

HELD UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF HIS EXCELLENCY ABDEL FATTAH EL SISI, PRESIDENT OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT



EGYPES  
**FINANCE & INVESTMENT  
IN ENERGY**  
CONFERENCE



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WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2025 | EGYPT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION CENTER

# ALIGNING CAPITAL WITH ENERGY SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

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# BUILDING A SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE

The EGPES 2025 Conferences help shape the future energy agenda to unlock the potential of the energy transition and drive sustainable production and climate-conscious practices. The EGPES strategic dialogue focuses upon the need for a new global energy system, one that reduces reliance on single energy sources and supports supply and demand cycles globally. At the same time, the EGPES technical programme provides enrichment from practical, scientific and innovative R&D to project management across the entire oil, gas and wider energy supply and value chains.



As we navigate the transition towards a more sustainable future, collaboration between governments, businesses, and communities will be key.

**ENG. BADER SAED AL LAMKI**  
Chief Executive Officer  
ADNOC Distribution



## ESTABLISHING AN EAST MEDITERRANEAN NATURAL GAS HUB



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# ALIGNING CAPITAL WITH ENERGY SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

The energy trilemma, geopolitical tensions, and underinvestment in fossil fuels have driven oil prices to record levels, disrupting trading relationships and prompting global markets to prioritise energy independence. In response, energy security and affordability has become an urgent policy focus for governments.

To address short-term needs, many countries have rolled back green policies to stabilise energy supply chains and limit price shocks, delaying the transition to cleaner fuels. This has led to increased investment in boosting natural gas and oil production, efforts to diversify energy sources, and the formation of regional partnerships to ensure both national and global energy resilience.

While governments and the global energy industry remain committed to achieving net-zero by 2050, there is a growing consensus that the path to decarbonisation will require a more pragmatic and balanced approach, where capital is gradually deployed towards low-carbon technologies and infrastructure.

The EGPES 2025 Finance and Investment in Energy Conference will gather policymakers, energy leaders, economists, finance and investment experts to drive meaningful dialogue on how global economies can build a resilient energy future to balance immediate energy security and affordability concerns, while financing the energy transition.

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## FINANCE & INVESTMENT IN ENERGY CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

