

Empowering Mediterranean regulators for a common energy future.

ACTION PLAN

2019



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1. MEDREG's Mission and Objectives

MEDREG started in May 2006 as a voluntary working group to establish cooperation among Mediterranean Energy Regulators and became a permanent regional organisation in November 2007. The European Union (EU) has been a continuous promoter of MEDREG since its creation, through the active involvement notably of the Directorate-General (DG) Energy and DG for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), which encourages and financially supports its activities.

Through MEDREG, Mediterranean energy agencies and Ministries responsible for regulation can jointly discuss and design a common legal framework for energy regulation, based on equal representation of participants and a bottom-up approach. MEDREG promotes a holistic attitude, which combines market liberalization with investments, environmental protection, and capacity-development activities, as well as a regional approach to improve the stability and transparency of rules related to the energy sector, on which investments are strongly dependent.

MEDREG intends to consolidate its role and mission as a permanent regional organisation for regulators, with the official endorsement of the European Union and the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM).

MEDREG aims to implement a clear, stable and harmonized regulatory energy framework in the Mediterranean.

MEDREG's actions focus on:

- **Providing a greater compatibility of the energy markets and legislations and seeking progressive market integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region.** One of MEDREG's main objectives is to contribute to the creation of independent regulatory authorities responsible for electricity and natural gas in each Mediterranean country. The Association studies the characteristics and needs of Mediterranean energy markets to identify common challenges and best practices. It identifies the role regulators should play and principles governing the mission and competences of Mediterranean national regulatory authorities (NRAs).
- **Providing sustainable development in the energy sector through greater efficiency and integration of energy markets based on secure, safe, cost-effective and environmentally sustainable energy systems.** In the framework of the UfM Energy Platforms, MEDREG is actively contributing through a dedicated task force to the setting up of clear rules for the regional enhancement of energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources in its capacity of animator of the WG 'Best Practices in Regulatory and Policy Framework'. This role complements MEDREG's studies on the development of smart generation and distributions systems in the region.
- **Providing initiatives of common interest in key areas such as infrastructure investment and development, innovative financing solutions for the Mediterranean area and research in the field of energy regulation.** MEDREG considers that dialogue and technical coordination between regulators and TSOs, both at national and regional level, is becoming pivotal to build an effective and efficient regional energy market. MEDREG is now implementing its cooperation agreement with the Association of the Mediterranean Electricity Transmission System Operators (Med-TSO) and works to support the establishment of an association for the Mediterranean gas TSOs.
- **Providing capacity building activities through working groups, training sessions and seminars.** MEDREG wants to create a common regulatory culture across the different Euro-Mediterranean countries. To this end, it works to share information, expertise and good practices among its members, thus helping them to reinforce their institutional capacities and guarantee appropriate reforms. To reach its objectives, MEDREG promotes a permanent exchange of know-how between European and non-European members, data collection and dissemination of expertise through comprehensive studies, recommendations, reports as well as specialized training sessions.

- **Providing cooperation, information exchange and assistance among members, providing a permanent discussion framework and cooperation network.** Aiming towards a common, transparent approach of regulatory principles in the Mediterranean region, MEDREG has started to set up a public internet platform for the exchange and publication of data on Mediterranean gas markets (such as structure, actors and responsible entities, flows).

2. MEDREG Approach to Mediterranean Cooperation

MEDREG considers that a regional approach is the appropriate starting point for cooperation on energy regulation, in the perspective of an integrated and efficient Mediterranean market requiring functioning and interconnected infrastructures. This approach entails the progressive compatibility of the legislative and regulatory frameworks in the energy field which is a fundamental precondition to attract the necessary investments and contribute to the long-term economic and social development of the Mediterranean region. In particular, it would be necessary to define common consumer protection principles, with a particular focus on the definition of energy poverty.

Involving all MEDREG Members

MEDREG primarily focuses on promoting exchange of know-how and expertise among its members essentially through its Working Groups and Task Forces, which operate under the umbrella of the Association's General Assembly (GA) and Steering Committee (SC). MEDREG means of action also include specialized training courses, capacity building seminars and studies related to energy regulation.

