



Cyprus' strategies towards decarbonization

Dr. Andreas Poulikkas

M.Phil, Ph.D, D.Tech, FIET

Chairman, Cyprus Energy Regulatory Authority

apoulikkas@cera.org.cy

Contents

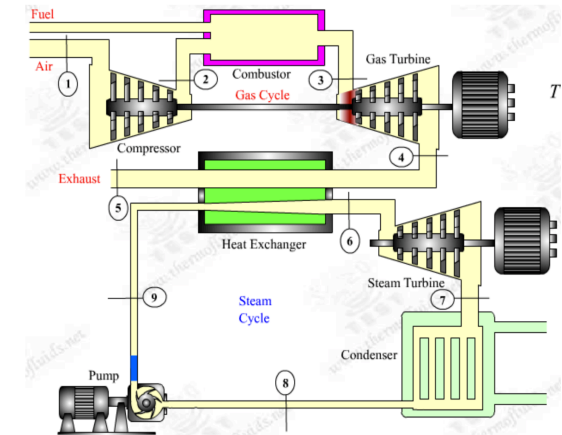
- **Cyprus current electricity and NG systems**
– systems characteristics
- **Characteristics of island energy systems** –
solutions to isolation
- **Short to medium term strategies** – towards
sustainable energy system
- **Long term strategies** – sustainable future in SE
Mediterranean region

Cyprus current electricity and NG systems

Systems characteristics

Existing power generation system

- **Steam turbine units (HFO)**
 - Dhekelia power station 6x60MWe
 - Vasilikos power station 3x130MWe
- **Combined cycles (Diesel)**
 - Vasilikos power station 2x220MWe
- **Gas turbine units (Diesel)**
 - Moni power station 4x37,5MWe
 - Vasilikos power station 1x38MWe
- **Internal combustion engines**
 - Dhekelia power station 6x17.5MWe (HFO)



Existing power generation system (cont.)

