

## The Role of Clean Hydrogen and CCUS to Achieve Climate Ambitions in MENA

**Venue:** APEX Center, KAPSARC, Riyadh  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023  
**Format:** Each speaker in the panel will start with an opening statement followed by a discussion by the moderator who will also receive questions from the audience.  
**Hosted by:** KAPSARC and the International Energy Forum (IEF)

**Tuesday, October 10, 2023, from 9:00 am – 12:50 pm**

**8:15 – 9:00 am**

**Check-in and light refreshments**

**9:00 – 9:10 a.m.**

**Welcome/Opening remarks**

**Fahad Alajlan, President, KAPSARC**

**Joseph McMonigle, Secretary General, IEF**

**9:10 – 9:30 a.m.**

**Keynote Speech/Scene Setting Session**

**Run-up to COP28:**

**The Spring of Global Decarbonization Solutions from the MENA Region**

- **Khalid Abuleif**, Chief Climate Negotiator, Ministry of Energy, Saudi Arabia

**9:30 – 10:30 a.m.**

**Panel: The role of hydrogen in MENA’s climate action**

**Panel description:**

The momentum behind hydrogen continues to accelerate as policy support worldwide takes shape. Many countries in MENA are developing hydrogen strategies, and the region is becoming a hot spot for large-scale project development. MENA countries share different advantages in access to natural, capital, and technology, resources as well as skills and infrastructure that hydrogen production and transport to global markets require. Collaboration can capitalize on these complementarities and help MENA countries co-create a vibrant hydrogen hub at the center of international shipping lanes to world markets. What is the government’s role in overcoming the challenges of scaling up clean hydrogen? How can collaborations within MENA to support the hydrogen ecosystem in their respective countries? How can regional collaboration on the Circular Carbon Economy help scale clean hydrogen in the region?

**Speaker(s):**

**EXPERT PANEL 1**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Zeid Alghareeb</b>, Director of Hydrogen &amp; Circular Carbon Economy National Program</li> <li>- <b>Nasser Al Rizeiqi</b>, Department of Renewable Energy &amp; Hydrogen, Oman Ministry of Energy &amp; Minerals</li> <li>- <b>Khaled Nageib</b>, CEO, Hydrogen Egypt</li> <li>- <b>Samir Rachidi</b>, Acting General Manager, IRESEN</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Roberto Aguilera, Director, KAPSARC</b></p>
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<b>10:30 – 10:50 pm</b>	<b>Coffee Break &amp; light refreshments</b>
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<b>EXPERT PANEL 2</b>	<b>10:50 – 11:50 p.m.</b>
	<b>Optimizing Technology Roadmaps and Value Chains</b>
	<p><b>panel description:</b></p> <p>The success of clean hydrogen and CCUS is dependent on lowering its costs compared to other low carbon energy solutions. Scaling up hydrogen and CCUS technologies depends on optimizing technology pathways. The Circular Carbon Economy Technology Roadmaps (CCE-TRM) aim to accelerate the competitive positioning and deployment of hydrogen and CCUS in the long run. The MENA region has several qualities to enable the scaling up of clean hydrogen and CCUS technologies, but it must be supported by a robust innovation ecosystem and stepped-up RD&amp;D investment to unlock the potential for creating new technologies and local industrial and manufacturing centers, for instance by bringing solutions to fruition first within the region. How can technical and academic institutions support technology developments along the hydrogen and CCUS value chain? What are the most prospective areas of collaboration in the region? How can MENA governments and technology centers facilitate technology transfer? What are the challenges and how could they be addressed? How can the MENA region mitigate risks in critical mineral supply chains and human resource capabilities?</p> <p><b>Presentation: Noura Mansouri, KAPSARC   “The Circular Carbon Economy Technology Roadmaps”</b></p> <p><b>Speaker(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Bashir Dabbousi</b>, Director of Technology Strategy &amp; Planning, Aramco</li> <li>- <b>Steve Griffiths</b>, Senior Vice President Research &amp; Development, Khalifa University</li> <li>- <b>Larissa Lee Beck</b>, Senior Director Europe &amp; Middle East, Clean Air Task Force</li> <li>- <b>Noura Mansouri</b>, Fellow Climate &amp; Sustainability, KAPSARC</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Joseph McMonigle, Secretary General, IEF</b></p>

<b>EXPERT PANEL 3</b>	<b>11:50 – 12:50 p.m.</b>
	<b>Engaging The Private Sector and Securing Financing</b>
	<p><b>Panel description:</b></p> <p>In a recent Hydrogen Council report, the analysis showed that despite the positive trend of announced hydrogen projects to 2030, only 10% of the total capital required had been committed so far. Clear regulations and securing off-take agreements are essential to de-risking these capital-intensive projects. Many countries and regions outside of MENA have started implementing provisions, mandates, and incentive schemes to boost investor confidence and facilitate access to financing. What is the best approach to position the MENA region as a competitive hydrogen hub? Can joint investments between MENA countries accelerate the deployment of projects? What policy toolbox and financial sector strategies could be used to engage private sector stakeholders and reduce the cost of capital to close the cost gap and overcome any regulatory and market hurdles. How can regional projects benefit from public private partnerships?</p> <p><b>Speaker(s):</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>David Edmondson</b>, CEO, Neom Green Hydrogen Company</li><li>- <b>Jeffrey Beyer</b>, Managing Director, Zest Associates</li><li>- <b>Anne-Sophie Corbeau</b>, Global Research Scholar, Center on Global Energy Policy at Columbia University</li><li>- <b>Syed Husain Quadri</b>, Director Resilience &amp; Climate Action, Islamic Development Bank</li></ul> <p><b>Moderator: Fahad Alajlan, President, KAPSARC</b></p>
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<b>12:50 – 2:00 pm</b>	<b>Closing remarks and lunch</b>
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