MEDREG will continue to encourage further the involvement of all Mediterranean Energy Regulators in its activities, including representatives of Libya once the situation is stabilized. MEDREG continues to grow, and is reaching out to Lebanon and Mauritania to involve their authorities in our work.

Consolidating the dialogue with all Euro-Mediterranean stakeholders

Following the terms of the framework cooperation protocol between Med-TSO (the Association of Mediterranean Transmission System Operators for Electricity) and MEDREG (signed in September 2013), cooperation is being developed on specific topics especially as regards the drafting of grid codes, as well as the management and operation of regulated energy infrastructures.

Furthermore, on 19 November 2014 in Rome, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the European Commission (DG ENER), MEDREG and Med-TSO. The parties agree to intensify their institutional cooperation also in the framework of the "Euro-Mediterranean Platform on Regional Electricity Market" that has been established in the context of the UfM process. This platform structures and supports a systematic dialogue of all the concerned public and private stakeholders. The purpose of the platform is to provide a permanent forum for discussing policy objectives and measures, with a view to identifying concrete partnership actions and following-up on their implementation.

As part of its initiatives to intensify regional integration, MEDREG has also established relationships with the main energy stakeholders in the region, such as PAM, LAS, Med-TSO, OME, RCREEE, RES4MED, MEDENER¹, aiming to provide the energy regulators' vision and role and is further pursuing active collaboration in this direction.

Following the success of the first edition of the Mediterranean Forum on Energy Regulation in 2014, organised by MEDREG and supported by the European Commission (EC), a similar event will be also considered for the period 2019, not only in the context of intensifying inter and cross-regional cooperation but also intensifying the engagement of other stakeholders as outlined above.

¹ PAM: Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean; LAS: League of Arab States; Med-TSO: Mediterranean Transmission System Operators; OME: Observatoire Méditerranéen de l'Energie, RCREEE: Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency; RES4MED: Renewable Energy Solutions for the Mediterranean; MEDENER: Mediterranean Association of the National Agencies for Energy Conservation

3. MEDREG's Organisation and Strategy

MEDREG's general objective is to contribute to the progressive establishment of an integrated Euro-Mediterranean energy market. MEDREG's specific work towards meeting its general objective involves:

- a) The development of proposals, tools, regulatory standards and good practices that can lead to more efficient and compatible regulatory frameworks to enhance the development of efficient national energy systems and to facilitate the gradual integration of energy systems (including cross-border systems) in the region; and
- b) The establishment of a closer relationship amongst regulators in the region with the aim to enhance their cooperation.

Thus, MEDREG's strategy concentrates its short and longer-term actions geared at:

- 1) Developing more efficient and compatible regulatory frameworks which facilitate investment to the benefit of consumers**

By analogy to the 5 main priorities for a future Mediterranean Energy Community identified in the 2020-2030 MEDREG strategy, MEDREG addresses this objective in the context of five distinct outputs as highlighted in the figure in Section below.

- 2) Intensifying regional cooperation and stakeholder engagement**

Actions towards this goal relate to MEDREG's efforts to create a Mediterranean regulatory culture through an advanced level of regional cooperation and to embed a regulatory view in Mediterranean energy sector relations and developments.

MEDREG's Working Groups (WGs) are the main pillars of the Association ensuring the implementation of the Action Plan. They elaborate guidelines, draft reports and studies assessing the status of different aspects of Mediterranean energy sector and develop recommendations to establish a common regulatory framework in the region. The contribution of all members is very important to carry out the analysis and collect data. The WGs are also the place where members exchange experience and know how on regulatory issues.

The MEDREG Secretariat coordinates the implementation of MEDREG's strategy as defined by its General Assembly, enhancing MEDREG accountability and institutional cooperation in the Mediterranean energy sector. Through its experts, the Secretariat provides continuous support to the Working Groups/Task Forces in the implementation of the Action Plan.

The MEDREG Secretariat supervises and contributes to the preparation of studies and recommendations developed by the MEDREG Working Groups, provides technical support to members and supports the drafting of the Association's strategic documents (as defined in the Working Groups Internal Guidelines). The Secretariat also ensures the overall coherence of MEDREG messages through the drafting of speeches, presentations and statements made by Members on behalf of MEDREG and at the same time offers substantial administrative, logistical and technical support to its members.

