

Advancing the *CEM Agenda for Action on Power System Solutions*

Status Update: September 2025

Background

The CEM Agenda for Action on Power Systems Solutions, launched at CEM15 last year at Foz de Iguazu Brazil, was endorsed by 28 CEM members, and set out concrete actions to accelerate investment in sustainable, secure, and resilient power systems.

Implementation is carried out through new and existing CEM workstreams that aim to improve planning and investment certainty, modernize and expand transmission and distribution grids, unlock power system flexibility, deploy e-mobility infrastructure, strengthen energy supply chain resilience and sustainability, and advance a just and inclusive transition.

Over 30 concrete actions are being implemented, including technical assistance, knowledge sharing, publications, and awards.



*Launch of the Agenda for Action on Power System Solutions
CEM15 Ministerial-CEO Roundtable Foz de Iguazu, Brazil*

Members and Partners at CEM16 showcased progress on concrete actions

CEM16 served as a moment to convene a wide range of stakeholders working on power sector transformation and provided an opportunity to understand how the different elements of this transformation are being advanced, discuss the challenges and the opportunities, and align efforts with those of other organizations and initiatives.

As part of the activities supporting the implementation of the CEM Agenda for Action on Power System Solutions, a **High-Level Dialogue on Power Transformation** was organized at CEM16 focusing on the need for investment in power sector related infrastructures.

A key outcome of the discussions was the inclusion of Emerging Markets and Developing Economies (EMDEs), bringing them to the table as part of a constructive and forward-looking dialogue. This marked an important step in broadening the geographical scope of the Agenda for Action, ensuring that the perspectives and priorities of EMDEs are reflected from the outset, and laying the groundwork for deeper collaboration.

During the High-Level Dialogue, governments and industry leaders recognized grids as the foundation of the clean energy transition and a prerequisite for integrating renewables, electrifying transport, and ensuring system resilience. They also highlighted the urgency of long-term integrated planning, agile permitting, and digitalisation to enable real-time predictability and efficient operations. Regional interconnections were identified as essential for balancing demand and supply, while strengthening regulatory frameworks was seen as key to unlocking early investments. Alongside this grid focus, participants stressed the role of complementary technologies such as storage and nuclear. Governments and industry leaders also underlined the importance of mobilising finance, private sector innovation, and global partnerships to deliver future-ready power systems.

Participants also reaffirmed the importance of the Agenda for Action on Power System Solutions and its contribution to advancing global clean power objectives, throughout the delivery of the 30+ endorsed actions, while identifying new areas where enhanced collaboration is needed. Furthermore, they agreed to strengthen the links between the CEM work on power and other major international processes and initiatives, including the G20, COP, GETF, GCPA, and GGI, in order to ensure complementarity and maximise impact. This demonstrated how CEM can serve as an effective implementation platform, helping to create synergies amongst stakeholders and avoid duplications of effort.

At the same time, CEM16 marked a milestone in showcasing progress on the Agenda for Action, bringing together Ministers, CEOs, and industry leaders to highlight achievements and ongoing efforts from CEM Initiatives and campaigns.

Key developments include:

- Launch of the [Solar PV Manufacturing Cost Model](#), supporting policymakers, investors, and industry in assessing policy impacts, identifying competitive advantages, and guiding strategic investments in resilient solar PV supply chains;

- Inaugural [CEM16 Regulatory Forum](#), organized by the CEM Empowering Regulators Campaign, convening policy makers and regulatory agencies, including from ASEAN countries, to align policy goals with regulatory action for the clean energy transition;
- [Joint CEM-RAP Empowering Regulators Blueprint](#), outlining pathways for governments to strengthen regulators’ role in advancing decarbonization;
- The launch of a New CEM initiative to accelerate [next-generation geothermal power](#);
- [White paper](#) “Exploring the Value of Electricity Storage: A Comprehensive International Overview”, highlighting storage’s role in integrating renewables, improving grid reliability and resilience, reducing costs, strengthening energy independence, and lowering emissions;
- Joint [CEM-WEF publication](#) showcasing real-world use cases of responsible renewable deployment, balancing biodiversity, social inclusion, and system resilience;
- [2025 ISGAN Award of Excellence](#), recognizing outstanding smart grid projects focused on “Solutions for Enhanced Grid Operation”;



