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In late 2022, Mauritania embarked on a transformative journey for its energy landscape by inaugurating a new electricity code, echoing its robust commitment to decarbonization. This reform stands poised to unleash a surplus of benefits, especially for Mauritania's extractive sectors and the broader local economy.

This new IEA report - the first focusing on Mauritania - explores the potential benefits to Mauritania of developing its renewable energy options and includes an analysis of the water requirements of hydrogen and the potential for expanding potable water availability through seawater desalination.

Renewable Energy Opportunities for Mauritania finds that the country could deploy these resources at scale to generate low-cost renewable electricity and hydrogen through electrolysis. This could kickstart the transformation of Mauritania's energy sector, helping to close gaps in access to electricity and deliver strong economic and social ...

A switch to renewable energy in the sector could lower costs, reduce emissions, increase efficiency and improve energy security in the country. There is also potential to further electrify energy uses in mining. The government has announced various export-oriented projects to produce renewable hydrogen, ammonia and/or hydrogen-reduced iron.

Mauritania aims to become a major player in the hydrogen industry by 2040. In May 2021, Mauritania signed a memorandum of understanding with a renewable energy developer, CWP Global, for the development of a USD 40bn project with the aim to produce 30 gigawatts of wind and solar energy to power electrolyzers for the production of green hydrogen.<sup>8</sup>

Mauritania's energy intensity increased at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of -6.81 per cent over the 20 years between 1990 and 2010 and at 28.07 per cent CAGR from 2010 to 2012. Between 2010 and 2012, the Mauritanian economy's energy intensity (the ratio of the quantity of energy consumption per unit of economic

Renewable energy to support production in Mauritania. The new report, which was launched during an event in Nouakchott, outlines possible pathways for Mauritania to develop its renewable energy resources at scale and was carried out in collaboration with the Mauritanian Ministry of Petroleum, Mines and Energy.

developing areas. Energy self-sufficiency has been defined as total primary energy production divided by total

primary energy supply. Energy trade includes all commodities in Chapter 27 of the Harmonised System (HS). Capacity utilisation is calculated as annual generation divided by year-end capacity x 8,760h/year. Avoided

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