3.1 Communication Strategy

The MEDREG Secretariat fosters information exchange among its members through a Communication Officers (CO) network, which is composed of regulatory staff and promotes MEDREG's messages in each member country. The Secretariat works to coordinate and raise awareness about the organization through the constant update of MEDREG informational material and the regular release of press statements, newsletters and social media announcements. Meanwhile, the objectives of the communication strategy are to reinforce and consolidate internal collaboration and relations among MEDREG members and enhance the Association's external relations, visibility and accountability. The target audience of MEDREG communication activities includes members and staff of energy regulatory authorities of the Mediterranean countries, EU institutions and international organizations, financial institutions, regional and international associations (such as regulators, companies, consumers), press and media. Communication activities are continuously developed and implemented to support the Association's strategic objectives. These tasks include:

- Management and constant improvement of the MEDREG website, both in terms of content and interaction tools.
- Publication and diffusion of Annual Report and ad-hoc publications of the Association to contribute to strengthen its visibility and accountability as well as raise awareness of regulatory issues
- Reinforcement of MEDREG joint communication activities with other regulators' associations and consolidation of contacts with communication departments of relevant external partners.
- Relations with the media, and periodical release of press statements and newsletters (MEDREG News). MEDREG continues collaborating with the EU Neighbours South and the press officers of EU delegations to implement the Association's communication activities and ensure an adequate visibility to the project.
- Active engagement in the social media.
- Elaboration of promotional videos and interviews.

4. Capacity building activities

One of MEDREG's outcomes is to create a Mediterranean regulatory culture. In this context, appropriate training is a crucial component for the success of the Association and the development of its members. MEDREG is committed to empowering its members and supporting them in better performing their daily work. As part of these efforts, the Association has regularly offered in the past training courses and opportunities to its energy regulators, with a view to building a common understanding and implementation of the main regulatory principles in the Mediterranean region.

MEDREG's training and scientific activities for members take the form of training courses and capacity development workshops, as well as the organization of training activities tailored to the specific needs of interested members and WGs. Training offers may involve different partner organizations and experts, depending on the specific needs of a member.

Training of national energy regulators serves at least three purposes:

- Imparting new knowledge;
- Developing and enhancing regulatory skills;
- Networking among participants and building a specific collective identity and professional contacts between technical counterparts.

