



NEWSLETTER OLADE

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OLADE AND ITS ENERGY-CLIMATE AGENDA AT COP29, BAKU, AZERBAIJAN



At this international gathering, OLADE reinforced its strategic vision based on decarbonization, technological diversification, energy efficiency, and the promotion of a just and sustainable energy transition for Latin America and the Caribbean.

We present some initiatives we are driving that reflect our commitment to sustainability and climate action:

Hydro4NetZero: A renewed flagship project that positions hydropower as a cornerstone for achieving net-zero emissions goals. The initiative seeks to promote multiple uses of this technology, ensuring long-term resilience, efficiency, and sustainability.

CERTHILAC Initiative: Advances in the certification of origin and traceability of low-emission hydrogen, aiming to establish a standard for the commercialization of this clean fuel.

Regional Planning Council: This initiative strengthens the capacity of member countries to plan and execute energy strategies aligned with climate commitments.

Methane Observatory: In line with global efforts to reduce greenhouse gases (GHG), OLADE presented a report identifying gaps in regional emission inventories. These assessments are essential for designing effective mitigation strategies.

Energy Efficiency Target: This declaration, made during the recent Meeting of Ministers, saw 21 OLADE member countries commit to a regional energy efficiency target.

No New Coal-Fired Power Plants: A declaration was shared where 21 countries committed to halting the construction of new coal-fired power plants in the region.

OLADE Business Council: The II Public-Private Dialogue, held during the IX Energy Week, provided a space for reflection and agreements for energy development that meets the region's demands while enhancing its capacity to respond to climate challenges.

OLADE's participation in the following events at COP29 underscored the region's role in the global climate agenda:

- **Climate Transparency and Methane:** In collaboration with the Methane Observatory and the Global Methane Hub, we presented progress in measuring and mitigating GHG emissions. During the intervention, it was emphasized that "climate observatories allow for evidence-based public policies and optimization of mitigation strategies, strengthening accountability."
- **Hydropower and Climate Resilience:** At a forum organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), opportunities and challenges of hydropower in the context of climate change adaptation were addressed. The importance of modernizing hydropower technologies and conducting environmental and social impact studies was highlighted.
- **Biofuels and Transport:** We participated in a panel organized by IICA, highlighting the potential of Latin America and the Caribbean in biofuel production. Our region has resources like sugarcane and palm oil, which not only reduce dependency on fossil fuels but also generate jobs in rural communities.
- **Policies to Accelerate the Just Transition:** We participated in a roundtable organized by the Marrakesh Partnership, emphasizing the importance of having the planet's most sustainable energy matrix, with nearly 70% of electricity generation from renewable sources. Advances in the regional energy agenda and commitments from the recent OLADE Energy Ministers' Meeting were presented.
- **Innovation in Renewable Energy:** During a panel on energy entrepreneurship in the Global South, we highlighted the role of innovators in expanding access to renewable energies. Entrepreneurs are agents of change, leading with technological solutions that transform millions of lives in our region.
- **Energy Efficiency as a Strategic Pillar:** At this forum on energy efficiency, we presented the region's achievements in electric mobility and energy management, emphasizing the importance of technical training and international assistance.

OLADE's participation at COP29 reflects its leadership in the regional climate agenda, promoting a comprehensive approach that combines sustainability, equity, and inclusive development, with a focus on local solutions and a shared vision for the future.

CHILE, THE EUROPEAN UNION, AND OLADE TO DEVELOP A ROADMAP FOR RENEWABLE HYDROGEN CERTIFICATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



To strengthen the clean energy market in the Latin America and Caribbean region and identify the requirements and standards for compliance with international standards, the launch of the project titled “Strengthening Latin America’s Capabilities for Compliance with International Standards in Low- or Zero-Emission Hydrogen Certification and Its Derivatives for Export Purposes” took place. This project is funded by the Chile-European Union (EU) Triangular Cooperation Fund under the ADELANTE 2 Program.

The initiative aims to analyze the gaps and opportunities in renewable hydrogen projects and derivatives from four countries in the region (Chile, Argentina, Colombia, and Panama) to obtain certification that would allow them access to international markets, particularly the European one, establishing a roadmap to achieve it. This project is a joint effort between the European Union, Chile’s Ministry of Energy, the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), and the Chilean Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AGCID).

“The support from OLADE for this project, as the executing body, contributes to global decarbonization initiatives in the energy sector and climate change mitigation, aiming to leverage the vast renewable energy resources of the Latin America and Caribbean region to export clean and low-emission energy vectors to other parts of the world, where there is growing demand for these products to accelerate energy transition processes,” explained Mijal Brady.

