

## Saudi arabia electricity policy

Saudi Arabia's Energy Minister announced the kingdom would seek to produce 50% of its electricity from renewables by 2030. This is an ambitious goal given the current share of renewables in the electricity mix and the fact that only about 2 percent of households use renewables to meet their energy needs.

Saudi Arabia has established a goal to source at least 50 percent of its power from renewable energy by 2030, expanding its capacity to 130 gigawatts (GW), 58.7 GW of which is expected to come from solar and 40 GW from wind.

Saudi Arabia's elevated per capita energy consumption, considerable electricity generation, expanding energy production and authorized power capacity, governmental backing for energy efficiency campaigns, and considerable prospective benefits from renovating structures underscore its endeavors and obstacles in the energy domain.

Within this context, this analysis intends to: (1) explore the ongoing energy transition in Saudi Arabia; (2) examine the role of renewable energy in achieving the sustainability goals in Saudi Arabia. The results have important policy implications, highlighting how aggressive energy transition initiatives may achieve sustainability and ...

discussion focuses on a broad array of events and trends influencing Saudi energy policy, highlighting challenging growth in domestic hydrocarbon demand, subsidies behind that growth, recent reforms to energy pricing, and the climate pressures facing the kingdom.

Sada is an online journal rooted in Carnegie's Middle East Program that seeks to foster and enrich debate about key political, economic, and social issues in the Arab world and provides a venue for new and established voices to deliver reflective analysis on these issues.

Saudi energy policymakers have been pressured repeatedly--both from within the OPEC+ countries and from outside--to develop policies to moderate global economic turbulence and to placate politically-motivated demands while being pressed domestically to satisfy and respond to local economic ambitions. This is all while having to keep up with industry development needs, constraints, and transitions.

Against this backdrop, since 2015, and under the new "Saudi first" policy, Saudi policymakers have shifted from a decades-long policy of playing the role of market balancer and price taker to a more activist role in energy price making, intervening in and influencing global energy markets. This is resulting in the de-linking of Saudi energy policy from its role as a stabilizer of global energy supplies, and thus, from the US-led global order.

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Post-2015 energy policy choices have been driven by political and market conditions including geopolitical and regional competition, oil output and supply and demand balancing, pricing and market share competition, productive and spare capacity, and local economic considerations. These policy choices are a manifestation of long-term Saudi goals, which include the maintenance of high oil prices to finance economic diversification under Vision 2030 while prolonging the dominance of oil and gas in the global energy mix.

As the government in Saudi Arabia moves to review the policies and policymaking process for the energy sector, it should be cognizant that policies carry political implications. Within an evolving international power reordering, these political implications could jeopardize Saudi Arabia's global political standing and security.

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A humanitarian crisis in Lebanon deepens, and Syrian refugees face a perilous choice: remain in a war-torn environment or return to Syria where they risk encountering significant dangers and discrimination. There are significant challenges and risks to their search for safety in Syria.

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