Towards 30% Renewable Energy Electricity: Trends and Challenges in Tunisia

28 June 2022 | 10:00 – 11:50 CEST

Context

The energy transition is at the heart of Tunisia's low-carbon strategy, which reflects the country's climate commitments under the Paris Agreement. The majority of mitigation potential arises indeed from the energy sector, including a 68% reduction of carbon intensity through energy efficiency programs and 32% thanks to renewable energies. In this regard, the Tunisian Solar Plan has established a target for a total installed renewable energy capacity of 1 860 MW by 2023 and 3 815 MW by 2030, increasing the share of RES in total electricity production capacity to 30% by 2030.

However, the transformation of the generation mix is lagging, with RES (including hydroelectric, solar, and wind) currently amounting to only 3% of total electricity production. Furthermore, in the past years, Tunisia has witnessed a steep decline in energy production coupled with a remarkable increase in energy demand. This resulted in the inadequacy of the country's energy system to meet the internal demand and opened the doors to energy dependency on neighboring countries. The energy deficit is today responsible for about 32% of the Tunisian commercial deficit. Increasingly turning to renewable energy production could be not only a way to meet the ambitious renewable electricity targets but also a measure to exploit the country's natural resources and improve its energy security.

While many solutions to this problem are possible, existing challenges are cross-cutting - such as lengthy administrative procedures, regulatory and financial issues, and limited openness of the market. All those topics will be discussed during the webinar, along with recommendations to de-risk investments, improve the regulatory and business environment, and promote the deployment of RES.

Objectives and Agenda of the webinar

This webinar will gather experts from the renewable energy industry to present their perspectives and share potential solutions to bridge existing gaps.

Time	Topics and speakers
10:00 - 10:10	Opening Remarks Mr Roberto Vigotti | Secretary General at RES4Africa Foundation H.E Lorenzo Fanara| Ambassador of Italy to Tunisia
10:10 - 10:25	The solar outlook in the Middle East and North Africa Mr Christophe Lits | Junior Market analyst at SolarPower Europe
10:25 - 10:40	Tunisia Solar Plan Mr Belhassen Chiboub | General Director of Electricity and Renewable Energy at Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mines
10:40 - 10:55	Solar energy in Tunisia: best practices on PV deployment Mr Ali Kanzari | President of the Chambre syndicale du Photovoltaique
10:55 - 11:10	Net-metering and net-billing for small scale PV projects Mr Paolo Pacciarini | Principal at AFRY
11:10 - 11:25	The role of infrastructure in facilitating the deployment of renewables Mr Angelo Ferrante | Secretary General at Med-TSO
11:25 - 11:40	Regulatory Framework: how to enable Renewable Energy Investments in Tunisia? Ms Ibtissem Hammi | Regulatory Affairs Nord Africa & Middle East at EGP
11:40 - 11:50	Q&A Moderated by Mr Marouen Cheour Head of Energy & Sustainability North Africa at RINA