- **Renewables**

- **PVs: 217MWe**
- **Wind: 157MWe**
- **Biomass: 13MWe**

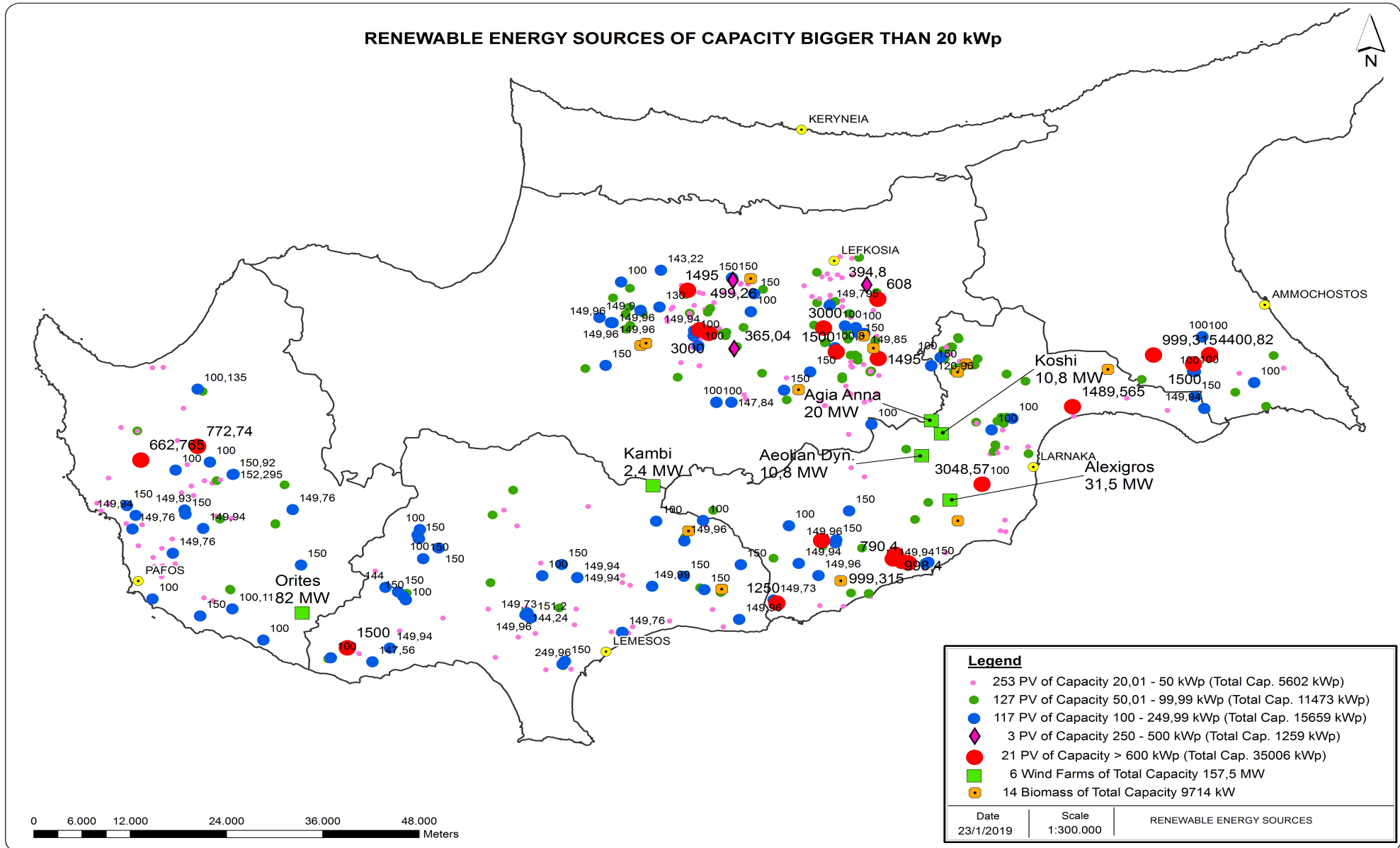


- **Total installed capacity:**

- **Conventional: 1483MWe**
- **Renewables: 387MWe**

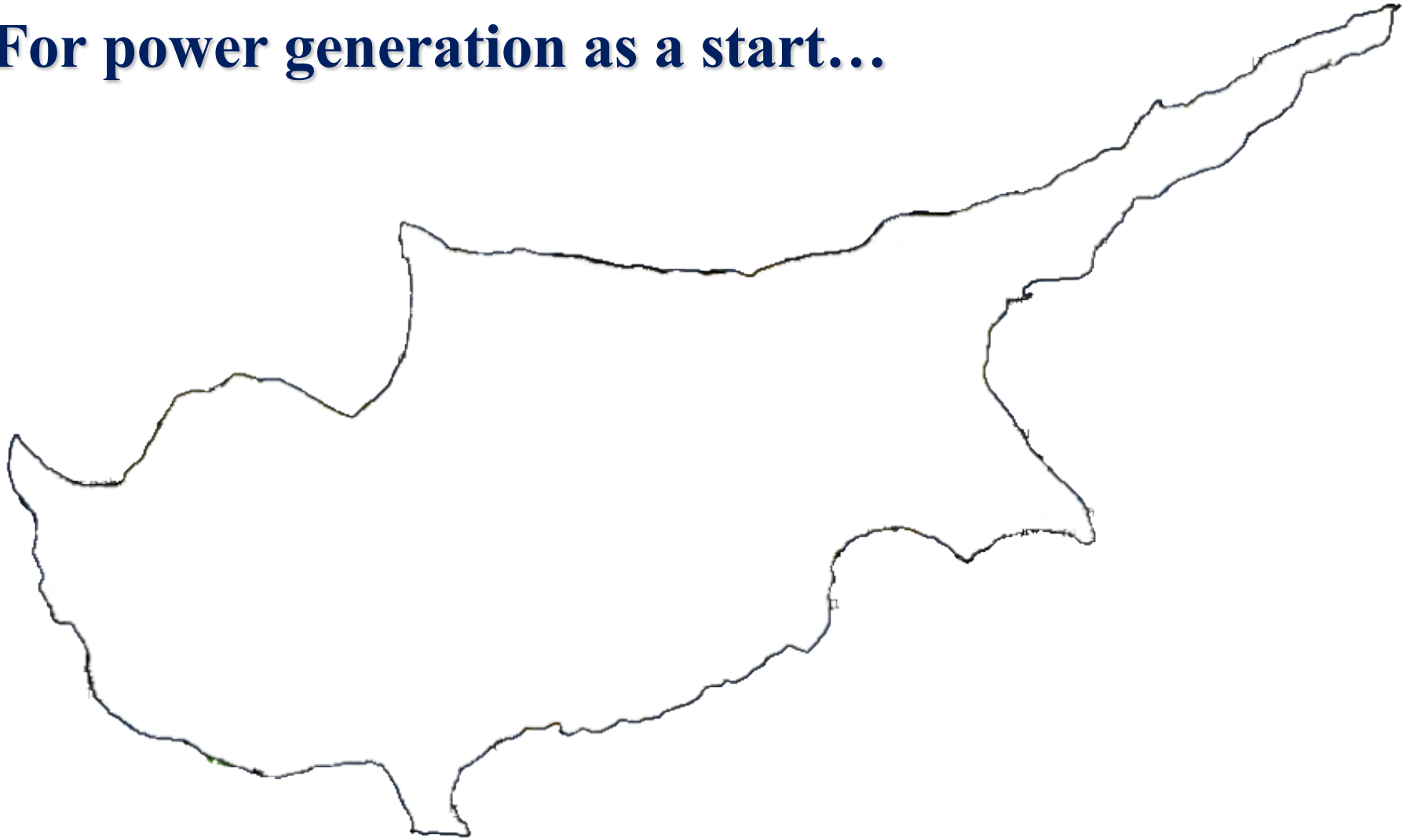


Distribution of RES-E



Existing natural gas system

- **Under development !**
- **For power generation as a start...**



Characteristics of island energy systems

Solutions to isolation

Characteristics of isolated electricity systems*



- **High fuel costs**
 - ~ use of oil derivatives
- **Economies of scale cannot be adequately exploited**
 - ~ generation units cannot exceed a certain size since the loss of a unit would mean the loss of a high percentage of the entire system
- **Need to maintain high reserve capacity to ensure power system reliability**

