

# Integrating Seasonal Thermal Energy Storage in the Mediterranean Region (STORM)

MED Talks 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition: fostering dialogue between Northern  
and Southern shores



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*Luigi Vanvitelli*



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Mediterraneo

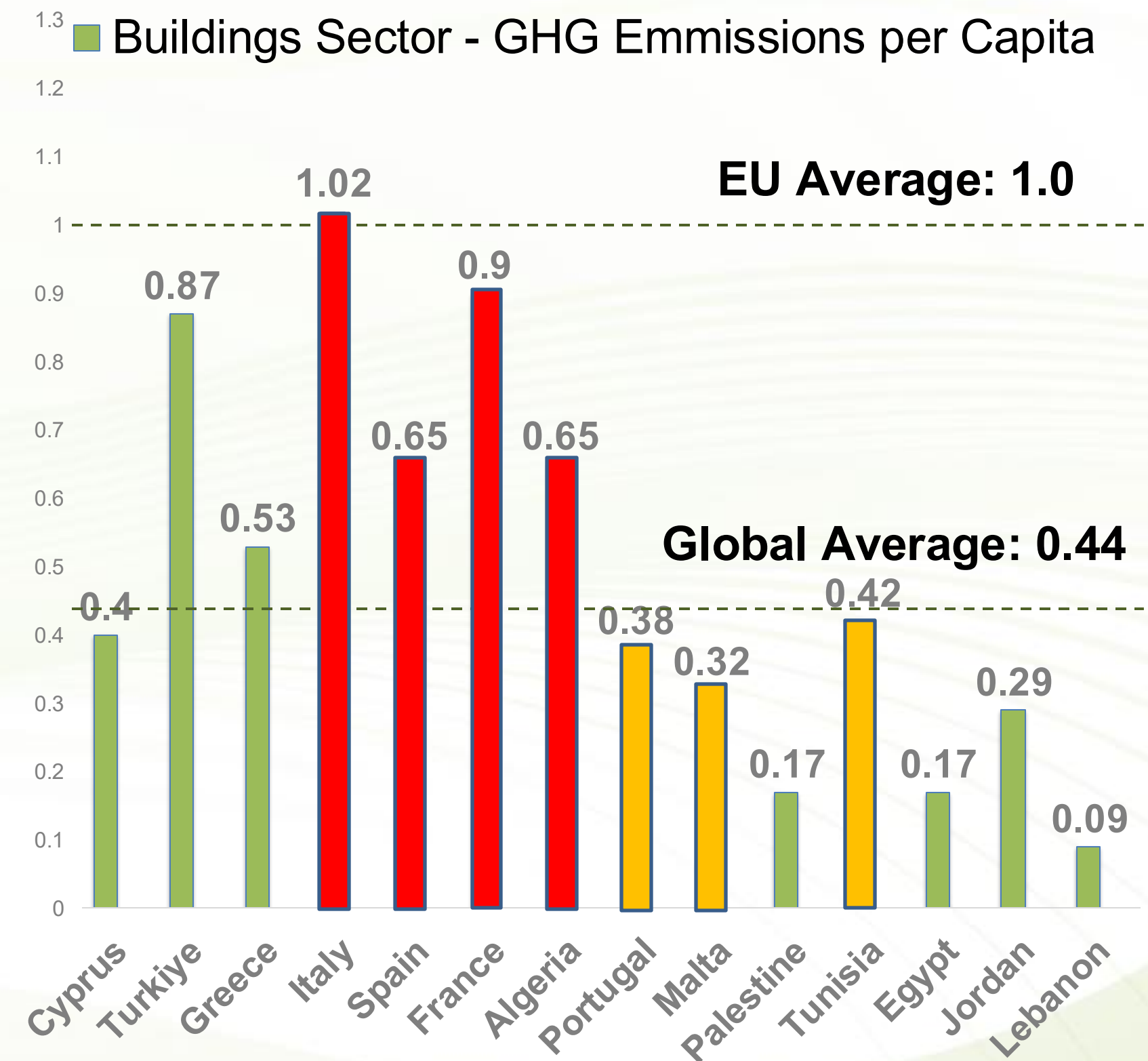
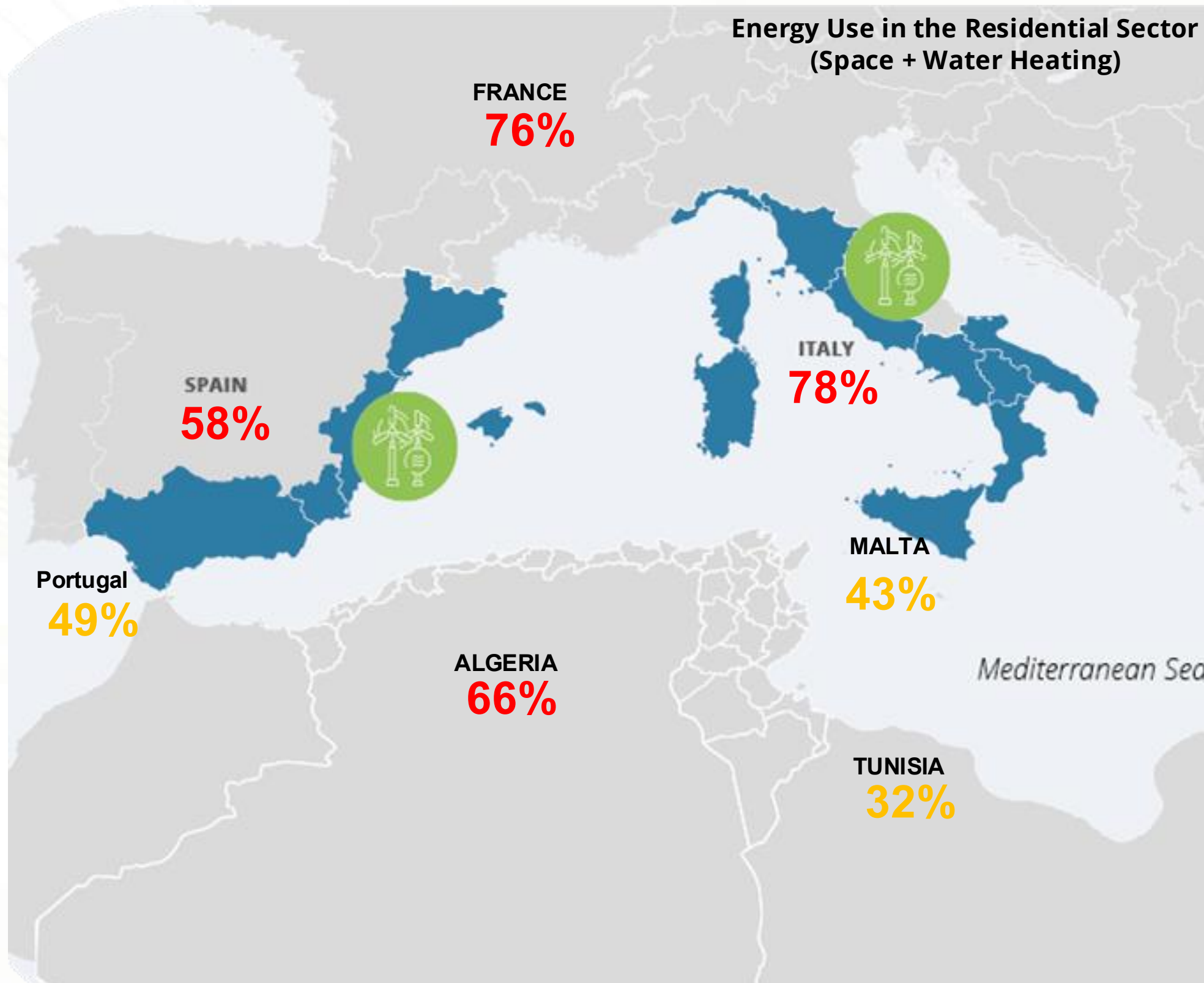


