Natural Resource Governance Institute

MENA JUST ENERGY TRANSITION PLATFORM

Electricity at the Heart of a Just Energy Transition

A Shared Regional Vision for the Future of Energy in the Middle East and North Africa



INTRODUCTION

About this roadmap

At NRGI, we believe that bringing diverse groups together to openly discuss and debate issues, and to jointly create solutions, is one of the most important contributions we can make to ensuring that natural resources deliver inclusive economic development and a just energy transition.

Over the course of 2025 and 2026, NRGI brought together stakeholders from Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia to identify shared priorities for a just energy transition in the Middle East and North Africa. Four representatives took part from each country, drawn from government, civil society, and the media.

The process began with each country group presenting its national priorities, which participants then compared and contrasted. Electricity governance emerged as a central concern across all five countries, leading participants to adopt it as a regional priority for collective advocacy and action.

Building on these exchanges, civil society partners reconvened to develop a shared regional roadmap for advocacy and action. The roadmap reflects their collective priorities and is informed by technical expertise and national perspectives contributed by government representatives, experts and media participants throughout the process.

This document sets out this co-created regional civil society roadmap. We hope it will be a useful resource for civil society, policymakers, and all those working to build fairer, more resilient electricity systems in the region.

Note: NRGI's role in this process was to convene and facilitate. The priorities, calls to action and commitments in this document are the shared views of the relevant participants and do not necessarily represent the positions of NRGI.

Contents

Introduction 2

Countries Represented and Endorsing Organizations 4

Who We Are and Why We Came Together 5

Why Electricity? 7

Our Five Regional Priorities 9

01 Reforming Subsidy and Pricing Policies to Strengthen Investment in Electricity 10

02 Strengthening Transparency, Accountability and Access to Information in the Electricity Sector 12

03 Strengthening Governance and Institutional Coordination to Accelerate the Transition to Renewable Electricity Systems 14

04 Strengthening the Role of Civil Society and the Media in Supporting Electricity Sector Reform and Accelerating the Transition to Renewable Electricity Systems 16

05 Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Electricity Interconnection 19

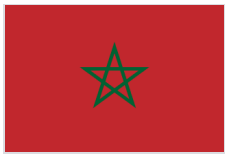
From Priorities to Action 21

Countries Represented


Egypt


Iraq


Lebanon


Morocco


Tunisia

Endorsing Organizations

The list below includes partners who had given consent to be publicly identified by November 3, 2026. Should more participants request to be identified in the future, we will update the relevant page on the NRGI website.

- TERAMED Initiative
- Egyptian Sustainable Development Forum (ESDF)
- Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)
- Ther Development Center (TDC)
- Iraqi Coalition for Energy Governance and Sustainable Development (ICEGSD)
- Cosmos Media
- Civil Society Network for a Just Energy Transition (RATEJ)
- Moroccan Alliance for Climate and Sustainable Development (AMCDD)
- AESVT Maroc
- MAHARAT Foundation

Who We Are and Why We Came Together

We are representatives of civil society organizations, researchers, experts and media professionals from Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia. We came together around a shared conviction: that the future of the energy transition in our region depends, to a large extent, on our ability to build electricity systems that are more sustainable, transparent and equitable.

Although national contexts differ across our countries, our experiences have shown that many of the challenges facing the electricity sector are remarkably similar. Electricity systems across the region are under growing pressure from rising energy demand, the need for substantial infrastructure investment, the financial constraints facing governments and electricity utilities, and the accelerating transition toward renewable energy sources.

These challenges have become even more pressing in recent years amid geopolitical tensions and volatility in global energy markets, bringing fundamental questions back to the forefront around energy security, the resilience of electricity systems in times of crisis, and the preparedness of our countries to withstand external shocks. These developments have also highlighted the risks associated with excessive reliance on fossil fuels and the growing need to build electricity systems that are more resilient, sustainable and better equipped to respond to future challenges.

At the same time, these developments have made clear that the energy transition is no longer simply an environmental objective or a climate commitment. It has also become a development, economic and strategic imperative, directly linked to energy security, the stability of national economies and their ability to meet citizens' needs.

