# Accelerating Morocco's Energy Transition: a Range of Opportunities

**Online** I 03/03/2022 I 10:00 – 12:30 CET

## The context:

Morocco is unquestionably a forerunner of climate and sustainable energy action in Africa and the rest of the world. The Maghreb country has set ambitious renewable energy objectives and takes regional leadership in international climate talks. By the end of 2021, Morocco achieved an installed power capacity of about 37% from renewables[1], a figure that is meant to reach 52% by 2030, of which 20% is expected to come from solar energy alone. To sustain the development of RE, Morocco is increasingly exploring small-PV solutions as a way to expand the national electricity market by fostering further solar PV deployment.

In the global race towards decarbonization, Morocco has now added another ambitious objective through its energy policy agenda: it seeks to become a market leader in the production of green hydrogen. To what extent would green hydrogen be the magic formula for Morocco's climate objectives? Will a decarbonization pathway composed of a mosaic of objectives be the answer to balance out ambition with domestic needs, including the shift towards green and smart cities?

As long-term advocates and proponents of a clean and sustainable energy transition in Africa, RES4Africa Foundation aims to convene leaders from the energy industry, academia and civil society to provide their perspective, identify barriers and explore solutions to accelerate the country's energy transition. Since its inception in 2012, RES4Africa has had a longstanding collaboration with Morocco's energy stakeholders regarding its renewable energy transition. This event builds on that collaboration and takes place within the framework of a Cooperation Agreement with the Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development of Morocco signed in 2020 to scale-up investments in clean energy technologies.

## Objectives of the event:

This event will aim to convene a dialogue on Morocco's clean energy transition journey by gathering a high-level discussion with key energy stakeholders. During the event RES4Africa will share policy recommendations and benchmark analysis from the study on *Small-PV capacity* developed with AFRY and illustrate the initial findings of the *Green Hydrogen* study developed with PwC Morocco. Moreover, the preliminary results on the preparedness of the legislative and regulatory framework of a UNECA and RES4Africa study on the *Missing Link* in Morocco will be presented. Finally, key players from the energy industry will discuss opportunities for smart and green cities and explore the private sector's key role in accelerating the transition.

[1] https://www.mem.gov.ma/Pages/secteur.aspx?e=2

Agenda:

| Time | Topics and Speakers |
|---|---|
| 10:00 – 10:10 | **Opening remarks**<br>Mr Roberto Vigotti<br>Secretary General at RES4Africa Foundation |
| 10:10 - 10:20 | **Keynotes from Mr. Armando Barucco**<br>Italian Ambassador to Morocco |
| 10:20 – 10:35 | **Morocco in perspective: preliminary results from the Missing Link report**<br>Mr Tayeb Amegroud<br>Expert Energy Planning |
| 10:35 – 10:50 | **Unleashing the uptake of Small-PV solutions in Morocco \| presentation of report key findings**<br>Mr Riccardo Siliprandi<br>Senior Principal at AFRY |
| 10:50 – 11:05 | **Accelerate solar energy in Morocco: Cluster Solaire experience**<br>Ms Houda Bouchara<br>Development Manager at Cluster Solaire |
| 11:05 – 11:15 | **Think small: how small-scale solar projects can answer local energy needs**<br>Mr Ahmed Benlarabi<br>Responsible for Partnership and Business development at Green Energy Park/IRESEN |
| 11 :15 – 11 :25 | **Power-to-X: how does green hydrogen contribute to Morocco's energy transition?**<br>Mr Samir Rachidi<br>Chief Scientific Officer at IRESEN |
| 11 :25 – 11 :40 | **Assessing barriers and opportunities for establishing a national green hydrogen market**<br>Mr Yassine Tebaa<br>Senior Manager, Energy and Utilities at PwC Morocco |
| 11:40 – 11:55 | **How can cities become "smart" and contribute to the green energy transition?**<br>Ms Chiara Dalla Chiesa<br>Head of Enel X Global Retail Strategic Marketing at Enel-X |
| 11 :55 – 12 :10 | **Performance and innovation in cities: Morocco at the forefront of urban sustainability**<br>Mr Ahmed Bouzid – Director of Development at SIE<br>Ms Selma Absi – Development Engineer at SIE |
| 12 :10 – 12 :30 | **Q&A Session** *moderated by Ms Ana Rovzar*<br>*Head of International Partnerships at RES4Africa Foundation* |