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The G7 Research Group presents the

2020 G7 USA Virtual Summit Interim Compliance Report

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,
in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit



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17. Global Economy: Restoring Growth

“In facing the economic challenge, we are determined not only to restore the level of growth anticipated before the COVID-19 pandemic[.]”

G7 Leaders’ Statement

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average		0 (50%)	

Background

Economic growth has been on the agenda of the G7 since its inception in 1975, when leaders stated that “[t]he growth and stability of our economies will help the entire industrial world and developing countries to prosper.”²⁹⁷² Growth has never been as difficult since then as now, however, in light of projections that the COVID-19 pandemic will lead to a contraction of 5.2 per cent.²⁹⁷³ This is in contrast to the International Monetary Fund (IMF)’s projections before the pandemic, which predicted in January 2020 a global growth rate of 3.3 per cent for 2020.²⁹⁷⁴ Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought into greater light the deep inequalities in economic growth and prospects among countries around the world: according to the World Bank, in 2020, the pandemic is estimated to push 88 to 115 million people into extreme poverty (defined as living on less than USD1.90 daily) with that number potentially rising to 150 million by 2021.²⁹⁷⁵

Growth has been mentioned in a variety of contexts at recent G7 summits. On 8 June 2015, the Leaders’ Declaration at the G7 Schloss Elmau Summit stated a “pivotal goal of strong, sustainable and balanced growth as well as job creation,” which was to recur frequently at future summits.²⁹⁷⁶ More specifically, leaders stated that they “will foster growth by promoting education and innovation, protecting intellectual property rights, supporting private investment with a business friendly climate especially for small and medium-sized enterprises, ensuring an appropriate level of public investment, promoting quality infrastructure investment to address shortfalls through effective resource mobilization in partnership with the private sector and increasing productivity by further implementing ambitious structural reforms.”²⁹⁷⁷ Other drivers of growth

²⁹⁷² Declaration of Rambouillet, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 17 November 1975. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1975rambouillet/communique.html>.

²⁹⁷³ June 2020 Global Economic Prospects - Pandemic, Recession: The Global Economy in Crisis, The World Bank (Washington DC) 8 June 2020. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/global-economic-prospects>.

²⁹⁷⁴ January 2020 World Economic Outlook - Tentative Stabilization, Sluggish Recovery, International Monetary Fund (Washington DC) January 2020. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2020/01/20/weo-update-january2020>.

²⁹⁷⁵ COVID-19 to Add as Many as 150 Million Extreme Poor by 2021, The World Bank (Washington) 7 October 2020. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2020/10/07/covid-19-to-add-as-many-as-150-million-extreme-poor-by-2021>.

²⁹⁷⁶ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²⁹⁷⁷ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

cited include “women’s economic participation[, which] reduces poverty and inequality,” “resource efficiency, which [leaders] consider crucial for the competitiveness of industries,” and trade and investment.²⁹⁷⁸ Furthermore, leaders committed to putting “the protection of our climate, the promotion of health and the equal participation of all members of society ... at the centre of [their] growth agenda.”²⁹⁷⁹

On 27 May 2016, the G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration stated that its commitments across almost all areas in which commitments were made that year were “to contribute to achieve strong, sustainable and balanced growth.”²⁹⁸⁰ With regards to specific measures, leaders committed under the Global Economy heading to “further investment in areas conducive to economic growth, such as environment, energy, digital economy, human resource development, education, science and technology,” stating that “monetary policy alone cannot lead to strong, sustainable and balanced growth.”²⁹⁸¹ Additionally, as part of their commitment “to advancing structural reforms to boost growth, productivity and potential output and to leading by example in addressing structural challenges,” leaders stated that they “commit to advancing labor market participation by women, the youth and the elderly.”²⁹⁸²

On 27 May 2017, the G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué stated a commitment in its preamble to “improve knowledge and competences across all sectors and regions of our countries, by fostering innovation and new skills, by investing in fields such as education and training, as well as health, with a view to boosting economic growth and to improving people’s quality of life.”²⁹⁸³ Leaders stated that they “reaffirm [their] commitment to use all policy tools – monetary, fiscal and structural – individually and collectively to achieve strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.”²⁹⁸⁴ Specifically, they agreed to prioritize “high-quality investment, such as in infrastructures” as a way to use fiscal policy “flexibly to strengthen growth and job creation.”²⁹⁸⁵ Furthermore, they noted that “excessive inequality, also at the global level, undermines confidence and limits future growth potential.”²⁹⁸⁶ Trade, climate and energy, and innovation-related commitments were also connected to supporting growth.²⁹⁸⁷ In particular, the G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labour discussed three pillars to foster growth in light of the Next Production Revolution, which were innovation in production, development of knowledge-based capital and enabling infrastructure, and the promotion of more productive and equitable labour practices.²⁹⁸⁸

On 9 June 2018, the G7 Charlevoix Summit Communiqué affirmed a “responsibility of working together to stimulate sustainable economic growth that benefits everyone and, in particular, those most at risk of being

²⁹⁷⁸ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²⁹⁷⁹ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²⁹⁸⁰ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

²⁹⁸¹ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

²⁹⁸² G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

²⁹⁸³ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

²⁹⁸⁴ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

²⁹⁸⁵ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

²⁹⁸⁶ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

²⁹⁸⁷ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

²⁹⁸⁸ G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Date of Access: <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/action-plan.html>.

left behind.”²⁹⁸⁹ The communiqué outlined three key areas of focus: the need for strong policy tools to support market developments, promotion of “smart, sustainable and high-quality investments,” and the removal of barriers that hinder the participation of citizens in the global economy, particularly for women and marginalized communities.²⁹⁹⁰ The communiqué also presented the Charlevoix Commitment on Innovative Financing for Development, encouraging public and private investment to promote “economic growth in developing economies and foster greater equality of opportunity within and between countries.”²⁹⁹¹

While growth was not mentioned in the 26 August 2019 G7 Leaders’ Declaration, the Chair’s Summary of the 18 July 2019 G7 finance ministers and central bank governors stated that ministers and governors discussed ways of “continuing to address current risks in the global economy and the financial system to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth that generates widespread prosperity” and of “ensuring that the benefits of growth are more widely shared, fighting inequalities within countries as well as between advanced and developing countries.”^{2992,2993} More specifically, ministers and governors stated that “[f]iscal policy should be flexible and growth-friendly, while rebuilding buffers where needed and ensuring debt as a share of GDP [gross domestic product] is on a sustainable path” and “continued implementation of structural reforms will enhance our growth potential.”²⁹⁹⁴

On 3 March 2020, under the U.S. presidency, the G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors reaffirmed a “commitment to use all appropriate policy tools to achieve strong, sustainable growth.”²⁹⁹⁵ On 16 March 2020, G7 leaders met virtually to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, expecting to meet again for their regular summit scheduled for 10-12 June, but later postponed indefinitely. On 24 March G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors committed to “do whatever is necessary to restore confidence and economic growth and to protect jobs, businesses, and the resilience of the financial system.”²⁹⁹⁶ Ministers and bank governors stated in particular that “[t]he G7 is committed to deliver the fiscal effort necessary to help our economies rapidly recover and resume the path towards stronger and more sustainable economic growth.”²⁹⁹⁷

Commitment Features

Elements of the commitment requiring interpretation include “not only,” “restore,” “growth” and “anticipated before the COVID-19 pandemic.” “Growth” is understood to refer to increase in economic activity measured by GDP, and to “restore” is here understood to mean to achieve or equal despite the challenging circumstances experienced, in line with the Merriam-Webster definition of “to bring back to or put back into a former or original state.” The phrase “not only” indicates that parties commit to related action beyond restoring growth to what was anticipated, in which context the clause that immediately follows the

²⁹⁸⁹ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

²⁹⁹⁰ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

²⁹⁹¹ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

²⁹⁹² G7 Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-of-leaders.html>.

²⁹⁹³ Chair’s Summary: G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors’ Meeting, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 18 July 2019. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/finance/190718-summary.html>.

²⁹⁹⁴ Chair’s Summary: G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors’ Meeting, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 18 July 2019. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/finance/190718-summary.html>.

²⁹⁹⁵ Statement of G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 3 March 2020. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/finance/200303-coronavirus.html>.

²⁹⁹⁶ Statement of G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 24 March 2020. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/finance/200324-statement.html>.

²⁹⁹⁷ Statement of G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 24 March 2020. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/finance/200324-statement.html>.

commitment at hand is relevant, committing “also to build the foundation for stronger future growth.”²⁹⁹⁸ This suggests addressing longer-term drivers of growth is the related action intended.

The measure of growth “anticipated before the COVID-19 pandemic” used for analysis, then, is the January 2020 IMF World Economic Outlook projection. As the G7 Leaders’ Statement did not specify a set of projections, these projections were chosen for its data granularity for developed countries compared to the World Bank Global Economic Prospects and for its recency compared to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development’s last set of projections before the pandemic, which were in November 2019. In line with the one-year summit cycle assessment approach of the G7 Research Group, the growth levels of interest are those projected for 2020, which are 1.8 per cent for Canada, 1.3 per cent for France, 1.1 per cent for Germany, 0.5 per cent for Italy, 0.7 per cent for Japan, 1.4 per cent for the United Kingdom, two per cent for the United States, and 1.3 per cent for the euro area as a proxy for the European Union.²⁹⁹⁹

The commitment thus has two main components: one of achieving the growth projected before the pandemic, and another of acting to “build the foundation for stronger future growth.” The former is assessed using measured GDP, while the latter must be assessed based on several indicative areas due to the wide range of ways the G7 addresses growth as evidenced by past statements. As parties have repeatedly committed to using “all policy tools,” full compliance requires that parties act in every indicative area.

