



# 2022 G20 Bali Summit Final Compliance Report

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Feedback, as always, is welcome and is kept anonymous.  
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## 12. Energy: Energy Access

“We reaffirm our commitment to achieve SDG7 [Sustainable Development Goal 7] targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.”

*G20 Bali Leaders’ Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa		0	
Türkiye		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average		+0.65 (83%)	

### Background

The issue of energy, as well as its environmental, social and economic ramifications have been on the G20 agenda since the Washington Summit in 2008.<sup>2307</sup> The longstanding commitment on fossil fuel subsidies’ phase-out, first adopted at the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, also addressed the needs of the vulnerable demographics, stating the need to provide “targeted support for the poorest.”<sup>2308</sup> At the 2013 Petersburg Summit, the G20 leaders noted the importance of “providing those in need with essential energy services.”<sup>2309</sup>

The 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and its constituent Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the United Nations on 25 September 2015.<sup>2310</sup> Over the years since its adoption the G20 leaders have expressed their support for the goals, including the SDG7 on multiple occasions. At the 2017 Hamburg Summit the G20 pledged to collaborate in order to facilitate “long-term strategies in order to transform and enhance economies and energy systems consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”<sup>2311</sup> At the 2021 Rome Summit, the leaders committed to “a global response to accelerate

<sup>2307</sup> Declaration of the Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy, 2008 Washington Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 November 2008. Access Date: 6 February 2023. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2008/2008declaration1115.html>

<sup>2308</sup> G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 September 2009. Access Date: 6 February 2023. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0925.html>.

<sup>2309</sup> G20 Leaders Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 6 February 2023. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html>.

<sup>2310</sup> Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015, 70/1. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations (New York) 25 September 2015. Access Date: 6 February 2023. <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N15/291/89/PDF/N1529189.pdf?OpenElement>.

<sup>2311</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 6 February 2023. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>.

progress on the implementation of the SDGs, ... and access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.”<sup>2312</sup>

At the 2022 Bali Summit the G20 leaders made a concrete commitment to “achieve SDG7 targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.”<sup>2313</sup>

### Commitment Features

The G20 leaders committed to achieve SDG7 targets, and to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. These two aspects are explicitly covered by the SDG7 “Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.” The Goal’s targets are the following:

- 7.1: By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services;
- 7.2: By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix;
- 7.3: By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency;
- 7.a: By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology;
- 7.b: By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States, and land-locked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support.<sup>2314</sup>

To fully comply with the commitment, the G20 members need to take action on all five SDG7 targets. Partial compliance requires that action is taken on at least one of the targets.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	G20 member takes no action to promote the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7.
0	G20 member takes action on at least one of the SDG7 targets: ensure universal access, increase the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency; enhance international cooperation; and expand infrastructure and upgrade technology.
+1	G20 member takes action on all five SDG7 targets.

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### Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7’s targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 10 January 2023, the Ministry of Energy created the National Housing Labeling Program with the aim of implementing a unified energy efficiency labeling system for the entire national territory.<sup>2315</sup> In this way, each home will be classified according to its degree of efficiency.

<sup>2312</sup>G20 Rome Leaders' Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2023. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2021/211031-declaration.html>.

<sup>2313</sup> G20 Bali Leaders' Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2022. Access Date: 6 February 2023. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2022/221116-declaration.html>.

<sup>2314</sup> Sustainable Development Goals, Goal 7, United Nations 2023. Access Date: 6 February 2023. <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal7>.

<sup>2315</sup> A national energy efficiency labeling system for housing will be implemented, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 10 January 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-implementara-un-sistema-de-etiquetado-de-eficiencia-energetica-de-vivienda-nivel>.

On 23 January 2023, the Government issued Decree 31/2023, which establishes the principles of sustainability applied to the buildings of the National Public Sector.<sup>2316</sup> The execution of the initiative will be progressive and a guide for its implementation will be offered. It is expected that in a period of two years the buildings will comply with the first basic sustainability actions, such as the installation of bicycle racks, the separation of waste at source and the purchase of efficient household appliances, among other measures. Meanwhile, within 6 years, more comprehensive practices will be carried out, such as the installation of panels and green roofs and the acquisition of hybrid vehicles.

On 23 January 2023, Argentina and Chile jointly presented the progress of their EUROCLIMA+ project.<sup>2317</sup> The project seeks to contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gases through 8 expected results or products considered strategic due to their high potential for energy efficiency and their replicative and demonstrative capacity: the implementation of Energy Management Systems in energy-intensive industrial establishments, training and carrying out energy diagnoses in small and medium-sized enterprises, validation of energy efficiency technologies and good practices in freight transport, installation of pilot intelligent monitoring systems in public buildings, generation of a guide of remote management in public lighting, the harmonization of energy efficiency labeling programs and the training and generation of capacities in energy efficiency and climate change.

On 31 January 2023, Secretary of Energy and the Argentine Development Bank signed the agreement that allows the launching of a soft credit line within the framework of Law No. 27,424 which created the Fund for the Distributed Generation of Renewable Energies.<sup>2318</sup> The law formalized the granting of credits at a preferential rate for the purchase of equipment, installation and commissioning of renewable energy distributed generation projects.

On 2 February 2023, meetings of the Technical Commissions of the Federal Energy Council, the body that links the national and provincial states for the construction of State policies on energy matters, were held. The second part of the conference focused on the advances and challenges in energy efficiency. Undersecretary of Energy Planning María Cecilia Garibotti invited the provinces to propose guidelines for comprehensive efficiency legislation.<sup>2319</sup> The meeting ended with a dialogue between all the participants, with the aim of recognizing specific problems in each district and seeking consensus on the most appropriate lines of action for the implementation of public policies on efficiency.

On 9 February 2023, Secretary of Energy Flavia Royon met with Minister of Mining and Energy of Brazil Alexandre Silveira.<sup>2320</sup> The authorities analyzed mechanisms to deepen bilateral cooperation in the exchange of electricity, natural gas exports and mining. Participants claimed that the goal is to optimize the rules and modalities for importing and exporting electrical energy between the two countries, increasing energy security and creating investment opportunities and competitiveness of our economies.

On 14 February 2023, Governor of San Juan Sergio Uñac and Secretary of Industry and Productive Development of the Nation José Ignacio de Mendiguren held a working meeting in which they discussed the different productive projects underway in the province and advanced the final details of a provincial

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<sup>2316</sup> The national government established that public buildings are sustainable, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 23 January 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-nacional-establecio-que-los-edificios-publicos-sean-sostenibles>.

<sup>2317</sup> Argentina and Chile presented the progress of their EUROCLIMA+ project, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 23 January 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-chile-presentaron-los-avances-de-su-proyecto-de-euroclima>.

<sup>2318</sup> Energy and BICE launch soft credit line for the installation of solar panels, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 31 January 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/energia-y-el-bice-lanzan-linea-de-creditos-blandos-para-la-instalacion-de-paneles-solares>.

<sup>2319</sup> The Federal Energy Council analyzed mechanisms to promote energy efficiency and distributed generation, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 2 February 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-consejo-federal-de-energia-analiza-mecanismos-para-fomentar-la-eficiencia-energetica-y>.

<sup>2320</sup> Argentina and Brazil advance in energy integration, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 9 February 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-brasil-avanzan-en-la-integracion-energetica>.

project for the construction of a new solar energy park.<sup>2321</sup> With a capacity of 50 MW, this project will allow the San Juan company Energía Provincial Sociedad del Estado to become a power generator and strengthen the provincial productive network. Due to its scale, the new Ullum Alfa solar energy park in San Juan, which will be built by IMPSA, will also guarantee access to financing for the construction of new 350 MW solar parks that are projected for 2024 in the province.

On 13 March 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development delivered solar cookers to the province of Jujuy, which will be allocated to native communities and educational establishments in the region.<sup>2322</sup> The initiative seeks to generate capacities in the local population in the use of alternative energies, with an emphasis on solar thermal energy and biodiversity conservation, and contribute to responding to the needs of the communities in terms of energy efficiency.

On 17 March 2023, Secretary Royón met with US Vice Secretary of Energy David Turk to discuss the current state of energy cooperation between Argentina and the US, and opportunities to expand their longstanding joint work in areas of mutual interest.<sup>2323</sup> They reinforced their bilateral commitment to continue working together to accelerate the transition to clean energy, especially in the electricity sector, as a key pillar to improve the energy security of both countries and address climate change in line with the global objectives of the Agreement on Paris.

On 28 March 2023, the National Secretariat of Energy and the National Institute of Agricultural Technology began the third stage of delivery of solar oxen within the framework of PERMER.<sup>2324</sup> On this occasion, 2,633 pieces of equipment will be distributed among small rural producers in the provinces of Chubut, La Pampa, La Rioja, Jujuy, Mendoza, Neuquén, Río Negro, Salta, San Juan, Santa Cruz, and Tucumán.

On 31 March 2023, Secretary Royon participated in the event on energy transition held in Berlin. Secretary met with government authorities and leaders from the business sector to discuss cooperative work on hydrogen and liquified natural gas.<sup>2325</sup> The secretary participated in the cooperative dialogue meeting on regional perspectives, trends and challenges of hydrogen in Latin America, and held a series of working meetings with German government officials and held a bilateral energy meeting together with Secretary of State and Special Envoy for Climate Action of Germany. The officials discussed the role that Argentina can play on the international stage as a reliable supplier in the energy transition process.

On 20 June 2023, the Argentinian national oil company started the operation of a new gas pipeline, which was aimed at achieving one of the SDGs.<sup>2326</sup> Nevertheless, this project was met negatively, as it is believed to harm the environment of the state.

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<sup>2321</sup> Uñac and Mendiguren analyze the progress of a strategic renewable energy project in San Juan, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 14 February 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/unac-y-mendiguren-analizan-el-avance-de-un-proyecto-estrategico-de-energia-renovable-en-san>.

<sup>2322</sup> Ambiente delivered solar cookers to native communities and educational establishments in Jujuy, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 13 March 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-entrego-cocinas-solares-comunidades-origenarias-y-establecimientos-educativos-en>.

<sup>2323</sup> Royon received the US Undersecretary of Energy and toured the Ezeiza Atomic Center, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 17 March 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/royon-recibio-al-subsecretario-de-energia-de-eeuu-y-recorrieron-el-centro-atómico-ezeiza>.

<sup>2324</sup> The Ministry of Energy completes the delivery of solar oxboys in 11 provinces. Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 28 March 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/la-secretaria-de-energia-completa-la-entrega-de-boyeros-solares-en-11-provincias-0>.

<sup>2325</sup> Royon in Berlin: gas and hydrogen add Argentina to the global energy scene, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 31 March 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/royon-en-berlin-el-gas-y-el-hidrogeno-suman-la-argentina-al-escenario-energetico-global>.

<sup>2326</sup> Ahead of elections, Argentina's leaders wrap fossil fuels in the flag, Climate Home News (Kent) 20 June 2023. Access Date: 23 June 2023 <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2023/06/20/argentina-gas-pipeline-nestor-kirchner-oil-equinor/>

On 28 June 2023, Argentina received a USD 400 million loan from the World Bank to develop the “Clean Energy for Vulnerable Households and Communities” project that seeks to increase access to quality electricity services in remote rural areas.<sup>2327</sup>

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment to achieve SD 7’s targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. During the compliance period Argentina has taken actions with its commitment to achieve SDG7 targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7’s targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 18 November 2022, Australia joined the world first Net Zero Government Initiative launched at the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.<sup>2328</sup> The initiative commits governments to lead by example and achieve net zero emissions across their operations.

On 19 December 2022, the Government launched the new grant program worth AUD200 million as to enable the local households to store affordable solar energy and share excess power with neighbors.<sup>2329</sup> The program is designed as to lower electricity bills, fulfill the 2050 Net Zero ambition, and also reduce pressure on the electricity grid. The program is aimed to cover at least 100,000 households across the country.

On 27 January 2023, Australia and Germany entered a new partnership as to facilitate development of hydrogen technologies.<sup>2330</sup> The parties claimed to invest AUD50 million and EUR50 million respectively in new projects including construction of methanol production plants, implementation of new types of electrolyzers, etc. as well as establishment of supply chains between the two countries.

On 31 January 2023, Australia and the Netherlands signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in renewable hydrogen supply.<sup>2331</sup> Australia committed to advance shared clean energy interests and support emerging renewable energy industries. The MoU covers standards and certification schemes in hydrogen trade, infrastructure development, innovations in the targeted sphere, safety and social regulations for hydrogen.

On 21 February 2023, the Government announced its intention to launch new grant programs to facilitate small and medium business convention to energy efficient models of operation.<sup>2332</sup> The government plans to invest AUD16 million in the first round of grant competition. Each grant values between AUD10,000

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<sup>2327</sup> World Bank: Investments to improve Health, Energy and Infrastructure in Argentina. The World Bank (Washington, D.C.) 28 June 2023. Access date. 7 August 2023. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2023/06/28/inversiones-para-mejorar-la-salud-energia-infraestructura-en-argentina>

<sup>2328</sup> Australia joins international Net Zero Government Initiative, Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Canberra) 18 November 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/news/australia-joins-international-net-zero-government-initiative>

<sup>2329</sup> Community battery grant guidelines now available, Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Canberra) 19 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/news/community-battery-grant-guidelines-now-available>

<sup>2330</sup> Australia and Germany strengthen hydrogen partnership, Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Canberra) 27 January 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/news/australia-and-germany-strengthen-hydrogen-partnership>

<sup>2331</sup> Australia and the Netherlands sign milestone renewable hydrogen agreement, Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Canberra) 31 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/news/australia-netherlands-sign-milestone-renewable-hydrogen-agreement>

<sup>2332</sup> Opening soon: energy efficiency grants to support small and medium businesses, Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Canberra) 21 February 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/news/opening-soon-energy-efficiency-grants-support-small-medium-businesses>

and AUD25,000. The government said to finance installation of heat pumps, lighting upgrades, space and water heating improvements, energy monitoring systems, etc.

