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May 18, 2015

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Australia Top 20 for Renewable Electricity & Carbon Intensity, Growing Economy Faster than GHGs, Ranks Near Bottom for GHGs Per Capita, Energy & Electricity Use

New Report Ranks Countries by Energy, Economy and GHG Emissions

Report charts historic worldwide shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy

SAN FRANCISCO—In advance of the historic United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris this year, a new report for the first time analyzes and ranks the economic and energy performance of the world's 50 largest greenhouse gas (GHG) emitting nations, including Australia.

Next 10's [Green Innovation Index, International Edition](#) charts country GDP, emissions, energy productivity, renewable energy generation, clean tech investments and other key metrics. Australia ranks poorly in terms of emissions per capita and energy use, but the nation is growing its economy faster than the rate its emissions are growing.

“Some of the world's largest economies are now decoupling economic growth and energy use, actually growing their GDPs while shrinking their carbon footprints. Last year marked the first time we've been able to say conclusively that a drop in global carbon emissions was caused by something other than an economic downturn,” said F. Noel Perry, businessman and founder of the nonpartisan nonprofit group Next 10 (www.Next10.org).

In observance of [Climate Week Paris](#) and on the eve of the [Business & Climate Summit](#) at UNESCO headquarters, Perry will present the new report findings Tuesday to an international audience including business and government leaders and journalists at a reception at the Hotel de Talleyrand in Paris.

Report highlights about Australia include:

- #17 for GHG emissions from energy use.
- #18 for carbon intensity (GHGs per GDP).
- #19 for total renewable electricity generation.
- Ranks near bottom for GHG emissions per capita (#45), energy consumption per capita (#43), electricity per capita ranking (#45), and high coal consumption (6.8 short tons consumed per person in 2012).
- Emissions growing at a slower rate than GDP (+21 percent MMTCO₂e/person v. 53 percent GDP/person 1990-2012).

“This year's *Green Innovation Index, International Edition* tracks a clear shift to clean energy around the world. Although fossil fuels still represent a significant portion of our



overall energy use, many analysts believe we have reached an important tipping point—globally, we are now adding more capacity for renewable power annually than fossil fuels,” said Doug Henton, chairman and CEO of Collaborative Economics, which compiled the *Index* for Next 10.

The Green Innovation Index, International Edition shows how this transition is playing out for the world’s top 50 emitters of greenhouse gases. Among these nations, plus California:

- Spain, Germany, Italy, California, Philippines, EU, Belgium, Netherlands, U.K. and Greece have the greatest share of electricity from renewable sources among top emitters (in order).
- France leads the world in lowest carbon intensity; Uzbekistan is highest (GHG per GDP).
- U.S. (with California), EU, Japan, South Korea, Germany, California, China, Taiwan, France and U.K. (in order) are top ten in clean tech patents (2014).
- U.S. (with California), California, EU, China, U.K., Singapore, France, Canada, India and Israel (in order) are top ten in clean technology venture capital (2014).
- Clean tech venture capital investment grew in China (135 percent), California (153 percent), U.S. with California (74 percent), U.K. (34 percent), Singapore (5677 percent) and worldwide (63 percent) from 2013-2014.
- Clean tech venture capital investment declined in EU (-10 percent), France (-43 percent), Canada (-19 percent), India (-4 percent) and Israel (-11 percent) from 2013-14.
- U.S. clean tech VC investment grew 74 percent (2013-14), California 153 percent, EU decreased 10 percent.
- Nigeria has the lowest emissions per capita, energy and electricity use per capita and highest energy productivity (GDP per energy unit). From 1990-2012 energy per capita decreased nearly 26 percent.
- China, U.S., EU, India, Russia, Japan, Germany, South Korea, Iran and Saudi Arabia are the top ten emitters from energy consumption (in order).
- U.S. cut GHG emissions per person by 17 percent (1990-2012), while China increased emissions per person by 222 percent.
- After U.S. and EU, Japan, South Korea, Germany, and California lead the world in clean tech patents.
- France, California and Italy have lowest carbon intensive economies in the world.
- Nigeria, Italy, Japan, U.K. and California lead the world in energy productivity (dollars generated per unit of energy).
- China, U.S. (with California), EU, India, Russia, Germany, South Africa, Japan, Australia and Poland are top ten coal consumers in the world.

This week marks the kick off of Climate Week in Paris—a historic gathering of worldwide business and policy leaders. Through events like the Business & Climate Summit at UNESCO offices in Paris, leaders will highlight business and policy solutions for



decarbonizing the economy. These events come in the wake of the International Energy Agency's announcement suggesting that the process of decoupling economic growth from GHG emissions is already underway, since the global economy grew in 2014 but carbon emissions did not. The Business & Climate Summit is one of a string of international events building momentum towards a climate agreement at a key UN Climate Summit to be held later this year, also in Paris.

Share *Index* findings on Twitter:

- Wrong way? Australia increased per capita GHG #emissions since 1990 #GII CleanFact www.next10.org/international
- Greenhouse Guzzlers: Australia passed U.S. in per capita emissions #GII CleanFact www.next10.org/international
- Aussies have one of highest per capita coal consumption rates globally #GII CleanFact www.next10.org/international

About Next 10

Next 10 is an independent, nonpartisan organization that educates, engages and empowers Californians to improve the state's future. With a focus on the intersection between the economy, the environment, and quality of life, Next 10 employs research from leading experts on complex state issues and creates a portfolio of nonpartisan educational materials to foster a deeper understanding of the critical issues affecting our state.

About Collaborative Economics,

Collaborative Economics (www.coecon.com), which compiled the data for the Green Innovation Index, is a Silicon Valley-based research and consulting organization. CoEcon works with businesses, foundations, government, education, and community sectors to do leading edge innovation and clean economy analysis for states and regions across the country.