#### **Greece** as the potential Balkans' Gas Hub

### Gas exports almost quadrupled since Russia-Ukraine conflict started, making Greece critical to the supply of gas in Eastern Europe



- The Revithoussa LNG terminal has allowed the Country not only to secure the necessary quantities of LNG during the energy crisis but also has become of increasing importance for other countries in the region (e.g., Bulgaria) to store their LNG strategic reserves
- In 2022, 29.5 TWh of Revithoussa LNG was exported (+290% yoy)
- The operation of the Alexandroupolis LNG and the Corinth FSRU (potentially another FSRU could be created in the port of Volos) will increase the country's capacity to store and export LNG to the region making Greece critical to the supply of gas in Eastern Europe
- Since the beginning of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Greece exported 20.41 TWh of natural gas to other EU markets, compared with 5.17 TWh in 2021 (+295%)

Source: Gas to Power Journal - AXIA Research, IENE - Institute of Energy for SE Europe

**Energy mix and outlook** 

### Energy consumption and sources mix

Oil is the dominant energy source in both primary and final energy mix. The decreasing use of coal drives down the carbon intensity of electricity generation, sustained by natural gas and renewables development







Source: Eurostat Note (1) Renewable Energy Sources

### Final energy demand per sector

### Buildings account for the highest share of Greece's energy demand, followed by transport and industry sectors

#### Energy demand per sector 2021 figures, kTOE



- Industry accounts for a relatively low share of total energy demand (~25% in 2021), reflecting the Greek economy's focus on the service sector
- ~50% of **buildings' demand** is covered by **electricity**, 21% by **oil** (ongoing shift from oil-fired to more efficient heating systems)
- Greece shows a relatively high share of buildings energy demand covered by solar thermal (5.1% in 2021 vs the global average of 0.6%)
- o Transport sector remains almost completely reliant on oil

■ Oil ■ Electricity ■ Natural gas ■ Coal ■ Biomass ■ Solar



## The most widely used fuel for thermal energy of households is oil, followed by electricity, mainly for hobs and boilers, and biomass



#### ~97% of Greek buildings are privately owned and just 3% are owned by the public sector. Also, most buildings are owner-occupied and that just 23% of buildings are rented





### **Greek buildings**

### **Greek gas** supply **Reducing reliance on Russian gas**

Bcm

3.6

56%

2009

3.0

57%

The first half of 2023 saw a 21% decline in domestic consumption vs the corresponding period of the previous year and a remarkable increase in natural gas exports of ~1 Bcm



### Greek gas demand An increasing trend

Natural gas is playing an increasing role in the Greek energy system. The demand increased from 3 bcm to 5.2 bcm in less than 10 years, driven mainly by a transition from lignite to gas-fired generation, along with increased gas demand from industry and buildings.



- Gas-fired power plants have a key role in system balancing and maintaining security of electricity supply
- Gas is almost completely imported via pipeline and LNG (44% in 2022, thanks to new contracts to substitute Russian gas)
- Important role in the path to cut emissions, by reducing oil demand of buildings heating and industry

## Final gas consumption

## Final consumption of natural gas has increased by 40% in the past 5 years and is expected to play an important role in decarbonizing energy demand



Source: Eurostat, IEA Greece 2023



## Greek gas demand is expected to grow, pushed by the new methanizations and the future increase of green gases in the energy mix





- Latest scenario to 2030 foresees an increase of gas demand, due to the gasification of new areas (West Macedonia, West Greece, Peloponnese, Epirus) and increasing SSLNG services
- Biomethane production potential of ~1 Bcm by 2030
- Hydrogen is expected to cover ~2-3 Bcm by 2040, mainly addressed to the mobility sector

The overall **incidence of gas in final energy uses is expected to grow to ~20%** (more than double the historical values)

### **Biogas** Current footprint

In Greece, starting from 2011, 69 biogas plants have been constructed, with a capacity of more than 110 MW electricity, mainly from landfills and agriculture



Source: CRES - Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving, EBA Statistical Report 2022 and "Support schemes for biogas and biomethane" Note: (1) Organic Fraction of Municipal Solid Waste

