



### Upcoming Events

**11<sup>th</sup> of May 2017**  
IIER 201st International Conference on Social Science and Economics ICSSE. Cairo, Egypt.  
<https://www.worldconferencealerts.com/Egypt.php>

**18-20<sup>th</sup> of May 2017**  
2nd HAAE Energy Conference, -Athens, Greece.  
<http://haee2017.eventsadmin>

**22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2017**  
Regional conference "Decentralized Renewable Energy Solutions in the MENA Region: A Driver of Local Value and Job Creation" by RCREEE, Cairo, Egypt. For more information contact Mr. Steffen Erdle [steffen.erdle@giz.de](mailto:steffen.erdle@giz.de) or Ms. Rana El Guindy [rana.elguindy@rcreee.org](mailto:rana.elguindy@rcreee.org)

**22-23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2017**  
The 5th International Symposium on Environment and Energy Finance Issues (ISEFI-2017) Paris, France.  
<https://isefi.sciencesconf.org/>

**5<sup>th</sup> of June 2017**  
Conference about Environmental day-Tashreen University, Syria.

**6-9<sup>th</sup> of July, 2017**  
The 14th international conference on the European energy market hosted by Dresden University, Germany.  
<http://eem2017.com/>

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## Partners



University of Jordan (UJ)



Aswan University (AU)



Damascus University (DU)



Tashreen University (TU)



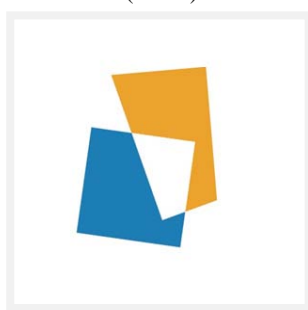
University of Cyprus (UCY)



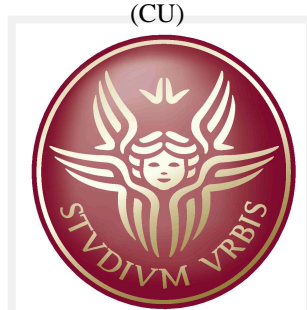
Cairo University (CU)



Technische Universität Dresden (TUD)



German Jordanian University (GJU)



SPIENZA University (UNIROMA 1)



Wuppertal Institute (WI)

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# DESIRE Newsletter

### Project in Brief

- Subject Area: Renewable Energy/ Socio-economics
- Grant Holder: German Jordanian University (GJU)
- Project duration is 3 years (until 15th of October 2018)
- Website portal: [www.gju.edu.jo](http://www.gju.edu.jo)
- The project has to deliver 6 main tasks:
  1. Scoping and needs analysis
  2. Development of the teaching and training modules
  3. Capacity building program
  4. Project Management and implementation
  5. Dissemination activities
  6. Monitoring and evaluation of project activities



### This Issue

- P.1 Project Overview
- P.2 Third Project Meeting in Aswan University
- P.3 Dissemination Workshop in Aswan-Egypt
- P.3 Capacity Building Training in Nicosia-Cyprus
- P.4 Partners and Upcoming Events

## Project Overview

- A year has passed since the project's kickoff meeting in Amman and it delights us to share that it was a year full of success and fruitful achievements. During the brainstorming meetings, ideas turned into action plans and each partner worked on forming networks with universities and regional and international organizations and agencies. A proposed curriculum for capacity building training was discussed and achieved at the Wuppertal Institute in Germany during the second project's meeting where the partners from the Sapienza University of Rome presented the results from two socio-economic surveys.
- Socio-economic impact on RE surveys were sent out to stakeholders and were analyzed and categorized depending on various situation.
- A second round of surveys had a selected number of stakeholders who were asked about their facilities, capabilities, and training provided to students in the field of RE programs for undergraduates and postgraduates. Stakeholders were also asked about their RE technology focus areas.
- A dissemination workshop on Socio-economics impacts on RE implementation was successfully organized and conducted in Aswan, Egypt on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 with active participation from the civil society. A capacity building workshop was successfully organized and implemented in Nicosia, Cyprus that was divided into two groups during February and March of 2017. The number of trainees in the Nicosia Capacity building workshop was 30 trainees, including 18 professors and 12 students (graduate and undergraduate).
- Work is in progress in all nine work packages targeting the preparation and dissemination of high quality teaching materials for education and capacity building programs in order to supplement and integrate socio-economics aspects in the curricula of existing renewable energy programs in the beneficiary countries in a sustainable manner. E-learning modules will also be prepared to provide needed information and support to all RE stakeholders.

