March 2026

CLEAN INDUSTRY SPOTLIGHT

Turning Australia’s natural advantage into industrial leadership

BUILD CLEAN NOW

FORGING THE INDUSTRIAL FUTURE

About Build Clean Now

Build Clean Now is a global campaign to advance clean industry. It brings together governments, companies and finance to accelerate the pace at which clean industrial projects are financed and built, year-on-year. Investment into clean industry projects will bring forward the production of clean materials, chemicals and fuels, fast-tracking the clean industrial revolution.

Led by the Industrial Transition Accelerator (ITA) and Mission Possible Partnership, Build Clean Now has been developed with a broad network of collaborators (see below), and with insight from industrial project developers and governments. The ambition is to drive rapid ramp-up in investments in the near term, with an initial target of 50 new final investment decisions (FIDs) on major clean industry projects in 2025–26, with 20 secured by the end of 2025.

Build Clean Now exists to inspire and enable progress. It reframes clean industry as a route to industrial leadership, economic growth and security, and works collaboratively, galvanising decision-makers to overcome challenges and take action. It spotlights the countries and companies already seizing these opportunities, shows where near-term potential is strongest, and builds momentum around the solutions that can unlock major projects.

Global partners and co-creators

Alliance for Industry Decarbonization
BREAKTHROUGH AGENDA
Energy Transitions Commission
Global Renewables Alliance
MISSION 2025
WBCSD World Business Council for Sustainable Development
WE MEAN BUSINESS COALITION
UNIDO UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION Progress by innovation

About Build Clean Now

MISSION POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIP

Mission Possible Partnership is an independent non-profit organisation advancing global clean industry transformation. Since 2019, we have been working with some of the most energy-intensive industries: aluminium, aviation, cement, chemicals, shipping and steel, to cut their nearly 25% of global GHG emissions.

We mobilise business, finance, government and civil society leaders to speed up the shift to clean materials, chemicals and fuels. Having charted sectoral pathways to net-zero, we continue to forge new territory, lifting the barriers to enable a critical mass of clean industrial projects to break ground by 2030.

Mission Possible Partnership has people and partners on the ground in North America, Brazil, Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, India and Asia Pacific.

ITA INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION ACCELERATOR

The Industrial Transition Accelerator (ITA) is a global multi-stakeholder initiative to catalyse decarbonisation across heavy-emitting industry and transport sectors that represent a third of global emissions. With expansive networks across industry, financial institutions and governments, the ITA brings together global leaders to unlock investment at scale, for the rapid deployment of decarbonisation solutions. Within three years, it aims to significantly grow the pipeline of commercial-scale, clean industrial projects to reduce emissions by 2030 and enable delivery of Paris Agreement-aligned ambition for these sectors.

Cyan Ventures

Australian partner. Cyan Ventures is a specialist sustainability project development and advisory firm focused on bringing first-of-a-kind sustainability projects to market. The company supports founders in advancing projects to financial close while also advising regulators, offtakers, investors, and other key stakeholders to establish the market conditions required for these projects to succeed. Recognising that high-quality projects depend on an enabling market—and that market reforms require viable projects—Cyan Ventures addresses both project development and systemic market readiness simultaneously.

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Foreword: Australia's moment is now

Global shifts to clean manufacturing are reshaping major economies. **Australia has strong advantages, with world-class mineral deposits, renewable potential and a strong reputation as a trusted trading partner.** International partners already look to us to support the decarbonisation of steel, fuels and heavy industry. **There is a clear economic opportunity if we can move early and build scale.**

Recognising this, the Australian Government has set out a major investment plan. The **Future Made in Australia** agenda commits AUD22.7 bn over the next decade to build competitive clean energy industries, including:

- AUD1.5 bn to advance early-stage clean industry technologies
- AUD1 bn Green Iron Investment Fund
- Up to AUD4 bn to give early hydrogen producers greater revenue certainty
- Investment to streamline access for nationally significant developments

Strong policy support is necessary, but not enough. Private investment and real demand must grow together for policy measures to succeed. Many clean industry projects still face barriers to reaching final investment decisions. Financing gaps remain and offtake is uncertain. These slow deployment of the technologies needed to cut emissions in heavy industry. They also limit firms' ability to commit capital quickly enough to secure new export markets.

Bringing industry, investors and government together can capture the realities facing our clean industry projects, consider the right roles, highlight the conditions needed to turn credible opportunities into committed projects, and build momentum through the clean industry transition.

Australia's future prosperity depends on our private and public sectors working together to decarbonise industry. Build Clean Now provides the platform for this shift by bringing together the people best positioned to drive progress and focusing on the practical steps needed to unlock investment.
The opportunity is clear and the window is short. Government and industry must act together to unlock clean industry in Australia.

Michael Bartlett
A/G Branch Head, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

About this briefing

This is the first clean industry spotlight briefing published under the global Build Clean Now initiative. It draws on discussions at the October 2025 Sydney workshop, which brought together more than 50 senior representatives from across the clean industry value chain (see Appendix). The briefing assesses Australia's clean industry pipeline, the barriers preventing projects from reaching final investment decision (FID), and the actions needed to accelerate progress. It focuses in particular on structural challenges in demand (offtake) and financing, identified as the most significant obstacles to near-term investment.

International context

Globally, more than 1,000 commercial-scale clean industry projects are in development, representing over US$1.8 trillion in investment opportunity. Around one-fifth have reached or are approaching FID. Progress is uneven and concentrated in a small number of markets. Countries that resolve demand and financing barriers fastest are likely to capture the greatest economic advantage.

Australia's pipeline

MPP's Global Project Tracker identifies 53 commercial-scale zero or near-zero emissions projects in Australia. For Build Clean Now we are also tracking a further 17 projects driving broader progress towards industrial decarbonisation. These bring Australia's total number of projects to 70 in development. Nearly 20 are approaching financial close and one has reached FID.

The additional 17 projects support industrial decarbonisation through circular technologies, 'first big step' technologies that reduce emissions significantly but by themselves do not reach near-zero and complementary 'last mile' solutions to deliver the final emissions reductions needed to reach near-zero emissions.

The bankability gap

The core challenge is whether projects can secure financing on acceptable terms under current market conditions. Discussions at the Sydney Build Clean Now workshop, involving developers, investors and policymakers, pointed to a consistent set of structural barriers.

Structural barriers holding projects back

Clean industry projects face a combination of commercial, financial and regulatory constraints:

- Weak structural demand: Carbon pricing alone is not generating sufficient demand for low-carbon commodities and the number of buyers willing to pay a premium for clean industry products remains small. In sectors such as low-carbon fuels, mandates and standards are emerging but remain limited in scope and scale. As a result, many projects cannot secure the long-term purchase agreements needed to underpin investment. →

Rachel Howard

Fraser Thompson, Cyan Ventures

- Financing constraints: These projects require very large upfront capital investment. Investors and lenders face uncertainty around future demand, construction risks and the limited commercial track record of newer technologies. Development costs before reaching FID are also significant. Without stronger revenue certainty or risk-sharing mechanisms, access to affordable, long-term finance remains constrained.
- Infrastructure dependencies: Many projects rely on external factors such as timely grid upgrades, renewable power availability, port expansions or logistics capacity. Delays or uncertainty in these areas affect cost assumptions and investor confidence.
- Regulatory complexity: Multi-layered state and federal approval processes can extend over several years. Workshop participants highlighted uncertainty around requirements under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act as a source of additional timing and cost risk.

While these barriers are interconnected, workshop participants agreed on two areas that most urgently require attention to accelerate projects in the next 12–24 months: offtake and finance.

Priorities for near-term acceleration

1. Stronger demand signals

Projects require broader and more predictable markets for low-carbon products. Clearer product standards, targeted mandates and market-shaping mechanisms could stimulate long-term purchase agreements and expand the buyer pool. Without durable demand, projects cannot secure the contracts required to unlock debt financing.

2. Financial de-risking mechanisms

Investors highlighted the need for tools that reduce specific project risks and make future revenues more predictable. Government guarantees, export finance consortia, contingency reserve facilities and long-term, affordable project finance platforms were viewed as particularly important. Combined, these mechanisms could materially narrow the gap between project ambition and financial close.

The path forward

Australia has advanced clean industry projects and strong natural advantages, supported by significant government commitments under the Future Made in Australia agenda. Converting the pipeline into construction now depends on aligning policy, demand and finance quickly.

As Australia assumes a leadership role in COP31 negotiations, advancing clean industry projects would reinforce its position in global trade and industrial discussions. Demonstrating progress at home strengthens Australia's influence abroad.

The Sydney Build Clean Now workshop marked the beginning of a more focused acceleration effort. Mission Possible Partnership and the Industrial Transition Accelerator, supported by Cyan Ventures and partners, will support progress through a Clean Deal Dashboard to track progress and identify targeted interventions that can help move projects from advanced development to final investment decision.

The clean industrial opportunity is real. To turn projects into plants, Australia must move decisively to strengthen demand, reduce risk and provide the long-term certainty investors require.

Shaun Chen, Cyan Ventures

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the first in a series of clean industry spotlight briefings published as part of the global Build Clean Now campaign to fast-track the clean industrial revolution. This briefing is delivered by the ITA and our Australian delivery partner Cyan Ventures. Together, we share the most effective actions and inspiring stories to advance Australia's emerging clean industrial projects – valued at over AUD300 bn – to FID.