The indicative areas chosen are (i) promoting clean technology and infrastructure and (ii) increasing economic inclusion, including by strengthening the participation of women and marginalized groups and by promoting education and innovation. These respectively reflect recent G7 statements’ reiterated goals that growth be “sustainable” and “balanced.” Area (i) also addresses mentions of environment, climate, energy, resource efficiency, and infrastructure as drivers of growth, and examples of eligible actions include renewable energy and building efficiency spending of the sort categorized by the International Institute for Sustainable Development Energy Policy Tracker, which constitute particularly effective economic stimulus.³⁰⁰⁰ Area (ii) meanwhile addresses growth drivers such as digital economy, human resource development, education, science and technology, and labor market participation by women, the youth and the elderly.³⁰⁰¹ Eligible actions could include measures to provide innovative role models to school children and particularly girls, the particular effectiveness of which is borne out by much recent evidence.^{3002,3003} As past G7 statements have generally emphasized fiscal policy and structural reforms as drivers of growth, and both are considered strong forms of compliance, only strong examples of compliance such as government expenditure and regulatory/legal reform are counted in scoring. Examples of weak action, meanwhile, would include verbal reaffirmations in government communication with no concrete accompanying action. Negative compliance is not taken into account as the fact that parties have taken action to address long-term drivers of growth is not changed by, for example, investments in polluting infrastructure or measures that reduce equity in education.

²⁹⁹⁸ G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Date of Access: 13 December 2020.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>.

²⁹⁹⁹ January 2020 World Economic Outlook - Tentative Stabilization, Sluggish Recovery, International Monetary Fund (Washington DC) January 2020. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2020/01/20/weo-update-january2020>.

³⁰⁰⁰ Working Paper 20-02 - Will COVID-19 fiscal recovery packages accelerate or retard progress on climate change, Oxford Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment (Oxford) 4 May 2020. Date of Access: 13 December 2020.

<https://www.smithschool.ox.ac.uk/publications/wpapers/workingpaper20-02.pdf>.

³⁰⁰¹ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 13 December 2020.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

³⁰⁰² NBER Working Paper 25493 - Do Tax Cuts Produce More Einsteins? The Impacts of Financial Incentives vs. Exposure to Innovation on the Supply of Inventors, National Bureau of Economic Research (Cambridge MA) January 2019. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <https://www.nber.org/papers/w25493>.

³⁰⁰³ IZA Discussion Paper No. 13163 - Do Female Role Models Reduce the Gender Gap in Science? Evidence from French High Schools, Institute of Labor Economics (Bonn) April 2020. Date of Access: 13 December 2020. <http://ftp.iza.org/dp13163.pdf>.

To receive a score of +1, or full compliance, parties must reach the level of 2020 GDP growth projected by the IMF in January 2020 as well as take strong action to bolster both clean technology or infrastructure and economic inclusion. To receive a score of 0, or partial compliance, parties must either reach the projected level of growth or take strong action to bolster both drivers of long-term growth. Parties that do not reach the projected growth and fail to strongly address both drivers receive a score of -1, or no compliance.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does not reach the 2020 level of growth projected by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in January 2020 and has not taken strong action to promote clean technology/infrastructure and economic inclusion.
0	G7 member reaches the 2020 level of growth projected by the IMF in January 2020 OR has taken strong action to promote clean technology/infrastructure and economic inclusion.
+1	G7 member reaches the 2020 level of growth projected by the IMF in January 2020 AND has taken strong action to promote clean technology/infrastructure and economic inclusion.

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Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to restore the level of growth anticipated before the COVID-19 pandemic and go beyond.

On 17 April 2020, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau provided up to CAD750 million to create a new proposed Emissions Reduction Fund to address emissions in Canada's oil and gas sector, focusing on reducing methane.³⁰⁰⁴ Minister of Natural Resources Seamus O'Regan stated that "the Government of Canada continues to invest in emerging clean technologies that support the competitiveness of our forestry sector while creating a clean energy future."³⁰⁰⁵ The government further invested in clean technology in Alberta,³⁰⁰⁶ Quebec,³⁰⁰⁷ Prince Edward Island,³⁰⁰⁸ British Columbia,³⁰⁰⁹ Nunavut,³⁰¹⁰ Yukon,³⁰¹¹ Nova Scotia,³⁰¹² Saskatchewan,³⁰¹³ and Manitoba in the months that followed.³⁰¹⁴

³⁰⁰⁴ Prime Minister Announces New Support to Protect Canadian Jobs, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/04/17/prime-minister-announces-new-support-protect-canadian-jobs>.

³⁰⁰⁵ Canada Invests in Clean Technology Solutions in Quebec, Natural Resources Canada (Saguenay) 8 September 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/09/canada-invests-in-clean-technology-solutions-in-quebec.html>.

³⁰⁰⁶ Canada Invests in Clean Technology for Alberta's Natural Resources Sectors, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/07/canada-invests-in-clean-technology-for-albertas-natural-resources-sectors.html>.

³⁰⁰⁷ Canada Invests in Clean Technology Solutions in Quebec, Natural Resources Canada (Saguenay) 8 September 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/09/canada-invests-in-clean-technology-solutions-in-quebec.html>.

³⁰⁰⁸ Canada and Prince Edward Island Invest in New Transmission Line to Support Wind Energy Production, Infrastructure Canada (St. Louis) 23 July 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2020/07/canada-and-prince-edward-island-invest-in-new-transmission-line-to-support-wind-energy-production.html>.

³⁰⁰⁹ Canada and British Columbia Invest in Green Energy Solutions, Infrastructure Canada (Vancouver) 1 September 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2020/09/canada-and-british-columbia-invest-in-green-energy-solutions.html>.

³⁰¹⁰ Government of Canada Partners with Nunavut for Renewable and Energy-efficiency Projects, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Iqaluit) 20 August 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/08/government-of-canada-partners-with-nunavut-for-renewable-and-energy-efficiency-projects.html>.

³⁰¹¹ Government Invests in Clean Energy Initiatives in Yukon, Natural Resources Canada (Whitehorse) 22 September 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/09/government-invests-in-clean-energy-initiatives-in-yukon.html>.

On 18 June 2020, the Government of Canada invested CAD41.8 million in 10 Canadian clean technology small businesses through Sustainable Development Technology Canada, creating high-quality jobs to help Canada and the world tackle climate change.³⁰¹⁵ As Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry stated, cleantech companies “are helping to position Canada as a leader in an expanding market as investors and businesses seek sustainable growth.”³⁰¹⁶ The government continued to invest in cleantech innovation in the months followed, including investment in the Future of Youth with green jobs in the natural resources sectors,³⁰¹⁷ providing energy efficiency training for Canadians,³⁰¹⁸ implementing an infrastructure plan,³⁰¹⁹ supporting innovation and creating jobs in Quebec,³⁰²⁰ and Alberta to fight climate change.³⁰²¹

On 10 July 2020, the Government of Canada invested CAD770,000 to help Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro to build electric vehicle chargers across the province, in order to “create good, middle-class jobs and support Canada’s transition to a clean energy future by reducing pollution.”³⁰²² To reach the Government of Canada’s target of 100 per cent of passenger zero-emission vehicle sales by 2040, it invested in Oakville’s green public transit,³⁰²³ British Columbia’s electric vehicle network,³⁰²⁴ and built new electric vehicle chargers

³⁰¹² Canada Makes Historic Investments in Tidal Energy in Nova Scotia, Natural Resources Canada (Halifax) 5 November 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/11/canada-makes-historic-investments-in-tidal-energy-in-nova-scotia.html>.

³⁰¹³ Government of Canada Announces Support for Solar Projects in Two Saskatchewan First Nation Communities, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 16 December 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/12/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-solar-projects-in-two-saskatchewan-first-nation-communities.html>.

³⁰¹⁴ Government of Canada Announces Support for Manitoba Energy-efficiency Programs, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 29 January 2021. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/01/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-manitoba-energy-efficiency-programs.html>.

³⁰¹⁵ Government of Canada Invests in Forward-looking Clean Technology Start-ups, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 18 June 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2020/06/government-of-canada-invests-in-forward-looking-clean-technology-start-ups.html>.

³⁰¹⁶ Government of Canada Invests in Forward-looking Clean Technology Start-ups, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 18 June 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2020/06/government-of-canada-invests-in-forward-looking-clean-technology-start-ups.html>.

³⁰¹⁷ Investing in the Future of Youth With Green Jobs in the Natural Resources Sectors, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 19 June 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/06/investing-in-the-future-of-youth-with-green-jobs-in-the-natural-resources-sectors.html>.

³⁰¹⁸ Government of Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency Training for Canadians, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/07/government-of-canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-training-for-canadians.html>.

³⁰¹⁹ Prime Minister Announces Infrastructure Plan to Create Jobs and Grow the Economy, Canada Infrastructure Bank (Ottawa) 1 October 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://cib-bic.ca/en/the-canada-infrastructure-bank-announces-a-plan-to-create-jobs-and-grow-the-economy/>.

³⁰²⁰ Supporting Innovation for a Stronger Quebec Economy, Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions (Montreal) 13 July 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/economic-development-quebec-regions/news/2020/07/supporting-innovation-for-a-stronger-quebec-economy.html>.

³⁰²¹ Government of Canada Announces over \$100M to Spur Job Creation in Alberta and Fight Climate Change, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 2 November 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/11/government-of-canada-announces-over-100m-to-spur-job-creation-in-alberta-and-fight-climate-change.html>.

³⁰²² Canada Invests in Newfoundland and Labrador’s Electric Vehicle Network, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 10 July 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/07/canada-invests-in-newfoundland-and-labradors-electric-vehicle-network.html>.

³⁰²³ Canada and Ontario Invest in Modern, Green Public Transit for Residents of Oakville, Infrastructure Canada (Oakville) 29 July 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2020/07/canada-and-ontario-invest-in-modern-green-public-transit-for-residents-of-oakville.html>.

³⁰²⁴ Canada Invests in British Columbia’s Electric Vehicle Network, Natural Resources Canada (District of Summerland) 18 August 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/08/canada-invests-in-british-columbias-electric-vehicle-network.html>.

in certain regions of Ontario,^{3025,3026,3027} Quebec,³⁰²⁸ New Brunswick,³⁰²⁹ Newfoundland and Labrador,³⁰³⁰ and British Columbia.³⁰³¹

On 15 July 2020, the Government of Canada invested CAD470,923 in remote Ontario First Nations communities in order to support and enhance Indigenous youth participation in Canada's clean energy transition.³⁰³²

On 14 September 2020, the Government of Canada and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities invested in green communities in Alberta through the Green Municipal Fund.³⁰³³ In the months followed, the Government of Canada made similar investments in Quebec,³⁰³⁴ Nova Scotia,³⁰³⁵ New Brunswick,³⁰³⁶ Prince Edward Island,³⁰³⁷ British Columbia.³⁰³⁸

³⁰²⁵ New Electric Vehicle Chargers Coming to York Region, Natural Resources Canada (Toronto) 9 November 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/11/new-electric-vehicle-chargers-coming-to-york-region.html>.

