





2025 Cairo Regional Forum on Financing Renewables, Green Hydrogen and Green Ammonia

Stepping up to stay in the renewable fuels' race

Agenda



ABOUT

The MENA region is on the verge of a renewable energy and green hydrogen and ammonia transformation. Further efforts are however required with urgency to ensure appropriate derisking and finance. The 2025 Regional Forum on Financing Renewables and Green Hydrogen is addressing this by showcasing and discussing good examples of financial innovations and various forms of blended and climate finance solutions.

We will only find the solutions required by convening governments, developers, investors, multilateral development banks, and philanthropic actors to unlock the necessary investment at scale. Egypt is the natural host. It has pioneered projects such as the **Benban solar complex**, backed by the World Bank's IFC, AfDB and EBRD, and is now home to a number of green hydrogen and ammonia developments.

With institutional leadership from the **Cairo Centre Green Hydrogen Centre of Excellence**, hosted at Nile University, this forum is serving as a node for unlocking finance through innovation, inclusion, and coordination.



2025 Cairo Regional Forum on Financing Renewables, Green Hydrogen and Green Ammonia is:

- Sharing concrete lessons from project development and early-stage finance in Egypt and MENA.
- Exploring innovative financial instruments, including blended finance, soft loans, interest rate buydowns, and Article 6 pathways.
- Addressing risk-sharing, bankable offtake structures, and developer-DFI co-design models.
- Integrating Just Transition principles across all thematic areas to secure community buy-in, transparency, and local value creation.
- Discussions will be underpinned by the principle that projects must be not only investable, but just, with local content, social safeguards, and benefit-sharing hardwired into financing structures.





















Featured Speakers



H.E. Dr. Mahmoud Esmat Minister of Electricity and Renewable Energy, Egypt



H.E. Dr. Randa Al-Minshawi First Assistant to the Prime Minister and Head of the Technical Secretariat of the National Green Hydrogen Council, Egypt (TBC)



Mr. James Schofield Managing Director, Industrial Transition Accelerator (ITA)



Eng. Mohamed Hafez
Executive Director for
Planning, Research & Power
Projects,
EEHC



Mr. Osama Fawzy Georgy Henein Board Member, Mediterranean Hydrogen Alliance



Ms. Dalia Akmal Noureldin Senior Sustainable Finance Specialist, Central Bank of Egypt



Mr. Matthias Korf Project Director (Egypt Green Hydrogen) & Head of Hydrogen Business Development, Scatec



Mr. Charlie Garnett Country Director – Egypt and Libya, Department for Business and Trade, United Kingdom



Mr. Joe Williams Deputy CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation (GH2)



Dr. Heba Labib Assistant VP for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Nile University



Ms. Joyce Kabui Renewable Energy and Green Industrialization, Special Envoy for Climate Change, Office of the President, Kenya



Ms. Hajar Khamlichi North Africa Director, Pooled fund on International Energy (PIE)



Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin UN Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 (TBC)



Dr. Karim ShahinNational Projects
Adviser, Cabinet of
Ministers, Egypt



Dr. Jauad El Kharraz CEO & Founder, Water Energy Climate Experts Network (WECEN)



Mr. Jonas Moberg CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation (GH2)



Mr. Jorge Arango Diaz JCEE Head of Project, GIZ Egypt



Mr. Justo Algaba Head of Infrastructure Finance for MENA, HSBC



Eng. Amira El Mazni, Senior Energy Consultant, LYNX Strategic Business Advisors



Mr. Christoph Michel Senior Financial Advisor, PtX Hub/GIZ



Ms. Jing Li Head of NSO Energy, African Development Bank (AfDB)



Ms. Heba Rabie Director- MENA, Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC)



Mr. Hussein RihanBusiness Head Egypt,
Ocior Energy



Ms. Marwa Mostafa Khalil Investment Officer, Infrastructure Department, International Finance Corporation Egypt

8:00

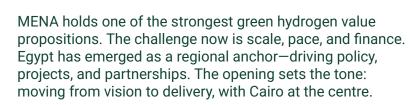
REGISTRATION

Arrival, welcome and coffee.