 <b>Sameh Sabry</b> Managing Director Middle East & North Africa Harbour Energy	 <b>Nicolas Katcharov</b> Chief Executive Officer Energean International	 <b>Anastasios Vlassopoulos</b> Chief Executive Officer HELLENIQ Upstream	 <b>Ehab Ragae</b> First Undersecretary for Production Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources
 <b>Mohamed Abdel-Aziz</b> Chief Executive Officer GASREG	 <b>Kristian Svendsen</b> Country Director, Egypt Chevron	 <b>Katerina Papalexandri</b> Chief Financial Officer Arcius Energy	 <b>Loïc Jaegert-Huber</b> Regional Director North Africa ENGIE
 <b>Hany Esmat</b> Chief Executive Officer and Country Head Petronas Egypt	 <b>Salma Al Hajeri</b> Regional Vice President Operations, East-Med & North Africa Mubadala Energy	 <b>Greg McDaniel</b> Vice President Egypt Assets and Country Manager Apache Corporation	 <b>Karim Shaaban</b> Managing Director Rosetta Energy
 <b>Leslie Zhang Weihua</b> Vice President & General Counsel United Energy Group	 <b>Abubakr Ibrahim</b> Vice President & General Manager IPR Energy	 <b>Abdulla Al Aii</b> Exploration & New Venture Director Dragon Oil	 <b>Mohamed Sayed</b> Chief Operating Officer Pharos Energy
 <b>Bilal Khalid</b> Head of Hydrocarbons and Decarbonisation Arab Energy Fund	 <b>Omneya Abdellatif</b> Managing Counsel LNG & Head of Legal Shell	 <b>Nathan Piper</b> Commercial Director Capricorn Energy	 <b>Moataz Serag</b> Egypt Country Director TAQA
 <b>Thomas Thorkildsen</b> Chief Commercial Officer Høegh Evi	 <b>Amal Tantawy</b> Deputy Chief Executive Officer for Financial & Economic Affairs EGPC	 <b>Babajide Talabi</b> Chief Operating Officer Gasavant	 <b>Ihab Girgis</b> Chief Operations Officer Chevron
 <b>Malak El Shishiny</b> Vice President Investment Hassan Allam Utilities	 <b>Konstantinos Chatzifotis</b> Director of European Affairs Motor Oil Group	 <b>Gamal Al Gebely</b> Deputy CEO & General Manager Al Fanar Gas Group	 <b>Haitham Khader</b> Chief Commercial and Investment Officer EHC Investment
 <b>Mohamed Shaker Abouelez</b> Chief Corporate and Structured Finance Officer Banque du Caire	 <b>Boyana Achovski</b> Former Secretary General Gas Infrastructure Europe	 <b>Andrew Freear</b> Head of New Business and Commercial Genel Energy	 <b>Rouzbeh Fazlinejad</b> Managing Director, Head of MENA Oil & Gas Houlihan Lokey
 <b>Fares Kikano</b> Climate Finance and Climate Risk Management Consultant IFC	 <b>Yosra Assaker</b> Senior Energy Specialist The World Bank	 <b>Andrew Davies</b> Partner Norton Rose Fulbright LLP	 <b>Wafa Jafri</b> Partner KPMG
 <b>Ed Tockman</b> Senior Vice President & Head of MENA Rystad Energy	 <b>Ross Cassidy</b> Vice President, Middle East and North Africa Welligence Energy Analytics	 <b>Choeib Boutamine</b> Energy Advisor and Chief Executive Officer Ranadrill Consulting	 <b>Tania Habimana</b> Presenter EGYPES 2025

**MINISTERIAL KEYNOTE SPEECH**

**10:00 – 10:10** **Sustaining Growth and Investment in Egypt's Oil and Gas Sector**

Having gone from gas importer to exporter and setting its sights on becoming a regional gas hub, Egypt is currently seeking to maximise its gas production to address recent shortages. The Egyptian government is implementing plans to gradually lift fuel subsidies by 2025, to balance economic adjustments following the 60% devaluation of the pound since March 2024. With domestic demand outpacing supply, the country has turned to global LNG imports to fill the gap. The government has also prioritised financial support for the sector, ensuring a steady supply of petroleum products for domestic energy consumption, settling outstanding dues to international partners, and incentivising production through export allowances. Additionally, to maintain investor confidence, Egypt is developing an economic model that simplifies tax systems and fiscal policies.

**Attendee Insights** The keynote will highlight Egypt's commitment to supporting the oil and gas sector financially, while outlining the government's plan to maintain investor confidence by resolving outstanding debts, simplifying tax systems and fiscal policies and implementing energy subsidy reforms.

**PANEL DISCUSSIONS**

**10:10 – 10:50** **The New Pragmatism: Confronting the Realities of the Energy Transition**

In recent years, the push for climate action has prompted many countries to set ambitious decarbonisation targets, sparking discussions about the need for a pragmatic approach to the global energy transition. This has raised significant geopolitical and policy questions about the pace, feasibility, and practical challenges of achieving net-zero. While governments and the global energy industry remain committed to climate goals, there is a growing consensus that a balanced, realistic approach is required, one that addresses climate change without compromising energy security or economic growth. This advocates for policies that accommodate geopolitical realities, ensuring sufficient time to develop reliable, affordable renewable energy infrastructure, while maintaining investments in oil and gas to safeguard market stability and national energy security.