# Biomethane potentials

### A significant scale-up of biomethane is expected by 2030 and 2050, but a well-defined incentive scheme is still missing



### Hydrogen

Need of 3-4 B€ investments to develop a domestic green hydrogen supply chain, considering new dedicated renewable generation and electrolysis capacity



Changes in the gas mix The path to Net Zero 2050

From 2022 to 2050, biomethane and hydrogen take centre stage, progressively increasing their share in the energy mix to achieve EU Net Zero goals



Natural gasBiomethaneHydrogen

Towards a **reimagined energy system**, where **biomethane** has a major role to decarbonize gas sector in **short-term**, while **hydrogen** will give its crucial contribution later (after reaching **economic competitiveness**).

National energy policies

#### Greek energy market revisions New strategies for renewable gases

With adoption of RED II Greece intends to increase the share of biomethane and hydrogen injection into the grid, boosting the energy efficiency targets by 2030

National Climate Law	The National Climate Law (GG A' 105/2022), which was adopted in 2022, provides a general statement of intent regarding the <b>gradual substitution of natural gas</b> with renewable gases such as biomethane and green hydrogen, especially in the transport and industry sectors
RES gases In Natural Gas Distribution Grids	On March 28, 2023 Law 3747/2023 has been published on the Official Legislative Journal. Article 105 disciplines the access of renewable gases, among which biomethane, to natural gas grids. Specifically, where technically feasible and safe, natural gas infrastructures and distribution grids are allowed to receive biomethane. Furthermore, renewable gases will now fall under the Authority's scope (RAEWW).
National Strategies	<ul> <li>The National Strategy for the Promotion of Technologies – Applications of Hydrogen and Renewable Gases has already been submitted to the Ministry of Energy &amp; Environment and is expected to be published soon.</li> <li>From December 2020 a Special Committee has been working to formulate a National Hydrogen Strategy. The initial draft Strategy was submitted to the Minister of Environment &amp; Energy in summer 2022.</li> <li>By 2040 Greece targets a production of about 3 Mtoe of green hydrogen and export 1 Mtoe. By 2050 ~7.4 Mtoe and export 2.3 Mtoe, which corresponds to an export value of 1.6 billion euros per year. The total turnover of the hydrogen supply chain in Greece will be in the order of €10 billion per year in 2050. By then, approximately 60 gigawatts of renewable energy sources will be required to power electrolysis units (30 GW by 2040).</li> </ul>
National Energy & Climate Plan	The National Energy & Climate Plan (GG B'4893/2019) is currently subject of a public consultation. The NECP in force includes general provisions and statements of intent targeted towards the <b>support of renewable gases</b> . The revised NECP is expected to be <b>supplemented with specific targets on production and injection of biomethane and hydrogen (% blend with natural gas)</b>

### National Energy and Climate Plan Updated targets

## Green energy transition requires an increase in investments, corresponding to ~20% of GDP in 2030



- 44% RES as a share of total gross energy consumption (vs 35% of previous plan); specific targets are assigned to different sectors (e.g., 79% RES in electricity consumption, 46% for heating and cooling, 29% in transport)
- 27.3 GW RES production with 5.3 GW of storage capacity (~20% of total production)
- 5-7% energy efficiency vs 2020 reference scenario (strong effort required to building sector – 15% reduction in consumption vs 2021 – thanks to heat pumps and lighting)
- 1.4% renovation rate of residential buildings (vs current 0.8%)
- 2.1 TWh/y of biomethane produced, corresponding to 10.8% share of total distributed gas
- 4.4 TWh/y of green hydrogen produced with 1.7 GW of electrolysis capacity
- 5.8% share of hydrogen in distributed gas



### National Recovery and Resilience Plan

Among the 27 Member-States of the EU, the highest RRF Funds, as a % of GDP, have been allocated to Greece, with more than 18 B€ grants<sup>1</sup>, of which 6.2 B€ dedicated to green transition



Source: National Plans, Eurostat

Note: (1) RRF foresees also 13 B€ of loans, for a total budget of 31 B€ (2) As of Oct 2022 based on "Comparative Analysis of Receipt of the Recovery & Resilience Funds among European Union Member States" by Deloitte