WEO week day 4: Achieving net zero emissions

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The world is still far from putting emissions into decisive decline

Global CO₂ emissions

Global CO₂ emissions are set to bounce back more slowly than after the financial crisis of 2008-2009, but the world is still a long way from a sustainable recovery.

- Full implementation of 2050 net-zero pledges (e.g. EU, UK, New Zealand and others)
- China 2060 net-zero statement
Ambitious actions over the next decade are critical

Governments recovery plans will shape energy infrastructure and industries for decades to come: these represent a historic opportunity to accelerate clean energy transitions.
Decarbonising electricity is central to achieving net zero emissions.

Lowering unabated coal generation is critical to reducing emissions as the power sector is the largest emitting sector globally today. Solar PV will have an outsized role to play.
A rapid uptake of clean end-use technologies will also be required.

Emissions need to be tackled across industry, buildings and transport. This will rely on a wide range of new technologies including: low-carbon fuels, hydrogen, CCUS, building retrofits, efficiency, electric cars...
Behaviour changes could have large impacts

Behaviour changes can quickly reduce emissions from existing end-use assets; around 60% of measures could be supported or influenced by government policies.