These pages capture outcomes from an October 2025 workshop in Sydney that convened over 50 senior leaders from across Australia's clean industry ecosystem. **This rare opportunity to gather together supply, demand, policy and finance stakeholders provides valuable insights into what will accelerate clean industry for both Australian and export markets.** Following other workshops around the world, we will publish more clean industry spotlight briefings throughout 2026.

Through qualitative discussions and quantitative survey responses linked to specific presentations, Sydney workshop participants outlined their views on clean industry's main challenges, solutions and specific next steps. This briefing focuses on understanding and overcoming barriers to demand (offtake) and financing, reflecting the primary challenges to clean industry in Australia and elsewhere. Based on specific findings, it proposes tangible mechanisms and cites real-world examples of similar approaches.

By acting fast and together, **project developers, policy-makers and investors can make real progress before COP31** to help secure competitive advantage.

Workshop participants

See Appendix 2 for participants' full details.

Government

- Australian Government – Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
- Government of South Australia – Department for Energy and Mining
- NSW Government – Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water
- Australian Government – Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Australian Government – Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts
- Australian Government – The Treasury

Project - LCLF

- HAMR ENERGY
- VAST
- Jet Zero AUSTRALIA
- WAGNER SUSTAINABLE FUELS
- Licella™
- HIF
- LANZAJET

Project – Hydrogen, Ammonia

- energy estate
- Revera ENERGY
- CIP
- H2U

Project - Green Iron

- Fortescue
- MERANTI™ GREEN STEEL
- PGS Progressive Green Solutions
- GREENSTEELWA

Finance

- nab
- WOLLEMI™
- Australian Government – Australian Renewable Energy Agency
- ARENA
- BOUNDLESS
- CLIMATE ENERGY FINANCE
- Morgan Stanley
- Investor Group on Climate Change
- GAW CAPITAL
- CLIMATE TECH PARTNERS

Enablers, Offtake

- The Superpower Institute
- BIOENERGY GROUP PTY LTD
- greenhouse
- Deloitte.
- POWERING AUSTRALIA
- j2
- CLIMATE ZEITGEIST
- PACIFIC PROJECT GROUP
- DEPARTMENT OF STATE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
- WWF
- QANTAS

THE CLEAN INDUSTRY LANDSCAPE AND PIPELINE

Global momentum is building, but delivery is uneven

The world is on the cusp of a clean industrial revolution

Data from Mission Possible Partnership's Global Project Tracker shows that over 1,000 commercial-scale projects are now in the global pipeline, waiting to for investment to begin producing essential clean materials, fuels and chemicals that we and our economies rely on. This represents an investment opportunity ofmore than US$1.8 tr.

Momentum is building

Some 144 projects – and many others in China – have reached FID, with 82 operational and a further 62 under construction. Another 70 projects are close to securing FIDs, potentially unlocking US$142 bn in new investment.

The opportunity to accelerate is clear

For now, much of the US$1.8 tr opportunity is going unclaimed. When governments, finance and industry work together, we can move projects faster towards investment and construction.

We know how to do this

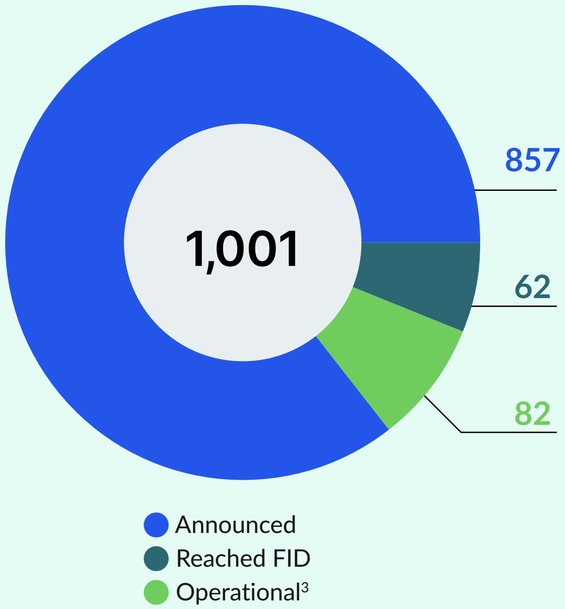
Unleashing the full potential of clean industry depends on effective policies to drive demand for clean industrial products, innovative finance and access to clean energy to underpin investments at scale and reduce financing costs.

We all stand to benefit from acting now

Each project reaching FID reinforces the clean industry business case, lowering costs and boosting investor confidence. And this strengthens our economy and the health of our planet.

Global Project Tracker pipeline

Total projects by project stage[1]

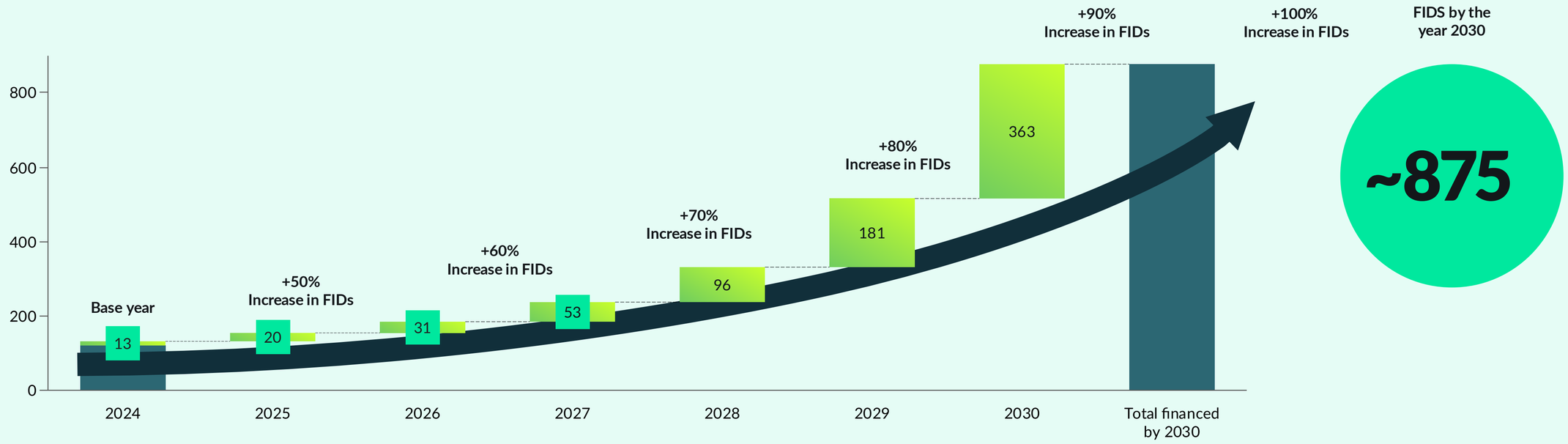


	Ammonia	Methanol	HVC[2]	Aviation	Aluminium	Cement	Steel	Estimated investment
857	434	164	3	208	5	28	15	USD 1.84 tr
62	19	15	0	17	3	1	7	USD 81 bn
82	2	3	2	28	46	1	0	USD 97 bn

Source: Mission Possible Partnership Global Project Tracker . **1.** Includes critical decarbonisation projects only **2.** High-value chemicals (HVCs) include olefins (ethylene, propylene, butadiene) and aromatics (benzene, toulene, xylene) **3.** Not all operating projects have yet reached full, end-state commercial capacity

Year-on-year acceleration in clean industry FIDs could transform growth by 2030

Illustrative scaling of FIDs with year-on-year acceleration of 50% starting 2024 and increasing by 10% per year



Australia's opportunity: scale, speed and competitive advantage

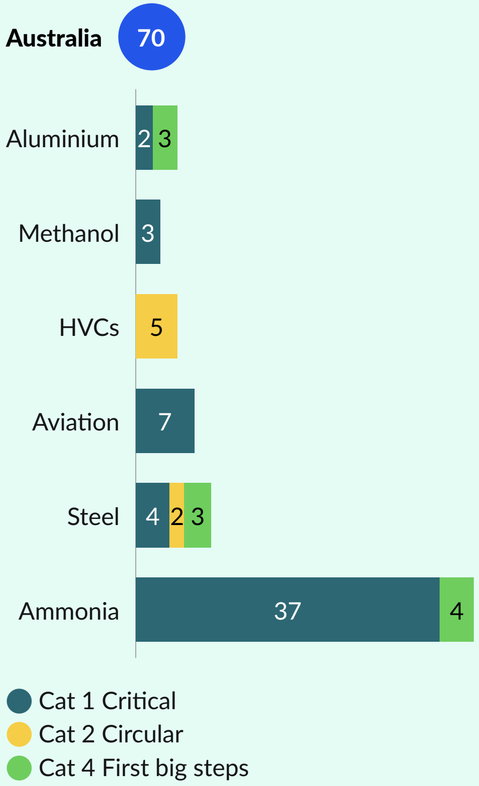
Australia is approaching a clean industry tipping point. It has the world's joint-third largest pipeline, alongside India and behind only China and the USA. The country has some clean industry leaders, notably in aviation. And the government is supportive. But it must catch up with more agile states to reap rewards. Of 70 clean industry projects in Australia, nearly 20 are approaching FID but only one has reached that milestone MPP's Global Project Tracker identifies 53 commercial-scale zero or near-zero emissions projects. For Build Clean Now in Australia, we are also tracking a further 17 projects driving broader, but not near-zero, progress towards industrial decarbonisation. These bring Australia's total clean industrial pipeline to 70 projects in development, with 15-20 approaching final investment decision and one already at FID.

