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"Solar and wind energy projects like DESERTEC show that we have the technologies. We just have to act!" „This is not pie in the sky – this can be done. We [the USA] need to do it for our own economy!"

Al Gore, former Vice President of the USA

"This is a joint project and without the political will to make it work both in the EU and in Northern Africa, the project cannot fly. I am committed to work towards it together with my partners in Northern Africa."

Günther Oettinger, Energy Commissioner of the European Union

"The League of Arab States is very confident that the DESERTEC initiative will certainly add to the previous contributions in the field of promoting renewable energy, reducing carbon dioxide emissions and reducing the gap between conventional resources of energy and renewable ones."

Jamila Matar, Head of Energy Dep., League of Arab States

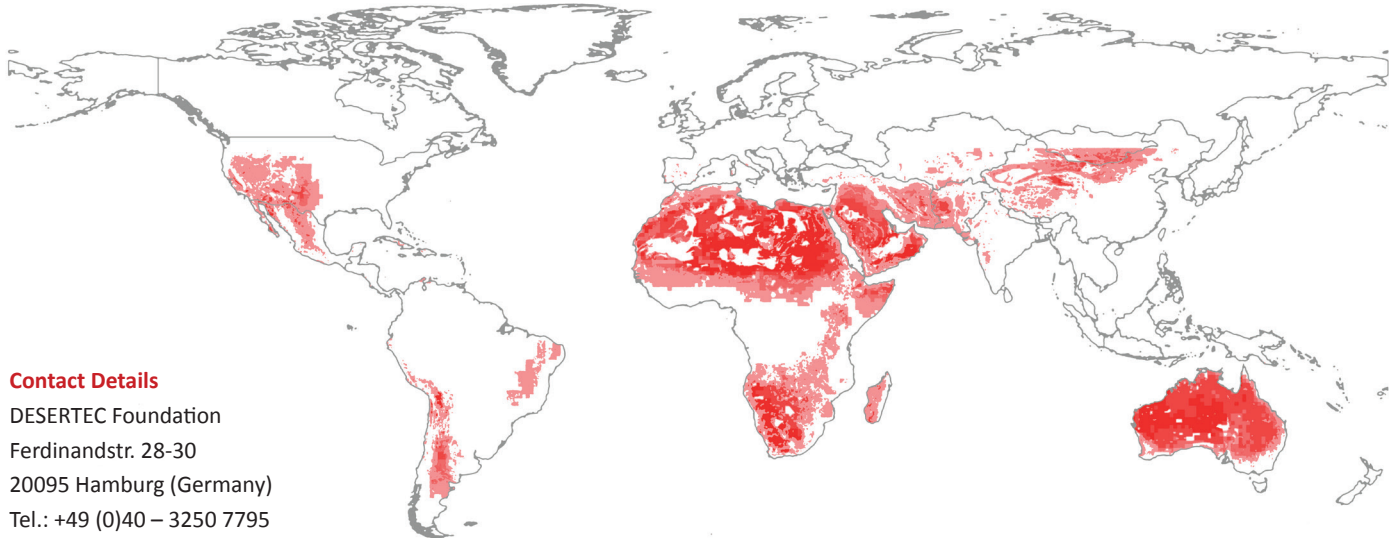
„The [CSP] technology is there, we have plants up and running in the US and in Spain. So I hope that before they jump on the nuclear bandwagon, people will look at this source of energy that is freely available in endless supplies."

His Royal Highness Prince Hassan bin Talal of Jordan



„Within 6 hours deserts receive more energy from the sun than humankind consumes within a year."

Dr. Gerhard Knies



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The DESERTEC Concept – A Global Solution

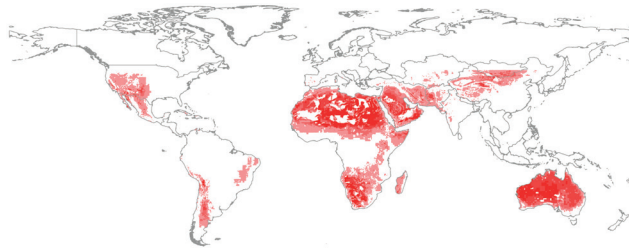
Mankind is facing enormous challenges: as the planet's population rises and the industrialization of developing countries accelerates, global energy demand continues to climb. At the same time, increases in carbon emissions bring the threat of runaway climate change and a drastic reduction in the earth's capacity to support human life ever closer.