9:00

OPENING

Scaling Renewables and Green Hydrogen in MENA: From Strategy to Financing



Opening address:

• H.E. Dr. Randa Al-Minshawi, First Assistant to the Prime Minister and Head of the Technical Secretariat of the National Green Hydrogen Council, Egypt (TBC)

Kevnote:

- Ms. Nacima Rachedi, Chief of Cabinet of the Secretary of State in charge of Renewable Energies
- Ms. Eman Wahby, MENA Lead, High-Level Climate **Champions Team**
- Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for Egypt and United Nations Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda (TBC)

Introduced by: Mr. Jonas Moberg, CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation

9:30

Latest Market Outlook and FID Enablers in the Mediterranean

There's no shortage of MoUs—but too few Final Investment Decisions. We get real on what's driving projects forward and what's holding them back. BNEF and H2Global share the latest data. Developers explain what it actually takes to reach FID.

Speakers:

- Mr. Leander Müller, Research Associate for Green Transition at the **Technical University of Munich**
- Mr. Osama Fawzy Georgy Henein, Board Member, Mediterranean Hydrogen Alliance

Q&A between them moderated by: Mr. Jonas Moberg, CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation

9:55

From Understanding to Doing - Building a Bridge to Catalyse **Project Finance**

Developers know where the bottlenecks are. DFIs are offering new tools. But too often, they're not speaking the same language. We bring both sides together-developers, governments, financiers-to chart a new path from pipeline to capital.

Speakers:

- Mr. Matthias Korf, Project Director (Egypt Green Hydrogen) & Head of Hydrogen Business Development, Scatec
- Mr. Ahmed Osama, Sustainability Department Head, Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Egypt
- Mr. Jorge Arango Diaz, Head of Project, Egyptian-German Joint Committee on Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Environmental Protection (JCEE), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- Mr. Ahmed Reda, Industrial Development Officer, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Egypt





















- Ms. Ghada Darwish, Country Manager, Egypt, Globeleq
- Mr. Charlie Garnett, Country Director Egypt and Libya,
 Department for Business and Trade, United Kingdom

Moderated by: Mr. Jonas Moberg, CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation

10:40 Coffee break

11:05 Fireside

Fireside Chat with Infinity Power

• Omar Nagi, General Manager, Infinity Power

11:20

Bankability in Practice: Economic Zones, Fiscal Tools, and Risk-Sharing Models

Benban worked because risks were shared, and incentives were real. Green hydrogen now needs a new playbook. This session gets into the mechanics: how to use economic zones, tax breaks, and FX guarantees to anchor investment. We unpack hybrid offtake models, equity structuring, and how to make hydrogen projects bankable—even before global demand fully materialises.

Speakers:

- Mr. Justo Algaba, Head of Infrastructure Finance for MENA, HSBC
- Eng. Mohamed Hafez, Executive Director for Planning, Research & Power Projects, Egyptian Electricity Holding Company
- Mr. Christoph Michel, Senior Financial Advisor, PtX Hub/GIZ

- Eng. Ahmed Hafez, Country Manager and Business Development, AMEA Power Egypt
- Mr. Karim El Azzawi, Egypt Managing Director, Voltalia
- **Ms. Marwa Mostafa Khalil**, Investment Officer, Infrastructure Department, International Finance Corporation Egypt

Moderated by: Mr. Joe Williams, Deputy CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation

Green Fertiliser as a Catalyst: Local Industry, Pricing and Finance

Egypt and Morocco are exploring how to turn domestic fertiliser demand into structured offtake—via public buyers, cooperatives, and subsidy shifts. This session looks at early steps to build demand certainty, attract concessional finance, and test local pricing models under pressure.

Speakers:

- Mr. Osama Fawzy Georgy Henein, Board Member, Mediterranean Hydrogen Alliance
- Mr. Sherif Doss, Head of Finance and Administration, Yara Egypt
- Mr. Ahmed Sha'ban, Head of Sustainability, Helwan Fertilisers
- Eng. Ahmed Fathalla, Water Treatment Manager, Abu Qir Fertilisers
- Mr. Mohamed Elhadary, Research & development, Assistant Manager, Abu Qir Fertilisers
- Mr. Raj Sawhney, Founder and CEO, Satnam Energy

GH2 presentation on the green fertilisers sectoral brief, with inputs from participants, led by Simran Sinha

Moderated by: Ms. Simran Sinha, Programme Officer, Green Hydrogen Organisation





















Decarbonising Heavy Industries: Challenges and Opportunities

Steel, cement, fertilisers, and chemicals are at the heart of Egypt's economy and of MENA's industrial base. These sectors are carbonintensive and under growing pressure from global buyers and regulators. The EU carbon border tax is coming. The choice is clear: adapt or lose competitiveness. Egypt has the chance to lead, retrofitting plants, deploying green hydrogen, and shifting to low-carbon production. Finance, offtake and technology are the barriers. This session asks how Egypt and MENA can turn external pressure into a competitive advantage, and what it will take to act in time.

