



Transforming the global energy system

to secure a clean, prosperous, zero-carbon future for all

RMI supported work on a solar minigrid in Mokoloki, Nigeria.

The opportunity.

Humans have burned fossil fuels for energy since the Industrial Revolution. It's the primary reason our climate is changing. Energy production and use — burning coal, gas, and oil to power industries, buildings, and transportation — account for 70 percent of greenhouse gas emissions.

As the planet has warmed, extreme weather has set alarming global records, inflicting suffering and economic havoc on millions. Pollution is damaging our health in irreparable ways. And vulnerable communities and developing countries — who have done the least to cause climate change — have been hit the hardest.

That's why energy is our guiding star. Energy is the heart of our climate problem but also the key to our solution.

Our research shows that energy efficiency and renewable technologies like solar, wind generation, and storage are on an exponential path that will transform the electricity sector this decade.

But this growth is not automatic. It requires the tireless work of many different stakeholders applying their skills and talent to accelerate clean energy solutions.

RMI works with individuals, corporations, communities, foundations, and government leaders to create a clean energy future for all. We drive decarbonization in the four critical sectors — electricity, transportation, buildings, and industry — that account for most emissions. Our toolkit includes six powerful market catalysts: policy, technology, finance, data, education and workforce training, and strategic communications. These catalysts act like levers in the economy, helping spur the rapid systemic shifts we need. And we work globally, in the cities and countries where we can have the most impact: the biggest emitters, those experiencing the worst impacts of climate change, and areas in which population growth and land use are rapidly increasing.



If it were not for RMI, I would be much less hopeful about our planet's future. You are engineering climate solutions that are effective, transparent, broad-reaching, and tactical. There is no better way, in my opinion, to undermine doom.

—CHARLES CHURCHILL, RMI DONOR

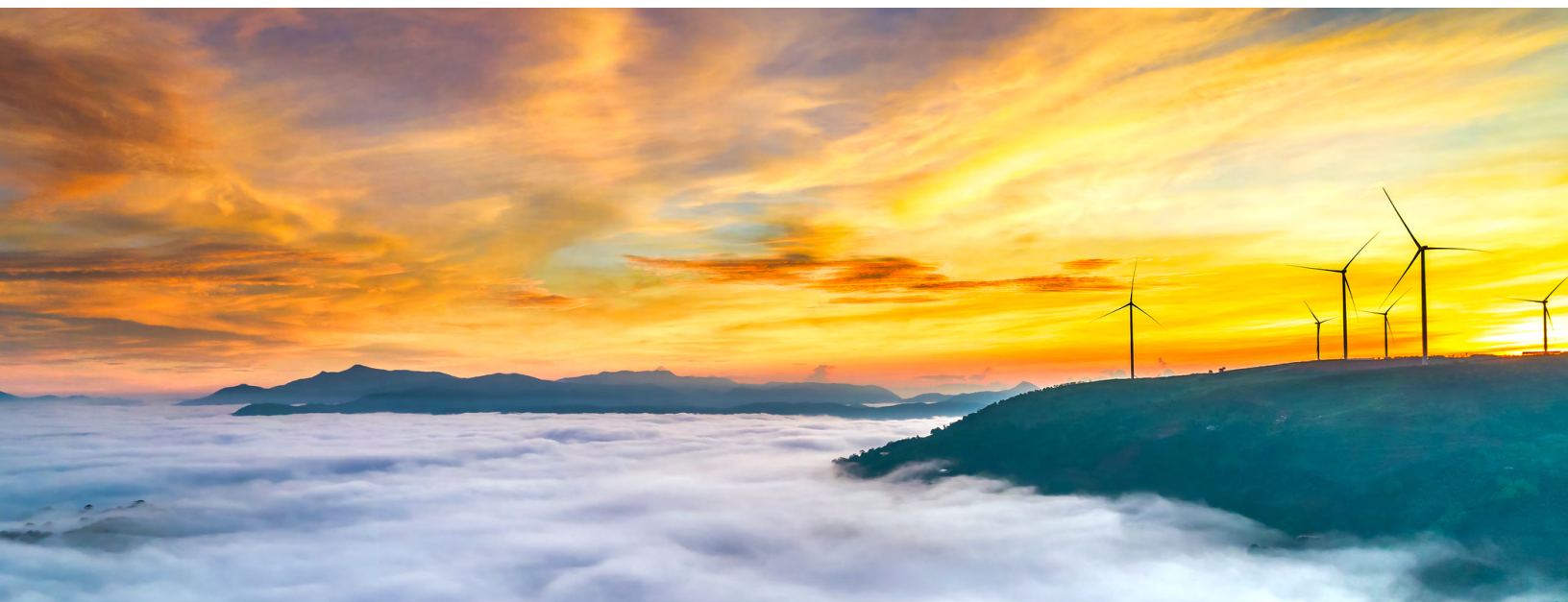
The facts.