Our discussions and national experiences have shown that these challenges cannot be addressed through national solutions alone. Many of the issues we face are shared, while many of the opportunities before us require greater cooperation, knowledge exchange and collective action.

Importantly, the focus on electricity governance was not predetermined, but emerged organically from a process we led ourselves. Our journey began with an in-person regional meeting bringing together representatives from our five participating countries, during which each of our country teams developed its own national advocacy priorities and plans for the energy transition, grounded in its specific needs and local context. Despite differences in our national challenges and institutional settings, electricity emerged as the clearest common thread across our national priorities, a space where energy security, investment, transparency, governance and the transition to renewable energy converge.

This convergence led us to deepen the regional dialogue on the electricity sector, including through a dedicated session organized in collaboration with the International Energy Agency (IEA) to discuss the shared challenges and opportunities facing electricity systems across the region. It also provided the foundation for the regional workshop that followed, which aimed to translate national priorities into a shared regional agenda reflecting the participants' own vision and priorities.

Building on this process, we developed this shared regional civil society agenda, not as a final document or a closed statement, but as a common framework that reflects our collective priorities and guides our dialogue, advocacy and cooperation in the period ahead.

This roadmap is the product of our discussions and exchanges. It articulates a collective vision shaped through the exchange of experiences, insights and lessons learned and reflects the consensus we reached on the issues we consider most critical to the future of the electricity sector and a just energy transition in the Middle East and North Africa.

In putting forward this roadmap, we call on governments, regulators, electricity utilities, regional institutions, international partners and civil society organizations to engage in constructive dialogue around these priorities and work together to translate them into concrete actions and reforms that serve the people of the region and support a more sustainable, equitable and secure energy future.

Why Electricity?

Despite the differences in our national contexts, the electricity sector emerged as the clearest area of common ground across our national priorities and experiences, a point of convergence for many of the challenges and opportunities shaping the region's energy future.

Electricity is no longer simply an essential service or one economic sector among many. Today, it lies at the heart of discussions around energy security, economic development, social stability, resilience to crises, and the achievement of climate and sustainability goals.

Recent regional developments, together with disruptions in global energy markets and volatility in fuel prices, have reinforced the understanding that energy security is no longer measured solely by the availability of resources. It also depends on countries' ability to build electricity systems that are more efficient and resilient to external shocks. In this context, electricity has emerged as a critical pillar of economic and social stability across the region.

Electricity is directly linked to countries' ability to meet growing demand for essential services, improve quality of life, attract investment, strengthen the competitiveness of national economies, create jobs, and ensure that citizens have access to reliable and affordable services.

At the same time, the electricity sector is where many of the transformations associated with the energy transition will take shape in the decades ahead. Expanding renewable energy, improving energy efficiency, reducing emissions and strengthening energy security all depend directly on our countries' ability to develop electricity systems that are more sustainable, resilient and transparent.

The national discussions that preceded this roadmap, as well as the regional dialogues that brought us together, have shown that many of the challenges facing the electricity sector are shared across the region.

To varying degrees, our countries face challenges related to financing the sector, modernizing electricity grids, improving governance, strengthening transparency, developing regulatory frameworks, and mobilizing the investment needed to expand renewable electricity generation. They also share a fundamental challenge: ensuring that the energy transition is just and inclusive and delivers tangible benefits for citizens and local communities.

At the same time, the region has exceptional opportunities to become a global leader in renewable electricity generation, thanks to its vast solar and wind resources, strategic geographic location, and growing potential for regional cooperation, electricity interconnection, and the exchange of knowledge and expertise.

From this perspective, we see electricity sector reform not as a narrow sectoral objective, but as a strategic pathway toward achieving a just and sustainable energy transition in the Middle East and North Africa.

We also believe that electricity governance is one of the few issues capable of bringing together a broad range of actors, including governments, regulators, electricity utilities, civil society, regional institutions and international partners, around a shared agenda that connects development, energy security, sustainability and social justice.

