

Energy Transition in the Arab Region: The Role of Hydrogen

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Introduction to the energy system in the Arab region

The most important energy indicators for the year 2020





The most important energy indicators for the year 2020



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 PAN-Arab Countries Installed capacity over 288 GW

 1,137,644 GWh energy produced in 2017





Customer consumption,

- 46% Residential,
- 18% Industrial,
- 17% Commercial,
- 19% Other

 More than 212, 500 km Transmission Network





 ~190 GW Renewable energy announced by 2035

Source: The Future of Hydrogen-IEA 2019



The most important characteristics of the energy system in the Arab region are:

- □ Heavily dominated by fossil resources
- □ Production of energy is not market-driven and infrastructure is public
- □ Fossil resources are the main drivers for the most Arab countries' economies
- □ Interconnection with neighbor countries
- □ Political support for an ambitious energy transition

In this regard, the Arab Sustainable Energy Strategy 2030 was adopted by the Arab Ministerial Council for Electricity's Executive Bureau resolution at its thirty-fourth session (Cairo: 22/11/2018)





Energy transition in Arab Region

Energy transition in Arab Region: The main pillars



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The Arab region has an excellent location and abundant energy resources. The economic development of the petroleum exporting countries depends mainly on the petroleum industry, while the non-petroleum exporting countries depend mainly on agriculture and their economic structure is relatively undiversified. Sustainable energy development in the Arab region is of great importance for the energy transition in the world



1. Switching energy supplies to renewable energy sources & EE (1/3)



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The development of clean energy on a large scale is to be accelerated in order to achieve a diversified and clean energy supply. A region with significant renewable energy potential to meet operational goals.





Source: AFEX, 2019 & The Arab Strategy for Sustainable Energy, League of Arab States

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1. Switching energy supplies to renewable energy sources & EE- 3/3







□ By 2050, electricity would be the main energy carrier with over 50% (direct) share of total final energy use – up from 21% today.

- □ By 2050, 90% of total electricity needs would be supplied by renewables followed by 6% from natural gas and the remaining from nuclear.
- □ By 2050, 30% of electricity use will be dedicated to green hydrogen production and hydrogen and its derivatives such as e-ammonia and e-methanol.
- Hydrogen and its derivatives together will account for around 12% of total final energy use. To produce this, almost 5 000 GW of hydrogen electrolyser capacity will be needed by 2050, up from just 0.3 GW today.
- Electrification of end-use sectors, with the increased use of electricity in buildings, industry and transport



A promising field of electricity use in Arab region is water desalination:

A combination of clean power generation and water desalination is being developed to meet freshwater needs. The expansion of solar power generation and its combination with desalination technology can effectively reduce energy consumption and investment costs

- Reverse osmosis water desalination technology can significantly reduce energy consumption.
- The large-scale development and application of reverse osmosis equipment will be completed in the entire region





Generation cost expected savings 2012-2030







Requirements for Establishing the PAEM Market









4. Hydrogen Development



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The main types of hydrogen



- **Depends on fossil fuels**
- □ It contradicts the goals of environmental protection
- Carbon dioxide is produced as a by-product



- **Depends on fossil fuels**
- An advanced version of the gray type
- Carbon capture and storage for other uses

- It is extracted by separating the components of water
- **Produces oxygen as a byproduct**
- □ It is based on electrolysis in an environmentally friendly manner



Hydrogen market is big today but not in the energy sector

- The world annually produces 70 million tons of pure hydrogen, the largest part of which is used in oil refining and ammonia processing for fertilizers
- ❑ An additional 45 million metric tons is used in impure form in the industry without preseparation from other gases.
- □ 100% of current hydrogen needs are covered with fossil fuels, emitting 830 Mtons CO₂/yr



Hydrogen Production



Historical hydrogen demand by application [m MT, 1975 – 2020]



Hydrogen Production







4.Hydrogen Development



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Green Hydrogen: Stabilizing the Power Market