The smaller the electrical system size, the more the expenses will be

* Poullikkas A., 2015, *Sustainable Energy Policy for Cyprus*, ISBN: 978-9963-7355-6-3

Energy transition for non-interconnected islands*

Need to:

- Reduce cost of **security of supply**
- Achieve **market integration**
- Increase **socio-economic welfare benefits**

* Poullikkas A., 2013, *Renewable Energy: Economics, Emerging Technologies and Global Practices*, ISBN: 978-1-62618-231-8

The solution*

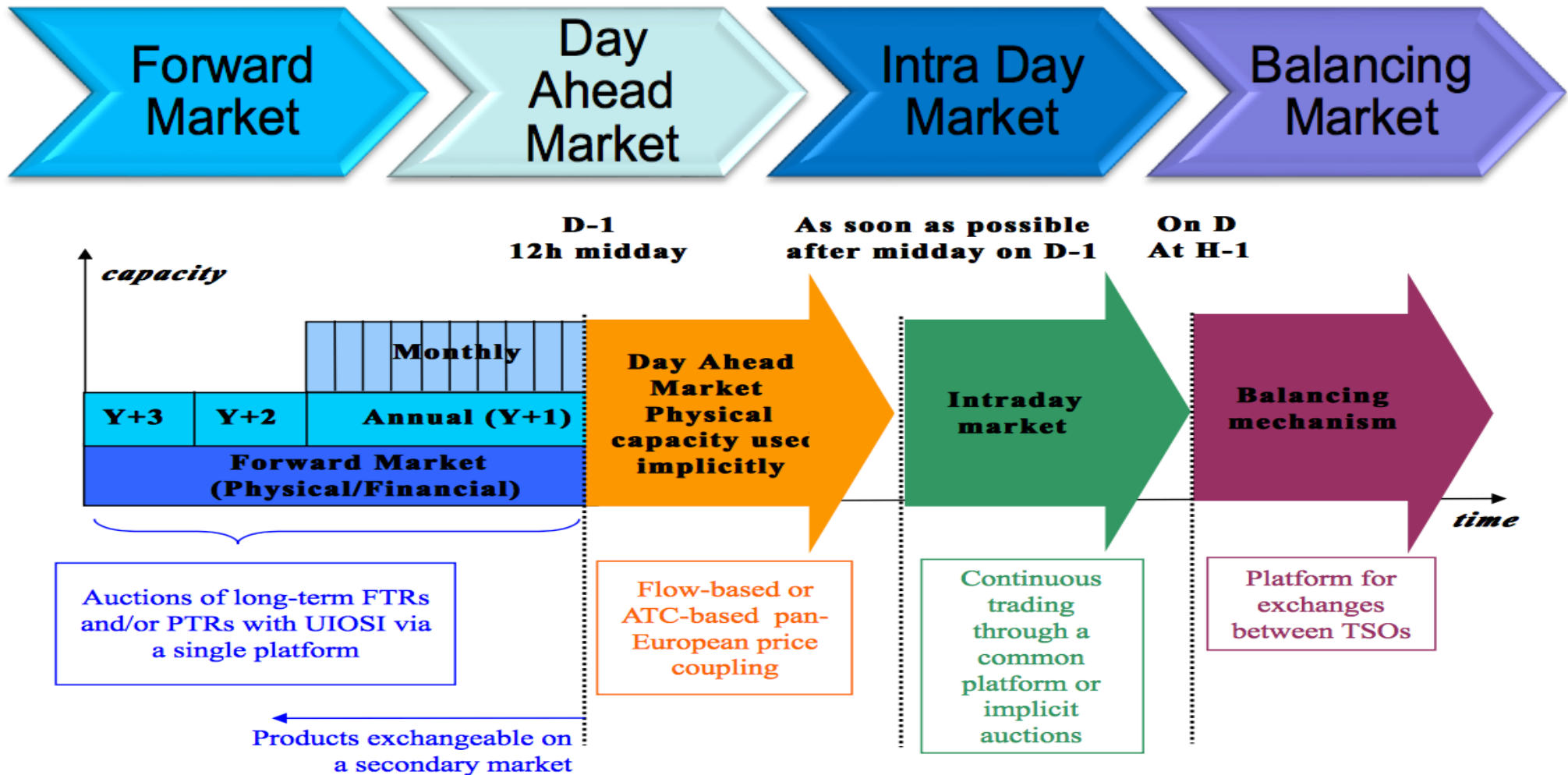
- **Increase system flexibility**
 - ~ integrate RES into electricity market
 - ~ use natural gas, storage and RES for power generation
 - ~ promote e-mobility (V2G technology - bidirectional flow of electricity between the electric car and the grid)
- **Establish electricity interconnections**
 - ~ with EU internal electricity market (the island of Cyprus is the only non-interconnected Member State)
- **Production of hydrogen (energy carrier)**
 - ~ from RES and natural gas

