

# **State of Energy Innovation**

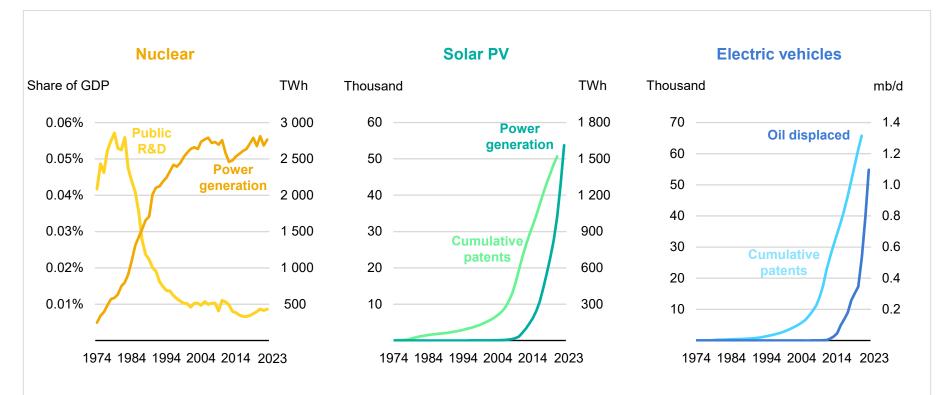
Tim Gould, Chief Economist, IEA

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Session 3 Innovations to Overcome the Gap between Ideals and Reality

### Energy R&D has major real-world impacts on the energy system





Energy innovation covers many stages – from research to scale-up – and continues after products hit the market. It boosts diversification, affordability and sustainability in diverse parts of the energy system.

### Energy R&D has impacts on society and the wider economy



#### Mass-market spillovers from energy R&D



Initial Li-ion battery R&D was for storing renewable power



Processing seismic data to find oil and gas





Li-ion batteries for smartphones and electronics



Processing musical data for auto-tune

#### Unconventional oil and gas technologies

2000: USA **imports** 46% of its oil & gas needs



2024: USA **exports** the equivalent of 10% of its needs



#### Battery, EV and manufacturing technologies

2024: Share of EVs in car sales in China reaches 50%

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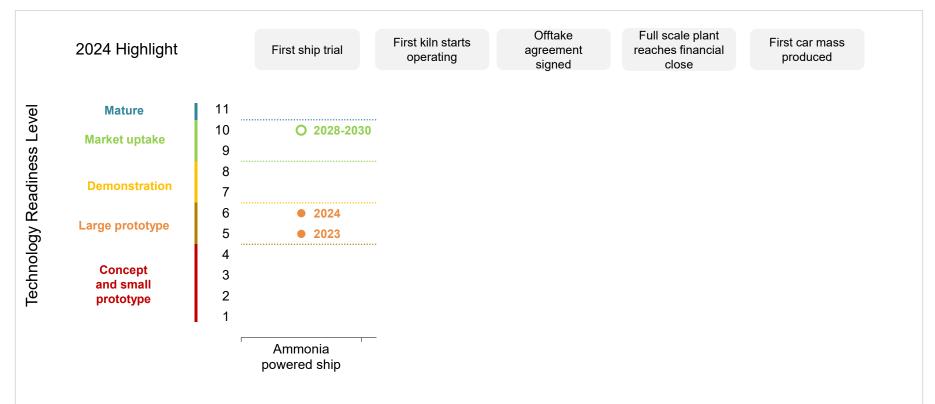
2024: China imports 8% less oil



The effects of energy R&D are felt far beyond the energy sector, with spillovers and trade impacts driving competitiveness and new industries.