CEM16 Regulatory Forum



*Launch of the White Paper
“Exploring the Value of Electricity Storage”*



2025 ISGAN Award of Excellence



*Launch of CEM-WEF publication
on Responsible Renewable Infrastructures*



CEM16 High-level Dialogue on Power Transformation Investing in the infrastructure of the future. 26 August, Busan, Republic of Korea

Strengthening EMDE engagement in CEM power sector activities

Following ministerial guidance at CEM15 in Brazil (2024), CEM has made it a strategic priority to strengthen EMDE capacities so they can fully benefit from its government-led platform.

Two milestones marked this effort in 2025: the [CEM regional workshop in Malaysia](#), which opened a first structured dialogue with ASEAN governments and regulators on power system transformation, and CEM16 in Busan, which consolidated EMDE leadership through broad participation and new partnerships.

At CEM16, the inaugural Regulatory Forum under the Empowering Regulators Campaign saw Malaysia and Thailand join peers in shaping new regulatory pathways to accelerate decarbonisation. In the High-Level Dialogue on Power System Solutions, over 30 Vice-Ministers, CEOs and EMDE leaders—including India, Brazil, South Africa, Thailand, Philippines, and Indonesia—highlighted their unique challenges and stressed the need for diversified technologies and stronger public-private collaboration.



EMDE High-level representatives participated in multiple discussions at CEM16 - Republic of Korea, Busan

Taken together, the CEM workshop in Malaysia in 2025 and CEM16 in Busan represent key milestones in strengthening EMDE engagement. They demonstrate tangible progress in advancing regional power system transformation and reaffirm CEM’s value as a platform driving inclusive global clean energy transitions. This was also reflected through Malaysia’s recognition of the value of the CEM collaboration in delivering on their 2025 ASEAN Presidency objectives, and through the Philippines request for CEM to provide similar support for their 2026 ASEAN Presidency.



*CEM Workshop on “Accelerating a Just Energy Transition: Southeast Asia Sustainable Power Planning”
June 2025 - Penang, Malaysia*

Looking forward

Building on the outcomes of CEM16, the next phase of the CEM Agenda for Action on Power System Solutions will focus on **scaling up implementation globally** and **deepening engagement with emerging and developing economies (EMDEs)**. Members will continue to deliver the 30+ endorsed actions while accelerating efforts on grid modernization, energy storage deployment, supply chain resilience, inclusive policy design, and the integration of **all clean energy sources**, including renewables, nuclear, and emerging technologies. More specifically:

- **CEM will continue to facilitate dialogue and empower its members to deliver on these priorities**, by strengthening collaboration with regulators through the Empowering Regulators Campaign, expanding analytical tools such as the Solar PV Manufacturing Cost Model, and advancing new technology areas like geothermal.
- **Regional dialogues and action** will also remain a priority, building on the Malaysia workshop, CEM will continue to deepen its engagement with ASEAN, in collaboration with incoming Philippines Presidency, to ensure **EMDE perspectives are embedded in global solutions**.
- CEM workstreams will keep working with interested countries to support the development of [CEM Power Sector Action Plans](#), following the first and second cohort of countries who already launched their action plans.
- Further opportunities to concretely advance this work will include **showcasing progress and mobilizing action through upcoming global political moments** such as New York Climate Week, the G20, and COP30.
- Notably, this year the CEM is directly supporting Brazil's Climate Action Agenda by leading initiatives under theme 1 "*Transition Energy, Industry and Transport*", bringing the outcomes of the CEM Agenda for Action on Power System Solutions to the broader COP community to enhance ambitions on clean energy transitions.
- Together, these efforts will consolidate CEM's role as the leading platform for advancing resilient, sustainable, and inclusive power systems worldwide.