

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 56

Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates

Outcome: Outcome 7

Programme: Emissions Reduction Fund Taskforce

Topic: Countries Implementing Emissions Trading Schemes

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Question Date: 18 November 2013

Question Type: Spoken

Senator Urquhart asked:

Senator URQUHART: How many other countries are implementing emissions trading schemes?

Dr Kennedy: I do not have that information to hand. I will just ask my colleague Mr Power.

Mr Power: I do not have the number of countries on hand. We could provide that on notice.

CHAIR: Could I just ask one question, Mr Power. When you give the information on how many countries have proposed or introduced emissions trading scheme, could you also clarify whether it is right across the economy or not.

Answer:

- Four Emissions Trading Schemes (ETSs) with national coverage are currently in operation outside Australia.
 - The European Union Emissions Trading Scheme (EUETS) covers 28 European Union member states plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Croatia.
 - ETSs are operating in Kazakhstan, New Zealand and Switzerland.
- Korea is planning to implement a national ETS in 2015.
- No ETS fully covers an economy. According to recent figures published by the International Carbon Action Partnership:
 - The EUETS covers approximately 45 per cent of emissions.
 - Kazakhstan's ETS covers approximately 77 per cent of emissions.
 - New Zealand's ETS covers 53 per cent of emissions.
 - Switzerland's ETS covers 11 per cent of emissions.