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Message from the UfM Gas Platform Secretariat

One month after the first regional workshop within the framework of the Gas Platform activities was organized in Algiers, a second workshop on LNG trends took place in Marrakech in April 2018. After months of hard work, the UfM Gas Platform website is live since mid-June 2018. It will provide stakeholders of the Platform as well as website visitors with comprehensive and up-to-date information about the Platform's current and future activities. As it is further detailed below, new thematic studies, meetings and conferences will be launched and/or announced soon.

One objective of the UfM Gas Platform is to become a "gathering place of reference" for all the actors of the gas sector in the region to discuss and shape a future Euro-Mediterranean gas market. It is hoped that actions developed within the activities of the UfM Gas Platform will aim at facilitating, enhancing a regional structured dialogue between all parties concerned on the issues and challenges the Euro-Mediterranean gas market is facing.

Launch of the UfM Gas Platform website

We are pleased to announce the launch in June 2018 of the website of the UfM Gas Platform. It is built to make it easy and fast to find and share information about the Platform activities. This site is another concrete outcome of the will to step up cooperation in the energy sector between Euro-Mediterranean countries and a tool for communication on natural gas in particular. With the quarterly newsletter of the Platform, they aim at communicating Platform activities and outputs to the members and partners of the Platform as well as to the broader public. They are designed to act as an interface between the Secretariat and members on the one hand, and as a mirror to disseminate the Platform activities and related news on the other hand.

While most of the site structure is now completed, there are still a few areas that we are working on, such as the Member Area and French and Arab versions of the website. We hope you like the site. If you have any feedback, please let us know.

*UfM Gas Platform website now
online at
<https://www.ufmgasplatform.org/>*

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](https://www.ufmgasplatform.org)



The UfM Gas Platform Quarterly Newsletter was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

Second workshop organised with the framework of the gas platform activities



Final draft report of the LNG study presented to stakeholders

Training workshop on Developments and Perspectives in the LNG Industry / UfM Gas Platform WG meeting

On 19 April 2018, in Marrakech, the Observatoire Méditerranéen de l'Energie (OME) and the Moroccan Fédération de l'Energie jointly organized a training workshop to present an overview of recent developments in the LNG industry, and to discuss possible future trends. The workshop was organized within the activities of the UfM Gas Platform and with the support of the European Commission. Participants and speakers from all backgrounds – institutions, industry from both shores of the Mediterranean Sea - contributed to the success of the event.

The workshop was a unique occasion for delegates to debate around the future challenges for the LNG market and the place of LNG in the Euro-Mediterranean energy market. LNG is expected to play an important role in improving security of supply in the region, also in satisfying new needs in areas such as transport. Recent discoveries in the region and a well-supplied global natural gas market create opportunities for all buyers to access new and more flexible resources. However, significant investments are required not only for the transportation of the resources but also for their development.

Back-to-back with the workshop, the final meeting of the working group devoted to the discussion of the draft final report of the study "The role of LNG in European-Mediterranean gas supply security" was organized on 20 April 2018. After the presentation of the report, working group members discussed next steps in view of its finalization prior to its dissemination to all UfM members for final approval.

Past and future events

On 12 June 2018, in Brussels, the UfM Gas Platform Secretariat met with the DG-ENER of the EC to discuss the platform studies, work in progress and forthcoming gas platform events.

On 21 June 2018, in Barcelona, the Secretariat participated in two events: the UfM-MEDREG joint conference for the presentation of the Mediterranean energy regulatory outlook 2018, and the joint UfM-EBRD seminar on public consultation on EBRD's five-year (2019-2023) energy strategy.

As part of the approved programme of work, four new thematic studies will be launched soon; study 2.1 on the current status and usage of gas infrastructure in the Euro-Mediterranean region, study 2.3 on the already proposed gas infrastructure projects in the region, study 3.1 on institutional and regulatory framework and study 3.2 on gas hubs. The dedicated working group for gas infrastructure will be called before the summer break.

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