

The First Gathering of the Year 2025: The Lebanon Committee of the World Energy Council

Competition or Complementarity: Interlinking Natural Gas Imports to Renewable Energy Development in Lebanon- Part I.

Thursday, 6 February 2025- from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Hilton Beirut Habtoor Grand Hotel- Beirut, Lebanon

Workshop Agenda

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

- Registration and Welcome Coffee

10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Welcome Remarks

Welcome remarks by Dr. Joseph Al Assad, Acting President/ Director General of the Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (LCEC), Dean of the School of Engineering, USEK University

Official Address by H.E. Dr. Walid Fayad, Minister of Energy and Water

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Session 1: Lebanon at a Crossroad: Understanding the Different Scenarios for Natural Gas Imports to the Country

Moderated by Mr. Hadi Abou Moussa, Senior Energy Engineer- Project Coordinator, Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (LCEC)

During this session, an overview of the different scenarios for importing natural gas to Lebanon will be offered. Those scenarios will act as a basis to initiate a nationwide discussion aiming to develop a national strategy in this regard in view of the fast renewable energy development in the country and the potential to integrate green hydrogen.

"National Demand for Natural Gas and the Available Options" Presentation by Mr. Wissam Zahabi, Energy Advisor, Board Member of the Lebanese Petroleum Administration (LPA)

Interventions by:

- Dr. Joseph Al Assad, Acting President/ Director General of the Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (LCEC), Dean of the School of Engineering, USEK University
- Me. Ali Berro, Lawyer and Legal Expert

Open Discussion- Q&A

11:30 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Coffee Break

11:50 p.m. - 13:00 p.m.

Session 2: Setting a Regulatory Framework for the Natural Gas Market in Lebanon: The Way Forward

Moderated by Ms. Ghada Daouk, Senior Energy Engineer- Project Coordinator, Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (LCEC)

The natural gas market is well-mature and developed all over Europe and the Mediterranean area, with many interconnections currently being operational. With a lack of a clear strategy and a robust regulatory framework for natural gas in Lebanon, what lessons could be learnt from the EU experience in that regard, and how easy it would be for our country to follow a productive path in developing natural gas?

"Current Regulations on Natural Gas in Europe: What Lessons Could Be Learnt?" Presentation by Mr. Hasan Ozkoc, Director of MEDREG Secretariat, Mediterranean Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators (MEDREG), Italy/ Turkey

Interventions by:

- Me. Ali Berro, Lawyer and Legal Expert
- Mr. Wissam Zahabi, Energy Advisor, Board Member of the Lebanese Petroleum Administration (LPA)

Open Discussion- Q&A

13:00 p.m. - 13:45 p.m.

Session 3: Integrating Green Hydrogen in Lebanon's Energy Transition and the Potential Role of Renewable Energies

Moderated by Mr. Toufic Rizkallah, Technical Manager of the EU-funded MED-GEM Network, GIZ International Services

Thanks to the MED-GEM network, a Lebanese Green Hydrogen Road Map is almost completed. This session will shed the light on the main elements of this road map, with special focus on the role of renewable energies. With a potentially increasing role for natural gas in Lebanon, this session will also question the "colors" of future hydrogen projects in the country.

"Analysis of the Production Potential for Green Hydrogen and its Derivatives in Lebanon: A Preliminary Lebanese Green Hydrogen Road Map" Presentation by Mr. Hadi Abou Moussa, Senior Energy Engineer-Project Coordinator, Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (LCEC)

Interventions by:

- Mr. Hasan Ozkoc, Director of MEDREG Secretariat, Mediterranean Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators (MEDREG), Italy/ Turkey
- Dr. Joseph Al Assad, Acting President/ Director General of the Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (LCEC), Dean of the School of Engineering, USEK University
- Mr. Pierre El Khoury, Senior Energy Advisor, Secretary of the Lebanon Committee of the World Energy Council (WEC)

Open Discussion- Q&A

13:45 p.m. - 15:00 p.m.

Seated Lunch