* Poullikkas A., 2016, *Fundamentals of Energy Regulation*, ISBN: 978-9963-7355-8-7

Short to medium term strategies

Towards sustainable energy future

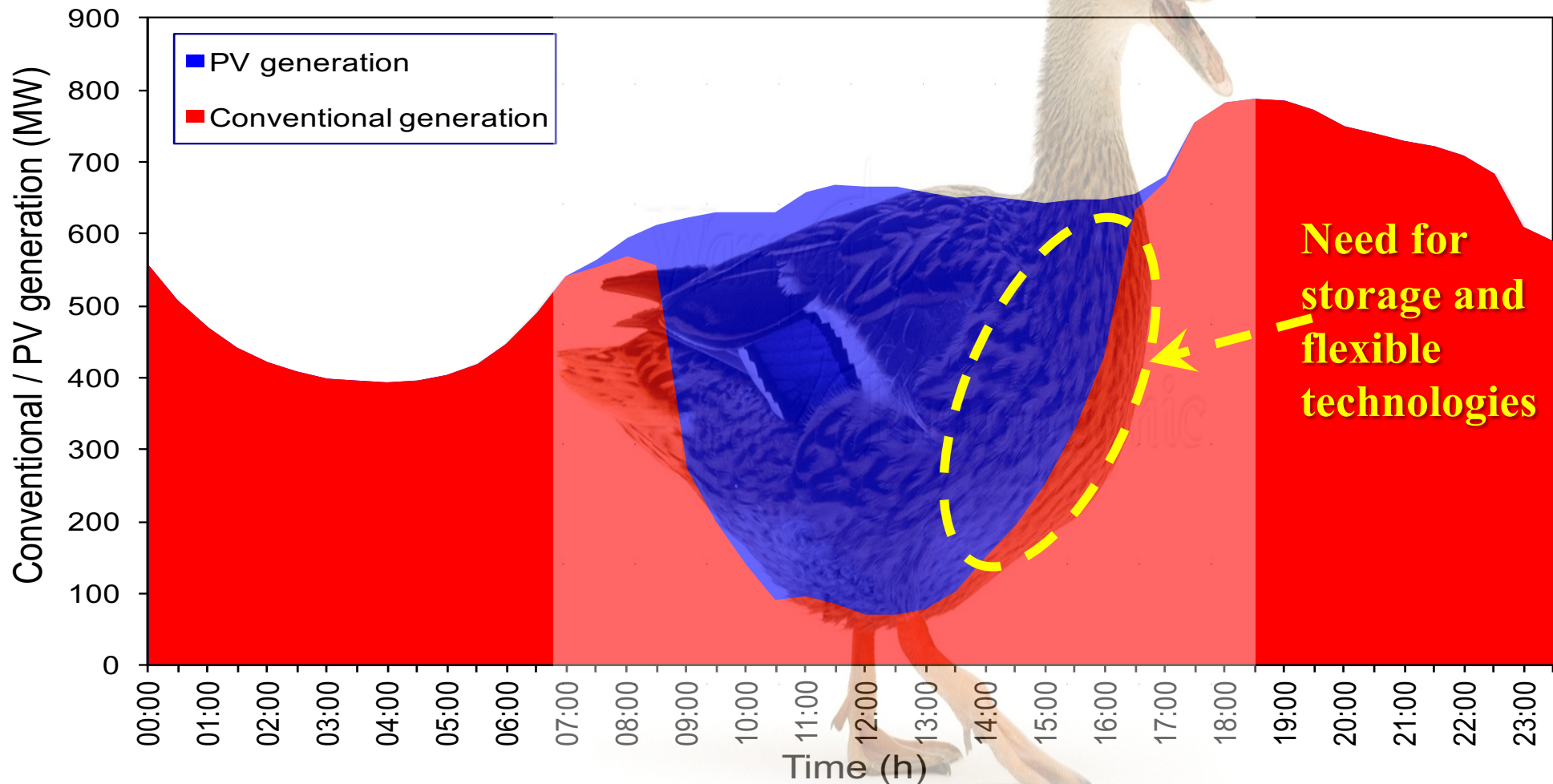
EU electricity market target model*



Integration of RES*: LCOE vs Reliability

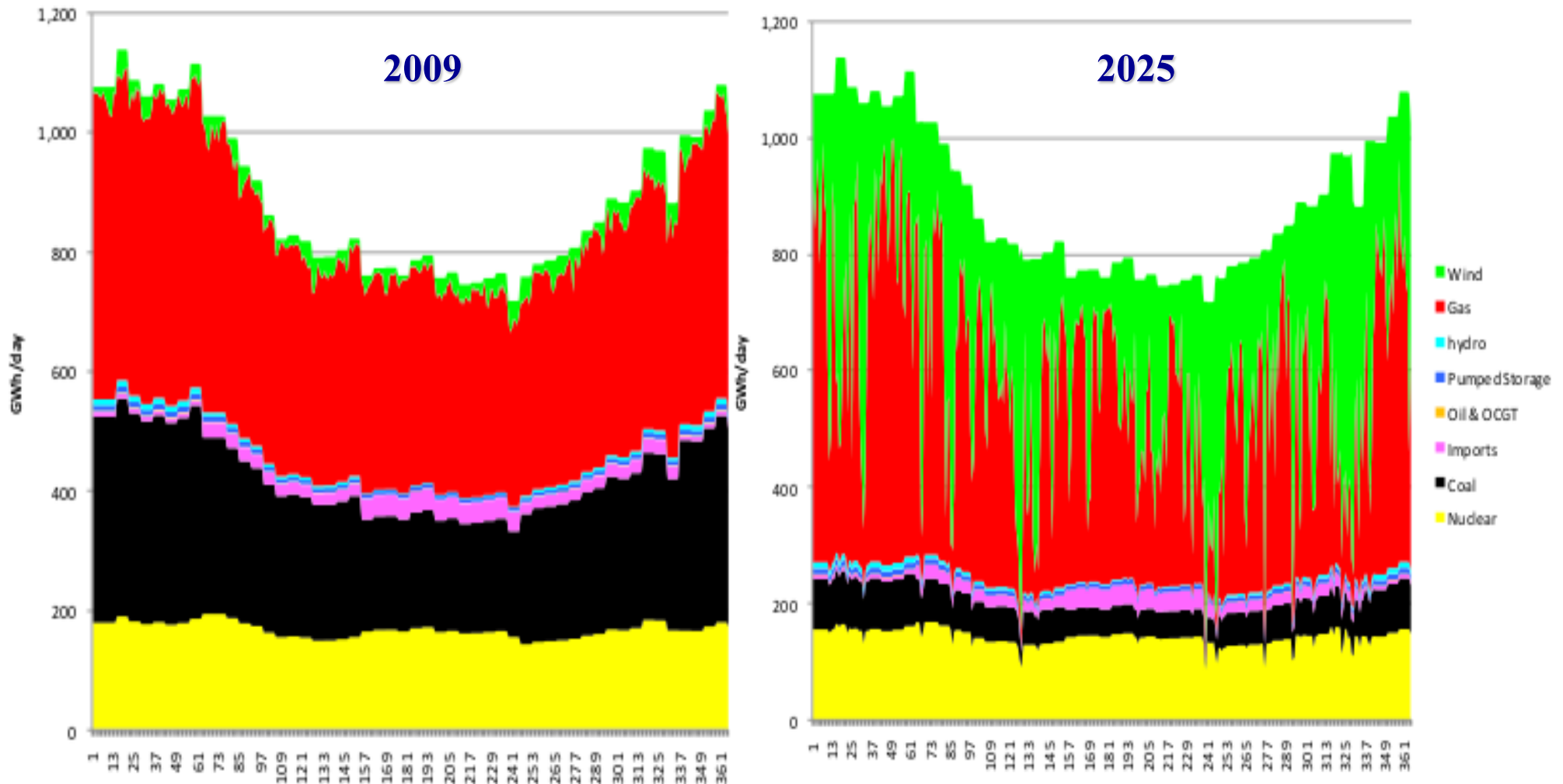
* Nicolaidis P., Chatzis S., Poullikkas A., 2018, "Renewable energy integration through optimal