Opening address: Mr. James Schofield, Managing Director, Industrial Transition Accelerator (ITA) will provide a market outlook drawing on the MPP global tracker (800 projects) to highlight sector progress

Speakers:

- Mr. Adel Mohamed Taha, Sustainable Development Expert & Chemical Sector Coordinator, Environmental Compliance Office, Federation of Egyptian Industries (FEI/ECO-SD)
- Eng. Mohamed El Semellawy, CEO, EDF North Africa (TBC)
- Ms. Sara Amir Ibrahim, Head of Development, Voltalia
- Dr. Ibrahim Kshanh, General Manager of Energy & Sustainability Projects, Egyptian Petrochemicals Holding Company
- Mr. Adham Elmahdy, Director of Sustainability, Lafarge Egypt (TBC)
- Mr. Pietro Cala, Country Manager, Egypt, VICAT (TBC)

GH2 presentation on the iron and steel sectoral brief, with inputs from participants, led by Flore Schmerber

Moderated by: Mr. Jonas Moberg, CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation

15:15 Coffee break

15:30

Shipping and Green Fuels: Driving Decarbonisation and Trade

The Suez Canal sees 12% of global trade and maritime's decarbonisation deadline is fast approaching. Green ammonia demand from shipping could anchor MENA's hydrogen economy, but ports need retrofitting, fuel standards need clarity, and offtake agreements need structure. With the IMO's new Net-Zero Fund potentially unlocking billions for maritime decarbonisation, this session cuts through the hype: what will shipping companies actually pay for? How do we finance bunkering infrastructure? And can MENA turn its geographic advantage into industrial opportunity before other regions move first?

Speakers:

- Mr. James Schofield, Managing Director, Industrial Transition Accelerator (ITA)
- Dr. Mohamed abo el Dahab, Green Economy General Manager, SC Zone
- Mr. Tarek Ziad, Project Development Director, DEME HYPORT Energy (TBC)

GH2 presentation on the shipping and green fuels sectoral brief, with inputs from participants, led by Flore Schmerber

Moderated by: Mr. Jonas Moberg, CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation





















16:30

Standards and Certification to Promote Local Development and **Unlock EU Market Access**

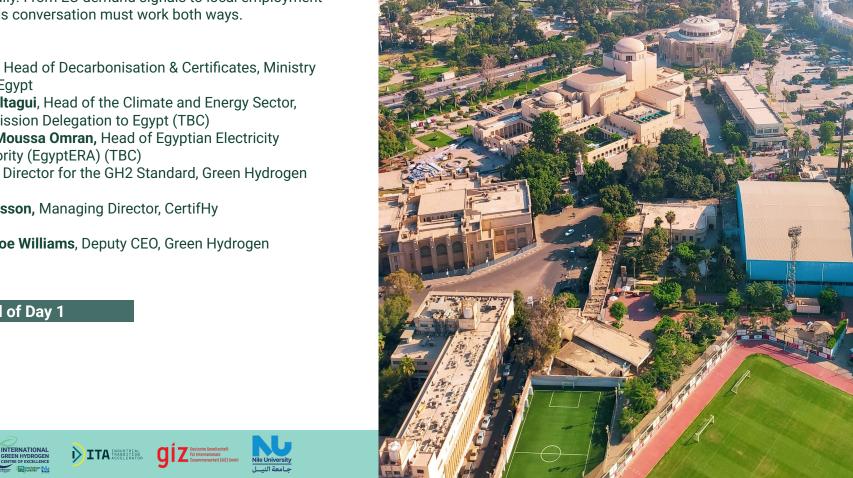
Without credible certification, projects won't export. But without local content and pregualification, they won't deliver value at home. This session explores how MENA countries can position themselves as reliable green hydrogen exporters while securing jobs and industrialisation locally. From EU demand signals to local employment criteria, the standards conversation must work both ways.

