



meetMED

Mitigation Enabling Energy Transition in the MEDiterranean region

Together We Switch to Clean Energy



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6th MEDENER international conference on energy transition

Energy efficiency and energy prices: a peaceful solution to the Jigsaw

Conference Conclusions

- Participants to the 6th MEDENER International Conference, organised in the framework of the EU-funded meetMED project and in close cooperation with RCREEE, recognised the utter significance of energy transition in the Mediterranean region to mitigate the unwelcomed effects of climate change.
- Since the 1st international conference in Tunis in 2013, MEDENER associates underlined energy efficiency (EE) and renewable energy (RE) sources as the two main drivers for energy transition.
- In 2014 the MEDENER Presidency, in close collaboration with OME and ADEME, prepared the 2040 scenario for the Mediterranean energy transition calling for the urgent need to act on RE and EE, thus anticipating the conclusions of the COP21 in Paris.
- Simultaneously, RCREEE developed several regional initiatives in collaboration with the League of Arab States (LAS), as well as with regional and international partners, in order to implement Arab RE and EE strategies, guidelines and action plans by activating RE and EE markets and mobilising investments.
- Today, the 6th MEDENER International Conference in Amman has stressed the central role of energy prices as the main bottleneck for EE and RE investments wherever electricity prices are very low, and as one of the main prerequisites for energy policy to work effectively.
- On the one hand, support mechanisms to promote renewable energy sources could become impracticable, when incentives exceed the costs of the commodity faced by the consumers. On the other hand, energy efficiency remains difficult to foster as long as end-users have no incentives to invest in EE measures or to change consumption behaviours.
- How to solve the dilemma? We can imagine two different ways ahead: in the short term, adapting to the specificities of national energy markets and entrusting the public institutions to lead by example on the benefits of investing in renewables and energy efficiency.
- In the medium and long term, efforts for a harmonized Mediterranean energy market (sharing common approaches, tools and targets) should not be spared, bearing in mind that the time-action of the “perfect” energy market and the one to slow down the unwelcomed effects of climate change are irreconcilable.
- Sharing practices and knowledge between the members of MEDENER, RCREEE and interested stakeholders is key in order to provide sound policy advice on these crucial matters. Time is running and climate change too: we cannot wait for the perfect market alone to act in support of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources.

Amman, 4 October 2018