Australia has fully complied with the commitment to achieve SDG7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. During the compliance period Australia has taken actions with its commitment to achieve SDG7 targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 22 December 2022, Minister of Mines and Energy Adolfo Sachsida gave an account of his ministry's plans for 2023.<sup>2333</sup> It is expected that energy costs for consumers in three Brazilian regions will be reduced by BRL9 billion. The Minister announced the structural reduction of electricity tariff by 38.9 per cent for 2023.

On 4 January 2022, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Marina Silva announced the creation of the National Authority for Climate Security within the Ministry.<sup>2334</sup> She said that the creation of the National Authority for Climate Security would be formalized by March 2023. Additionally, the National Council on Climate Change is to be created and headed by the President of the Republic, with the participation of all ministries, states and municipalities. The purpose of the National Climate Security Authority is to produce funding for the execution and implementation of the National Policy on Climate Change, as well as to regulate and monitor the implementation of actions related to sectoral policies and targets for mitigation, adaptation and promotion of resilience to climate change.

On 29 March 2023, President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva signed a Decree №11456, updating and expanding the Program in Support of Technological Development of the Semiconductor Industry, by including the photovoltaic segment, focused on solar energy production.<sup>2335</sup> The program offers various benefits, such as tax cuts, to the producers of semiconductors and other electronics, with estimated BRL600 million in incentives allocated for 2023.

On 29 March 2023, the Resolution №16 of the National Energy Policy Council was published, containing the Federal Government's new guidelines on the expansion of biodiesel mixture in diesel fuel sold in Brazil.<sup>2336</sup> The measure increased the share of biodiesel in diesel fuel from 10 per cent to 12 per cent. It is also expected to go up to 15 per cent by 2026.

On 1-4 April 2023, eight representatives of Bolivian institutions of the electric sector took part in technical cooperation meetings in Sao Paulo, Brazil.<sup>2337</sup> The meetings between Bolivian, Brazilian and German specialists focused on the implementation and the results of energy efficiency programs and initiatives in

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<sup>2333</sup> Minister takes stock of his management and reinforces commitment to the consumer of electricity, Brazilian Ministry of Mines and Energy (Brasilia) 22 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/mme/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/ministro-faz-balanco-da-sua-gestao-e-reforca-compromisso-com-o-consumidor-de-energia-eletrica>.

<sup>2334</sup> Marina Silva announces the creation of the National Climate Security Authority, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 5 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/pt-br/noticias/meio-ambiente-e-clima/2023/01/marina-silva-anuncia-a-criacao-da-autoridade-nacional-de-seguranca-climatica>.

<sup>2335</sup> Government guarantees tax exemption for semiconductors and includes solar energy in benefit, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 30 March 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/pt-br/noticias/energia-minerais-e-combustiveis/2023/03/decreto-do-governo-garante-isencao-fiscal-para-semicondutores-e-inclui-energia-solar-em-beneficio>.

<sup>2336</sup> Government officializes expansion of biodiesel mixture in diesel sold in the country, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 30 March 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/pt-br/noticias/energia-minerais-e-combustiveis/2023/03/governo-oficializa-ampliacao-da-mistura-de-biodiesel-no-diesel-vendido-no-pais>.

<sup>2337</sup> Bolivian technicians visit energy sector companies in São Paulo, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 10 April 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/abc/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/tecnicos-bolivianos-visitam-empresas-do-setor-energetico-em-sao-paulo>.



the industrial sector. The main objective of the visits was to demonstrate the modifications made by the companies within the scope of the Energy Efficiency Program of the National Agency of Electrical Energy (ANEEL). The Brazilian side included the representatives of the Brazilian Cooperation Agency, ANEEL and the National Program for Electrical Energy Conservation (Procel).

On 12 June 2023, Minister of Mines and Energy Alexandre Silveira announced the transfer of 53 electric vehicles to Minas Gerais police force.<sup>2338</sup> The vehicles, worth BR16.5 million, are to contribute to decarbonization of the police vehicle fleet.

On 17 August 2023, the Government issued a Decree establishing the Amazon Energy Program.<sup>2339</sup> The aim of the program is to reduce the use of diesel oil in energy production and greenhouse gas emissions in the Amazon region by replacing the energy generation process with renewable sources. Around BR5 billion in investments are planned to enable the transition. According to Alexandre Silveira, Brazilian Minister of Mines and Energy, emissions of around 1.5 million tons of carbon dioxide can be avoided by reducing or replacing diesel oil as the main source for generating electricity in the Amazon region.

During the monitoring period Brazil has taken actions with its commitment to achieve SDG7 targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 25 November 2022, Member of Parliament for Malpeque Heath MacDonald on behalf of Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault announced more than CAD27.5 million in funding through the Enhanced Nature Legacy – Priority Places for Species at Risk initiative.<sup>2340</sup> This funding would support 67 projects across Canada in 11 Priority Places for Species at Risk over four years.

On 6 December 2022, Minister Guilbeault and Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy for the Province of British Columbia George Heyman announced an investment of up to CAD600,000 from the Low Carbon Economy Fund to help the Kwadacha and Heiltsuk Nations create and expand their organic processing capacity.<sup>2341</sup> The Nations would contribute nearly CAD150,000 each toward their projects.

On 21 December 2022, Minister Guilbeault announced that the Government had published proposed regulations that set ZEV sales targets for manufacturers and importers of new passenger cars, SUVs, and pickup trucks.<sup>2342</sup> The regulations would require that at least 20 per cent of new vehicles sold in Canada will be zero emission by 2026, at least 60 per cent by 2030, and 100 per cent by 2035. These targets would help increase supply so that more Canadians who want a ZEV can buy one.

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<sup>2338</sup> Minister Alexandre Silveira participates in the delivery of 100% electric vehicles to the Military Police of Minas Gerais, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 12 June 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://www.gov.br/mme/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/durante-a-solenidade-ministro-conferiu-o-funcionamento-de-dois-prototipos-de-veiculos-100-eletricos>.

<sup>2339</sup> President Lula signs decree establishing the Amazon Energy Program, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 17 August 2023. Access Date: 23 August 2023. <https://www.gov.br/mme/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/decreto-que-institui-programa-energias-da-amazonia-e-assinado-pelo-presidente-lula>.

<sup>2340</sup> Canada funds 67 new projects to protect species at risk and their habitats, Government of Canada (Charlottetown) 25 November 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2022/11/canada-funds-67-new-projects-to-protect-species-at-risk-and-their-habitats.html>

<sup>2341</sup> Canada and British Columbia invest in climate action projects in two First Nations communities, Government of Canada (Victoria, British Columbia) 6 December 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2022/12/canada-and-british-columbia-invest-in-climate-action-projects-in-two-first-nations-communities.html>

<sup>2342</sup> Let it roll: The Government of Canada moves to increase the supply of electric vehicles for Canadians, Government of Canada (Toronto, Ontario) 21 December 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2022/12/let-it-roll-government-of-canada-moves-to-increase-the-supply-of-electric-vehicles-for-canadians.html>

On 14 February 2023, Minister Guilbeault announced an investment of up to CAD271,000 from the Low Carbon Economy Fund to support the Town of Stephenville's fuel-switching project.<sup>2343</sup> The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador was also contributing up to CAD226,000, and the Town was contributing just under CAD181,000 toward the project.

On 16 May 2023, the Government declared support to industry partners in reducing emissions by adopting cleaner and more efficient processes.<sup>2344</sup> Minister Wilkinson started the Green Industrial Facilities and Manufacturing Program application phase. This initiative aims to support industrial facilities providing emission reduction projects that comply with the Energy Efficiency Implementation Program through March 2027. Announced in 2022, the CAD194 million program aim to create guidelines, aggregate emission reduction knowledge, and directly support decarbonization-oriented industrial facilities.

On 1 June 2023, Minister of International Development and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada (PacifiCan) Harjit S. Sajjan announced an investment of over CAD5.9 million for two organizations supporting Indigenous economic growth in clean energy projects and digital skills training.<sup>2345</sup> BC Indigenous Clean Energy Initiative will support 14 Indigenous communities to develop new clean energy projects. This initiative is helping to reduce reliance on non-renewable fuels, while generating clean energy creating jobs in Indigenous communities.

On 5 June 2023, Minister Wilkinson launched the Canada Electricity Advisory Council. Group of 19 independent experts will provide advice to the Minister of Natural Resources on actions needed to achieve Canadian 2035 and 2050 net-zero goals.<sup>2346</sup> The Council's work will cover both the reduction of emissions in the electricity sector needed to achieve net-zero by 2035 and the rapid growth of electricity generation needed to power a net-zero-emissions economy in 2050.

On 25 July 2023, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister Greg Fergus announced the launch of 581 scientific research jobs for young Canadian post-secondary graduates, now open for applications through the Science Horizons Youth Internship Program.<sup>2347</sup> Through the program, four companies—BioTalent Canada, Clean Foundation, Colleges and Institutes Canada, and ECO Canada—have been chosen to place post-secondary graduates in internship positions in environmental science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) across Canada for 2023–25.

Canada has fully taken actions with its commitment to achieve SDG7 targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nikita Shilikov*

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<sup>2343</sup> Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador invest in climate action project in the Town of Stephenville, Government of Canada (Stephenville, Newfoundland and Labrador) 14 February 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2023/02/canada-and-newfoundland-and-labrador-invest-in-climate-action-project-in-the-town-of-stephenville.html>

<sup>2344</sup> Industrial Facility Call for Proposals Now Open Green Industrial Facilities and Manufacturing Program, The Canadian Government (Ottawa) 16 May 2023 Access Date: 27 June 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2023/05/industrial-facility-call-for-proposals-now-open-green-industrial-facilities-and-manufacturing-program.html>

<sup>2345</sup> Minister Sajjan announces \$5.9M for Indigenous clean energy projects and digital skills training, The Canadian Government (Ottawa) 1 June 2023 Access Date: 27 June 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/pacific-economic-development/news/2023/06/minister-sajjan-announces-59m-for-indigenous-clean-energy-projects-and-digital-skills-training.html>

<sup>2346</sup> Government of Canada Invests in First-of-its-Kind Filtration Technology in Grande Prairie to Help Reduce Carbon Emissions, The Canadian Government 13 June 2023 Access Date: 27 June 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2023/06/government-of-canada-invests-in-first-of-its-kind-filtration-technology-in-grande-prairie-to-help-reduce-carbon-emissions.html>

<sup>2347</sup> Government of Canada invests in youth employment and skills in STEM-related fields, The Canadian Government (Ottawa) 25 July 2023 Access Date 24 August 2025 <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2023/07/government-of-canada-invests-in-youth-employment-and-skills-in-stem-related-fields.html>

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 30 December 2022, the State Council announced that the Baihetan-Zhejiang 800-kilovolt ultra-high-voltage direct current power transmission project was completed.<sup>2348</sup> According to the message, the new power line transmits the clean electricity generated at the Baihetan hydropower station to eastern Zhejiang Province through a transmission line stretching 2,121 km.

On 19 January 2023, the State Council Information Office released the "China's Green Development in the New Era" white paper.<sup>2349</sup> The document lists seven key areas of China's green transformation – "commitment to green growth, green territorial configuration, adjustment and improvement of the industrial structure, application of green production methods, eco-friendly living, institutions and mechanisms for green development, and efforts to build the earth into a beautiful home."

On 21 March 2023, the State Council announced the expansion of China's renewable energy capacity in the first two months of 2023 by 8.5 per cent year on year. According to the Council's data, In January-February 2023, the total investment of China's major power companies in solar energy nearly tripled from a year before, reaching to CNY28.3 billion.<sup>2350</sup>

On 17 May 2023, Prime Minister Li Qiang announced China's willingness to "to deepen cooperation with the Netherlands in areas including agriculture, water conservancy and new energy, promote people-to-people exchanges and strengthen cooperation in multilateral areas such as addressing climate change."<sup>2351</sup>

On 25 May 2023, the National Energy Administration reported that from January to April 2023 62.51 million kW worth of new wind and photovoltaic power capacity were installed in the country.<sup>2352</sup> China's wind and photovoltaic power generation reached 482.8 billion kWh during the period, up by 26.8 per cent year on year.

China has fully complied with the commitment to achieve SDG7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. During the monitoring period China has taken actions with its commitment to achieve SDG7 targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

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<sup>2348</sup> Major Chinese power transmission project now fully operational, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 30 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023.

[http://english.www.gov.cn/news/topnews/202212/30/content\\_WS63ae7fa4c6d0a757729e4f04.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/news/topnews/202212/30/content_WS63ae7fa4c6d0a757729e4f04.html).

<sup>2349</sup> China issues white paper on green development, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 19 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023.

[http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202301/20/content\\_WS63c9eef2c6d0a757729e5e80.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202301/20/content_WS63c9eef2c6d0a757729e5e80.html).

<sup>2350</sup> China's renewable energy capacity expands in Jan-Feb, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 2 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023.

[http://english.www.gov.cn/archive/statistics/202303/21/content\\_WS6419a1acc6d0f528699db768.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/archive/statistics/202303/21/content_WS6419a1acc6d0f528699db768.html).

<sup>2351</sup> Chinese premier says China ready to deepen cooperation with the Netherlands, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 17 May 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023.

[http://english.www.gov.cn/news/202305/17/content\\_WS646409cac6d03ffcca6ed16f.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/news/202305/17/content_WS646409cac6d03ffcca6ed16f.html).

<sup>2352</sup> China's newly installed capacity of wind, photovoltaic power rises, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 25 May 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023.

[http://english.www.gov.cn/news/202305/25/content\\_WS646f1a21c6d03ffcca6ed610.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/news/202305/25/content_WS646f1a21c6d03ffcca6ed610.html).

