

Medgrid, a co-development project for the exchanges of electricity in the Mediterranean basin

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The Background

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The EU objectives - the 20/20/20 plan

- % Renewable energy sources (RES), in energy Mix
- % Reduction on CO₂ (GHG) against 1990
- Energy efficiency : % less primary energy in 2020

RES and grid development

- The added-value of transmission & interconnection systems

- The MedRing

- The « SuperGrid »



The Background

The Mediteranean Solar Plan (PSM)

- Introduce regulatory framework for development & exchanges of solar power energy in SEMCs

- Promote energy efficiency in SEMCs
- Promote the development of interconnections
- Develop technological cooperation EU- SEMCs
- Objectives PSM: 20 GW new RES in 2020
- 20 GW new RES generation to serve the load, first
- 5 GW exported towards EU, investment pay-back



An industrial initiative

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 A consortium of 20 EU & SEMCs companies (TSOs, generators, manufacturers, financing institutions, investors):

- To design the Mediterranean grid consistent with the exportation of 5 GW from SEMCs to EU

- To study its feasibility: technical, economical & institutional requirements

 To promote technological development and cooperation EU-SEMCs

No competition with Dii



Medgrid Associates 8 countries- 4 SEMCs

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One of the four power infrastructure major strategic projects of the EU





Which grid to export 5 GW?

Interconnections of the SEMCs :

- At least 3 separate blocks today
- How to interconnect them, DC or AC? Which capacity?
- Where the DC stations should be located?
- The trans-Mediterranean links:
- Possible feasible routes or main corridors? Capacity?
- Which connection nodes and which reinforcements in the EU side?
- Point to point or multiterminal links?

Nedgrid The three sets of interconnected countries





How to design the appropriate grid?

- Load and Generation "profiles" in EU and SEMCs 2020
- Contracts foreseen RES or other
- Optimize generation to serve load at minimal cost
- Resulting power flows: interconnections between systems
- Feasible routes , cables and overhead lines?
- Optimal capacity of cables and interconnections
- Costs of infrastructures, including induced reinforcements



Possible routes







Red painted areas are below 2000 meter depth

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Existing submarine links Medgrid and potential transmission projects





Challenges in technologies

Submarine cables: 2 areas of development

- Laying cables in deep waters: today the maximum 1650 m.
- Extruded insulation DC cables / promising with VSC
- + HVDC conversion: 2 areas of development
- Feasibility of HVDC grids (multiterminal and meshed) instead of point to point
- Voltage source converters (VSC) vs Line Commutation (LCC)



Other Challenges

 Make possible exchanges with the EU: Promote basic regulations in SEMCs

- Application of Art. 9
- Possible funding schemes? Impact ?
- Economical analysis: pay-back of the grid investment ? For which tariff of transmission?
- Possible models: merchant lines; socialization of the grid, etc.



Organization of the work

- + 5 Working Groups each dedicated to a main topic
- Grid MasterPlan 2020
- Economy
- Regulation
- Financing
- Technology



Concluding

 Medgrid will define the grid which enables the foreseen 2020 exchanges of green electricity

- The conditions of its feasibility will be analyzed
- The grid will enhance the security of supply of energy for UE
- It makes possible exchanges of peak power, inducing extra savings
- The methodology and tools will be used after the PSM horizon and will help designing the future grid
- In cooperation with SEMCs' partners



Thank you for your attention

www.medgrid-psm.com

