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Opening of the Bavarian-Tunisin Hub for Green Hydrogen 2023

GERMAN GOVERNMENT AND FEDERAL STATES PROGRAMME
BUND-LÄNDER-PROGRAMM (BLP)

Federal state - partner country
Bavaria - Tunisia

Title
Strengthening the Bavarian-Tunisian Technology and Innovation Hub for Green Hydrogen

In cooperation with the GIZ programme
Green Hydrogen for Sustainable Growth and a Low-carbon Economy in Tunisia

Financing arrangements

BMZ contribution	306.829 EUR
Bavaria contribution	568.500 EUR

Duration
01.11.2023 - 31.07.2026

Responsible ministry
Bavarian State Chancellery

This project helps to achieve the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):







Green Hydrogen – an Opportunity for the Future

Local situation

Tunisia is successfully positioning itself as an important player in the production of green hydrogen and derivatives using renewable energy sources such as solar and wind. The country is very well placed to harness this market with average annual solar radiation of up to 2,600 kWh in the south and the corresponding potential to generate huge amounts of power from photovoltaic systems. With over 1,300 km of coastline, there are also tremendous opportunities to expand wind power generation. Given Tunisia's proximity to Europe and infrastructure links, it is in an excellent position to supply European markets with green hydrogen. Within the country, there is growing political interest in proposals – already set out in the country's energy strategy, the Tunisian Solar Plan (TSP) and the National Development Plan – to create a green hydrogen economy. Although hydrogen production is still in the very early stages, a number of pilot projects have already been established. As part of the German Government and Federal States Programme (BLP), a predecessor project laid the foundations for a joint Bavarian-Tunisian innovation and technology hub that will facilitate transfer of knowledge and build partnerships. The objective of the new project is to strengthen the hub by securing longer-term institutional support.

Cooperation arrangements

Thanks to the successful implementation of the predecessor project, the follow-on phase can now draw

“The Bavarian-Tunisian hub for green hydrogen provides an excellent exchange and networking platform for women in the renewable energy space.”

Balkis Jrad,
Public Service Advisor
General Direction of Electricity and Energy Transition
Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy



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Information campaign on hydrogen

on an extensive framework of cooperation structures. The new project’s main partners in Tunisia are the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy (MIME) and the National Engineering School of Tunis, where the hub is based. The project will also work with the private sector, with higher education centres in Germany and Tunisia, and with Hydrogen Alliance Bavaria.

The project will be implemented in close cooperation with the technical cooperation measure Green Hydrogen for Sustainable Growth and a Low- carbon Economy in Tunisia, whose objective is to improve the regulatory, technical and sector-specific environment in order to develop a value chain for green hydrogen and its derivatives.

What we are doing - and how

One of the priorities of this follow-on project is to establish a strong and sustainable institutional basis for the Bavarian-Tunisian green hydrogen hub as a professional establishment. Once an organisational concept and a business plan have been agreed, the next step will be to equip the hub with the necessary resources. The knowledge-transfer and partnership-building activities implemented in the first phase will continue in various forms, e.g. study visits, presentations, expert discussions, forums and information events. There will also be a special focus on networking and training opportunities for women in the energy sector. The project will support network-building between different target groups by creating a pool of interested stakeholders.

It will also conduct a study to assess the feasibility of equipping the hub with a hydrogen-based application as a way of bringing the topic of green hydrogen to life and allowing students to perform a range of tests. The technical equipment will be provided in addition to the hub’s existing laboratory apparatus. In-company training and skills-development measures will also be offered. As an initial step, however, the project will conduct a needs assessment to identify the jobs and careers likely to be created by future hydrogen-based applications. The project will be implemented in collaboration with businesses spanning the entire H2/PtX value chain, e.g. plant construction, transport, logistics and desalination.

Useful links

- Further information on the BLP:
  https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/132983.html
  https://bund-laender-programm.de/en
- Further information on the Tunisian Ministry of Energy (MIME) in French and Arabic:
  https://www.energiemines.gov.tn/fr/accueil/
- Further information on GIZ’s PtX-Hub:
  https://ptx-hub.org

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