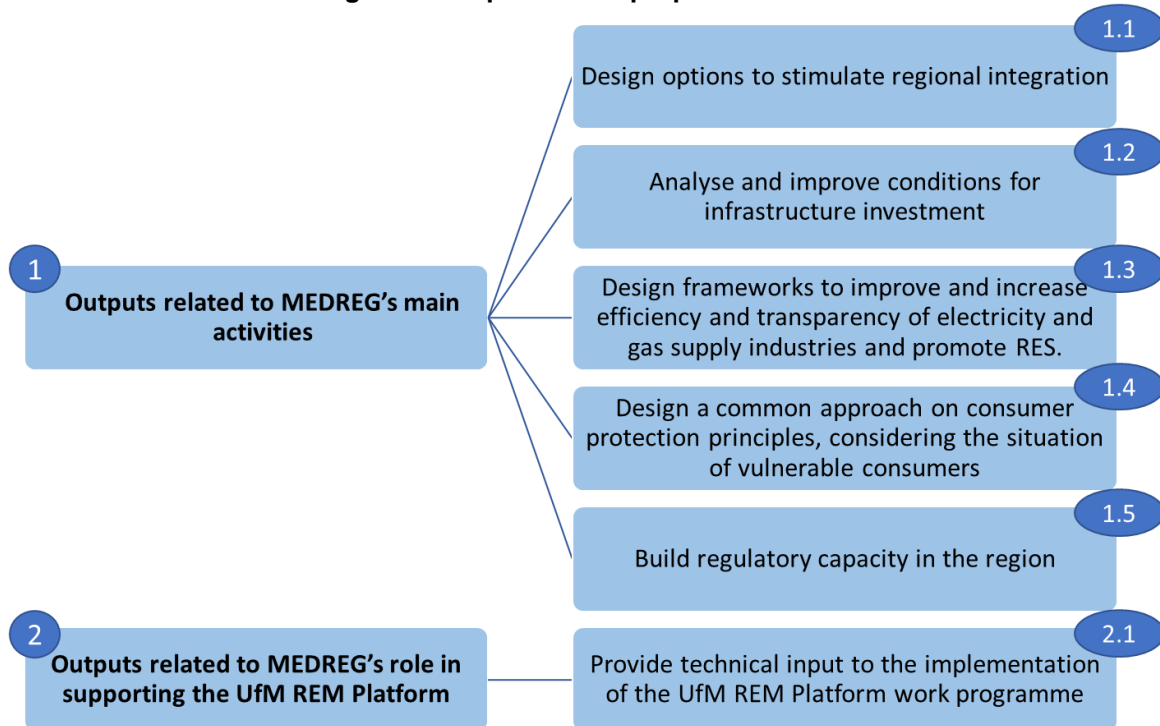
MEDREG applies a holistic approach to training, addressing the needs of the diverse functions and expertise levels of Mediterranean regulators' staff and offering references to practical decision-making cases that can provide insights into the successes and challenges of other regulators. MEDREG will guide the process and confront the ideas of the audience with selected examples and good practices from similar circumstances in other countries. Regulators' experiences will therefore remain at the centre of MEDREG's proposed training sessions, ensuring a cooperative atmosphere of peer-learning as well a concrete transfer of knowledge between members. For the period 2019, the MEDREG Secretariat plans to organise the training modules described in the table below, to support its members' staff in the main challenges that regulators face currently.

Activity	Year	Description
Module 1: Regulating infrastructure investment – Planning and feasibility, network integration and incentives	2019	The training will examine how to determine allowed revenues; the inclusion of assets in the regulated asset base (RAB) and will address cost allocation and revenue recovery issues.
Module 2: Role and scope of regulation – Main tasks of the independent regulator	2019	This training will define responsibilities of energy regulators. It will consider the scope of agencies' industry coverage taking into account the specifics of the Mediterranean region, the role of energy regulators relative to ministers, and their role relative to other regulatory objectives and bodies (e.g. consumer protection and competition authorities).
Module 3: Mediterranean market designs – How to tackle market power and increase regulatory compatibility	2019	This advanced workshop will deal with regional issues that have an impact on the various countries of the Mediterranean Basin at policy and technical level. This training will target one Commissioner and/or Director from each MEDREG regulators. Participants will be invited to provide country-specific problems and questions in advance, to which speakers will try to provide an answer in the framework of several sessions of discussion and interaction that will try to bring together the different stances and challenges of the Mediterranean countries.

5. Working Groups and Task Force

The new Grant Contract with the European Commission supports the implementation of a set of specific Outputs and Actions for the one-year period (2019) that the MEDREG Working Groups and Task Force have identified as priorities for the Mediterranean region for the next two years. The figure below outlines the outputs and activities included in this Action Plan.

Figure 1: Outputs of the proposed actions



5.1 Working Group on Institutional Issues (INS)

The INS Working Group has the objective of enhancing closer coordination among MEDREG members through the promotion of the role and competencies of independent energy regulatory authorities. The WG coordinates the dialogue on energy regulation notably with the European Union, international institutions, regional organisations of regulators and other bodies. The WG also works on the institutional evolution of the association.

Working Group on Institutional Issues (INS)	
Objectives 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guiding MEDREG members in implementation of a common set of principles that should characterize the missions, powers, competences and organisation of independent energy regulatory authorities in the Mediterranean region. Assisting member countries in creation of independent energy regulator for electricity and gas in charge of market monitoring, network regulation, tariff setting and regulation of natural monopolies. Assisting member countries in the implementation of national regulatory reforms, through a dedicated and tailor-made support and understanding the impact of national decisions in the energy sector at the regional level Supporting other WGs along the process of improvement of the national legal and regulatory frameworks of Mediterranean countries, taking national specificities into account, in order to facilitate the deepening of regional cooperation and energy exchanges.