MORE THAN
70%
OF GLOBAL POWER
EMISSIONS
COME FROM COAL

60%
OF THE TECHNOLOGIES
NEEDED FOR NET-ZERO
ARE NOT YET
COMMERCIALY
AVAILABLE

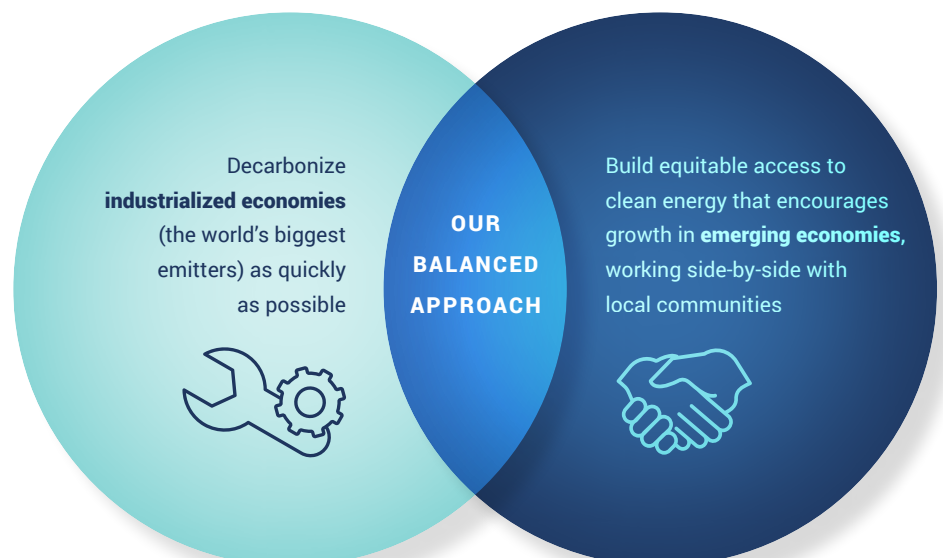
FINANCIAL
MECHANISMS IN THE IRA
CAN GET THE US TO
80%
OF ITS 2030
EMISSIONS GOAL

RENEWABLE ENERGY
IS LESS EXPENSIVE
THAN FOSSIL FUELS IN
82%
OF THE WORLD



Our collaborative strategy.

Our goal is clear: to secure a zero-carbon future — for all — by 2050. To make the biggest impact, most quickly, RMI is focused on energy: decarbonizing key sectors and applying market catalysts to drive rapid change at scale. We test and deploy the most promising solutions in 61 countries around the world.



THIS IS OUR
DECISIVE DECADE:
OUR CHANCE TO AVERT
THE WORST IMPACTS OF
CLIMATE CHANGE

With six years left in this decisive decade, we've prioritized 10 strategic areas of focus, working closely with key partners to achieve these outcomes by 2026:

1 | SECTOR-BASED CLIMATE OUTCOMES

Transforming buildings worldwide, including:

- ***Building momentum for net-zero carbon, thermally comfortable buildings in India and the Global South.*** RMI supports government leaders and major real-estate developers with technical roadmaps and demonstration projects, starting in India and paving the way for broader support across the Global South. Together with partners, we are accelerating highly efficient cooling technologies, passive cooling measures, and advanced market commitments for manufacturers to set the vision for these climate-friendly buildings and enable their early deployment.
- ***Accelerating the adoption of carbon-free buildings in the United States.*** We are engaged with policymakers, businesses, and advocates to provide solutions-focused research, thought leadership, and practical resources to motivate change in the building sector. Our work will transform the markets and policy needed to rapidly transition to carbon-free buildings.