This is why we have chosen to place electricity at the heart of our regional advocacy. Not because it is the only challenge facing the region, but because it represents the most realistic and impactful starting point for building a more sustainable, equitable and resilient energy future. Ultimately, the success of the energy transition in our region will be measured, to a large extent, by our ability to build electricity systems that meet people's needs today while responding to the challenges of tomorrow.



Our Five Regional Priorities

This agenda is grounded in a shared conviction that building electricity systems that are more sustainable, equitable and transparent requires action across a set of interconnected priorities, rather than pursuing a single reform or addressing one sector in isolation.

The national discussions and regional dialogues that brought together participants from Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia revealed broad consensus around a set of issues that form the foundation for any meaningful pathway toward a just energy transition in the region.

The five priorities outlined in this agenda reflect the areas that received the greatest attention and consensus among participants. They also capture the common challenges and opportunities our countries face, despite their different national contexts.

These priorities should not be viewed as separate or competing tracks, but as complementary and mutually reinforcing elements of a broader vision for the future of electricity and energy in the Middle East and North Africa.

Reforms to subsidies and pricing cannot achieve their objectives without transparency and accountability. Similarly, better governance requires stronger institutional coordination and a civil society that is better equipped to participate and influence decision-making. At the same time, the region will not be able to fully realize its renewable energy potential without greater regional cooperation and the exchange of knowledge and expertise.

On this basis, the following five priorities provide a practical framework for collective action and advocacy in the period ahead, as well as an open invitation to all relevant actors to contribute to building electricity systems that are more sustainable, resilient and equitable: systems that serve people's needs and support sustainable development across the region.

01 Reforming subsidy and pricing policies to strengthen investment in electricity

02 Strengthening transparency, accountability and access to information

03 Strengthening governance and institutional coordination

04 Strengthening the role of civil society and the media

05 Strengthening regional cooperation and electricity interconnection

01 Reforming Subsidy and Pricing Policies to Strengthen Investment in Electricity

Why Is This a Regional Priority?

Electricity systems across the Middle East and North Africa are under increasing pressure from steadily rising energy demand, the need to modernize infrastructure, and the growing requirements associated with expanding renewable electricity generation. At the same time, many governments face mounting fiscal constraints that limit their ability to mobilize the investment needed to keep pace with these transformations.

Recent developments in global energy markets have shown that continued reliance on fossil fuels not only creates environmental and climate risks, but also increases the exposure of the region's economies to external volatility and geopolitical shocks. These developments have also underscored the need to build electricity systems that are more resilient and better equipped to respond to future challenges.

In this context, subsidy and pricing policies are among the key tools available to steer resources and investment toward a more sustainable and secure electricity future.

Common Challenges

Despite differences in national contexts, countries across the region face a number of common challenges, including:

- Continued heavy reliance on fossil fuels for electricity generation.
- Limited resources available for investment in modern grids and infrastructure.
- Weak alignment between subsidy reforms and energy transition objectives.
- Limited transparency around the use of savings generated through subsidy and pricing reforms.
- The need to strike a balance between fiscal sustainability and social considerations.

What Are We Calling For?

We call on governments and institutions responsible for the electricity sector to:

- **Redirect a portion of the resources allocated to fossil fuel subsidies toward investment in renewable electricity, grid modernization and clean energy infrastructure.** Scaling up renewable energy requires substantial investment in electricity grids, transmission and distribution systems, and supporting infrastructure to ensure that electricity systems can integrate clean energy sources while strengthening the reliability of electricity services.
- **Strengthen transparency around subsidy policies and pricing reforms by publishing clear information on how the resulting savings are reinvested.** Making this information available on a regular basis can help build public trust and enable citizens and civil society to track the impact of reforms and assess their contribution to electricity sector development and the energy transition.

What Do We Commit To?

We commit to strengthening public dialogue on the future of the electricity sector and on subsidy and pricing policies, contributing to greater public understanding of their impacts, opportunities and challenges, and advocating for greater transparency and accountability in the design and implementation of reforms.