unit commitment and electricity storage in weak power networks", *International Journal of Sustainable Energy*

Effect of PV generation on load curve (the 'duck curve')*



* Poullikkas A., 2016, "From the 'camel curve' to the 'duck curve' on electric systems with increasing solar power", *Accountancy*

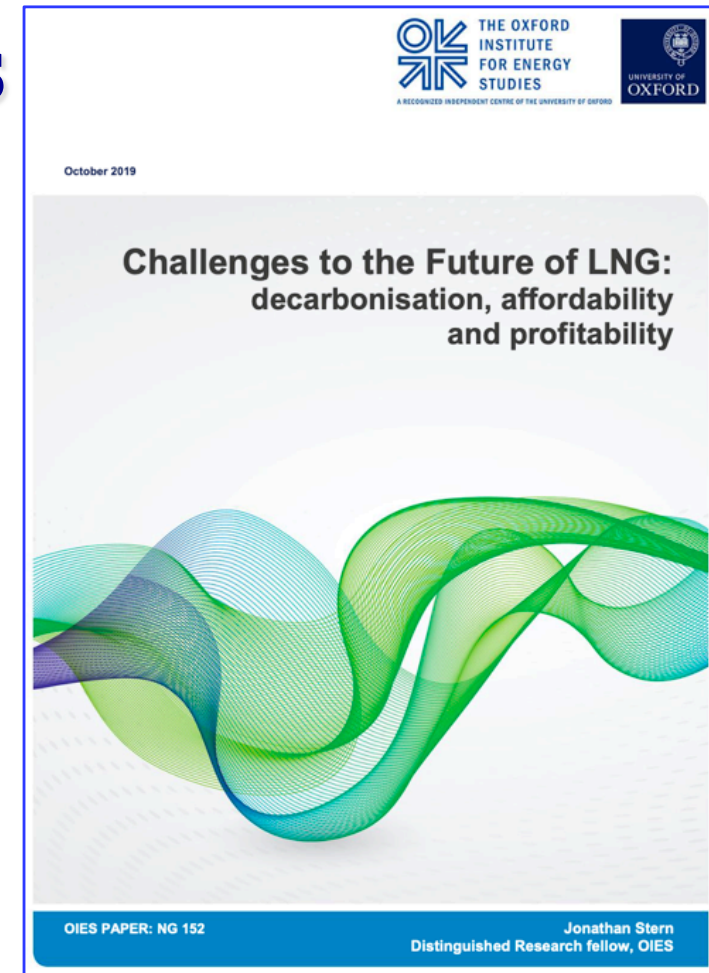
Gas is a pillar of renewable energy (power production in UK*)



