

# Green approaches to COVID-19 recovery

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*"Building a better future where nobody is left behind: How can parliaments ensure that COVID-19 recovery strategies are in line with the SDGs?"*

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# Green recovery

- Three planetary crises: **climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution**
- Links between COVID-19 and degradation of the environment
- Global green recovery spending not sufficient to address the scale of the planetary crises and to prevent future pandemics
- Expected +USD 12 trillion investment in COVID-19 recovery, an unprecedented opportunity to transform into environmentally sustainable economies and achieve SDGs (e.g., goals 7,11, 12, 13, 14 & 15)



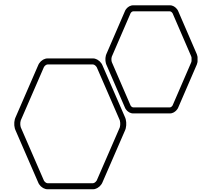
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# Green approaches to COVID-19 recovery: Policy note for parliamentarians

## Key approaches:

- Green infrastructure
- Waste management and circularity
- Clean energy
- Green jobs
- Biodiversity and nature-based solutions
- Rule of law



# What can parliaments do?



LEGISLATIVE ACTION



BUDGETARY ACTION



OVERSIGHT ACTION

# What can parliaments do? *(continued...)*

## **Legislate on:**

- Public investment in green infrastructure
- Tax rebates or waivers, e.g., for recycling
- Tax on environmentally harmful goods and services
- Incentives to create green jobs and invest in green infrastructure
- Green jobs training programmes
- Green procurement
- Extended producer responsibility
- Eliminating fossil fuel subsidies
- Regulating drivers of biodiversity loss

## **Oversee/ensure:**

- Government actions to implement the Paris Agreement
- Environmental risk assessments in COVID-19 recovery planning
- Inclusion of safeguards and continued protection of environmental rights in recovery legislation
- Public participation and social inclusion in COVID-19 legislative processes

## **Adopt budgets for:**

- Low-carbon activities
- Clean technology research and development
- Conservation programmes
- Sustainable agriculture
- Urban green and blue infrastructure

# Examples

- Pakistan set up a USD47 million reforestation programme to hire people unemployed due to COVID-19
- Australia included USD47.2million in environmental measures in its COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Fund
- The Republic of Korea introduced a new green deal, allocating USD53.6billion to green investments

*For more info, visit:*  
**<https://www.unep.org/covid-19>**

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*Thank you!*

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