**Partners Universities**

- Aswan University AU (Egypt) : <http://www.aswu.edu.eg>
- Cairo University CU (Egypt): <http://cu.edu.eg>
- Damascus University (Syria): <http://damasuniv.edu.sy>
- Sapienza University (Italy): <http://www.uniroma1.it>
- Tishreen University TU(Syria): [www.tishreen.edu.sy](http://www.tishreen.edu.sy)
- Technical University of Dresden TUD (Germany): <https://tu-dresden.de>
- University of Jordan UJ (Jordan): <http://ju.edu.jo>
- University of Cyprus UCY (Cyprus): [www.ucy.ac.cy](http://www.ucy.ac.cy)
- Wuppertal Institute WI (Germany): <http://wupperinst.org/en/>

**Next Capacity building Workshops**

- Wuppertal Institute (WI)
  - Staff : 10-14<sup>th</sup> of July 2017
  - Students: 3-14<sup>th</sup> July 2017
- UNIROMA1
  - Staff : 17-21<sup>st</sup> of July 2017
  - Students: 10-21<sup>st</sup> of July 2017
- Technical University of Dresden TUD
  - Staff : 24-29<sup>th</sup> July 2017
  - Students: 17-28<sup>th</sup> July 2017

**Next Project Meeting**

31<sup>st</sup> of July -2<sup>nd</sup> of August, 2017

The fourth Desire Project meeting hosted by Dresden University, Germany.



3<sup>rd</sup> DESIRE Management Meeting at Aswan University on Feb. 7

**3<sup>rd</sup> Project Management Meeting in Aswan**

- ✓ Dr. Salama Abdelhady, the leader of the AU host team, kicked off the proceedings of the third DESIRE meeting with a welcome note welcoming all partners. Dr. Louy Qoaidar, the project coordinator, presented the status of the project confirming what was achieved and what needs to be done along with the goals of the project.
- ✓ Technical University of Dresden (TUD) was tasked with selection process of an external evaluator to assist all partners in conducting their work and moving forward. Christina Mante, the external evaluator, shared her presentation with the partners explaining her role in the project and her expected outcomes emphasizing on the importance of the training sessions' evaluations throughout the project.
- ✓ The results of the second round of the socio-economic surveys under the umbrella of WP-01 was discussed and presented by Katuscia Cipri from Sapienza University (UNIROMA 1). Through those surveys, Cipri was able to interpret the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RE&EE) undergraduate and graduate programs offered by the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. The compiled results showed where the needs lie and how the DESIRE program can help.
- ✓ Thomas Fink of the Wuppertal Institute (WI) thoroughly presented the WP-03 to create pilot teaching courses highlighting focus areas as described by stakeholders.
- ✓ The capacity building plans in WP-04 was discussed by the delegate from the University of Cyprus, George Konstantinos, discussing the training sessions along with their content and dates.
- ✓ The sustainability plan of WP-06 was discussed at length by Dr. AbdelHady from AU.
- ✓ Philipp Hauser of TUD emphasized on the importance of standardizing all the project's documentation from the presentation formats to file naming as part of WP-08. Hauser stressed on quality assurance to guarantee clear communication among partners and stakeholders.
- ✓ For dissemination, WP-09, Adel Khalil of Cairo University elaborated on the need for sharing the results and spreading the outcome of the project to the partners and stakeholders. Khalil also discussed the dissemination products, website, e-learning module, and dissemination events. DESIRE Management platform was deeply discussed by Mai Al-Zubi and Nouf Alheyari to help all partners better manage their finances. Al-Zubi and Alheyari showed the proper way to use this new platform to submit all budget requirements to the European Union (EU).



Aswan Dissemination Workshop on Feb. 8

**Dissemination Workshop in Aswan**

- ✓ Aswan University has successfully organized a dissemination workshop on 8 February 2017 for a full day with contribution of local civil society in Aswan. Participants included representatives of project partner and beneficiary universities from EU and MENA countries as well as fifty leaders of civil society organizations/associations, local leaders, journalists, business owners and companies interested in solar energy implementation in the Aswan governorate.

**Cyprus Capacity Building Training**

- ✓ Two capacity building workshops were successfully conducted in Nicosia by the University of Cyprus for professors as well as students on the socio-economic aspects as well as RE Global Trends. The second part of the capacity building course included some practical training on photovoltaic system testing and software application.
- ✓ This training aims to improve and enhance the knowledge for MENA students regarding RE&EE technologies focusing also on the socio-economic aspects of these technologies in order to produce a batch of students who will have a strong impact in policymaking, industry, or research in the targeted field.
- ✓ The training program was very well organized and suitable for the diversity of participant backgrounds which stimulated useful interdisciplinary discussions.



Nicosia Capacity Building Training (13<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> of February, 2017)

**Main Objectives**

- To introduce 4-6 modules in the topic of socio-economic impacts of renewable energy to the curriculum of undergraduate and postgraduate study programmes in different faculties at different partner and associated universities in the MENA region and possibly in the EU.
- To develop and implement an e-learning platform and study material related to the socio-economics impacts of RE utilization.
- Carry out campaigns, workshops and public awareness activities to enhance the understanding of the socio-economic impacts of RE projects.
- To enhance the capabilities of existing REEE training entities at partner and associated universities.
- To establish a national, regional and international network with respect to the socio-economic impacts of the utilization of RESs.

**Specific objectives**

- To introduce the topic of socio-economic impacts of RE to the curricula of undergraduate and postgraduates programmes in different MENA and EU universities.
- To deepen the understanding of the socio-economic impacts of renewable energy projects amongst various stakeholders.
- To improve the quality of renewable energy teaching courses
- To develop and implement online teaching modules in the field socio-economics impacts of renewable energy for a wider dissemination.
- To enhance cooperation amongst partner universities in the field of socio-economic impacts of the RETs.
- To build the teaching capacities of partner and associated universities.