









A green economy in a blue world - an Australian perspective

Stephen Powell, Australian Government



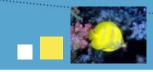




Outline

- Australia's progress towards a 'green economy'
 - Australia's 'Clean Energy Future' plan

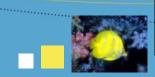
- Towards a 'green economy in a blue world'
 - The 'blue economy' marine conservation / management





Australia's preparations for Rio+20







Australia's preparations for Rio+20

- Major event of 2012; most important since 2002
- Engaged in preparatory process
- Practical sustainable development agenda
- Support Rio+20 objectives: renewed political commitment to sustainable development
- Just one voice among many ...











Australia's commitment to sustainability

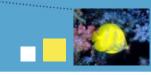
- Minister for Sustainability
- Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
- Sustainable Population Strategy
- Clean Energy Plan





Progress towards 'a green economy'

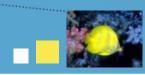
- Vehicle for achieving sustainable development
- Flexible: different national circumstances and economic priorities
- Opportunity for growth through existing markets / creation of new markets
 - e.g. Australia's 'Clean Energy Future' plan





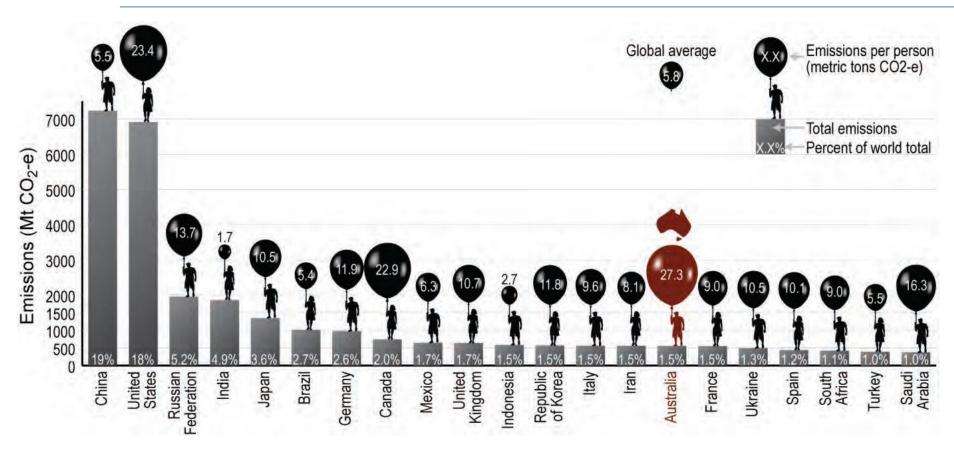
Australia's 'Clean Energy Future'















Australia's 'Clean Energy Future'

- A low carbon future
- 'Clean Energy Future' package: July 2011
 - Introducing a carbon price
 - Promoting innovation and investment in renewable energy
 - Encouraging energy efficiency
 - Creating opportunities in land-use to cut carbon pollution





Carbon Pricing

- Fixed price scheme from 1 July 2012
- Covers around 60% of Australia's emissions
- Revenue will support
 - households, businesses, industry
 - development of other climate friendly activities and technologies
- New Climate Change Authority
- To parliament in the second half of 2011





From 1 July 2012, companies will buy permits from the Government for every tonne of pollution they create. This, for the first time, will create an incentive to cut pollution.



For the first three years the carbon price will be fixed, moving to an emissions trading scheme in 2015.



Under emissions trading, the Government puts a cap on pollution by restricting the number of permits.



Some businesses are likely to pass on their costs to their customers, leading to modest price increases.



Businesses that lower their pollution will avoid buying a permit giving them a competitive advantage compared to those that do not.



The price will be determined by the market. This will drive innovation and investment in low pollution activities.



To help households meet these price impacts the Government will lower taxes and increase Government payments.



Nine out of ten households will receive some assistance. Household assistance will be permanent.



Australia will tackle climate change and build a clean energy future.

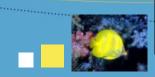


Where does the money go?

