The 16th International Energy Forum

2nd Plenary Session
Sustainable and Inclusive Growth: Energy access and Affordability

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More than accessibility and affordability, Natural Gas can support many of the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Gas-based fertilizer industry can support agricultural productivity, reducing hunger

Gas for heating and cooking improves indoor air quality and reduces physical impacts from collecting biomass

Gas-based water desalination contributes in reducing water stress

Gas-based industries (e.g. petrochemicals and steel) stimulate economic activity and reduce unemployment

Potential for innovation in gas-based industries, particularly in chemicals and transportation
Despite its advantages, natural gas is facing key energy policies’ challenges

- Role of natural gas in reducing greenhouse gas emissions not highlighted clearly in Countries’ NDCs.
- Policy constrains in Europe (continuing change of market rules and design, dominance of national policies and priorities).
- Policy still not very clear regarding the role of gas vs. coal in some Southeast Asian countries.
- Lack of visibility on gas demand and revenues affects investment in capital-intensive gas projects.

GECF is promoting cooperation and dialogue to deal with gas challenges and support its sustainable role.
Natural gas: an important contributor in improving access to electricity

New access to electricity supplied by natural gas since 2000

20%
Expanding gas networks for domestic usage, and development of small scale LNG are also supporting energy access.

Global household gas demand (Bcm)
- 2000: 437
- 2016: 501
- 2040: 624

Small-scale LNG potential in 2030 by type (%)
- LNG Power, 23%
- LNG Trucks, 43%
- Marine LNG, 34%

Total ssLNG demand = 100 Mt
Natural gas has many advantages that drive its affordability:

- Competitive compared to costly and subsidized renewables
- Abundance of natural gas resources
- Low carbon penalties and pollution costs
- Thermal efficiency of gas-fired power plants
- Possible synergies with other processes (e.g., Combined Heat & Power)
- Cost efficiency in transporting natural gas compared to transporting power
Thank you!