* H.V. Rogers, 2011, *The Impact of Import Dependence and Wind Generation on UK Gas Demand and Security of Supply to 2025*, The Oxford Institute For Energy Studies

Use of natural gas as a transition or bridge fuel*

- switching from coal to gas
- using gas and storage to back up intermittent renewables
- the quickest, easiest and lowest cost decarbonization path



* Stern J., 2019, *Challenges to the future of LNG: decarbonisation, affordability and profitability*, The Oxford Institute For Energy Studies

Long term strategies

The role of interconnections and hydrogen for SE Mediterranean region

Long term strategy for energy exports from SE Mediterranean region

Indigenous energy sources

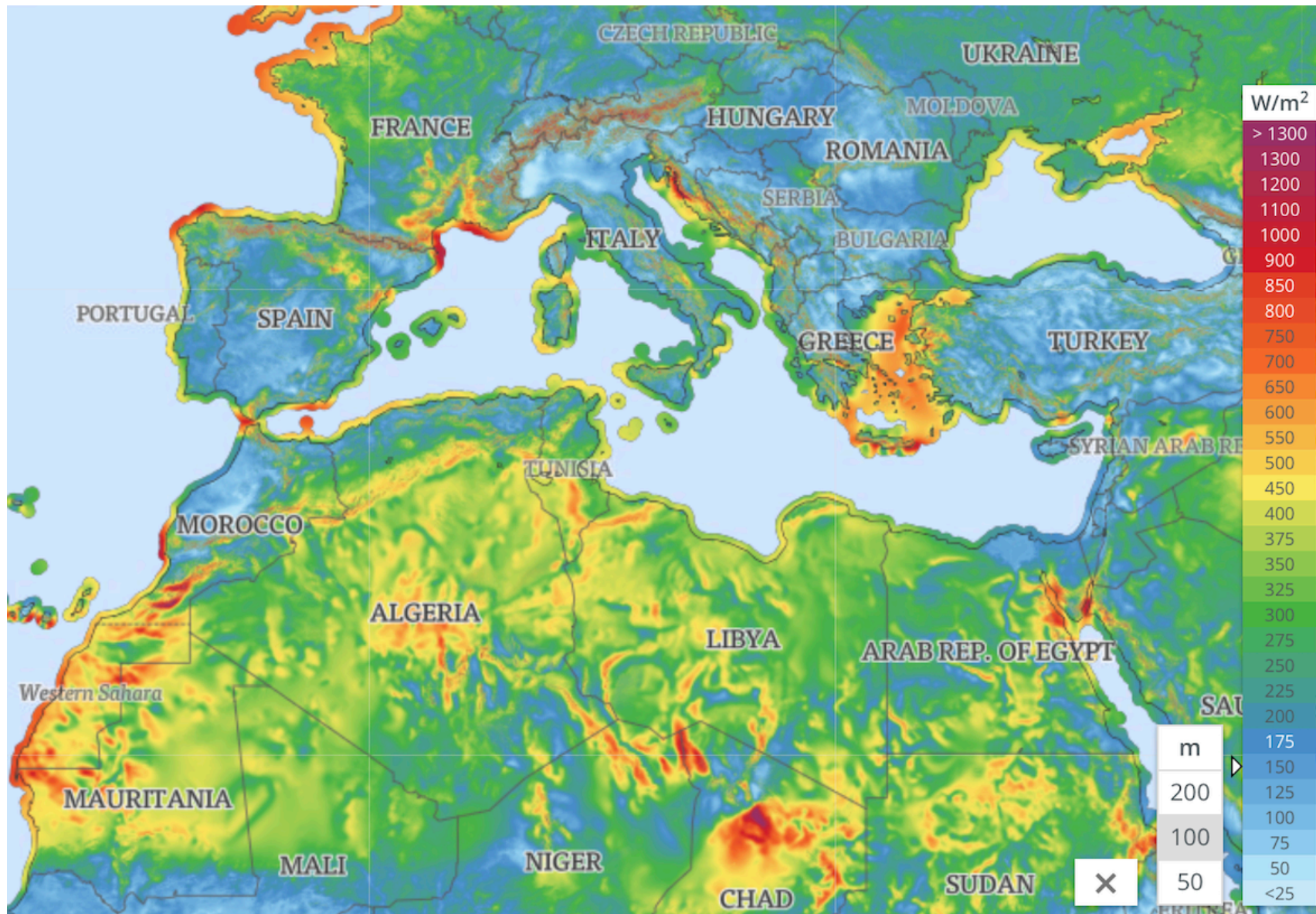


Gas reserves in SE Mediterranean region*



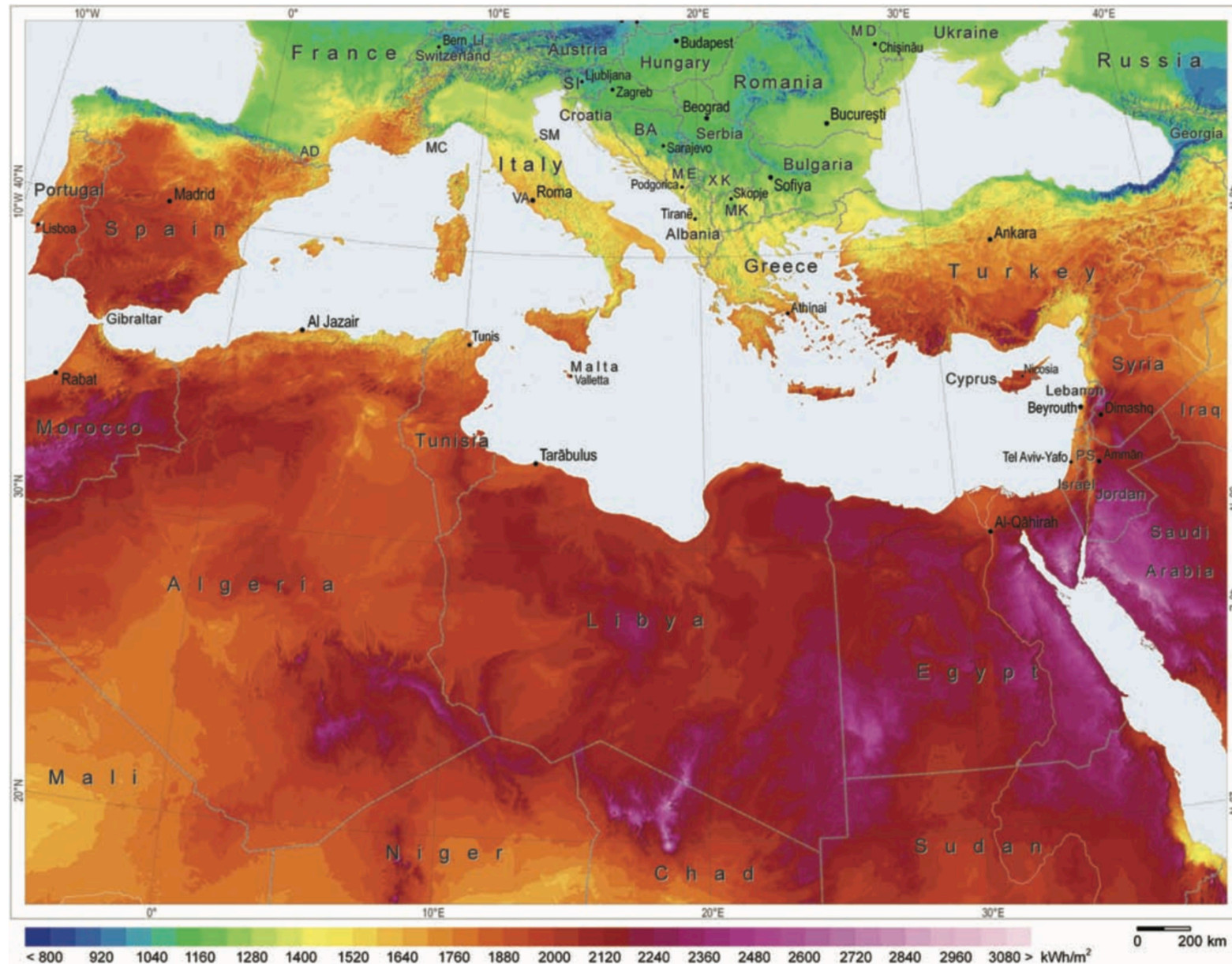
* A. Belopolsky, et al., 2012, "New and emerging plays in the Eastern Mediterranean", *Petroleum Geoscience*

Wind potential in SE Mediterranean region*



* The Global Wind Atlas (<https://globalwindatlas>)

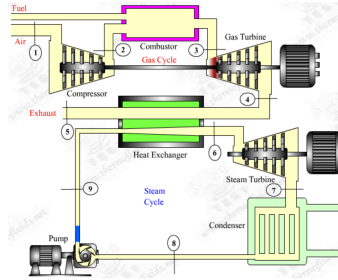
Solar potential in SE Mediterranean region*



* Easac & Pihl, Erik. (2011). Concentrating Solar Power: Its potential contribution to a sustainable energy future