³⁰²⁶ New Electric Vehicle Chargers Coming to Durham Region, Natural Resources Canada (Whitby) 27 November 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/11/new-electric-vehicle-chargers-coming-to-durham-region.html>.

³⁰²⁷ New Electric Vehicle Chargers Coming to the Pembroke Area, Natural Resources Canada (Pembroke) 10 December 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/12/new-electric-vehicle-chargers-coming-to-the-pembroke-area.html>.

³⁰²⁸ New Electric Vehicle Chargers Coming to Quebec and New Brunswick, Natural Resources Canada (Montreal) 24 November 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/11/new-electric-vehicle-chargers-coming-to-quebec-and-new-brunswick.html>.

³⁰²⁹ New Electric Vehicle Chargers Coming to Quebec and New Brunswick, Natural Resources Canada (Montreal) 24 November 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/11/new-electric-vehicle-chargers-coming-to-quebec-and-new-brunswick.html>.

³⁰³⁰ Canada Raising Awareness for Electric Vehicles in Newfoundland and Labrador, Natural Resources Canada (St. John's) 13 January 2021. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/01/canada-raising-awareness-for-electric-vehicles-in-newfoundland-and-labrador.html>.

³⁰³¹ Canada and British Columbia invest in Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in Surrey, Infrastructure Canada (Surrey) 19 January 2021. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/01/canada-and-british-columbia-invest-in-electric-vehicle-charging-stations-in-surrey.html>.

³⁰³² Canada Supports Youth and Indigenous Participation in Canada's Clean Energy Transition, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 15 July 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/07/canada-supports-youth-and-indigenous-participation-in-canadas-clean-energy-transition.html>.

³⁰³³ Sustainability Gets a Boost in Alberta with Federal Funding for Green Projects through FCM, Infrastructure Canada (Calgary) 14 September 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2020/09/sustainability-gets-a-boost-in-alberta-with-federal-funding-for-green-projects-through-fcm.html>.

³⁰³⁴ Canada and FCM invest in Green Communities in the Outaouais Region, Infrastructure Canada (Wakefield) 15 September 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2020/09/canada-and-fcm-invest-in-green-communities-in-the-outaouais-region.html>.

³⁰³⁵ Canada and FCM Invest in Green Communities in Nova Scotia, Infrastructure Canada (Kings County) 17 September 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2020/09/canada-and-fcm-invest-in-green-communities-in-nova-scotia.html>.

³⁰³⁶ Canada and FCM Invest in Green Communities in New Brunswick, Infrastructure Canada (New Brunswick) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2020/10/canada-and-fcm-invest-in-green-communities-in-new-brunswick.html>.

³⁰³⁷ Canada and FCM Invest in Green Infrastructure in Prince Edward Island, Infrastructure Canada (Summerside) 8 December 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2020/12/canada-and-fcm-invest-in-green-infrastructure-in-prince-edward-island.html>.

³⁰³⁸ Canada and FCM Support Seven Green Infrastructure Projects in B.C., Infrastructure Canada (Vancouver) 17 December 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2020/12/canada-and-fcm-support-seven-green-infrastructure-projects-in-bc.html>.

On 17 September 2020, the Government of Canada invested CAD1.6 million investment in innovative technology for the Canadian mining industry.³⁰³⁹ The project will develop a technology to provide near real-time measurements of the active clay content in oil sands and mine tailings in order to create a more sustainable mining industry.³⁰⁴⁰

On 17 September 2020, the Government of Canada announced the new Climate Action and Awareness Fund, which will invest CAD206 million in projects to reduce emissions across the country. The Fund will strengthen Canada's capacity to take climate action by empowering youth and communities and boosting climate science and research.³⁰⁴¹ The Government of Canada took similar action to raise awareness of climate change by supporting not-for-profit and educational organizations.³⁰⁴²

On 12 November 2020, the Government of Canada announced its contribution of nearly CAD2 million in funding and the Government of Quebec resolved to add more than CAD300,000 towards seven projects to support clean economic growth in Quebec.³⁰⁴³

On 15 December 2020, the Government of Canada drafted legislative proposals to expand support to businesses using zero-emission vehicles.³⁰⁴⁴

On 16 December 2020, the Government of Canada launched the Hydrogen Strategy for Canada with a federal investment of CAD1.5 billion in a Low-carbon and Zero-emissions Fuels Fund to increase the production and use of low-carbon fuels, including hydrogen.³⁰⁴⁵ The Strategy is designed to spur investment and partnerships to establish Canada as a global supplier of hydrogen, and to increase domestic production, which will transform Canada's energy sector.³⁰⁴⁶

On 21 January 2021, Canada was voted in as an official Member of Council for the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). It will serve a two-year term on the Council, ensuring cooperation and facilitating discussions on the global clean energy future among the 163 member countries. As Minister of Natural Resources Seamus O'Regan Jr. stated, "the Government of Canada is committed to a fair and inclusive clean-

³⁰³⁹ Canada Invests in Innovative Technology for the Canadian Mining Industry, Natural Resources Canada (Saskatoon) 17 September 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/09/canada-invests-in-innovative-technology-for-the-canadian-mining-industry.html>.

³⁰⁴⁰ Canada Invests in Innovative Technology for the Canadian Mining Industry, Natural Resources Canada (Saskatoon) 17 September 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/09/canada-invests-in-innovative-technology-for-the-canadian-mining-industry.html>.

³⁰⁴¹ New \$206 million Climate Action and Awareness Fund to Support Youth, Scientists, and Researchers Across Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Vancouver) 17 September 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/09/new-206-million-climate-action-and-awareness-fund-to-support-youth-scientists-and-researchers-across-canada.html>.

³⁰⁴² Government of Canada Supports Climate Action by Not-for-profit and Educational Organizations, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/10/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-not-for-profit-and-educational-organizations.html>.

³⁰⁴³ Government of Canada Announces Nearly \$2 Million in Funding for Projects to Adopt Clean Tech in Quebec's Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Quebec) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2020/11/government-of-canada-announces-nearly-2-million-in-funding-for-projects-to-adopt-clean-tech-in-quebecs-fisheries-and-aquaculture-sector.html>.

³⁰⁴⁴ Government Publishes Draft Legislative Proposals Expanding Support to Businesses Using Zero-Emission Vehicles, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 15 December 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/12/government-publishes-draft-legislative-proposals-expanding-support-to-businesses-using-zero-emission-vehicles.html>.

³⁰⁴⁵ Minister O'Regan Launches Hydrogen Strategy for Canada, Natural Resources Canada (St. John's) 16 December 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/12/minister-oregan-launches-hydrogen-strategy-for-canada.html>.

³⁰⁴⁶ Minister O'Regan Launches Hydrogen Strategy for Canada, Natural Resources Canada (St. John's) 16 December 2020. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/12/minister-oregan-launches-hydrogen-strategy-for-canada.html>.

energy transition. Our mission remains aligned with IRENA's: a global economy that continues to grow, net-zero emissions by 2050 and an energy future that leaves no one behind."³⁰⁴⁷

On 2 February 2021, the Government of Canada launched an initiative named "The 50 – 30 Challenge: Your Diversity Advantage" to improve access for racialized persons, people who identify as LGBTQ2, people living with disabilities, as well as First Nations, Inuit and Métis to positions of influence and leadership on corporate boards and in senior management. The goal of the program is to challenge Canadian organizations to increase the representation and inclusion of diverse groups within their workplace.³⁰⁴⁸

On 3 February 2021, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Catherine McKenna wrote a Statement of Priorities and Accountabilities to Tamara Vrooman, Chairperson of the Board of the Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB). The statement called on the CIB to prioritize activities in five areas: public transit, green infrastructure, trade and transport, broadband, and clean power.³⁰⁴⁹ The CIB implemented Growth Plan that aimed to invest CAD10 billion over the next three years in strategic initiatives that help grow the economy, create jobs and support Canada's climate goals. To support Indigenous communities, the Government set a target for CIB to invest at least CAD1 billion to develop infrastructure in Indigenous communities.³⁰⁵⁰

On 5 February 2021, the Government of Canada invested CAD24,000 in Bonduelle Canada Inc., to reduce energy costs and improve energy efficiency as part of the Government's efforts to advance a low-carbon energy future.³⁰⁵¹

On 8 February 2021, the Government of Canada launched the engagement phase in the development of Canada's Blue Economy Strategy.³⁰⁵² As Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard Bernadette Jordan stated, "[t]he Blue Economy Strategy will help steer federal investments and actions, on all three coasts, across all ocean sectors, toward a single goal: to get more Canadians working on and in the water."³⁰⁵³ The Blue Economy Strategy is to enhance sustainability in the commercial fishing industry, explore offshore renewable energy, encourage sustainable tourism in coastal regions, enhance international trade, and develop new green technologies in ocean-related fields.³⁰⁵⁴

On 9 February 2021, the Government of Canada announced a CAD95,000 investment to Aurora Research Institute, in association with Delta Enterprises, to study on biomass feedstock for converting used cardboard

³⁰⁴⁷ Canada Wins Two-Year Term on International Renewable Energy Agency Council, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 21 January 2021. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/01/canada-wins-two-year-term-on-international-renewable-energy-agency-council.html>.

³⁰⁴⁸ The 50 – 30 Challenge: Your Diversity Advantage, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 February 2021. Access Date: 17 February 2021. <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/icgc.nsf/eng/07706.html>.

³⁰⁴⁹ Minister McKenna Sets New Priorities for The Canada Infrastructure Bank, Infrastructure Canada (Ottawa) 3 February 2021. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/02/minister-mckenna-sets-new-priorities-for-the-canada-infrastructure-bank.html>.

³⁰⁵⁰ Minister McKenna Sets New Priorities for The Canada Infrastructure Bank, Infrastructure Canada (Ottawa) 3 February 2021. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/02/minister-mckenna-sets-new-priorities-for-the-canada-infrastructure-bank.html>.

³⁰⁵¹ Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency for the Agri-Food Industry, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 5 February 2021. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/02/canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-for-the-agri-food-industry.html>.

