

Mission Innovation

Mission Innovation is an international initiative to accelerate public and private clean energy innovation to address the issues of climate change, make a clean energy economy for consumers, and generate green jobs and business opportunities.

History of Mission Innovation

The foundation of Mission Innovation was announced at the COP21 conference by Bill Gates on 20 November 2015. At the time President Obama of the United States, President Hollande of France and Prime Minister Modi of India were present.

At the launch, 24 countries committed to double their respective clean energy research and development over the five years to 2020. For the US Department of Energy, this translates into an additional \$4 billion by the end of 2020. The countries include the five most populous (as at 2015): China, India, the United States, Indonesia, and Brazil. All 20 launch partner countries represent 75 percent of the world's CO₂ emissions from electricity, and over 80 percent of the world's clean energy R&D investment.

Its link to private sector investment is via the Breakthrough Energy Coalition group of private investors, also spearheaded by Bill Gates and which formed in parallel at COP21.

What is the objective of mission innovation?

The major objectives of the mission innovation are:

1. Enhance the public sector investment to a substantial level
2. Increased private sector engagement and investment
3. Increase international collaboration
4. Raising awareness of the transformational potential of innovation

How many member countries are a part of the innovation mission?

At present, 25 member countries are a part of the innovation mission.

What are the innovation challenges of Mission Innovation?

Innovation challenges are a major part of the mission innovation that is aimed at leveraging research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) in technology areas that could ultimately result in effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy security, and create new opportunities for clean economic growth.

There are 8 innovation challenges under the mission innovation:

1. IC1 – smart grids
2. IC2 – Off-grid access to electricity
3. IC3 – Carbon capture
4. IC4 – Sustainable bio-fuels
5. IC5 – Converting sunlight
6. IC6 – Clean energy materials
7. IC7 – Affordable cooling and heating of buildings
8. IC8 – Renewable and clean hydrogen