Main indigenous energy sources in SE Mediterranean region

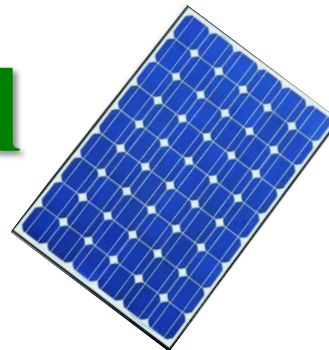
- **Natural gas**



- **Wind potential**

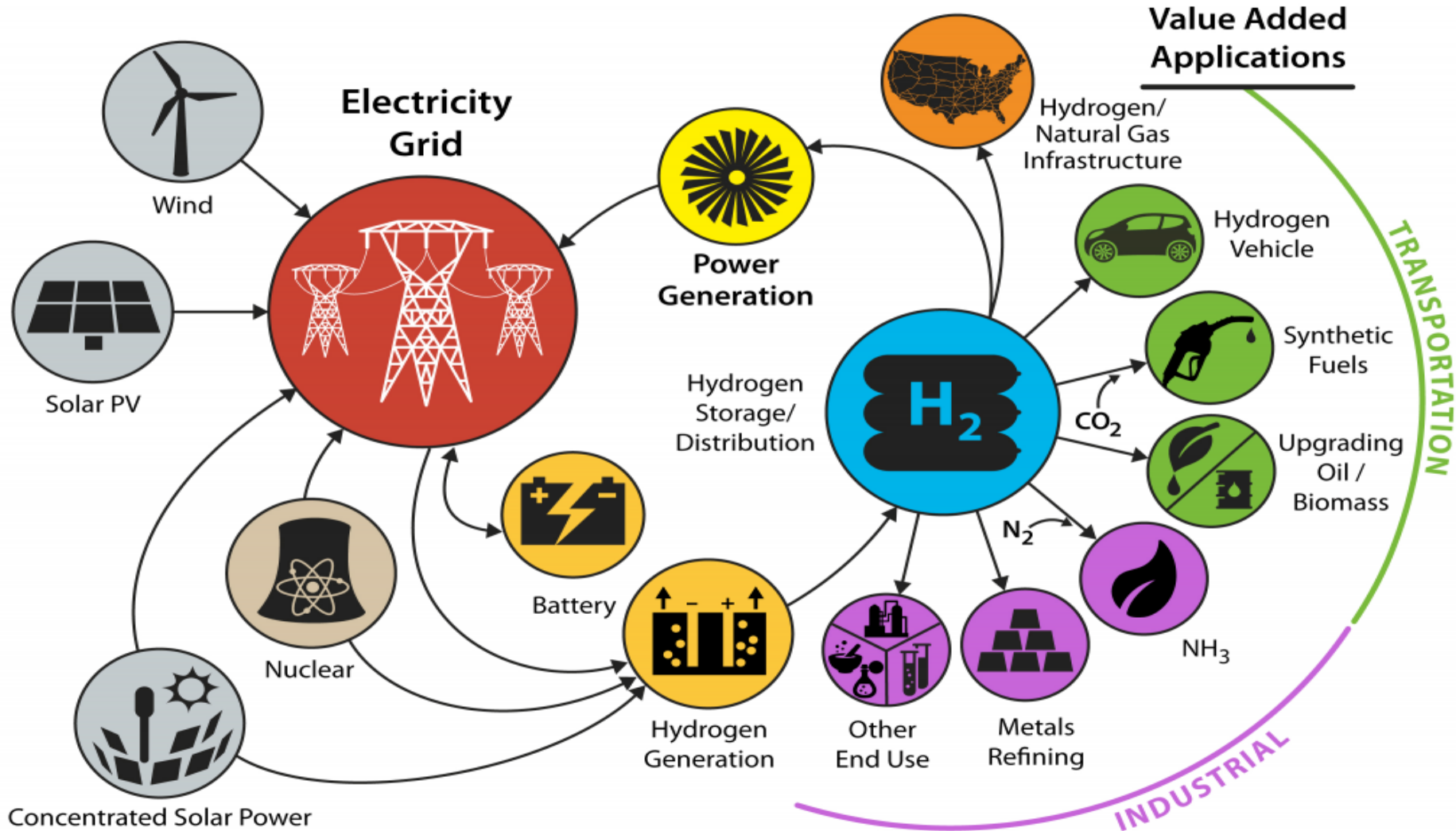


- **Solar potential**



Long term scenarios in Europe

Moving from Carbon economy to Hydrogen economy



Next steps towards the development of sustainable energy strategy*

- **Horizon up to 2060**
- **Development of strategic plan for SE Med region:**
 - ~ **Electrical interconnections**
 - ~ **Pipeline interconnections (or virtual pipelines)**
 - ~ **Integration of sustainable technologies and storage**
 - ~ **Use of hydrogen after 2030**
 - ~ **Hydrogen production**
 - From natural gas
 - From renewables
- **Energy exporters to EU**



* Poullikkas A., 2020, *Long-term Sustainable Energy Strategy: Cyprus' Energy Transition to Hydrogen Economy*, ISBN: 978-9925-7710-0-4