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# 1 The Mediterranean Energy Challenge

## Space + Water Heating vs GHG Emissions



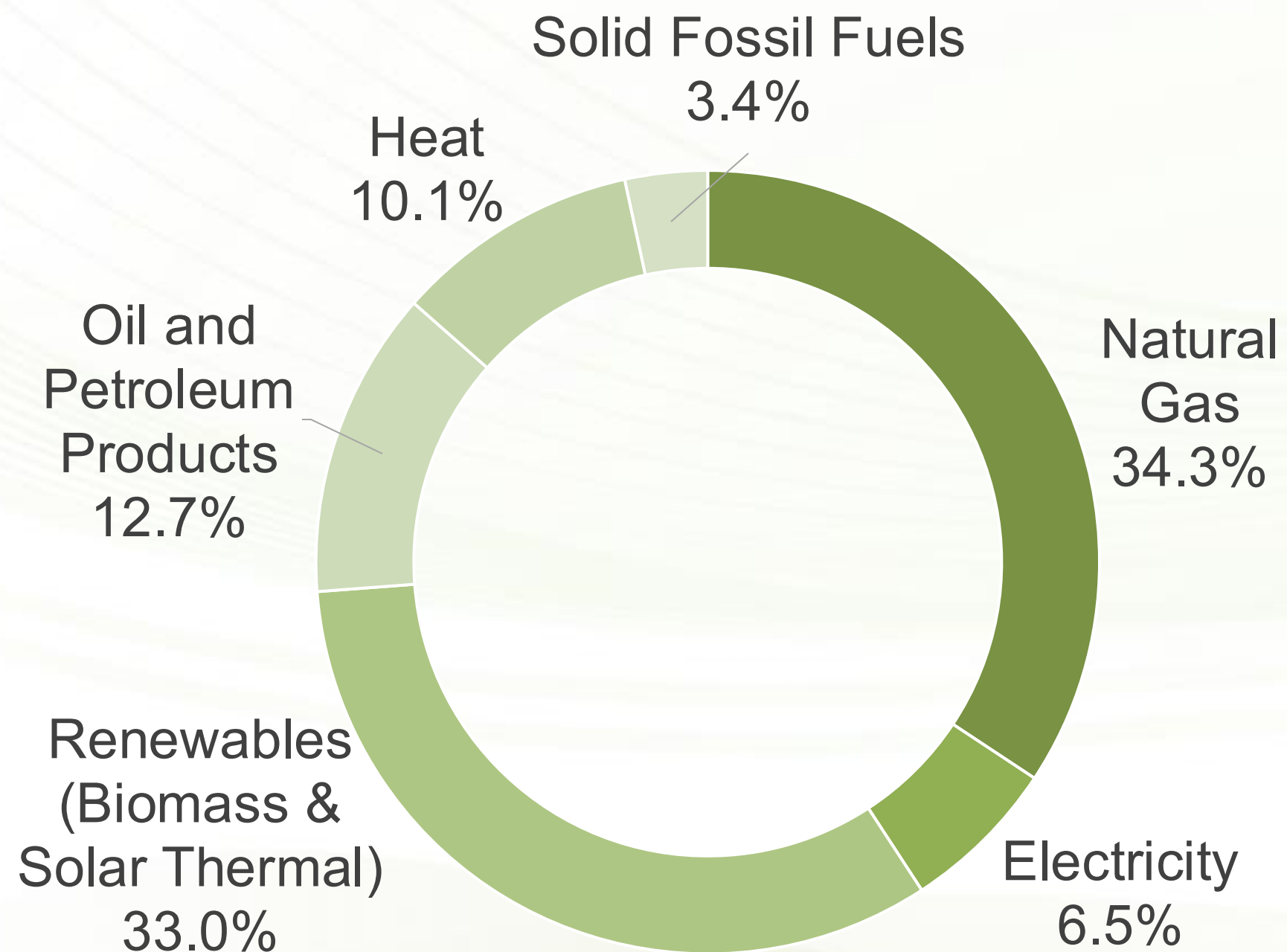


# 1 The Mediterranean Energy Challenge

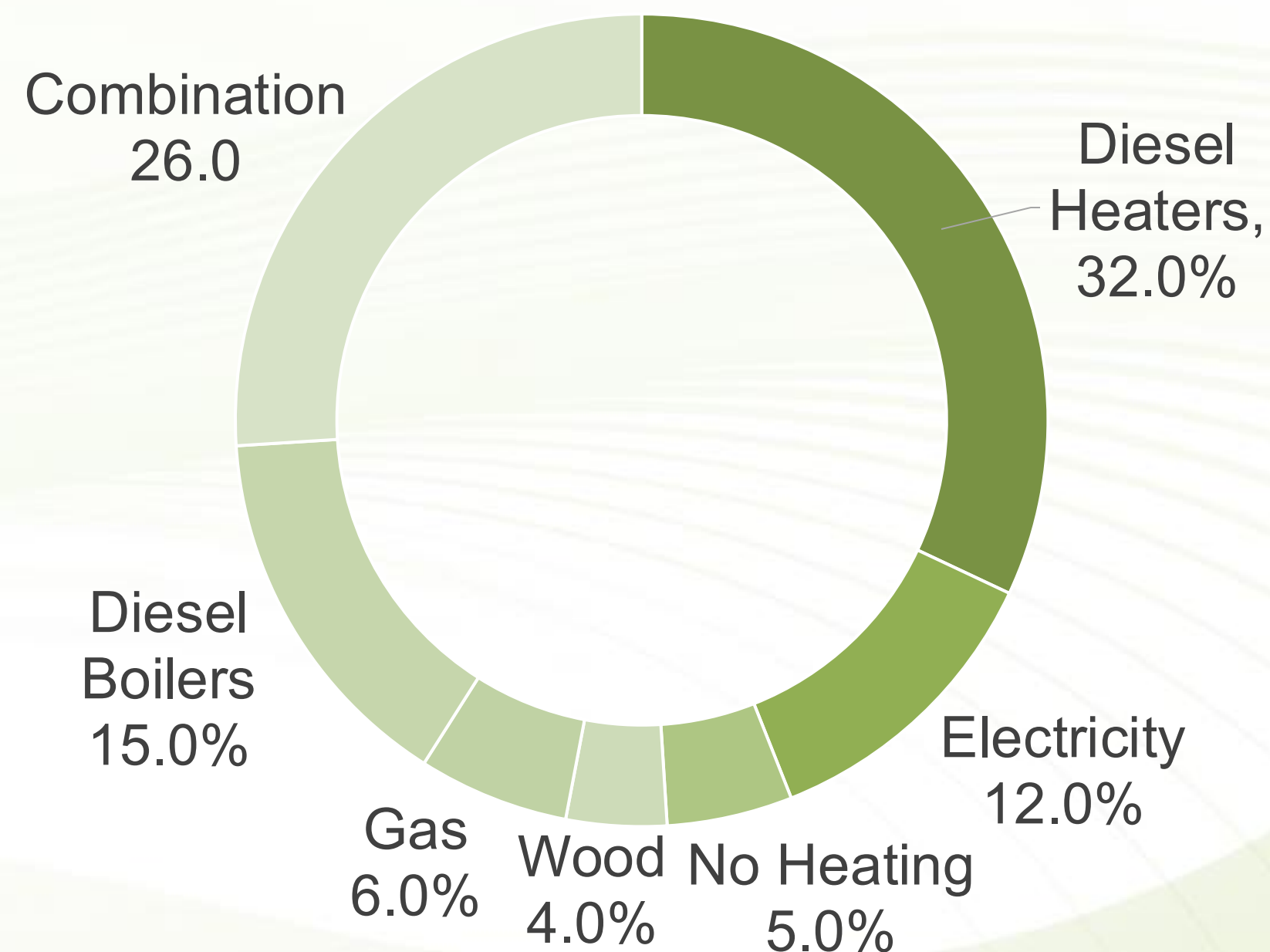
## Space Heating – Energy Sources



**EU (2023)<sup>1</sup>**



**Lebanon (2018)<sup>2</sup>**



<sup>1</sup> Source: Statistics Explained (<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statisticsexplained/>) - 27/08/2025