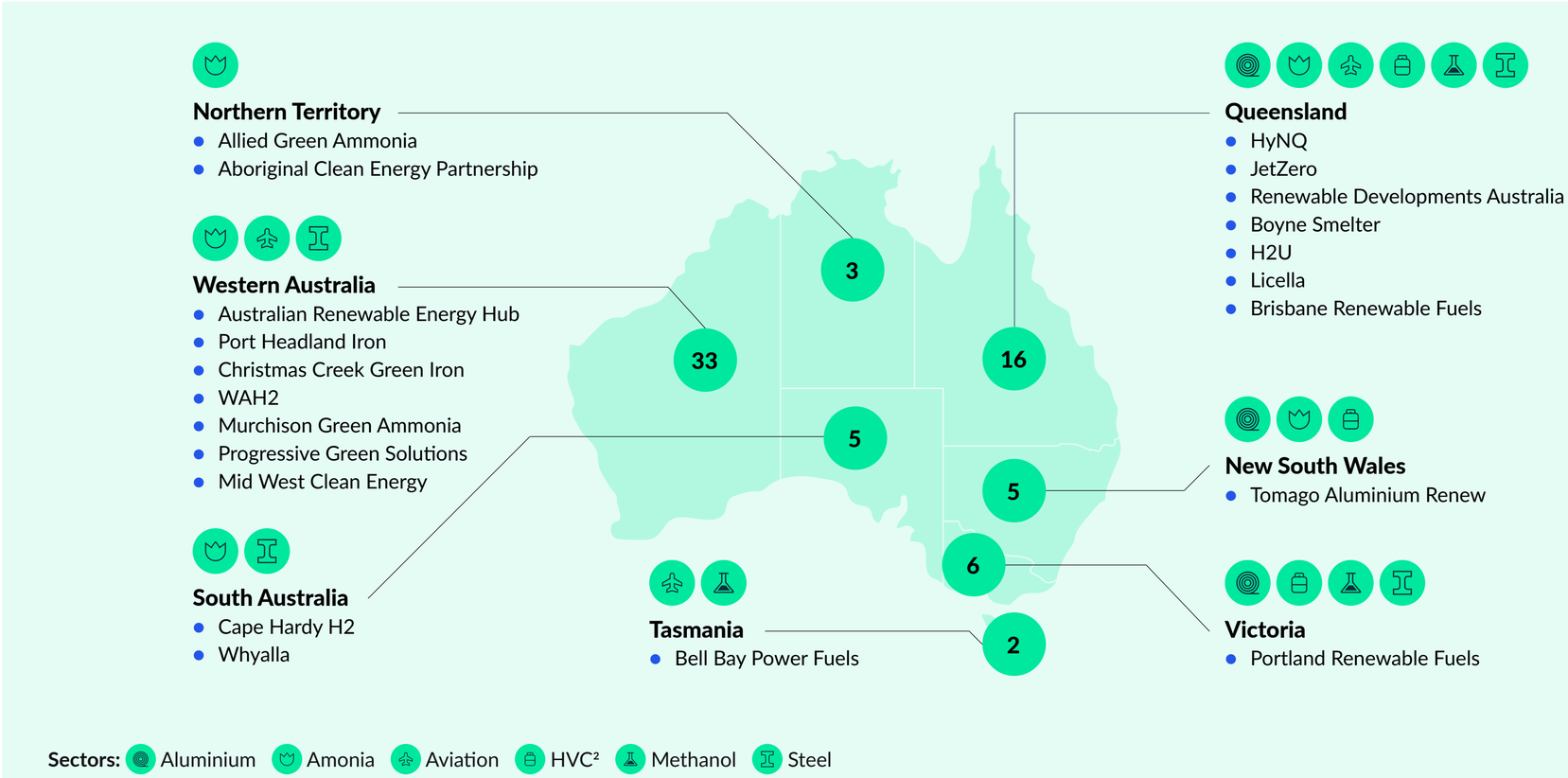
As global markets shift towards clean industry, Australia needs to act fast to replace its traditional iron ore, coal and gas with clean iron, green ammonia and sustainable fuels. Clean industry can drive economic growth in regions such as coal-producing areas.

The right government policies could accelerate clean industry in Australia, support demand creation before COP31 and achieve FIDs by early 2027.

Australia has a significant pipeline of 70 clean industry projects waiting to unlock >AUD 290B in investment, with ~15-20 projects at advanced stages

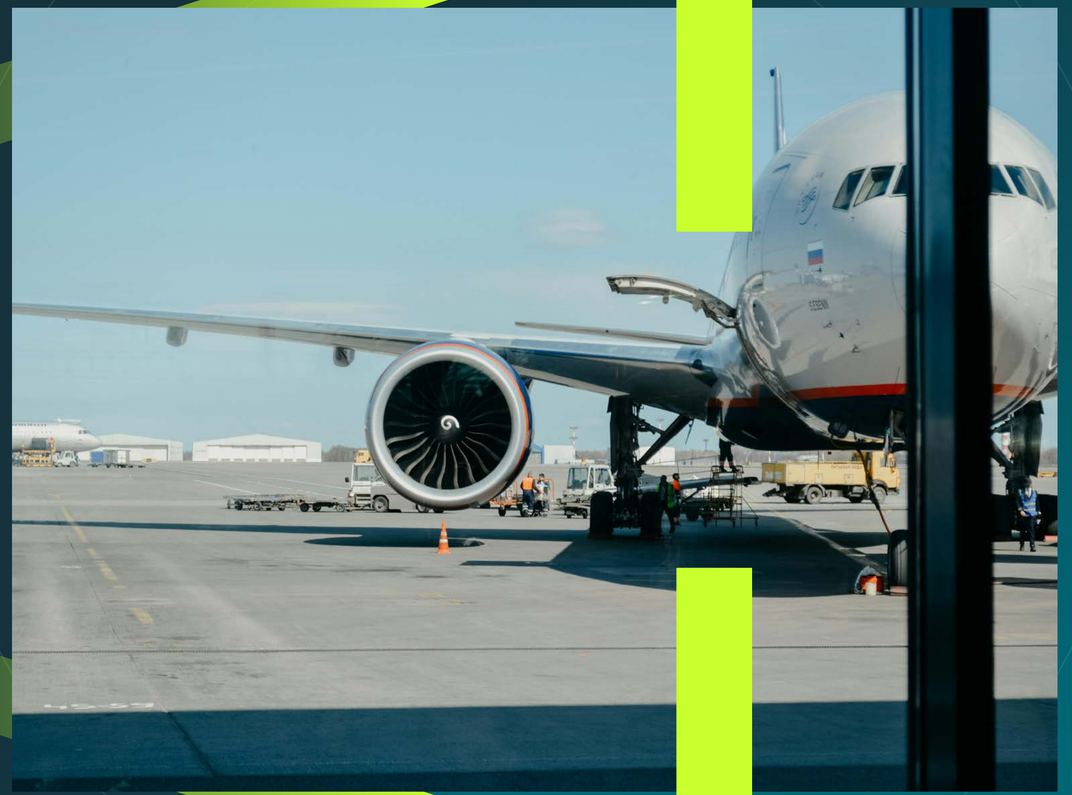
This map shows all 70 projects and names the advanced projects





Global Project Tracker, April to November MPP. Pipeline includes **53 Category 1: Critical decarbonisation technologies; 17 additional: 7 Cat 2: Circular, 10 Cat 4: First big steps**
Advanced = Feasibility stage complete, in or ready to commence front end engineering design (FEED) stage (self-reported)

