

# IX Energy Week

Regional Convergence  
for a Sustainable Future

ASUNCIÓN, PARAGUAY  
OCT 28 — NOV 1, 2024



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Co-organizers:



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# Joining forces for energy integration in LAC

## INTRODUCTION

Latin America and the Caribbean is the greenest region in the world. Its primary energy matrix has 31% renewable sources, more than double the world average, which is 14%. However, the region is no stranger to the growing effects of climate change, reflected in extreme phenomena such as prolonged droughts and severe floods, which impact energy infrastructure and put the energy supply at risk.

Global energy dynamics and the specific challenges of our region reinforce the need to strengthen collective action. Energy integration is presented as a key tool to jointly face current challenges and ensure a more resilient and sustainable development.

In this context, the Energy Week has established itself as a strategic space for dialogue and cooperation between all actors in the sector. It is a forum where we can meet to discuss, contribute and discern, in a frank and open way, the major issues that concern the region. Beyond reflection, this meeting is a call to action, promoting concrete decisions that contribute to the energy future of Latin America and the Caribbean.



**Andrés Rebolledo Smitmans**  
Executive Secretary of Olade.

## In numbers

**23**

National  
Delegations

**5**

Development  
Banks

**58**

Private  
Companies

**24**

Non-Governmental  
Organizations

**6**

Academic  
Institutions

**31**

Multilateral  
Organizations

## A key event for the region's energy development

The IX Energy Week marked a milestone in the history of this forum, as it was co-organized for the first time with the main development banks in the region – the World Bank, IDB and CAF – whose contribution of resources and technical assistance is essential for countries to move forward in overcoming their challenges.

What has been achieved in this edition reaffirms the role of the Energy Week as the most relevant sectoral space in Latin America and the Caribbean, bringing together governments, companies, academia and international organizations.

“”

Energy must be the bridge to integral development, we must understand that the problems of integration can only be solved with more integration.

Santiago Peña  
President of the Republic of Paraguay

A photograph of Santiago Peña, President of Paraguay, speaking at a transparent podium. He is wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a red patterned tie. His hands are gesturing as he speaks. The podium has a sign that reads "IX SEMANA DE LA ENERGIA" and "OCTUBRE 2024". The background is dark with blue lighting.

IX SEMANA DE LA  
**ENERGIA**  
OCTUBRE 2024



# Key results of the IX edition



## Political consensus to advance regional integration and planning



The Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean approved the creation of a Regional Energy Planning Council, which will function as a political coordination mechanism for the promotion of a common agenda, facilitate dialogue, the achievement of consensus and the promotion of agreements.



## LAC governments reinforce their commitment to decarbonization and energy efficiency



The Energy Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean signed two key declarations for the regional energy transition. The first reaffirms the commitment not to build new coal-fired power plants, moving towards the gradual elimination of coal in electricity generation. The second establishes a joint goal of improving regional energy efficiency by 1.3% per year by 2030.



## New impetus for the electricity interconnection between Colombia and Panama



They announced the reactivation of a binational electricity interconnection project that emerged 15 years ago, and agreed to hold meetings to define a concrete action plan.



## CAF and OLADE join forces to boost the regional energy transition



A Technical Cooperation Agreement was signed to promote energy integration in the MERCOSUR countries, Bolivia and Chile. It aims to contribute to the just energy transition from the use of gas resources through the optimization and expansion of natural gas transportation infrastructure.

**+45**

Bilateral meetings

**28 Projects awarded**

within the framework of the  
OLADE Excellence Awards



**+30 Female professionals grantees**

for the Energy  
Leadership Program



# The pillars of the regional energy debate

To address the issue, four lines of work were developed to identify challenges and barriers that must be overcome to achieve the goal.



## 1. Access to finance

[See more](#)



## 2. Technical and logical capabilities

[See more](#)



## 3. Society and environment

[See more](#)



## 4. Policy and regulation

[See more](#)



# + 3000 Registered

They came together by providing strategic views, technical knowledge and political views to rethink the regional energy future.

+ 35  
Events

+ 180  
Panelists



# Access to finance

Financial barriers that limit infrastructure integration, adoption of sustainable energy technologies and practices were identified.



From left to right:

**Andrés Rebolledo**, Secretary of Olade;  
**Marcelino Madrigal**, Head of the Energy Division, IDB;  
**Javier Gimenez**, Minister of Industry and Trade of Paraguay;  
**Eliana Dam**, Vice President of Operations, Fonplata;  
**Fernando Cubillos**, Manager of Productive Sectors and New Businesses, CAF;  
**Gabriela Elizondo**, Manager of the LAC Energy Practice, World Bank;  
 during the Keynote Session: Financing Just Energy Transitions.