The DESERTEC Concept offers a solution to these challenges

It demonstrates a way to provide climate protection, energy security and development by generating sustainable power from the **sites where renewable sources of energy are at their most abundant**.

These sites can be used thanks to **High-Voltage Direct Current transmission**. In contrast to conventional AC transmission, HVDC can carry electricity generated from renewables over long distances with losses of just 3 percent per 1,000 kilometers.

All kinds of renewables will be used in the DESERTEC Concept, but the **sun-rich deserts** of the world play a special role: within six hours deserts receive more energy from the sun than humankind consumes within a year. In addition, 90 percent of the world's population lives within 3,000 km of deserts.



This means that **DESERTEC is applicable across the world**. It can be realized not only in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa (EU-MENA), but also in Sub-Saharan Africa, Southern Africa, the Americas, Australia, India and in the whole of East Asia where the centers of demand are within the reach of suitable deserts.

Concentrating Solar-thermal Power (CSP) plants are the key to harnessing the desert sun: They use heat from the sun to drive steam turbines and generate electricity. This heat can also be stored in heat tanks meaning electricity is available on demand. This technology is proven and has been in use for years.

The DESERTEC Foundation

The DESERTEC Foundation is a **global civil society initiative** aiming to shape a sustainable future. It is a **non-profit foundation** that grew out of a network of scientists, politicians and economists from around the Mediterranean, who together developed the DESERTEC Concept.

We are working on the fast global implementation of the DESERTEC Concept, a comprehensive solution that combats global warming, ensures a reliable energy supply, and promotes development and security. With around 20 staff members, Regional Network Coordinators, and a large global community of supporters, we are active around the world:

- We inform the civil society sector and politicians about DESERTEC
- Promote the establishment of the framework conditions necessary for a global transition to renewables
- Support knowledge transfer and scientific co-operation
- Foster exchange and co-operation with the private sector

Our first focus region is EU-MENA

Clean power from Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) deserts can provide the region with sufficient energy for the urgently needed seawater desalination. In addition, desert power can supply around two-thirds of the region's rising energy demand, whilst still leaving enough electricity for export, meeting 15 percent of European consumption.



Studies by the German Aerospace Center (DLR) show that this aim is technologically and economically feasible with economic and environmental benefits for all partners.

In the future, we will focus on further desert regions

We believe that by harnessing clean power from deserts, Greater East Asia can take a leading role in the fight against global warming. We are currently establishing contact with politicians, economists and scientists throughout this region, in order to promote the implementation of the necessary political framework conditions.

Projects of the DESERTEC Foundation

In 2009, the non-profit DESERTEC Foundation founded the industrial initiative **Dii GmbH** together with partners from industry and finance. The Dii GmbH will not build power plants itself. Instead it focuses on four core objectives:

- Development of a long term roll-out plan for the period up to 2050 providing investment and financing guidance
- Conduction of specific in-depth studies
- Development of a framework for feasible investments into renewable energy and interconnected grids in EU-MENA
- Origination of reference projects to prove feasibility

In 2010, the DESERTEC Foundation launched the **DESERTEC University Network** as a platform for scientific and academic collaboration. It is committed to developing know-how and implementing study programs related to renewable energies. Besides the DESERTEC Foundation, the founding members are 18 universities and research facilities from the MENA region. Further universities from Europe have subsequently joined the network.

In 2011, we started projects in Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt

The first project is called **WEREEMa** and is funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety. Under the leadership of the "Investitionsbank Schleswig-Holstein", the DESERTEC Foundation and partners from Morocco and Germany are working together to improve the framework conditions for the rapid development of wind and other renewable energies in Morocco. This will be achieved through building capacity in education and research, network studies, wind measurements, pilot projects and economic cooperation.

The second project, **RE-Generation MENA**, is funded by the German Foreign Office. The objective is to focus on a greater involvement of students in Egypt and Tunisia in the EU-MENA renewable energy sector. It aims to equip them with the skills to contribute fully to the democratic process by demanding the necessary conditions for the expansion of renewable energies in Egypt and Tunisia.

In 2012, the DESERTEC Foundation is launching the **DESERTEC Knowledge Platform** to facilitate international knowledge-sharing and collaboration in the DESERTEC community. This project is funded by "Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (DBU)".

Further studies and community projects are on the way.