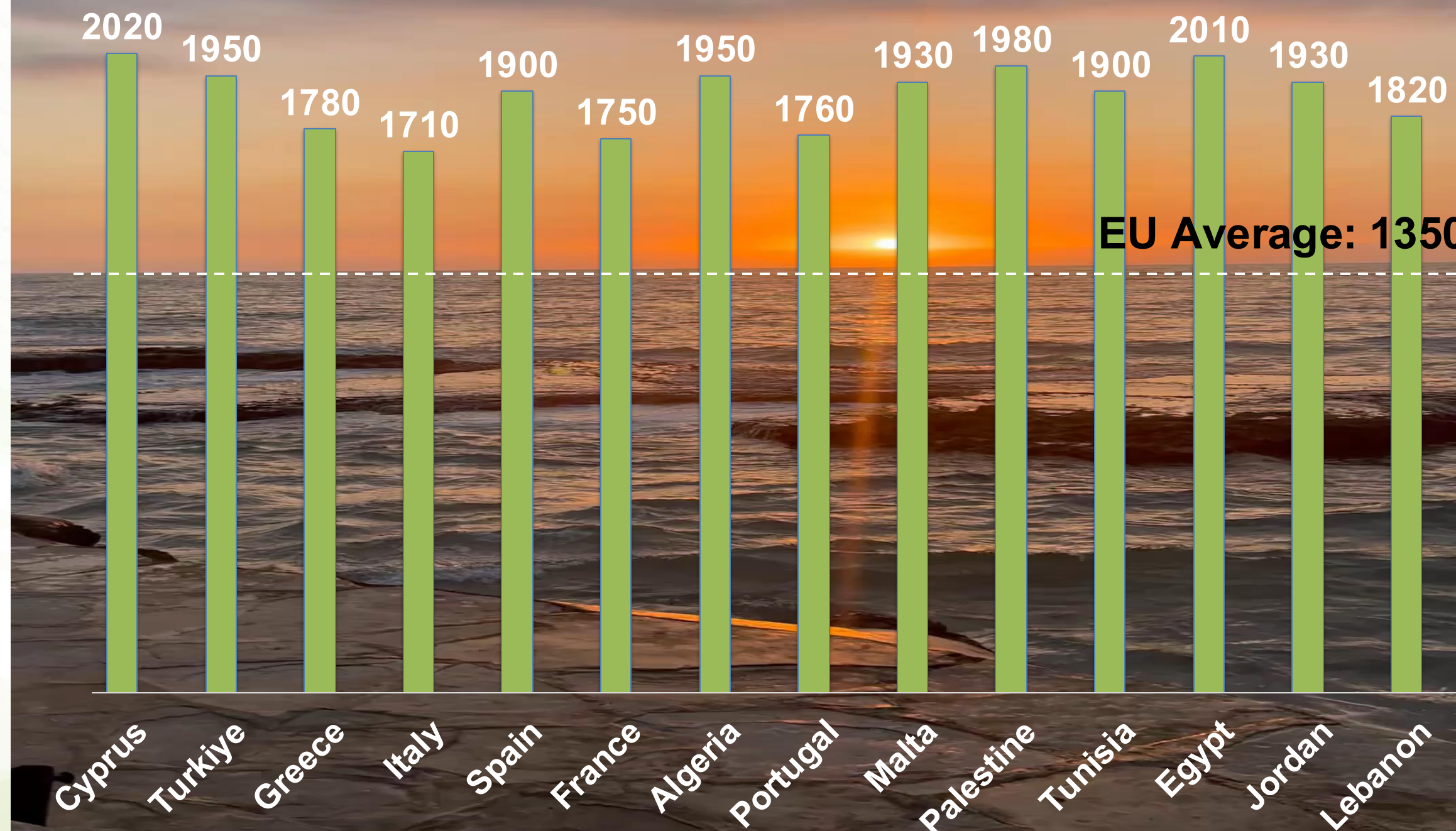
<sup>2</sup> Source: First Energy Indicators Report of the Republic of Lebanon – 2018 - LCEC

## 2 Opportunity for Renewable Heating/Cooling

### The Mediterranean's Solar Potential



■ Annual Global Horizontal Irradiation (kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year)





