

Closing Conference

15 March 2023, Brussels

INTEGRATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN POWER SYSTEMS:

A KEY DRIVER FOR ENERGY TRANSITION



AGENDA

CONCEPT NOTE

The event will give the opportunity to briefly present the outcomes of the TEASIMED project and discuss on how to accelerate the integration of the Mediterranean Power Systems, both in terms of infrastructure and policy developments.

As the energy transition is taking place in all the Mediterranean countries, System Operators are facing new and critical challenges, because the integration of RES requires a higher degree of flexibility in managing the grids to compensate for the intermittence of many low-carbon energy sources. The TEASIMED project explores possible solutions to ensure security of supply, not only encompassing transmission grid expansion but also increasing cross-border trading options, innovative solutions based on new technologies and the optimal use of available technologies on the market.

The first panel of the Conference intends to discuss the role of interconnections in driving a Sustainable Energy Transition in the Mediterranean, as well as the challenges and opportunities related to the integration of Power Systems. One key benefit of integrating power systems is the ability to share resources and capacity. This could allow for the optimization of renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind. The integration of power systems, could increase the reliability and stability of energy supply by trading electricity and pooling balancing resources across the region.

The second panel will bring together experts from the Mediterranean and neighboring regions to discuss the necessary policy, financial and institutional initiatives that should be set up for achieving an effective integration of the Mediterranean Power Systems.

**The conference will be held at
“Square Brussels Convention Center”
Silver Hall, level 0, Glass Entrance
Mont des Arts/Kunstberg, 1000**

09:00 09:30	Welcome Coffee and registrations	
09:30 09:40	Opening and welcome speech	Mourad Adjal , Med-TSO <i>President</i>
09:40 10:00	High level Keynote speech	Video message from Francesco La Camera , IRENA <i>Director General</i>
10:00 10:20	TEASIMED Project Outcomes	
10:20 11:30	First Panel - "Leveraging Interconnections for a Sustainable Energy Transition in the Mediterranean", opened and moderated by Sonya Twohig , ENTSO-E <i>Secretary General</i>	
10:35 11:15	Panel Discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roland Roesch, IRENA <i>Acting Director, Innovation & Technology Centre</i> • Rena Kuwahata, IEA <i>Energy Analyst Power System Transformation</i> • Guido Guida, Med-TSO <i>Vice-president</i> • Roberta Boniotti, MEDENER <i>Secretary General</i> • Khaled Nouasri, COMELEC <i>Secretary General</i>
11:15 11:30	Q&A session	
11:30 11:45	High level Keynote speech	Cristina Lobillo Borrero , EC DG ENER <i>Deputy DG - Energy Platform TF</i>
11:45 12:40	Second Panel - "Powering the Mediterranean: a partnership between Institutions, Stakeholders, and Associations" opened and moderated by Antonella Battaglini , RGI <i>Chief Executive Officer</i>	
11:45 12:25	Panel Discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abdellatif Bardach, MEDREG <i>President</i> • Mohammed Elhousseiny, UfM <i>Energy Expert/Energy & Climate Action</i> • Kristina Kanapinskaite, EIB <i>Head of Division Public Sector South</i> • Nina Grall, Energy Community <i>Head of ECRB section</i>
12:25 12:40	Q&A session	
12:40 12:55	Concluding remarks	Henrike Trautmann , EC DG NEAR B, <i>Acting Director</i>
12:55 13:00	Close of the Conference	Mourad Adjal , Med-TSO <i>President</i>

SPEAKERS



Abdellatif Bardach

MEDREG President

Abdellatif Bardach was appointed as President of the National Electricity Regulatory Authority (ANRE) by His Majesty the King Mohammed VI, May God Assist Him, in August 2018.

Graduate of the Institut Supérieur Industrielle Liégeois (Belgium) in 1989 with an engineering degree in electronics and of Al Akhawayn University in 2005 with an MBA.