[Learn more about our buildings work](#)



Now Is the Time to Go All in on Heat Pumps

As federal incentives from the 2022 climate bill, the Inflation Reduction Act, begin to roll out, more Americans than ever before will be able to electrify different parts of their lives, from transportation to home heating. New RMI analysis shows that in the 48 lower US states, replacing a gas furnace with a heat pump could reduce climate pollution by up to 93 percent. For cities and states looking to take climate action, reduce inequities, and spur economic activity, electrifying buildings presents such an opportunity. RMI is engaged with city and state officials across the country to chart a path that meets our climate goals, is economically attractive and attainable, and is beneficial for frontline communities and labor. For 100 percent of US homes, there is no need to wait for a cleaner grid to install a heat pump. [Read more](#)

PICTURED: Azizah Ashraf-Ali at her home in Pembroke Township, Ill., which was upgraded with insulation and high-efficiency electric appliances.

Advancing industrial clean energy around the world, including:

- ***Improving the bankability of industrial decarbonization projects.*** To tip the scales of industrial decarbonization, RMI is focused on first-mover, commercial-scale projects in concentrated geographic clusters known as hubs. Within these hubs, RMI will support individual projects, match supply and demand, and develop infrastructure, helping to lay a foundation of supportive policy, public and private finance, and positive community benefits.

- **Enabling key industrial sectors to shift to low-emissions hydrogen.** The [Green Hydrogen Catapult](#), a coalition of leading green hydrogen leaders hosted by RMI, has been integral in accelerating Europe's hydrogen transition and US clean hydrogen hubs. We are working with local business and community leaders within these hubs to map a sequenced, operationally relevant development path, asset by asset, that can be scaled within the United States and globally.
- **Supporting first-of-a-kind carbon dioxide removal (CDR) projects and infrastructure.** To achieve net zero by 2050, we need to incorporate CDR. RMI is stimulating CDR demand, accelerating CDR projects, and conducting research and development in CDR to ensure that businesses and governments are building new policies and markets to pay for carbon removal.

[Learn more about our industry work](#)

Fast-tracking electric vehicles and infrastructure globally, for all, including:

- **Accelerating the electrification of two- and three-wheelers and trucks.** These two market segments are a huge source of global emissions, but have the potential to scale quickly. By leveraging supportive policy, innovative financing solutions, consumer awareness campaigns like [Shoonya](#), and first-mover corporate commitments, we will unlock the economic proposition for two- and three-wheelers and build the political and corporate will to fully decarbonize road transportation in the Global South. And by supporting smart policymaking, infrastructure planning, awareness building, and first-mover convenings like [Run on Less](#), we will create momentum to scale truck electrification.
- **Facilitating investment in future-ready EV infrastructure.** As electric vehicle adoption grows, the infrastructure needed to support those electric vehicles — from chargers to generators — must also grow. Our work is ensuring fleet operators, utilities, regulators, nations, states, and cities can effectively collaborate and access the planning tools required for EV infrastructure build-out and deployment.

[Learn more about our transportation work](#)



Electrifying E-Commerce Urban Deliveries in India

Continuing to meet India's growing mobility demands with gas-powered vehicles will be expensive, detrimental to public health, and dangerous for the climate. Shoonya – Zero-Pollution Mobility is a corporate- and consumer-facing campaign hosted by RMI and NITI Aayog to accelerate EV deployment and eliminate pollution from urban delivery and ridehailing vehicles. By creating an irreversible demand-pull for zero-pollution delivery and rides, first in Indian cities and then in major cities across the globe, we can effectively electrify e-commerce urban deliveries. Since the launch of Shoonya in India, more than 150 corporate partners have joined the campaign, completing more than 150 million rides and deliveries. Next up: expanding Shoonya to other emerging markets to support global climate goals. With renowned industry and public partnerships, Shoonya has kick-started the transition to a zero-pollution mobility future. [Read more](#)

