

Affected by climate change, MENA countries strive to diversify and accelerate transitions of their energy sectors

IEA works with countries across the region to leverage their existing capacities in traditional energy sources to support clean and low-carbon energy technologies

- **Support for clean energy transitions of producer economies with a special focus on reducing methane emissions in oil and gas industries**
- **Guidance for improving MENA countries' energy sector climate change resilience**
- **Policy advice on renewable energy deployment and low-emission hydrogen**
- **Engagement with Egypt led to the country joining the IEA family as an Association country in 2022, in addition to Morocco joining in 2016**

Key facts

5%
current share of **renewables** in power generation

+ 63%
renewables capacity has increased by 63% in the last 5 years (since 2017)

+ 0.46 °C
per decade between 1980 and 2022 (well above the 0.18 °C global average)

key **hydrocarbon producers**

several **energy importers**

increasingly **challenged by climate change** and energy security threats

90%
More than 90% of **electricity generation** in the region comes from **fossil-fuelled** thermal power plants relying on **fresh water for cooling**

Climate resilience in the region

MENA is one of the world's regions most affected by climate change, which imposes challenges on energy systems that are already straining to meet the demands of economic growth, energy security and social welfare. The IEA supports countries in the region, including both producer economies and net energy importers, with tailored assessments of various climate hazards to energy systems and advice on how to further improve existing policy measures. So far, three country assessments were developed for Morocco, Egypt and Oman.

Decarbonising the oil and gas sector

The IEA works with energy-producing countries, including Egypt, Algeria and Oman, in their work towards the decarbonisation of the oil and gas sector. In 2023, the Agency produced reports on opportunities and financing for methane abatement, and a new analysis, The Oil and Gas Industry in Net-Zero Transitions, to show how the sector can both adjust and contribute to a cleaner, more sustainable energy system in the region.

Skills for clean energy

Producer economies have a significant energy-related asset and skill base they can leverage for the development of new industries like solar and hydrogen for which they often have abundant natural resources. The Agency collaborates with governments in MENA to facilitate workers' transition from the oil and gas sector to clean energy industries.

Pathways for green hydrogen

The IEA provides green hydrogen supply chain analysis to assess the costs and benefits of developing the sector in Oman. At the request of the government, we also provide analysis of the implications of the development of a green hydrogen industry for renewable energy demand in the country.

Renewables deployment through policy reform

We collaborate with Morocco, an IEA Association country, on its clean electricity transition and we work with other countries in the region on renewables integration, electricity tariffs and electricity interconnections. We cooperate with Egypt and Jordan to further enhance cross-border electricity trade in the region.

Multilateral engagement

The IEA has supported global and regional initiatives, including the United Arab Emirates' COP28 Presidency to which the Agency provided technical advice on a range of issues including oil and gas decarbonisation and methane abatement. The IEA also cooperates with key regional organisations including the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA), the Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, and the East Mediterranean Gas Forum.

"We're pleased to be working with the IEA on key aspects of our transition and are very encouraged by the insights offered by this report."

Salim Al Aufi

Oman's Minister of Energy and Minerals and Mineral Resources

on *Renewable Hydrogen from Oman: A Producer Economy in Transition*

Opportunities for engagement

- **Renewable energy deployment -** The IEA provides support for selected countries in removing the barriers to accelerating deployment.
- **Energy demand assessment -** The Agency analyses peak demand, particularly in the power sector, to understand the security and emissions implications for the region and for global energy markets.
- **Emissions reductions -** Continuation of support for oil and gas decarbonisation notably on methane abatement in selected countries in the region.
- **Climate resilience -** Building on the successes of the work delivered with Egypt, Oman and Morocco, the IEA is developing three new country reports on climate resilience for energy transitions in MENA.

This work is supported by the **Clean Energy Transitions Programme,** the IEA's flagship programme for taking action to achieve a clean energy transformation worldwide.

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