



## Wintershall in the Middle East region

- **Greater upstream commitment planned in the region**
- **Sour gas expertise in the field: Second self-operated appraisal well in Shuwaihat completed**
- **Joint research with ADNOC regarding chemical EOR for mature fields**

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About 50% of the worldwide oil and gas reserves can be found in the Middle East region. No other region has comparable potential. Without these reserves in the Gulf, further growth of the global economy is inconceivable. For this reason, the Middle East plays an increasingly important role in Wintershall's diversified upstream portfolio. Wintershall Chairman Mario Mehren is convinced: "We have the knowhow and the technology to present ourselves as an attractive partner there."

In this spirit, Wintershall has been systematically increasing its involvement in the region for years: in 2010 Wintershall opened representative offices in Abu Dhabi and in 2012 it took over the technical evaluation of the Shuwaihat sour gas and condensate field as operator.

Wintershall's success is based on combining modern exploration technologies with innovative production methods for increasing the yields from complex reservoirs. "The challenges are also increasing in the Gulf. The energy consumption of the local people is growing enormously," explains Martin Bachmann, the Wintershall Executive Board Member responsible for Exploration and Production in Europe

and the Middle East region. “In order to keep production stable in the long term, existing sources must be extracted more efficiently and technically more complex fields must be developed. This is what we specialize in. Throughout our 120-year history, we have constantly been faced with solving geologically difficult situations. We now want to use this experience for the Middle East region more intensively.”

### **Abu Dhabi: Partnership with a future**

Abu Dhabi is considered one of the most important centres for oil and gas activities in the Gulf region. In view of this, in 2010 Wintershall was the first German E&P company to open a representative office in the United Arab Emirates. In June 2012, Wintershall signed a first agreement with the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) to take over the long-term exploration and development of the technically complex Shuwaihat sour gas and condensate field.

The Shuwaihat field is situated in the western region of Abu Dhabi, about 25 kilometers west of the industrial town of Ruwais. Together with ADNOC and OMV from Austria, the technical evaluation is being conducted. The first self-operated appraisal well has been successfully completed onshore in 2015. The second appraisal well was completed offshore in May 2017. As operator Wintershall gained a lot of valuable experience with local geographical conditions. The collected data are promising and a possible further development of the field is now being discussed.

A positive final evaluation could make Shuwaihat an important natural gas and condensate fields in the Western Region of Abu Dhabi. It would also help to meet the increasing demand for mineral hydrocarbons in the United Arab Emirates and contribute to the country’s long-term export capabilities.

The joint activities of Wintershall and ADNOC provide an important step towards creating long-term cooperation opportunities between Germany and the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in the energy sector.

### **Technology and tradition made in Germany**

Technological solutions are also required for the Shuwaihat reservoir, which contains more than 20 percent hydrogen sulphide and thus places high demands on exploration and production. As an E&P specialist, Wintershall can draw upon more than 40 years of experience in the safe development and production of sour gas deposits (H<sub>2</sub>S and CO<sub>2</sub>) in Germany.



In 2012, the technical evaluation of the Shuwaihat Field was contractually agreed. The first appraisal well has been successfully completed onshore in 2015. The second well has been completed successfully offshore in May 2017.

In addition to investing in exploring, developing and producing mineral hydrocarbons, Wintershall is also conducting its own technological research and development projects in the Gulf region, whereby Wintershall is working closely together with its parent company, BASF, one of the largest chemical companies in the world. At the end of 2013, BASF and the Petroleum Institute in Abu Dhabi concluded a research cooperation in which they will develop new and environmentally compatible ways for removing aggressive sulphurous compounds from sour gases. Wintershall is also working with BASF on new solutions in the area of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR). In the Middle East region in particular, new technologies for reservoirs that are difficult to access and for mature fields are becoming increasingly important in order to maintain the high production level.

### **MoU on chemical EOR research with ADNOC: Securing production and future energy supply in Abu Dhabi**

In November 2015 ADNOC and Wintershall signed a Memorandum of Understanding focusing on joint Chemical Enhanced Oil Recovery (cEOR) research in Abu Dhabi. The project focuses on Enhanced Oil Recovery using specialized chemicals for the oil and gas industry. Main goal of ADNOC and Wintershall is to jointly develop customized solutions to meet the subsurface challenges that are characteristic for the local oil fields – high temperature and high salinity in the carbonate reservoirs of Abu Dhabi. The MoU forms the framework for a close cooperation of the two companies and comprises a roadmap for the development of cEOR methods.

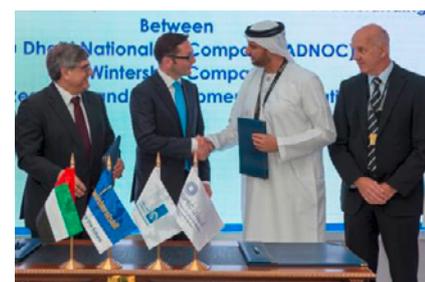
Following successful lab results a pilot test in Abu Dhabi will be envisaged. The MoU defines a further step of the cooperation between ADNOC and Wintershall. Wintershall, as 100% subsidiary of chemical company BASF, is bringing its parents R&D capability in chemistry into the project. Something that no other E&P company can claim.

“Being chosen by ADNOC to cooperate in developing a new and efficient cEOR approach is a great honor for us,” explains Martin Bachmann, Wintershall Board Member responsible for the Middle East region. “I’m convinced, together with our parent company BASF we have the right technologies to contribute something to Abu Dhabi’s targets and objectives. This is exactly why Wintershall is here: To contribute valuable experience and knowledge. Wherever it is needed.”

*These and other images are available for downloading in the Mediathek at [www.wintershall.com](http://www.wintershall.com)*



Wintershall gas utilization facility with gas turbines for generating electricity.



Martin Bachmann and Mario Mehren of Wintershall and H.E. Yasser Al Mazrouei, Deputy Director E&P of ADNOC, after signing the MoU in Abu Dhabi.