³⁰⁵² Minister Jordan Launches Engagement on Canada's new Blue Economy Strategy, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) 8 February 2021. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/02/minister-jordan-launches-engagement-on-canadas-new-blue-economy-strategy.html>.

³⁰⁵³ Minister Jordan Launches Engagement on Canada's new Blue Economy Strategy, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) 8 February 2021. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/02/minister-jordan-launches-engagement-on-canadas-new-blue-economy-strategy.html>.

³⁰⁵⁴ Minister Jordan Launches Engagement on Canada's new Blue Economy Strategy, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ottawa) 8 February 2021. Access Date: 13 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/02/minister-jordan-launches-engagement-on-canadas-new-blue-economy-strategy.html>.

into pellets for heating.³⁰⁵⁵ This investment will support northern biomass industry while creating local jobs and transitioning to clean energy.³⁰⁵⁶

On 11 February 2021, the Government of Canada announced a CAD1 million investment to support the creation of Stella Maris, a multi-user marine testing platform at the Centre for Ocean Ventures and Entrepreneurship.³⁰⁵⁷ This project will help Canadian ocean sector develop, test and promote new marine sensor technologies more efficiently, and foster collaboration and data-sharing to support product development.³⁰⁵⁸

On 11 February 2021, the Government of Canada announced investments of CAD55.1 million in 20 clean technology companies across Canada to support more Canadian entrepreneurs in developing and commercializing clean technologies and promoting Canadian innovations worldwide.³⁰⁵⁹

Canada has taken strong actions to promote clean technology and infrastructure and economic inclusion. However, its 2020 real growth in gross domestic product, which is -5.5 per cent, does not reach the 1.8 per cent growth projected by the International Monetary Fund in January 2020.³⁰⁶⁰

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Wenxing Luo

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to restore the level of growth anticipated before the COVID-19 pandemic and go beyond.

On 1 April 2020, the Global Partnership for Education, to which France is one of the biggest contributors, announced USD250 million to help developing countries mitigate the immediate and long-term disruptions to education being caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding focused on helping the most vulnerable and marginalized children, particularly girls, displaced children, and children from low-income families to continue their education.³⁰⁶¹

³⁰⁵⁵ Government of Canada Supports Renewable Energy Alternatives in Indigenous and Northern Communities, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 February 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/crown-indigenous-relations-northern-affairs/news/2021/02/government-of-canada-supports-renewable-energy-alternatives-in-indigenous-and-northern-communities.html>.

³⁰⁵⁶ Government of Canada Supports Renewable Energy Alternatives in Indigenous and Northern Communities, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 February 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/crown-indigenous-relations-northern-affairs/news/2021/02/government-of-canada-supports-renewable-energy-alternatives-in-indigenous-and-northern-communities.html>.

³⁰⁵⁷ Strengthening Atlantic Canada's Blue Economy, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) (Dartmouth) 11 February 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/atlasntic-canada-opportunities/news/2021/02/strengthening-atlantic-canadas-blue-economy.html>.

³⁰⁵⁸ Strengthening Atlantic Canada's Blue Economy, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) (Dartmouth) 11 February 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/atlasntic-canada-opportunities/news/2021/02/strengthening-atlantic-canadas-blue-economy.html>.

³⁰⁵⁹ Government of Canada Invests in Canadian Clean Technology Innovations, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 11 February 2021. Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/02/government-of-canada-invests-in-canadian-clean-technology-innovations.html>.

³⁰⁶⁰ World Economic Outlook, January 2021 Update, International Monetary Fund (Washington DC) 26 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/weo-database/2020/October>.

³⁰⁶¹ Education - The Global Partnership for Education Announces US\$250 Million for Low-income Countries Battling COVID-19, France Diplomacy (Paris) 1 April 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/education-the-global-partnership-for-education-announces-us-250-million-for-low>.

On 18 May 2020, President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel defined a series of concrete actions designed to ensure the European Union's sustainable recovery, including accelerating ecological and digital transitions. The actions would coordinate an increase in the EU's 2030 emission reduction goals to avoid "carbon leakage," introduce a minimum carbon price in the EU's Emissions Trading Scheme for all sectors, and draft a roadmap for recovery with environmental considerations.³⁰⁶²

On 7 July 2020, France co-chaired the Generation Equality Forum with Mexico and announced the leaders of the Generation Equality Action Coalitions to achieve gender equality and all women's and girls' human rights. These coalitions aimed to achieve "tangible, measurable results" within five years on themes such as technology and innovation for gender equality, feminist movements and leadership.³⁰⁶³

On 3 September 2020, Prime Minister Jean Castex presented the France Relance plan and introduced the 4th Future Investment Program to amplify France's innovation efforts. The program is to be endowed with EUR20 billion over five years, with the objective of enabling the country to define its investment priority strategies through the program and to adapt to climate change and digital education. The strategic and priority investments aim to finance future technologies, where France invested EUR3.4 billion in developing green innovations and technologies such as decarbonized energy, with particular concern shown to hydrogen, recycling, bio-based products, and industrial biotechnology, contributing to an ecological and sustainable transition.³⁰⁶⁴

On 29 December 2020, the Government of France increased the rate of biofuel incorporation in fuels. As of 1 January 2021, biofuel blending rates for gasoline were to increase from an average rate of 8.2 per cent to 8.6 per cent. The traceability of biofuels was also to be strengthened.³⁰⁶⁵

France has taken a number of actions, some of them strong fiscal steps, to promote clean technology and infrastructure and economic inclusion. However, its 2020 real growth in gross domestic product, which is -9 per cent, does not reach the 1.3 per cent growth projected by the International Monetary Fund in January 2020.³⁰⁶⁶

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Wenxing Luo

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to, in facing the global economic challenge be determined not only to restore the level of growth anticipated before the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 4 April 2020, Germany agreed to divert resources through the European Commission to vulnerable groups in Montenegro, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, in particular to support the marginalized

³⁰⁶² France and Germany United for the Sustainable Recovery of the European Union, Government of France (Paris) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 19 February 2021. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/france-and-germany-united-for-the-sustainable-recovery-of-the-european-union>.

³⁰⁶³ Generation Equality Forum - Announcement of the Global Leaders of the Generation Equality Action Coalitions to Accelerate Gender Equality, France Diplomacy (Paris) 01 July 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/news-and-events/generation-equality-forum-2021/article/generation-equality-forum-announcement-of-the-global-leaders-of-the-generation>.

³⁰⁶⁴ 4th Future Investment Program: 20 billion euros for innovation, more than half of which is mobilized for economic recovery, Government of France (Paris) 11 September 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2021. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/4eme-programme-d-investissements-d-avenir-20-milliards-d-euros-pour-l-innovation-dont-plus-de-la>.

³⁰⁶⁵ Ce Qui Change à Partir du 1er Janvier 2021, Gouvernement de la République Française (Paris) 29 December 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2021. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/changements-janvier-2021#e2>.

³⁰⁶⁶ World Economic Outlook, January 2021 Update, International Monetary Fund (Washington DC) 26 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/weo-database/2020/October>.

Roma people.³⁰⁶⁷ Recognizing that many Roma communities are socially and economically excluded from wider society, the aid package includes funding towards “care packages containing basic foodstuffs as well as sanitary and hygiene products.”³⁰⁶⁸

On 28 April 2020, the Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) convened a conference of youth and family ministers for various jurisdictions within Germany to discuss the situation surrounding daycare and early childcare during the pandemic.³⁰⁶⁹ Ministers announced that they were planning a gradual re-opening of centres, taking into special consideration the needs of single parents, impaired children, and the importance of maintaining adequate infrastructure and support systems for all families.³⁰⁷⁰

On 3 July 2021, the Bundestag and Bundesrat adopted legislation to phase out coal-fired electricity in Germany by 2038, passing the Act on the Phase-out of Coal-fired Power Plants and the Structural Reinforcement Act for Mining Regions.³⁰⁷¹ Instead, 65 per cent of gross electricity consumption is to be generated from renewables by 2030.³⁰⁷² Accordingly, Germany is providing EUR40 billion between now and 2038 to support structural development in coal-mining regions.³⁰⁷³

On 9 July 2020, Labour Minister Franziska Giffey announced new support measures totaling EUR1 billion “to invest in maintaining the social infrastructure for families, children, young people and social causes.”³⁰⁷⁴ Key pillars of these measures included “support in the form of loans, support in the form of grants as part of the bridging aid and as part of the structural strengthening through a special program for child and youth welfare.”³⁰⁷⁵

On 17 July 2020, Labour Minister Hubertus Heil chaired a conference of EU employment and social policy ministers to discuss issues of social protection systems and occupational safety in light of the COVID-19

³⁰⁶⁷ Minister of State Roth on International Roma Day, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/roth-roma-day/2331948>.

³⁰⁶⁸ Minister of State Roth on International Roma Day, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/roth-roma-day/2331948>.

³⁰⁶⁹ Decision by JFMK and BMFSFJ recommends cautions and gradual re-entry into childcare, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/abschluss-von-jfmk-und-bmfsfj-empfehl-behutsamen-und-stufenweisen-wiedereinstieg-in-die-kindertagesbetreuung-155122>.

³⁰⁷⁰ Decision by JFMK and BMFSFJ recommends cautions and gradual re-entry into childcare, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/abschluss-von-jfmk-und-bmfsfj-empfehl-behutsamen-und-stufenweisen-wiedereinstieg-in-die-kindertagesbetreuung-155122>.

³⁰⁷¹ Final decision to launch the coal-phase out – a project for a generation, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 3 July 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2020/20200703-final-decision-to-launch-the-coal-phase-out.html>.

³⁰⁷² Final decision to launch the coal-phase out – a project for a generation, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 3 July 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2020/20200703-final-decision-to-launch-the-coal-phase-out.html>.

³⁰⁷³ Final decision to launch the coal-phase out – a project for a generation, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 3 July 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2020/20200703-final-decision-to-launch-the-coal-phase-out.html>.

³⁰⁷⁴ Giffey: “Securing tried and tested social institutions and structures for families, children and young people in times of crisis”, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 9 July 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/giffey-bewaehrte-soziale-einrichtungen-und-strukturen-fuer-familien-kinder-und-jugendliche-in-der-krise-absichern--158438>.

