

**Solarplan.pdf -- News of the "Solar Plan"** ("Plan Solaire" / "Solarplan") of the **"Union for the Mediterranean"** ("Union pour la Méditerranée" / "Union für das Mittelmeer")

Short Summary:

**\*\* The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) has been founded -- The Solar Plan has been adopted \*\***

TREC has been invited by the French government to support their preparations (concerning DESERTEC) for the Head of States Conference in July about the proposed Union for the Mediterranean. At our Forum "10,000 Solar GigaWatts" at Hanover Fair 2008, Antoine-Tristan Mocilnikar (Le Responsable Environnement & Développement durable Mission Union pour la Méditerranée, Présidence de la République Française) answered the question "Can a Union for the Mediterranean Accelerate the Transition to Solar Energy?". The Video Documentation is available at [www.Energy1.tv](http://www.Energy1.tv)

In July, German Chancellor Angela Merkel presented the solar plan to the UfM conference in Paris (positive reactions in press e.g. by Heads of States of UK, Tunisia, Algeria). German newspaper "Handelsblatt" quotes a paper: 20GW by 2020, electricity exports to Europe planned, in autumn German BMU Minister Sigmar Gabriel (SPD) plans an international conference about the solar plan in Berlin.

Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean (Paris, 13 July 2008):

"The recent activity on energy markets in terms of both supply and demand, confirms the need to focus on alternative energy sources. Market deployment as well as research and development of all alternative sources of energy are therefore a major priority in efforts towards assuring sustainable development. The Secretariat is tasked to explore the feasibility, development and creation of a Mediterranean Solar Plan." Its composition, size and location will be decided at a November meeting of foreign affairs ministers. So far there are no official news concerning the foundation of the Secretariat.

German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier suggested that a feasibility study should be started in autumn about building solar plants in the deserts of North Africa and transmission to Europe. He said: "It [the solar plan] is a project that is particularly close to my heart".

The new study may build on the studies MED-CSP, AQUA-CSP and especially TRANS-CSP by Dr. Franz Trieb from the German Aerospace Center (DLR).

An interesting article by Associated Press in the media in Saudi Arabia:

<http://www.gulfinthemedia.com/index.php?lang=en&m=&id=425936>

**Till 2008/07/24 | 3:30 pm | Source: [www.DESERTEC.org](http://www.DESERTEC.org) – "Clean Power from Deserts"**

[http://www.businessnews.com.tn/home/view\\_article\\_Business?=&a=1070715](http://www.businessnews.com.tn/home/view_article_Business?=&a=1070715)

Du côté de l'énergie, le fort potentiel solaire dont dispose la Méditerranée permet de satisfaire les besoins et de répondre aux défis énergétiques de la région. Partant du fait que la demande d'énergie du Sud et de l'Est de la Méditerranée est quatre fois plus élevée que celle du Nord, il a été décidé d'établir un Plan Solaire pour la Méditerranée. Celui-ci nécessite une forte participation du secteur privé, et l'exportation d'une partie de la production vers l'Europe, avec pour objectif de garantir la rentabilité du projet.

<http://www.commodityonline.com/news/Britain-wants-more-electric-vehicles-in-Europe-10564-3-1.html>

By Gordon Brown

...And now I believe it is time for a major investment in the development of solar power.

The IEA suggests that additional investment of up to 215 million square meters of solar panels will be needed every year to 2050. And particularly in the Mediterranean region, concentrated solar power offers the prospect of an abundant low carbon energy source.

Indeed, just as Britain's North Sea could be the Gulf of the future for offshore wind, so those sunnier countries represented here could become a vital source of future global energy by harnessing the power of the sun.

So I am delighted that that the EU is committing at this summit to work with its neighbours - including Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and the League of Arab States - to explore the development of a new 'Mediterranean Solar Plan' for the development and deployment of this vital technology from the Sahara northwards. ...

**Till 2008/07/18 | 11:30 am | Source: [www.DESERTEC.org](http://www.DESERTEC.org) – "Clean Power from Deserts"**

<http://www.letemps.ch/template/editoriaux.asp?page=1&article=235987>

Le plan solaire présenté par l'Allemagne, qui vise à valoriser l'immensité désertique saharienne, est à ce titre emblématique d'une vision audacieuse et d'une complémentarité exemplaire entre le Nord et le Sud. La maxime se vérifie: ce sont bien les idées et les nécessités qui font avancer le monde.

