



**MENA-OECD  
INVESTMENT  
PROGRAMME**

**9th meeting of the MENA-OECD  
Task Force on Energy and Infrastructure**

**Spurring growth of renewable energies in MENA  
through private sector investment**

**Agenda**

**21 May 2012 ♦ 2.30-5.30pm**

**Hosted by:**

**Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)  
Conference Centre  
Room CC20  
2, rue André-Pascal  
75116 Paris  
France**

## Background

**The MENA-OECD Task Force on Energy and Infrastructure** was launched in 2010. Its work focuses on formulating policy recommendations to help spur investment in renewable energy in the MENA region, letting policy makers benefit from the private sector's view and experience. The Task Force produces opinion and working papers, and dialogues directly with policy makers through the working groups of the MENA-OECD Investment Programme, such as Working Group 1 on Investment Policy and Promotion. In December 2010 the Energy Task Force published its first paper: *Spurring Investment in Renewable Energy in the Middle East and North Africa*. Its second paper on *Investment incentives and support mechanisms for renewable energy projects in the MENA region* will be published in June 2012.

**The Energy Task Force works to promote green growth**, as mandated at the MENA-OECD Ministerial Conference and Business Forum in Marrakech in November 2009. As such it forms an integral part of the OECD's Green Growth Strategy, specifically applied to the Middle East and North Africa.

## Objectives

Following on from an initial presentation by the Investment Security in the Mediterranean Region Working Group (ISMED) at the eighth meeting of the Energy Task Force on improving finance for renewable energy projects through investment guarantees and legal protection, **the ninth meeting of the Energy Task Force on 21 May 2012** will further explore financing options for renewable energy investments. The meeting will focus on risk management and investment protection options.

Key objectives of the meeting will be to:

- Select a renewable energy pilot project to analyse using the ISMED tools;
- Sign-off by Task Force members of the final conclusions of the working paper, *Investment incentives and support mechanisms for renewable energy projects in the MENA region*;
- Decide on the Task Force's work programme for 2012 and 2013 and discuss ways to broaden outreach and co-operation with other institutions;
- Explore risk management and investment protection options for renewable energy projects;
- Decide on the participation of the Energy Task Force in the forthcoming World Energy Forum in Dubai in October 2012;
- Elect a chairperson for 2012-13.

## Participants

The meeting will bring together experts in the field of renewable energy and energy investment, OECD experts, policy practitioners, intergovernmental organisations, and business leaders from MENA and OECD economies, including from banking, energy and infrastructure companies. Confirmed institutional participants include the Dubai Energy and Water Authority, International Energy Agency, the Business and Industry Advisory Committee, the Union for the Mediterranean (tbc), the Mediterranean Energy Observatory (OME), MedGrid, the European Union Delegation to Egypt and the ISMED Group.

**9th Meeting of the MENA-OECD Task Force on Energy and Infrastructure**

**MEETING AGENDA**

2.30pm	Welcome Minutes of last meeting, tour de table
2.45pm- 2.55pm	Introduction by the outgoing Chairman <b>Mr. Andrew Moorfield, Managing Director, EMEA, Scotiabank</b>
2.55pm- 3.10pm	Presentation on risk sharing instruments for the Mediterranean Solar Plan: status of progress <b>Mr. Alexis Gazzo, Senior Manager, Cleantech &amp; Sustainability, Ernst &amp; Young</b>
3.10pm- 3.30pm	Presentation by DEWA: Implementing the Dubai integrated energy strategy <b>Ms. Noora Sultan Saqer Alsuwaidi, Senior Manager, Corporate Strategy, Dubai Electricity &amp; Water Authority</b>
3.30pm- 3.55pm	Presentation by the European Union Delegation to Egypt: The emerging need for building Euro-Arab financial partnerships in the field of sustainable energy investment <b>Dr. Ahmed El Beltagui, European Union Delegation in Egypt</b> <b>Dr. Ahmed Badr, European Union Delegation in Egypt</b>
	Refreshments (5 minutes)
4.00pm- 4.20pm	Presentation by the Initiative for Investment Security in The Mediterranean Region (ISMED) <b>Mr. Alexander Böhmer, Head of MENA-OECD Investment Programme</b> <b>Mr. Michel Gonnet, Eudoxia Conseil, Rapporteur of the legal sub-track of the ISMED Working Group</b>
4.20pm- 4.50pm	Final validation of the conclusions of the Energy Task Force Report: <b>Investment incentives and support mechanisms for renewable energy projects in MENA</b> <i>The revised report has been sent to all members. Participants will have the opportunity to provide final comments on the revised report and the Task Force will jointly sign off the report.</i> <b>Note:</b> members who participate in this exercise will be cited in the acknowledgement section of the report.
4.50-5.15pm	<b>Discussion on the Working Programme for 2012/13</b> <i>(Please see proposed work programme, page 4)</i>
5.15pm- 5.25pm	<b>Election of a new chairperson for 2012/13</b>
5.25pm 5.30pm	Date for next meeting Close: verre de l'amitié