Abdellatif Bardach has an experience of nearly 33 years in the electricity sector, he occupied several positions within the National Office of Electricity and Drinking Water (ONEE) namely Central Director of Production between 2015 and 2018, Central Director of Transport between 2010 and 2015, International Director in charge of development, implementation and supervision of ONE projects abroad between 2007 and 2009 and Director of Implementation of Very High Voltage Electricity Network Equipment Projects between 2003 and 2006.

In parallel, he held several other positions within different international organizations, namely President of the Maghreb Electricity Interconnection Commission, Vice President of the Arab Countries Interconnection Commission, Vice President of the Energy Federation, President of IESOE (Interconnections of South-Western Europe), President of the Strategic Committee of OME, Vice President of the French Speaking Network of Energy Regulators RegulaE.Fr and President of the Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators MEDREG.



Antonella Battaglini

RGI Chief Executive Officer

Antonella Battaglini is the CEO of the Renewables Grid Initiative-RGI, which she founded in 2009. RGI is a unique collaboration of NGOs and TSOs from across Europe, promoting transparent, environmentally sensitive grid development to enable steady growth of renewable energy and the energy transition. In addition, Antonella has been an expert member of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on Clean Electrification and of the European Commission Interconnection Target Group. For many years, Antonella has also held the position of senior scientist at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK).



Roberta Boniotti

MEDENER Secretary General

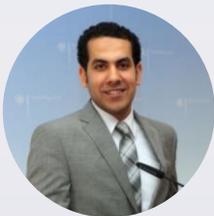
Since 2010 Roberta Boniotti has been working as the Advisor on European and International Affairs at ENEA - the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development - in Brussels, maintaining key links with stakeholders in the EU institutions.

Previously she was a Member of the Board of Directors and a Member of the Board of Auditors in several private research companies in Italy and Head of Unit "Company Relations Management" at ENEA Headquarters in Rome.

She is an economist, holds a master's in business administration (MBA) from the University of Bologna, and has more than 20 years of experience in the sectors of energy, the environment, and sustainable economic development.

She is a member of the Executive Working Group of TAFTIE, the European Association of leading National Innovation Agencies, a member of the Advisory Board of Sustainable Energy Investments Forums Initiative, ENEA's Representative in the network of European National Energy Agencies (EnR), and in EFIG, the Energy Efficiency Financial Institutions Group.

Since 2017 she has been working as the Secretary General of MEDENER, the Association of National Agencies for Energy Management in the Mediterranean Region.



Mohammed Elhuseiny

UfM Energy Expert/Energy & Climate Action

An Egyptian diplomat who worked in the embassies of Egypt in Libya, Warsaw, and Addis Ababa. He worked in the Headquarters of the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Cairo from 2018 to mid-2020 in the department of International Cooperation when he was assigned to work on cooperation projects executed by the UNDP and UN Habitat in Egypt. He joined the Union for the Mediterranean UfM in late 2020 as energy expert in the Energy and Climate Action Division ECA. Since then, he has been following the energy file inside the Union for the Mediterranean, working on applying the strategies adopted by the member states and the UfM Co-presidency on energy in the region.



Nina Grall

Energy Community Head of ECRB section

At the Energy Community Secretariat in Vienna Nina Grall is heading a team that is in charge of regulatory affairs and regional cooperation of energy regulatory authorities via the Energy Community Regulatory Board in close cooperation with EU and MEDREG regulators. Mrs Grall has long-term experience in energy market regulation, energy policy and liberalisation with specific focus on electricity and gas sectors as well as customer protection. Prior to her current position Nina worked as national expert at the General Directorate for Energy in the European Commission and with the Austrian energy market regulator, E-Control, in the areas of gas market design, European legislation and regional cooperation of energy regulators as well as security of supply and new infrastructure. Mrs Grall-Edler graduated from the law faculty of Graz, Austria.