Main Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodically assess the current status of regulatory frameworks and institutions, their competencies, resources and expertise • Carry out thematic studies on specific topics, and where relevant prepare position papers upon request of the president • Support regulators in training and exchange of experiences, as well as other tools of capacity building • Carry out one peer review per year on the regulatory activities of its members • Support the institutional development and consolidation of MEDREG
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Activity and Deliverable	Year	Referent Regulator
<p>1. Deliverable: Support to national regulatory reforms including preparatory and implementation activities according to the rolling calendar of the INS WG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execution Activity: EgyptERA: Follow-up of 2016 peer review recommendations: (a) Review and update of the draft code of ethics (b) Ex-ante regulatory indicators • Execution Activity: Workshop for the EMRC (Jordan) – Obtain correct data from licensed operators, have sanctioning powers and renegotiate licenses. • Execution Activity: Study Visit for Ministry of Energy Tunisia - Study visit on management of cross-border interconnections • Execution Activity: Seminar for PUA (Israel) - Monitoring of transmission activities and definition of a market design • Execution Activity: Study Visit for ANRE (Morocco) - Competences of a regulator and relationships with other public bodies • Execution Activity: Training for GasReg (Egypt) - Monitoring of the transmission and distribution segments of the gas market • Execution Activity: Workshop for CREG (Algeria) - Progress in the development of RES auctions • Execution Activity: RES Workshop to present several case studies on auction management to be organized back to back GA • Execution Activity: Annual Forum on the liberalization of the gas markets 	2019	INS WG in collaboration with other WG
	2019	INS WG members
	1 st half 2019	INS WG members
	1 st half 2019	INS WG in collaboration with ELE WG
	2 nd half 2019	INS WG in collaboration with ELE WG
	2 nd half 2019	INS WG members
	2 nd half 2019	INS WG in collaboration with Gas WG
	2 nd half 2019	INS WG in collaboration with RES WG
	2 nd half 2019	INS WG in collaboration with RES WG
	2 nd half 2019	INS WG in collaboration with Gas WG

5.2 Working Group on Electricity (ELE)

The ELE Working Group (ELE WG) is in charge of assessing the current status of electricity markets and regulatory frameworks in MEDREG countries and their possible developments. The ELE WG has the mission to identify and propose basic requirements that will lead to the compatibility of electricity regulation in the MEDREG region, developing a competitive, strengthened and running regional electricity market in the region.

Working Group on Electricity Issues (ELE)	
Objectives 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring of the electricity market: information exchange on performance indicators and efficient regulatory framework to assess necessary infrastructure investment Development of a market design model to support the unbundling of the electricity sector, transparency of market information and services, non-discriminatory TPA to infrastructure and services, tariff methodologies, price regulation and the possibility for the establishment of smart grids in MEDREG countries Regular exchange of data on transmission capacity Support MEDREG countries in reaching a properly functioning market, which will allow the efficient use of interconnections by allocating transmission capacity in the most efficient way and at market prices. Development of an efficient cross-border trade, which should be implemented on all interconnections. This will stimulate the competition between different national markets and will increase regional integration, as well as security of supply. At the same time this will harmonize the transmission capacity, the auction mechanisms and common grid codes in a mid-term perspective.
Main Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jointly elaborate with Med-TSO proposals for grids codes covering data sharing among electricity transmission system operators and cross-border electricity exchanges (if necessary differentiated by sub-region) with a view to have them approved and implemented, on a voluntary basis, by Mediterranean electricity transmission system operators. Define present and future interconnection needs (for the establishment of an integrated electricity market) from the technical, economic and financial perspectives. Study operational issues concerning cross-border exchange and congestion management practices; monitor electricity exchange activities among member countries, propose general rules/guidelines for electricity exchange in the Mediterranean. Establish a road map to implement the cross border trade guidelines. Establish a Mediterranean Electricity Market Observatory (MEMO) for monitoring evolutions in national and regional markets as well as sub-regional market development.

