



## INTERNATIONAL ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

The Climate Change Authority has released a stocktake of global climate change mitigation action. It is available at [www.climatechangeauthority.gov.au](http://www.climatechangeauthority.gov.au).

This document is one of a series the Climate Change Authority is releasing in early 2019. The Authority welcomes your input on the accuracy and reliability of the information contained in the stocktakes and any relevant additional information.

The stocktakes, along with other research and analysis, will assist the Authority to update its advice to the Australian Government on policies to meet Australia's emissions reduction commitments under the Paris Agreement. The Authority will consult later in the year as it develops its approach to updating its advice.

### Global problem

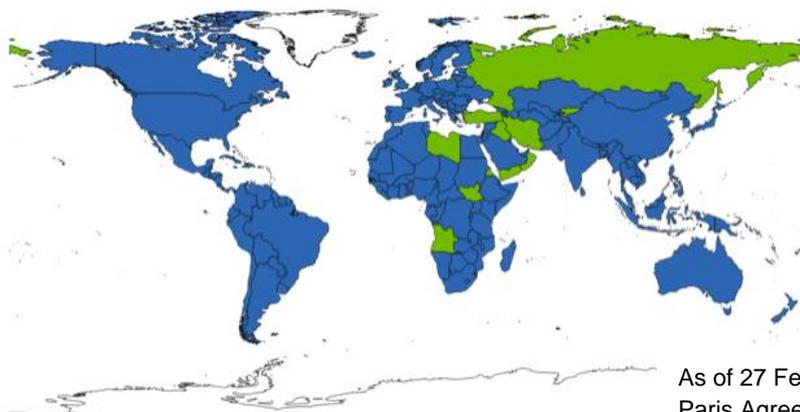
Climate change, driven by anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, is a serious global challenge that poses major risks to the global community, economy and environment. Human activities are estimated to have caused approximately 1.0°C of global warming above pre-industrial levels and if it continues to increase at the current rate is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052. Global greenhouse gas emissions increased in 2017 and carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels are expected to have set a record high in 2018.

Australia produces around one per cent of global emissions and is the world's 15th largest emitter. The two biggest emitters, China and the United States, produce over 36 per cent of global emissions. The next 12 largest emitters together account for approximately 31 per cent of global emissions and each of these countries is individually responsible for producing more emissions than Australia. There are 176 countries that individually produce fewer emissions than Australia, which together account for about 31 per cent of global emissions. This widespread distribution of emissions means all countries must act and the global problem of climate change can only be solved through a global solution.

### Global solution

The Paris Agreement is a significant milestone, where all countries have committed to reducing emissions to limit global warming to well below 2°C and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C. Under the agreement, countries have made individual emissions reduction commitments.

#### The Paris Agreement has almost global coverage



Ratified countries' proportion of:	
Global emissions (%)	92
Global population (%)	94
Global Gross Domestic Product (%)	95

Note: includes the US, which has announced its intention to withdraw from the Paris Agreement.

As of 27 February 2019, **195 Parties have signed** the Paris Agreement and **185 Parties have ratified** it.

## Countries' policies and measures

Countries are implementing a range of policies and measures to meet their emissions reduction commitments. These are outlined in detail in the stocktake and include renewable energy targets, carbon pricing, fuel economy standards and subsidies for low emissions technologies. The range of approaches to climate change policy around the world reflects the diversity in economic structures, natural resources, political appetite and emissions profiles.

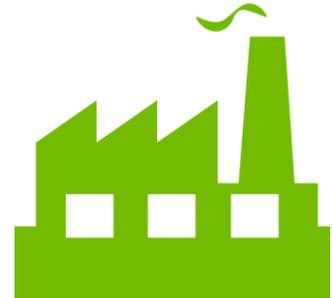
### Fast facts on global climate change action



**116 countries** have some form of **renewable energy targets** – their levels of ambition vary significantly



In 2017, **global investment in renewable energy** was **A\$374 billion**, far exceeding the A\$145 billion invested in fossil fuel generation



**30 countries** have committed to **phase-out coal power that does not have technologies to reduce emissions**



**21 countries** have implemented some form of **carbon tax** - their prices and coverage vary significantly



**36 countries** have implemented some form of **emissions trading scheme** — their level of ambition and coverage vary significantly



**Nearly 80 per cent of new passenger vehicles** sold globally are subject to **fuel efficiency or CO<sub>2</sub> emissions standards**

## Global progress

Progress is being made on countries' commitments. In the UN Environment's assessment, some countries are making good progress, while others have more work to do. However, under current rates of ambition and action, the world will not meet the Paris Agreement's 2°C temperature goal, let alone the more ambitious 1.5°C goal. If these goals are to be reached, countries will need to continue implementing policies to reduce emissions and increase the ambition of their emissions reduction targets over time.

**References:** A full list of references used in this fact sheet is available in the full stocktake report.