**Attendee Insights** Panelists will explore policy frameworks and geopolitical constraints that balance and dictate continued investment in oil and gas with the transition to cleaner sources

 <p><b>Salma Al Hajeri</b>        Regional Vice President        Operations, East-Med &amp;        North Africa  <b>Mubadala Energy</b></p>	 <p><b>Anastasios Vlassopoulos</b>        Chief Executive Officer  <b>HELLENiQ Upstream</b></p>	 <p><b>Nicolas Katcharov</b>        Chief Executive Officer  <b>Energiean International</b></p>
 <p><b>Sameh Sabry</b>        Managing Director        Middle East &amp; North Africa  <b>Harbour Energy</b></p>	 <p><b>Moderator</b>  <b>Wafa Jafri</b>        Partner  <b>KPMG</b></p>	

**10:50 – 11:30** **Bringing East Mediterranean Gas to Market**

Over the past decade, significant gas discoveries and a surge in exploration activities, including new licensing rounds and offshore drilling projects, have transformed the Eastern Mediterranean into a hotspot for leading international companies. This growing interest is fuelled by the region's untapped natural gas reserves, strategic location, and potential to become a global energy trading hub. These reserves present opportunities for both domestic consumption and international exports, especially as Europe looks for new diplomatic partners to diversify its gas supply. However, the lack of comprehensive cross-border agreements in certain areas and the complexity of coordinating energy development following regional political tensions make it difficult to fully monetise these resources.

**Attendee Insights** This panel discussion will look at how an Eastern Mediterranean gas trading hub could contribute regional stability, meet domestic energy demands, as well as how the region can develop effective policies to navigate geopolitical constraints.

 <p><b>Ehab Ragae</b>        First Undersecretary for        Production  <b>Ministry of Petroleum        and Mineral Resources</b></p>	 <p><b>Katerina Papalexandri</b>        Chief Financial Officer  <b>Arcius Energy</b></p>	 <p><b>Hany Esmat</b>        Chief Executive Officer        and Country Head  <b>Petronas Egypt</b></p>
 <p><b>Moderator</b>  <b>Ed Tockman</b>        Senior Vice President        &amp; Head of MENA  <b>Rystad Energy</b></p>		

**11:30 – 12:10** **Leveraging Strategic Infrastructure and Global Trade Networks for Gas**

Strategic infrastructure forms the backbone of global energy trades, connecting gas exporting nations with diplomatic partners worldwide through pipelines, ports, storage facilities, and refineries. With global economic growth projected to increase energy demand by 25% by 2040, governments are forming strategic partnerships and establishing robust trading networks for reliable gas supplies. These networks are essential in facilitating the movement of natural gas across borders, linking key markets in Europe, Asia, and beyond. While challenges such as geopolitics, policies, regulations, and supply chain disruptions persist, the expansion of new gas trade routes, combined with storage and transportation will enable a more secure, affordable and resilient trade system.

**Attendee Insights** This panel will discuss regulatory and gas infrastructure challenges, and how policymakers and the industry are working together to create a more streamlined, secure global energy trade system.

 <p><b>Mohamed Abdel-Aziz</b>        Chief Executive Officer  <b>GASREG</b></p>	 <p><b>Boyana Achovski</b>        Former Secretary General  <b>Gas Infrastructure Europe</b></p>	 <p><b>Babajide Talabi</b>        Chief Operating Officer  <b>Gasavant</b></p>
 <p><b>Haitham Khader</b>        Chief Commercial and        Investment Officer  <b>EHC Investment</b></p>	 <p><b>Moderator</b>  <b>Choeib Boutamine</b>        Energy Advisor and        Chief Executive Officer  <b>Ranadrill Consulting</b></p>	

12:10 – 12:50

### Securing Supply: Investment in Exploration and Production

Despite facing challenges related to environmental regulations, fluctuating oil prices, and geopolitical instability, the global demand for oil and gas remains strong, making sustained investment in exploration and production more important than ever. In 2022, capital spending on oil and gas exploration and production rose by 39% to nearly \$500 billion, the highest level since 2015 and the largest annual increase on record. The global number of oil rigs also increased by more than 20% compared to the previous year. However, it is estimated that by 2030, annual spending needs to reach \$640–\$650 billion to ensure adequate hydrocarbon supplies for the global economy. At the same time, the industry faces continued difficulty securing capital due to ESG constraints.