On 6 December 2022, the Government announced that it would host negotiations on the elimination of plastic pollution in 2023.<sup>2353</sup> Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna and Minister for the Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion Barbara Pompili welcome the work embarked on during the first session of intergovernmental negotiations with a view to a future treaty on the elimination of plastic pollution. They confirm that France will host a second session of negotiations at the end of May 2023.

On 2 February 2023, the Government presented its plan of action to accelerate the transition to geothermal energy.<sup>2354</sup> The plan includes six major points which are aimed at: 1) structuring the industry and strengthening its production capacity and drilling; 2) developing the training courses on offer; 3) assisting project managers and users, especially financially; 4) raising the awareness of local stakeholders; 5) simplification of the regulations; 6) improving the knowledge of the sub-soil.

On 14 March 2023, 1,000 projects have been selected in order to quickly reduce the fossil energy consumption of public buildings in France.<sup>2355</sup> With these projects, the Government intends to save annually the equivalent of the domestic consumption of a city of 50,000 inhabitants, from the winter of 2023-2024.

France has partially complied with the commitment to achieve SDG7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. During the monitoring period France has taken partial actions with its commitment to achieve SDG7 targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nikita Shilikov*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 17 November 2022, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action Robert Habeck announced the December Immediate Assistance program offsetting some of the increases in energy bills in 2022 and bridging the period until the planned introduction of the brake on gas and district heat prices in spring 2023.<sup>2356</sup> The assistance reaches the consumers via their energy providers. The Act Implementing the December Immediate Assistance entitles 1,500 energy and district heating companies to reimbursement or an advance payment from the German Government.

On 25 November 2022, the Government adopted a cap on electricity, gas and heating prices imposed for a proportion of consumption.<sup>2357</sup> The price caps covered a large proportion of energy consumption. The brakes on prices are applied from March 2023, and also retroactively restrict the costs in January and February. The price brakes will be effective throughout 2023 and run until April 2024.

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<sup>2353</sup> France will host negotiations on the elimination of plastic pollution in 2023, Government of France (Paris) 6 December 2022. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate-and-environment/news/article/france-will-host-negotiations-on-the-elimination-of-plastic-pollution-in-2023>

<sup>2354</sup> Accelerating geothermal energy in France, Government of France (Paris) 2 February 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023 <https://www.gouvernement.fr/actualite/accelerer-la-geothermie-en-france>

<sup>2355</sup> Reducing the fossil fuel consumption of public buildings, Government of France (Paris) 14 March 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023 <https://www.gouvernement.fr/actualite/reduire-la-consommation-denergie-fossile-des-batiments-publics>

<sup>2356</sup> December immediate assistance: gas and heat suppliers can now apply for reimbursements, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 17 November 2022. Access Date: 27 April 2023. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2022/11/20221117-december-immediate-assistance.html>.

<sup>2357</sup> Federal cabinet adopts brake on gas and electricity prices – important relief for consumers and businesses, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 25 November 2022. Access Date: 27 April 2023. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2022/11/20221125-federal-cabinet-adopts-brake-on-gas-and-electricity-prices-important-relief-for-consumers-and-businesses.html>.

On 5 December 2022, Minister Habeck visited southern Africa to hold talks with the Namibian President Hage Geinghob and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.<sup>2358</sup> Minister Habeck mentioned that African countries are important partners for Germany in the decarbonization of global energy systems. He discussed intensifying cooperation and expanding partnerships, especially in the area of sustainable energy development. Particular focus was made on the production of green hydrogen.

On 21 December 2022, the Government adopted a progress report on radio navigation. It analyzed a package of measures in the field of omnidirectional radio beacons and weather radar stations with a view to quickly opening up more sites for onshore wind energy.<sup>2359</sup> These measures make it possible to approve and construct an additional 4-5 GW of onshore wind capacity in Germany. Assuming 4-5 MW per new turbine, that corresponds to more than 1,000 new wind turbines.

On 21 December 2022, the European Commission approved the amendments to the Renewable Energy Sources Act and to the Offshore Wind Energy Act under State aid rules. Measures to accelerate the expansion of renewable energy contained in the Acts are applicable from 1 January 2023.<sup>2360</sup> According to the amendments, the expansion of renewable energy is based on the 1.5-degree target contained in the Paris Climate Agreement. To this end, the target for renewables was increased to a share of at least 80 per cent in gross electricity consumption by 2030. The expansion paths and volumes up for auction especially in the fields of onshore and offshore wind and solar energy were also increased. In addition, the 2023 Renewable Energy Sources Act contains numerous rules to improve the environment for the broad range of measures on the expansion of renewable energy, e.g. for citizens' energy, the participation of municipalities in the energy transition, grid connections for solar installations, more sites for ground-mounted installations and the inclusion of solar installations like agrivoltaics and floating PV in regular funding.

On 5 January 2023, Minister Habeck and his Norwegian counterparts Terje Aasland, Minister of Petroleum and Energy, Jan Christian Vestre, Minister of Trade and Industry, and Espen Barth Eide, Minister of Climate and Environment signed a Joint Statement and a Joint Declaration focusing on the establishment of climate-neutral energy supply, and in particular the production and supply of hydrogen and the decarbonisation of energy-intensive industrial sectors.<sup>2361</sup>

On 20 February 2023, Minister Habeck opened the Climate Neutral Electricity System Platform.<sup>2362</sup> Together with representatives from business, science and civil society, the platform would discuss how the electricity market can be made fit for the electricity system based on renewable energy sources.

On 3 March 2023, the Bundestag and Bundesrat adopted the rules implementing the EU Emergency Regulation (Regulation EU 2022/2577).<sup>2363</sup> The rules are aimed at expanding renewable energy and the electricity grids. In

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<sup>2358</sup> Habeck in Namibia and South Africa for talks, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 27 April 2023. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2022/12/20221205-habeck-in-namibia-and-south-africa-for-talks.html>.

<sup>2359</sup> More sites for onshore wind - federal cabinet adopts progress report on radio navigation, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 27 April 2023. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2022/12/20221221-more-sites-for-onshore-wind-federal-cabinet-adopts-progress-report-on-radio-navigation.html>.

<sup>2360</sup> European Commission approves 2023 Renewable Energy Sources Act and 2023 Offshore Wind Energy Act under State aid rules, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 22 December 2022. Access Date: 27 April 2023. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2022/12/20221222-european-commission-approves-2023-renewable-energy-sources-act-and-2023-offshore-wind-energy-act-under-state-aid-rules.html>.

<sup>2361</sup> Norway and Germany intensify cooperation on energy on the path towards climate neutrality, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 5 January 2023. Access Date: 27 June 2023. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2023/01/20230105-norway-and-germany-intensify-cooperation-on-energy-on-the-path-towards-climate-neutrality.html>.

<sup>2362</sup> Minister Habeck opens discussion on electricity market design - Climate-neutral electricity system platform launched, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 20 February 2023. Access Date: 27 June 2023. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2023/02/20230220-minister-habeck-opens-discussion-on-electricity-market-design-climate-neutral-electricity-system-platform-launched.html>.

<sup>2363</sup> Stepping up the expansion of renewable energy and the grids – German Bundestag and Bundesrat approve rules implementing the EU Emergency Regulation, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 3 March 2023. Access Date: 27 June 2023. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2023/03/20230303-mehr-tempo-beim-ausbau-der-erneuerbaren-energien-und-der-stromnetze.html>.

parallel with the amendment of the Regional Planning Act (Act Amending the Regional Planning Act and Other Regulations), the rules were implemented in the Act on the Need for Wind Energy Sites, the Offshore Wind Energy Act, the Energy Industry Act and the Environmental Impact Assessment Act.

On 5 May 2023, Minister Habeck presented a PV Strategy on the occasion of the second PV Summit.<sup>2364</sup> The aim of the strategy is to considerably speed up the expansion of solar energy in Germany. The strategy lists measures in eleven fields of action ranging from energy-policy measures to the issues of securing skilled labour, industrial value creation in Europe, and technology development. Consultations on the PV Strategy were launched in March 2023. More than 600 comments were received.

Germany has fully complied with the commitment to achieve SDG7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. Germany has taken action to comply with the commitment to achieve SDG7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepov*

### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 22 November 2022, NITI Aayog, NTPC Energy Technology Research Alliance and the National Centre of Excellence in Carbon Capture and Utilisation, IIT Bombay launched the assessment of CO<sub>2</sub> Geological Storage Potential in India.<sup>2365</sup> As a part of this initiative, an assessment of storage potential in select Coalbed Methane rich coalfields will be carried out, and the CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Atlas will be produced. The project is envisaged as a part of India's mitigation strategy to facilitate the transition towards a low-carbon energy economy and subsequently to a net-zero emission level.

On 4 January 2023, the Government approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission, with a goal of producing 5 million metric tonnes of hydrogen fuel annually by 2030.<sup>2366</sup> The Mission included the following objectives: facilitating demand through exports and domestic utilization; providing incentives for manufacturing of electrolyzers and production of green hydrogen; Pilot Projects for steel, mobility, shipping, decentralized energy applications, hydrogen production from biomass, hydrogen storage, etc.; development of Green Hydrogen Hubs; support for infrastructure development; establishing a robust framework of regulations and standards; research & development programme; skill development programme; and public awareness and outreach programme.

On 13 January 2023, the Memorandum of Understanding to promote discussion and cooperation between the Parties in the Potential Areas of Cooperation in the Spectrum of Green Hydrogen Development and Investments in India and the United Arab Emirates was signed between the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India and the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, Government of the United Arab Emirates.<sup>2367</sup>

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<sup>2364</sup> Federal Minister Habeck: "We need to speed up the expansion of solar energy", German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 5 May 2023. Access Date: 27 June 2023. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2023/05/20230505-federal-minister-habeck-we-need-to-speed-up-the-expansion-of-solar-energy.html>.

<sup>2365</sup> NETRA NTPC, NITI Aayog, and the National Centre of Excellence in Carbon Capture & Utilisation (NCoE-CCU), IIT Bombay launches the assessment of 'CO<sub>2</sub> Geological Storage Potential', Government of India (New Delhi) 22 November 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1878184>.

<sup>2366</sup> National Green Hydrogen Mission targets a production capacity of 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) per annum by 2030, Government of India (New Delhi) 7 February 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1897043>.

<sup>2367</sup> MNRE has agreements with Australia, Finland, Germany and UAE for promotion of bilateral cooperation in renewable energy - Union Power & NRE Minister Shri R. K. Singh, Government of India (New Delhi) 14 March 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1906921>.

On 23 February 2023, Chair and Managing Director of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Shri Pradip Kumar Das announced that Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency was planning to establish an office in Gujarat's GIFT City to finance renewable energy projects in foreign currency, while avoiding foreign exchange hedging costs.<sup>2368</sup>

On 28 March 2023, the Government approved the construction of seven Solar Parks, with a total capacity of 3730 MW.<sup>2369</sup>

On 5 April 2023, the Government announced its intention to add 50 GW of renewable energy capacity annually for a five-year period, in order to achieve the target of 500 GW of renewable power capacity by 2030.<sup>2370</sup>

On 15 May 2023, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy announced "major reforms" in the Approved List of Models and Manufactures for Solar Photovoltaic Modules.<sup>2371</sup> The reform includes: an 80 per cent reduction in application fees; up to 70 per cent reduction in inspection fees; certain exemptions from factory inspection; permission for the manufacturers to withdraw their applications prior to factory inspection, with 90 per cent refund of application fee; increase in enlistment validity from 2 years to 4 years; introduction of the following minimum module efficiency thresholds for enlistment: 20 per cent for Utility/ grid scale power plants, 19.5 per cent for rooftop and solar pumping, 19 per cent for solar lighting. These changes should, according to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Secretary Shri B. S. Bhalla, "enhance the ease of doing business and help in ramping up the domestic production of solar photovoltaic modules."

On 9 June 2023, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) signed a Power Sale Agreement with GRIDCO Odisha, Government of Odisha under which the latter was to purchase 600 MW of wind power from.<sup>2372</sup> The agreement is signed in accordance with the provisions of Inter State Transmission System Connected Wind Power Projects Scheme. The scheme provides for the opportunity to transmit energy from states rich in renewable energy to energy poor states.

On 1 August 2023, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of India announced that under Green Energy Corridor Phase-II, a project had been approved for setting up transmission lines capacity substations, transferring renewable energy power of approx. 4000 MW capacity in the state of Tamil Nadu.<sup>2373</sup>

On 9 August 2023, the extension of the "Development of Solar Parks and Ultra Mega Solar Power Projects" scheme was announced by the Minister for New & Renewable Energy and Power of India.<sup>2374</sup> The scheme has been extended up to FY 2025-26 without any additional financial implication. The Minister informed that the Government had sanctioned 50 Solar Parks with aggregate capacity of 37,990 MW in 12 States, with 11 solar parks with aggregate capacity of 8,521 MW completed and further seven solar parks with aggregate capacity of 3,985 MW partially completed.

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<sup>2368</sup> IREDA plans to finance Renewable Energy projects in foreign currency, Government of India (New Delhi) 23 February 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1902184>

<sup>2369</sup> Government have approved 7 Solar Parks with a cumulative capacity of 3730 MW: Union Power & NRE Minister Shri R. K. Singh, Government of India (New Delhi) 28 March 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1911476>.

<sup>2370</sup> Government declares plan to add 50 GW of renewable energy capacity annually for next 5 years to achieve the target of 500 GW by 2030, Government of India (New Delhi) 5 April 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1913789>.

<sup>2371</sup> MNRE announces major reforms in the Approved List of Models and Manufactures for Solar Photovoltaic Modules, Government of India (New Delhi) 15 May 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1924175>.

<sup>2372</sup> Solar Energy Corporation of India to supply 600 MW Wind Power to GRIDCO Odisha under Power Sale Agreement, Government of India (New Delhi) 9 June 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1931095>.

<sup>2373</sup> 4,000 MW Renewable Energy Power Project being set up in Tamil Nadu, Government of India (New Delhi) 1 August 2023. Access Date: 23 August 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1944687>.