Activity and Deliverable	Year	Referent Regulator
1. Deliverable: Electricity Market Observatory Report (2018 data) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Execution Activity: Study Visit for Ministry of Energy Tunisia - Study visit on management of cross-border interconnections Execution Activity: Seminar for PUA (Israel) - Monitoring of transmission activities and definition of a market design 	2019	CRE, EgyptERA and ELE WG members
	1 st half 2019	INS WG in collaboration with ELE WG
	2 nd half 2019	INS WG in collaboration with ELE WG
2. Deliverable: Survey on Regulatory Practices on Handling Technical and Non-Technical Losses of electricity	2019	Provide support the CUS WG on the finalisation of the report

5.3 Working Group on Gas (GAS)

The GAS Group assesses the current status of natural gas and LNG markets in Mediterranean countries, their relevant regulatory frameworks and possible evolutions. The Group elaborates Guidelines of Good Practice (GGP) and recommendations that can lead to the development of an integrated, competitive, secure and effective gas market in the region.

Working Group on Gas Issues (GAS)	
Objectives 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of an integrated gas market framework; development of gas infrastructures plans in MEDREG countries detailing existing infrastructures and new investments needs • Identify proper means for increasing member countries' security of supply through an increased diversification of gas sources and routes, as well as the development of liquid markets. • Assess the evolution of cross-border exchange capacities and gas storage, which are the steps for a better market integration. Monitoring of the transparency of market information and services, as well as the quality of supply to consumers • Promote the creation of a regional cooperation network among Mediterranean gas infrastructure operators on the model of Med-TSO in the gas sector.
Main Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study the present and future infrastructure needs from the technical, economic and financial perspectives, to reach a double objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the establishment of a regional integrated gas market; ○ the improvement of the security of supply within the region • Study methodologies for non-discriminatory TPA to gas infrastructure (including definition of gas transport/transit services, congestion management, UIOLI provisions, operational issues, role, responsibilities and rights of the shippers and system operators) • Analyse cross-border capacities and gas storage in the context of increasing market integration • Benchmark of the tariff methodologies in MEDREG countries: improve and expand national tariff methodologies

Activity and Deliverable	Year	Referent Regulator
<p>1. Deliverable: Monitoring of compliance with the Guidelines of Good Practice (GGP) on Transparency for gas in MEDREG countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execution Activity: Training for GasReg (Egypt) - Monitoring of the transmission and distribution segments of the gas market • Execution Activity: Annual Forum on the liberalization of the gas markets and integration of RES within the grids 	<p>2019</p> <p>2nd half 2019</p> <p>2nd half 2019</p>	<p>EMRA, RAE, EMRC, Egyptian Gas Regulator Authority and Secretariat</p> <p>INS WG in collaboration with Gas WG</p> <p>GAS WG in collaboration with RES WG</p>

5.4 Working Group on Environment, Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Efficiency (RES)

The RES Group focuses on the legislative and regulatory mechanisms used to promote renewable electricity generation and energy efficiency and RES deployment in the Mediterranean area, with attention to off-grid solutions and independent power producers (IPPs).

Working Group on Environment, Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Efficiency (RES)	
Objectives 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of harmonised regulatory options to promote RES in a cost-effective way; implementation of advanced distributed generation, grid parity and net metering frameworks in Mediterranean electricity systems.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of the costs associated with the fulfilment of national RES targets and Promote the exchange of information, knowledge and experiences • Assessment of the social impact associated with RES promotion and development in each member country and when required the WG will study the best options to promote RES in isolated systems
Main Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benchmarking RES electricity (update 2018 data) • Analyse improvement of energy efficiency by smart grids, smart metering and energy service companies and the cost that such an improvement in network • Analyse main regulatory mechanisms like: environment protection; promotion of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) and Combined Heat and Power (CHP); energy efficiency promotion including integration to the grids and smart metering issues and their impact of costs • Promote the exchange of information, knowledge and experiences and evaluate the results of the different mechanisms in the national contexts, analysing success factors and critical issues • Analyse the possible effects of the introduction at a national level of successful RES mechanisms adopted in other countries

