



RENEWABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS
FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

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RES4MED ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*“Innovation as the key enabler
to power Africa”*



5th Anniversary of RES4MED

22nd May 2017, Rome

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RES4MED celebrates 5th year Anniversary with a new strategic focus on innovation

ROME, May 22, 2017 – Each year, RES4MED hosts its Annual Conference in Rome gathering partners and stakeholders for a thematic dialogue on current renewable energy affairs. The 2017 Annual Conference marked RES4MED’s 5th Anniversary, which convened over 200 guests on 22 May 2017 in the Enel Auditorium. Besides looking back at 5 years RES4MED, this years’ conference focused on how innovation is impacting the energy sector’s strategic thinking on renewable energy deployment in African markets.

The conference was opened by Mr. Roberto Vigotti, Secretary General of RES4MED, who said that it is essential to move from a eurocentric approach to one aimed at creating an equal dialogue with the partners of the African continent. "An approach that was further opened and extended last year, when RES4Africa was born," explained Mr. Vigotti.



During his speech, Mr. Francesco Starace, CEO of Enel, underlined “how access to clean, affordable and reliable energy services is fundamental to drive sustainable economic growth in Africa”. Because Africa’s energy challenges are so diverse, a mix of large-scale projects, decentralized solutions, and grid enhancements will be key to unleashing the continent’s sustainable economic transformation and sustainable development. To unlock that enormous potential, challenges in African markets such as weak grid infrastructure and lacking interconnection, expected pushback from incumbents, and socio-development challenges will have to be overcome. “Indeed, renewables themselves can play a key role in this transition”, concluded Mr. Starace.

"There is an urgent need to accelerate renewable energy deployment in Africa – said Mr. Antonio Cammisecra, CEO of Enel Green Power and President of RES4MED – Yet, renewable energy technologies have gained important momentum thanks to the convergence of drivers such as enabling policy environments, dropping technology costs, improved efficiency, and an enabling context of new global trends”. There are many obstacles, but many innovative solutions are on the horizon. To keep ahead of the curve, Mr. Cammisecra announced that RES4MED and RES4Africa’s next strategic move will focus on incorporating innovation and sustainability into its thematic focus.

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