Guido Guida

Med-TSO Vice President, TERNA Head of International Public Affairs

Guido GUIDA is an electrical engineer with over 25 years' experience in the energy sector. Currently he is Head of International Public Affairs in TERNA, the Italian Transmission System Operator. In his current position he is responsible for the strategic positioning of the Company towards its international stakeholders as well as policymakers, regulators and key industry players at international level.

He is currently Member of ENTSO-E's Board of Directors and Vice President of Med-TSO.

Previously, Guido was Head of the Dispatching Department at Terna, in charge of managing the operation of the Italian Power System.

Guido held several managing positions at national level (in Terna, Enel and in the former Italian ISO GRTN) and international level (Chairman of R&D Committee and Digital Committee in ENTSO-E, Chairman of the European Technology & Innovation Platform for Smart Networks in Energy Transition - ETIP SNET).



Kristina Kanapinskaite

EIB Head of Division Public Sector South

Ms. Kristina Kanapinskaitė is the Head of Division responsible for public sector lending in the EU's Southern Neighbourhood at the European Investment Bank (EIB), EIB Global Directorate. Heading a team of 15 professionals based in Luxembourg and in the local offices, she is responsible for infrastructure financing in North Africa and Middle East region. Kristina has 20 years of experience in the financial sector and has held previous positions at the EIB in the structured and corporate finance teams covering EU countries, focusing on origination, structuring and monitoring of the bank's financings. In the past, she has also been an Advisor to the EIB Director at the EBRD Board and worked at PricewaterhouseCoopers in the Business Advisory team. Kristina holds an Executive MBA degree from London Business School and Master's degree in Finance from Ecole Supérieure des Affaires, Lille.



Rena Kuwahata

IEA Energy Analyst Power System Transformation

Rena Kuwahata has been working in the electric power sector for 20 years, dedicated to renewables integration into power grids and markets.

From assessing wind and gas power grid compliance and transmission losses in Australia, to testing robustness of European power grid planning and operation, her career has spanned continents and from technical to policy levels.

Now, since joining the IEA last year, she has been leading the agency's work on regional interconnection for decarbonisation and enhancing energy security.



Francesco La Camera

IRENA Director General

Francesco La Camera is the Director-General of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). Previously, Mr. La Camera served as Director-General of Sustainable Development, Environmental Damage, EU and International Affairs at the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land & Sea since 2014.

As the national coordinator for climate, environment, resource efficiency and circular economy, he led the Italian delegation to UNFCCC's COP 21 to 24 and the EU Presidency at COP 20.

He served as co-chair of the Africa Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development established in Rome in partnership with FAO and UNDP and co-chaired the Financial Platform for Climate and Sustainable Development in partnership with the Italian Development Bank Cassa Depositi e Prestiti. He has also coordinated a number of national strategies on sustainable development, green finance and fossil fuel subsidies and led the support provided by Italy to several renewable energy initiatives such as the Initiative for Renewable Island Energy (IRIE) and the Global Geothermal Alliance (GGA), coordinated by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

Mr. La Camera spearheaded international cooperation on issues related to climate change and the environment. He played a key role in developing initiatives between Italy and multilateral organisations such as the World Bank, the African Development Bank, UNEP, UNDP and FAO, to implement the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals. He chaired the meetings of the Signatories to the Aarhus Convention led by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE) and chaired the advisory board for the Convention's implementation.



Cristina Lobillo Borrero

EC DG ENER - Deputy DG Energy Platform TF

Originally, from Cordoba in Spain, Cristina Lobillo Borrero is a lawyer with qualifications from Spain, Belgium and the Harvard Business School.

Having previously worked in the Spanish government for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, she joined the European Commission in 2004, working originally on agriculture policy and then moving to trade issues.

From 2014 to 2019 she was the Head of Cabinet to the then EU Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, Miguel Arias Cañete. As Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete was the EU's chief negotiator in the COP, she was present in Paris for parts of the COP21 session and therefore had an important role in the EU team. Former Commissioner's term in office was also noted for its successful overhaul of EU energy legislation under the so-called Clean energy for all Europeans package.

