



Under the Patronage of

**H.E. Prof. Dr. Alexander Van der Bellen**  
**Federal President of the Republic of Austria**

**10<sup>th</sup> ARAB-AUSTRIAN ECONOMIC FORUM & EXHIBITION**

**Conference on:**  
**Energy Transition – Urban Technology and Sustainable Cities**  
**New Opportunities for International Cooperation and Partnerships**

**1 -2 October 2018**  
**Vienna, Austria**

Organised by:

**Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC)      Vienna Business Agency (VBA) / City of Vienna**

**Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE)**

In cooperation with:

**Union of the Mediterranean (UfM)**

**The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**

**Union of Arab Chambers**



**UNITED NATIONS  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION**

## **1. Background**

The Arab-Austrian Economic Forum & Exhibition is a yearly event organized every time on a specific topic of mutual interest between the Arab countries, Austria and Europe. It aims at exchanging views, experiences and technologies in that field in particular and to strengthen the economic relations and cooperation in general.

## **2. Introduction:**

The sustainable use of energy is a central question in modern global societies. Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency have become major factor for effective urban planning for Sustainable Development. This applies not only in rural (off-grid) areas, but also particularly in highly populated areas. Topics like access to energy, sustainable mobility, public utilities, distributed generation; passive housing and design of urban communities are depending on the efficient use of energy.

A wide range of innovative technologies are available mostly all over the world, but that does not guarantee the best solution for the very specific demands of each city. Therefore, the process of exploring and planning the most suitable solutions in cooperation with stakeholders from business, administration and policy is gaining crucial importance for the decision itself, but even more so for the implementation and smooth management and operation of these new systems. Such inclusive processes increase acceptance, ownership and ongoing prosperity of cities.

Europe and the Arab region share close geographic proximity and are both affected by the impacts of climate change. Urban agglomerations in large capitals of the region call for energy efficient solutions and enhancement of innovation to improve livelihoods. This leads to the development of new technologies for the sustainable use of resources and diversification of energy sources in the region.

Austria has an outstanding expertise in these areas, and new programmes and projects for the effective use of energy and new urban developments are launched in many Arab countries.

## **3. Objective of the 10<sup>th</sup> Forum:**

The forum will focus to bring in decisions makers, investors, financing institutions, manufacturers, think tanks and experts to work together to fill the missing link to upscale projects building on technology and knowledge transfer. It will focus on the tools and the enablers for fostering climate change mitigation measures in relation to energy sector. This will be based on the well presentation of the energy status in the Arab region and discussing different future scenarios for its transition. The discussion will involve different stakeholders to clarify their roles for guaranteed implementation of sustainable energy projects.

This year, the forum aims at:

- Highlighting and analysing energy profile in the Euro-Arab region showing the current transition and the needs for future actions.
- Building up partnerships to promote investments, financing and up-scaling sustainable energy projects via strengthening the cooperation with private sectors in the mentioned regions. This shall be facilitated by launching and promoting a “High Level Policy Dialogue” (HLPD) between Europe and Arab countries.
- Identifying related financial tools, incentives and investment development: funds, benefits, challenges, potential areas for future investment etc.
- The exchange of experiences, technologies and solutions for modern and sustainable urban developments.

#### **4. Structure of the forum:**

The Forum is designed in one ministerial and three main sessions; the first one will give an overview on the energy sector within the Euro-Arab context. The second session will discuss focus on the establishing of the HLPD gathering investors, financing institutions and energy agencies. The HLPD will be considered as a platform to promote the use of RE&EE in the region and through fostering climate change mitigation measures via meaningful partnerships between Europe and the Arab countries. The HLPD aims to come up with a well-articulated and well-studied list of bankable and realistic projects ideally based on NDCs<sup>1</sup> of the southern Mediterranean countries with the aim of benefiting from the GCF and all other concessional financing initiatives for financing relevant Climate Action.

The third session will be focusing on urban planning and sustainable cities and will discuss the role of cities in future transition towards green economies and sustainable development.

This is illustrated through the following topics:

- Energy outlook of the world, EU and the southern region,
- Future energy transition scenarios and socio-economic consequences
- Climate finance to promote mitigation and adaptation measures
- Enhancing partnership between energy services providers, IFIs, investors, think tanks, governmental and intergovernmental organizations and decisions makers.
- Investments, risk mitigation and increase projects bankability enabling factors.
- Building partnership and energy synergies.
- Urban planning for local authorities
- Sustainable cities

#### **5. Organisers:**

##### **5.1. Organizers:**

- Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC)
- Vienna Business Agency (VBA) / City of Vienna
- Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE)

##### **5.2. Cooperation partner:**

- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)

##### **5.3. Supporters:**

- OFID (OPEC Fund for International Development)
- Government of the Netherlands
- League of Arab States
- European Commission
- Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy, Arab Republic of Egypt
- MEDENER
- Related semi-governmental institutions

