

CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITIONS IN THE SAHEL

Regional Dialogue and Report Launch

30 September 2021

14:00 - 17:00 (CEST)

Virtual Event

International
Energy Agency

iea

Concept Note

The IEA, with the support of the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy of Senegal, will convene a virtual regional conference on 30 September 2021 to discuss how best to advance clean energy transitions in the Sahel¹. The event will feature the launch of a new IEA report on *Clean Energy Transitions in the Sahel*, whose key findings will be presented and serve as background to guide the discussion. The conference will gather energy leaders and other stakeholders to exchange views on best practices, success stories and lessons learned from across the region. It will present an opportunity to reflect on the challenges of Covid-19 and its economic ramifications on the Sahel's energy sector. Additionally, the dialogue explore how clean energy transitions can create opportunities to enhance socioeconomic development, improve livelihoods and support resilient communities. Discussions will also focus on energy investments across the region.

The online event will gather representatives from the Sahel focus countries, regional and international organizations, the private sector, development banks, multilateral and regional financial institutions, as well as stakeholders from other countries to share relevant experiences on clean energy transitions in the Sahel. It also aims, among other objectives, to foster enhanced political will for ambitious clean energy transitions and to promote robust interregional stakeholder dialogue that will inform and guide national policymakers in their quest to implement high-impact policies in their respective countries.

The launch presentation of the new report will be followed by discussions on opportunities for, and challenges to, the acceleration of clean energy transition pathways in the region. Discussants will also be invited to share their perspectives on the role that clean energy transitions can play towards building resilience and growth in the Sahel.

This IEA initiative is a component of the Agency's increasing focus and work on Africa. By providing a platform for a regional exchange of views on its analysis and policy recommendations, the IEA aims to help improve coordination among energy initiatives and key stakeholders, as well as harness the expertise and networks of local resources in the Sahel. It also seeks to support the development and implementation of high-impact policies that will stimulate investment in all relevant areas of clean energy transitions in the long term. Throughout the event, raising high-level awareness on how best to ensure progress towards successful clean energy transitions and achieving SDG 7 will be a priority.

This virtual conference is supported through the IEA Clean Energy Transitions Programme (CETP), particularly thanks to the contribution of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.

¹ (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal)

Agenda

<p>14:00 – 14:20</p>	<p>Keynote Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Mary Warlick, Deputy Executive Director, IEA • H.E. Ms. Sophie Gladima, Minister of Petroleum and Energies, Senegal • Ms. Kitty Van Der Heijden, Vice-Minister for International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands
<p>14:20 – 14:45</p>	<p>Presentation of Key Findings of the Sahel Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Arnaud Rouget, Energy Access Analyst, IEA & Ms. Ana Rovzar, Africa Programme Officer, IEA
<p>14:45 – 15:55</p>	<p>Session I: How can Sahelian countries' clean energy transitions achieve energy access and development goals? What is needed to get there? <i>Moderated by Arnaud Rouget, Energy Access Analyst, IEA</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Aida Siko, National Agency for Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency, Burkina Faso • Ms. Beatrice Memndiguena, Ministry of Petroleum and Energy, Chad • Mr. Oumar Alassane Maiga, National Directorate of Energy, Mali • Mr. Ibrahim Abdallahi, Ministry of Petroleum, Mines and Energy, Mauritania • Ms. Moutari Falmata Malla Kiari, Ministry of Energy, Niger • Ms. Fatou Thiam Sow, Ministry of Petroleum and Energies, Senegal <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What have been the greatest areas of progress and the greatest barriers to scaling up energy access across the region?</i> • <i>How can the energy transition create the greatest value to economic transformation in the Sahel region?</i> • <i>How can countries in the region accelerate progress in the fields of clean energy transitions?</i> • <i>How do we ensure that momentum towards energy access and clean energy transitions continues despite current challenges?</i>
<p>15:55 – 16:50</p>	<p>Session II: What are Sahel's clean energy transitions investment needs and how can they be mobilized? <i>Moderated by Maximilian Jarrett, Africa Programme Manager, IEA</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Rashid Ali Abdallah, Executive Director, AFREC • Ms. Ngone Diop, Director of Sub-Regional Office for West-Africa, UNECA • Mr. Koffi Ekouevi, Head of Energy Sub-Group, Alliance Sahel, at the World Bank

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ali Zerouali, Head of Director of International Collaboration and Business Development, MASEN • Mr. Nicolas Guichard, Deputy Head of Energy unit, AFD • Dr. Daniel Schroth, Advisor to the Vice President and Acting Director for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, African Development Bank
	<p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What should be the priorities of clean energy transitions investments in the Sahel countries in the short, medium and long term?</i> • <i>What are the key obstacles to attract and maintain clean energy transitions investments and how can they be overcome?</i> • <i>How can regional collaboration play a role in accelerating this needed investment?</i> • <i>What new opportunities and modalities exist to scale up regional and international cooperation efforts to accelerate clean energy transitions in The Sahel?</i>
<p>16:50 – 17:00</p>	<p>Closing remarks and conclusions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Atef Marzouk, Acting Director, Department for Energy and Infrastructure, African Union Commission • Ms. Rebecca Gaghen, Head of Europe, Middle East, Africa and Latin America, Global Energy Relations, IEA