The project includes a series of workshops and technical exchange dialogues between the Energy Ministries of the four countries, where information will be gathered and joint actions proposed. Additionally, the systematization and analysis of the workshop results will facilitate the development of a roadmap for renewable hydrogen certification and its derivatives in the region.

THE LATIN AMERICAN ENERGY ORGANIZATION PRESENTS 2ND TECHNICAL NOTE SITUATION OF ELECTRICAL INTEGRATION IN SOUTH AMERICA



The report highlights a 28% increase in electricity exchanges between countries in 2023 and the utilization rate of electrical interconnection infrastructure in the region.

It also underscores how these exchanges helped meet 3.7% of the regional energy demand.

The Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) presents its second Technical Note on the situation of electrical integration in South America. This document is part of a series of monthly OLADE publications aimed at addressing current issues and contributing data and information for critical analysis and the search for solutions to the problems and challenges facing the region.

The publication includes relevant information about the interconnection infrastructure and electricity exchanges that have taken place between South American countries in recent years, as well as an analysis of the impact of these exchanges on meeting internal demand.

The main findings of this research include the following:

1. In terms of infrastructure, there are 1,679 kilometers of international interconnection lines, and an additional 4,775 kilometers have been identified in inventories, studies, and pending projects.

2. In 2023, electricity exchanges between South American countries increased by 28% compared to 2022. Ninety-five percent of these exchanges occurred among the countries of the Southern Cone.

3. In South America, electricity exchanges covered 3.7% of the demand. However, on an individual level, some cases stand out:

Uruguay met 11.1% of its demand with imports, mainly from Brazil and to a lesser extent from Argentina.

Argentina met 10% of its demand with imports from Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, and to a lesser extent from Bolivia and Chile.

Ecuador was able to meet 4.4% of its demand with imports from Colombia and, to a lesser extent, from Peru.

4. The utilization factor of international interconnections also increased. In the Southern Cone, the average utilization reached 35.5%, compared to 28.4% recorded in 2022:

The Garabí converter station of the interconnection between Argentina and Brazil reached a usage factor of 45%, and in general, Argentina's imports reached a 60% usage of the direct interconnection infrastructure with Brazil.

5. In the Andean Region, this average reached 39.4%, an increase from 13.9% in 2022. The most utilized link was between Colombia and Ecuador, at 46.3%.

The occurrence of joint hydrological scarcity periods, as recently observed in Colombia and Ecuador, or those seen in 2020/21 in the Paraná basin, or during much of the 2020/23 period in the Uruguay River basin, highlights the problems associated with extreme climate events to which the countries in the region are exposed, with effects such as increased generation costs, higher emissions, and even rationing. This underscores the importance of international interconnections as one of the solutions to address supply shortages.

Therefore, the study concludes that countries with higher levels of physical integration, even if their utilization during normal periods was low, have been better able to cushion or avoid the most critical effects.

ENERGY SECTOR EXECUTIVES TRAINED TO BECOME LEADERS DURING THE IX ENERGY WEEK

With the objective of strengthening capacities to assume leadership roles in the energy sector and preparing them to take on key roles in the energy transition process within their respective countries, the organization Walk The Talk (WTT) and OLADE launched an unprecedented training program for thirty female executives from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Honduras, Panama, the Dominican Republic, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

This initiative was an integral part of the activities of the “IX Energy Week” held in Asunción, Paraguay, consisting of in-person sessions led by coaches with extensive and recognized experience in empowering women personally and professionally across the continent.

The program included workshops designed to awaken leadership skills in the participants; to learn and manage effective and consensus-driven decision-making in high-conflict environments; to understand their own strengths and weaknesses to exercise participatory and inspiring leadership. Additionally, various other skills were strengthened through the “The Walking Talk” methodology created by WTT. Thanks to its approach, the model aims to support, educate, and inspire participants to generate significant changes both in themselves and in the organizations and people around them.

Moreover, participants had the opportunity to learn and practice self-awareness techniques through group dynamics, workshops on body language, expressiveness, and public speaking.

Marta Alonso, founder of Walk The Talk, stated, “It is very important to be able to work with this group of women in the energy sector, with whom we have begun a path that is sometimes not easy, but it is the path of responsible women leaders.”

“We need more women at the forefront of energy sector organizations, where things are happening, and that’s our focus at Walk The Talk: to support them and to encourage them to believe in themselves,” she added.