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<sup>1</sup> National Determined Contributions

## **6. Target Groups & Partnering Institutions:**

Private sector groups, government authorities, financial and research institutions from Arab States are the expected target beneficiaries, namely:

- Related Ministries and official institutions;
- Union of Arab Chambers (UAC);
- Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC);
- Regional and local chambers in Arab countries;
- Embassies and diplomatic representations;
- Local governments and Municipalities;
- European Union (EU)/European-Mediterranean Assemblies for Energy, Environment and Water (EUROMED);
- Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization (AIDMO);
- Investment authorities & institutions, Investors and funds;
- Universities, Educational Institutions and Research institutions;
- Companies and Corporate Leaders;
- Major developmental organizations and financial institutions;
- MSME agencies;
- Chambers of Commerce, Business Associations and entrepreneur's networks;
- Technology providers;
- Others

## **7. Exhibition:**

Display of companies, enterprises and international institutions in various fields together with the diplomatic representations of Arab countries in Austria, offering special opportunities to meet with the business community and establish personal contacts.

## **8. Dates and Venue**

The Conference is scheduled for:

1 October 2018:

Vienna City Hall,  
Friedrich-Schmidt-Platz 1  
1010 Vienna, Austria

2 October 2018:

Sight visits in Vienna

## **9. Language:**

English

## **10. Tentative Agenda:**

### **Monday, 1 October 2018 | Conference & Exhibition**

VENUE: Festival Hall / open to public

9:00 Registration & Networking Coffee

9:00 – 16:00 Exhibition

**09:30 - 10:15 Opening of the Conference**

**10:15 – 11:00 Panel Discussion:  
Ministerial Level Dialogue**

11:00 - 11:15 Break

**11:15 - 12:30 Session I: Investment Enabling Environment  
“First Round of High Level Policy Dialogue”;**

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch break

VENUE: Nordbuffet / open to public

**13:30 -14:45 Session II:  
Energy Outlook; Innovations and Markets**

14:45 -15:00 Coffee break

**15:00 -16:15 Session III:  
Smart Urban Management / How to implement Innovation;**

16:15 End of the Conference

**16:30 – 17:30 B2B Meetings**

VENUE: Festival Hall / by invitation only

19:30 Welcome Reception

**20:00 Gala Dinner**

### **Tuesday, 2 October 2018 | Programme**

Sight visits and practical presentations of renewable projects in Vienna

## **11. Invited Personalities & Potential Speakers:**

- **H.E. Senator Dr. Richard Schenz**, President of the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce
- **H.E. Dr. Ahmad Maiteeq**, Vice-President of the Government of National Accordance, Libya
- **H.E. Dr. Michael Ludwig**, Governor and Mayor of Vienna (tbc)
- **H.E. Mr. Li Yong**, Director General of United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- **H.E. Mr. Miguel Arias Canete**, Commissioner of the European Union for Climate Action and Energy
- **H.E. Mr. Karmenu Vella**, Commissioner of the European Union for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
- **H.E. Dr. Kamal Ali**, Assistant Secretary General and Head of Economic Affairs, League of Arab States
- **H.E. Mr. Mohamed Shaker Al Marqabi**, Minister of Electricity and Renewable Energy, Egypt
- **H.E. Mr. Khaled Kaddour**, Minister of Energy, Mines and Renewable Energies, Tunisia
- **H.E. Mr. Cesar Abi Khalil**, Minister of Energy and Water, Lebanon
- **H.E. Dr. Ann Nafi Aussi Balbool**, Minister of Construction and Housing, Iraq
- **H.E. Mr. Zafer Melhem**, Chairman of the Palestinian Energy and Natural Resources Authority (PENRA), Palestine
- **H.E. Mr. Abdullah El Akwaa**, Minister of Energy, Yemen
- **H.E. Ms. Hala Zawati**, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources, Jordan
- **H.E. Sheikh Nawwaf Ben Hamad Al Khalifah**, Executive Director, Electricity and Water Authority, Bahrain
- **H.E. Dr. Zekra Mohamed Jaber Alloush**, Governor of Baghdad, Iraq
- **H.E. Dr. Margarete Schramböck**, the Federal Minister for Economy and Digital Affairs of the Republic of Austria
- **H.E. Ambassador Dr. Johannes Peterlik**, Secretary General for Foreign Affairs at the Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria
- **H.E. Senator Nael Al-Kabariti**, President of the Union of Arab Chambers, Lebanon
- **H.E. Mr. Muhammed Abdo Said**, President of the Federation of Yemeni Chambers of Commerce & Industry & designated President of the Union of Arab Chambers, Lebanon
- **H.E. Dr. Khaled Hanafi**, Secretary General of the Union of Arab Chambers, Lebanon
- **H.E. Mr. Mohammed Raied**, President of the General Libyan Union of Chambers, Libya
- **H.E. Dr. Mustafa Al-Hiti**, Head of the Reconstruction Fund for Areas Affected by Terroristic Operations
- **H.E. Mr. Suleiman Al-Herbish**, Director General of OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)
- **H.E. Prof. Stefan Schennach**, Member of the Federal Council of the Austrian Parliament / Member of the Council of Europe – Head of the Committee for social matters, health and sustainability / Chairman of the working group für energy, environment and water of the Union of the Mediterranean (UfM)
- **Mr. Dawood Al-Shezawi**, President of Annual Investment Meeting, Dubai
- **Dr. Eugen Antalovsky**, CEO, Urban Innovation Vienna, City of Vienna
- **Univ. Prof. Dr. Margarete Rammerstorfer**, University Professor for Energy Markets and Investments, Vienna University of Economics and Business
- **Dr. Barbara Flügge**, Head of Smart Logistics Initiative, SAP AG
- **Dipl.-Ing. Thomas Madreiter**, Director of Urban Planning, City of Vienna
- **Mr. Osama Bishai**, CEO and Executive Director, Orascom Construction
- **Ms. Manar Al Moneef**, President & CEO, Renewable Energy MENAT at General Electric
- **Eng. Emad Ghaly**, CEO, Siemens North Africa
- **Mr. Sami Rabie**, Acciona, Middle East
- **Mr. Ahmed El Sewedy**, President and CEO, Sewedy Electric