## Highlights

**USD 500 billion by 2030**

Is the estimated investment in electricity generation, necessary to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

Source: OLADE, 2023

## Key findings

- 1 Public and concessional financing is insufficient to meet the requirements of the energy transition; Attracting private investment with innovative financial instruments and risk mitigation mechanisms is key.
- 2 Each country in Latin America has its own path in the energy transition, so financial strategies and instruments must be adapted to its needs.
- 3 A stable institutional framework, with clear and flexible rules in the face of new technologies, is essential to attract investment and ensure the success of the transition.



## 7 events on access to finance

- ▶ 1 Keynote Session: Financing Just Energy Transitions.



“”

A lot of collaboration from the public and private sector is required to leverage the energy transition as a means to solve many of our challenges.

**Marcelino Madrigal**  
Head of the Energy Division, IDB

- ▶ 2 Low-Emission Hydrogen: A New Opportunity for the Region.

- ▶ 3 Decarbonization of River, Sea, and Air Transport.

- ▶ 4 Keynote Session: Repositioning Energy Efficiency in LAC.

- ▶ 5 Low emission Methane & NG Observatory.

- ▶ 6 Gas Integration.

- ▶ 7 Just Energy Transitions.

# Technical and technological capabilities

Infrastructure development needs, technical skills, and local capacities were addressed to advance the integration of generation and storage technologies, sustainable mobility, digital solutions, data, and resilient infrastructure.



## Highlights

**105,000  
jobs**

were created in the region by distributed solar generation in 2023.

Source: Onred, 2022

## Key findings

- 1 Innovation to improve the accuracy of climate projections will be key to mitigating the impact of increasingly frequent extreme events on the operation of energy systems.
- 2 Driving digitalization and moving towards more modular and distributed energy systems is essential to improve the efficiency, safety and resilience of the sector.
- 3 Fostering a market environment that encourages the incorporation of new technologies requires a comprehensive approach with adaptive regulation, fair tariffs, legal certainty, financing, and efficiency incentives.

## 8 events on technical and technological capabilities

- ▶ 1 The Evolution of the Power Grid: Incorporating Flexibility in a Cost-Effective Way.

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- ▶ 2 Low-Emission Hydrogen Economy in LAC.

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- ▶ 3 Keynote Session: Innovation and Technology Applied to the Decarbonization of Demand.



“”

It's going to be a difficult transition, and it's not going to be possible if it's not accompanied by the evolution of traditional technologies.

Carlos Hong Liang  
Digital Power Solutions Expert LATAM Huawei

- ▶ 4 Electricity Market Projections.

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- ▶ 5 Nuclear Generation 4.0

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- ▶ 6 Transforming Data Into Efficiency: Useful Energy Balances.

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- ▶ 7 Data, Climate & Energy.

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- ▶ 8 Critical Minerals for Energy Transitions.

# Society and environment

The challenges related to the effective integration of the principles of equity, access, gender and environment in all facets of the planning, implementation and evaluation of projects and policies related to energy and sustainable development were identified.



From left to right:

**Gloria Alvarenga**, OLADE;

**María Francisca Valenzuela**, Head of the Office of Gender and Human Rights of the Ministry of Energy of Chile;

**Florencia Balestro**, Energy Specialist, WB;

**Rafael Giudice**, Vice Minister of Energy of the Ministry of Mines and Energy of the Dominican Republic;

**Pía Suarez**, President of the Association of Women in Energy;

**Edwin Malagón**, Senior Energy Specialist, IDB;

during the event "Integration and gender approach: Progress and new challenges".

## Highlights

**Women make up < 20% of the workforce**

in the energy sector globally.

Source: IEA, 2023

## Key findings

- 1 Although the region has made significant progress in electrification, there are still challenges to achieving universal access, especially in vulnerable communities. It is key to strengthen cooperation between actors and focus efforts on the "last mile" to achieve 100% coverage.
- 2 It is essential to update the regulations and procedures for the authorization of energy projects, integrating territorial planning, respect for the rights of indigenous communities and environmental protection.
- 3 The inclusion and empowerment of women in the energy sector is not only a matter of equity, but also a key factor in fostering innovation and sustainable growth, contributing to addressing climate and energy challenges more effectively.



## 5 events on society and the environment

▶ 1 Gender Key Note Session.

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▶ 2 Integration and Gender Approach: Progress and New Challenges.



“”

The generation of links between projects, national policies and civil society is needed to continue advancing gender issues in a sustainable way.

**Florencia Balestro**  
Energy Specialist, World Bank

▶ 3 Driving Universal Access to Energy in Latin America and the Caribbean: The Role of International Cooperation.

