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## Morocco's Climate Strategy

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**Morocco lies in a critical juncture of environmental strain, economic vulnerability, and social pressure. Structural issues in agriculture, governance, and resource management have made key sectors increasingly fragile in the face of climate change. At the same time, the country holds significant potential—from abundant renewable energy resources to growing interest from foreign investors.**

### Morocco's Challenges

- Unsustainable focus on profitable but water-intensive crops
- Crop yields declining over last decade
- Large rural population entirely reliant on resource-dependent agricultural sector for trade and sustenance
- Civil unrest due to economic inequality, poor governance, youth unemployment, and unequal access to education
- Agricultural economy structurally benefitting regime-connected elites
- Lack of accountability and representation in water governance, inadequate integration of relevant sectors
- Minimal transparency in oversight and implementation procedures creates obstacles for nonstate actors—including the private sector, civil society, and development organizations seeking to contribute to climate efforts
- Policies pertaining to waste disposal and naval pollution not adequately paired with financial capacity

#### See full article and sources:

Joy Arkeh and Selma Khalil, "Morocco's Climate Strategy: Balancing Growth, Resilience, and Sustainability," Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, January 30, 2025, <https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2025/01/moroccos-climate-strategy-balancing-growth-resilience-and-sustainability?lang=en>.

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## Morocco's Opportunities

- Leveraging advantage in renewable energy potential and sound economic management and infrastructure to attract foreign direct investment (FDI)
- Rated as the world's first- and second-most attractive renewable energy markets for FDI in 2022 and 2023 respectively
- Utilizing FDI for accelerated economic diversification, alleviating dependence on sectors subject to environmental stressors
- Endorsing scientific research, leading to improved climatic modeling assessments and thus human capacity and accountability
- Five-year investment plan targeting improved energy efficiency by imposing tariffs on producers that disrupt energy supplies to consumers

## Policy Recommendations

- Include grassroots actors such as farming unions, municipal authorities, and civil society groups in the formulation and implementation of climate policies
- Create larger forums between public and private actors, generating collaboration and improved investment conditions for climate initiatives
- Implement financial incentives for private actors complying with clean energy goals, such as robust anti-competitive practices
- Climate frameworks should hold a greater emphasis on long-term targets including a formal system for project goal timelines and corresponding accountability measures in the case timelines are not met
- Climate policy frameworks should better address plans for adaptation and adaptive infrastructure commensurate with mitigation priorities
- Empower local labor capacity to facilitate a transition toward green-conducive jobs and away from climate-sensitive industries, particularly by expanding employment in non-agricultural sectors
- Assign reporting and monitoring responsibilities to local authorities in order to strengthen oversight and equalize access to high standards of sustainability at the local level
- Streamline and decentralize water governance to meet not only immediate mitigation needs but long-term infrastructural requirements for adaptation
- Collaboration between the Ministry of Agriculture, Maritime Fishery, Rural Development, Water, and Forests; and the Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics, and Water, on adapting vulnerable infrastructural realities of agricultural and coastal sectors



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