<http://lexpressiondz.com/article/2/2008-07-14/54396.html>

A propos de l'énergie solaire, il (Abdelaziz Bouteflika, président de la république d'Algérie) souligne que «mon pays se réjouit qu'un plan solaire méditerranéen figure en bonne place dans la liste des tout premiers projets de l'Union pour la Méditerranée». Interpellé sur les investissements directs européens dans la rive Sud, il affirme que le développement et la prospérité sont conditionnés par «des investissements massifs et productifs, et s'accompagnant d'un transfert de technologie».

**Till 2008/07/16 | 7:00 pm | Source: [www.DESERTEC.org](http://www.DESERTEC.org) – "Clean Power from Deserts"**

<http://www.vorwaerts.de/magazin/artikel.php?artikel=7545&type=2&menuid=359&topmenu=359>

Deutschland soll die Auftragsleitung für die Nutzung von Sonnenenergie ("Solarplan") erhalten, eine Machbarkeitsstudie legt Berlin im Herbst vor.

<http://www.continentalnews.fr/actualite/editorial,145/en-soleil-avec-l-allemande,581.html>

Il existe un projet allemand d'exploitation de l'énergie solaire, avec un câble qui va du Sahara à l'Allemagne, qui fait rêver. L'Algérie, qui ne manque ni de soleil ni d'espace, peut, avec l'Allemagne, emprunter cette voie prometteuse.

**Till 2008/07/15 | 7:30 pm | Source: [www.DESERTEC.org](http://www.DESERTEC.org) – "Clean Power from Deserts"**

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/output/Page15948.asp>

Prime Minister Gordon Brown: "... in the Mediterranean region, concentrated solar power offers the prospect of an abundant low carbon energy source. Indeed, just as Britain's North Sea could be the Gulf of the future for offshore wind, so those sunnier countries represented here could become a vital source of future global energy by harnessing the power of the sun. So I am delighted that the EU is committing at this summit to work with its neighbours "including Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and the League of Arab States" to explore the development of a new 'Mediterranean Solar Plan' for the development and deployment of this vital technology from the Sahara northwards."

<http://www.la-kabylie.com/actu/dossiers/dossier-993-la-chanceliere-angela-merkel-demain-alger.html>

La Chancelière Angela Merkel demain à Alger

AHK Algérie devra organiser, en octobre 2008, la première Foire algéro-allemande sur l'environnement, l'eau et les énergies renouvelables. Alger et Berlin sont liés, depuis le début 2008, par un accord de coopération dans le secteur de l'énergie solaire. Il porte notamment sur l'extension d'un câble solaire de 3000 km entre Adrar, au sud algérien, et la ville allemande d'Aachen. Le projet est estimé à deux milliards d'euros.

L'Allemagne, leader mondial dans le domaine des énergies nouvelles, comme l'éolien et le solaire, aide l'Algérie à construire une centrale électrique hybride gaz/solaire, dans la région de Hassi R'mel (Laghouat).

**Till 2008/07/14 | 8:30 pm | Source: [www.DESERTEC.org](http://www.DESERTEC.org) – "Clean Power from Deserts"**

[http://newenergyfocus.com/do/ecco.py/view\\_item?listid=1&listcatid=40&listitemid=209](http://newenergyfocus.com/do/ecco.py/view_item?listid=1&listcatid=40&listitemid=209)

The Prime Minister said he believed it was now time for Europe to put a "major investment" into the development solar power, to match the development of wind power in the North Sea.

He said: "Just as Britain's North Sea could be the Gulf of the future for offshore wind, so those sunnier countries represented here could become a vital source of future global energy by harnessing the power of the sun."

Mr Brown said he was pleased that the summit of European and other Mediterranean states had agreed to back the "Mediterranean Solar Plan" put forward by the French Presidency of the EU.

The plan involves the establishment of a "supergrid" in North Africa and the Middle East to develop concentrating solar power plants (CSP) and potentially wind turbines as well, selling generated energy to Europe.

A separate Italian-German plan is proposing a new high-voltage transmission line to link up Africa and southern Europe.