We also commit to supporting discussions that connect electricity sector reforms with the objectives of a just energy transition, helping to ensure that these reforms deliver long-term economic, social and environmental benefits.

OUR REGIONAL MESSAGE

We believe that reforming subsidy and pricing policies should not be viewed solely as a fiscal or accounting measure, but as a strategic opportunity to redirect investment toward building electricity systems that are more sustainable and resilient, better able to serve people's needs and support economic development across the region.

02 Strengthening Transparency, Accountability and Access to Information in the Electricity Sector

Why Is This a Regional Priority?

Access to information is a fundamental pillar of effective electricity sector governance and a successful energy transition. Without reliable, up-to-date and publicly accessible data, it becomes difficult for citizens, civil society, researchers and policymakers to assess progress, monitor the implementation of reforms, and contribute to the development of policies that are more effective and responsive to national needs.

Experiences shared by the country teams emphasized that limited access to information on the electricity sector poses a barrier to public participation and accountability. It also constrains the ability of different stakeholders to understand the challenges and opportunities associated with developing electricity systems and expanding the use of renewable energy.

As the energy sector undergoes rapid transformation, greater transparency is increasingly essential to building public trust, improving the quality of policies, and fostering more effective dialogue among stakeholders.

Common Challenges

Despite differences in national contexts, countries across the region face a number of common challenges, including:

- Limited availability of data on electricity sector performance.
- Uneven levels of disclosure and transparency across relevant institutions and entities.
- Difficulties in accessing information on electricity generation sources and renewable energy projects.
- A lack of common standards and practices for disclosure and reporting.
- Limited information on progress in implementing reforms and meeting renewable energy targets.

What Are We Calling For?

We call on governments, electricity utilities, regulators and other relevant institutions to:

- **Publish up-to-date and easily accessible information on electricity generation sources, the progress of renewable energy projects, and future investment plans.** Making this information available on a regular basis is an essential step toward strengthening transparency, improving public debate on the future of the sector, and enabling stakeholders to monitor and assess developments.
- **Develop regional transparency standards and common disclosure and reporting practices for electricity governance and the implementation of renewable energy policies.** Establishing common regional benchmarks and standards would facilitate knowledge exchange and cross-country comparisons, help strengthen transparency, and promote mutual learning across national experiences.

What Do We Commit To?

We commit to promoting a culture of transparency and access to information in the electricity sector, and to supporting efforts to improve access to data, making it easier to understand, and increasing its usefulness for citizens, researchers and policymakers.

We also commit to encouraging the exchange of experiences and good practices in disclosure and transparency, and to contributing to the development of tools and initiatives that support public accountability and independent monitoring of reforms related to the electricity sector and renewable energy.

OUR REGIONAL MESSAGE

We believe that transparency is not an end in itself, but an essential means of building trust, improving policies and strengthening accountability. The more accessible and understandable information is, the more effective decision-making can be, and the greater the ability of communities to participate in shaping the future of electricity and energy in their countries.

03 Strengthening Governance and Institutional Coordination to Accelerate the Transition to Renewable Electricity Systems

Why Is This a Regional Priority?

The successful transition to more sustainable electricity systems depends not only on access to finance or technological development, but also on institutions that are able to plan, coordinate and make decisions effectively.

Experiences across the region, shared by the country teams, have shown that some of the most significant challenges facing electricity sector reform stem from overlapping institutional mandates, weak coordination among relevant authorities, and lengthy regulatory and administrative procedures required to develop projects and mobilize investment.

As the energy transition accelerates, there is a growing need for more effective governance frameworks that can ensure greater coherence across policies, programs and investments related to electricity and renewable energy.

Recent developments in global energy markets have also underscored the importance of institutions that are agile and capable of responding rapidly to emerging challenges and changing circumstances, thereby strengthening energy security and supporting the long-term sustainability of reforms.