## 2 Opportunity for Renewable Heating/Cooling The Mediterranean's Solar Potential



### Solar Thermal



### Solar PV





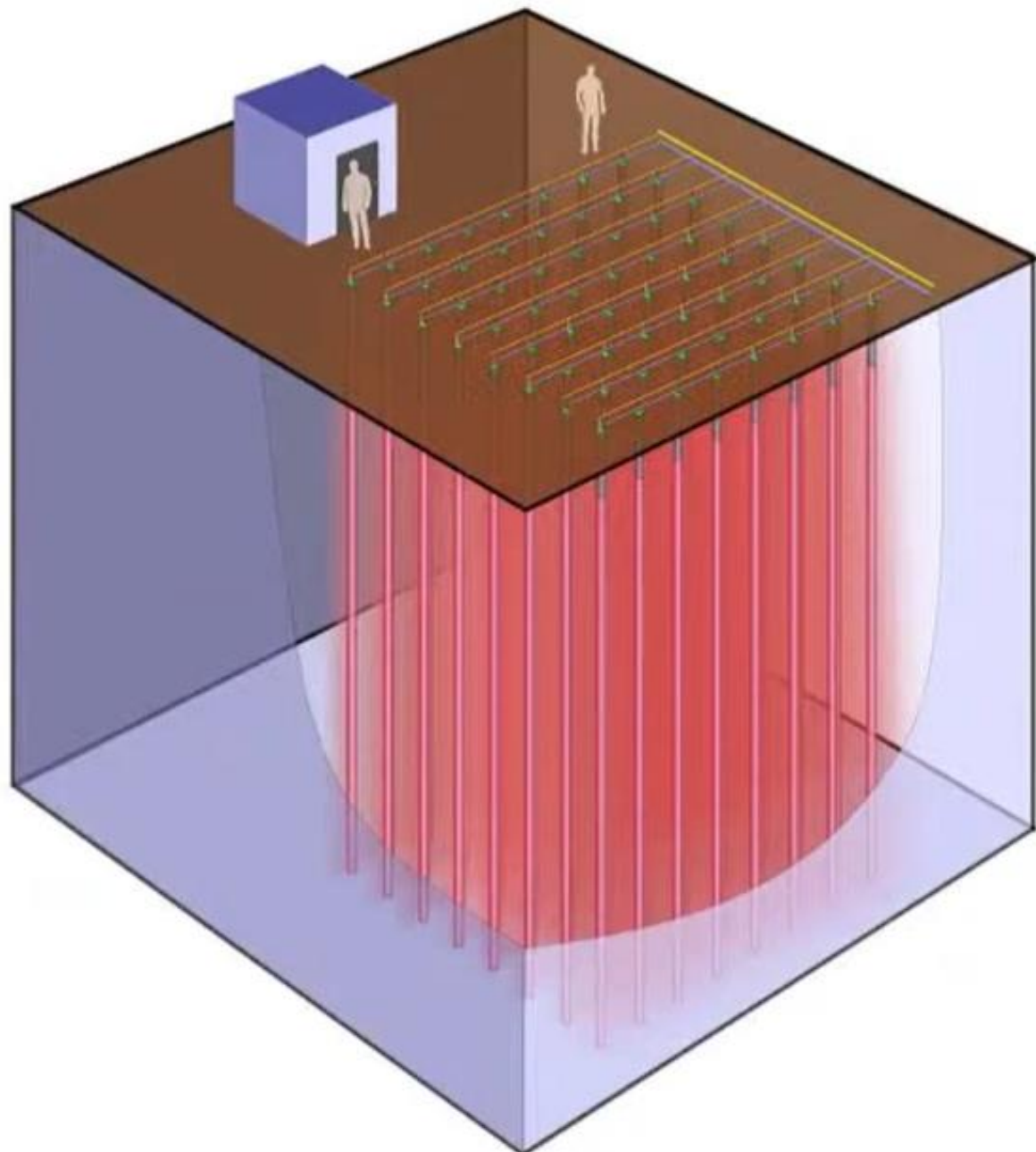
# 3 Seasonal Thermal Energy Storage The Technology