- Hydrogen produced with excess solar PV and wind power can be stored for later use as a fuel for transport, industry and other sectors.
- Hydrogen production can be used as a 'smart' load to increase power system flexibility and help to decarbonize the overall economy.
- ❑ Hydrogen from renewable electricity has great potential. The cost of generating renewable energy in Arab Region is low. The use of excess electricity from large power grids in combination with a large amount of renewable energy to generate hydrogen in times of low network load, further improving plant utilization and reducing costs Green hydrogen is enormous

4.Hydrogen Development



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Massive drop in prices for unsubsidized PV systems, led by the Middle East



Unsubsidized (cents/kWh)





Local (on-site) use of RE energy provides a solution to increasingly loaded electricity grids



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Hydrogen initiatives in the Arab Region

Hydrogen potential development around the world [2020]



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- Development of a Pan Arab Hydrogen Strategy for the League of Arab States.
- The Strategy and the Roadmap will be ready by the end of 2021.



2) The 2x40 GW initiative of the European industry association Hydrogen Europe aiming to invest in 2x40 GW hydrogen infrastructure, half of which should be deployed inside the EU and half in the Ukraine and Northern Africa

Best source of low-carbon hydrogen in different regions



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The Arab region is at the top of the list of the best regions for the production of green hydrogen and blue hydrogen



Optimal renewable and low-carbon resources

Global hydrogen projects





LNG / Hydrogen Synergies



- □ A great opportunity in the Arab region to export hydrogen on a large scale
- □ Green hydrogen can be transported using the existing natural gas grid.
- Italy could become vital hydrogen hub between North Africa and Europe:
 - The Italian government aims to install 5 GW of electrolyzers by 2030. The EU strategy foresees 46 GW by 2030.



North Africa Pipelines Map

LNG / Hydrogen Synergies



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Potential hydrogen imports for selected region:



Europe: Potential hydrogen imports of 100+ m MT due to the lack of renewables



Belgium: Potential import of ~25 m MT

Port of Rotterdam: Target imports of 20 m MT



Germany: Estimated imports of ~25 m MT – EUR 2 bn to build international partnerships for H₂ imports

Japan: Potential ammonia imports of 85 m MT



Potential 2050 hydrogen imports of selected regions and countries [2050]



Green Hydrogen Initiative 2 x 40 GW-Road map for green hydrogen production in the European Union with a capacity of 40 gigawatts until 2030 [17] Initiative by Hydrogen Europe and several other organizations to have 2 x 40 GW electrolyser installed by 2030, 40 GW in Europe and 40 GW in Ukraine and North Africa

Electrolyser Capacity	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total 2030
Domestic Market MW	2			M	CE	E. 0.			7500
Ammonia for North Africa	75	<mark>12</mark> 5	250	500	750	1000	1250	1500	5450
Ammonia for Ukraine	20	50	100	200	250	300	400	500	1800
For Steel and Glass Industry	a			10	20	30	40	50	150
Hydrogen refueling stations	1				10	20	30	40	100
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Export Market									32500
Hydrogen plants in North Africa		500	1000	2000	3000	4000	6000	8000	24500
Hydrogen Plants in Ukraine			500	700	1000	1400	1900	2500	8000
Total in MW	75	675	1850	3410	5030	6750	9620	12590	40000



Country	Location	Company Name	Installed Electrolyzer Capacity	Hydrogen Production Capacity	Targeted Year	Products
Morocco	N/A	MASEN	100 MW	-	2024	Green hydrogen
	N/A	Saipem / Alboran Hydrogen / xlinks / IRESEN / ONEE	Between 300 and 500 MW	-	2025	Green hydrogen and green ammonia
Saudi Arabia	Tabuk	ARAMCO	4,000 MW	650 tons per day	2025	Green hydrogen shipped as green ammonia
Oman	Duqm	Belgian firm DEME	500 MW			green hydrogen
Algeria						

Egypt hydrogen potential

In January, the Egyptian government and Siemens announced a plan to develop a pilot project for the production of green hydrogen in Egypt.