<sup>2374</sup> Solar Projects of 10.2 GW Developed in Solar Parks: Union Minister for New & Renewable Energy and Power, Government of India (New Delhi) 9 August 2023. Access Date 23 August 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1947131>

<sup>2374</sup> 4,000 MW Renewable Energy Power Project being set up in Tamil Nadu, Government of India (New Delhi) 1 August 2023. Access Date: 23 August 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1947131>.

India has taken actions to comply the commitment to achieve SDG7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

### **Indonesia: 0**

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 9 March 2023, the Government included gas in its clean energy transition program funded by industrialized countries.<sup>2375</sup> Inclusion of gas-fired power plants in Indonesia's transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy would derail the country's bid to lower its emissions to contribute to capping global warming at 1.5C° above pre-industrial levels. There are currently 5,200 diesel power plants in 2,130 locations throughout Indonesia. The plan is to convert at least 52 diesel plants into gas plants. Nevertheless, gas-fired power stations could emit even higher greenhouse gas emissions in their life cycle due to the emission of methane.

On 18 March 2023, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resource and the United States signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on establishing the Clean Energy Working Group.<sup>2376</sup> This deal marked the establishment of a working group for the development of clean energy in Indonesia. The Clean Energy Working Group MoU would base the collaboration, as well as supporting and promoting bilateral relationships in the clean energy sector. The deal would be the base of bilateral relationships, supporting and promoting the bilateral relationship in clean and renewable energy in Indonesia.

On 11 April 2023, the Government approved the Regulation on the Acceleration of Renewable Energy Development for Electricity Generation.<sup>2377</sup> The Regulation is considered a step forward toward a clean energy transition, because it embeds pricing regulations for renewable energy projects within a wider roadmap for the early retirement of coal-fired power plants. But there are doubts over its effectiveness due to underlying structural barriers in the energy sector. The Regulation still allows for coal power plants to be constructed if they were registered in PLN's 2021–30 Business Plan before the regulation. Captive power plants in industrial parks and coal-fired power projects listed as National Strategic Projects are also exempted. On 29 May 2023, the state utility Perusahaan Listrik Negara announced that it would seek for a USD700 million investment to install a 200-megawatt solar panel that will replace diesel power generators in a bid to reduce carbon emission.<sup>2378</sup> The plan is part of its target to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2060. PLN has planned to have 4.68 gigawatt of solar panels installed between 2021 and 2030.

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment to achieve SDG7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. It has adopted important policies and realized projects to ensure energy transition, nevertheless experts pointed out that some decisions are contradictory.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

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<sup>2375</sup> Indonesia aims to use gas in foreign-funded energy transition; critics cry foul, Mongabay (Menlo Park) 9 March 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://news.mongabay.com/2023/03/indonesia-aims-to-use-gas-in-foreign-funded-energy-transition-critics-cry-foul/>

<sup>2376</sup> Indonesia, U.S. Sign Deal to Develop Clean Energy, Tempo.Co (Jakarta) 18 March 2023. Access date: 30 April 2023. <https://en.tempo.co/read/1704319/indonesia-u-s-sign-deal-to-develop-clean-energy>

<sup>2377</sup> Indonesia's underwhelming renewable energy reform, East Asia Forum (Canberra) 11 April 2023. Access date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2023/04/11/indonesias-underwhelming-renewable-energy-reform/>

<sup>2378</sup> Indonesia seeks \$700 million to install 200 MW of solar power, Energy World (New South Wales) 29 May 2023. Access date: 13 June 2023. <https://energy.economicstimes.indiatimes.com/news/renewable/indonesia-seeks-700-million-to-install-200-mw-of-solar-power/100585163>



**Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 17 November 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security announced a EUR250 million contribution to the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) which is a “new and ambitious” program of support for Indonesia.<sup>2379</sup> This financial contribution is facilitated by the Italian Climate Fund through concessionary credits. The Partnership envisages a significant reduction of energy sector emissions in Indonesia through scaling up renewable energy and gradually reducing the use of coal. Italy, together with other partner countries and the Indonesian government, will work on developing a concrete plan of investment, financing and technical assistance to help achieve the JETP goals.

On 29 November 2022, a delegation of the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security visited Jordan to inspect two solar PV installations which were inaugurated as part of the Italy-Jordan cooperation program “Installation of Solar PV Systems for Municipalities in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.”<sup>2380</sup> The project was initiated in 2019 at the bilateral level. The municipalities of Manshiat Bani Hasan and Alnaseem benefited from the technical assistance of Italian energy specialists who contributed to installing 31 solar panels of 40 kW and 26 solar panels of 40 kW in respective towns. Thanks to the project, the overall energy savings accounted for EUR15,000 per year.

On 16 December 2022, Deputy Minister of Environment and Energy Security Claudio Barbaro and Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belize Amalia Mai signed accession protocol to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security and the competent Ministers of Sustainable Development of the Caribbean Community.<sup>2381</sup> Belize’s accession to the new MoU which replaces the previous one that expired in 2021 serves as the basis for the continuation and expansion of the ongoing environmental cooperation between Italy and Belize with the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security having already contributed to projects worth approximately USD2.750 million, among which there are cooperation initiatives on SDG7 supporting access to sustainable, renewable and efficient energy sources.

On 23 December 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security adopted a decree on allocating EUR200 million to finance 29 projects in nine Italian regions aimed at the construction of efficient district heating networks that use heat produced from renewable sources at high-efficiency plants.<sup>2382</sup> The investment will help create new networks or expand existing ones for 253 km, allowing an annual saving of 70,000 tons of oil equivalent. Minister of Environment and Energy Security Pichetto explained that in order to achieve Italy’s environmental objectives, large-scale action is required, including the support for efficient district heating to replace the use of fossil fuels and thus contain polluting emissions, especially in urban areas. He highlighted that the Ministry takes an important step forward to improving energy efficiency and towards the reduction of consumption related to air conditioning in buildings, in line with the commitments undertaken both at the European and international level.

On 28 December 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security announced the allocation of EUR200 million to the National Energy Income Fund with the transfer being agreed upon by the

<sup>2379</sup> Energy: 250 million from Ministry for Partnership on Just Energy Transition, Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 17 November 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 16 February 2023.

<https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/energia-250-milioni-dal-mase-partenariato-su-transizione-energetica-giusta>

<sup>2380</sup> Visit project "Installation of Solar PV Systems for Municipalities in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan", Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Amman) 29 November 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 04 February 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/pagina/visita-progetto-installation-solar-pv-systems-municipalities-hashemite-kingdom-jordan>

<sup>2381</sup> Accession of Belize to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security and the competent Ministers of Sustainable Development of the Caribbean States (CARICOM), Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 16 December 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 16 February 2023.

<https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/adesione-del-belize-al-protocollo-d-intesa-tra-il-ministero-dell-ambiente-e-della-sicurezza>

<sup>2382</sup> National Plan for Recovery and Resilience: Ministry approves 29 district heating projects, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 23 December 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 16 February 2023.

<https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/pnrr-mase-libera-29-progetti-su-teleriscaldamento-0>

Interministerial Committee for Economic Programming and Sustainable Development.<sup>2383</sup> The funding is aimed at low-income citizens who will be able to install photovoltaic panels for free, use the energy for self-consumption and sell the excess energy to the grid operator.

On 28 December 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security approved investing EUR3.6 billion into 22 projects aimed at enhancing adaptation and resilience of electricity distribution networks, accommodating energy produced from renewable sources and allowing for a greater electrification of consumption through developing smart grids.<sup>2384</sup> The approved projects will enable distribution networks to accommodate additional 9.8GW (against a 2022 target of at least 5GW by the end of the year) and will thus increase available power capacity to around 8.5 million inhabitants. Minister Pichetto said the commitment of the Government and the Ministry is to create favorable conditions to increase the share of renewable energy in Italy, all of which should be accompanied by interventions that strengthen infrastructure and enhance its distribution capacity.

On 30 December 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security adopted a decree that supports the creation of hydrogen valleys with an allocation of EUR450 million.<sup>2385</sup> This investment comes as part of the National Plan for Recovery and Resilience and aims to support the production of green hydrogen in abandoned industrial areas, especially in Southern Italy, with the dual objective of converting unused plants and stimulating the increase in renewable energy used directly to power industries, small and medium-sized enterprises, and local transport. The measure promotes local economic growth with a view to decarbonization and greater sustainability and allows to proceed with the contracts by the first quarter of 2023. In the same timeframe, the Ministry will also allocate EUR2 billion for the use of hydrogen in the hard-to-abate industry, thus contributing to the progressive scaling-up of renewable energy carriers to replace fossil fuels.

On 9 January 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security approved a EUR500 million investment to modernize 22 distribution and 9 transmission electricity networks with a view to making them resilient to natural disasters.<sup>2386</sup> Such an improvement will reduce the duration and magnitude of power outages in the event of extreme weather conditions and ensure continuity of supply for families and for the industry. By 2026, the initiative will help improve the resilience of the electricity grid for a total of 8,200 km, 1,700 of which are related to the transmission network and 6,500 - to the distribution one. This measure also doubles the investment target set by the National Plan for Recovery and Resilience (4,000 km). The interventions will cover 5,200 km in Northern and Central Italy and 3,000 km in Southern Italy.

On 13 January 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security adopted a decree that approves the rules of access to financial incentives intended for producers of biomethane who supply it to the national gas network.<sup>2387</sup> With the allocation of capital contributions worth EUR1.7 billion to investment and incentive tariffs targeting net production of biomethane, it is estimated to reach the production capacity of

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<sup>2383</sup> Energy crisis, Deputy-Minister Gava: "The ICEPSD allocates 200 million to families in need", Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 28 December 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 16 February 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/caro-energia-gava-dal-cipess-200-milioni-alle-famiglie-difficolta>

<sup>2384</sup> National Plan for Recovery and Resilience: Ministry approves 3.6 billion for 22 smart grid projects. Pichetto: "We create conditions to increase renewable energy that Italy needs", Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 28 December 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 16 February 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/pnrr-mase-3-6-miliardi-22-progetti-su-smart-grid-pichetto-creiamo-le-condizioni-incrementare>

<sup>2385</sup> A new decree provides industry with 450 million for hydrogen. Gava: "We promote sustainability and development together", Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 30 December 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 16 February 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/450-milioni-l-idrogeno-nell-industria-pubblicato-il-decreto-gava-favoriamo-insieme>

<sup>2386</sup> National Plan for Recovery and Resilience: Ministry approves 500 million euros for projects to make electricity networks more resilient to natural disasters, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 9 January 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 16 February 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/pnrr-mase-approva-500-mln-di-euro-progetti-rendere-reti-elettriche-piu-resistenti-calamita>

<sup>2387</sup> National Plan for Recovery and Resilience: Ministry approves rules to incentivize biomethane production, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 13 January 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 16 February 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/pnrr-mase-approvate-regole-incentivare-produzione-biometano>

about 2 billion cubic meters per year by 2024, ten times more than the current production. The first competition round for access to finance is scheduled for the first quarter of 2023.

On 27 June 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security took part in the 15th meeting of the Joint Partnership Committee with Small Island Developing States of the Pacific at the UN Headquarters in New York. The meeting resulted in approving finance for a project proposal titled “Solar Mini-Grid Systems for Vulnerable Communities in the Outer”, presented by the Government of Kiribati, which aims to install six photovoltaic systems in the most remote islands of the Kiribati archipelago to expand the local mini grid and ensure that the electricity generated can fully meet the local energy demand.<sup>2388</sup>

On 27 July 2023, Italy joined the Global Biofuels Alliance as a founding Member State along with other 19 countries and 11 international organizations.<sup>2389</sup> The Global Biofuels Alliance was created as a result of the G20 Energy Ministerial and Clean Energy Ministerial held in Goa, India. The key objective of the Alliance is to promote international cooperation and policies to scale up the use of sustainable biofuels, such as advanced biomethane, which are a viable decarbonization option, especially in the transport and hard-to-abate sectors.

Italy has fully complied with all five SDG7 targets and adopted policies that helped bridge existing gaps in energy access and eradicate energy poverty.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Vadim Kuznetsov*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 6 December 2022, the Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry (METI) and the National Development and Reform Commission of the People's Republic of China held the second Japan-China Policy Dialogue on Decarbonization.<sup>2390</sup> The participants presented and exchanged views on both countries' efforts toward decarbonization.

On 5 February 2023, the Government announced that it plans to expand offshore wind power generation beyond its territorial waters and into its exclusive economic zone (EEZ) in a push to achieve carbon neutrality and ensure energy security.<sup>2391</sup> A panel of experts who looked into the feasibility of building wind power facilities in the EEZ concluded that such construction is possible as long as Japan backs it with domestic law. Based on that view, the government is planning to prepare necessary legislation or a legal revision.

On 10 March 2023, senior government official tells Recharge offshore energy developments in the country's EEZ will “absolutely accelerate” slow progress on goal of having 45GW turning by 2045.<sup>2392</sup> Currently, offshore wind farms are limited to territorial waters about 22 kilometers from the coast. This would be expanded to the EEZ located 200 nautical miles, or about 370 km, from the coast.

On 17 February 2023, the Government stated that Japan's Green Transformation (GX) policy to map out its decarbonization pathways will not take the country's focus off energy security but will likely accelerate

<sup>2388</sup> Cooperation with the Pacific: project for sustainable energy in Kiribati approved, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 28 June 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 15 August 2023.

<https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/cooperazione-pacifico-approvato-progetto-energia-sostenibile-di-kiribati>

<sup>2389</sup> G20 Energy Ministerial ends in Goa. Gava: “Important results to accelerate the energy transition”, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 27 July 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 15 August 2023.