Speakers:

- Dr. Ayman Rifae, Head of Decarbonisation & Certificates, Ministry of Environment, Egypt
- Mr. Ahmed El Beltagui, Head of the Climate and Energy Sector, European Commission Delegation to Egypt (TBC)
- Eng. Mohamed Moussa Omran, Head of Egyptian Electricity Regulatory Authority (EgyptERA) (TBC)
- Dr. Sam Bartlett, Director for the GH2 Standard, Green Hydrogen Organisation
- Mr. Matthieu Boisson, Managing Director, CertifHy

Moderated by: Mr. Joe Williams, Deputy CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation

End of Day 1







Special address by **Dr Mahmoud Mostafa Kamal Esmat,** Minister of Electricity and Renewable Energy of the Arab Republic of Egypt

8:00

Arrival, welcome and coffee.

9:00

Breakfast Session on addressing power bottlenecks in Egypt

The energy crisis has redefined security. In Egypt, power bottlenecks are blocking progress. Renewables are ready, but land allocation, corridor planning, and grid upgrades remain unresolved. The government's shared infrastructure study in the SCZone is a start. The question now is how Egypt can clear these bottlenecks, fast, and who will pay for it.

Speakers:

- Mr. Matthias Korf, Project Director (Egypt Green Hydrogen) & Head of Hydrogen Business Development, Scatec
- Dr. Samir Elkareish, Energy Transition & Sustainability Advisor, Center For Environment and Development for the Arab Region & Europe (CEDARE)
- Mr. Ibrahim Shehata, Partner, Shehata & Partners Law Firm
- Mr. Alaa Kamal, Managing Director, INP Egypt LLC
- Eng. Mohamed Hafez, Executive Director for Planning, Research & Power Projects, Egyptian Electricity Holding Company

Moderated by: Ms. Heba Rabie, Regional Director MENA, Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC)

10:00

Blended Finance and Article 6: Matching DFIs with Developer Pipelines

Blended finance can unlock real capital—if it reaches real projects. This session connects the dots between DFI mandates, Article 6 pathways, and developer pipelines. We'll walk through what's working—Climate Investor Three, KfW PtX, H2Global—and what's not. The focus: how to deploy catalytic capital faster, with fewer barriers and more impact.

Speakers:

- Mr. Patrick Carter, Associate Banker Energy Team, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
- Dr. Mohamed Abdelhameed, Managing Director Development Finance & Green Capital Structuring, DFA Development Consulting
- Ms. Jing Li, Head of NSO Energy, African Development Bank (AfDB)
- · Ms. Yousra Ossama, Senior Energy Specialist, World Bank, Egypt

Moderated by: Ms. Joyce Kabui, Renewable Energy and Green Industrialization, Special Envoy for Climate Change, Office of the President, Kenya.

10:45

Coffee break



















11:00

Egypt – Financing Pathways for Ammonia and Suez Canal Economic Zone (Part 1)

Dozens of MoUs have been signed, but final investment decisions remain scarce. Developers point to grid access, land allocation, and off-take uncertainty as the real bottlenecks. This roundtable asks how projects can align with public infrastructure, how domestic finance can be brought in, and how green ammonia can drive SCZone's industrial strategy. The Cairo Centre will take forward the outcomes with developers and government.

Opening address:

Dr. Karim Shahin, National Projects Adviser, Egyptian Cabinet of Ministers

Joint presentation by GH2 and the Industrial Transition Accelerator (ITA) on the green hydrogen opportunity for Egypt

Speakers including:

- Ms. Dalia Akmal, Senior Sustainable Finance Specialist, Central Bank of Egypt
- Dr. Khaled Nageib, CEO, Hydrogen Egypt
- Mr. Matthias Korf, Project Director (Egypt Green Hydrogen) & Head of Hydrogen Business Development, Scatec
- Mr. Patrick Carter, Associate Banker Energy Team, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Moderated by: Dr. Heba Labib, Assistant VP for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Nile University

11:45

Egypt – Financing Pathways for Ammonia and Suez Canal Economic Zone (Part 2)

Speakers including:

- Dr. Mohamed Abo Eldahab, Green Economy General Manager, SC Zone
- Mr. Khaled Azab, Business Development Manager, TAQA Arabia
- Mr. Omar Hosny, Vice President of Energy and Water, Hassan Allam Utilities, Egypt
- Mr. Hussein Rihan, Business Head Egypt, Ocior Energy
- Eng. Amira El Mazni, Senior Energy Consultant, LYNX Strategic Business Advisors

Moderated by: Dr. Heba Labib, Assistant VP for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Nile University

12:30

Algeria – Land and Hydrogen Regulatory Clarity

Algeria has strong fundamentals but lacks the enabling framework. Investors need clarity on land use, licensing, and offtake. We focus on how to build regulatory trust, accelerate permitting, and make Algeria an investable proposition—without losing state control or national priorities.





















Speakers including:

- Ms. Nacima Rachedi, Chief of Cabinet of the Secretary of State in charge of Renewable Energies
- Mr. Salim Gherbi, Chief of Department, Project Development, SONATRACH
- Ms. Souraya Idris, Chief of Office, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Renewable Energies

Official launch of Algeria's membership to the Africa Green Hydrogen Alliance (AGHA)

Moderated by: Mr. Joe Williams, Deputy CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation

13:00 Lunch

Morocco – Export and Transmission

Morocco's "Offer" (2024) set clear rules on land, permitting and grid access, unlocking 1m ha. Six projects approved in 2025 (MAD 319bn) span ammonia, e-fuels and green steel. This roundtable tackles grid and export readiness, developer trust and blended finance.

Speakers including:

- Ms. Hajar Khamlichi, North Africa Director, Pooled Fund on International Energy (Pooled/International Climate Foundation)
- Dr. Jauad El Kharraz, CEO & Founder of WECEN

Moderated by: Mr. Joe Williams, Deputy CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation

14:10

Regional Dialogue: What MENA can Learn From MENA

Is Egypt's incentive scheme working? Does Morocco's offer enough to pull projects forward? What is proving adequate to attract real projects? We take stock of early results—who is moving, who is not—and ask what more is needed. The discussion contrasts these approaches with India and China, where aggressive policies are already pulling in investment at scale.

Speakers:

- Ms. Nacima Rachedi, Chief of Cabinet of the Secretary of State in charge of Renewable Energies
- Dr. Karim Shahin, National Projects Adviser, Egyptian Cabinet of Ministers
- Ms. Eman Wahby, MENA Lead, High-Level Climate Champions Team
- Eng. Mohamed El Semellawy, CEO, EDF North Africa (TBC)
- Eng. Ahmed Hafez, Country Manager and Business Development, AMEA Power Egypt
- Ms. Hajar Khamlichi, North Africa Director, Pooled Fund on International Energy (PIE)
- Dr. Jauad El Kharraz, CEO & Founder, Water Energy Climate Experts Network (WECEN)
- Arno van den Bos, Analyst, Green Hydrogen Energy & Power-to-X, IRENA

Moderated by: Mr. Jonas Moberg, CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation





















15:00

CLOSING PLENARY AND ADDRESS Closing Reflections and Way Forward: Mobilising in Advance of COP30

The region must now turn ambition into bankable projects—finance, delivery, and inclusion will be the test. Messages from Cairo must travel to Belem, but also to Brussels. After the failure of the European Hydrogen Bank, there is still no international pillar for this market. The EU will decide whether MENA projects move because that is where the offtake lies. Shipping and industry are the customers—we cannot forget that. And with the IMO session days away, the signal from this Forum must be clear: MENA is ready, but it needs partners who are serious.

- H.E. Dr. Rania A. Al-Mashat, Minister of Planning, Economic Development, and International Cooperation of Egypt (TBC)
- Ms. Eman Wahby, MENA Lead, High-Level Climate Champions Team
- Ms. Naira Hatem, Regionalisation Strategic Coordinator, High-Level Climate Champions Team
- Mr. Jonas Moberg, CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation

15:30

END















Side event (invite-only)

PtX Project Finance Training

- Invitation only
- Training
- Language: English with partly Arabic translation

PtX financing is complex due to longer value chains and limited company experience, increasing risks and costs. Understanding project finance in detail is crucial to secure funding for these costly projects and to enable effective market growth.

