TeasiMed

TOWARDS AN EFFICIENT, ADEQUATE, SUSTAINABLE AND INTERCONNECTED MEDITERRANEAN POWER SYSTEM

Closing Conference

A project by

Med-TSO

MEDITERRANEAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEM OPERATORS

Co-funded by the European Union

INTEGRATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN POWER SYSTEMS:

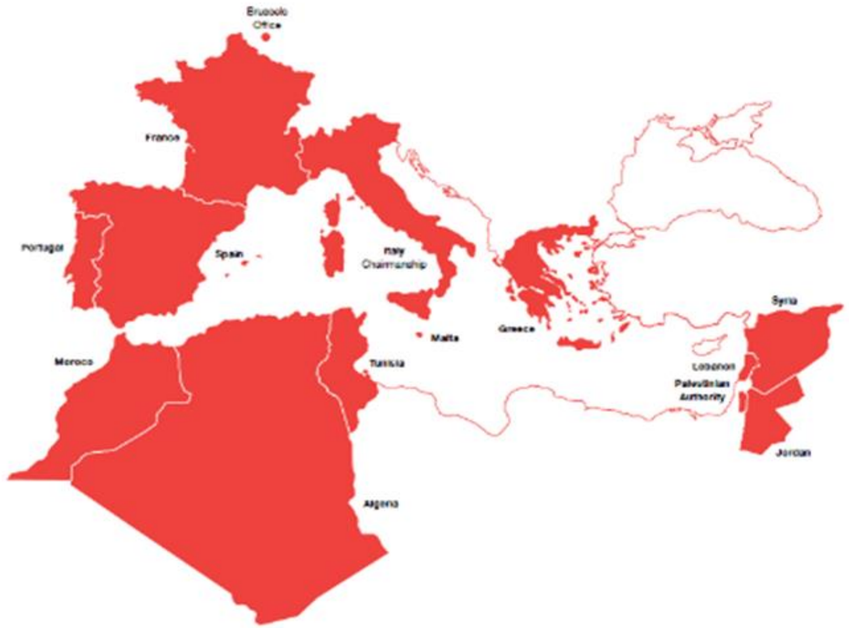
A KEY DRIVER FOR ENERGY TRANSITION

The role of Energy Efficiency

Roberta Boniotti

Secretary General MEDENER

ISC - USO INTERNO / INTERNAL USE



THE MEDENER ASSOCIATION

MEDENER, the Mediterranean Association of National Agencies for energy management, brings together **13 National Energy Agencies** from the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean region, in charge of in charge of implementing public policies on energy efficiency and promotion of renewable energy sources, two key conditions for the success of the energy and climate transition.

Since 1997, MEDENER has facilitated:

- the **sharing of experiences, know-how,** and **best practices** among its members and international partners, through bilateral or multilateral cooperation, **in the areas of EE and RE**
- the **transfer of skills, methods** and **technologies** in the areas of EE and RE
- **design and implementation** of **energy management policies** in the members' Countries

Memorandum of cooperation COMELEC, MEDENER, Med-TSO, OME

UfM REEE Platform MEDENER and RCREEE

The meetMED Project

meetMED Beneficiary Countries: eight SEMCs

The meetMED Regional Expert Network

General Objective:

Contribute to **enhancing energy security** of beneficiary countries while **fostering their transition to low carbon economy**, thereby contributing to more stable, efficient, competitive and climate-resilient socioeconomic contexts.

Objectives phase I (2018-2020):

- Setting the scene: strategies and policies analysis, support to NEEAPs and NREAPs, monitoring EE strategies and policies; focus on most consuming energy sectors in the region (buildings and appliances), training to experts and support to policy makers.

Objectives phase II (2021-2024):

- The massive deployment of RE and EE measures in building and appliances' sectors in the Southern Neighborhood region accelerates the clean energy transition.
- Public awareness on energy's major stakes and challenges increases, thereby fostering public and private sectors' involvement towards more energy efficient buildings and appliances sectors.

Energy Efficiency First: the next challenge for the energy transition in the Euro-Mediterranean region

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION (EU) 2021/1749of 28 September 2021
on **Energy Efficiency First**: from principles to practice — Guidelines and examples for its implementation in **decision-making in the energy sector and beyond**