### A wealth of energy technology highlights from the past 12 months



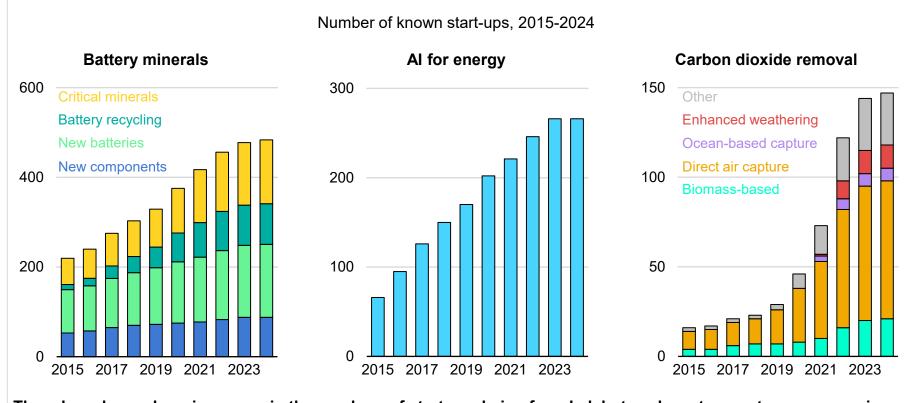


We have identified over 150 innovation highlights from the past year, covering different types of advances: from R&D breakthroughs to funding commitments, real-world trials and new product launches.

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### Three dynamic areas in focus: battery minerals, AI and CDR

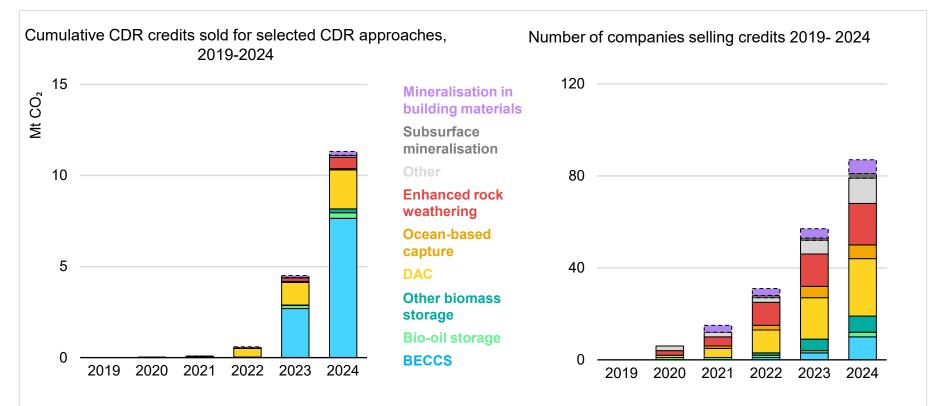




There have been sharp increases in the numbers of start-ups being founded, but each sector must overcome unique challenges and policy needs to achieve widespread deployment.

### Voluntary carbon markets have been critical to support expansion

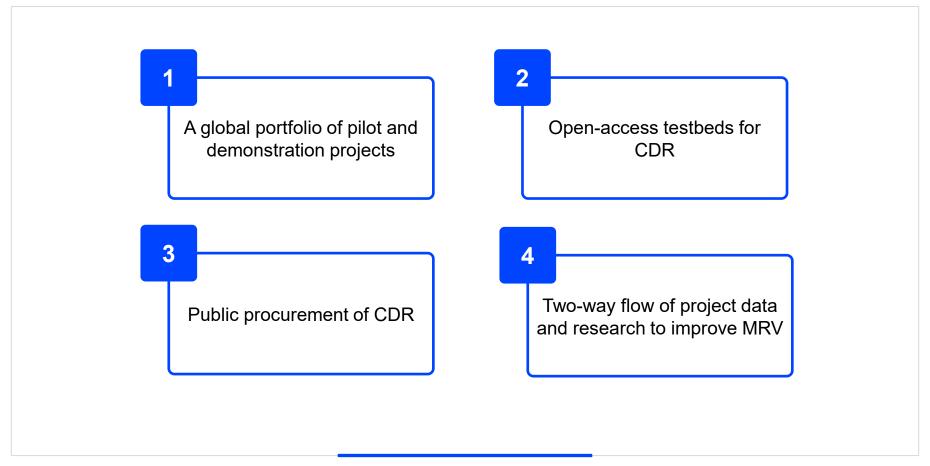




Advanced purchase agreements for CDR credits more than doubled between 2023 and 2024. BECCS and DACS make up three-quarters of cumulative credits sold, but other CDR approaches are growing their presence on markets.

## Policies can support innovation in CDR







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