

# **Euromed: energy, sustainable development in Barcelona**

(by Paola Del Vecchio) (ANSAméd) – MADRID, NOVEMBER 11 – Hundreds of entrepreneurs and managers of public and private organizations will take part on November 26-28 in Barcelona in the VIII Mediterranean Week of economic leaders to discuss key factors for the social and economic development of the region.

The appointment is organized by the Association of the chambers of commerce and industry of the Mediterranean (Ascame), which announced the event, in cooperation with the Chamber of commerce of Barcelona, the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), the European Investment Bank (EIB), and the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed).

The three-day event will include forums and working sessions on issues ranging from the green economy to renewable energy and sustainable development.

The Week includes the 4th summit of the green economy of the Mediterranean, which includes the Foro Solar, economic intelligence, Medacity, the global Eco Forum and Meditour, dedicated to ecological tourism.

Sectorial appointments will include the second summit dedicated to Islamic finance; the first Mediterranean forum of entrepreneurs and the forum for the economic development of North Africa (NABDF), which has reached its 11th edition.

As usual, Ascame will celebrate its general assembly within economic week, which will be attended by 300 chambers of commerce of the Mediterranean and representatives of 23 countries of the region.

The great challenges of the energy sector, the need to create an energy community in the Mediterranean will be at the center

of the I forum on energy regulation scheduled on November 26.

Organized by Medgrer, the only organization of independent public authorities in the region, the forum vies to create a joint authority for electricity and gas to benefit consumers in 21 countries to be represented in it.

The appointment in Barcelona will be an occasion to address key issues for energy policies in the area, like the role of authorities regulating the region's interconnected market.

Another issue to be addressed is which investments and mechanisms should be funded to create infrastructures to respond to the growing demand for gas, electricity and renewable energy in the area. The objective is a road map for the creation of an energy community in the Mediterranean.

Centred on the essential aspects of sustainable development in the region, like the use of renewable energy and eco-efficiency, with particular attention to the green economy, the Week will also include the Mediterranean solar forum. The forum will "focus on the social and political impact, training and challenges of the solar sector", said sources from the organization. It will also compare for the first time "six strategic projects of the European Union's Neighbourhood Policy and their financial tools (ENPI) involving EU members and countries from the two shores of the Mediterranean".

These are projects of the ENPI CBC Med Solar Cluster set up in Amman, Jordan, in October 2013: Foster in Med, Shaams, Med Solaire, Didsolitpb, Sts-Med and Med-Desire.

The overall investment for the development of solar energy in the region is worth 25 million euros.(ANSAMED)