

CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITIONS IN NORTH AFRICA

Regional Report Launch & Dialogue

21 September 2020

14:00 - 17:00 (Paris)

Virtual Event

International
Energy Agency

iea

Concept Note

The IEA, with the support of the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Environment of Morocco, will convene a virtual regional symposium on 21 September 2020 to discuss how best to accelerate clean energy transitions in North Africa¹. The event will bring together energy leaders and other stakeholders to exchange views on best practices, success stories and lessons learned from across the region. It will also be an opportunity to reflect on the challenges of Covid-19 and its economic ramifications on North Africa's energy sector. Additionally the meeting will explore how clean energy transitions can provide opportunities for a robust sustainable recovery in terms of economic growth, job creation, sustainable energy generation and energy security.

The online meeting will gather representatives from a majority of North African 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 North Africa. 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 event will feature the launch of a new IEA report on *Clean Energy Transitions in North Africa*, whose key findings will be presented and serve as background to guide the discussion. The presentation will be followed by focused discussions on opportunities and challenges to the future acceleration of clean energy transition pathways in the region. Discussants will also be invited to share their perspectives on the immediate challenges related to the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on the region's clean energy transition and the role that clean energy transitions can play towards a sustainable economic recovery in North Africa.

This IEA initiative fits within 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 improve coordination among initiatives and actors, as well as harness the expertise and networks of local resources in North Africa. 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 for Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.

¹ (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia).

Agenda

<p>14:00 – 14:20</p>	<p>Keynote Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dave Turk, Deputy Executive Director, IEA • H.E. Mr. Aziz Rabbah, Minister of Energy, Mines, and Environment, Morocco • Kitty van der Heijden, Vice-Minister for International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands
<p>14:20 – 14:50</p>	<p>Presentation of Key Findings of the CETNA Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Ana Rovzar, Africa Programme Officer, IEA
<p>14:50 – 15:55</p>	<p>Session I: How do we accelerate progress on clean energy transitions in North Africa? <i>Moderated by Ali Al Saffar, North Africa and Middle East Programme Manager, IEA</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Barakat Faragalla Ahmed, Senior Economist, Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy, Egypt • Ms. Mariam El Forgani, Energy Efficiency Lead, General Electricity Company of Libya (GECOL), Libya • Mr. Tarik Hamane, Executive Director and Head of Development, Moroccan Agency for Solar Energy (MASEN), Morocco • Mr. Fethi Hanchi, Director General, National Energy Control Agency (ANME), Tunisia • Mr. Amir Lebdioui, Fellow, London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE) <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How can renewable energy and energy efficiency impact countries' broader economic prospects and what role should they play in countries' energy future?</i> • <i>What are best practices and lessons learned in recent years that work for North African countries and what are areas for improvement?</i> • <i>How can clean energy transitions represent opportunities to overcome the impacts from the Covid-19 crisis?</i> • <i>How do we ensure that momentum towards clean energy transitions continues despite current challenges?</i>
<p>15:55 – 16:50</p>	<p>Session II: What are the region'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"> • Dr. Maged Mahmoud, Executive Director, RCREEE • Mr. Rashid Ali Abdallah, Executive Director, AFREC • Ms. Myriem Touhami, Programme Manager, UN Environment • Mr. Omar Abdourahman, Economist, North Africa Regional Office, UNECA

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Roberto Vigotti, Secretary General, RES4Africa Foundation • Mr. Wale Shonibare, Director, Energy Financial Solutions, Policy and Regulation, AfDB • Mr. Harry Boyd-Carpenter, Director, Head of Energy EMEA, EBRD • Mr. Noé van Hulst, Chair-Elect, International Partnership for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells (IPHE)
	<p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How can countries in the region accelerate progress in the fields of clean energy transitions?</i> • <i>What should be the priorities of clean energy transitions investments in North Africa in the short and medium term?</i> • <i>What are the key obstacles to clean energy transitions investments and how can they be overcome?</i> • <i>What new opportunities and modalities exist to scale up regional and international cooperation efforts to accelerate clean energy transitions in North Africa?</i>
<p>16:50 – 17:00</p>	<p>Closing remarks and conclusions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Atef Marzouk, Head of Energy Division, African Union • Ms. Rebecca Gaghen, Head of Europe, Middle East, Africa and Latin America, Global Energy Relations, IEA