## Borehole versus Tank Storage Technologies

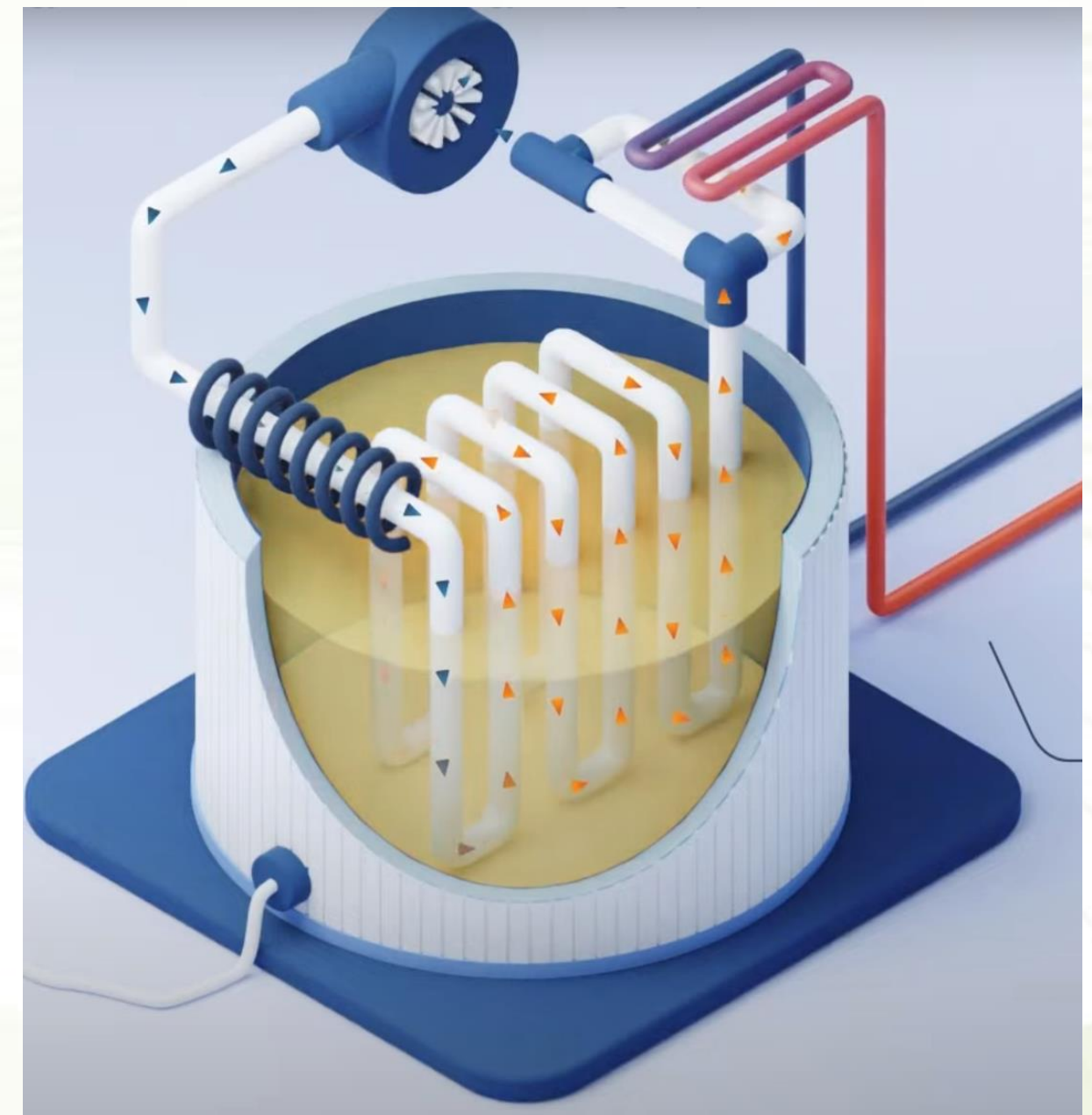
Borehole Thermal Energy Storage

(Energy stored in natural soil/rock in the ground)



Tank Thermal Energy Storage

(Energy stored in geomaterials or Water in a Tank)





# Integrating Seasonal Thermal Energy Storage in the Mediterranean Region (STORM)



**Total Budget**  
€ 2.7 Million

**EU Contribution**  
€ 2.4 Million (89%)

**Project Duration**  
36 Months



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## 4 STORM – Partnership, Objectives, Scope Aims and Output



Demonstrate and validate seasonal borehole and tank thermal energy storage technologies in Mediterranean settings .



Increase the energy efficiency of Mediterranean buildings and reduce dependence on fossil fuels for heating and cooling.



Build knowledge, tools, and policy support for wider uptake of STES technologies across the region.



Raise awareness on the benefits and usage of STES in the Mediterranean communities.

**4**  
**Innovative Full  
Scale Pilots**

**1**  
**Mediterranean  
Design Toolkit**

**1**  
**Immersive  
Digital Platform**



# How Does STORM align with the Green Living Areas (GLA) Mission?



- 1 Accelerates Energy Transition:** STORM deploys seasonal thermal energy storage (STES) to cut fossil-based heating and cooling, supporting **GLA's "energy transition" focus topic**
- 2 Advocates for a Green Energy System:** STORM's main goal is to introduce seasonal thermal energy storage technologies to complement the existing mix of Green Energy Systems in the Region, supporting **GLA's mission of promoting green living areas.**
- 3 Provides regional evidence and mapping:** STORM maps STES potential across the Mediterranean and documents case studies, complementing **GLA's territorial coverage across the Mediterranean.** A major output for STORM is a Mediterranean Zonation Mapping for Energy
- 4 Presents Replication Tools:** STORM's digital platform + design toolkit are strongly synergetic with **GLA's shared toolboxes**, which aim at transferring tools/solutions developed by projects.
- 5 Supports policy and strategic planning:** STORM develops strategies/policies to integrate STES into energy plans, contributing concrete solutions to **GLA's "financing the green transition" Thematic focus.**