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Executive Training Week ● 25 – 29 November 2018 Smart Energy and Sustainable Local Energy Planning Tools and Methods



ENVIRONMENT PUBLIC AUTHORITY (EPA) - KUWAIT CITY

The Network is funded by



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Experts from the European Union and the Arab world share knowledge on Smart Energy Cities and Sustainable Local Energy Planning at the executive training in Kuwait

PRESS RELEASE

A 5-day executive training on “Smart Energy and Sustainable Local Energy Planning Tools and Methods” is taking place this week in Kuwait, ending today 29 November. The event is organized by the **EU GCC Clean Energy Technology Network**, the **Environmental Center for Arab Towns (ECAT)**, the **Kuwait Environment Protection Society** and the **Environmental NGO Gulf Network**, and it hosted by the **Environment Public Authority**. The seminar is followed by more than 45 selected experts coming from Kuwait and the GCC public and private sector, while seminars are delivered by distinguished experts from the Network, the European Commission and the region.

Sheikh Abdullah Ahmad Al-Humoud Al-Sabah, Chairman and General Director of Kuwait's Environment Public Authority (EPA), said at the opening ceremony that Kuwait has made great progress in the field of renewable energy. Kuwait's vision aims to secure 15% of the domestic demand for electricity by 2030 through renewable energy sources. He pointed out that there are many Kuwaiti projects in this field, including the Shaqaya renewable energy project, which contributes to saving about 12 million barrels of oil equivalent per year when completed. During the opening session high level addresses were also made by **Mr. Alar Olljum, Minister Counsellor, Delegation of the European Union to Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman & Qatar**, **Dr. Wijdan AL-Oqab, General Secretary, Kuwait Environment Protection Society**, **Mr. Khalid Mohammed Badri, Director of the Environmental Center for Arab Towns** and **Dr. Mustapha Taoumi, Energy Technology Expert - EU GCC Clean Energy Technology Network**.

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“In the recent years, the EU has implemented ambitious policies for sustainable use of energy and for tackling the climate change challenge. Sustainable energy and climate policy making at the local level is fundamental for our national energy and climate policy goals.” noted Mr Alar OLLJUM, Minister Counsellor, Delegation of the European Union to Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman & Qatar. “This is the principle behind the Covenant of Mayors (CoM) initiative, launched in the European Union in 2008 and spreading now worldwide under the Global Covenant of Mayors framework.” continued Mr Alar Olljum.

“First of all we would like to thank our organizing partners, the Kuwait Environment Protection Society and EU-GCC Clean Energy Network who made this training week a reality for capacity building of professionals, experts and environmental leaders in Arab towns.” said Mr. Khalid Badri- Director of the Environmental Center for Arab Towns.

“We believe that this training week will contribute in raising environmental awareness and knowledge exchange and knowledge transfer about one of the most important topics at local, regional and international levels regarding energy management, energy efficiency and smart energy via best practices and lessons learnt from on ground projects and initiatives and latest technologies available for energy management.” Mr Khalid Badri added.

“The EU and the GCC have an opportunity to be partners in the clean energy transition that is happening in the global energy arena. This event provides the opportunity to share knowledge with Kuwait and the GCC region, to exchange views and discuss on cooperation under the CoM framework as well as on related smart cities experiences and initiatives” said Dr Mustapha Taoumi, Energy Technology Expert of the EU GCC Clean Energy Technology Network at his opening address.

The training consists of two programmes. The first thematic programme aims to introduce the participants to the main concept of local energy and climate policy planning; Lessons learnt from the Covenant of Mayors initiative in EU and beyond; Pathways towards cities carbon neutrality till 2050. The second training programme is on Smart energy cities; intelligent energy management tools and applications; replicability of European lighthouse cities for the GCC region.

The last two days of the seminars week address the topics of Smart Cities, an Integrated Approach Towards Sustainability, Smart Energy Cities, Data Driven Energy Management Applications, as well as Energy efficiency investments: European initiatives and programmes.

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Notes to Editors

The EU– GCC Clean Energy Technology Network, funded by the European Commission, was established as a response to the common EU and GCC interest for strategic clean energy cooperation. The Network aims to act as catalyst and facilitate the development of clean energy partnerships including the related policy and technology aspects among various stakeholders in the EU and GCC countries. The Network is structured around collaboration in five working areas, with Climate Change as a cross-cutting topic: Renewable Energy Sources; Energy Efficiency & Demand Side Management; Clean Natural Gas & related Technologies; Electricity Interconnections & Market Integration; Carbon Capture & Storage. The Network is funded by the European Commission. Its head office is in Abu Dhabi/ UAE.

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