



Morocco Targets 60% Desalinated Water by 2030

Morocco is expanding its use of seawater desalination as it confronts a severe seven-year drought. The country plans to meet 60 percent of its drinking water needs from desalinated seawater by 2030, a sharp rise from about 25 percent today. Current plans call for producing 1.7 billion cubic meters of desalinated water per year by 2030 through a series of new and enlarged facilities, all designed to operate on renewable energy to reduce emissions.

The largest project under development is a 350 million cubic meter plant near Tiznit, supported by an investment of around 10 billion dirhams, or about US\$1 billion dollars. This facility is expected to supply essential farming regions in the south, helping stabilise food production in areas that are especially vulnerable to climate driven water shortages. Alongside these major plants, authorities are introducing new approaches such as floating solar panels on reservoirs to reduce evaporation losses and increase efficiency. Together, these efforts aim to strengthen water security for communities and agriculture as climate pressures intensify.



A New Climate Milestone for Europe: 90% Emission Cut by 2040

European Union members have set a new binding climate target that requires a 90 percent cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2040 compared with 1990 levels. Domestic industries must reduce emissions by 85 percent, with the remaining gap partly met through limited international carbon credits from 2036. These credits offer some flexibility in reaching the goal. The deal reflects a political balance.

Some countries resisted deeper cuts due to concerns about industry pressure and competitiveness, while others pressed for stronger action to address rising climate risks and support green technology. As part of the compromise, certain measures will roll out more slowly, including the expansion of carbon pricing on fuel, now delayed to 2028. The target places the European Union ahead of many major economies and reinforces its path toward the 2050 net zero goal. Yet the inclusion of credits and the flexible structure may still fall short of the deeper reductions many scientists see as necessary to keep warming near the 1.5-degree limit.



\$150 Million Funding Boost for South Africa's Energy Shift

South Africa will receive a US\$150-million-dollar credit facility from Britain's development finance institution to help high emitting companies adopt cleaner technologies. The funding, channelled through FirstRand, marks the institution's first move into energy transition finance. The country currently raises about 188 billion rand a year for climate projects but needs around 500 billion rand, leaving a gap of more than 300 billion rand. The new commitment offers momentum, though far larger investment will still be required.

60%

Morocco plans to meet 60 percent of its drinking water needs from desalination by 2030 to ease growing water stress

90%

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\$150 million

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