Common Challenges

Despite differences in national contexts, countries across the region face a number of common challenges, including:

- The involvement of multiple institutions and authorities in the electricity and energy sectors.
- Weak coordination across policies related to energy, climate, investment and economic development.
- Complex regulatory and administrative procedures for electricity and renewable energy projects.
- Delays in implementing reforms due to overlapping institutional mandates or the absence of effective coordination mechanisms.
- The need for institutions with greater capacity to lead and manage the energy transition.

What Are We Calling For?

We call on governments and relevant institutions to:

- **Simplify and accelerate regulatory and administrative procedures that delay the development of renewable electricity projects and related investments.** Complex administrative processes and lengthy approval and licensing procedures can create significant barriers to accelerating investment and scaling up renewable energy projects. This calls for reviewing and improving existing procedures to make them more efficient, clear and predictable.
- **Strengthen coordination across policies related to electricity, energy, climate, investment and economic development to accelerate the transition toward more sustainable electricity systems.** The energy transition cannot succeed through isolated sectoral policies. It requires an integrated approach that ensures coherence across economic, social and environmental objectives and stronger coordination among relevant institutions.

What Do We Commit To?

We commit to supporting dialogue and knowledge exchange on effective governance models and institutional reforms that can help accelerate the transition toward more sustainable electricity systems.

We also commit to contributing to public dialogue on the importance of institutional coordination and its role in improving electricity sector performance and delivering more effective and sustainable outcomes for people and communities.

OUR REGIONAL MESSAGE

We believe that the transition to renewable electricity systems depends not only on the scale of investment or the availability of resources, but also on the ability of institutions to work together effectively and in a coordinated manner. The clearer the governance frameworks and the stronger the institutional coordination, the faster and more stable the transition can be and the greater its ability to deliver tangible and lasting results.

04 Strengthening the Role of Civil Society and the Media in Supporting Electricity Sector Reform and Accelerating the Transition to Renewable Electricity Systems

Why Is This a Regional Priority?

A just and sustainable energy transition cannot be achieved through policies and investment alone. It also requires meaningful public participation and informed public debate to ensure that reforms reflect citizens' needs and aspirations and have the support and trust necessary for their success and long-term sustainability.

Experiences across the region, shared by the country teams, have shown that civil society can play an important role in strengthening transparency and accountability, raising public awareness, supporting dialogue among stakeholders, and contributing to the development of policies that are more inclusive and responsive to local needs.

In this context, the media is an essential partner for civil society in advancing a just energy transition by making information accessible, communicating complex technical issues in understandable ways, and fostering public debate around electricity and energy policy choices. This role is particularly important in the electricity sector because of its direct impact on people's daily lives, from prices and quality of service to security of supply and the expansion of renewable energy.

At the same time, many civil society organizations continue to face challenges in accessing information and data, building alliances, exchanging knowledge and experience, and developing advocacy tools capable of influencing debates and policies related to electricity and renewable energy. Journalists also face challenges in accessing specialized information and in communicating the sector's complex technical and economic dimensions in ways that are accurate, accessible and understandable to the public.

As attention to energy and the energy transition grows across the region, there is an increasing need for stronger cooperation and collective action among different stakeholders, including civil society and the media, to foster a more informed and influential public debate that can contribute meaningfully to shaping the future of the electricity sector.

Common Challenges

Despite differences in national contexts, civil society organizations and journalists working on energy issues across the region face a number of common challenges, including:

- Limited coordination and cooperation among actors working on energy, climate, governance and consumer rights.
- Limited opportunities to exchange knowledge and experiences across countries in the region.
- Limited resources and specialized tools to support advocacy and evidence-based engagement.
- Difficulties in translating growing interest in energy issues into joint initiatives and advocacy campaigns with regional impact.
- The need for sustained spaces for dialogue, learning and coordination among different stakeholders.
- Limited access by journalists to specialized information and data, and the need to strengthen their capacity to communicate the technical and economic dimensions of electricity and the energy transition accurately and in ways that are accessible to the public.

What Are We Calling For?

