Rabat benefits of energy storage

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Planned power investments in North Africa average around USD 15 billion per year during the period 2021-2025, of which about USD 5 billion per year would be dedicated to renewable energy. As RE penetration in the energy mix is rising, battery storage is becoming a critical enabler for the integration of large shares of variable renewable electricity, such as solar PV and wind, into power systems.

Some of the North African countries are launching storage projects. Tunisian utility STEG, for instance, is planning to build a 400-600MW pumped hydro energy storage plant, for a 2029 commissioning date. Egypt in the frame to be one of the world"s most promising renewable H2 hotspots, with the Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZONE) attracting billions of dollars of gigawatts of green hydrogen and ammonia projects. Mauritania has 2 of the largest upcoming green hydrogen projects in the Africa in its pipeline.

The conference will also address topics such as the use of energy storage systems (ESS) in C& I and mining sites; as well as exploring green hydrogen as a long-term energy storage solution and how the continent is reacting to unlock the multiple benefits.

Attending: Key stakeholders including representatives from the government, International Finance Institutions (IFIs), policy makers, international and local developers, EPC contractors, independent power producers, engineering, large electricity consumers, battery storage technology providers, legal and advisory services, equipment manufacturers, banking and private equity entities.

Agenda and registration - The detailed agenda, speaker line-up and registration form will be available upon your written inquiry. Early bird conditions are currently applied so make sure to take advantage.

This flagship investment event provides an excellent opportunity for public relation, to raise your company profile, to highlight your expertise and to boost your business development objectives.

Why is this so important? Energy storage is key to secure constant renewable energy supply to power systems - even when the sun does not shine, and the wind does not blow. Energy storage provides a solution to achieve flexibility, enhance grid reliability and power quality, and accommodate the scale-up of renewable energy. But most of the energy storage systems developed to date are not suited for the distinct conditions and use cases of the developing world.

That is why the Masen testing site, also called testbed, is located in a harsh desert environment. Not only can it replicate the climate conditions in which the storage systems will be housed, but it can also provide testing conditions for their ultimate use cases, such as providing night-time low voltage power for critical needs like local hospitals.

The testbeds are being built with these conditions, needs, and use cases in mind. The idea is that with the right storage systems in place, the real potential of renewable energy can be met, and with that, the world can start to meet its net zero obligations.

It is increasingly clear that the global deployment of renewable energy is dependent on scaling up storage systems. It is the frontier that must be crossed to reach net zero and universal access to clean energy by 2030. For instance, Morocco itself has a target of having 52% of its installed capacity coming from renewable sources, but this is not a target it can reach without energy storage to provide the essential flexibility needed for renewable energy production at scale.

Solar PV is already the cheapest source of electricity but without storage, it cannot be properly harnessed. The only way to put more of that PV into grids or into national plans for capacity expansion is if there is storage to match demand and production of electricity.

The evolution of renewable energy has come in two distinct phases. From 2010 to 2020 the overall pricing of renewable energy systems - especially for solar and wind energy - either dropped below or reached parity with fossil fuels in most countries. This incentivized a huge increase in new projects. But since then, what has become apparent is that solar and wind projects have placed huge pressures on national grid systems, which typically can only absorb around 30% of the new solar and wind power that is generated.

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