## Proposed work programme (for discussion)

### *Proposed deliverables 2012/13*

- **The Task Force paper on *Investment incentives and support mechanisms for renewable energy projects***. The Paper will be circulated in the OECD for internal review prior to publication. Following publication, the Paper will be made available to members of the Task Force for circulation.
- **Business case studies** to enrich the knowledge and understanding of how to encourage green investment, taking into account particular MENA constraints. As suggested during the December 2010 meeting with Working Group 1, one or two selected "pilot" energy projects could be initiated and the Task Force could provide feedback on feasibility. *This could be carried out jointly with the Union for the Mediterranean as a pilot ISMED project (see below).*
- **Co-operation with the ISMED group** to ensure that renewable energy projects benefit from the ISMED Support Programme and other outcomes of the ISMED working group by identifying potential eligible projects. Moreover, the Energy Task Force will support ISMED through its expertise on the particular needs of renewable energy projects in terms of legal protection and investment guarantees in order to mainstream these needs within the ISMED working group.
- **A check-list for renewable energy projects** could be produced, as a self-evaluation tool complemented by feed-back from the private sector. Members will be asked to contribute their input to this exercise in case of agreement.
- **Extend the work of the Energy Task Force** to include the European Union, the Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE), the League of Arab States, the Union for the Mediterranean, MedGrid, the ISMED Group, and the Mediterranean Energy Observatory, and develop joint pilot projects.
- With the contribution of the members of the Task Force, **additional research into key areas related to "green" investment** can be undertaken by the MENA-OECD Secretariat.

### *Proposed Calendar of activities 2012*

- **21 May, Paris** ♦ 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Task Force and ISMeED Group to define pilot projects for 2012-13. The meeting will be held back-to-back with the OECD's annual Forum (see next point).
- **22-23 May, Paris** ♦ The OECD Forum in Paris. Members of the Energy Task Force are invited to participate (attendance is free of charge).
- **July 2012 (date tbc)** ♦ 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Energy Task Force: continue work on case studies or ISMED pilot projects. Possibly involving a joint Union for the Mediterranean/MedGrid/Energy Task Force meeting.
- **October 2012, Dubai** (date and venue tbc) ♦ 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Energy Task Force alongside the World Energy Forum in Dubai: agenda to be determined jointly with the organisers – suggestions are welcome from Task Force members.
- **December 2012** (date and venue tbc) ♦ Joint meeting with Working Group 1 on Investment Policies and Promotion: present draft Investment Incentives check-list or case studies for renewable energy projects in MENA to seminar of MENA policy makers.

## About the MENA-OECD Investment Programme

The MENA-OECD Investment Programme was established in 2005 at the request of Middle East and North African (MENA) governments<sup>1</sup> to provide advice on improving the investment policy climate. Facing considerable competition from other regions, and growing social and economic pressures from the countries' youth and rising number of unemployed, as witnessed by the events of the Arab Spring during 2011, several MENA countries are implementing significant economic and regulatory reforms to increase private sector participation in their economies. The need to deliver economic growth and job creation is on the forefront of policy makers' minds.

The key objective of the Programme is to mobilise private investment – foreign, regional and domestic – as a driving force for growth and employment throughout the region. The programme offers a forum for results-oriented policy dialogue bringing together MENA and OECD practitioners from government, the private sector and civil society. It supports reform efforts of MENA governments to enhance the investment climate by:

- ◆ strengthening country capacity for designing, implementing and monitoring investment policy reforms
- ◆ creating a network of dialogue between investment policy makers from MENA and OECD countries as well as with representatives from the private sector and civil society
- ◆ supporting employment creation through investment climate improvements
- ◆ assisting ministries and government agencies to co-operate and co-ordinate their work
- ◆ reinforcing the impact of reform initiatives supported by international, regional and bilateral donors

The MENA-OECD Investment Programme's task forces exist to reinforce policy dialogue between the private and public sectors in the MENA region:

- **The MENA-OECD Task Force on Energy and Infrastructure**
- **The MENA-OECD Women's Business Forum** is an inter-regional network of government, private sector and civil society representatives which works with governments to improve policies and legislation in support of women's employment and entrepreneurship. [www.oecd.org/mena/investment/wbn](http://www.oecd.org/mena/investment/wbn).
- **The MENA 100 Business Plan Competition** promotes entrepreneurship and inspires potential entrepreneurs in the MENA region. The 2012 edition of MENA 100 is underway, and will award the top three business plans with cash prizes and provide mentoring to semi-finalists. [www.mena100.org](http://www.mena100.org)

### Contacts

**Mr Alexander Böhmer**

Executive Programme Director  
MENA-OECD Investment Programme  
E-mail: [alexander.boehmer@oecd.org](mailto:alexander.boehmer@oecd.org)  
Tel.: +33 1 45 24 19 12

**Mr Anthony O'Sullivan**

Head of Division  
Private Sector Development Division  
E-mail: [anthony.osullivan@oecd.org](mailto:anthony.osullivan@oecd.org)  
Tel: +33 1 45 24 97 01

**Ms Ania Thiemann**

Senior Economist and Project Manager  
MENA-OECD Investment Programme  
E-mail: [ania.thiemann@oecd.org](mailto:ania.thiemann@oecd.org)  
Tel.: +33 1 45 24 98 87

For more information: [www.oecd.org/mena/investment](http://www.oecd.org/mena/investment)

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<sup>1</sup> Economies participating in the MENA-OECD Investment Programme are Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.