We call on civil society organizations, regional networks, relevant partners, media organizations and journalists to:

- **Strengthen cooperation and build alliances among civil society organizations working on energy, climate, consumer rights and governance to develop more effective advocacy around electricity sector reform and renewable energy.** The challenges facing the electricity sector cut across the mandates of individual organizations and sectors, making stronger alliances and coordination among different actors essential to increasing impact and achieving more sustainable outcomes.
- **Make greater use of regional platforms and networks to exchange knowledge and strengthen coordination among civil society organizations, and to launch joint initiatives or advocacy campaigns on electricity governance and renewable energy.** Mutual learning and the exchange of successful experiences across countries can help accelerate the development of solutions, broaden their impact, and build a shared regional understanding of the challenges and opportunities associated with the energy transition.

- **Strengthen the engagement of journalists and communication professionals in discussions on electricity sector reform and the energy transition, ensure their timely access to reliable information and data, and expand opportunities to strengthen their capacity to engage with the sector's technical and economic issues.** This can help improve the quality of media coverage, broaden public debate, and make energy transition issues more accessible and relevant to citizens.

What Do We Commit To?

We commit to strengthening cooperation and communication among civil society organizations, experts, researchers and journalists across the region, and to promoting the exchange of knowledge, experiences and lessons learned from different national contexts.

We also commit to contributing to spaces for dialogue and mutual learning, strengthening the ability of civil society and the media to translate complex technical issues related to electricity and the energy transition into public debate that is clearer and more accessible to citizens, and developing joint initiatives and positions on priority issues related to the electricity sector and the energy transition.

OUR REGIONAL MESSAGE

We believe that civil society and the media are essential partners in advancing electricity sector reform and accelerating a just energy transition. The most sustainable reforms are those grounded in meaningful public participation, reliable and accessible information, and informed public debate that enable citizens to understand the choices before them and participate in shaping the region's energy future.

05 Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Electricity Interconnection

Why Is This a Regional Priority?

As electricity systems across the Middle East and North Africa face growing challenges, regional cooperation is becoming increasingly important as a key pathway to strengthening energy security and accelerating the transition toward more sustainable and resilient electricity systems.

Many of the challenges facing countries in the region extend beyond national borders, whether related to security of supply, the integration of renewable energy, infrastructure development, or exposure to volatility in global energy markets. At the same time, the region has significant opportunities that can be further unlocked through stronger cooperation, knowledge exchange and greater integration among countries.

Recent regional developments have further underscored the importance of building more interconnected and resilient electricity systems that are better equipped to respond to crises, thereby strengthening energy security and improving the reliability of electricity supply at both national and regional levels.

Common Challenges

Despite progress made by some countries in electricity interconnection and technical cooperation, a number of common challenges remain, including:

- Limited regular dialogue on electricity interconnection and renewable energy at the regional level.
- Limited participation of civil society in discussions on regional cooperation and electricity interconnection projects.
- Limited exchange of knowledge and expertise among stakeholders across the region.
- The need to build a shared understanding of the opportunities and challenges associated with regional electricity integration.
- The absence of sustained platforms bringing together different stakeholders around cross-border electricity and renewable energy issues.

What Are We Calling For?

We call on civil society organizations, regional institutions and relevant partners to:

- **Build a regional coalition of civil society organizations, researchers and experts to engage with and advance discussions on regional electricity cooperation and cross-border renewable energy.** Regional cooperation requires spaces for dialogue and knowledge exchange that enable the development of shared perspectives and positions on issues of common interest and strengthen civil society participation in discussions on the future of electricity in the region.
- **Establish a regular regional dialogue on the opportunities and challenges associated with electricity interconnection and cross-border trade in renewable electricity among countries in the region.** Sustained dialogue among different stakeholders can help build a shared understanding of the challenges and opportunities and identify areas that could benefit from greater regional cooperation and coordination.

What Do We Commit To?

We commit to strengthening cooperation and the exchange of knowledge and expertise among civil society organizations, experts and researchers across the region, and to developing spaces for dialogue and mutual learning on electricity and renewable energy.

