3rd MEDMEP Session
October 2019 - Nicosia, Cyprus

Factfile | ITRE Committee

The question of EU's energy autonomy

Considering the large gas reserves discovered in the Eastern Mediterranean and with emphasis on Europe's energy security, how can the region form alternative energy routes to the EU, reinforcing the Union's energy autonomy and independence at the same time

The Mediterranean Sea

The geopolitical significance of the Mediterranean Sea region is mainly the result of its potential as a source of oil and natural gas. Recent gas discoveries in the Eastern Mediterranean have raised the necessity to introduce new forms of management and control on the development of flows and exchanges in the form of traded gas.

It must be remembered, however, that the geopolitics of natural gas is particularly complex. In contrast to oil, natural gas has physical characteristics that make transportation expensive, whether through pipeline or in liquefied form (LNG). This constitutes a significant fraction of the total delivered cost of the gas trade and is an important component of the sector's political economy. Furthermore, the infrastructure for gas transportation requires huge investments, a long-term perspective and security guarantees.

The Major Gas Discoveries in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea

FIELD NAME	YEAR OF DISCOVERY	COUNTRY	ESTIMATED RESRVES (bcm)	MAIN SHAREHOLDERS (COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN)
Mari-B	2000	Israel	42	Noble Energy (U.S.) Delek Group (Israel)
Tamar	2009	Israel	283	Delek Group (Israel) Noble Energy (U.S.)
Leviathan	2010	Israel	510	Delek Group (Israel) Noble Energy (U.S.)

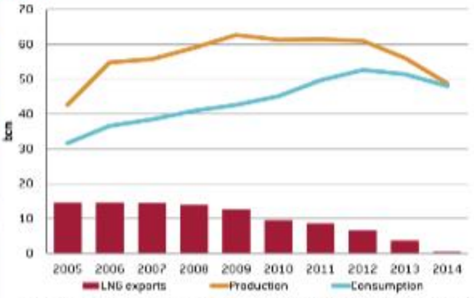
Aphrodite	2011	Cyprus	200	Noble Energy (U.S.) Delek Group (Israel) ENI (Italy) KOGAS (South Korea)
Tannin	2012	Israel	34	Noble Energy (U.S.) Delek Group (Israel)
Karish	2013	Israel	51	Noble Energy (U.S.) Delek Group (Israel)
Zohr	2015	Egypt	850	ENI (Italy) Tharwa (Egypt)
Noor	2018	Egypt	2500	ENI (Italy) Tharwa (Egypt)

Cooperative Projects for the Monetization of the Eastern Mediterranean Gas Resources

PROJECTS	STATES INVOLVED (* main supporter)	GAS CAPACITY (bcm/year)
LNG Plant	Cyprus* Israel	7-14
Pipeline	Israel Cyprus Greece*	30-40
Pipeline	Israel Cyprus Turkey*	5-11
Pipeline	Israel Turkey*	5-11

The Eastern Mediterranean gas landscape and a focus on Egypt

Source: Middle East Economic Survey



Data sources: BP, Energy Information Administration, Observatoire Méditerranéen de l'Energie

Egypt's LNG plants

Site	No. of trains	Capacity (Mt/year)	Capacity (bcm/y)	Operating company
Idku	2	2 x 3.6	2 x 5.74	Egyptian LNG
Damietta	1	1 x 4.8	1 x 7.56	SEGAS
Total		12	19	

Data sources: Egyptian LNG, SEGAS

Main recent gas discoveries in offshore eastern Mediterranean

Gross mean resources (bn cubic metres)

Israeli Gas fields

	Bcm	Date	Volumes
Leviathan	510	2010	2017
Tamar	283	2009	2013
Karish	51	2013	n/a
Mari-B	43	2000	2004
Tanin	34	2012	n/a
Dalit	14	2009	2013
Shimshon	8.5	2012	n/a
Dolphin	2.25	2011	n/a
Noa	1.13	1999	2012