Assisting households

Supporting jobs & businesses

Clean energy programs



A blue economy – a Pacific concept

- PSIDS: green economy here is a 'blue economy'
- Dependence on marine resources and ecosystems
- Global value of Pacific Ocean & your stewardship
- Integrated regional oceans management
- MPA global network (Rio+10)

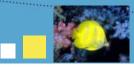




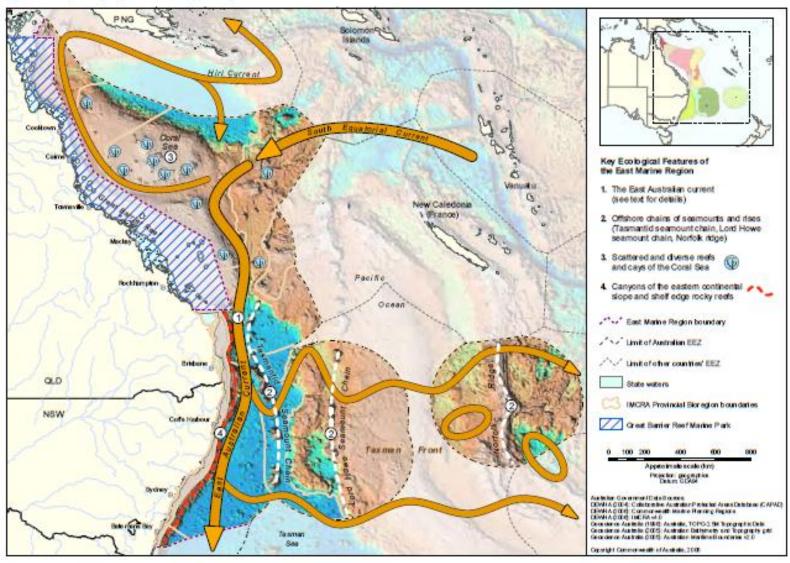
A blue economy – in Australia

Marine bioregional planning

- Underpins ecosystem-based management
- Focuses on maintaining ocean health & productivity
 - Key ecological features and conservation values
 - Pressure analysis
 - Regional priorities and strategies











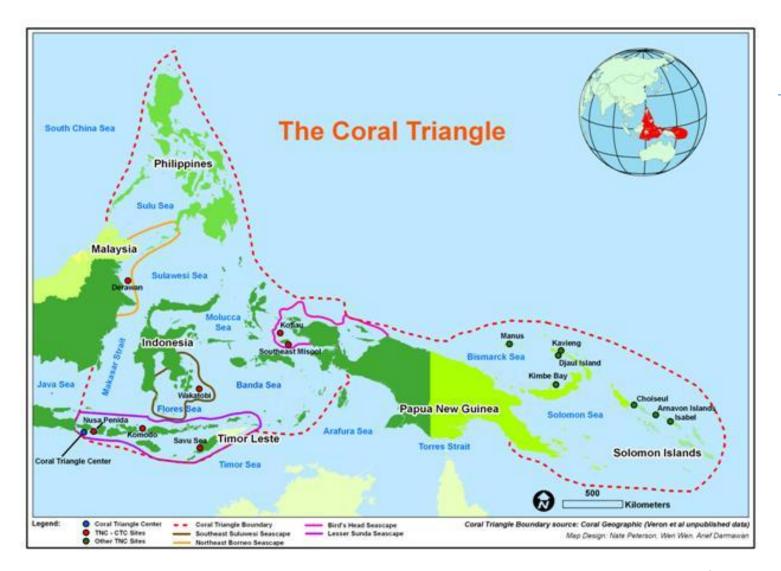
A blue economy – in the region

Coral Triangle Initiative

- Improving livelihoods & food security
 - High level political commitment and drive
 - Linking regional, national and local scales
 - Mobilisation and coordination of support
 - Direct involvement of civil society











Key points – a blue economy

- Still needs a clearer message
- Dependence on marine resources & ecosystems
- Global value of Pacific Ocean & your stewardship
- Integrated regional oceans management
- MPA global network (Rio+10)













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