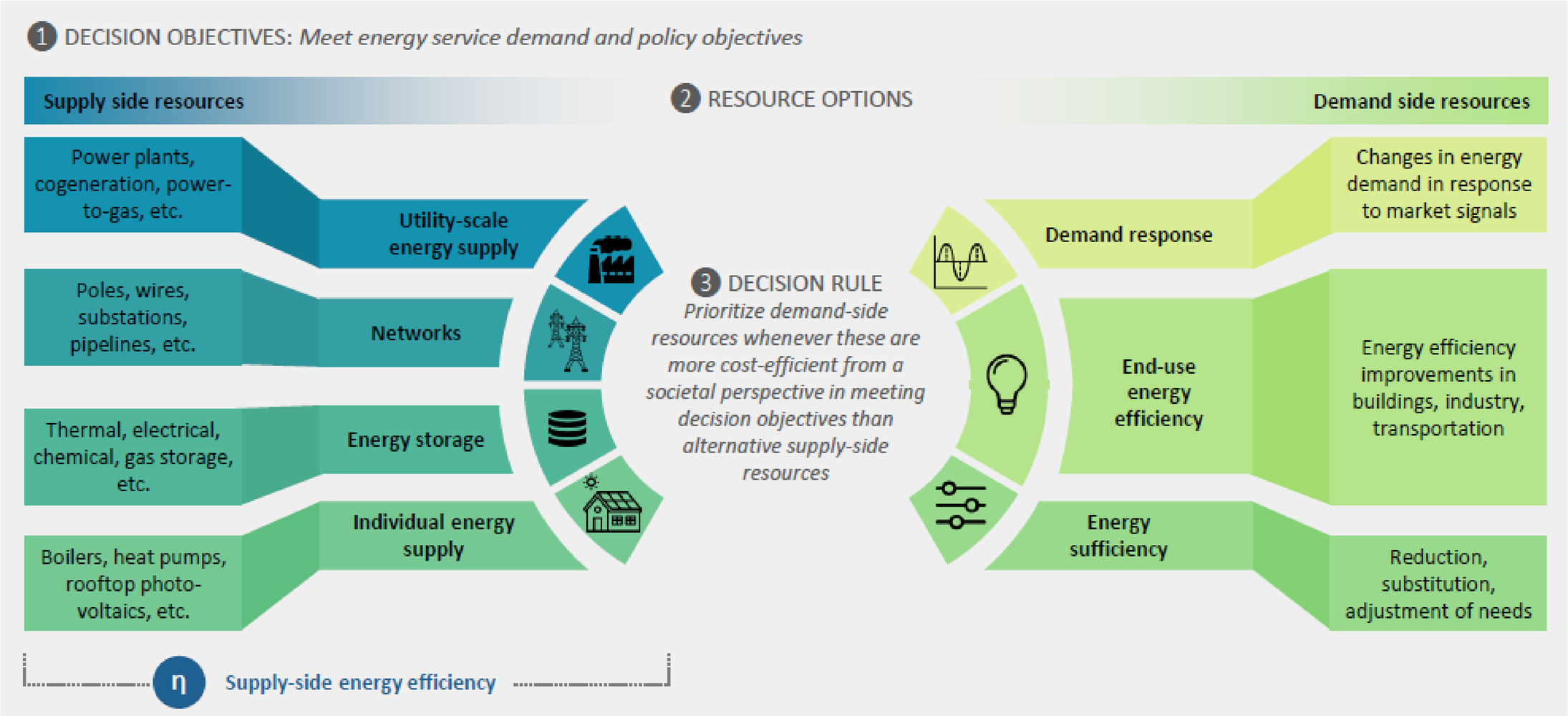
meetMED week 2022:
Experts from 13 Mediterranean countries call for the **EU Energy Efficiency First!** to become a **global principle**

Provisional agreement reached **on 10 March 2023** between the EU Commission, the European Parliament and the Council to **reform and strengthen the EU Energy Efficiency Directive:** for the first time, the **energy efficiency first principle is given legal strength** with a clear requirement for EU countries to take energy efficiency into consideration in **policy, planning and major investment decisions in the energy sector and beyond**

Article 2(18) of the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action:

'energy efficiency first' means taking utmost account in energy planning, and in policy and investment decisions, of alternative cost-efficient energy efficiency measures **to make energy demand and energy supply more efficient**, in particular by means of cost-effective end-use energy savings, demand response initiatives and more efficient conversion, transmission and distribution of energy, **whilst still achieving the objectives of those decisions**

Energy Efficiency First: the next challenge for the energy transition in the Euro-Mediterranean region



Source: ENEFIRST Project – Conceptualisation of the EE&st principle

Energy Efficiency First: the next challenge for the energy transition in the Euro-Mediterranean region

- Making EE1st a reality indeed requires a **systemic approach to policymaking** that goes beyond the classic portfolio of energy efficiency policy: **supply-side and demand-side resources must be considered jointly**.

- To do so, the debate around EE1st should **embrace policies usually related to the 'supply-side'**: these include market design, regulations and incentives for network operators, heat roadmaps, and others.

- And reciprocally, **classic end-use energy efficiency policies** (e.g. renovation programmes, building codes) should **be designed with their potential impacts on the supply of energy** in mind.

- Most of the current policies, both in EU and in the MED region, are not designed around the EE1st principle. The EU countries shall adapt them to reflect EE1st. Its implementation requires dedicated effort from all the stakeholders involved in **policy design, capacity building and cross-cutting cooperation**.

Key messages

*7. Express the political intention to further support **regulatory and policy measures necessary to achieve regional integration of energy systems and markets** in the Euro Mediterranean region, to increase flexibility for accommodating a higher rate of sustainable renewables, to achieve significant economies of scale and to increase security of supply and demand, also by promoting the **reinforcement of electricity interconnections** at regional and EuroMed level promoting adequate support schemes and streamlining administrative procedures in Euro-Mediterranean region*

The third UfM Ministerial Declaration on Energy 2021

- **Applying the Energy Efficiency First principle** across sectoral policies and investment decisions is **at the core of energy system integration**.
- The EE1st principle applies to planning, policy and investment decisions **having impact on energy consumption and energy supply**.
- The application of the EE1st principle should be **based on evidence**, which requires proper **verification, monitoring and evaluation of impacts**, in particular on energy consumption, **of the decisions taken**.

THANK YOU!

TEASIMED Closing Conference
Brussels, 15 march 2023

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