He said of the French plan: "I am delighted that that the EU is committing at this summit to work with its neighbours - including Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and the League of Arab States - to explore the development of a new 'Mediterranean Solar Plan' for the development and deployment of this vital technology from the Sahara northwards."

<http://www.wienerzeitung.at/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabID=3857&Alias=wzo&cob=360787>

Offen blieben in Paris nicht unwesentliche Details, darunter die Frage des Sitzes des Sekretariats der Mittelmeer-Union, die genauen Modalitäten für den Vorsitz und die Finanzierung. Darüber sollen am 9. November die Außenminister in Marseille entscheiden.

Auf einen Kompromiss einigten sich die Gipfelteilnehmer in der Frage der künftigen Rolle der Arabischen Liga: Diese bekommt zwar keinen offiziellen Beobachterstatus, wird aber als "permanenter Gast" zu den Treffen der Mittelmeerunion eingeladen.

"Geld ist genug da, woran es mangelt ist Vertrauen", sagten Sarkozy und Mubarak unisono auf Fragen nach der Finanzierung der Projekte.

**Till 2008/07/14 | 5:00 pm | Source: [www.DESERTEC.org](http://www.DESERTEC.org) – "Clean Power from Deserts"**

[http://www.alpha-2.info/Libyan-Leader-Holds-International-Pres-Conference-on-Union-For-the-Mediterranean-\\_a2039.html](http://www.alpha-2.info/Libyan-Leader-Holds-International-Pres-Conference-on-Union-For-the-Mediterranean-_a2039.html)

**Question from Ali Al Delali from Pana:** Is the union for the Mediterranean a form of European pre-emptive strategy to counter the huge demographic growth on the other flank as 70 percent of the population are less than 25 years old? And does Europe seek greater sun through this union like the Club Med or more control of the solar energy and renewable energy?

**The Leader (Muammar al-Gaddafi):** Yes, We have said we do not know the idea behind this project and what is the moving force behind it. When we met as Arabs in a consultative summit the question was raised: What is behind this project. What is this project for? My brother the Leader said let us go to Paris and see and we may detect the secret behind. This might be the explanation. It might be explained as a colonialist project to control energy sources and to contain these countries and transform them into satellites.

All these explanations are possible. That is why it is a frightening project and is not encouraging because it will go out of Sarkozy's hands and become another European project with many question marks. If the invitation was to celebrate 14 July French Revolution anniversary we would have been the first to accept the invitation and go there to salute the great French historic revolution because it changed many things in the world. It changed a lot of history. But the invitation was to sign the Union for the Mediterranean. And before we studied the idea and before we discussed it and gave our views they designed it and said come to Paris on the 13th and put on what you have designed.

I do not accept a suit that has been designed for me. I wear the suit of my own design.

<http://www.investir-en-tunisie.net/news/article.php?id=4898>

"Il nous plaît de saluer, à cet égard, l'initiative allemande concernant l'adoption d'un "Projet méditerranéen d'énergie solaire".

Nous sommes confiants que l'espace de cette Union nous offrira de réelles opportunités pour le transfert des technologies en direction des pays du Sud et la mise en place de mécanismes financiers adéquats, à des conditions préférentielles qui puissent en faciliter la mise à profit.

C'est pourquoi nous préconisons la création d'un Centre méditerranéen pour le transfert technologique, tout particulièrement en matière d'énergies nouvelles et renouvelables, de dessalement de l'eau de mer et de nano-technologie.

**Till 2008/07/14 | 1:00 pm | Source: [www.DESERTEC.org](http://www.DESERTEC.org) – "Clean Power from Deserts"**

<http://ukpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5g2h7abr1p5GyEnqI2egnuE5hWXmQ>

Pointing to windfarm developments which will this year see the UK overtake Denmark as the country with the largest offshore wind capacity in the world, Mr Brown will say that the North Sea has the potential to become "the Gulf of the future" for wind power. And he (Prime Minister Gordon Brown) will back proposals for a "solar plan" for the Mediterranean, which could make the region a vital source of future global energy by harnessing the power of the sun.

<http://www.turkishdailynews.com.tr/article.php?enewsid=109665>

Mediterranean Solar Plan: The Secretariat is tasked to explore the feasibility, the development and creation of a Mediterranean Solar Plan.