CHALLENGES FOR CLEAN INDUSTRY IN AUSTRALIA



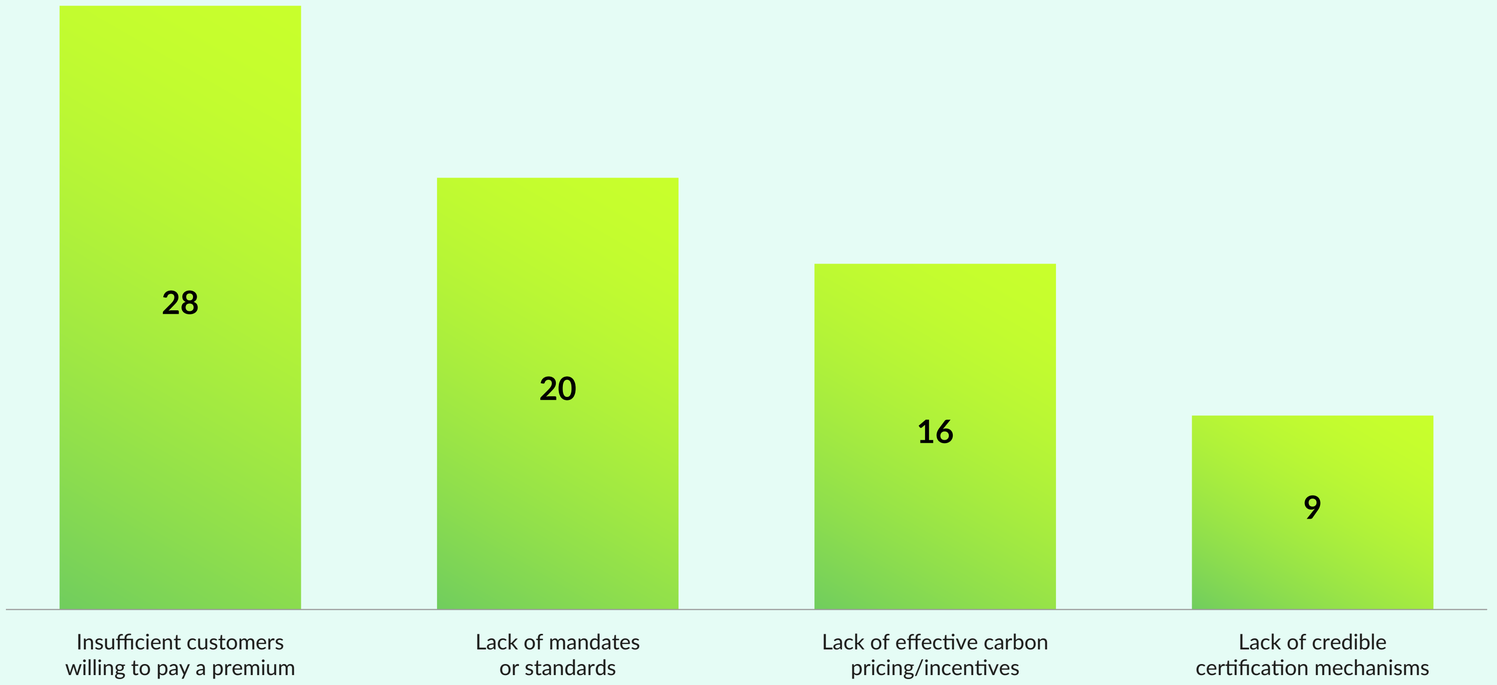
Australian clean industry projects face a range of challenges to reach FID. The most pressing relate to levels of demand and low-cost financing. **These barriers are real but we can overcome them. And fast movers will reap rewards.**

Primary challenges to reaching FID

	Category	Description
Focus of this briefing	**Demand**	• Prices do not cover the costs of switching to low-carbon products, so there is no structural market for clean commodities • Buyers who are willing to pay a clean industry premium are scarce and fragmented • Uncertain timing and scale of future low-carbon standards • Commercial buyers (offtakers) believe prices will lower in future so do not want to risk overpaying now • Lenders want project developers to have long-term contracts with buyers but offtakers are reluctant to commit long term
	Financing	• Energy-intensive commodities require very large sums of upfront capital expenditure (AUD2 bn+), which must be de-risked to secure long-term, low-cost project finance • Investors factor in large clean industry risks as they are not yet familiar with new critical decarbonisation technologies • Clean industry requires multiple funding sources – government support, equity investors and different types of debt financing
	Regulatory	• Large clean industry projects need many approvals relating to their land, air, water and cultural/community impacts • Timelines are uncertain and often lengthy (e.g. environmental approvals require multiple seasonal data points)
	Policy	• Risk of policy change or reversal by federal and state governments • Incentives and policies can take a long time to materialise • There is a lack of universally recognised clean industry standards
	Supply chain and infrastructure	• Obtaining feedstock and resource certainty (quality, price and logistics) is difficult • Power and water availability and quality can be challenging • Equipment lead time increases deployment costs and delays

Weak demand is holding projects back

The most significant offtake barriers for clean industry projects



The primary barrier to clean industry projects in Australia is **insufficient demand for low-carbon products that cost a premium.**

Despite the growing clean industry pipeline, market pull remains weak due to relatively low carbon pricing, a lack of policy mandates for low-carbon products and early-stage certification mechanisms.

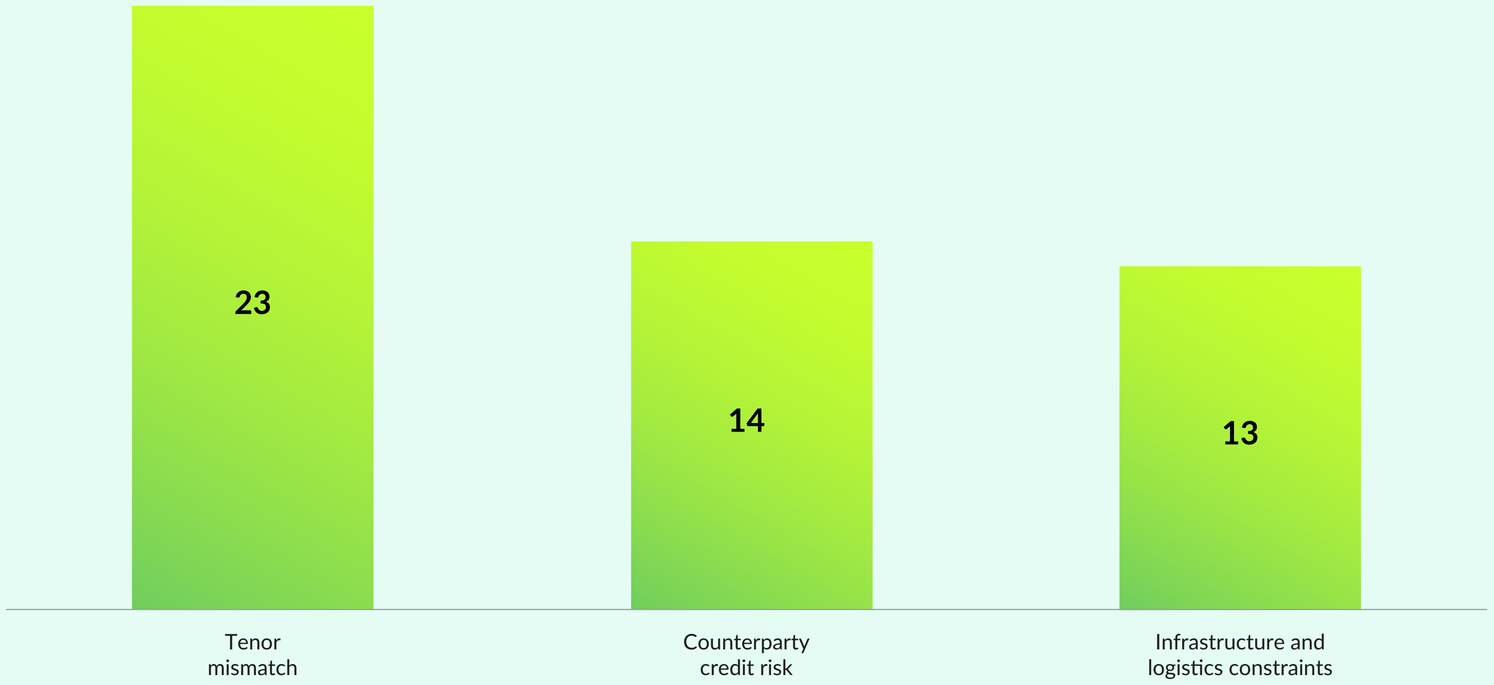
Consequently, buyers lack incentives to pay a clean industry premium and producers cannot confidently price their products. This undermines early demand and commercial confidence in low-carbon products in both Australian and export markets.

Supporting large-scale offtake contracts will need measures such as requirements to purchase low-carbon products, and robust low-carbon certification systems.

Source: Sydney workshop survey and discussions: barriers to demand in clean industry projects. In addition to the data shown, nine participants selected fragmented demand and five selected 'other'.

Weak demand is holding projects back

The largest barriers to clean industry offtake contract design



N = 39. Participants representing clean industry projects, investors/financers and enablers each selected the two biggest barriers to offtake contracts. In addition to the data shown, seven participants selected take-or-pay and delivery penalties, six selected currency and macro risk, nine selected 'other' and four selected volatility/basis risk

The most significant challenges in clean industry offtake contract design in Australia are:

'Tenor mismatch' – most buyers are only willing to commit to short- or medium-term contracts, while clean industry projects require long-term revenue certainty to secure debt financing.

Counterparty credit risks, when prospective commercial buyers lack the credit strength to reassure project financers that offtake contracts are secure, compound this problem.

Infrastructure and supply chain dependencies also raise uncertainty for both buyers and financers when clean industry projects are forging new paths.

Addressing these issues requires more flexible and standardised contracting frameworks, ways to share counterparty risks, and reliability across the value chain.

Revenue uncertainty is limiting access to finance

Clean industry projects across all sectors require significant levels of capital expenditure (capex) to get up and running.

At the same time, moving industry on to a global path to net zero by 2050 requires significant scaling up of operations by 2030. For example, reaching the desired level of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) will require expanding the current pipeline at least five-fold.

Financing barriers and bottlenecks risk delaying or even derailing the clean industrial revolution and its many benefits, **but there are solutions**.

