



Open statement on green recovery

The coronavirus pandemic and related economic crisis are triggering public interventions unthinkable just a few months ago, including widespread lockdowns and emergency support to sectors most affected and vulnerable citizens. Governments around Europe are now carefully lifting restrictions and seeking to implement efficient stimulus packages to reboot the economy.

These spending programmes will shape our infrastructure for decades to come and must enable and accelerate decarbonization. We cannot afford to relaunch the economy at the expense of the climate. We must steer our economies towards a different kind of growth and embark on a more resilient and cleaner energy future.

The European Green Deal provides the right framework for enabling such a transition. Recovery plans must be aligned with the Green Deal and draw on lessons from the stimulus plans which followed the 2008 financial crisis¹. If done right these stimulus plans can ensure a green recovery.

We, the members of the Energy Solutions network, are firmly **committed to working constructively with EU institutions and governments as well as relevant global institutions such as the IEA, IRENA and the OECD to develop and implement green recovery plans and projects**. To do so we must work across the energy sector, geographies and political groups, an approach that defines us as a group.

To enable a green recovery, we believe that we must **keep the European Green Deal on track** and stick to the timeline proposed in December 2019 to the widest extent possible, and **align recovery plans with the European Green Deal** by:

- Prioritising investments that will boost the European economy while delivering on the EU's climate objectives, including in:
 - Renewable energy projects – especially solar and wind, including floating offshore and hybrid parks (connected to two or more markets);
 - Transmission and distribution networks, including through smart meter roll-out – to expand capacity and increase use of flexibility;
 - Building renovation and decarbonisation of heating & cooling systems (e.g. heat pumps, sustainable heat networks, hybrid systems);
 - Energy efficiency measures in industry, transport and buildings – to decrease energy consumption and increase consumer participation;
 - EV smart charging infrastructure;
 - Power-to-X facilities;
 - Infrastructure for green hydrogen and the capture, transport and storage of CO₂;
- Bringing forward the revision of state aid guidelines so they can act as a gate for ensuring the compatibility of economic stimulus measures with the European Green Deal; and
- Establishing fiscal signals aligned with the Green Deal, including via reform of the Energy Taxation Directive.

¹ See commentary from Fatih Birol Executive Director, International Energy Agency, "[5 lessons we can draw from the last wave of major government stimulus plans](#)"



And do so while:

- Creating an **investment-friendly environment** which provides visibility and reduces the risk for investors, including by mobilising EU funds for low-carbon solutions;
- Promoting/strengthening **value chains for low-carbon solutions** with local value and job creation; and
- Combining short term investments with immediate **job creation** and bigger scale projects that create long-term value, while keeping in mind that job creation does not depend on how quickly a project can be finalized, but rather when it is initiated.

Europe has the advantage of having a roadmap for a green recovery and many solutions ready for deployment which will boost the economy and create jobs while enabling the transition to climate neutrality. Let us seize this unique opportunity by working together on the development and implementation of such future-proof recovery plans.

The members of the Energy Solutions network

Including Steering Committee Members:

MEP Morten Helveg Petersen (Renew/DK)

MEP Sean Kelly (EPP/IE)

MEP Miapetra Kumpula-Natri (S&D/FI)

MEP Iskra Mihaylova (Renew/BG)

MEP Ville Niinistö (Greens/FI)

MEP Jutta Paulus (Greens/DE)

MEP Pernille Weiss (EPP/DK)

NOTE

Energy Solutions is a cross-national, multi-sectoral and cross-party European Parliamentary network created to facilitate dialogue between stakeholders and develop a holistic approach to energy regulation by working across the energy system and support practical and technological solutions to decarbonise the European economy and society. It brings together Members of the European Parliament from various geographies and political groups and companies from across the energy value chain (3M, Danfoss, EDF, E.ON, Equinor, GE, ISTA, Microsoft, Panasonic, Schneider Electric, Siemens, Velux, Vestas and Ørsted) in a forum where they discuss, exchange views, share ideas, and interact with policymakers. The network is chaired by [MEP Morten Helveg Petersen](#), vice-chair of the European Parliament Committee on Industry, Research and Energy.