<https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/terminato-il-g20-energia-gava-risultati-importanti-accelerare-la-transizione>

<sup>2390</sup> Second Japan-China Policy Dialogue on Decarbonization Held, METI (Tokyo) 7 December 2022. Access date: 30 April 2023. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1207\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/1207_002.html)

<sup>2391</sup> Japan looks beyond territorial waters for wind power amid green push, Japan Times (Tokyo) 5 February 2023. Access date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2023/02/05/business/offshore-wind-eez/>

<sup>2392</sup> Japan to open deeps beyond territorial waters to floating wind 'early next year', Recharge News (London) 10 March 2023. Access date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.rechargenews.com/energy-transition/japan-to-open-deeps-beyond-territorial-waters-to-floating-wind-early-next-year/2-1-1417120>

companies' pursuit of more flexible and shorter LNG contracts.<sup>2393</sup> The GX basic principle and a set of related bills approved laid out the country's decarbonization policy, with steps to be taken including utilization of nuclear power, boosting renewables and introducing a carbon-pricing mechanism, while ensuring immediate energy supply. Analysts and industry sources said that among the policy measures, the country's revived nuclear power policy will likely affect the country's LNG demand and contracting strategy the most as it will be a key source of baseload electricity generation.

On 21 February 2023, the Government launched a USD36.8 million project with the United Nations Development Programme to support four Pacific island nations with a "Green Transformation" of their economies that will reduce their reliance on fossil fuels, drive sustainable economic growth and help them cope with the impacts of climate change.<sup>2394</sup> The two-year project is titled Promoting Green Transformation in the Pacific Region towards Net-Zero Emissions. Through the project, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Timor-Leste and Vanuatu will see investments in clean energy, more efficient management of natural resources and strengthened coping capacity in the face of extreme weather events linked to climate change.

On 23 February 2023, the METI, the Financial Services Agency and the Ministry of the Environment, together with ten global private financial institutions and other organizations, launched the Japan Public and Private Working Group on Financed Emissions to Promote Transition Finance in February, and have compiled a paper on issues related to financed emissions.<sup>2395</sup>

On 28 February 2023, the National Institute for Fusion Science and TAE Technologies company claimed success testing new fuel cycle, opening door to cleaner, lower cost energy than produced by conventional deuterium-tritium-based process.<sup>2396</sup> An innovative nuclear fusion technology that uses no radioactive materials and is calculated capable of "powering the planet for more than 100,000 years," has been successfully piloted by a US-Japanese team of researchers.

On 6 March 2023, the Government awarded JPY1.62 billion to Japan-Australia hydrogen energy supply JV.<sup>2397</sup> A Japanese-Australian venture producing hydrogen from brown coal entered its commercial demonstration phase.

On 20 March 2023, Japan and Germany agreed on strengthening cooperation to ensure sufficient supply of raw materials in areas critical to transforming their economies, such as semiconductors, clean energy, hydrogen and batteries.<sup>2398</sup> The two governments agreed that the national resource agencies (JOGMEC in Japan and BGR in Germany) will cooperate more closely to guarantee raw material supply security. The institutions will exchange know-how to "increase the scope for action."

On 4 April 2023, the Government announced that it plans to increase its supply of hydrogen sixfold from the current level to around 12 million tons by 2040 in an effort to spur use of renewable energy.<sup>2399</sup> Prime

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<sup>2393</sup> Japan's green transformation policy to alter LNG contract, Recharge News (London) 17 February 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.spglobal.com/commodityinsights/en/products-services/energy-transition/european-long-term-power-forecast>

<sup>2394</sup> Japan contributes \$36.8 million to support 'Green Transformation' in four Pacific Island nations, UNDP (New York) 21 February 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.undp.org/asia-pacific/press-releases/japan-contributes-368-million-support-green-transformation-four-pacific-island-nations>

<sup>2395</sup> Paper Released on Creating an Enabling Environment to Scale-up Transition Financing to Accelerate Decarbonization of Hard-to-Abate Sectors, METI (Tokyo) 21 February 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0221\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2023/0221_001.html)

<sup>2396</sup> '100,000 years of power' | US-Japan team hails H2-boron plasma fusion breakthrough, Recharge News (London) 28 February 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.rechargenews.com/energy-transition/100-000-years-of-power-us-japan-team-hails-h2-boron-plasma-fusion-breakthrough/2-1-1411318>

<sup>2397</sup> Japanese gov't awards USD 1.62 bn to Japan-Australia hydrogen energy supply JV, Reuters (London) 7 March 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/japanese-govt-awards-162-bln-japan-australia-hydrogen-energy-supply-jv-2023-03-07/>

<sup>2398</sup> Germany and Japan vow deeper cooperation to secure raw material supply, Clean Energy Wire (Berlin) 20 March 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.cleanenergywire.org/news/germany-and-japan-vow-deeper-cooperation-secure-raw-material-supply>

<sup>2399</sup> Japan to raise hydrogen supply sixfold by 2040 to promote renewables, Japan Times (Tokyo) 4 April 2023. Access date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2023/04/04/business/economy-business/hydrogen-supply-sixfold-2040/>

Minister Fumio Kishida's administration will aim to generate JPY15 trillion (USD113 billion) in investment from both the public and private sectors over the next 15 years to achieve the goal.

On 29 May 2023, the Government's wind power body set a mid-century goal to increase capacity to 140 gigawatts from less than 5 GW now to meet a third of the country's electricity demand and help it to hit its 2050 carbon neutrality target.<sup>2400</sup> Offshore wind is meant to be central to Japan's expansion of renewable energy, but progress has been delayed and a government goal of up to 45 GW of offshore wind power in 2040, looks less ambitious than the new Japan Wind Power Association targets.

On 6 June 2023, Japan earmarked USD107 billion for developing hydrogen energy to cut emissions. The plan sets an ambitious target to increase the annual supply by six times from the current level to 12 million tons by 2040.<sup>2401</sup> It also pledges JPY15 trillion (USD107 billion) in funding from both private and public sources to build up hydrogen-related supply chains over the next 15 years.

Japan has fully complied with the commitment to achieve SDG7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. Japan has taken strong actions on ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services and increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

#### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 9 December 2022, the Ministry of Environment and the Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute announced the results of a nation-wide selection of the best green technology companies.<sup>2402</sup> The two entities selected 14 local companies that demonstrated "excellent business performance" and leadership in the green technologies implementation on a day-to-day basis.

From 31 January to 7 February 2023, the Ministry of Environment held a series of special sessions on subsidy programs for hydrogen fuel cell vehicles for local government.<sup>2403</sup> The Ministry of Environment is said to pursue "its policy of supplying hydrogen-powered vehicles by actively identifying the demand of local governments for those vehicles."

On 27 February 2023, the National Assembly passed five environment-related bills as to "provide a legal basis to improve environmental quality for the people."<sup>2404</sup> The list includes the Special Act on the Improvement of Air Quality in Air Control Zones; the Act on the Promotion of Saving and Recycling of

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<sup>2400</sup> Wind industry aims to provide a third of Japan's power by 2050, Reuters (London) 29 May 2023. Access date: 13 June 2023. <https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/wind-industry-aims-provide-third-japans-power-by-2050-2023-05-29/>

<sup>2401</sup> Japan earmarks \$107 billion for developing hydrogen energy to cut emissions, stabilize supplies, Energy World (Manila) 29 May 2023. Access date: 13 June 2023. <https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/renewable/japan-earmarks-107-billion-for-developing-hydrogen-energy-to-cut-emissions-stabilize-supplies/100787201>

<sup>2402</sup> The Ministry of Environment to discover new companies to lead the future green industry, Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 9 December 2022. Access Date: 4 May 2023. <https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=50&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1567220&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>2403</sup> Environment Ministry to increase the supply of hydrogen-powered vehicles, together with local governments, Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 2 February 2023. Access Date: 4 May 2023. <https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=40&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1578190&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>2404</sup> Five Environmental Bills Passed by the National Assembly, including the Special Act On The Improvement Of Air Quality In Air Control Zones, Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 3 March 2023. Access Date: 4 May 2023. <https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=30&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1584650&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

Resources; the Malodor Prevention Act; the Construction Waste Recycling Promotion Act; and the Framework Act on Carbon Neutrality and Green Growth for Coping with Climate Crisis.

On 21 March 2023, the Government presented the draft of the first National Plan for Carbon Neutrality and Green Growth for 2023 – 2042.<sup>2405</sup> The core goal of the state carbon neutrality policy is said to be reduction in greenhouse gas emission by 40 per cent comparing with 2018 base level. The primary purpose of the national plan is to prepare reasonable implementation measures, such as sectoral and annual reduction targets and strategies, considering economic and social conditions and feasibility comprehensively to faithfully comply with the greenhouse gas reduction targets committed to the international community.

On 18 April 2023, the Ministry of Environment has launched a new committee.<sup>2406</sup> The new structure named Innovation Committee on Environmental Research and Development would resolve environmental challenges namely carbon neutrality, promotion of a circular economy, and establishment of an environmentally safe society. Also, the Committee is said to facilitate the country's environmental industry in entering the overseas markets.

On 19 April 2023, the Ministry of Environment presented "The Republic of Korea's Adaptation Communication."<sup>2407</sup> Designing and presentation of documents of this kind is a voluntary recommendation under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The first Korea's report presents the country's best practices in pursuing the Convention's goals including the by-sector risk assessments.

Korea has taken actions to comply with the commitment to achieve SDG7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

## **Mexico: 0**

Mexico has partially complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 17 January 2023, the Federal Electricity Commission published the Business Plan 2023–27.<sup>2408</sup> According to it, the Clean Energy Trust is considering 16 clean energy projects, among them three solar power plants for 700 megawatts (the same project in three phases contained in the Sonora Plan), 12 repowerings or improvement of hydroelectric facilities equipment for 300 megawatts and a green hydrogen pilot project for 20 megawatts, giving a total of 1,020 megawatts.

On 17 February 2023, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador launched the first stage the Puerto Peñasco Photovoltaic Plant, powering 64,300 households with clean solar energy.<sup>2409</sup>

<sup>2405</sup> The Yoon administration's blueprint for achieving carbon neutrality and green growth revealed, Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 30 March 2023. Access Date: 4 May 2023.

<https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=20&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1591210&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>2406</sup> The Ministry of Environment launched Innovation Committee on Environmental R&D, Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 25 April 2023. Access Date: 4 May 2023.

<https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1596870&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>2407</sup> The Ministry of Environment published "The Republic of Korea's Adaptation Communication", Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 25 April 2023. Access Date: 4 May 2023.

<https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1596800&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>2408</sup> Plan de Negocios 2023-2027, Comisión Federal de Electricidad. Access Date: 27 June 2023. [https://www.cfe.mx/finanzas/Documents/Plan\\_Negocios\\_2023-2027.pdf](https://www.cfe.mx/finanzas/Documents/Plan_Negocios_2023-2027.pdf)

<sup>2409</sup> En Sonora, México inicia nueva política en cuidado ambiental: presidente López Obrador, Mexican Government (Mexico) 18 February 2023. Access Date: 8 May 2023. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/en-sonora-mexico-inicia-nueva-etapa-en-cuidado-ambiental-presidente-lopez-obrador?idiom=es>.

On 18 February 2023, President López Obrador declared around 230,000 hectares a lithium mining reserve zone, proclaiming all its mineral reserves belonging to the people of Mexico.<sup>2410</sup> This action, according to the President, complemented the ongoing construction of the Puerto Peñasco Photovoltaic Power Plant, and thus contributed to sustainable use of natural resources for the benefit of Mexican people.

From 28 March to 4 April 2023, the Government of Mexico through its Ministry of Energy promoted Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Projects in Municipalities and Hospitals in the states of Veracruz, Baja California Sur, Michoacán, Jalisco, and Sinaloa, through a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.<sup>2411</sup> The goal of this initiative is to promote access and the efficient use of energy in municipalities by financing investments for energy efficiency in public lighting, water supply and sanitation, as well as municipal buildings.

On 4 April 2023, President López Obrador announced the purchase of 13 electric power generation plants from the company Iberdrola. It will increase the production capacity and the offer by the Federal Electricity Commission for the efficient distribution of energy in the country, with a total production of 55 per cent of national energy generation.<sup>2412</sup>

On 23 May 2023, the Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE) adopted an agreement to update the reference values to determine the percentage of fossil-free energy.<sup>2413</sup> The document classifies energy generated by steam of the combined cycles as clean.

On 29 May 2023, the Secretariat of Energy adopted a Program for the development of the national electric system, the governing document of the electricity policy, the Secretariat included a new concept of energy free from fossil fuel and additional energy for cooling, which is generated in combined cycle power plants.<sup>2414</sup> The inclusion of this concept allowed to increase the percentage of clean energy net generation and nominally get closer to the 35 per cent clean energy target by 2024 in accordance with the Paris Agreement.

On 9 July 2023, the Sectorial Committee of Soil for Sustainable Agriculture held its first working session.<sup>2415</sup> The head of the Secretariat of Agriculture Víctor Villalobos Arámbula pointed out that this inter-institutional working group will help the implementation of public policy in the care and conservation of agricultural soils to promote sustainable agriculture, adapted to climate change and that adds to food security. The Committee also presented the scaling-up of the Doctors of Soils program, based on the training of the technical staff of the 32 Representative Offices on the importance of the soil resource for food and agriculture, as well as forums, discussions and seminars, indicated by the Interdisciplinary Studies Program of the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

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<sup>2410</sup> En Sonora, presidente AMLO declara más de 230 mil hectáreas zona de reserva minera de litio, Mexican Government (Mexico) 18 February 2023. Access Date: 8 May 2023. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/en-sonora-presidente-amlo-declara-mas-de-230-mil-hectareas-zona-de-reserva-minera-de-litio?idiom=es>.

<sup>2411</sup> Project for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability in Municipalities and Hospitals, Ministry of Energy (Mexico) 28 March 2023. Translation provided by Deepl Translate. Access Date: 28 August 2023. <http://presem.fide.org.mx/cordoba/>

<sup>2412</sup> 'Nationalization' of AMLO: Government agrees to buy 13 Iberdrola plants, El Financiero (Mexico) 5 April 2023.

Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 4 July 2023.

<https://www.elfinanciero.com.mx/nacional/2023/04/04/nacionalizacion-de-amlo-gobierno-compra-13-plantas-de-iberdrola/>

<sup>2413</sup> Acuerdo Núm. A/018/2023 de la Comisión Reguladora de Energía por el que se actualizan los valores de referencia de las metodologías para el cálculo de la eficiencia de los sistemas de cogeneración de energía eléctrica y los criterios para determinar la cogeneración eficiente, así como los criterios de eficiencia y metodología de cálculo para determinar el porcentaje de energía libre de combustible establecidos en las resoluciones RES/003/2011, RES/206/2014, RES/291/2012 y RES/1838/2016, respectivamente. Access Date: 17 June 2023.

<sup>2414</sup> Programa de Desarrollo del Sistema Eléctrico Nacional 2023-2037, Gobierno de México. Access Date: 17 June 2023. <https://www.gob.mx/sener/articulos/programa-de-desarrollo-del-sistema-electrico-nacional-2023-2037>

<sup>2415</sup> With the presence of the Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development, Víctor Villalobos Arámbula, the Sectorial Committee of Soil for Sustainable Agriculture (COSESAS) held its first working session. Access Date: 20 August 2023. <https://www.gob.mx/agricultura/prensa/aporta-mexico-al-mundo-acciones-y-politicas-para-el-cuidado-de-los-suelos-agropecuarios?idiom=es>

On 20 July 2023, the Secretariat of Finance carried out the initial issuance of the sustainable bonds.<sup>2416</sup> This financial instrument is a part of the Strategy of Sustainable Funding. The Secretariat of Finance conducted the placement inaugural Bond, a bond sustainable in local currency with a maturity of 12 years, with a fixed rate of 8 per cent and a yield of 8.85 per cent. This emission, an integral part of the Strategy of Sustainable Financing in Mexico, raised a total of MXN 23,000 million. The new bonds will have a mechanism of re-openings, designed to increase the liquidity of these new instruments over time and attract a base of long-term investors, both domestic and foreign.

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment to achieve SDG7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. During the monitoring period Mexico has taken actions to achieve two of the five SDG7 targets.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 19 November 2022, the launching ceremony for the construction of the new nuclear power plant unit №2 in El Dabaa in Egypt took place.<sup>2417</sup> It is being constructed by the Rosatom state corporation. According to the Head of Rosatom Aleksey Likhachev, the launch of the nuclear power plant should play a crucial part in Egypt's socio-economic and technological development, providing means for the gradual transition of the country's industry and economy to low-carbon sources, and creating a solid foundation for Egypt's confident and sustainable development for decades to come.

On 23 December 2022, the Government approved the draft federal law "On the Amendments to the Code of Administrative Offenses of the Russian Federation" with regard to establishment of administrative liability for failure to provide reliable information on greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>2418</sup> The draft law is aimed at ensuring the reliability of state accounting of greenhouse gas emissions generated as a result of economic and other activities of regulated organizations.

On 17 January 2023, the Government signed an agreement on cooperation in high-tech development with Rosatom and Gazprom.<sup>2419</sup> The agreement primarily involves cooperative work on developing hydrogen energy capabilities and energy storage technologies. It is planned that by 2024, at least 25000 electric cars will be produced in Russia and more than 9000 charging stations will be opened. Domestic demand for energy storage will reach 17.5 GWh, of which 16 GWh per year will come from electric cars.

On 23 January 2023, Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin signed a decree "On Approving the Rules for the Development and Approval of Documents for the Prospective Development of the Electric Power Industry and on Amendments to Certain Acts of the Government of the Russian Federation."<sup>2420</sup> The amendments will help optimize the construction and modernization of grid infrastructure and generating facilities. The decree regulates the costs of building power lines and substations, as well as provides for the

<sup>2416</sup> Comunicado No 50. <https://www.gob.mx/shcp/prensa/comunicado-no-50-hacienda-fortalece-el-mercado-de-bonos-sustentables-en-moneda-local-con-la-emision-inaugural-del-bonos-a-tasa-fija?idiom=es-MX>. Access Date: 21 August 2023. <https://www.gob.mx/shcp/prensa/comunicado-no-50-hacienda-fortalece-el-mercado-de-bonos-sustentables-en-moneda-local-con-la-emision-inaugural-del-bonos-a-tasa-fija?idiom=es-MX>

<sup>2417</sup> The main stage of the construction of Unit 2 of El-Dabaa NPP started in Egypt, Rosatom (Moscow) 19 November 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. [https://www.rosatom.ru/journalist/news/v-egipte-nachalsya-osnovnoy-etap-sooruzheniya-vtorogo-energobloka-aes-el-dabaa/?sphrase\\_id=3930627](https://www.rosatom.ru/journalist/news/v-egipte-nachalsya-osnovnoy-etap-sooruzheniya-vtorogo-energobloka-aes-el-dabaa/?sphrase_id=3930627).

<sup>2418</sup> Decisions taken at the Government meeting of December 23, 2022, the Government of Russia (Moscow) 25 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47433/>.

<sup>2419</sup> Alexander Novak took part in the signing of the final package of agreements on cooperation in the development of high-tech areas, Government of Russia (Moscow) 17 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47555/>.

<sup>2420</sup> The government has adopted new rules for the prospective development of the electric power industry, Government of Russia (Moscow) 23 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47604/>



gradual formation of a rational structure of generating capacity in the country, while taking into account the objectives of low-carbon development.

On 23 January 2023, Prime Minister Mishustin signed a decree providing for the modernization of public utilities in Russian regions.<sup>2421</sup> In 2023, RUB30 billion are to be allocated to the task.

On 11 March 2023, Prime Minister Mishustin signed a decree №373, expanding the nomenclature of green initiatives, subject to preferential financing through special bonds or loans.<sup>2422</sup> The list includes projects related to the construction of energy-efficient housing, clearing and restoration of water bodies, creation and modernization of infrastructure for direct capture of greenhouse gases from the environment, as well as capture and utilization of landfill gas with subsequent energy generation.

On 24 March 2023, Prime Minister Mishustin signed a decree on stimulation of further development of renewable energy.<sup>2423</sup> The decree approves the financial parameters (marginal values of capital and operating costs) for the period after 2024 for competitive selections of investment projects for construction of renewable energy generation facilities in retail electricity markets. In addition, the decree instructs the Ministry of Energy to annually monitor the dynamics of renewable energy sector development both in the wholesale electricity and capacity market and in the retail electricity markets, including microgeneration.

On 13 July 2023, the Government issued a decree expanding the list of activities that can be financed through “Clean Air” federal project.<sup>2424</sup> The updated list includes measures for the purchase and installation of solid fuel boilers with automatic fuel supply in residential buildings. According to the government, such equipment is characterized by economical fuel consumption and environmental friendliness due to much less harmful emissions into the atmosphere.

On 9 August 2023, the Government and PAO AFK Sistema signed a letter of intent on the development of hydrogen energy.<sup>2425</sup> The document was signed by Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak and Sistema’s President Tagir Sitdekov. The agreement is aimed at stimulating new developments, commercialization and introduction of domestic hydrogen technologies in different areas of the economy, defines the principles of interaction between the parties within the framework of the “road map” for the development of hydrogen energy technologies in Russia until 2024.

Russia has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7’s targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. During the monitoring period Russia has taken actions to achieve all five SDG7 targets.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakbarov*

### **Saudi Arabia: 0**

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7’s targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 30 November 2022, ACWA Power, a local utilities company, signed an agreement with Water and Electricity Holding Company (Badeel) to build the world’s largest single-site solar-power plant in Al Shuaibah, Mecca province.<sup>2426</sup> The solar-power facility is expected to start operations by end-2025, with a

<sup>2421</sup> The government will finance the development of municipal infrastructure in the regions, Government of Russia (Moscow) 23 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47593/>.

<sup>2422</sup> The government expanded the green financing program, Government of Russia (Moscow) 11 March 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47972/>.

<sup>2423</sup> The government creates additional incentives for the development of renewable energy generation in Russia, Government of Russia (Moscow) 24 March 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <http://government.ru/news/44924/>.

<sup>2424</sup> Regions will be able to receive additional funding under the federal Clean Air Project, Government of Russia (Moscow) 14 July 2023. Access Date: 23 August 2023. <http://government.ru/news/49037/>.

<sup>2425</sup> Alexander Novak signed an agreement on hydrogen energy development with Sistema JSFC, Government of Russia (Moscow) 9 August 2023. Access Date: 23 August 2023. <http://government.ru/news/49239/>.

<sup>2426</sup> Saudi Arabia launches world’s largest solar-power plant, Economist Intelligence (London) 17 February 2023. Access date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.eiu.com/n/saudi-arabia-launches-worlds-largest-solar-power-plant/>

generation capacity of 2,060 MW. Investment in clean energy projects are expected to rise, assisted by high oil prices in 2023-24, as Saudi Arabia seeks to add 15 GW of renewable energy capacity in 2022-23, supporting the government's climate objectives and economic diversification strategy.

On 26 December 2022, Saudi Arabia's ACWA Power has signed a power purchase agreement with the National Electric Grid of Uzbekistan to build three wind power plants in the Central Asian country.<sup>2427</sup> The USD2.4 billion Kungrad wind farm project will be executed through special-purpose vehicles in the north-western Karakalpakstan region of Uzbekistan.

On 1 February 2023, the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources issued the first industrial license to NEOM Green Hydrogen Co. at OXAGON.<sup>2428</sup> It is an equal joint venture between NEOM, ACWA Power, and Air Products. It is part of the Kingdom's efforts to catalyze the global hydrogen economy by becoming the world's leading hydrogen producer while maintaining its position as a key player in the energy sector.

On 19 February 2023, the Ministry of Energy announced that it would hold accountable entities that use oil products to generate electric energy without obtaining special licenses confirming energy-efficiency of the power generating facilities.<sup>2429</sup>

On 2 March 2023, ACWA Power announced that it plans to develop as many as three more green hydrogen plants on a similar scale to its vast project being built at Neom.<sup>2430</sup> ACWA has plans to develop two more projects adjacent to a USD8.5 billion green hydrogen plant at Neom, a USD500 billion new city on Saudi Arabia's north-west coast.

On 11 May 2023, Saudi Arabia signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Netherlands to cooperate in developing the clean gas and expediting the global pursuit to reduce the carbon footprint.<sup>2431</sup> The MoU was signed on the sidelines of the World Hydrogen Summit in Rotterdam.

On 7 June 2023, Saudi Arabia's green hydrogen project being developed at NEOM received the Kingdom's first sustainable guarantee from the British bank Standard Chartered, which agreed to extend funding support for its contractor Larsen & Toubro to build the necessary renewable energy infrastructure.<sup>2432</sup>

On 8 June 2023, electricity networks across three Saudi governates were set to undergo SR1.4 billion (USD373 million) worth of improvements to reduce the areas' liquid fuel consumption and carbon emissions.<sup>2433</sup> State-owned Saudi Electricity Co. will invest the money across Rafha, Al-Wajh and Najran, reported the Saudi Press Agency. The first scheme will link Rafha to the public electricity network in the eastern sector via a 380 kilovolt overhead line spanning 328 km.

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<sup>2427</sup> Saudi Arabia's ACWA Power signs \$2.4bn wind energy PPA with Uzbekistan, Arab News (Riyadh) 26 December 2022. Access date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2222191/business-economy>

<sup>2428</sup> Saudi Arabia issues first license at OXAGON to NEOM Green Hydrogen, Arab News (Riyadh) 1 February 2023. Access date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2243101/business-economy>

<sup>2429</sup> Ministry of Energy: The use of petroleum products for the purpose of generating electricity requires obtaining licenses to avoid legal accountability, Ministry of Energy of Saudi Arabia 19 February 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.moenergy.gov.sa/ar/MediaCenter/News/Pages/Licenses-of-petroleum-products-usage-and-transportation.aspx>

<sup>2430</sup> Saudi Arabia's Acwa Power Eyes Three More Giant Hydrogen Plants, Bloomberg (New York) 2 March 2023. Access date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-03-02/saudi-arabia-s-acwa-power-eyes-three-more-giant-hydrogen-plants>

<sup>2431</sup> Saudi Arabia and Netherlands agree to collaborate on green energy, Reuters (London) 11 May 2023. Access date: 13 June 2023. <https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/saudi-arabia-netherlands-agree-collaborate-green-energy-2023-05-11/>

<sup>2432</sup> Saudi Arabia's first sustainable guarantee issued to green hydrogen project at NEOM, Arab News (Riyadh) 7 June 2023. Access date: 13 June 2023. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2316236/business-economy>

<sup>2433</sup> Saudi Electricity Co. invests \$373m in 3 projects to boost power grid, Arab News (Riyadh) 8 June 2023. Access date: 13 June 2023. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2318096/business-economy>

On 12 June 2023, Saudi Arabia signs USD5.6 billion deal with Chinese EV company Human Horizons to collaborate on the development, manufacture and sale of vehicles.<sup>2434</sup> The agreement accounts for more than half of the more than USD10 billion in investments signed on the first day of an Arab-China business conference in Riyadh.

Saudi Arabia has taken steps that match some of the SDG7 targets.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 21 January 2023, the National Energy Crisis Committee released a six-month progress report on the implementation of the Energy Action Plan.<sup>2435</sup> In July 2022, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced a range of measures to improve the performance of existing power stations and add new generation capacity. The updated report highlighted major steps that had been taken during the six-month implementation of the Plan, including a new Ministerial determination for 14771 MW of new generation capacity from wind, solar and battery storage, and an additional 300 MW imported through the Southern African Power Pool, with the negotiations underway to secure a further 1,000 MW from neighboring countries in 2023.