Powering a global electricity transition across emerging and industrialized economies, including:

- **Supporting US electric utilities in climate-aligned business planning.**
RMI is showcasing opportunities to improve reliability and help utilities use new federal tax and financing incentives to accelerate the adoption of carbon-free electricity. We are also empowering corporates, non-governmental organizations, and other organizations with resources they can use to support equitable decarbonization, and design and support regulation and policy that steer the grid towards carbon-free electricity.
- **Supporting China to shift to clean energy for the majority of its new supply.**
We work at the national, inter-provincial, provincial, and sub-provincial levels to accelerate the development of zero-carbon technology and phase down coal power. This includes accelerating wind and solar technologies, new heating technologies, and energy storage and demand-side resources.
- **Transforming utility business models to support clean energy investment in India, Southeast Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa.** RMI supports holistic system change with high-leverage interventions that help electricity stakeholders prepare for and implement the energy transition. We focus on areas where stakeholders are ready, capital is available, and our intervention can catalyze change. This will help clean energy projects such as battery energy storage systems and [distributed energy resources](#) reach a tipping point of self-sustaining growth.
- **Preparing a pipeline of bankable projects in India, the Caribbean, sub-Saharan Africa, and Southeast Asia.** We will build a pipeline of clean energy projects that lower development risk, increase the volume and scale of investment opportunities, and attract more clean energy investors. Our regional project preparation facility improves access, reliability, affordability, and resilience – while building local clean energy workforces.

[Learn more about our electricity work](#)



Responsible Transition in Indonesia

RMI is supporting the Government of Indonesia to responsibly transition away from coal, coming on the heels of a \$20 billion announcement from private and public financiers to support decarbonizing the country's power sector. Working with the state-owned utility, PLN, and the government, RMI is studying the early retirement of the first cohort of coal-fired power plants. We're analyzing how to decommission and replace these plants with renewables as a demonstration that can be extrapolated to the broader coal fleet.

Using innovative blended finance tools, we are assessing how to finance the transition with a climate-aligned funding plan for early retirement and replacement of a portfolio of coal assets across the country. Drawing on our analysis, more than 10 GW of localized power systems in Indonesia will undergo a redirection towards renewable sources instead of relying on coal. RMI is also beginning to support local stakeholders in Vietnam, South Korea, Pakistan, and South Africa as they transition to clean energy. [Read more](#)

Mobilizing climate-aligned finance to drive the global energy transition, including:

- **Deploying climate-aligned investment globally.** Our efforts are helping to rapidly shift public and private financial flows to finance the energy transition by increasing the supply of climate-aligned capital and enabling scalable investment opportunities that increase the demand for capital.
- **Driving a market for climate-differentiated products and services.** RMI is establishing a credible, comparable, and transparent approach to accurately measure and account for the climate impact of assets and products. This will help provide relevant asset-, portfolio-, and product-level standards as well as creating price signals that facilitate sustainable procurement and lead to new investment.
- **Facilitating effective and equitable deployment of Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding in the United States.** The IRA has unlocked financing that prioritizes climate-friendly investment in historically disadvantaged communities. We are supporting federal agencies, states, cities, and communities to deploy IRA funding broadly and equitably.

[Learn more about our finance work](#)



Delivering the Energy Transition to Overlooked US Communities

For decades, community lenders have worked diligently to get capital to communities and businesses neglected by mainstream finance. Fortunately, the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF), a \$27 billion program from the Environmental Protection Agency, is designed to leverage this network and expertise. The GGRF will foster a movement that creates jobs, positions local economies to benefit from decarbonization, and makes the energy transition real for Main Street communities.

RMI is working to support robust applications to GGRF funding competitions, and we are partnering with critical stakeholders like community-based lenders to explore creative ways to improve program implementation and make sure the fund delivers on its potential. [Read more](#)

Accelerating climate technology innovation.