Estimated global clean industry investment requirements by 2030 (USD)*

Sector	Project capex (plants only)	System capex (plants + upstream infrastructure)	Indicative scale (plants × average capex)	Context/2030 target
Low-carbon liquid fuels (LCLF)	200–300 bn	875 bn to cover hydrogen, renewables and distribution	~250–300 plants × 0.5–1 bn	~175 bn/year investment across aviation fuels, power, CO_2 and logistics. Roughly one-third of that covers plant capex 2030 target: ~10–15% SAF share
Clean industry iron/ near-zero steel	400–600 bn to cover direct reduced iron (DRI)/ electric arc furnace (EAF) plants	500–700 bn includes hydrogen production and grid/ power infrastructure	~60–80 integrated DRI + EAF hubs × 6–8 bn	2030 target: ~190 metric tonnes/year near-zero steel capacity
Clean industry/near-zero ammonia	100–150 bn to cover ammonia synthesis and electrolyser systems	125–260 bn includes renewable generation, hydrogen storage and CO_2 handling	~50–100 plants × 2–4 bn	2030 target: 50-120 metric tonnes/year near-zero ammonia production capacity

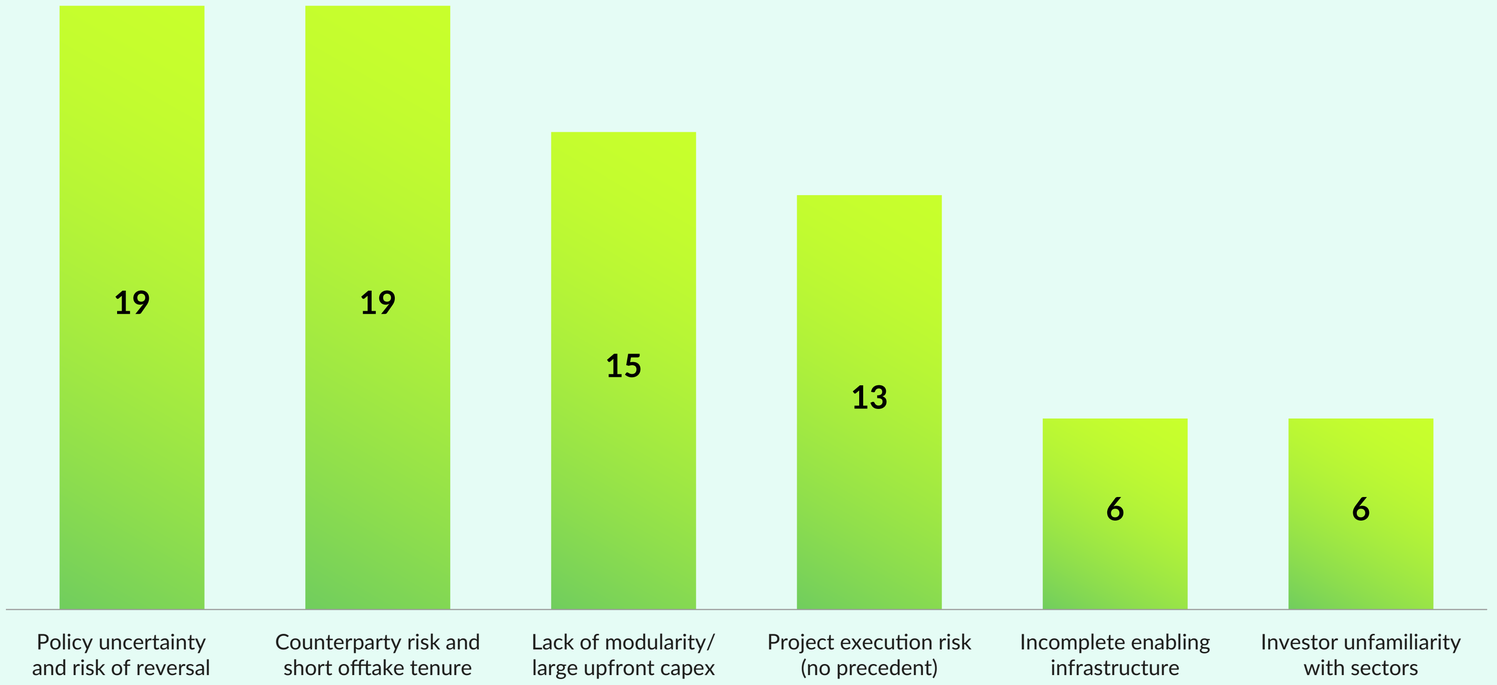
*Example sectors reflecting advanced clean industry pipeline in Australia. Linked to Mission Possible Partnership's Sector Transition Strategies 2030 targets to be on track for net zero in 2050

Similarly, getting any Australian clean industry project to FID involves significant costs. Estimated investment needed for Australian clean industry projects to reach FID (AUD)*

Sector	LCLF (SAF/e-kerosene)	Clean industry ammonia	Clean industry iron (DRI + EAF hub)
Engineering (including pre-feasibility)	15–35 mn	40–90 mn	60–150 mn
Regulatory and approvals	2–6 mn	3–8 mn	5–12 mn
Feedstock origination and certification	1–4 mn	4–10 mn	6–15 mn
Offtaker engagement (including RFPs, measurement and verification setup)	1–3 mn	2–5 mn	3–7 mn
Legal, financial and transaction advisors	2–6 mn	4–10 mn	6–15 mn
Site, grid and logistics studies	2–6 mn	3–8 mn	6–15 mn
Certification pathways and lifecycle assessments (LCAs)	0.5–1.5 mn	1–3 mn	1–3 mn
ESG and First Nations engagement	0.5–2 mn	1–3 mn	2–5 mn
Owner's team and programme operations	1–3 mn	2–5 mn	3–7 mn
Pre-FID contingency (10–20% overall)	2–8 mn	6–18 mn	9–30 mn
Indicative total	**c.28–75 mn**	**c.66–160 mn**	**c.101–259 mn**

* Example sectors reflecting advanced clean industry pipeline in Australia. Approximations for clean industry projects (numbers vary substantially based on project scale and context).

The most significant constraints to financing clean industry projects

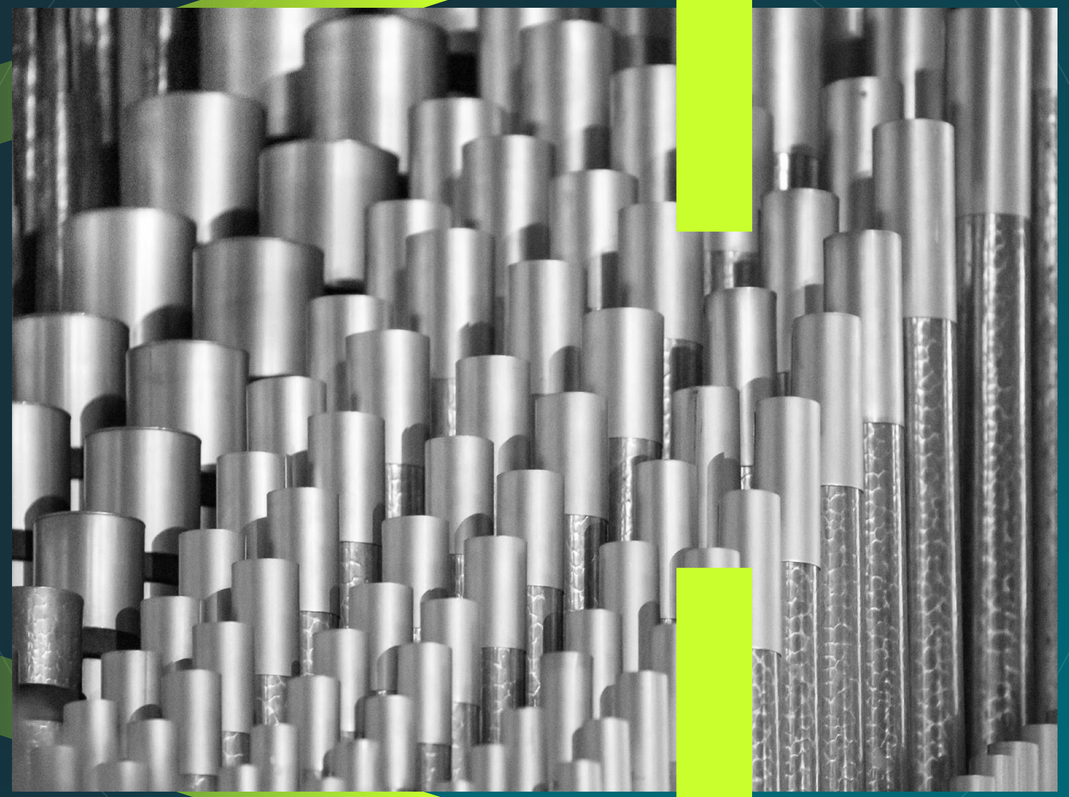


N = 39. Participants from clean industry projects, investors/financers and enablers each selected the three biggest constraints to investment in clean industry projects. In addition to the data shown, four participants selected the absence of local reference projects, four selected certification and offtake attribute uncertainty, and one enabler selected exchange rate and export market volatility.