During the monitoring period South Africa has taken actions to achieve two of the five SDG7 targets.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

### **Türkiye: 0**

Türkiye has partially complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 28 November 2022, DSI finished the 558 MW Yusufeli hydropower plant and arch dam, the fifth highest in its class in the world.<sup>2436</sup> President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan claimed the system would contribute TRY 5 billion (EUR 256 million at the current exchange rate) in added value to the country's economy. Officials added that it would meet the electricity demand of 2.5 million residents. The Yusufeli hydropower plant's annual output is estimated at 1.9 TWh. It is set to boost the production of hydropower plants downstream in the basin by 10%, when it is commissioned.

On 1 December 2022, a record number of Turkish companies are installing solar systems to avoid soaring electricity costs caused by a collapse in the currency and a spike in global energy prices.<sup>2437</sup> More than 300 companies applied in the past two weeks alone for approval to install solar panels. Companies made USD 110 billion-worth of investment applications for renewable energy production.

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<sup>2434</sup> Saudi Arabia signs \$5.6 billion deal with Chinese EV company Human Horizons, Energy World (Manila) 12 June 2023. Access date: 13 June 2023. <https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/power/saudi-arabia-signs-5-6-billion-deal-with-chinese-ev-company-human-horizons/100930398>

<sup>2435</sup> National Energy Crisis Committee releases six month progress update on implementation of Energy Action Plan, Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 21 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/national-energy-crisis-committee-releases-six-month-progress-update-implementation-energy>.

<sup>2436</sup> Turkey completes world's fifth-highest arch dam with hydropower plant, Balkan Green Energy News (Belgrade) 28 November 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://balkangreenenergynews.com/turkey-completes-worlds-fifth-highest-arch-dam-with-hydropower-plant/>

<sup>2437</sup> Turkish Companies Go Solar at Record Pace to Cut Energy Costs, Bloomberg (New York) 1 December 2022. Access date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-12-01/turkey-solar-panel-demand-booms-as-companies-avoid-rising-power-costs>

On 3 January 2023, Türkiye introduced a new regulation for buildings, as per which, any building which takes up space above 2,000 square meters will have to be B energy efficiency class. These large-sized buildings are stipulated to meet 5 per cent of energy that they consume from renewable resources.<sup>2438</sup>

On 25 January 2023, the Government prepared the National Energy Strategy until 2035 and Hydrogen Technologies Strategy and Roadmap, with the aim to achieve its 2053 net zero emissions goal.<sup>2439</sup> The share of renewable energy in primary energy consumption will reach 23.7 per cent in 2035, compared to 16.7 per cent from 2020. The capacity of electrolyzers producing hydrogen from clean energy will reach 2 GW in 2030, 5 GW in 2035, and 70 GW in 2053. The country intends to grow its power production capacity to 189.7 GW by 2035. New wind farms with a combined capacity of 20.8 GW will be installed, to bring total capacity to 29.6 GW in 2035. Hydropower is seen rising from 31 GW to 35.1 GW while geothermal and biomass facilities are envisaged to grow by 1.7 GW.<sup>2440</sup> Overall, Türkiye's installed capacity is expected to increase to 189.7 GW in 2035 (99.9 GW in 2021). Renewables will account for 74.3 per cent of the new power capacity that will be commissioned and will make up 64.7 per cent of Türkiye's total installed capacity by 2035 (54 per cent in 2021).

On 28 April 2023, Türkiye has joined the club of nuclear power countries with the nuclear fuel delivery into the first power unit of the Akkuyu power plant.<sup>2441</sup> Akkuyu nuclear power plant, Türkiye's first nuclear power plant, is being built by Russia's state nuclear energy company Rosatom in Mersin province on the southern Mediterranean coastline.

On 2 May 2023, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan officially inaugurated what is said to be Europe's biggest solar power plant built on a single site and one of the five largest in the world.<sup>2442</sup> Türkiye has also discovered high-quality petroleum in southeastern Anatolia with a daily production capacity of 100,000 barrels.

On 4 May 2023, Türkiye introduced subsidies for wave, tidal energy, offshore wind.<sup>2443</sup> In the updated Renewable Energy Resources Support Mechanism, Türkiye included wave and tidal energy facilities and offshore wind farms for the first time.

Turkey has partially complied with the commitment to achieve SDG7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. Türkiye has taken strong actions on implementing many clean energy projects to provide energy transition, but no action aimed to increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix and double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency was taken.

Thus, Türkiye receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

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<sup>2438</sup> Turkey to impose new energy efficiency regulations on buildings, the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (Lakewood) 3 January 2023. Access date: 30 April 2023. <https://ieefa.org/articles/turkey-impose-new-energy-efficiency-regulations-buildings>

<sup>2439</sup> Turkey's National Energy Plan for 2035 will boost solar and wind capacities, Ener Data (Grenoble Cedex) 5 January 2023. Access date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.enerdata.net/publications/daily-energy-news/turkeys-national-energy-plan-2035-will-boost-solar-and-wind-capacities.html>

<sup>2440</sup> Turkey presents energy, hydrogen strategies to meet 2053 net zero target, Balkan Green Energy News (Belgrade) 25 January 2023. Access date: 30 April 2023. <https://balkangreenenergynews.com/turkey-presents-energy-hydrogen-strategies-to-meet-2053-net-zero-target/>

<sup>2441</sup> Türkiye joins nuclear power club with Akkuyu plant: Erdogan, Energy World (Manila) 28 April 2023. Access date: 13 June 2023. <https://energy.economicstimes.indiatimes.com/news/power/Türkiye-joins-nuclear-power-club-with-akkuyu-plant-erdogan/99837162>

<sup>2442</sup> Türkiye officially launches Europe's largest solar power plant, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 2 May 2023. Access date: 13 June 2023. <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/energy/turkiye-officially-launches-europes-largest-solar-power-plant>

<sup>2443</sup> Türkiye introduces subsidies for wave, tidal energy, offshore wind, Balkan Green Energy News (Belgrade) 4 May 2023. Access date: 13 June 2023. <https://balkangreenenergynews.com/Türkiye-introduces-subsidies-for-wave-tidal-energy-offshore-wind/>

## United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 28 November 2022, Business and Energy Secretary Grant Shapps launched a government push to help millions of people across the country bring down their energy costs for this winter and beyond.<sup>2444</sup> It is part of wider action across energy policy to help the UK meet its ambition of becoming energy independent.

On 28 November 2022, the Government over GBP32 million government funding had been awarded to UK projects developing cutting-edge innovative energy storage technologies that could help increase the resilience of the UK's electricity grid while also maximising value for money.<sup>2445</sup> Five projects based across the UK would benefit from a share of over GBP32 million in the second phase of the Longer Duration Energy Storage competition, to develop technologies that can store energy as heat, electricity or as a low-carbon energy carrier like hydrogen.

On 29 November 2022, Secretary Shapps launched a landmark package to invest now to help secure Britain's energy independence.<sup>2446</sup>

On 29 November 2022, the UK Government was attending the first Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee meeting in Uruguay to kickstart negotiations on the new, landmark legally binding treaty that aims to end plastic pollution by 2040.<sup>2447</sup> The first meeting allowed the UK, alongside other United Nations member countries, to assert their initial negotiating position, set the direction of discussions and reinforce the treaty's overarching objective: to bring an end to plastic pollution globally.

On 9 December 2022, the UK secured fishing catch limits worth GBP202 million to the UK fishing industry, a GBP33 million increase from last year, after reaching an agreement with Norway and the EU.<sup>2448</sup> Negotiating as an independent coastal State, the UK agreed catch levels for 2023 for six important fish stocks in the North Sea including North Sea cod, haddock and herring.

On 13 December 2022, the UK government announced new funding to support clean energy production in the UK. Funding included GBP77 million to bolster nuclear fuel production and support the development of the next generation of advanced nuclear reactors, along with GBP25 million for technologies that can produce hydrogen from sustainable biomass and waste, while removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.<sup>2449</sup>

On 17 December 2022, the GBP18 million "It All Adds Up" energy saving campaign was launched by the Government.<sup>2450</sup> It would raise public awareness of straightforward actions that people can take to cut their bills by bringing down the amount of energy needed to keep their homes warm.

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<sup>2444</sup> Government joins with households to help millions reduce their energy bills, The UK Government 28 November 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-joins-with-households-to-help-millions-reduce-their-energy-bills>

<sup>2445</sup> Energy storage backed with over GBP32 million government funding, The UK Government 28 November 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/energy-storage-backed-with-over-32-million-government-funding>

<sup>2446</sup> UK government takes major steps forward to secure Britain's energy independence, The UK Government 29 November 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-takes-major-steps-forward-to-secure-britains-energy-independence>

<sup>2447</sup> Negotiations officially underway to achieve far-reaching global plastic treaty, The UK Government 29 November 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/negotiations-officially-underway-to-achieve-far-reaching-global-plastic-treaty>

<sup>2448</sup> UK reaches agreement on key fish stocks for 2023, The UK Government 9 December 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-reaches-agreement-on-key-fish-stocks-for-2023>

<sup>2449</sup> GBP102 million government backing for nuclear and hydrogen innovation in the UK, The UK Government 13 December 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/102-million-government-backing-for-nuclear-and-hydrogen-innovation-in-the-uk>

<sup>2450</sup> Small changes mean energy advice campaign adds up to big savings, The UK Government 17 December 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/small-changes-mean-energy-advice-campaign-adds-up-to-big-savings>

On 21 December 2022, Natural England launched a new scheme in Cumbria to help conserve local populations of great crested newts while promoting sustainable development.<sup>2451</sup> The new “District Level Licensing” scheme would help create and restore a network of ponds providing vital habitat for the great crested newt across the county. The scheme would help join up isolated populations and help them to thrive.

On 5 January 2023, Farming Minister Mark Spencer announced more money for farmers and landowners through both the Countryside Stewardship and the Sustainable Farming Incentive schemes, which would provide more support to the industry and drive uptake at a time of rising costs for farmers as a result of global challenges.<sup>2452</sup> He also confirmed an expanded range of actions under the schemes, which farmers could be paid for, would be published soon.

On 13 January 2023, the UK and the United Arab Emirates governments have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which will help facilitate the sharing of technical knowledge, advice, skills and expertise, opening up new avenues for cooperation on energy and climate, while boosting jobs and investment in the UK.<sup>2453</sup> The Clean Energy MoU, which was signed by the Secretary Shapps and the UAE Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, His Excellency Suhail Mohammed Al Mazrouei, during the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, will further reinforce the robust economic links between the two countries developed in the countries’ 2018 MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Energy.

On 17 January 2023, the Electric Vehicle Smart Charging Action Plan was published by the government and Ofgem.<sup>2454</sup> It set out steps being taken to seize on the significant potential of smart charging and make it the preferred method of long duration charging by 2025.

On 2 February 2023, Ambassador for Honduras Nick Whittingham held a meeting in Tegucigalpa with the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Eduardo Enrique Reina, to sign a Memorandum of Understanding, which formalises the cooperation between both governments to implement the Biodiverse Landscapes Fund. The Biodiverse Landscapes Fund is a programme developed by the United Kingdom’s Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (Defra) which will deliver poverty reduction, biodiversity protection and conservation, and climate change mitigation and adaptation outcomes across six biologically diverse landscapes worldwide.

On 1 March 2023, the Government signed an MoU with Singapore establishing the Green Economy Framework.<sup>2455</sup> Building on the successful UK-Singapore Free Trade Agreement and Digital Economy Agreement, the innovative UK-Singapore Green Economy Framework combines elements of climate, economic and trade policy. This will enable both countries to achieve national decarbonisation targets in alignment with the Paris Agreement while enhancing energy security and promoting green growth through new investment, job creation and export opportunities. This collaboration will take place across three key pillars: green transport, low carbon energy technologies, and sustainable finance and carbon markets.<sup>2456</sup>

On 6 March 2023, the UK and Canada agreed on a landmark agreement to co-operate on critical minerals such as cobalt and lithium that are essential to the economy and used in almost all modern and green

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<sup>2451</sup> Innovative licencing scheme to protect wildlife and promote sustainable development launched in Cumbria, The UK Government 21 December 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/innovative-licencing-scheme-to-protect-wildlife-and-promote-sustainable-development-launched-in-cumbria>

<sup>2452</sup> Government to pay more to farmers who protect and enhance the environment, The UK Government 5 January 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-pay-more-to-farmers-who-protect-and-enhance-the-environment>

<sup>2453</sup> UK and United Arab Emirates agree to boost energy security and unlock investment, The UK Government 13 January 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-united-arab-emirates-agree-to-boost-energy-security-and-unlock-investment>

<sup>2454</sup> New plan for smart electric vehicle (EV) charging could save consumers up to GBP1000 a year, The UK Government 17 January 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-plan-for-smart-electric-vehicle-ev-charging-could-save-consumers-up-to-1000-a-year>

<sup>2455</sup> Honduras and the United Kingdom sign a MOU to implement the Biodiverse Landscapes Fund, The UK Government 2 February 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/honduras-and-the-united-kingdom-sign-a-mou-to-implement-the-biodiverse-landscapes-fund>

<sup>2456</sup> UK and Singapore Ink New Green Economy Framework, Bolstering Energy and Climate Collaboration, The UK Government 1 March 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-singapore-ink-new-green-economy-framework-bolstering-energy-and-climate-collaboration>

technologies, from solar panels to electric vehicles.<sup>2457</sup> The partnership, to be launched by Business and Trade Minister Nusrat Ghani MP and Canadian Minister of Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson, will help make UK manufacturers of cutting-edge technologies more resilient to global shocks by promoting research and development between UK and Canadian businesses, driving innovation and growth.

On 22 March 2023, speaking at the first UN High-Level Conference on Water in 40 years, UK Climate and Environment Minister, Lord Goldsmith announced new support to improve the quality of water supply, and sanitation and hygiene services in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>2458</sup> GBP18.5 million in UK funding will help provide safe, reliable, and affordable water supply sanitation and hygiene services that help prevent disease, protect people's health and safeguard the environment from pollution. It is a key part of the UK government's commitment to help end the preventable deaths of mothers, young children and infants.