³⁰⁷⁵ Giffey: “Securing tried and tested social institutions and structures for families, children and young people in times of crisis”, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 9 July 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/giffey-bewaehrte-soziale-einrichtungen-und-strukturen-fuer-familien-kinder-und-jugendliche-in-der-krise-absichern--158438>.

pandemic.³⁰⁷⁶ Three key areas of reform were identified for strengthening, including the “contribution of social protection systems to the recovery from the crisis,” “health and safety at work,” and “better enforcement of the rights of seasonal and mobile workers.”³⁰⁷⁷

On August 27 2020, Minister Giffey announced an EUR100 million program to disburse funding to non-profit organizations “for children and youth education, child and youth work.”³⁰⁷⁸ These organizations would facilitate overnight trips, education experiences, and youth exchange, which are areas that had been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁰⁷⁹

On 7 September 2020, the BMFSFJ launched a project with the organization FAIR SHARE of Women Leaders eV to assess the proportion of women in leadership positions in the non-governmental sector and to guide organizations in making appropriate changes.³⁰⁸⁰

On 1 October 2020, the BMFSFJ announced funding up to EUR5 million for nationwide projects to strengthen “the participation of older people,” particularly in the labour market, and to counteract isolation and loneliness, especially for those with health problems and mobility restrictions.³⁰⁸¹

On 2 December 2020, the Federal Cabinet passed a novel Children and Youth Employment Act in order to “strengthen participation and equal opportunities for young people who have special need for support,” particularly those with disabilities or learning impairments, and to assist in their social and economic integration.³⁰⁸²

On 8 December 2020, Germany announced funding for a new program, “Young People Remember International,” an initiative for youth to engage with German history.³⁰⁸³ Core tenets of the program are to

³⁰⁷⁶ Hubertus Heil: “We want all people in the EU to be able to live their lives with security and dignity, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmas.de/EN/Services/Press/recent-publications/2020/federal-minister-heil-security-dignity-for-all-eu.html>.

³⁰⁷⁷ Hubertus Heil: “We want all people in the EU to be able to live their lives with security and dignity, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmas.de/EN/Services/Press/recent-publications/2020/federal-minister-heil-security-dignity-for-all-eu.html>.

³⁰⁷⁸ Minister Giffey gives the go-ahead for “100 million euro special program for children and youth education, child and youth work”, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 27 August 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/ministerin-giffey-gibt-startschuss-fuer-100-millionen-euro-sonderprogramm-kinder-und-jugendbildung-kinder-und-jugendarbeit--160220>.

³⁰⁷⁹ Minister Giffey gives the go-ahead for “100 million euro special program for children and youth education, child and youth work”, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 27 August 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/ministerin-giffey-gibt-startschuss-fuer-100-millionen-euro-sonderprogramm-kinder-und-jugendbildung-kinder-und-jugendarbeit--160220>.

³⁰⁸⁰ Increase women in leadership positions also in the civil society sector, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 7 September 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/frauen-in-fuehrungspositionen-auch-im-zivilgesellschaftlichen-sektor-steigern-160414>.

³⁰⁸¹ Five million euros against loneliness in old age, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 1 October 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/fuenf-millionen-euro-gegen-einsamkeit-im-alter-160866>.

³⁰⁸² Giffey: More participation and equal opportunities for children and young people in difficult life situations, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 2 December 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/giffey-mehr-teilhabe-und-chancengerechtigkeit-fuer-kinder-und-jugendliche-in-schwierigen-lebenslagen-162872>.

³⁰⁸³ Minister of State Müntefering on the start of funding for the federal programme “Young People Remember International” promoted by the Federal Foreign Office and the Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future”, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 8 December 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2424828>.

“foster bilateral and multilateral encounters among young people,” “strengthen the international exchange of ideas among experts,” and “develop digital formats for educational and remembrance work.”³⁰⁸⁴

On 11 December 2020, Germany announced a broad investment initiative to counter the impacts of COVID-19, allocating EUR55 billion in 2021 and about EUR48 billion a year until 2024. The planned investment is to lay the foundations for sustainable economic growth, including in areas such as digital infrastructure, climate action, and the use of artificial intelligence and novel telecommunications in the economy and education system.³⁰⁸⁵

On 2 February 2021, Germany announced funding of EUR100,000 to support a program entitled “Youth Budgets” that would see teenagers and young adults work together on solutions for global problems in fields such as diversity, the environment, education, and health.³⁰⁸⁶

Through stimulus and other fiscal programs targeted towards climate action, innovative technology, and groups such as youth and seniors, Germany has taken strong actions to promote clean technology and infrastructure and economic inclusion. However, its 2020 real growth in gross domestic product, which is -5.4 per cent, does not reach the 1.1 per cent growth projected by the International Monetary Fund in January 2020.³⁰⁸⁷

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Anjali Roy and Malbaar Mobarir

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to restore the level of growth anticipated before the COVID-19 pandemic and go beyond.

On 14 May 2020, the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance released its Decreto Rilancio or Relaunch Decree, allocating EUR155 billion to support economic recovery.³⁰⁸⁸ Measure include establishing a fund for technology transfer to industry, particularly innovative startups, and offering tax deductions of 110 per cent on private sector energy efficiency investments between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2021.³⁰⁸⁹

On 5 June 2020, the Italian Representation to the United Nations organized an online meeting to discuss COVID-19 recovery plans specifically addressing the role of women.³⁰⁹⁰ Vice Minister Marina Sereni stressed

³⁰⁸⁴ Minister of State Müntefering on the start of funding for the federal programme “Young People Remember International” promoted by the Federal Foreign Office and the Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future”, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 8 December 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2424828>.

³⁰⁸⁵ “A Successful Package” says Olaf Scholz, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 11 December 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/bundestag-bundshaushalt-2021-1827270>.

³⁰⁸⁶ Minister Giffey: One million euros for the best ideas for young people in Germany, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Seniors, Women and Youth (Berlin) 2 February 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/ministerin-giffey-eine-million-euro-fuer-die-besten-jugendideen-deutschlands-165622>.

³⁰⁸⁷ World Economic Outlook, January 2021 Update, International Monetary Fund (Washington DC) 26 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/weo-database/2020/October>.

³⁰⁸⁸ Decreto Rilancio, le misure per rimettere in moto il Paese, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Rome) 14 May 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.mef.gov.it/focus/Decreto-Rilancio-le-misure-per-rimettere-in-moto-il-Paese/#cont4>.

³⁰⁸⁹ Decreto Rilancio, le misure per rimettere in moto il Paese, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Rome) 14 May 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.mef.gov.it/focus/Decreto-Rilancio-le-misure-per-rimettere-in-moto-il-Paese/#cont4>.

³⁰⁹⁰ Sereni at the UN meeting on the role of women in the fight against Covid-19, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 5 June 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/06/sereni-al-meeting-onu-sul-ruolo-delle-donne-nella-lotta-a-covid-19.html.

that “[w]omen’s participation in the labour market, new services to families, in promotion of women’s leadership roles in the economy and society must be among the priorities of the Recovery Plans.”³⁰⁹¹

On 16 June 2020, the Italian government announced it had strengthened the University Corridors Project, a program that provides post-secondary educational opportunities in Italy for students holding refugee status from Ethiopia.³⁰⁹² Partnerships with eleven universities were established to support students in courses and integration representing a relaunch of the program after a hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁰⁹³

On 25 June 2020, the Minister of Labour and Social Policies Nunzia Catalfo committed to introduce a bill on gender equality in wages in the Italian Parliament, stressing the importance of addressing the issues of working mothers who resigned the past year.³⁰⁹⁴ She further reaffirmed Italy’s commitment to the Family Act, which has provided “single allowance and the enhancement of parental leave” as well as a share of the funds to be provided for predominantly female start-ups and small and medium enterprises.³⁰⁹⁵

On 3 July 2020, the first meeting of the Advisory Board of “Women in International Security” was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, aimed at promoting “national and international leadership and professional development of women in the promotion of peace and security.”³⁰⁹⁶

On 10 August 2020, the Ministry of Economic Development announced the implementation of a EUR600 million school and family voucher plan to promote ultra-broadband connectivity.³⁰⁹⁷ The plan allocates EUR400 million to over 32,000 schools in Italy and EUR200 million to facilitate stronger internet connectivity for families, furthermore providing a voucher of EUR500 for each family for the purchase of a computer.³⁰⁹⁸

On 26 October 2020, Strategic Consultations between Italy and UNESCO were launched that stressed the importance of inclusive, equal and sustainable development in the post-COVID era.³⁰⁹⁹ In particular, Vice Minister Sereni emphasized that the objectives of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development were crucial to

³⁰⁹¹ Sereni at the UN meeting on the role of women in the fight against Covid-19, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 5 June 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/06/sereni-al-meeting-onu-sul-ruolo-delle-donne-nella-lotta-a-covid-19.html.

³⁰⁹² University corridors for refugee students, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 16 June 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/06/corridoio-universitari-per-studenti-rifugiati_0.html.

³⁰⁹³ University corridors for refugee students, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 16 June 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/06/corridoio-universitari-per-studenti-rifugiati_0.html.

³⁰⁹⁴ Lavoro, Catalfo: Government focused on interventions to protect working mothers, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (Rome) 25 June 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/Lavoro-Catalfo-Governo-concentrato-su-interventi-a-tutela-delle-lavoratrici-madri.aspx>.

³⁰⁹⁵ Lavoro, Catalfo: Government focused on interventions to protect working mothers, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (Rome) 25 June 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/Comunicati/Pagine/Lavoro-Catalfo-Governo-concentrato-su-interventi-a-tutela-delle-lavoratrici-madri.aspx>.

³⁰⁹⁶ Meeting of the Advisory Board of “Women in International Security - Italy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 3 July 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/07/prima-riunione-dell-advisory-board-di-women-in-international-security-italy.html.

³⁰⁹⁷ Ultra-broadband, the implementation decrees signed for € 600 million in the “School Plan” and “Family Voucher Plan”, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 10 August 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2041375-banda-ultralarga-firmati-i-decreti-attuativi-per-600-milioni-di-euro-nel-piano-scuola-e-nel-piano-voucher-famiglie>.

³⁰⁹⁸ Ultra-broadband, the implementation decrees signed for € 600 million in the “School Plan” and “Family Voucher Plan”, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 10 August 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2041375-banda-ultralarga-firmati-i-decreti-attuativi-per-600-milioni-di-euro-nel-piano-scuola-e-nel-piano-voucher-famiglie>.