Clean industry projects in Australia require unprecedented capital deployment yet face several significant barriers:

- **Policy uncertainty,** including the risk of policy reversals, which increases the cost of capital
- **Short-term offtake agreements** limit the investment they can secure
- **The need for high upfront capital expenditure** deters traditional investors
- **Low levels of investor confidence** because new/ unproven projects are unfamiliar to them and therefore perceived as risky, and because enabling infrastructures may be incomplete

SOLUTIONS FOR CLEAN INDUSTRY IN AUSTRALIA



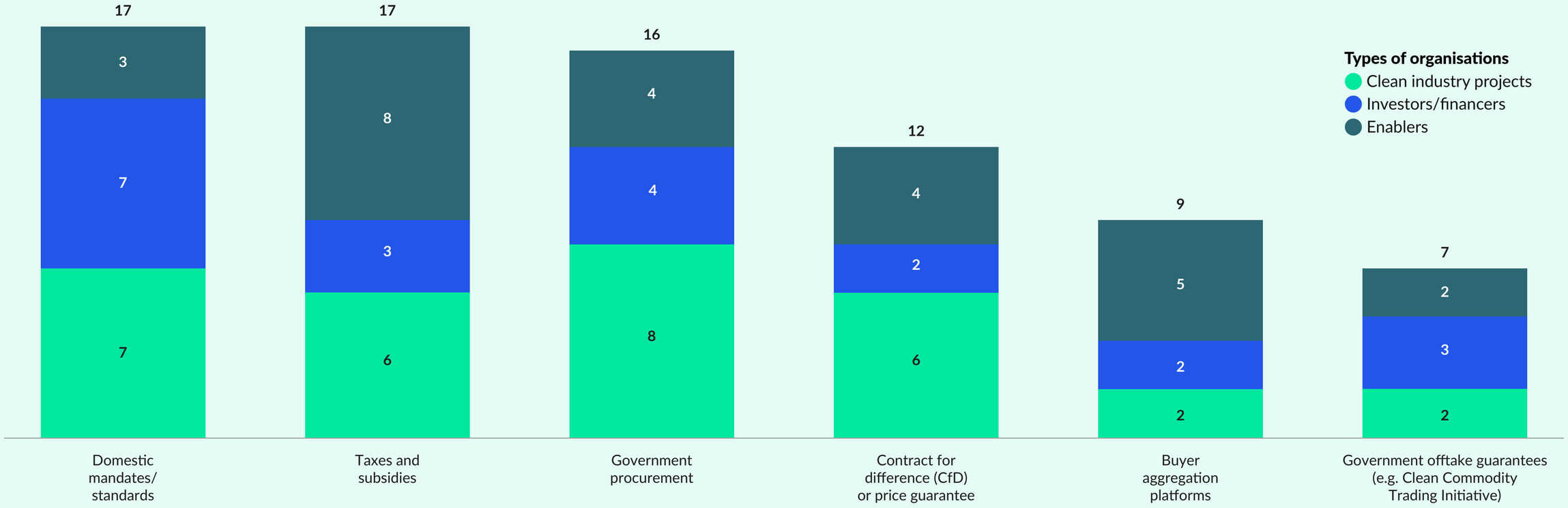
Building stronger demand signals

Several policy instruments and market mechanisms hold the most promise in unleashing demand for clean industry products in Australia. In a virtuous cycle, this will deliver more certainty for project developers, building investor confidence and reducing risks. **In turn, this will strengthen the Australian economy.**

Most workshop participants believed that the federal government is best placed to unlock demand and accelerate the clean industrial revolution in Australia.

Key demand unlock mechanisms for clean industry projects

Number of stakeholders selecting each mechanism among the three most useful for their projects (n = 39)



N = 39. In addition to the data shown, 13 participants mentioned international mandates/public procurement, six mentioned another mechanism, six mentioned two-sided auctions, four mentioned credit swaps, and three mentioned contracts for emissions difference (CEDs).

Most impactful mechanisms to enhance early demand and reduce investment risk for clean industry projects

For priority actions by sector, see five opportunities to stimulate demand.

Mandates and low-carbon standards

Mandates for private sector low-carbon purchases can provide the demand certainty needed to unlock investment in clean industry.

Real-world example: California's broad-based fuel standards enabled affordable demand scaling.

Government procurement

Clean industry public procurement can be a powerful demand creation tool. This works when the government accounts for a large share of potential demand.

Real-world example: Government entities such as the Australian Defence Force could be anchor buyers to stimulate market demand for LCLFs.

Price guarantees

Price guarantees or CfDs can effectively hedge price risks and extend contract tenors. When combined with mandates or standards, CfDs can help to lower the clean industry premium.

Real-world example: The UK's SAF revenue certainty mechanism, Australia's capacity investment scheme price guarantee.

Clean commodity certificates

Tradeable certificates are an important tool to enable early purchase of clean commodities.

Real-world example: Microsoft's purchase of Stegra Environmental Attribute Certificates shows how decoupling physical delivery from environmental attributes can accelerate offtake commitments.

Buyer aggregation

Pooling fragmented end-use premium buyers is useful but voluntary efforts are insufficient. Policy-backed instruments are needed to achieve the necessary scale to bridge early market demand gaps.

Real-world example: The First Movers Coalition and a potential sustainable steel buyers' platform in Asia.

Short-term unlocks to address key barriers

- Infrastructure and logistics constraints
- Insufficient customers willing to pay a premium
- Lack of mandates or standards
- Lack of effective carbon pricing/ incentives
- Lack of credible certification mechanisms
- Fragmented demand
- Tenor mismatch
- Counterparty risk

Making projects investable

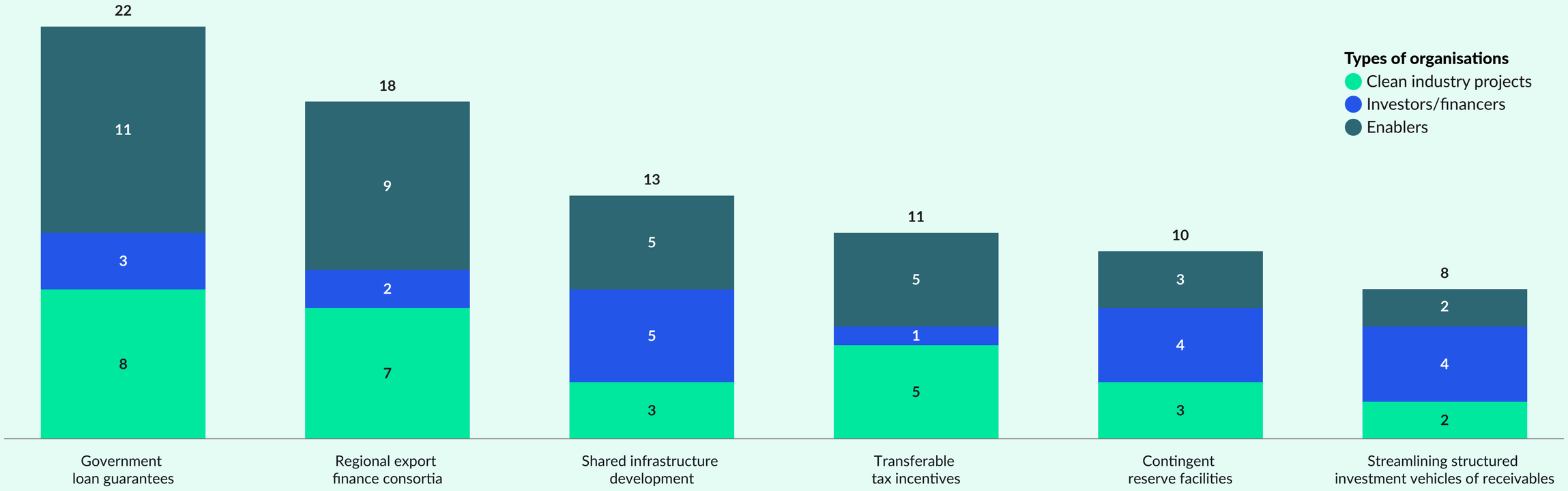
Most workshop participants viewed government guarantees and export finance consortia as the most important mechanisms to support project finance. However, the investors present favoured slightly different mechanisms – notably shared infrastructure development.

Several approaches used successfully in other sectors/states could deliver the finance that clean industry in Australia needs to secure a competitive edge.

This is the moment to forge the industrial future. **Australia cannot afford to wait.**

The most important mechanisms to support clean industry project finance in Australia

Number of stakeholders selecting each innovation among the three most important mechanisms to support finance (n = 39)



N = 39. Participants each selected the three mechanisms that they considered to be the most important to unlock investment in clean industry projects. In addition to the data shown, three selected securitisation of receivables, one selected 'other' and one investor/financer selected enhancements to insurance products.

Instruments used in other sectors could de-risk clean industry projects

For priority actions by sector, see five opportunities to enhance clean industry finance.

Government-backed loan guarantees

A government agency could guarantee 50–80% of senior debt on innovative plants. This reduces risks for bankers and investors, enabling longer-term loans at lower interest rates.

Real-world example: JOGMEC in Japan and KEXIM in Korea provide credit guarantees

Policy uncertainty and risk of reversal

Export finance consortia

By pooling and streamlining financing for clean industry projects, consortia could support growth and unlock low-cost finance.

Australian potential: Austrade, Export Finance Australia and the Clean Energy Finance Corporation could convene a regional financing consortium with Asian export credit agencies.

Lack of modularity/large upfront capex

Transferable tax incentives

Transferable tax incentives allow developers to sell credits for cash at/near financial close.

Real-world example: The US Inflation Reduction Act 6418/6417 enables the transfer of many clean energy credits, allowing entities that do not have enough tax liability to use the credits themselves.

Project execution risk

Shared infrastructure

Clean industry projects often depend on shared infrastructure that no single project can justify financing independently.

Australian potential: Explore government-led or co-financed shared infrastructure investments where users contribute to operating costs over time.

Incomplete enabling infrastructure

Contingent reserve facilities

Contingency reserve facilities reduce project risks through government underwriting of specific categories of unanticipated cost overruns or performance shortfalls.

Australian potential: Explore establishing a contingency reserve facility to help de-risk clean industry projects.

