

EVENT

Electrification and the "renewables tripling" in the Mediterranean: Trends, gaps and partnerships for delivery

November 16th, 2026 – 10:00 / 11:00

Mediterranean Pavillion, Blue Zone, COP31, Antalya, Türkiye

Co-organised by TeraMed Initiative partners ECCO Think Tank, E3G and Carboun Institute

The Mediterranean region is becoming an increasingly important space for the implementation of global energy transition commitments: electricity demand across the basin is expected to grow substantially by 2030, while renewable energy capacity is expanding and countries on both shores are developing strategies for electrification, industrial transformation and energy security. The implementation of the COP28 Global Stocktake outcomes, including the call to triple renewable energy capacity globally by 2030 and accelerate energy-efficiency improvements, provides an important framework for assessing these developments.

For electrification to deliver meaningful emissions reductions, the commitment to triple renewable energy installed capacity must keep pace with growing electricity demand, ensuring that new demand is met by clean electricity rather than fossil fuel generation.

This requires more than ambitious national targets and project pipelines. It depends on expanding grids and system flexibility, developing effective regulatory frameworks and favorable investment environments, and strengthening cross-border infrastructure and coordination between energy systems. Progress will also be shaped by differences in national priorities, institutional capacity and access to finance across the region.

The COP31 Presidency's focus on electrification and implementation offers an opportunity to bring these questions into the regional policy debate. The Mediterranean provides a relevant setting for exploring how countries are progressing towards these objectives and where gaps between ambition and implementation remain. Regional cooperation can contribute by strengthening the analytical basis for decision-making and identifying opportunities to address shared challenges across interconnected energy systems.

Partnerships will be central to delivery. Mediterranean countries are working with a growing range of international partners, which bring different combinations of finance, technology, project development capacity and system expertise. Understanding how these offers interact in practice, where they complement each other and where they fall short of national priorities, will

be important for turning regional ambition into delivery, including on grids and cross-border interconnection.

The event will bring together representatives of think tanks, international organizations, regulators, TSOs and the private sector to discuss the evidence needed to support a Mediterranean energy transition agenda. Building on the findings of an upcoming TeraMed/MATTCCh study, the session will consider what current evidence tells us about electrification and renewable deployment, and what this implies for regional energy planning and technical cooperation.

The session will identify key evidence gaps and priorities, including potential future analytical work on electrification, renewable deployment and power-system integration. The discussion will also consider how research, technical cooperation and international partnerships can support more effective policy and investment decisions, including through TeraMed's contributions to the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Energy platforms.

Programme

10:00 - INTRODUCTION

Setting the scene with key data & messages from the latest TeraMed–MATTCCh analysis on regional electrification
Gabriele Cassetti, Senior Researcher Energy Systems, ECCO Think Tank

10:10 - PANEL DISCUSSION

Moderated panel on electrification, renewable deployment and mediterranean power-system integration

- **Roberta Boniotti,** Secretary General of MEDENER
- **Mohamed Alae Ibrahim,** Energy Expert, Stability and Resilience Division, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)
- **Richard Smith,** Senior Policy Advisor Global Energy Transition, E3G [confirmed]
- **Heba Rabie,** Director, MENA region, Global Wind Energy Council [confirmed]
- **Jessica Obeid,** Energy Expert and Founding Partner at New Energy Consult

Moderated by **Gabriele Cassetti**, *Senior Researcher Energy Systems, ECCO Think Tank*