³⁰⁹⁹ Vice Minister Sereni to UNESCO. Post-Covid future must be focused on the fight against inequalities and sustainable development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 26 October 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/10/sereni-all-unesco-futuro-post-covid-sia-fondato-sulla-lotta-a-diseguaglianze-e-sviluppo-sostenibile.html.

embrace in order to reduce inequalities, especially gender-based, and committed to working with UNESCO towards greater preservation of the environment.³¹⁰⁰

On 30 November 2020, Vice Minister Sereni served as a panelist for the Youth Forum Contest.³¹⁰¹ Recognizing that 60 per cent of the population in the Mediterranean and Middle East region is under 30 and that pre-pandemic unemployment levels were around 27 per cent, the contest allowed youth “the chance to present innovative ideas and projects, during an important international event,” and discuss their solutions to issues “ranging from health assistance to education, from social entrepreneurship to civil commitment, from protection of the environment to food safety, and from robotics to urban innovation.”³¹⁰²

On 30 November 2020, Italy affirmed its support for the International Telecommunication Union’s (ITU) World Conference on Telecommunications Development Youth Summit, entitled “Generation Connect.” The conference aims to bring together young Europeans to discuss “challenges related to digital technologies on a virtual platform.”³¹⁰³ The conference falls in line with the ITU Youth Strategy, which “aims to have a real impact on the lives of young people around the world to become key stakeholders” in the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.³¹⁰⁴

On 18 December 2020, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Manlio Di Stefano chaired an inter-ministerial meeting on the topic of “Energy, Environment and Climate,” along with representatives from various energy corporations.³¹⁰⁵ During the meeting, Minister Di Stefano commented positively on the European Council’s decision to increase its emissions reduction ambition by committing to reduce at least 55 per cent of 1990 emissions by 2030.³¹⁰⁶

On 11 January 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs Luigi di Maio participated in the “UN75 COP26 Roundtable on clean power transition,” along with the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, reaffirming Italy’s objective “to support the “green economy” for a sustainable recovery and the country’s determination towards a clean energy transition, based on the strategic link between energy, climate and technology.”³¹⁰⁷

³¹⁰⁰ Vice Minister Sereni to UNESCO. Post-Covid future must be focused on the fight against inequalities and sustainable development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 26 October 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/10/sereni-all-unesco-futuro-post-covid-sia-fondato-su-lotta-a-diseguaglianze-e-sviluppo-sostenibile.html.

³¹⁰¹ MED Dialogues: Vice Minister Sereni, enhance the role of young people in the Mediterranean area, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 30 November 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/11/med-2020-sereni-valorizzare-giovani-nell-area-mediterranea.html.

³¹⁰² MED Dialogues: Vice Minister Sereni, enhance the role of young people in the Mediterranean area, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 30 November 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/11/med-2020-sereni-valorizzare-giovani-nell-area-mediterranea.html.

³¹⁰³ Notice 30 November 2020 - ITU calls young people. Generation Connect, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 30 November 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/213-normativa/notifiche-e-avvisi/2041753-avviso-30-novembre-2020-l-itu-chiama-i-giovani-generation-connect>.

³¹⁰⁴ Notice 30 November 2020 - ITU calls young people. Generation Connect, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 30 November 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/213-normativa/notifiche-e-avvisi/2041753-avviso-30-novembre-2020-l-itu-chiama-i-giovani-generation-connect>.

³¹⁰⁵ Deputy Minister Di Stefano chairs the Inter-Ministerial “Energy, Environment, and Climate” Steering Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 18 December 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/12/di-stefano-presiede-la-cabina-di-regia-interministeriale-energia-ambiente-e-clima.html.

³¹⁰⁶ Deputy Minister Di Stefano chairs the Inter-Ministerial “Energy, Environment, and Climate” Steering Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 18 December 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/12/di-stefano-presiede-la-cabina-di-regia-interministeriale-energia-ambiente-e-clima.html.

³¹⁰⁷ Minister Di Maio participates in the “UN75 COP26 Roundtable on clean power transition”, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 11 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/01/il-ministro-di-maio-partecipa-alla-un75-cop26-roundtable-on-clean-power-transition.html.

On 4 February 2020, the Italian government announced the 2021 Budget Law, which aims for “the transformation of the country, in the path of innovation, sustainability, cohesion, and equity.”³¹⁰⁸ The budget law addressed equality of gender in the workplace and education, including by lengthening parental leave and expanding nursery school funding to EUR100 million per year in 2022 and eventually to EUR300 million.³¹⁰⁹ The “Transition 4.0” tax credit was also extended to allocate in excess of EUR20 billion over the next five years to incentivize environmental and technological improvements by businesses.³¹¹⁰

Italy has taken strong actions to promote clean technology and infrastructure and economic inclusion. However, its 2020 real growth in gross domestic product, which is –9.2 per cent, does not reach the 0.5 per cent growth projected by the International Monetary Fund in January 2020.³¹¹¹

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Ching-Lin Chang and Malhaar Moharir

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to restore the level of growth anticipated before the COVID-19 pandemic and go beyond.

On 7 April 2020, the Government of Japan adopted an Emergency Economic Package Against COVID-19, which totals JPY117.1 trillion.³¹¹² The economic package aims to protect employment and businesses, restore economic activity after pandemic containment, and rebuild a resilient economic structure.³¹¹³ Measures of the package include supporting the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries industries, accelerating digital transformation by deploying remote technologies, and accelerating public works investments.³¹¹⁴ Through the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the Government of Japan also rolled out programs to facilitate the reopening of schools, ensure children’s learning during school closures, assist institutions such as university hospitals in infectious disease research, and support students in situations of hardship.³¹¹⁵

On 24 April 2020, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry convened for the first time an expert Round Table for Infrastructure Systems Export.³¹¹⁶ Participants held discussions on streamlining and verification of facts on exports of infrastructure systems, which were necessary in order to discuss related measures concerning the fields of energy and electricity.³¹¹⁷

³¹⁰⁸ Minister Di Maio participates in the “UN75 COP26 Roundtable on clean power transition”, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 11 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/01/il-ministro-di-maio-partecipa-alla-un75-cop26-roundtable-on-clean-power-transition.html.

³¹⁰⁹ The 2021 Budget Law, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Rome) 4 February 2021. Access Date: 1 March 2021. <https://www.mef.gov.it/en/focus/The-2021-Budget-Law-00001/>.

³¹¹⁰ The 2021 Budget Law, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Rome) 4 February 2021. Access Date: 1 March 2021. <https://www.mef.gov.it/en/focus/The-2021-Budget-Law-00001/>.

³¹¹¹ World Economic Outlook, January 2021 Update, International Monetary Fund (Washington DC) 26 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/weo-database/2020/October>.

³¹¹² Policy Responses to COVID-19, International Monetary Fund (Washington) 5 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19#top>.

³¹¹³ Policy Responses to COVID-19, International Monetary Fund (Washington) 5 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19#top>.

³¹¹⁴ Emergency Economic Measures to Cope with COVID-19, Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www5.cao.go.jp/keizai1/keizaitaisaku/2020/20200420_economic_measures.pdf.

³¹¹⁵ Package of Emergency Economic Measures MEXT, Ministry of Education, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.mext.go.jp/en/content/20200722_mxt_kanseisk01-000008961_1.pdf

³¹¹⁶ The Round Table for Infrastructure Systems Export Compiles Interim Report (Electricity and Energy), Ministry of Trade, Economy and Industry (Tokyo) 21 May 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2020/0521_003.html.

³¹¹⁷ The Round Table for Infrastructure Systems Export Compiles Interim Report (Electricity and Energy), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 21 May 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2020/0521_003.html.

On 27 May 2020, the Government of Japan announced the second Emergency Economic Measure.³¹¹⁸ Through MEXT, Japan pledged financial support to students facing financial difficulties.³¹¹⁹ Japan also pledged support for ensuring children's learning, and to university hospitals and research labs.³¹²⁰

On 12 June 2020, the National Diet enacted a JPY31.91 trillion supplementary budget for the 2020 fiscal year aimed to expand measures designed to offset the social and economic fallout of the coronavirus pandemic to twice the previous level.³¹²¹

On 22 July 2020, the Government of Japan also participated in the G20 Digital Economy Ministers Meeting, where ministers recognized the importance of the digital economy as well and initiatives related to advancing digital connectivity infrastructure.³¹²²

On 15 December 2020, the government proposed a third supplementary budget.³¹²³ The budget included a number of measures to promote digitization and green society, including JPY2 trillion in funding for innovative low carbon technology, JPY109.4 billion towards the establishment of a green housing point system, and JPY178.8 billion for digital infrastructure at the local level.³¹²⁴ On 28 January 2021, the National Diet enacted the supplementary budget.³¹²⁵

On 2 February 2021, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry unveiled a Green Growth Strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050 through transforming industries and the broader economy.³¹²⁶

The Government of Japan has implemented several stimulus packages targeting important sectors of the economy for recovery such as clean infrastructure, technology, and education, constituting strong action to promote clean technology and infrastructure and economic inclusion. However, Japan's 2020 real growth in gross domestic product, which is -5.1 per cent, does not reach the 0.7 per cent growth projected by the International Monetary Fund in January 2020.³¹²⁷

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Christine Shea

³¹¹⁸ Package of Emergency Economic Measure (2nd Package), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.mext.go.jp/en/content/20200903_mxt_kanseisk01-000008961_1.pdf.

³¹¹⁹ Package of Emergency Economic Measure (2nd Package), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.mext.go.jp/en/content/20200903_mxt_kanseisk01-000008961_1.pdf.

³¹²⁰ Package of Emergency Economic Measure (2nd Package), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Tokyo) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.mext.go.jp/en/content/20200903_mxt_kanseisk01-000008961_1.pdf.

³¹²¹ Japan enacts record extra budget to address pandemic fallout, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 12 June 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/06/12/national/extra-budget-coronavirus>.

³¹²² Ministerial Declaration, G20 Digital Economy Ministers Meeting (Riyadh) 22 July 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2020/07/20200723001/20200723001-2.pdf>

³¹²³ Third Supplementary Budget, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 15 December 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. <https://www.mof.go.jp/english/budget/budget/fy2020/05.pdf>.