Activity and Deliverable	Year	Referent Regulator
1. Deliverable: Analysis of auction mechanisms to promote RES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execution Activity: Workshop for CREG (Algeria) – Progress in the development of RES auctions • Execution Activity: RES Workshop to present several case studies on auction management to be organized back to back GA • Execution Activity: Annual Forum on the liberalization of the gas markets and integration of RES within the grids 	<p>2019</p> <p>2nd half 2019</p> <p>2nd half 2019</p> <p>2nd half 2019</p>	<p>CERA, CNMC and Secretariat support</p> <p>INS WG in collaboration with RES WG</p> <p>INS WG in collaboration with RES WG</p> <p>GAS WG in collaboration with RES WG</p>

5.5 Working Group on Consumer Issues (CUS)

The Consumer Issues WG works on enhancing the protection of household consumers in the MEDREG countries. That includes surveys and recommendations on energy billing, consumer protection and information. The CUS WG also identifies and promotes best practices in consumer protection, including vulnerable customers and quality of service for electricity and gas from the point of view of final consumers.

Working Group on Consumer Issues (CUS)	
Objectives 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and diffusion of best practices in the management of final consumers • Support the establishment of an integrated consumer protection framework in the Mediterranean energy sector • Enhance stakeholders' engagement in the regulation process, such as consumer associations

Main Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update MEDREG recommendations on the minimal requirements to ensure consumer protection in the Mediterranean region • Compare existing procedures and regulation on energy billing to final consumers in the Mediterranean energy market • Compare existing experience in consumer education and information to final consumers in the Mediterranean energy market • Analysis of existing policy instruments targeted to vulnerable consumers, including a survey of "vulnerability" definitions at national level; analysis of the potential role for energy regulators in this field • Analysis of consumers' engagements in the regulatory process, including a survey of existing consumers associations.
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Activity and Deliverable	Year	Referent Regulator
1. Deliverable: Survey on Regulatory Practices on Handling Technical and Non-Technical Losses of electricity	2019	CUS WG members and Secretariat support
Trilateral workshop with ECRB and CEER on Consumer Issues	2019	CUS WG members and Secretariat support

5.6 Task Force on Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Energy Platforms

Recognizing the importance of addressing energy challenges, governments of Mediterranean countries and the EU, have decided to work together towards the enhancement of synergies in the fields of renewable energy and energy efficiency, integration of electricity markets and gas in the Mediterranean region. It is in this spirit that the UfM Senior Official Meeting (SOM) approved the establishment of three UfM high-level Energy Platforms in March 2015:

1. The **UfM Regional Electricity Market Platform** (UfM REM Platform) for promoting gradual establishment of regional and sub-regional inter-connected electricity markets.
2. The **UfM Gas Platform** (UfM Gas Platform) for reinforcing the security of gas supply and regional gas exchanges.
3. The **UfM Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Platform** (UfM REEE Platform) for assisting the deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and projects.

The idea of integrating and providing a compatibility to the approaches in the electricity and gas markets, and deployment of renewable energies of different countries lies in the assumption that a common view on regional basis is more effective than fragmented national ones in delivering benefits in terms of more secure, more stable and more affordable energy supply. In particular, the potential for regional electricity trade among UfM countries and sub regions is considerable, given the great complementarity of supply and demand structure across the region.

Task Force on Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Energy Platforms	
Objectives 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributing to the integration of Mediterranean electricity markets, which fosters enhanced deployment of renewable energies and energy efficiency; and, • Contributing to the gradual development of a Euro-Mediterranean gas market

Main Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the UfM Energy Platforms (electricity, gas, and renewables) process in accordance with the MEDREG Strategy and Action Plan, and in conjunction with relevant working groups; • Drafting a joint work program together with Med-TSO for the Integration of the electricity markets, and following deliverables; • Contributing to the preparation of reports, work plans, activities, etc. of secretariats and/or animators of UfM Energy Platforms; • Identifying additional studies and a timeline for updates along this process.
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Activity and Deliverable	Year	Referent Regulator
1. Deliverable: MEDREG Provide technical input to the implementation of the UfM REM Platform work programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity: Support to the identification and implementation of any sub-regional pilot projects for market and system integration 	2019	MEDREG Secretariat coordinator
	2019	MEDREG Secretariat coordinator