We also commit to contributing to the development of regional networks and partnerships that facilitate the exchange of experiences and lessons learned and strengthen the ability of civil society actors to engage in discussions on the region's energy future.

OUR REGIONAL MESSAGE

We believe that the future of electricity in the Middle East and North Africa cannot be built through national efforts alone. It also requires greater cooperation, integration and knowledge exchange among countries across the region. The stronger the bridges of dialogue, coordination and regional cooperation, the greater the region's ability to build electricity systems that are more sustainable, resilient and better equipped to meet the challenges of the future.

From Priorities to Action

This shared regional roadmap is the culmination of a dialogue that brought together representatives of civil society organizations, researchers, experts and journalists from Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia to chart the future of electricity and the energy transition in the Middle East and North Africa.

The process began with an in-person regional meeting, where each country team developed its own national priorities and advocacy agenda based on its specific needs and context. Despite differing national circumstances, electricity emerged as the clearest common thread across these national agendas, the space where energy security, investment, governance and the transition to renewable energy converge.

This shared ground led to a series of dialogues and knowledge exchanges, including a dedicated session with the International Energy Agency (IEA), culminating in the regional workshop that translated national priorities into this shared regional roadmap. It reflects the participants' own perspectives and collective priorities, and provides a path forward grounded in the national experience of the participating country teams. This process rests on a shared recognition: the challenges facing the region's electricity sector, despite differing national contexts, are more interconnected than ever. Volatility in global energy markets, mounting economic pressures, the imperative to strengthen energy security, and the need to accelerate the transition to sustainable electricity systems all demand new approaches and more effective cooperation and collective action.

Throughout this process, national and regional discussions have shown that electricity is no longer simply a service or a technical sector. It has become a central point of convergence for economic development, social stability, energy security, investment and climate justice. A clear consensus also emerged around a set of priorities that we believe are fundamental to any meaningful pathway toward a just and sustainable energy transition in the region.

This roadmap also aligns with a number of regional initiatives seeking to accelerate the energy transition and strengthen cooperation across the Mediterranean. Among them is the TeraMed initiative, launched by Mediterranean civil society actors with the ambition of advancing toward 1 terawatt of renewable energy capacity across the Mediterranean region by 2030. This convergence reflects the growing regional momentum to accelerate investment in renewable energy and strengthen cooperation around the region's energy future.

The five priorities set out in this roadmap reflect a shared agenda that calls for:

01	Directing investment and policies toward building more sustainable and resilient electricity systems.
02	Strengthening transparency, accountability and access to information in the electricity sector.
03	Developing the governance frameworks and institutional coordination needed to accelerate reforms.
04	Strengthening the role of civil society and the media in dialogue, advocacy and public engagement around electricity sector reform and the energy transition.
05	Expanding regional cooperation, electricity interconnection, and the exchange of knowledge and expertise.

This roadmap is not intended as a final document or a closed set of demands. Rather, it provides an open regional framework for dialogue and collective action. It is an invitation to all relevant actors, including governments, regulators, electricity utilities, regional institutions, international partners, civil society organizations and the media, to engage in collective efforts to translate these priorities into concrete policies, reforms, initiatives and partnerships. This also marks the beginning of a broader process of regional cooperation among civil society actors and partners across the region, aimed at strengthening knowledge and experience sharing, developing common positions and initiatives, and building a stronger regional voice in debates on the future of energy and the energy transition.

As we put this roadmap forward to policymakers, partners and stakeholders across the region, we emphasize that its success will not be measured by the number of recommendations it contains, but by our collective ability to translate them into concrete action and tangible outcomes that improve people's lives, strengthen energy security, support sustainable development, and accelerate the transition toward electricity systems that are more equitable, resilient and sustainable. At a time of growing economic, climate and geopolitical challenges, we believe that collective action, regional cooperation and constructive dialogue offer the most effective path toward building a more secure, prosperous and sustainable energy future for the Middle East and North Africa.

Published November 2026
NRGI grants a license to this work under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License. Third-party photographs are excluded.

Natural Resource Governance Institute

resourcegovernance.org