The PtX.Project Finance training provides a comprehensive overview of the fundamentals of project finance and how to set it up for PtX projects. In its interdisciplinary approach, the training covers financial fundamentals, contractual requirements, support instruments available, bankability aspects, blended finance, risk assessment and mitigation as well as projects modeling exercises. On this occasion it mainly addresses representatives from public institutions in Egypt to better understand the unique risk structure of PtX project finance.

This training is offered by the Egyptian-German Green Hydrogen Partnership (GH2P), supported by the International PtX Hub and conducted in collaboration with the GH2 2025 Cairo Regional Forum.

Financing Green Hydrogen in Egypt – A Value **Chain Perspective**

- Invitation Only
- Workshop
- Language Arabic

This interactive workshop will map Egypt's green hydrogen value chain, identify finance-related risks and gaps, and strengthen public-private sector collaboration on GH2/PtX project financing.

Bringing together decision makers from key ministries and public sector agencies alongside project developers and financiers, the session combines expert inputs with group exercises and case-based deep dives. Participants will gain practical insights into financing requirements and coordination needs to enable bankable green hydrogen projects in Egypt.

This workshop is offered by the Egyptian-German Green Hydrogen Partnership (GH2P) to continue the public-private GH2 dialogue in Egypt, implemented by GIZ and supported by Chemonics Egypt in collaboration with the GH2 2025 Cairo Regional Forum.

Official partners of the GH2P are the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE) and the Egyptian Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energies (MoERE), working closely with other political, business and technical collaboration partners.





























GH2 International Green Hydrogen Centre of Excellence in Cairo

The GH2 Cairo Centre of Excellence, hosted at Nile University, was established by decree of the Egyptian Cabinet in 2024 as the hub for renewables-based green hydrogen and ammonia. It operates under the National Green Hydrogen Council with active engagement from government, industry, financiers, and partners.

The Centre also serves as the Secretariat of the Africa Green Hydrogen Alliance and delivers on four priorities:

- Supports national hydrogen strategies and regulatory frameworks;
- Builds capacity, including the 2024 Green Hydrogen Policy Accelerator for senior officials;
- Matches early-stage projects with investors and DFIs; and
- Advances standards, certification, and local content frameworks

This Forum is anchored in the Centre's mission: to unlock finance through innovation, inclusion, and coordination. Partnerships forged here will carry forward through the Centre, ensuring continuity, delivery, and a strong regional voice in the run-up to COP30 and beyond.

Contact

GREEN HYDROGEN ORGANISATION

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NILE UNIVERSITY

Heba Labib, Assistant VP for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Nile University hlabib@nu.edu.eg "China and India are soon shipping green ammonia at ~\$600/tonne, in part thanks to vertical integration but also due to strong government support. In Africa and Europe, complexity, capital costs, and uncertain access to support schemes still delay progress." These were the key messages we heard when some of us met at a roundtable here in Cairo in June.

Together with our partners at Nile University, we are pleased to follow up that roundtable with this forum, offering an in-depth opportunity to discuss how we here in Egypt and across the region step up to stay in the renewable hydrogen, ammonia and methanol race. Some of the best wind and solar factors and a supremely located global fuel station along the Suez Canal is not enough to see the many commitments turn into reality. Our hosting governments need to do their utmost to enable renewable energy projects and, in particular, with urgency, address issues related to shared infrastructure. Many of the projects in China which are now starting to deliver green ammonia to international markets were not much more than memorandums of understanding back in November 2022 when many of us met at the UN meeting in Sharm-el-Sheikh. We need to keep this in mind, making sure that we don't lose a day unnecessarily before production.

The cost of capital must also be reasonably low. This will not in most cases happen without the support of the governments of European countries keen on importing genuinely low carbon fuels and products from Egypt and its neighbours. Climate finance, guarantee instruments and blended finance solutions are some of the approaches which will be required to financially de-risk these projects, lowering the cost of capital and assist project developers in overcoming a need for long-term offtake agreements.

These are some of the issues we look forward to addressing during the forum, working together to find solutions. Now is the time to pull out all the stops. The economies in the region and the climate will only do well if we ensure to responsibly and urgently turn the sun that shines and wind that blows into renewable fuels and products.

Welcome!
Heba and Jonas





















Your voice matters:

