RE100/The Climate Group	World Bioenergy Association (WBA)
ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE)	International Network for Sustainable Energy (INFORSE)	Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE)	World Future Council (WFC)
EKOenergy	International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy (ENERGIA)/ Hivos	Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP)	World Resources Institute (WRI)
ENEL Green Power (EGP)	International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)	Renewable Energy Institute	World Wind Energy Association (WWEA)
Energy Watch Group (EWG)		Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21)	World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
			Yansa Group
			Yellow Door Energy

About the IRENA Coalition for Action

The IRENA Coalition for Action brings together leading renewable energy players from around the world with the common goal of advancing the uptake of renewable energy. The Coalition facilitates global dialogues between public and private sectors to develop actions to increase the share of renewables in the global energy mix and accelerate the global energy transition. IRENA acts as the Secretariat of the Coalition. <https://coalition.irena.org>

Disclaimer

Neither IRENA, the IRENA Coalition for Action ("Coalition"), nor any of their officials, agents, data or other third-party content providers provides a warranty or accepts any responsibility or liability for any consequence of use of the materials herein. The information contained herein does not necessarily represent the views of all IRENA or Coalition members.