

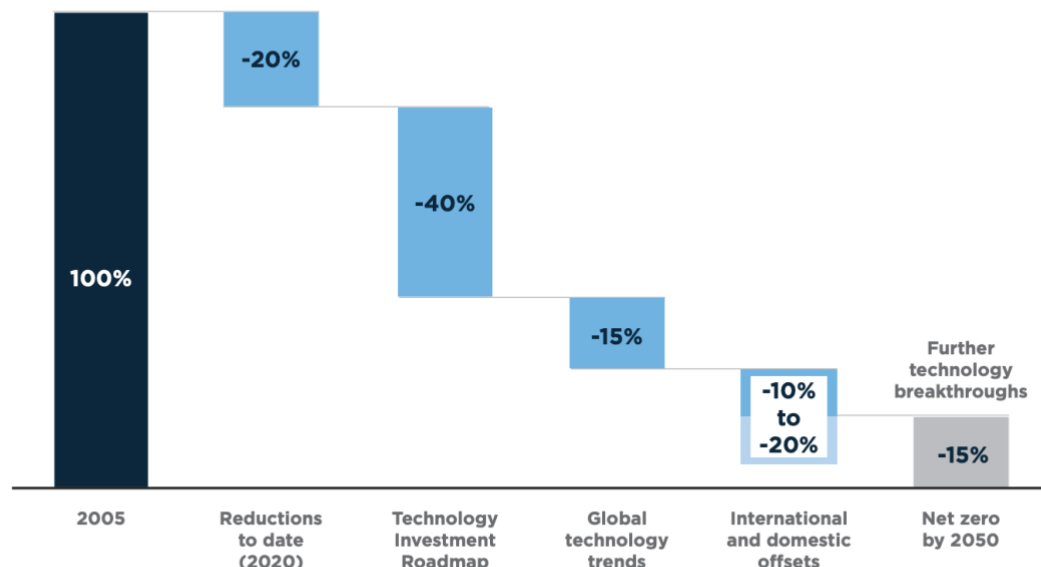
Professor Schmidt's Challenge

Professor Brian Schmidt is a member of the [National Science and Technology Council](#), chaired by the Prime Minister, and convened by the Chief Scientist (Dr. Cathy Foley who you will also meet).

In December, the Commonwealth Government put out a document entitled [AUSTRALIA'S LONG-TERM EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN A whole-of-economy Plan to achieve net zero emissions by 2050](#)

This document details how Australia will achieve its goal of net-zero emissions by 2050. On page 51, it is shown that Australia must come up with new ideas (equivalent to 10-20% of our current emissions budget) that go beyond the current technology roadmap. Your Challenge is to come up with the new ideas we should start working on now!

Figure 2.5 Priority technology contribution to Australia achieving net zero emissions



*Source: Based on McKinsey and DISER analysis. *Sources of offsets include voluntary soil carbon of up to 20%, depending on cost reductions in technology and voluntary demand.*

I find it best to brainstorm with a partner, so you'll need a partner. With your partner –

- 100 words – your idea of where we should invest money to help fill that 10-20% gap. It must go beyond what is already in the Technology Investment Roadmap, and in those 100 words you need to convince the world this is a place worth investing in, that can really make a difference. Remembering this will be an Australian investment, make sure it makes sense for us to do it here in Australia.
- You will vote for the top-10 – and I and the Chief Scientist which choose 5 ideas to present to the Prime Minister through the National Science and Technology Council.