[http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5hgbQHiaLQ0EMHEA\\_vbY\\_TnuP3vFA](http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5hgbQHiaLQ0EMHEA_vbY_TnuP3vFA)

A formal declaration launching the new union was to be issued, laying out the goals and workings of the 43-member organisation.

A draft text obtained by AFP said a joint presidency would be set up, with France and Egypt set to take the first turn, and summits held every two years.

A secretariat will also be created to supervise the projects, but its composition, size and location will not be decided before November.

<http://dailystaregypt.com/article.aspx?ArticleID=15034>

**Club Med in brief:**

**MEMBERS:** The 27 countries of the European Union plus Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Monaco and Montenegro. From North Africa, there is Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia. Turkey will take part along with Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, the Palestinian Authority and Syria.

It represents a combined population of some 765 million people, from the shores of Greenland, to the deserts of Jordan.

**GOALS:** The Union for the Mediterranean is designed to cement Europe in a partnership with North Africa, the Middle East and the Balkans. It upgrades the EU's Barcelona process, launched in 1995, which had been bogged down by disputes over the Arab-Israeli peace process.

**PROJECTS:** Regional projects in six areas are under discussion. They are cleaning up pollution in the Mediterranean, building highways and sea routes, disaster response, developing renewable energies, mainly solar power, boosting higher education and research, and an initiative to help foster business.

**WORKINGS:** The Union for the Mediterranean (UFM) will hold summits every two years, with foreign ministers meeting annually. It will have a co-presidency, to be shared between North and South. Permanent offices are to be set up: a secretariat to manage projects and search for partners, and a joint permanent committee based in Brussels to prepare meetings and react to any unforeseen event that might require a rapid response from the group. – AFP

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/enlargement/paris-summit-inaugurates-mediterranean-union/article-174213>

Expectations are also high that the structure of the Med Union, based on a shared presidency between north and south, will "increase co-ownership" in the process and give it more political authority via regular summits, to be held every two years.

However, the summit evaded contentious issues such as how to finance the projects - for which billions of euros are still to be found - or where to locate the Union's new permanent secretariat, leaving these issues for a November meeting of foreign affairs ministers.

<http://www.mg.co.za/article/2008-07-14-france-launches-med-union-with-high-hopes>

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said she told Assad at a private meeting: "We've heard enough words exchanged, now we want to see deeds."

Merkel, initially hostile to Sarkozy's initiative because the original plan was to exclude northern EU states, said France and Germany planned to host a conference on developing solar energy as a key resource in the Mediterranean region.

Both wanted to promote economic development to help reduce migratory pressure from North Africa to Europe, she said.

French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner identified climate change, the environment, access to water and energy, migration and dialogue between civilisations as key areas for cooperation.

The new organisation aims to pursue practical projects with EU and private sector funding, such as cleaning up the Mediterranean Sea, using North Africa's plentiful sunshine to generate solar power, and building road and sea highways.

Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika told his country's official APS news agency that the union may struggle to finance its projects because it was not clear where the funds will come from. But Sarkozy and Mubarak said money was not a problem.

<http://theseouttimes.com/ST/?url=/ST/db/read.php?idx=6900>

The President of the Republic of Tunisia, H.E Zine El Abidine Ben Ali (...):

We take note, with satisfaction, of the growing international awareness about the gravity of the environmental situation as a result of the intensification of climate change and global warming, and the frequency of natural calamities, which cause victims and famine, and bring about a deterioration of the environment and the attributes of healthy life. (...) This in addition to growing water scarcity throughout the Mediterranean region, which alone requires special attention, in particular, to water desalination and the use of alternative and renewable energies.

In light of the continuous rise of oil prices, we are called upon to think about efficient solutions to alleviate its consequences, one of which being to develop technologies of production of alternative and renewable energies. In this context, we are pleased to commend the German initiative concerning the adoption of a "Mediterranean Project for Solar Energy."

We are convinced that the space of this Union will offer us genuine opportunities for the transfer of technologies toward the countries of the south, and for the establishment of appropriate financial mechanisms, with preferential conditions, to facilitate these countries' access to these technologies. We therefore, call for the creation of a Mediterranean Centre for Technology Transfer, particularly as regards alternative and renewable energies, sea-water desalination and nanotechnology.

