

Press Release



New Energy and Industrial Technology
Development Organization

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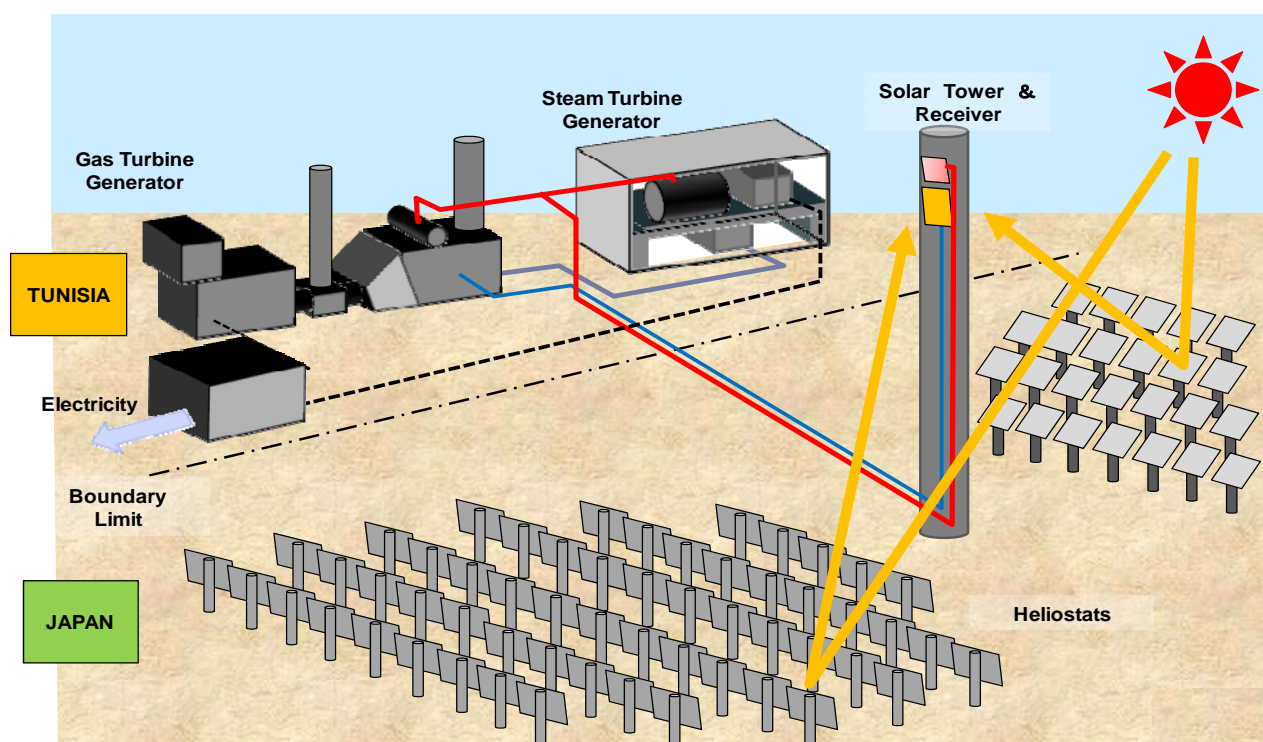
December 13, 2010

Japan and Tunisia Agree to Launch a Collaborative Solar Thermal Power Generation Project NEDO and Tunisian Government Will Conduct the Project

Mr. Akihiro Ohata, Minister of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Mr. Seiji Murata, Chairman of the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO), Mr. Mohamed Nouri Jouini, Minister of the Ministry of Development and International Cooperation (MDIC) of the Republic of Tunisia, and Mr. Afif Chelbi, Minister of the Ministry of Industry and Technology (MIT) of the Republic of Tunisia, issued a joint statement regarding a collaborative solar thermal power generation project at the Second Japan-Arab Economic Forum¹.

As the first step in this collaborative project, NEDO, MDIC and MIT have signed a Memorandum of Understanding regarding a feasibility study (FS) for the project. Mitsui Engineering & Shipbuilding Co., Ltd. and Taisei Corporation will carry out the FS, which will be entrusted by NEDO.

Image of Solar Thermal Combined Cycle Power Generation



1. Outline of the Cooperative Project

- 1) The participants will establish a 20 to 40 MWe-scale gas turbine combined cycle power plant (GTCC) integrating 5 MWe-scale tower configuration concentrated solar heat steam production facilities (CSP) at El Borma in Tunisia.
- 2) NEDO will supply, install and commission equipment as well as provide operation and maintenance know-how for the installation of solar heat steam production facilities, and MDIC and MIT will take necessary measures to operate, manage, and maintain the equipment in cooperation with NEDO.
- 3) NEDO will conduct a FS for the CSP by entrusting such work to Mitsui Engineering & Shipbuilding Co., Ltd. and Taisei Corporation, and MDIC and MIT shall conduct a feasibility study for the GTCC by entrusting such work to STEG Renewable Energy.
- 4) MDIC and MIT shall provide necessary cooperation, such as tax exemption required for the implementation of the CSP demonstration project, in accordance with local laws and regulations.
- 5) With regard to the schedule for the project, the FS for the CSP is scheduled to be completed during the first half of 2011.

2. Background

- The project will be carried out as part of the Tunisia Solar Plan² that the Tunisian government has been promoting to introduce renewable energy. It will be Japan's first large-scale national project on an integrated solar combined cycle power plant (ISCC) to be undertaken overseas.
- Mr. Tadahiro Matsushita, Vice Minister of METI, and Mr. Mohamed Nouri Jouini, Minister of MDIC, issued a joint statement on July 23, 2010 regarding the implementation of the project. NEDO concluded a letter of intent with MDIC and MIT on the same day to enhance bilateral cooperation in the renewable energy field, including this project.
- The MOU for the FS was signed by Mr. Seiji Murata, Chairman of NEDO, Mr. Mohamed Nouri Jouini, Minister of MDIC and Mr. Afif Chelbi, Minister of MIT. NEDO will entrust the FS work to Mitsui Engineering & Shipbuilding Co., Ltd. and Taisei Corporation.
- NEDO aims to promote the overseas deployment of Japan's advanced solar thermal power generation technologies and contribute to addressing global energy issues through the implementation of demonstration projects in Tunisia, where the amount of insolation is abundant.

Relevant Information

- Press release: Agreement to conduct a joint solar thermal power project with Tunisia (English) (http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/data/20100723_01.html)
Press release: NEDO Will Start FS for a Collaborative Solar Thermal Power Generation Project with Tunisia (Japanese)
(<https://app3.infoc.nedo.go.jp/informations/koubo/press/AT1/nedopress.2010-07-21.8134167167/>)
- The Second Japan-Arab Economic Forum (<http://jaef-registration.org/english/index.html>)

3. Contact Persons

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¹ The Japan-Arab Economic Forum was established in 2009 for the purpose of strengthening mutual economic relations between Japan and the Arab League through cooperation in a wide range of fields such as trade, investment, energy, technology and human resources development. Government cabinet ministers and representatives of the business communities from both Japan and Arab countries participate in the forum, the second of which was held December 11-12, 2010 in Tunis, Tunisia.

²The Tunisia Solar Plan is Tunisia's plan to introduce renewable energy, mainly solar power. It consists of 40 projects. The duration of the plan is from 2010 to 2016.