HOW GREEN IS THE RECOVERY?
INSIGHTS FROM THE OECD GREEN RECOVERY DATABASE

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To assess the “greenness” of recovery, the OECD has developed a database that:

- Tracks 700 recovery-related measures with environmental impacts
- Covers 43 countries (OECD and most other G20)
- Categorises measures: positive, negative, or mixed environmental impact
- Covers several environmental dimensions (climate, water, biodiversity etc)

Caution required when comparing and interpreting data

See the database at:
The total allocated to “green” measures is only 17% of total recovery funding, and is matched by support to mixed and negative measures.
Climate change mitigation dominates measures

Most measures impact GHG emissions (positively and negatively); other environmental dimensions under-represented.
Allocation across sectors is highly variable

Energy and ground transport carry the strongest green funding support; aviation and industry show a strong balance towards negative measures.
Opportunities for further **greening** the recovery

- **Rigorous** *ex ante* and *ex post evaluation* of policies and assessment against longer-term objectives
- **Extend focus** beyond climate, outside energy and transport sectors; increase support for **innovation**
- Keep a strong emphasis on “**just transition**” and distributional effects of a green recovery
- **Look beyond the recovery phase**: ramping up “green budgeting” approaches to lock-in greenness of public spending
- Opportunities and challenges **differ significantly across countries**, in particular for developing countries
THANK YOU


Image credit: Julia Rosen and Yuliya Parshina-Kottas, NYT
Challenges to further **understanding** the green recovery

• **What do we mean by “green” and “sustainable”?**
  – Broadening sector scope and environmental dimensions
  – From project level to long-term objectives

• **What is a COVID-19 recovery policy?**
  – Distinguishing “rescue” from “recovery”
  – Differing country approaches from “recovery packages” to individual budget lines

• **How do we compare different policy types?**
  – Comparability of different measures (grants, tax breaks, loan guarantees etc)
  – Integrating implications of regulatory changes linked to recovery
Other trackers exist: different scope and focus, but consistent in overall messages.