Third Derivative will help 500 of the world's most promising climate tech startups scale their breakthrough solutions. As RMI's innovation engine, Third Derivative helps climate tech entrepreneurs find a faster, more reliable path to market. By creating a network of committed investors and global corporate partners – and integrating RMI's market, regulatory, and policy insights – we will unite and align the stakeholders needed to bridge startup gaps faster, supported with financing and insights that allow innovations to progress quickly.

[Learn more about our climate tech work](#)

Slashing Global Methane.

We work with a partner network of satellite and sensor operators to make methane emissions from the oil, gas, and waste sectors visible in near real-time and use that visibility to define specific policies, industry operator actions, and market incentives. Our efforts will help slash this super-potent greenhouse gas: one of the most attainable, cost-effective climate wins in this decisive decade.

[Learn more about our methane work](#)

Changing the narrative around the global energy transition.

We influence global leaders to adopt and spread the message of the accelerating energy transition through targeted thought leadership, partnerships, strategic communications, and multi-channel storytelling. Our real-world stories from the cutting edge of the energy transition illustrate that the changes we need are affordable and beneficial to businesses and communities.

[Learn more about our work to change the narrative](#)

Empowering leaders with the know-how to fast-track clean energy transition.

We strengthen local, regional, and global efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change and develop resilient energy systems for ongoing adaptation. Energy leaders, utilities, regulators, developers, industries, investors, financiers, communities and innovators across the Global South, India, China, and the United States will increase their know-how to pursue a carbon-free path, improve their skills to develop the climate-aligned workforce, and enhance their capabilities to accelerate bankable, equitable transition pipelines. [Learn more about our workforce capacity work](#)

Accelerating the adoption of energy efficiency and management.

RMI is drawing on our historic strength in energy efficiency — which our co-founder Amory Lovins has championed his entire career — to elevate energy efficiency and demand management as key levers in the climate crisis. We will ensure that this work is featured prominently in the global climate discourse and that RMI's definition, taxonomy, and analyses are commonly cited by key stakeholders at the highest levels. [Learn more about our energy efficiency work](#)



Sharing the Power in Nigeria

The Nigerian Rural Electrification Agency estimates that nearly 90 million people in Nigeria lack access to grid electricity. RMI, in collaboration with Nigerian developers and supported by the Dutch Postcode Lottery, kick-started Sharing the Power, an innovative electrification model accelerating community-led minigrids — self-contained energy generation and distribution systems — in Nigeria.

The projects will increase community ownership, allow for equitable distribution of benefits among community members, and will be integrated into Nigeria's existing minigrid programs to support ongoing national electrification efforts.

“This collaboration with RMI will open an innovative and scalable ownership model, capable of catalyzing minigrid deployment across Africa,” said Okenwa Anayo Nas, CEO, Nayo Tropical Technology. [Read more](#)

How you can help.

Call it a gift. We call it the momentum behind our zero-carbon future.

GIVE NOW
AT
rmi.org/give

As an independent nonprofit, RMI is powered by generous donors. Your support enables us to pursue the next climate breakthroughs. But as the climate clock ticks in this decisive decade, we need to do more, faster. **JOIN US TODAY:**

- **Acceleration Fund support** allows us to think big, take calculated risks that can offer a big return on philanthropic investment, and scale proven projects. It helps us jumpstart urgent projects and seize critical opportunities when they emerge – without delay.
- **General support** provides the critical foundation we need to sustain our operations, staff, and infrastructure while maintaining organizational flexibility.
- **Targeted funding** can be directed to the program or geography of your choice to achieve your personal philanthropic goals.



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About RMI

RMI is an independent nonprofit, founded as Rocky Mountain Institute in 1982, that transforms global energy systems through market-driven solutions to align with a 1.5°C future and secure a clean, prosperous, zero-carbon future for all.

We engage businesses, policymakers, communities, and NGOs to identify and scale energy system interventions that will cut greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50 percent by 2030. With more than 650 staff, RMI has offices in Basalt and Boulder, Colorado; New York City; Oakland, California; Washington, DC; and Beijing.

For more information or to make a gift, contact:

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