Project execution risk

NEXT STEPS

Next steps: turning opportunity into delivery

1 TRACK

Monitor the progress of advanced clean industry projects through a Clean Deal Dashboard and facilitate tactical support to accelerate key projects before COP31

2 SUPPORT

Examine innovative demand and financing mechanisms to unlock early-stage investment in clean industry projects

3 MOBILISE

Mobilise the broader ecosystem to support clean industry projects through Build Clean Now workshops and co-ordinated stakeholder engagement

Build Clean Now calls on project developers, policy-makers, investors, financiers and other stakeholders around the world to get behind clean industry.
The next four pages outline priority actions in Australia, by activity, sector and stakeholder type.

1: Track progress transparently

Build Clean Now is monitoring and facilitating the critical path to clean industry FIDs in several ways

Barriers	Goals	Suggested interventions	Implementation timeframe	Most Relevant Sectors	Primary actors: Project developers	Govt.	Ecosystem	Buyers
Regulatory, offtake and finance barriers	**Clean Deal Dashboard before COP31**	• Launch the Clean Deal Dashboard and schedule regular updates to key decision-makers at both state and federal levels, to demonstrate clean industry progress, identify barriers and galvanise action to deliver solutions	Apr 2026		✓	✓	✓	
	Tactical support	• Help to accelerate FIDs by clarifying on-the-ground and high-level bottleneck owners, and connecting clean industry projects with subject experts and financing or buyers' networks	Apr–Nov 2026		✓	✓	✓	
	Intervention deep dives	• Provide 1–2 deep-dive assessments reflecting government priorities in pipeline updates, such as ways to unlock demand with trade partners, bridge small bankability gaps or make regulatory processes quicker and easier to navigate	Jun–Nov 2026		✓	✓	✓	✓

Impact Timeline: Short-term (<12 months) Medium-term (<24 months) **Sectors:** Chemicals Steel Aviation Aluminium

2: Support projects through critical stages

Five opportunities to stimulate demand

Barriers	Goals	First steps	Implementation timeframe	Most Relevant Sectors	Primary actors			
					Project developers	Govt.	Ecosystem	Buyers
Lack of willingness to pay a premium voluntarily	**1 Mandates and low-carbon standards**	Assess design options for government standards and mandates, and how to integrate them with measures such as CfDs to accelerate market development	Short-term	Aviation		✓	✓	✓
	2 Government procurement	Pilot using public sector purchasing rules that prioritise low-carbon products	Medium-term	Steel, Aviation		✓	✓	
	3 Government offtake guarantees	Evaluate options for government-backed guarantees to reduce offtake risk and provide price stability and investment confidence while minimising government exposure to risk	Short-term	Chemicals, Steel, Aviation, Aluminium	✓	✓	✓	✓
	4 Clean commodity certificates	Pilot the design of clean commodity certificates that verify fuels' and materials' environmental attributes, are recognised by multiple frameworks, and can be used or traded in public procurement	Short-term	Chemicals, Steel, Aviation, Aluminium	✓	✓	✓	
	5 Buyer aggregation	Engage with potential buyers in North Asia to accelerate the development of the Sustainable Steel Buyers Platform	Short-term	Steel	✓		✓	✓

Impact Timeline: Short-term (<12 months) Medium-term (<24 months) **Sectors:** Chemicals Steel Aviation Aluminium

2: Support projects through critical stages

Five opportunities to enhance clean industry finance

Barriers	Goals	First steps	Implementation timeframe	Most Relevant Sectors	Primary actors			
					Project developers	Govt.	Ecosystem	Buyers
High upfront costs, price volatility and clean industry risks	**1** Export finance consortia	Mobilise Asian export credit agencies by building a case for pooling deal flow, sharing due diligence and streamlining financing for clean industrial projects	Short-term	Steel, Aviation, Aluminium	✓		✓	✓
	2 Contingency reserve facility	Assess the impact of government underwriting specific cost categories on project economics and the government budget	Medium-term	Chemicals, Steel, Aviation	✓	✓	✓	
	3 Shared infrastructures	Establish a mechanism for co-financing shared infrastructure, considering the impact on government finance, current and future proponents	Medium-term	Chemicals, Steel, Aviation, Aluminium	✓	✓	✓	✓
	4 Transferable tax incentives	Engage with project proponents and public sector stakeholders to identify the types of projects and expenses eligible for transferable tax incentives	Short-term	Chemicals, Steel, Aviation, Aluminium	✓	✓	✓	
	5 Government-backed loan guarantees	Design the financial structure and risk-sharing parameters to determine how risk is allocated between governments and lenders	Short-term	Chemicals, Steel, Aviation, Aluminium	✓	✓	✓	

Impact Timeline: Short-term (<12 months) Medium-term (<24 months) **Sectors:** Chemicals Steel Aviation Aluminium

3: Mobilise policy, finance and industry

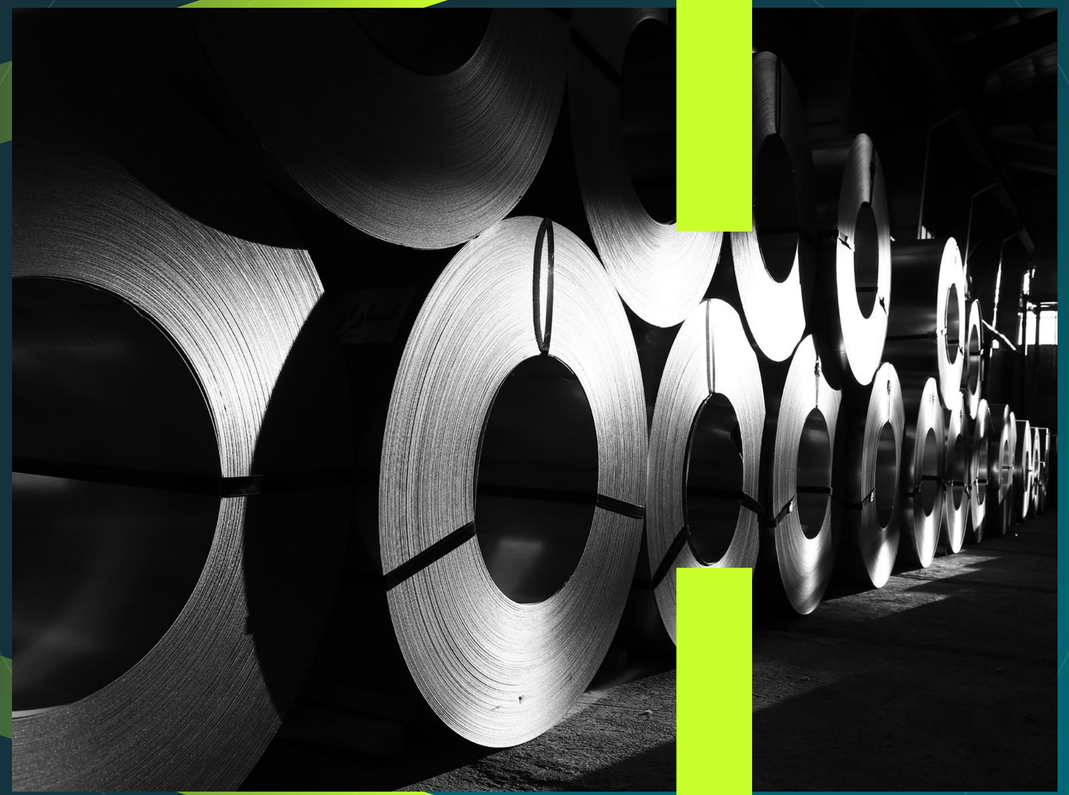
Three opportunities to galvanise clean industry

In Australia and around the world, Build Clean Now is fast-tracking the clean industrial revolution. We bring clean industry stakeholders together to drive progress, and inspire others to get involved. We will all benefit from clean industry, which supports a healthier planet and delivers greater energy and food security, and economic resilience.

Barriers	Goals	Interventions	Implementation timeframe	Most Relevant Sectors	Primary actors			
					Project developers	Govt.	Ecosystem	Buyers
Regulatory, Offtake & Finance Barriers	**Build Clean Now Australia workshop 2, before COP31**	Convene participants from 10–15 clean industry projects, government, finance and civil society.	Jun 2026		✓	✓	✓	
	Shift the narrative	Deliver regular communications and media engagement: • Celebrating clean industry successes • Demonstrating progress • Showcasing the sector's economic and development opportunities	Short-term		✓			
	Coordinated action at key events	Use New York, London and Sydney climate action weeks, Clean Energy Ministerial, UNGA and COP as opportunities for the Australian Government and industry to highlight clean industry acceleration opportunities at home and around the world. At COP31, showcase momentum of clean industry globally.	Short-term			✓	✓	

Impact Timeline: Short-term (<12 months) Medium-term (<24 months) **Sectors:** Chemicals Steel Aviation Aluminium

