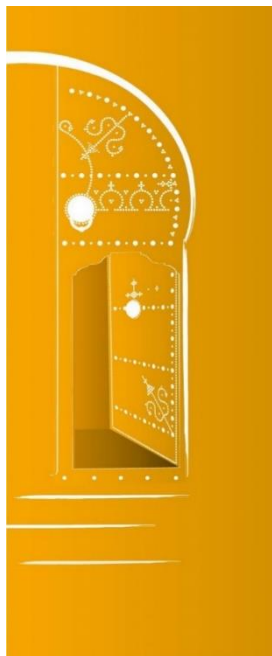


## Supporting the implementation of the Tunisian Solar Plan (APST)



Recognising the need to address its increasing energy deficit and heavy dependency on fossil fuels, Tunisia has committed to pursuing an energy transition path based on the development of renewable energies and energy efficiency. Through a national programme (Tunisian Solar Plan, TSP) approved by the Tunisian Government, a regulatory and institutional framework is being put in place to create the necessary incentives and realise the projects envisaged in the plan. This framework will also ensure that Tunisia is able to honour its commitments with regard to the Nationally Determined

Contribution submitted to the COP 21.

In this context, in cooperation with the Tunisian Ministry of Energy, Mines and Renewable Energies (MEMER), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH has launched the project Supporting the Implementation of the Tunisian Solar Plan (APST). Mandated by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Construction and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), the objective of the project is to put in place effective and efficient governance and support processes for the TSP with the aim of enabling Tunisia to produce 12% of its electricity production from renewable sources by 2020.

Project name	Supporting the implementation of the Tunisian Solar Plan (APST)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BUMB)
Partner organisation	Ministry of Energy, Mines and Renewable Energy (MEMER)
Country	Tunisia

Term	2015-2019
Contact	Arne Schweinfurth arne.schweinfurth@giz.de

### Methodological approach

To achieve this objective, the project has identified five key areas for action, which are to be addressed in cooperation with political, private and academic organisations:

#### Economic modelling of energy scenarios and impact assessment of the TSP

The level of energy independence in Tunisia is steadily falling. Prospective economic modelling of energy scenarios helps to guide the way towards energy transition and to correlate the economic growth of the country with the growing need for energy. If the energy transition is to be successful, Tunisia will require a clear sector strategy based on multi-criteria economic valuation (cost minimisation, diversification of primary sources, reduction of dependency through domestic resource development and private sector participation).

The impact assessment of the TSP will help ensure that public energy policies are fact-based and that they improve social welfare. It also offers a lever that can be used to adjust the TSP implementation path to make sure Tunisia remains on target to produce 30% of its electricity from renewable energies by 2030.

The results of economic modelling and impact assessment will form the basis of the National Renewable Energy Action Plan, which will determine the necessary energy reserves and minimum level of local industrial integration, and will identify the zones with low local industrial integration. The plan will be finalised and approved by governmental decree by May 2020.

#### Governance of the TSP

In accordance with the Tunisian regulatory framework, a number of institutions have been

established with responsibility for promoting renewable energy policy. These are the Directorate for Electricity and Renewable Energies (DGEER), the National Agency for Energy Management (ANME), the Independent Electricity Production Commission for Renewable Energies (CTER), the Commission for the Independent Production of Electricity (CIPIE) and the Specialised Authority.

The project aims to develop the capacities of the various Tunisian institutions involved in the governance of the TSP.

Our approach is to first evaluate the existing institutional organisations and assess whether they are in a position to achieve the goals of the TSP. The next step is to clarify the roles and responsibilities for each institution, in consideration of the regulatory framework. The project's capacity building work will have an impact at the national, organisational and individual level as well as in the sphere of development cooperation.

### **Implementation instruments**

The TSP foresees the application of three instruments to ensure the implementation of its objectives: auto-production, authorisations through calls for projects and concessions through calls for tenders.

Procedures and operational rules will be developed and applied for each instrument to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of the TSP.

### **Integration of renewable energies**

The Tunisian energy market is evolving from a monopolistic market to a single buyer market. Electricity production is no longer monopolised by the Tunisian Electricity and Gas Company (STEG), though the company will remain the sole buyer of all private electricity production from renewable energies.

The project will establish all the technical and administrative procedures necessary to integrate the electricity produced from renewable energies into the national electricity grid run by the STEG and will set the rules of transparency and stability governing IPP/OS contracts.

### **Supporting the private and public sector**

The project provides technical assistance to public and private Tunisian companies in delivering medium-sized projects under the system of concessions, authorisations and auto-production.

These projects will be connected to the medium- and high-voltage grid.

In addition, the project will contribute to the creation of a nucleus of at least five private national companies that will have the capacity to develop medium-sized PV projects.

## Impact of the project

At the macro level, the project helps to reverse the trend towards greater energy dependency, to reduce the pressure on public finances created by subsidies for conventional energies and to ensure Tunisia draws adequate benefit from international climate funds.

At the micro level, the project enables the creation of industry clusters dedicated to promoting renewable energy (local manufacturers, R&D, developers, credit institutions, etc.) and improving social and environmental factors affecting the well-being of the population.