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Renewable Energies in the MENA Region

**Renewable Energies in the MENA Region:** Potential for Sustainable Energy Provision and **Export to Europe** 

TRANS-CSP

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Hans Müller-Steinhagen and Dr. Franz Trieb Institute of Technical Thermodynamics, German Aerospace Center (DLR)



**MED-CSP** 

Renewable Energies in the MENA Region

#### **Project Partners**

German Aerospace Center (Germany)

National Energy Research Center (Jordan)

University of Aden, (Yemen)

University of Sana'a, (Yemen)

University of Bahrain, (Bahrain)

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Intern. Forschungszentrum für Erneuerbare Energien e.V. (Germany)

Kernenergien – The Solar Power Company (Germany)

Nokraschy Engineering GmbH (Germany)

Deutsche Gesellschaft Club of Rome (Germany)

House of Water and Environment (Palestine)

Center for Solar Energy Studies (Libya)

Centre de Developpement des Energies Renouvelables (Morocco)

University of Bremen (Germany)

New Energy Algeria (Algeria)

New and Renewable Energy Authority (Egypt)

Hamburg Institute of International Economics (Germany) Honorat Satoguina

MASDAR (Abu Dhabi)



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The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

> IFFFD kernenergiei

















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Renewable Energies in the MENA Region



50 countries analysed within the MED-CSP and TRANS-CSP Studies





#### Parameters considered in the analyses for each country

- Ø Annual electricity demand
- Ø Annual load curve
- $\boldsymbol{\varnothing}$  Available fossile and renewable resources
- Ø Existing power plants in 2000 and their expected lifetime
- Ø Cost of fossil fuels (oriented at IEA Scenario)
- Ø Maximum production growth rates of relevant industries
- Ø Existing grid infrastructure
- Ø 100% power availability
- Ø Peaking power demand and 25 % reserve capacity
- Ø Sustainability criteria
- Ø Opportunities of financing
- Ø Policies and energy economic boundary conditions



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**MED-CSP: Gross Electricity Demand in Middle East and North Africa** 



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# Development of MENA electricity demand, and its coverage by power plants already existing in 2000

- Ø significant increase due to economic and population growth
- Ø significant investments required for new plants
- Ø window of opportunity for sustainable local electricity and water supply
- Ø unique opportunity for closer economic, political and social links with Europe









Development of European electricity demand, and its coverage by power plants already existing in 2000

- Ø moderate increase due to efficiency gains and sociodemographic development
- Ø significant investments required to replace "old" plants
- Ø targets for reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and use of renewable resources
- Ø window of opportunity for restructuring of electricity sector
- Ø and to reduce dependency on imported fuels



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#### **Renewable energy resources in Europe and MENA**

Biomass (1)



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- Ø renewable resources greatly exceed the present and future electricity demands
- Ø solar radiation is by far the most abundant source of energy

Economic renewable electricity potentials vs. demand in Europe and MENA







- Ø renewable resources greatly exceed the present and future electricity demands
- Ø solar radiation is by far the most abundant source of energy
- Ø 1 km<sup>2</sup> of desert land may generate 50 MW of electricity
- Ø 1 km<sup>2</sup> of desert land may produce 200 - 300 GWh<sub>el</sub>/ year
- Ø 1 km<sup>2</sup> of desert land avoids 200,000 tons  $CO_2$  / year



Economic renewable electricity potentials vs. demand in Europe and MENA



A solar power plant of the size of Lake Nasser equals the total Middle East oil production



Solar thermal power plants are the most effective technology to harvest this vast ressource



- can be integrated into conventional thermal power plants
- provide firm capacity (thermal storage, fossil backup)
- serve different markets (bulk power, remote power, heat, water)
- have an energy payback time of only
  6-12 months
- have the lowest costs for solar electricity





#### **Electricity generation cost of various technologies**



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#### **Electricity Supply in the Middle East & North Africa**







#### **Options for solar electricity transfer over 3000 km distance**

Solar Power Transfer by:	Hydrogen
Losses	75 %
Cost	very high
Adaptation to Consumers (Transformer)	has to be transformed to AC first
Over Sea Transport	by tankers or pipelines
Visibility Impact	very low
Materials and Emissions	moderate
Preferred Application	eventually fuel for transport

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### Concept of a EU-MENA Renewable Energy Link Using HVDC Power Transmission Technology





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#### **Expected Water Deficits by Country**







**Concentrating Solar Thermal Power for Seawater Desalination (Options)** 



MED: Multi-Effect-Distillation; RO: Reverse Osmosis Membrane Desalination







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# Conclusions

- Ø The potential for electrical power generation from renewable energies available in EU-MENA by far exceeds present and future electricity demands. Solar energy is by far the most abundant source of energy.
- Ø Solar electricity from concentrating solar power stations in MENA can provide firm capacity for base load, intermediate and peaking power.
- Ø With this technology, MENA countries will be able to secure their own electricity demands, produce the required fresh water by desalination, and generate income by exporting electricity to Europe.
- Ø The most efficient and economic way to transfer electricity from MENA to Europe is via high voltage direct current transmission lines, adding about 1.5-2 cents/kWh to the local generating cost.
- Ø By 2050, 700 TWh/y solar electricity could be imported from 20 locations in MENA, providing about 15 % of European electricity demand.
- Ø To establish and maintain such a trans-national HVDC electricity grid, strong political support will be required.



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# for more information look at

www.dlr.de/tt/med-csp www.dlr.de/tt/trans-csp www.dlr.de/tt/aqua-csp



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