The initiative, which has been carried out in other parts of Latin America, is currently part of the women leaders training program in Chile, promoted by the Ministry of Energy of that country. Due to its success, Walk The Talk has already trained selected groups from the regions of O’Higgins, Araucanía, Atacama, Coquimbo, and also the Metropolitan region, reaching nearly 200 women nationwide.

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF FIELDWORK FOR THE NATIONAL ENERGY BALANCE IN TERMS OF USEFUL ENERGY FOR PARAGUAY'S COMMERCIAL SECTOR



The project “National Energy Balance in Terms of Useful Energy for Paraguay’s Commercial Sector,” funded by the European Union’s EUROCLIMA program with support from AECID, is in its final implementation phase. This initiative builds upon another project executed between 2020 and 2023. In September 2024, the fieldwork phase concluded successfully, with the primary goal of gathering information on energy consumption and flows in the commercial, services, and public sectors of the Republic of Paraguay.

In summary, 432 surveys were conducted out of an official sample of 472 establishments, categorized into the following subsectors: Wholesale Trade; Retail Trade; Hotels and Restaurants; Education, Health, and Social Assistance; Public Administration and Defense; Water and Sanitation; and Other Services.

The collected data is being analyzed and processed by the project’s technical team to produce the useful energy balance for the described sectors and update the useful energy balances developed during the previous project, which covered the industrial, residential, and transportation sectors.

The next phase of this project will include two components: training and knowledge transfer targeted at officials from national institutions responsible for energy planning, and a panel discussion during the IX Energy Week, where beneficiary countries (Ecuador, Panama, and Paraguay) will present and discuss the impact and necessity of a useful energy balance from their perspectives.

The training and knowledge transfer will take place on October 24 and 25, while the panel discussion is scheduled for Wednesday, October 30. It is worth highlighting that hosting this panel within the context of an event like Energy Week brings international attention to the importance of energy information and its implications, uses, and potential in terms of energy planning and as a driver of energy efficiency.

This project includes the following milestones:

1. Developing the useful energy balance for Paraguay’s commercial, services, and public sectors.
2. Updating the useful energy balance for Paraguay’s industrial, residential, and transportation sectors.
3. Updating OLADE’s Useful Energy Balance Methodology based on the implementation experience of this project and its scaling.
4. Training officials from various public entities in the development of sectoral useful energy balances.
5. Highlighting the importance, benefits, challenges, and results of this type of project in a high-level panel during the IX Energy Week.
6. Producing a document outlining key energy efficiency actions that a country can undertake based on the information obtained through a useful energy balance.

OLADE PARTICIPATED IN THE XXIV EXPO ECUADOR OIL POWER & RENEWABLE ENERGIES 2024



The XXIV edition of the EXPO ECUADOR OIL POWER & RENEWABLE ENERGIES 2024 solidified its position as one of the most relevant events for the energy sector in Ecuador. Held from November 13 to 15 at the Metropolitan Convention Center in Quito, this exhibition served as a meeting point for national and international leaders from the oil, gas, and renewable energy sectors.

The event provided an ideal platform for showcasing technological innovations, strengthening business relationships, and establishing new strategic alliances in the energy sector.

During the event, Fitzgerald Cantero, Director of Studies, Projects, and Information at OLADE, highlighted the organization's commitment to energy integration and the transition to a more sustainable energy sector in Latin America and the Caribbean. Cantero participated in the panel titled "Energy Transition and Transformation: Social and Economic Impact," where he emphasized the importance of such events in connecting key stakeholders and fostering energy development based on innovation and regional cooperation.

"Events like this are fundamental to connecting key players in the energy sector and building a sustainable future based on innovation and regional cooperation," stated Cantero.

Among the topics discussed by Cantero was the importance of regional cooperation, the development of critical infrastructure, and the promotion of clean energy. In this context, he underscored the role of energy interconnections between countries as an effective solution for optimizing resources and ensuring energy security in the face of climate emergencies.

He also highlighted the need to strengthen energy storage, which is considered essential for maximizing the potential of renewable energies, which still face challenges in terms of stability compared to fossil fuels in the short term.

OLADE also participated with a booth at the fair, which became a platform for knowledge exchange among experts, business leaders, academics, and government representatives.



THE GLOBAL MOBILITY CALL 2024 DEFINED KEYS FOR THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

The Global Mobility Call (GMC) 2024, held from November 19 to 21 at Ifema Madrid, established itself as a key platform for public-private debate and collaboration on sustainable mobility. This edition highlighted central topics such as urban mobility, intermodal transportation, smart planning, and technological trends.

Fitzgerald Cantero, Director of Studies, Projects, and Information at the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), participated in the panel titled: “Renewable Routes: The Role of Clean Energy in Modern Transportation.”

