UfM Gas Platform Newsletter

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UfM Gas Platform website online at https://www.ufmgasplatform.org/

Message from the UfM Gas Platform Secretariat

Since May 2024 and the annual meeting of the UfM Energy Platforms (see below), the UfM Gas Platform was renamed UfM working group on Gas, Emissions Abatement and Hydrogen. The aim is to expand the scope of the work of the platform.

The energy markets have undergone substantial changes and transformations since the launch of the UfM Gas Platform in 2015, resulting from a sustainability drive and geopolitical factors. It has become imperative to reflect those changing dynamics in energy markets, to take into account the developments in climate front between the COP21 and COP28, and to continue acting on the 2021 UfM Energy Ministerial Declaration.

With the establishment of the UfM working group on Gas, Emissions Abatement and Hydrogen, the working guidelines of the UfM Gas Platform has been amended. OMEC will propose a revised work program for the last year of the current Action (2023-2025) to take into account new topics covered by the working group.

During the quarter, the Secretariat pursued its efforts to raise awareness and outreach of platform's activities to a larger public, by (co-)organising, participating in several (virtual) meetings with ministries and institutions in Mediterranean countries. In this context, OMEC organised on 22 April 2024, a zoom meeting to present to the East Mediterranean Gas Forum (EMGF) the modelling philosophy of the Mediterranean Energy Perspectives publication; OMEC econometric model and scenarios. These meetings allow networking, capacity building, exchange of information and best practices, improve awareness, and build confidence among all actors of the gas sector in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Annual meeting of the UfM Energy Platforms

From 14 to 16 May 2024, the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean organised, in Istanbul, the Mediterranean Green Week with the aim to encourage collaboration, dialogue, and, action among Mediterranean countries on energy, environment, and climate action issues. Energy sessions were planned the last day

The UfM Gas Platform is a concrete outcome of the will of the UfM members and major stakeholders to strengthen dialogue and cooperation between the EU and South and East Mediterranean countries.

More information available at: **ufmgasplatform.org**

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to discuss the respective Work Program activities of the three UfM Energy Platforms (dealing with electricity markets, renewable energy, energy efficiency and natural gas in the Mediterranean region). UfM Member States' representatives as well as regional energy sector stakeholders analysed the state of play of the implementation of the UfM Roadmap for Action on Energy, issued on the occasion of the UfM Ministerial Meeting on Energy on 14 June 2021.



During the session on the activities related to gas, OMEC presented the main conclusions of the reports prepared in 2023, as well as the list of activities carried out in 2023 and plans for 2024. OMEC presented also the status of the Roadmap implementation.

One of the key highlights of the UfM Energy Platforms meeting was the establishment of the UfM working group on Gas, Emissions Abatement and Hydrogen instead of the UfM Gas Platform. Approved by all UfM Member States by consensus, the working group will bring together policymakers, industry representatives, regulators, energy stakeholders, traders and shippers, representatives from financing institutions – all from across the Euro-Mediterranean region to develop shared viewpoints and proposals on natural gas, renewable and low-carbon gases as well as clean technologies and emissions abatement issues in order to reinforce the security and sustainability of supply and regional exchanges. It will still be run by the Organisation Méditerranéenne de l'Energie et du Climat (OMEC) in coordination with the UfM Secretariat and the UfM Co-presidency.

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