On 20 April 2023, Environment Secretary Thérèse Coffey announced that developing countries will receive GBP4 million to phase out the use of chemicals found in refrigeration and cold supply chains.<sup>2459</sup> Funding will support climate-friendly technologies in developing countries that help reduce food and vaccine loss, as well as increase farming productivity. In particular, the funding will help deliver an African Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Cooling and Cold Chain – based in Kigali, Rwanda – which delivers training to farmers, healthcare workers and technicians to uptake more climate friendly and energy-efficient cooling.

On 24 April 2023, the Government presented the innovative project between the UK and the Netherlands aiming to boost collective energy security through new renewable energy and interconnector by the world's largest multi-use electricity power line that will be built under the North Sea, boosting UK energy supplies with enough to power 1.8 million homes.<sup>2460</sup> This increased interconnectivity also means LionLink will be good both for the UK's coastal communities and the environment by reducing the need for further onshore construction and visible infrastructure, as well as lessening the impact on the North Sea's wildlife.

On 20 May 2023, Prime Minister Sunak has redoubled the UK's commitment which amounted to USD40 billion to help get the Sustainable Development Goals back on track for global infrastructure and economic development.<sup>2461</sup> Within the framework of G7 cooperation UK development finance institution confirms first investment in the Indo-Pacific region.

On 3 August 2023, the Energy Security Secretary announced a GBP22 million increase in government backing for renewables through the flagship Contracts for Difference scheme – taking the total budget to GBP227 million for this auction.<sup>2462</sup> Funding increase budget by GBP20 million for established technologies such as solar and offshore wind and by GBP2 million for emerging technologies such as floating offshore wind.

The United Kingdom has taken actions on all five SDG7 targets and adopted policies that helped bridge existing gaps in energy access and eradicate energy poverty.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nikita Shilikov*

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<sup>2457</sup> UK and Canada sign agreement to boost green tech supply chains, The UK Government 6 March 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-canada-sign-agreement-to-boost-green-tech-supply-chains>

<sup>2458</sup> UK announces new support for improving access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene in Asia and Africa, The UK Government 22 March 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-new-support-for-improving-access-to-safe-water-sanitation-and-hygiene-in-asia-and-africa>

<sup>2459</sup> Funding to help developing countries phase out use of damaging climate gases announced, The UK Government 20 April 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-to-help-developing-countries-phase-out-use-of-damaging-climate-gases-announced>

<sup>2460</sup> World's largest-of-its-kind power line to deliver clean power to 1.8 million UK homes and boost energy security, The UK Government 24 April 2023 Access Date: 27 June 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/worlds-largest-of-its-kind-power-line-to-deliver-clean-power-to-18m-uk-homes-and-boost-energy-security>

<sup>2461</sup> UK to mobilise \$40 billion for global infrastructure investment, The UK Government 20 May 2023 Access Date: 27 June 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-mobilise-40-billion-for-global-infrastructure-investment>

<sup>2462</sup> Energy security boost with multi-million backing for renewables, The UK Government (London) 3 August 2023 Access Date: 24 August 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/energy-security-boost-with-multi-million-backing-for-renewables>

**United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 1 December 2022, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a multi-part proposal that would build on the strong foundation for the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program started in the Biden-Harris Administration and sought to advance the priorities of energy security, less pollution, and consumer protection.<sup>2463</sup> The RFS "Set" proposal requested public input on required volumes of biofuel for the next one to three years and on a series of important modifications to strengthen and expand the program.

On 9 December 2022, the EPA along with other federal agencies, released their annual Sustainability Plans.<sup>2464</sup> The EPA continued to build on the progress toward achieving sustainability goals. As of the end of the 2021 fiscal year, it had made substantial progress for its facilities and operations in the following areas: 1) 55 per cent reduction in scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions from a 2008 baseline; 2) 41 per cent reduction in energy consumption from a 2003 baseline; and 3) 43.5 per cent reduction in water consumption from a 2007 baseline.

On 10 July 2023, Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland announced the availability of nearly USD660 million in grant funding to clean up legacy pollution through President Biden's Investing in America agenda.<sup>2465</sup> These resources aimed to create good-paying jobs, catalyze economic growth and revitalization, reduce harmful methane leaks – which is one of the major drivers of the climate crisis – and reduce environmental and public health risks to surface water and groundwater resources critical to U.S. communities and ecosystems.

On 2 August 2023, the EPA announced the availability of USD115 million in grant funding for projects that cut harmful pollution from the nation's existing fleet of older diesel engines.<sup>2466</sup> Under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act grant funding competition, EPA anticipates making 4-10 awards in each of EPA's ten regions to eligible applicants.

The United States has partially complied with the commitment to achieve SDG7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty. The United States has taken several important actions on achieving SDG7 targets by updating national sustainability plans. However, there were not enough events and measures aimed at completing all five SDG7 targets.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

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**European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7's targets and strive to close the gaps in energy access and to eradicate energy poverty.

On 19 January 2023, the European Union representatives signed an agreement with 16 green project leaders, granting the EUR1.8 billion through the Innovation Fund. According to the European Commission, these projects are to "help avoid about 125 million tonnes of CO2 emissions in the first 10

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<sup>2463</sup> EPA Takes Next Steps in Renewable Fuel Standard Program for 2023-25, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) December 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-takes-next-steps-renewable-fuel-standard-program-2023-25>

<sup>2464</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Celebrates First Year Accomplishments Under President Biden's Federal Sustainability Plan, the US Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2022. Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-celebrates-first-year-accomplishments-under-president>

<sup>2465</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Invests \$660 Million for States to Plug Orphaned Oil and Gas Wells through President's Investing in America Agenda, The U.S. Department of Interior (Washington D.C.) 10 July 2023 Access Date: 25 August 2023 <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-invests-660-million-states-plug-orphaned-oil-and-gas-wells>

<sup>2466</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces Availability of \$115 Million in Grants to Cut Harmful Diesel Engine Emissions, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 2 August 2023 Access Date: 25 August 2023 <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-availability-115-million-grants-cut-harmful>



years of operation.”<sup>2467</sup> The projects focus on innovative low-carbon technologies, such as green hydrogen and synthetic sustainable aviation fuel, and methanol production from renewable hydrogen.

On 21 February 2023, the European Commission published the Communication on the Energy Transition of the EU Fisheries and Aquaculture sector.<sup>2468</sup> The Commission proposed to reduce dependency on fossil fuels and aim towards climate neutral fisheries and aquaculture sector. In particular the communication included measures to support the sector in accelerating its energy transition, by improving fuel efficiency and switching to renewable, low-carbon power sources. The Commission plans to “bring together multiple stakeholders, including in fisheries, aquaculture, shipbuilding, ports, energy, NGOs [non-governmental organizations], national and regional authorities, to collectively address the challenges of the sector’s energy transition.”

On 1 March 2023, the European Clean Hydrogen Alliance, set up in July 2020 to support the large-scale deployment of clean hydrogen technologies by 2030, published the Roadmap on Hydrogen Standardisation.<sup>2469</sup> The Roadmap presents an overview of standardisation gaps, challenges and needs for the hydrogen value chain, from production, distribution, transport, and storage to end-use applications. The document also includes recommendations on streamlining and accelerating the process of setting European standards. This information is to inform the work of the European Commission as well as the national standardisation bodies.

On 14 March 2023, the European Commission proposed a reform to the EU’s electricity market design in order to accelerate renewables deployment and the phase-out gas, reduce dependency on fossil fuel prices, better protect consumers from future price spikes and potential market manipulation, and make the EU’s industry clean and more competitive.<sup>2470</sup> These objectives are to be completed through providing incentives for longer-term contracts with non-fossil power producers and bringing “more clean flexible solutions into the system to compete with gas, such as demand response and storage.” The Commission also envisaged measures to protect and empower vulnerable consumers from sudden price spikes – as such, consumers will be allowed to invest in renewables generation and sell excess rooftop solar electricity to neighbors.

On 4 April 2023, the European Commission announced the “Declaration on EU Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) 2030: Research & Innovation, Education & Training.”<sup>2471</sup> The goal of the initiative is to ensure EU leadership and strategic independence with regards to SMRs development, production and deployment. According to the European Commission, the SMRs offer a “promising option to replace old coal power plants and to complement the penetration of renewables.”

On 18 April 2023, the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency launched a call for proposals for cross-border EU energy infrastructure projects of common interest to be co-financed through grants worth EUR750 million from the EU budget.<sup>2472</sup> These projects of common interest represent the infrastructure projects aimed at achieving the EU’s energy policy and climate goals of ensuring universally affordable, secure and sustainable energy, as well as the long-term decarbonisation of the economy.

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<sup>2467</sup> Innovation Fund: grant agreements signed with further 16 innovative large-scale projects, European Council (Brussels) 19 January 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. [https://climate.ec.europa.eu/news-your-voice/news/innovation-fund-grant-agreements-signed-further-16-innovative-large-scale-projects-2023-01-19\\_en](https://climate.ec.europa.eu/news-your-voice/news/innovation-fund-grant-agreements-signed-further-16-innovative-large-scale-projects-2023-01-19_en).

<sup>2468</sup> Communication from the Commission: On the Energy Transition of the EU Fisheries and Aquaculture sector, European Commission (Brussels) 21 February 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. [https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/publications/communication-commission-energy-transition-eu-fisheries-and-aquaculture-sector\\_en](https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/publications/communication-commission-energy-transition-eu-fisheries-and-aquaculture-sector_en)

<sup>2469</sup> European Clean Hydrogen Alliance roadmap on standardization, European Commission (Brussels) 1 March 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. <https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/53721>.

<sup>2470</sup> Commission proposes reform of the EU electricity market design to boost renewables, better protect consumers and enhance industrial competitiveness, European Commission (Brussels) 14 March 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_23\\_1591](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_23_1591).

<sup>2471</sup> Commission Declaration on ‘EU Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) 2030: Research & Innovation, Education & Training’, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/commission-declaration-eu-small-modular-reactors-smrs-2030-research-innovation-education-training-2023-04-04\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/commission-declaration-eu-small-modular-reactors-smrs-2030-research-innovation-education-training-2023-04-04_en).

<sup>2472</sup> CEF Energy launches €750 million call for energy infrastructure projects, European Commission (Brussels) 18 April 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. [https://inea.ec.europa.eu/news-events/news/cef-energy-launches-eu750-million-call-energy-infrastructure-projects-2023-04-18\\_en](https://inea.ec.europa.eu/news-events/news/cef-energy-launches-eu750-million-call-energy-infrastructure-projects-2023-04-18_en)

On 18 April 2023, the European Parliament approved the legislation on the “Fit for 55 in 2030 package” - the European Union’s plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55 per cent by 2030 compared to 1990 levels, including the introduction of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, the regulation of the emissions from maritime transport and aviation, as well as an institution of the EU Social Climate Fund.<sup>2473</sup> This Fund is to ensure that the climate transition will be fair and socially inclusive, through target support to Vulnerable households, micro-enterprises and transport users.

On 24 April 2023, the European Union and Norway signed an agreement establishing a Green Alliance, aimed at strengthening “joint climate action, environmental protection efforts, and cooperation on the clean energy and industrial transition.”<sup>2474</sup> According to the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, the alliance provides for a deeper cooperation between the two parties on reducing emissions, protecting nature, decarbonising energy systems, and greening industries.

On 8 June 2023, the European Union’s Modernisation Fund disbursed EUR2.4 billion to 31 projects in seven beneficiary countries to help modernise their energy systems, reduce greenhouse gas emissions in energy, industry and transport, and improve energy efficiency.<sup>2475</sup> Supported projects focus on renewable electricity generation, modernisation of energy networks and energy efficiency.

On 5 July 2023, the European Commission adopted a package of measures for a sustainable use of key natural resources.<sup>2476</sup> A soil monitoring law will put the EU on a pathway to healthy soils by 2050, by gathering data on the health of soils and making it available to farmers and other soil managers. The law also makes sustainable soil management the norm and addresses situations of unacceptable health and environment risks due to soil contamination.

On 31 July 2023, the European Commission adopted the European Sustainability Reporting Standards for use by all companies subject to the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive.<sup>2477</sup> The standards cover the full range of environmental, social, and governance issues, including climate change, biodiversity and human rights. They also take account of discussions with the International Sustainability Standards Board and the Global Reporting Initiative in order to ensure a very high degree of interoperability between EU and global standards and to prevent unnecessary double reporting by companies.

During the monitoring period the European Union has taken actions to achieve all five SDG7 targets.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

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<sup>2473</sup> Fit for 55: Parliament adopts key laws to reach 2030 climate target, European Parliament (Brussels) 18 April 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20230414IPR80120/fit-for-55-parliament-adopts-key-laws-to-reach-2030-climate-target>.

<sup>2474</sup> European Green Deal: New EU-Norway Green Alliance to deepen cooperation on climate, environment, energy and clean industry, European Commission (Brussels) 24 April 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_23\\_2391](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_23_2391).

<sup>2475</sup> European Green Deal: EU Modernisation Fund invests €2.4 billion to accelerate the green transition in seven EU countries, European Council (Brussels) 7 June 2023. Access Date: 17 June 2023. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2023/06/07/european-green-deal-council-agrees-for-industrial-installations-to-provide-better-data-on-their-environmental-emissions/>

<sup>2476</sup> European Green Deal: more sustainable use of plant and soil natural resources, European Commission (Brussels) 5 July 2023. Access Date: 22 August 2023. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_23\\_3565](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_3565)

<sup>2477</sup> Daily News 31 / 07 / 2023, European Commission (Brussels) 1 July 2023.. Access Date: 22 August 2023. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/mex\\_23\\_4044](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/mex_23_4044)