APPENDICES



Appendix 1: Glossary, abbreviations and acronyms

ARENA – Australian Government Renewable Energy Agency
Capex – Capital expenditure
CfD – Contract for difference (or price guarantee)
Clean industry – Production of essential materials, fuels and chemicals, such as steel, cement, aluminium, ammonia and sustainable fuels, using near-zero emission technologies and clean energy to decarbonise heavy industry
(Clean industry) ecosystem – Financial institutions, tech providers, raw material providers, think tanks, etc.
Counterparty (credit) risk – When prospective commercial buyers lack the credit strength to reassure project financers that offtake contracts are secure
DCCEEW – Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DRI – Direct reduced iron
EAF – Electric arc furnace
Enablers of clean industry - policies, technologies, market mechanisms, and conditions enabling industries to transition toward net-zero operations
EPBC – Australia's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
ESG – Environment, social and governance
FEED – Front-end engineering design
Feedstock – An unprocessed raw material used in a production process
FID – Final investment decision, when a formal commitment is made for a project to proceed from planning to delivery, and when the necessary resources are allocated to implementing it
Clean industry/ near-zero ammonia – Ammonia produced without using fossil fuels, notably via electrified Haber-Bosch, a method that uses electrolytic hydrogen and nitrogen from the air
Clean industry iron/near-zero steel – iron made via hydrogen direct reduction
HVCs – High-value chemicals, including olefins (ethylene, propylene, butadiene) and aromatics (benzene, toulene, xylene)
IMO – International Maritime Organization
ITA - The Industrial Transition Accelerator
LCA – Lifecycle assessment, a methodology for assessing impacts at all stages of a product's or process's life cycle
LCLF – Low-carbon liquid fuel
Offtake agreement – A contract between a producer and buyer to sell products that have not yet been produced, supporting a producer's market and revenue streams
Offtakers – Buyers who have committed to offtake agreements
RFP – Request for proposal
RSB – Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials
SAF – Sustainable aviation fuel
Tenor mismatch – The disconnect between the relatively long-term offtake agreements that clean industry projects need and the short-term investment they can secure because of risk perceptions

Appendix 2: Workshop participants

Sector	Participant	Role, where specified	Organisation
Ammonia projects	Simon Currie	Founder	Energy Estate
	Daniel Kim	CEO	Revera Energy
	Attilio Pigneri	CEO	H2U
	Matthew Stuchbery	Director of External Affairs	Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners
Clean industry iron projects	Don Johnston	Director of Industry Development (DEM, SA)	Green Steel WA
	James Rhee	Managing Director	Progressive Green Solutions
	Deidre Willmott	Strategic Advisor, Global Sustainability and External Affairs	Fortescue
LCLF projects	David Collins	General Manager	Vast Solar
	Matt Doyle	CEO	Wagner Sustainable Fuel
	Mac Irvine	–	Jet Zero Australia
	Liam Reid	Chief Commercial Officer, HIF Asia Pacific	HIF
	Alex Smith	Director	HAMR Energy
	David Taylor	Executive General Manager - Asia and Australasia	Licella
	Flyn Van Ewik	Regional Director, APAC	LanzaJet
Federal government	Jennifer Anne	Head of LCLF program	DCCEEW
	Michael Bartlett	–	DCCEEW
	Brendon Buckley	–	DCCEEW
	Helen Dai	–	The Treasury

Appendix 2: Workshop participants

Sector	Participant	Role, where specified	Organisation
Federal government	John Southwell	Head, Austrade's Economic Policy Branch	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade / Austrade
	Moksha Watts	Ex. Senior Advisor, Albanese	Gov Advisory
State government	Sam Crafter	Whyalla Transformation (DEM, SA)	SA Department for Energy and Mining
	Todd Settle	–	NSW DCCEEW
	Tim Stock	Director, Hydrogen and Renewable fuels	NSW DCCEEW
Investors/ offtakers	Martin Gulbis	–	Australian Government Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)
	Jody Herley	–	ARENA
	Matthew Hudson	Head of SAF	Qantas
	Paul Hunyor	CEO	Wollemi
	Sebastian Lagendork	CEO	Meranti Green Steel
	Manik Mahajan	Principal	Arthur D Little
	Rupert Maloney	Head of LCLF program	CEFC
	Peter Mihm	_	Qantas
	Jashan Sidhu	_	NAIF
	Patrick Sieb	CEO	CTP
	Alexa Thompson	–	ARENA
Finance	Marko Damnjanovic	–	Morgan Stanley
	Fabian Fuentes	–	NAB

Appendix 2: Workshop participants

Sector	Participant	Role, where specified	Organisation
Finance	Jock Rayner	–	Morgan Stanley
	Rebecca Wright	CEO	Investor Group on Climate Change
Other stakeholders	Kevin Adams	Former Lead Climate Finance Negotiator at US Department of State	Former DOE
	Dean Bialek	–	The Pacific Project
	James Boyle	–	Deloitte
	Tim Buckley	–	Climate Energy Finance
	Ingrid Burfurd	–	TSI
	Peter Castellas	–	Climate Zeitgeist
	James Choi	Former Ambassador to Korea, former Posco advisor	Other
	Miriam Cuellar	–	Powering Australia Industry Growth Centre
	Harry Guinness	–	Greenhouse
	Joanna Kay	–	TSI
	Kat Kimmorley	Head of investments	Boundless
	Shahana McKenzie	CEO	Bioenergy Australia Ltd.
	Monica Richter	_	WWF
	Kylie Turner	–	Climateworks
	Oliver Yates	–	GAW Capital
	Louise Vickery	Advisor	WWF

BUILD CLEAN NOW

FORGING THE INDUSTRIAL FUTURE

ITA INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION ACCELERATOR

MISSION POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIP

JOIN US

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> “There is a clear role for a public financier to step in where the private sector is not yet ready, manage risk prudently across a portfolio, and help turn first-of-a-kind clean industry projects from a ‘no’ into a ‘yes’”

Rupert Maloney, Clean Energy Finance Corporation

Case study: Helping sustainable aviation fuel to take off

> "Clean fuels are not just an emissions story, they are an industrial opportunity. Build Clean Now helps focus attention on how coordinated policy, finance and demand can turn viable projects into operating plants that strengthen Australia's economy."

Alex Smith, Founder and Director, HAMR Energy

Company: **HAMR Energy** is an Australian LCLF developer that advances renewable methanol and SAF projects in Victoria. It aims to close the SAF supply gap while strengthening Australia's fuel security and creating regional industrial value from existing forestry residues.

Project/s and stage: HAMR's flagship Portland Renewable Fuels project is designed to produce 300,000 tonnes of low-carbon methanol a year, with potential conversion into SAF for shipping and aviation. The company is also progressing a methanol-to-jet facility that can produce more than 135 million litres of SAF annually. These projects are in development and recently secured a AUD 10 million Series A raise backed by Airbus, Qantas and thyssenkrupp Uhde to advance FEED, permitting and commercial structuring.

How it's tackling barriers: High upfront capital requirements, policy and regulatory uncertainty, and securing long-term offtake in emerging low-carbon fuel markets are HAMR's main challenges. It's addressing these through strategic equity partnerships with global aviation and engineering firms, technology collaboration with Honeywell UOP and thyssenkrupp Uhde, and long-term feedstock arrangements with forestry operators.

What else would help: Clearer and more durable policy support, alongside stronger domestic demand for SAF and green methanol, would reduce risk and accelerate investment. Participation in Build Clean Now has provided HAMR with a direct channel to engage policymakers and industry peers around these systemic issues.

Case study: Strengthening investment in renewable energy

> "Clean industry can anchor long-term investment and economic resilience if the conditions are right. Build Clean Now reinforces the importance of predictable demand and coordinated action so capital can flow into projects at scale."

Matthew Stuchbery, Director, CIP

Company: **Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP)** is a global renewable energy infrastructure fund manager investing in off- and onshore wind, solar, storage, and emerging green fuels. It deploys institutional capital into large-scale clean energy assets that can decarbonise heavy industry and power systems while delivering long-term, stable returns.

Project/s and stage: In Australia, CIP is advancing large-scale projects such as offshore wind developments and the Murchison Green Hydrogen project, which is designed to produce green hydrogen and ammonia for export. The firm invests through dedicated energy transition funds and combines international capital with local development capability. Several projects are in development, with feasibility, approvals and market engagement underway.

How it's tackling barriers: CIP's central challenge is the green premium, compounded by Australia's high capital and operating costs and reliance on uncertain export offtake. Developers face global competition from lower-cost jurisdictions and exposure to demand risks they can't control. CIP engages with governments and industry to strengthen local demand, improve cost competitiveness and sequence projects to reduce market risk.

What else would help: Greater policy certainty, demand-side mechanisms and coordinated infrastructure planning would support FIDs and large-scale deployment.

Case study: Scaling up green steel and iron

"Green iron is an opportunity to build new industrial capability and capture more value domestically. Bringing industry together to discuss how we can "Build Clean Now" to highlight the alignment of infrastructure, finance and policy required to position Australia for sustainable success within global clean supply chains."

James Rhee, Managing Director, PGS

Company: **Progressive Green Solutions (PGS)** is an Australian developer focused on green iron and value-added steel inputs in Western Australia. It aims to shift Australia from exporting raw ore to exporting low-emission, value-added iron products, while reducing steelmaking emissions by up to 90% compared with conventional production.

Project/s and stage: PGS's Mid-West Green Iron project plans initial production of 7 million tonnes of green iron per annum for export, with around 2.5 million tonnes converted as hot briquetted iron (HBI). The project will use local magnetite ore, renewable power and alkaline electrolysers to produce green hydrogen on site, with first exports targeted for 2029. The project is in the advanced planning stage, with FEED, Environmental approval, DA permit and land rezoning underway.

How it's tackling barriers: Key challenges include capital intensity, coordinating large-scale renewable and hydrogen infrastructure, securing development approvals and locking in long-term offtake in competitive export markets. PGS is addressing these through preferred technology partnerships, integrated mine-to-port planning, securing a committed customer and engaging with state and international stakeholders.

What else would help: A streamlined and proactive industry support agency, streamlined approvals and firm governance signals for green iron would reduce risk and support investment at scale.