**Attendee Insights** Oil and gas experts will address pressing investment and economic issues facing the industry, including the challenges of attracting capital for exploration and production, managing fluctuating oil prices, while ensuring the stability of global energy supplies.

 <b>Kristian Svendsen</b> Country Director, Egypt <b>Chevron</b>	 <b>Greg McDaniel</b> Vice President Egypt Assets and Country Manager <b>Apache Corporation</b>	 <b>Moataz Serag</b> Egypt Country Director <b>TAQA</b>
 <b>Nathan Piper</b> Commercial Director <b>Capricorn Energy</b>	 <b>Ihab Girgis</b> Chief Operations Officer <b>Cheiron</b>	 <b>Rouzbeh Fazlinejad</b> Managing Director, Head of MENA Oil & Gas <b>Houlihan Lokey</b>
 <b>Moderator Aditya Saraswat</b> Research Director, MENA <b>Rystad Energy</b>		



12:50 – 13:50

Lunch, exhibition and networking

13:50 – 14:30

### Mobilising Capital for Low Carbon Fuels, Technologies and Infrastructure

As global economies move towards meeting net zero carbon emissions, governments, consumers and stakeholders are looking to the oil and gas industry to play a significant role to meet these targets. To achieve climate targets, substantial investment is required to scale up low carbon energy and innovations like CCUS, green hydrogen, integrating renewable energy into operations and improving energy efficiency. To mobilise government, financial industry and private investment for low-carbon innovations, policies must be designed to create a favourable investment environment, including clear regulatory frameworks, financial incentives, and risk mitigation strategies. These policies should support the scaling of clean technologies and promote collaboration between public and private sectors to ensure the oil and gas industry transitions effectively while maintaining energy security.

**Attendee Insights** The discussion will evolve around new financial instruments, policies and regulatory frameworks to support the widescale adoption and deployment of low carbon technologies.

 <b>Loïc Jaegert-Huber</b> Regional Director North Africa <b>ENGIE</b>	 <b>Konstantinos Chatzifotis</b> Director of European Affairs <b>Motor Oil Group</b>	 <b>Malak El Shishiny</b> Vice President Investment <b>Hassan Allam Utilities</b>
 <b>Moderator Wafa Jafri</b> Partner <b>KPMG</b>		



14:30 – 15:10

### The Role of Banks and Financial Institutions in the Energy Transition

Banks and financial institutions are among the biggest stakeholders in the energy transition, playing a key role in unlocking the \$3.8 trillion in annual investment needed to deliver energy systems of the future. Most international banks, institutional lenders, and investors have shifted their focus away from financing new oil and gas projects to align their policies with ESG and as part of its efforts to drive down global greenhouse gas emissions. Instead, they're channelling capital into clean energy innovations, renewable infrastructure, and broader decarbonisation solutions that support the accelerated phase-down of fossil fuels. By doing so, financial institutions and the energy sector can accelerate the flow of capital towards new technologies needed for the transition to net zero, while simultaneously bridging the gap between investor expectations and sustainable returns.

**Attendee Insights** The session will discuss how the energy and finance sectors are collaborating more effectively to accelerate investments in clean energy.