³¹²⁴ Third Supplementary Budget, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 15 December 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. <https://www.mof.go.jp/english/budget/budget/fy2020/05.pdf>.

³¹²⁵ Japan enacts 19 tril. yen extra budget to fight virus amid criticism, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2021/01/c5e63041eae7-breaking-news-japan-enacts-1918-tril-yen-extra-budget-to-manage-pandemic.html>.

³¹²⁶ METI Unveils Green Growth Strategy to Support Japan's 2050 Carbon Neutral Goal, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 2 February 2021. Access Date: 4 March 2021. <https://www.meti.go.jp/english/mobile/2021/20210208001en.html>

³¹²⁷ World Economic Outlook, January 2021 Update, International Monetary Fund (Washington DC) 26 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/weo-database/2020/October>.

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to restore the level of growth anticipated before the COVID-19 pandemic and go beyond.

On 9 May 2020, Transport Secretary Grant Shapps announced the establishment of a GBP250 million emergency active travel fund to support local authorities in expanding cycling infrastructure such as new bike lanes and wider pavements.³¹²⁸

On 21 May 2020, the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy launched a GBP40 million Clean Growth Fund to support UK-based green technology companies in sectors such as power, transport, waste, and building efficiency.³¹²⁹ The earmarked funding consists of GBP20 million from the Department and GBP20 million from charity investor CCLA, and up to GBP60 million is expected from private sector fundraising.³¹³⁰

On 10 June 2020, the government of the United Kingdom announced the launch of a Future Tech Trade Strategy in the United Kingdom's tech industry.³¹³¹ Measures within the strategy include a new Tech Exporting Academy of experts to support high-potential small and medium enterprises in a way that promotes women's participation, a platform to showcase UK tech globally, a network to grow international partnerships consisting of 25 "tech export champions" across England, and an expansion of the Department for International Trade's High Potential Opportunities program to drive foreign direct investment in emerging tech subsectors.³¹³² Additionally, the government launched a GBP8 million Digital Trade Network to connect UK tech businesses to the Asia-Pacific,³¹³³ which aims to open opportunities for exporters in and inward investment into the UK.³¹³⁴

On 16 June 2020, Transport Secretary Grant Shapps announced the rollout of green number plates for zero emission vehicles to facilitate local incentives for the adoption of such vehicles.³¹³⁵ The 17 June 2020 opening of a funding competition for up to GBP10 million to support zero emission vehicle research and development by the UK Innovation Funding Service complemented this.³¹³⁶

On 30 June 2020, the government of the United Kingdom announced a number of economic recovery measures, including over GBP1 billion for school rebuilding, GBP760 million for school and college repairs and upgrades, GBP10 million for scaling up innovation in electric power technologies such as batteries and motors, GBP40 million for a Green Recovery Challenge Fund supporting local projects to promote

³¹²⁸ £2 billion package to create new era for cycling and walking, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 9 May 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-billion-package-to-create-new-era-for-cycling-and-walking>.

³¹²⁹ Government launches new £40 million Clean Growth Fund to supercharge green start-ups, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 21 May 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-40-million-clean-growth-fund-to-supercharge-green-start-ups>.

³¹³⁰ Government launches new £40 million Clean Growth Fund to supercharge green start-ups, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 21 May 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-40-million-clean-growth-fund-to-supercharge-green-start-ups>.

³¹³¹ Liz Truss launches future trade strategy for UK tech industry, Government of the United Kingdom (London), 9 June 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/liz-truss-launches-future-trade-strategy-for-uk-tech-industry>.

³¹³² Liz Truss launches future trade strategy for UK tech industry, Government of the United Kingdom (London), 9 June 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/liz-truss-launches-future-trade-strategy-for-uk-tech-industry>.

³¹³³ Future Tech Trade Strategy Launch, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 10 June 2020. Access Date: 24 February. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/future-tech-trade-strategy-launch>

³¹³⁴ Liz Truss launches future trade strategy for UK tech industry, Government of the United Kingdom (London), 9 June 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/liz-truss-launches-future-trade-strategy-for-uk-tech-industry>

³¹³⁵ Green number plates get the green light for a zero-emission future, Government of the United Kingdom (London), 16 June 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/green-number-plates-get-the-green-light-for-a-zero-emission-future>.

³¹³⁶ Catalysing Green Innovation: strand 2: Securing the future of ZEV, Government of the United Kingdom (London), N.D. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/652/overview#summary>.

biodiversity and climate action, and up to GBP100 million for research and development in direct air capture of carbon dioxide emissions.³¹³⁷

On 8 July 2020, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak announced a “Plan for Jobs,” which contained GBP8.8 billion of infrastructure creation or maintenance and emission reduction funding.³¹³⁸ Key programs included a GBP2 billion Green Homes Grant program to pay for residential energy efficiency improvements and a GBP1 billion program to improve the performance of public buildings such as schools and hospitals.³¹³⁹

On 22 July 2020, the government of the United Kingdom announced GBP350 million in funding for emission reduction projects, including GBP139 million for the adoption of hydrogen power and scale-up of carbon capture and storage, GBP149 million for the reuse and recycling of materials in heavy industry, and GBP26 million to reduce emissions during the construction process.³¹⁴⁰ On the same day, Prime Minister Boris Johnson launched the first meeting of the Jet Zero Council, which aims to develop the first ever zero emission long-haul passenger plane.

On 1 September 2020, the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy began accepting applications from Asia and Latin America for a Green Recovery Challenge Fund delivered through the Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions initiative.^{3141,3142} The initiative aims to disburse GBP12 million to emissions reduction projects in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia.³¹⁴³

On 18 November 2020, the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Prime Minister’s Office issued a Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution to reduce UK greenhouse gas emissions by 180MtCO₂e between 2023 and 2032.³¹⁴⁴ The Plan earmarks GBP12 billion in government funding for actions including offshore wind, clean hydrogen, advanced nuclear power, zero emission vehicles, public transit and active transport, low-emission aviation and marine transport, green buildings, carbon capture, ecosystem protection, and sustainable finance.³¹⁴⁵ This builds on Chancellor Sunak’s 9 November 2020 Financial Services Statement announcement that disclosures consistent with the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures’ recommendations will be mandatory across the economy by 2025.³¹⁴⁶

³¹³⁷ PM: A New Deal for Britain, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 30 June 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-a-new-deal-for-britain>.

³¹³⁸ Chancellor’s Plan for Jobs to help the UK’s recovery, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 8 July 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/rishis-plan-for-jobs-will-help-britain-bounce-back>.

³¹³⁹ Chancellor’s Plan for Jobs to help the UK’s recovery, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 8 July 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/rishis-plan-for-jobs-will-help-britain-bounce-back>.

³¹⁴⁰ PM commits £350 million to fuel green recovery, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 22 July 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-commits-350-million-to-fuel-green-recovery>.

³¹⁴¹ Do you have an innovative idea for Greening financial systems, UK PACT (London) 1 September 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.ukpact.co.uk/news/latam-greening-financial-systems>.

³¹⁴² Ideas for Greening financial systems or Electrifying urban mobility, UK PACT (London) 1 September 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.ukpact.co.uk/news/greening-financial-systems-electrifying-urban-mobility-asia>.

³¹⁴³ Green Recovery Challenge Fund, UK PACT (London) N.D. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.ukpact.co.uk/green-recovery-challenge-fund>.

³¹⁴⁴ The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 18 November 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-ten-point-plan-for-a-green-industrial-revolution/title#introduction>.

³¹⁴⁵ The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 18 November 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-ten-point-plan-for-a-green-industrial-revolution/title#introduction>.

³¹⁴⁶ Chancellor sets out ambition for future of UK financial services, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 9 November 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-sets-out-ambition-for-future-of-uk-financial-services>.

On 23 January 2021, Secretary Shapps announced a GBP794 million investment package for a new phase of the East West Rail project to connect Oxford and Cambridge, and for reopening segments of the Northumberland rail line that had been closed since the 1960s.³¹⁴⁷ Work supported by this funding will include the construction of new stations and the enhancement of existing stations on the Bicester-Bletchley segment of East West Rail, and preparatory works on the Northumberland line.³¹⁴⁸

The United Kingdom has taken strong actions to promote clean technology and innovation. However, its 2020 real growth in gross domestic product, which is -10 per cent, does not reach the 1.4 per cent growth projected by the International Monetary Fund in January 2020.³¹⁴⁹

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Cindy Hub, Zhenglin Liu

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to restore the level of growth anticipated before the COVID-19 pandemic and go beyond.

On 27 March 2020, the U.S. government passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, which responded to “the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) outbreak and its impact on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.”³¹⁵⁰ The act injected USD2.2 trillion into the U.S economy in order to support small businesses, struggling families, and local governments.³¹⁵¹ Through it, the Federal Transit Administration under the Department of Transportation allocated USD25 billion in funding to support transit services across the nation towards both capital and operating expenses.³¹⁵²

On 4 May 2020, Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program, which offers USD100 million in competitive funding for biofuels infrastructure.³¹⁵³ Funds will be disbursed directly to fueling and distribution facilities to subsidize the installation of fuel pumps and related infrastructure and equipment.³¹⁵⁴

³¹⁴⁷ Transport Secretary launches £794 million investment to boost rail links in north and south, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 23 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/transport-secretary-launches-794-million-investment-to-boost-rail-links-in-north-and-south>.

³¹⁴⁸ Transport Secretary launches £794 million investment to boost rail links in north and south, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 23 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/transport-secretary-launches-794-million-investment-to-boost-rail-links-in-north-and-south>.

³¹⁴⁹ World Economic Outlook, January 2021 Update, International Monetary Fund (Washington DC) 26 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/weo-database/2020/October>.

³¹⁵⁰ H.R. 748 - CARES Act, United States Congress (Washington DC) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 2 March 2021. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/748>

³¹⁵¹ Trump signs \$2.2T stimulus after swift congressional votes, Associated Press (Washington DC) 28 March 2020. Access Date: 2 March 2021. <https://apnews.com/article/2099a53bb8adf2def7ee7329ea322f9d>

³¹⁵² Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Federal Transit Administration (Washington DC) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.transit.dot.gov/cares-act>.

³¹⁵³ USDA Announces \$100 Million for American Biofuels Infrastructure, Department of Agriculture (Washington DC) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2020/05/04/usda-announces-100-million-american-biofuels-infrastructure>.