- **Mr. Giuseppe De Beni**, CEO and Managing Director, Italgen
- **Mr. Chris Antonopoulos**, CEO, Lekela Power
- **Mr. Hassan Aly Amin**, Country Development Director - Acwa Power
- **Dr. Daniel Schroth**, Adviser to the Vice-President for Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth-AFDB
- **Mr. Caspar Herzberg**, President of Middle East and Africa Region, Schneider Electric S.E.
- **Mr. Zaher Tawil**, Global Product and Solutions Manager- Canada, Schneider Electric
- **Mr. Mohamed Saad**, Country President Egypt, Schneider Electric
- **Ms. Linda Broekhuizen**, acting CEO and Chief Investment Officer, FMO
- **Mr. Walid Abdel Wahab**, IsDB Islamic Development Bank Group
- **Mr. Ahmed El Qabani**, DB Islamic Development Bank Group
- **Ms. Lantita Barchet**, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- **Mr. Hafez Ghanem**, World Bank
- **Ms. Joyce Liyan**, European Investment Bank (EIB)
- **Ms. Giovanna Ceglie**, Director and UNIDO Representative MENA, UNIDO
- **Mr. Tareq Emtairah**, Director, Department of Energy, UNIDO
- **Mr. Khalid Abdelshafi**, Director UNDP energy hub for Arab states, UNDP
- **Ms. Anne-Charlotte Bournoville**, Head of International Relations and Enlargement, Directorate General for Energy, European Commission
- **Mr. Dario Chello**, Secretary General, MEDENER
- **Mr. Mohamed Hakim**, ESCWA
- **Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Mikhlaifi**, Secretary General, Ghorfa
- **Mr. Jorge Borrego**, Deputy Secretary General for Energy and Climate Action, Union of the Mediterranean
- **Mr. Shinichi Kitaoka**, President, Japan International Cooperation Agency
- **Ms. Fabiana Rodrigues**, Associate Program Officer, UNFCCC
- **Ms. Roshni Dave**, Partnership Development Advisor, UN Electric
- **Mr. Fatih Birol**, Executive Director, International Energy Agency (IEA)
- **Ms. Houda Allal**, General Director, Observatoire Meditteraneen de l'Energie (OME)
- **Mr. Adnan Amin**, Director General, IRENA
- **Ms. Rachel Kyte**, Chief Executive Officer, SE4ALL Initiative
- **Ms. Rana Adib**, Ren 21
- **Mr. Hans-Martin Neumann**, Thematic Coordinator, Urban and Regional Transformation, Center for Energy, Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT)
- **Mr. Mark Lister**, Head of Centre, Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency
- **Mr. Johannes Benigni**, Director JBC Energy Asia
- **Mr. Roberto VIGOTTI**, Secretary General, RES4MED
- **Ms. Myriem Touhami**, Programme Manager, UN Environment
- **Ms. Elham Mahmoud**, Vice President Africa, World Energy Council
- **N.N.**

## 12. Registration

### FOR VISITORS:

- The participation in the **Forum & Exhibition** is **free of charge**.
- Registration is **required** through following link: [Registration Link](#) or by e-mail to [headoffice@aacc.at](mailto:headoffice@aacc.at)
- NB: Participation in the Gala Dinner & Site Visits are **by invitation only**

### FOR EXHIBITORS / SPONSORS:

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