

A topographic map of the Middle East and surrounding regions, including parts of Africa, the Middle East, and Europe. The map uses a color gradient from green (low elevation) to brown and tan (high elevation) to show terrain. The Mediterranean Sea is visible to the west, the Red Sea to the southwest, and the Persian Gulf to the east. The text is overlaid on the map.

# **AFED 2013 Report Sustainable Energy**

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# The Findings



- Like many parts of the world, energy systems in the Arab region are not sustainable in economic, environmental or social terms.
- Unlike many parts of the world, the Arab region is well endowed with clean, renewable sources of energy, primarily sun and wind.
- Together with enhanced energy efficiency, those renewable sources can help diversify and power a more sustainable energy future.

# The Solution

- Arab countries can foster the sustainability of their energy sector by making crucial strategic choices, which include improving energy efficiency, exploiting the huge potential of untapped renewable energy resources, and harnessing oil and gas reserves in cleaner ways.

# The Solution (continued)

- Policy, investment, and business experts alike have noted that the clean energy economy is emerging as one of the great global economic and environmental opportunities of the 21st century.
- With a long-term commitment and the right policies and investments, Arab countries could join the global clean energy club, creating high paying jobs and exporting renewable energy in addition to oil and gas.



# Recommendations

Policymakers should mobilize sufficient investment in production capacity to maintain the region's role as a global production leader.

- Policymakers need to reform gas and related energy product prices so as to drive a shift to a sustainable energy system where natural gas can play a greater role in the Arab energy transition and future economic development.
- Policymakers should establish the appropriate enablers for private sector participation in energy supply infrastructure investments, including well-defined policies and a sound regulatory framework.

# Recommendations (continued)



- Policymakers need to facilitate the mobilization of local equity and debt financing through supporting the establishment of third-party investment funds.
- Policymakers/regulators should enable comparability across projects and countries through increased transparency regarding factors influencing investment decisions.

# Recommendations (continued)

- Policymakers should phase out energy subsidies and reform energy pricing policies in order to incentivize the rapid deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies.
- Policymakers should effectively implement the Arab Energy Efficiency Guidelines, adopted in 2010, by establishing national energy efficiency strategies with qualified targets, timetables, and supporting policy measures.

# Recommendations (continued)

- Policymakers, in addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation in the energy sector, should systematically assess and monitor energy systems to ensure that they are robust enough to adapt to anticipated climate-related impacts and develop a holistic approach to deal with the energy-water-climate nexus.
- Policymakers should embrace cutting-edge technologies for sustainable energy as a way for leapfrogging, for business innovation, for manufacturing of hard and software, and for widespread deployment in the region and beyond.