[http://www.ue2008.fr/webdav/site/PFUE/shared/import/0713\\_declaration\\_de\\_paris/Joint\\_declaration\\_of\\_the\\_Paris\\_summit\\_for\\_the\\_Mediterranean-EN.pdf](http://www.ue2008.fr/webdav/site/PFUE/shared/import/0713_declaration_de_paris/Joint_declaration_of_the_Paris_summit_for_the_Mediterranean-EN.pdf) (**English**)

[http://www.ue2008.fr/webdav/site/PFUE/shared/import/0713\\_declaration\\_de\\_paris/Joint\\_declaration\\_of\\_the\\_Paris\\_summit\\_for\\_the\\_Mediterranean-AR.pdf](http://www.ue2008.fr/webdav/site/PFUE/shared/import/0713_declaration_de_paris/Joint_declaration_of_the_Paris_summit_for_the_Mediterranean-AR.pdf) (**Arab**)

[http://www.ue2008.fr/webdav/site/PFUE/shared/import/0713\\_declaration\\_de\\_paris/Declatation\\_du\\_sommet\\_de\\_Paris\\_pour\\_la\\_Mediterranee-FR.pdf](http://www.ue2008.fr/webdav/site/PFUE/shared/import/0713_declaration_de_paris/Declatation_du_sommet_de_Paris_pour_la_Mediterranee-FR.pdf) (**French**)

**Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean (Paris, 13 July 2008)**

Alternative Energies: Mediterranean Solar Plan: The recent activity on energy markets in terms of both supply and demand, confirms the need to focus on alternative energy sources. Market deployment as well as research and development of all alternative sources of energy are therefore a major priority in efforts towards assuring sustainable development. The Secretariat is tasked to explore the feasibility, development and creation of a Mediterranean Solar Plan.

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[http://www.domradio.de/aktuell/artikel\\_42980.html](http://www.domradio.de/aktuell/artikel_42980.html)

Die Union soll Vorhaben voranbringen, die für die Partnerländer gleichermaßen von Nutzen sind. Treibende Kraft ist Frankreichs Präsident Nicolas Sarkozy. Ein „Solarplan für das Mittelmeer“ gehört dabei zu den zentralen Vorschlägen, auch wenn die Ideen dazu noch eher vage sind.

Mit Interesse schaut die EU auf das Gebiet rund um die Wüste Sahara, das theoretisch Solarenergie für ganze Kontinente liefern könnte. Europa will ab 2020 ein Fünftel seiner Energie aus erneuerbaren Quellen beziehen und setzt dabei auch auf Importe. Im Gegenzug könnte der Norden Finanzmittel und Spitzentechnologien bereitstellen.

<http://www.handelsblatt.com/politik/international/industrie-erhofft-sich-milliardenauftraege;2010593>

Nachdem die Bundesregierung durchgesetzt hatte, dass auch EU-Staaten, die nichts ans Mittelmeer grenzen, an der Union beteiligt werden, will Deutschland seine Interessen nun vor allem im Solarbereich verfolgen. In einem dem Handelsblatt vorliegenden deutsch-französischen Konzept für einen Solarplan wird als Ziel definiert, bis zum Jahr 2020 rund um das Mittelmeer neue Stromerzeugungs-Kapazitäten im Umfang von 20 Gigawatt aufzubauen. Davon würde vor allem die Solarindustrie, in der deutsche Firmen technologisch führend sind, profitieren.

Im Herbst plant Bundesumweltminister Sigmar Gabriel (SPD) dazu eine internationale Konferenz in Berlin. Im November sollen konkrete Projekte definiert werden. Ausdrücklich wird in dem gemeinsamen Papier darauf hingewiesen, dass es dabei nicht nur um die Energieversorgung der nordafrikanischen Staaten geht, sondern auch um mögliche Stromlieferungen nach Europa. Deshalb soll parallel auch ein länderübergreifendes Stromleitungsnetz aufgebaut werden.

<http://jetzt.sueddeutsche.de/texte/anzeigen/440047>

Die Deutschen legen dabei besonderen Wert auf den "Solarplan für das Mittelmeer". Nach Auskunft von Außenminister Frank-Walter Steinmeier soll noch im Herbst mit einer Machbarkeitsstudie begonnen werden, wie etwa in den Wüstengebieten Nordafrikas in großem Stil Solaranlagen gebaut werden können, die auch Europa mit Strom versorgen. In der Erklärung des Gipfels heißt es dazu, dass die "jüngsten Entwicklungen auf den Energiemärkten" bestätigt hätten, wie notwendig es sei, "sich auf alternative Energiequellen zu konzentrieren."