³¹⁵⁴ USDA Announces \$100 Million for American Biofuels Infrastructure, Department of Agriculture (Washington DC) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2020/05/04/usda-announces-100-million-american-biofuels-infrastructure>.

On 19 May 2020, the 5th American Workforce Policy Advisory Board Meeting was held to discuss the implementation of recent initiatives to address employment concerns both during and after the pandemic.³¹⁵⁵ Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross commended the “Multiple Pathways” initiatives aimed at ensuring that “all society can access digital learning and the digital economy by expanding broadband access.”³¹⁵⁶

On 9 September 2020, the Department of Labor announced that it would provide up to USD4 million to strengthen workers’ rights in the Indo-Pacific region, with a particular emphasis on female workers.³¹⁵⁷ The grant would implement projects to “improve compliance with labor standards, including occupational safety and health standards, and to address wage inequality and workplace discrimination for women employees in targeted rural sectors.”³¹⁵⁸

On 2 November 2020, the Department of Labor announced a Memorandum of Understanding with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which would add Department of Justice oversight to “coordinate in the effective and efficient enforcement of civil rights laws for the benefit of America’s workforce” and strengthen the enforcement of the commission.³¹⁵⁹

On 22 December 2020, Secretary of Treasury Steven Mnuchin made a statement on the passage of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021. He stated that the “bipartisan legislation will provide another round of Economic Impact Payments to eligible individuals and families, renew the Paycheck Protection Program to support small businesses and their employees, ensure needed access to unemployment benefits for Americans who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19, and provide additional funding for schools, vaccine distribution, and other important sectors of the economy.”³¹⁶⁰

On 15 January 2021, the Department of Labor announced that it would provide USD40 million to strengthen community college training programs in the US “to build the capacity of community colleges to meet labor market demand for a skilled workforce.”³¹⁶¹ The grant aims at strengthening training for critical industries including healthcare, logistics and cybersecurity as well as facilitating online-learning programs and expanding technology training for students.³¹⁶²

On 19 January 2021, the Department of Labor announced USD145 million in investments to boost workforce training in key industries including information technology, advanced manufacturing and

³¹⁵⁵ Remarks by Commerce Secretary Wilbur L. Ross at the 5th American Workforce Policy Advisory Board Meeting, Department of Commerce (Washington DC) 19 May 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://2017-2021.commerce.gov/news/speeches/2020/05/remarks-commerce-secretary-wilbur-l-ross-5th-american-workforce-policy.html>

³¹⁵⁶ Remarks by Commerce Secretary Wilbur L. Ross at the 5th American Workforce Policy Advisory Board Meeting, Department of Commerce (Washington DC) 19 May 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://2017-2021.commerce.gov/news/speeches/2020/05/remarks-commerce-secretary-wilbur-l-ross-5th-american-workforce-policy.html>

³¹⁵⁷ U.S. Department of Labor to Award \$4 Million Grant to Improve Worker Rights in Rural Sectors of the Indo-Pacific with a Focus on Women Workers, Department of Labor (Washington DC) 9 September 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ilab/ilab20200909>.

³¹⁵⁸ U.S. Department of Labor to Award \$4 Million Grant to Improve Worker Rights in Rural Sectors of the Indo-Pacific with a Focus on Women Workers, Department of Labor (Washington DC) 9 September 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ilab/ilab20200909>.

³¹⁵⁹ U.S. Department of Labor Revises Memorandum of Understanding on Coordination of Civil Rights Enforcement, Department of Labor (Washington DC) 2 November 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/ofccp/ofccp20201102>.

³¹⁶⁰ Statement by Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin on Passage of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, United States Treasury (Washington DC) 22 December 2020. Access Date: 2 March 2021. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm1221>.

³¹⁶¹ U.S. Department of Labor Awards \$40 Million in Strengthening Community College Training Grants, Department of Labor (Washington DC) 15 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210115-1>.

³¹⁶² U.S. Department of Labor Awards \$40 Million in Strengthening Community College Training Grants, Department of Labor (Washington DC) 15 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210115-1>.

transportation.³¹⁶³ Grant recipients would “focus on upskilling the current workforce and training the workforce of the future” in these specific areas, as well as developing training programs that would include both in-class and on-the-job experience for workers.³¹⁶⁴

On 20 January 2021, the Treasury Department of the United States delivered the second round of Economic Impact Payments.³¹⁶⁵ With the broader eligibility to claim the payment, the Internal Revenue Service “urges taxpayers who did not receive a payment this year to review the eligibility criteria when they file their 2020 taxes; many people, including recent college graduates, may be eligible to claim it.”³¹⁶⁶

On 28 January 2021, the Department of State announced that it was taking steps to appropriate USD32.5 million to support the United Nations Population Fund to promote the global safety and prosperity of women, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.³¹⁶⁷ Furthermore, the United States announced that it would partner “with governments, the private sector, and international and non-governmental organizations ... to empower women and girls so that they could realize their full potential and drive social and economic development.”³¹⁶⁸

By funding sustainable infrastructure and education as well as supporting employment equality domestically and abroad, the United States has taken strong actions to promote clean technology and infrastructure and economic inclusion. However, its 2020 real growth in gross domestic product, which is –3.4 per cent, does not reach the two per cent growth projected by the International Monetary Fund in January 2020.³¹⁶⁹

Thus, The United States receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Ching-Lin Chang and Malhaar Mobarir

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to restore the level of growth anticipated before the COVID-19 pandemic and go beyond.

On 27 May 2020, the European Commission proposed a EUR2.4 trillion recovery plan to deliver a more sustainable, digital, inclusive, and fair Europe, integrated with its 2021-2027 long-term budget.³¹⁷⁰ Programs proposed include building retrofits and infrastructure refurbishment, renewable energy and hydrogen economy development, clean transport expansion—including by installing one million electric vehicle charging points, investments in 5G, and supporting technologies such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity,

³¹⁶³ U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$145 Million to Invest in Workforce Training for Key U.S. Economic Sectors, Department of Labor (Washington DC) 19 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210119>.

³¹⁶⁴ U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$145 Million to Invest in Workforce Training for Key U.S. Economic Sectors, Department of Labor (Washington DC) 19 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210119>.

³¹⁶⁵ Your Money and Coronavirus: Resources for Financial Relief, United States Treasury (Washington DC) 20 January 2021. Access Date: 2 March 2021. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/featured-stories/your-money-and-coronavirus-resources-for-financial-relief>.

³¹⁶⁶ Your Money and Coronavirus: Resources for Financial Relief, United States Treasury (Washington DC) 20 January 2021. Access Date: 2 March 2021. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/featured-stories/your-money-and-coronavirus-resources-for-financial-relief>.

³¹⁶⁷ Prioritizing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights in U.S. Foreign Policy, Department of State (Washington DC) 28 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.state.gov/prioritizing-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-reproductive-rights-in-u-s-foreign-policy/>.

³¹⁶⁸ Prioritizing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights in U.S. Foreign Policy, Department of State (Washington DC) 28 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.state.gov/prioritizing-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-reproductive-rights-in-u-s-foreign-policy/>.

³¹⁶⁹ World Economic Outlook, January 2021 Update, International Monetary Fund (Washington DC) 26 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/weo-database/2020/October>.

³¹⁷⁰ Europe’s moment: Repair and prepare for the next generation, European Commission (Brussels) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_940.

and cloud computing.³¹⁷¹ The plan and multiannual budget were adopted by the European Council on 21 July 2020 and passed by the European Parliament on 17 December 2020.³¹⁷² In its final form, the multiannual financial framework is worth EUR1.8 trillion for the period of 2021-2027, and EUR750 billions of this sum is to be made available to a COVID-19 recovery fund between 2021 and 2023.³¹⁷³ Futureproofing is a focus, as 30 per cent of spending is earmarked for climate-related action and digitalization, and the majority of the grants are to be allocated through the EU's Next Generation European Union program.³¹⁷⁴

On 8 June 2020, the European Union announced that over EUR148 million in funding had been awarded to 36 companies through the European Innovation Council Accelerator Pilot to support their contributions to the EU recovery plan.³¹⁷⁵ Examples of projects funded include improved wind turbines constructed from wood, an organic fertilizer production system, and a sustainable recycling solution based on blockchain.³¹⁷⁶

On 17 September 2020, the European Union set out guidelines for the implementation of the Next Generation European Union program's EUR672.5 billion Recovery and Resilience Facility, which aims to help build a digital and sustainable recovery, in its 2020 Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy.³¹⁷⁷ Environmental sustainability, productivity, fairness, and macroeconomic stability remain guiding principles.³¹⁷⁸

The European Union has taken strong actions to promote clean technology and infrastructure and economic inclusion. However, the Euro Area's 2020 real growth in gross domestic product, which is -7.2 per cent, does not reach the 1.3 per cent growth projected by the International Monetary Fund in January 2020.³¹⁷⁹

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Anjali Roy

³¹⁷¹ Europe's moment: Repair and prepare for the next generation, European Commission (Brussels) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_940.

³¹⁷² Coronavirus Response Highlights March to August 2020, European Commission (Brussels), 21 July 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/highlights/march-august-2020_en

³¹⁷³ Long-term EU budget 2021-2027 and recovery package, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 17 December 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/the-eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget-2021-2027/>.

³¹⁷⁴ Long-term EU budget 2021-2027 and recovery package, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 17 December 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/the-eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget-2021-2027/>.

³¹⁷⁵ Coronavirus: EU grants €314 million to innovative companies to combat the virus and support recovery, European Commission (Brussels) 8 June 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1007.

³¹⁷⁶ Coronavirus: EU grants €314 million to innovative companies to combat the virus and support recovery, European Commission (Brussels) 8 June 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1007.

³¹⁷⁷ NextGenerationEU: Commission presents next steps for €672.5 billion Recovery and Resilience Facility in 2021 Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy, European Commission (Brussels) 17 September 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1658.

³¹⁷⁸ NextGenerationEU: Commission presents next steps for €672.5 billion Recovery and Resilience Facility in 2021 Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy, European Commission (Brussels) 17 September 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1658.

³¹⁷⁹ World Economic Outlook, January 2021 Update, International Monetary Fund (Washington DC) 26 January 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/weo-database/2020/October>.