From December 2019 to June 2020, she was Principal Adviser at the Directorate General for Agriculture and, from June 2020 to June 2022, she was Director for Energy Policy: Strategy and Coordination in the European Commission's Directorate General for Energy. In this role, she was heavily involved in the preparations of the legislative proposals of "fit for 55" package. Her responsibilities as Director also included overseeing EU international relations on energy issues, coordination with Member States as well as with the EU institutions, together with the communication, legal and economic aspects of EU energy policy.

Since June 2022 she is Director – Head of Energy Platform Task Force in DG ENER, European Commission.



Khaled Nouasri

COMELEC Secretary General

State electrical engineer, Mr. Khaled Nouasri began his career at Sonelgaz on March 1998 in the operations department of SPE, first as a design engineer, and then as a type 2 project manager from January 2006 to February 2007. He then got appointed the head position of the means of production development department for a period of seven months and, from September 2007 to November 2017, director of strategy and systems at SPE. From November 2017 until October 2020, he was appointed the position of Chairman and CEO of SKB as well as CEO of SKE between October 2020 and December 2021. Since January 2022, Mr Nouasri holds the title of Chairman and CEO of Sonelgaz-Production and Secretary General of Comelec.



Roland Roesch

IRENA Acting Director, Innovation & Technology Centre

Dr. Roland Roesch has been Acting Director at the Innovation and Technology Center (IITC) in the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) since November 2022. In this role, he oversees the agency's work on advising member countries on energy scenarios and planning, power sector transformation, renewable generation, cost and markets, technology status and innovation outlooks, and project development guidelines. Before becoming Acting Director, he served as IITC Deputy Director from 2018. Roland joined IRENA in 2012 and has worked in multiple work programs since. For two years prior to joining IRENA, Roland had been Professor for Energy Economics at the University of Applied Science in Damstadt. Previously, he worked for 15 years in the oil and gas and utilities industries for Shell and E.ON, latterly as General Manager Power with Shell and as Head of Division, Project Leader, Project Executive and Technical Project Developer with E.ON. Previously, he worked as an Energy Market Consultant for Lahmeyer International and as a researcher in renewable energy. Roland has solid business experience in energy markets, energy economics and strategies, renewable integration management, energy project development and project financing.



Henrike Trautmann

EC DG NEAR B Acting Director

Henrike Trautmann is currently Acting Director of the Neighbourhood South and Türkiye Directorate at DG NEAR (Directorate-General for Neighborhood and Enlargement Negotiations - European Commission). She is also the Head of the Regional Programs and Cooperation Unit (DG NEAR B2) within this Directorate.

Henrike Trautmann, a historian by training, has worked in the European Commission for more than 25 years, focusing on external relations. She has dealt with Common Foreign and Security Policy, communication, humanitarian assistance and civil protection, as well with a number of policy files related to resilience building in fragile countries.

She strongly supports sound and constructive policy dialogues in the Southern Neighborhood, as a prerequisite for building sustainable partnerships. As regards energy cooperation in the Mediterranean area, she puts as a priority the development of comprehensive regulatory frameworks, the promotion of electricity interconnections, the massive deployment of renewables, energy efficiency measures in numerous economic sectors in order to gradually setup a reliable, integrated and efficient Mediterranean energy market.



Sonya Twohig

ENTSO-E *Secretary General*

Sonya Twohig is the Secretary-General of ENTSO-E, the European Network of Transmission System Operator for Electricity, since 2022.

Before her appointment as Secretary-General, she was Head of Operations Section at ENTSO-E Secretariat, in which she has supported the European TSOs in the implementation of EU Network Codes and Regulations and furthering Regional Coordination initiatives among TSOs.

Prior to joining ENTSO-E, Sonya Twohig held several senior management positions in Markets, System Operations and Grid Development for the EirGrid Group.