[http://www.n-](http://www.n-tv.de/Union_im_Mittelmeer_steht_Sarkos_Club_Med_fuer_alle/130720083609/993111.html)

[tv.de/Union\\_im\\_Mittelmeer\\_steht\\_Sarkos\\_Club\\_Med\\_fuer\\_alle/130720083609/993111.html](http://www.n-tv.de/Union_im_Mittelmeer_steht_Sarkos_Club_Med_fuer_alle/130720083609/993111.html)

Außenminister Steinmeier kündigte einen deutsch-französischen «Solarplan» für den Mittelmeerraum an. Im Herbst solle es dazu eine Konferenz unter Leitung beider Länder geben. Konkret gehe es um den Ausbau von Solarkraftwerken rund um das Mittelmeer. «Es ist ein Projekt, das mir besonders am Herzen liegt», sagte Steinmeier.

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<http://www2.canoe.com/infos/international/archives/2008/07/20080713-120652.html>

Lors du sommet de l'UPM, les dirigeants ont décidé d'explorer la création de zones de production d'électricité d'origine solaire dans le pourtour Méditerranéen. Ce plan pourrait s'appuyer sur l'ensoleillement important de la région et sur la croissance de la demande en électricité, liée à celle de la population de la rive sud. Lié à des investissements privés, ce plan devrait être financé en partie par l'achat de cette électricité "propre" par les clients européens.

<http://www.letemps.ch/template/editoriaux.asp?page=1&article=235987>

C'est d'ailleurs pour protéger les intérêts industriels allemands que la chancelière Angela Merkel a tant insisté pour que l'Union pour la Méditerranée soit une initiative collective de l'UE. Le plan solaire présenté par l'Allemagne, qui vise à valoriser l'immensité désertique saharienne, est à ce titre emblématique d'une vision audacieuse et d'une complémentarité exemplaire entre le Nord et le Sud. La maxime se vérifie: ce sont bien les idées et les nécessités qui font avancer le monde.

<http://www.lanouvellerepublique.com/actualite/lire.php?idc=4&ida=66220>

Pour ce qui des perspectives de la coopération dans le domaine de l'énergie dans le cadre de ce projet d'Union pour la Méditerranée, étant donné que notre pays est un des principaux fournisseurs contribuant à la sécurité énergétique de l'Europe, le président de la République, l'Algérie attache une grande importance à la coopération dans ce domaine. Preuve à l'appui, l'Algérie a fait montre de son intention dans ce sens en lançant en direction de l'Europe d'importants projets structurants, participant ainsi à l'émergence d'un marché euro-méditerranéen fondé sur la sécurité de l'approvisionnement mais aussi sur la sécurité de la demande. Seulement, le président Bouteflika a émis le souhait de dépasser le stade d'une relation purement commerciale. Dans ce contexte, il a appuyé ses propos par son souhait de voir mettre en place des accords-cadres à l'effet d'assurer l'éclosion d'un partenariat équilibré et mutuellement bénéfique entre les acteurs économiques des deux rives de la Méditerranée. C'est ce qu'a toujours défini le président Bouteflika comme étant un partenariat gagnant-gagnant. Toujours dans le domaine énergétique, le président Bouteflika estime que la coopération pourrait concerner l'énergie solaire qui est un palliatif aux énergies fossiles, et ce, en raison de l'importance avancée qu'ont enregistrée les énergies renouvelables, entre autres, l'énergie solaire. Dans ce volet, le président Bouteflika a avancé que le plan solaire méditerranéen figure parmi les premiers projets de l'Union pour la Méditerranée.

<http://www.liberation.fr/actualite/monde/338898.FR.php>

Parmi les autres projets, il y a un Plan solaire méditerranéen qui pourrait permettre à l'Union européenne d'importer de l'électricité solaire du sud. L'enjeu de l'Énergie est aussi crucial avec l'objectif de relier les champs gaziers de l'Afrique du Nord au réseau européen.