 <b>Mohamed Shaker Abouelez</b> Chief Corporate and Structured Finance Officer Banque du Caire	 <b>Bilal Khalid</b> Head of Hydrocarbons and Decarbonisation Arab Energy Fund	 <b>Fares Kikano</b> Climate Finance and Climate Risk Management Consultant IFC
 <b>Yosra Assaker</b> Senior Energy Specialist The World Bank	 <b>Moderator Tania Habimana</b> Presenter EGYPES 2025	

15:10 – 15:50

### Evaluating LNG Market Dynamics for Buyers and Sellers

Traditionally, LNG has traded under long-term contracts tied to oil prices, but buyers now prefer more flexible, shorter-term contracts, allowing them to adapt to changing market conditions, such as shifts in market demand or regulatory pressures. However, as LNG markets remain tight, both buyers and sellers are seeking more flexible contract structures that balance the need for security with the desire for adaptability. These structures often include options for volume adjustments, destination flexibility, and hybrid pricing mechanisms that reflect real-time market conditions, ensuring both parties can navigate price volatility and evolving geopolitical or environmental factors. The transition towards flexible contracts is creating opportunities for sellers to access new buyers in emerging markets, which might not have entered the market under traditional long-term arrangements.

**Attendee Insights** Panelists will delve into the trends shaping the future of LNG contracts and how buyers and sellers can find the right balance to thrive in this growing market.

 <b>Karim Shaaban</b> Managing Director Rosetta Energy	 <b>Thomas Thorkildsen</b> Chief Commercial Officer Höegh Evi	 <b>Amal Tantawy</b> Deputy Chief Executive Officer for Financial & Economic Affairs EGPC
 <b>Omneya Abdellatif</b> Managing Counsel LNG & Head of Legal Shell	 <b>Gamal Al Gebely</b> Deputy CEO & General Manager Al Fanar Gas Group	 <b>Moderator Choeib Boutamine</b> Energy Advisor and Chief Executive Officer Ranadrill Consulting

15:50 – 16:30

### Looking Back at Oil and Gas M&A Activity in 2024, and What's Ahead in 2025

The oil and gas industry has witnessed a remarkable surge in mergers and acquisitions over the past two years. In 2023, global M&A activity skyrocketed, driven by large cash flows resulting from elevated energy prices following geopolitical constraints. Oil and gas majors have led the way with multi-billion-dollar acquisitions, marking one of the most significant periods of consolidation in the sector. As 2024 unfolded, the first quarter saw the highest level of global upstream dealmaking in five years. However, the motivation for M&A has shifted. The focus is no longer solely on expansion fuelled by profits, but rather on achieving a more competitive cost structure and securing access to capital. With oil prices remaining at lower levels, M&A activity is expected to continue for the rest of 2024 and well into 2025.

**Attendee Insights** Panelists will discuss the key drivers behind the current wave of M&A activity, the potential impact on the global energy market, and the long-term implications for buyers and sellers.

 <b>Abubakr Ibrahim</b> Vice President & General Manager IPR Energy	 <b>Leslie Zhang Weihua</b> Vice President & General Counsel United Energy Group	 <b>Mohamed Sayed</b> Chief Operating Officer Pharos Energy
 <b>Abdulla Al Ali</b> Exploration & New Venture Director Dragon Oil	 <b>Andrew Freear</b> Head of New Business and Commercial Genel Energy	 <b>Andrew Davies</b> Partner Norton Rose Fulbright LLP
 <b>Moderator Ross Cassidy</b> Vice President, Middle East and North Africa Welligence Energy Analytics		

16:30

### Closing Remarks



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## BUILDING A SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE

The need for open dialogue to deliver energy security, energy affordability and energy sustainability remains constant. The energy trilemma challenges, whether strategic or technical, must be addressed to build a secure and sustainable energy future.

Not recognising geopolitical tensions, trade constraints or global crises, the trilemma requires all stakeholders including government officials, policymakers, industry leaders, investors, engineers, tech champions and solution providers to drive a cohesive yet multi-faceted path towards our energy future.

The EGPES 2025 Conferences play a vital role in addressing transformation and accelerating momentum across the full spectrum of current and future energy systems with the purpose of shaping the future of energy today.

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The EGPES 2025 Finance and Investment in Energy Conference will gather experts to drive meaningful dialogue on how global economies can build a resilient energy future to balance immediate energy security and affordability concerns, while financing the energy transition.

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