During his remarks, Cantero emphasized that the incorporation of clean energy in transportation not only reduces dependence on fossil fuels but also lowers costs, fosters job creation, and promotes sustainable systems. He also highlighted how these initiatives strengthen access to quality energy and stimulate innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Additionally, he underscored the leadership of countries like Brazil and Argentina in the production of ethanol and biodiesel and stressed the importance of international cooperation and regional integration to accelerate the adoption of sustainable technologies.

Fitzgerald Cantero also took part in the event’s opening gala, where he engaged in a dialogue with Isabel Díaz Ayuso, President of the Community of Madrid. During this meeting, OLADE and Global Mobility Call teams exchanged ideas and key technical data to strengthen sustainable mobility, highlighting the importance of international collaboration as a driver of innovative and sustainable transportation solutions for the region.

The event brought together over 450 opinion leaders and prominent figures, both national and international, who participated in 115 panel discussions and keynote sessions. These sessions featured recent proposals, innovative projects, and solutions aimed at strengthening and accelerating mobility transformation processes, driven by institutions and companies. Furthermore, the meeting fostered alliances and collaboration among sector stakeholders.

The conference agenda was structured around seven main thematic tracks:

- Energy transition
- Urban mobility
- Intermodal transportation
- Smart mobility planning
- Automotive transformation
- Technological trends
- Strategic disruption, including innovation, talent, and cybersecurity.

OLADE PARTICIPATES IN THE SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE OF THE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT AT THE NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL OF ECUADOR



As part of the Scientific Conference organized by the Mechanical Engineering Department of the National Polytechnic School of Ecuador, the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) participated in the panel titled “Hydrogen as an Energy Vector for Ecuador.” This event addressed the transformative potential of hydrogen as a key resource for sustainable energy transition in the region.

The event brought together national and international experts to discuss innovative technologies, challenges, and opportunities for implementing clean energy solutions in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Fabio García, OLADE specialist, shared a strategic vision on the role of Latin America and the Caribbean in the green hydrogen industry during his presentation at the National Polytechnic School of Ecuador. He highlighted the region’s key advantages, such as its vast territory, abundance of freshwater, and relatively low renewable energy costs, which are essential factors for positioning the region as a global leader in energy transition.

“Latin America and the Caribbean have immense renewable potential: wind energy in the Southern Cone, solar energy in northern Chile and Peru, and hydropower in the Amazon basin. These resources can not only drive our economy but also lead global decarbonization,” stated Fabio García.

With a growing commitment to sustainability, the region is poised to become a key player in the production and export of green hydrogen. This strategic position will enable collaboration with international markets and accelerate the transition to a cleaner, more resilient future.

LATIN AMERICA: LEADER IN RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POTENTIAL IN BIOFUELS

The Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region stands out as a global leader in renewable energy generation, accounting for only 8.2% of global CO₂e emissions. This highlights its capacity to offer sustainable solutions to the world, with nearly 70% of its electricity generation coming from renewable sources—more than double the global average (30%).

Untapped Potential in Clean Energy

The region possesses vast reserves of unexploited resources:

- Hydropower: Only 30% of the available potential is currently utilized.
- Solar: Just 1.2% of capacity is being used.
- Wind: Only 12% of its capacity is tapped.

Leadership in Biofuel Production

The region plays a crucial role in the global biofuel market:

- Brazil:
 - The second-largest producer of ethanol worldwide.
 - The fifth-largest global producer of biodiesel.
- Other Notable Countries: Argentina, Colombia, and Mexico are key contributors, with even smaller nations participating in production.

First, second, third, and fourth-generation biofuels represent significant opportunities, especially Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO), which is gaining traction in aviation.

Green and Sustainable Hydrogen: The New Frontier

Green hydrogen, produced from renewable energy, is emerging as a viable solution for heavy, maritime, and aviation transport. However, high production and adaptation costs remain challenges, with cost parity projected by 2030. In this transition, biofuels are positioned as a more immediate and economical solution, requiring less adaptation to existing infrastructure.

Challenges and Opportunities

- Stable Public Policies: Clear and sustainable regulations are essential to attract long-term investments.
- Research and Innovation: Focus efforts on certifying biofuels and green hydrogen, as well as technological development.
- CO₂ Capture: Use organic CO₂ to produce hydrogen derivatives and reduce emissions.
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Latin America and the Caribbean are uniquely positioned to lead the global energy transition, combining expertise in renewable energy and biofuels with emerging hydrogen technologies. However, to realize this potential, the region must implement consistent public policies and promote investment in research and innovation.