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▶ 4 Social Acceptance of Wind Projects in LAC.

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▶ 5 Communication and Energy: Communication and Dissemination Tools as a Key Component for Energy Transitions.

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# Policy and regulation

Barriers related to complex regulatory frameworks and lack of clarity or stability in policies, which hinder regional planning and integration, were explored.



From left to right:

Gonzalo Gutiérrez Reinell, Secretary General of CAN;

Walter Verri, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining of Uruguay;

Mauricio Bejarano, Vice Minister of Mines and Energy of Paraguay;

Tatiana Orellana, Executive Coordinator of the SICA Energy Coordination Unit;

Tomás Serebrisky, Manager of the Infrastructure and Energy Sector of the IDB;

during the keynote session "Regional Energy Integration".

## Highlights

**LATAM could save between \$1.5 billion and \$2 billion annually**

by exchanging between 13% and 29% of its electricity at the subregional and regional levels, respectively.

Source: World Bank, 2021

## Key findings

- 1 Regulation is key to the energy transition, as it defines the rules of the sector. Moving towards regional harmonization will strengthen energy markets.
- 2 Regional integration is no longer an option, but a necessity for Latin America, allowing a better use of energy resources for collective benefit.
- 3 Energy development must be integrated with productive and territorial development to achieve inclusive growth, aligning policies with education, technology and tax incentives.

## 11 events on policy and regulation

- ▶ 1 Geothermal: Challenges for a New 2030 Horizon.
- ▶ 2 Resilience: Climate Change, Heat Waves, Floods.
- ▶ 3 The Role of Distribution 2.0 and Distributed Generation in the Energy Transition.
- ▶ 4 Keynote Session: Regional Energy Integration.



“”

Regional integration allows for greater incorporation of renewable energies, while strengthening the resilience of systems to the region's own challenges and generating higher levels of investment and job creation.

**Gabriela Elizondo**  
LAC Energy Practice Manager, World Bank

- ▶ 5 Adding Value to Energy: Certification.
- ▶ 6 Prospects for Energy Development in the Caribbean.
- ▶ 7 Biofuel: Public-Private Interaction and New Technologies.
- ▶ 8 Studies and Financing in the Energy Sector.
- ▶ 9 II Forum of Regulators.
- ▶ 10 Keynote Session: Regional Planning Council.
- ▶ 11 Launch of the #Hydro4NetZero.

# Meeting of Ministers: Energy Governance for Development

It is the highest authority in the hierarchical structure of OLADE and is made up of the Ministers of Energy, Secretaries of State, or whoever takes their place in each Member Country. Its main functions include the formulation of institutional policy through ministerial decisions and joint declarations, as well as approving work plans, budgets, activity reports, balance sheets and financial statements.



From left to right:  
**Ryan Cobb**, Belize's Director of Energy;  
**Lisa Cummins**, Minister of Energy and Business Development of Barbados;  
**Andrés Rebolledo Smitmans**, Executive Secretary of Olade;  
**Claudia Centurión**, Minister of Public Works and Communications of Paraguay;  
**Gastón Siroit**, Technical Advisor to the Executive Secretary of OLADE;  
during the first day of the Ministerial Meeting.

## 4 Ministerial decisions adopted

- 1 Support Regional and Subregional Energy Integration in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- 2 Promote the Energy Transition in the Caribbean.
- 3 Coordinate the Second Phase of the Energy Transitions from Demand.
- 4 Create the Regional Energy Planning Council.

## 2 Joint statements

- 1 19 countries expressed political will not to start the construction of new coal-fired power plants in LAC.
- 2 21 countries committed to meeting the goal of improving regional energy efficiency by 1.3% by 2030.

## Council of Experts

It is the advisory body in charge of providing technical support and assistance to the Meeting of Ministers and the Permanent Secretariat, in all matters related to the fulfillment of the objectives and functions of the Organization, in accordance with the requests and needs of the Member States. It is made up of Delegates designated by the Member States.



# Heads of delegation

36 Representatives  
from 23 countries



**Guillermo Nielsen**

Ambassador of Argentina to Paraguay.



**Andrés Camacho**

Minister of Mines and Energy, Colombia.



**Lisa Cummins**

Minister of Energy and Enterprise  
Development, Barbados.



**Pablo Bermúdez**

Advisor and Coordinator of Bioenergy,  
Costa Rica.



**Ryan Cobb**

Director of Energy, Belize.



**Tatiana Amarán**

Deputy Minister of Energy and  
Mines, Cuba.



**Ronald Beizaga**

Vice Minister of Electricity and  
Renewable Energy, Bolivia.



**Santiago Ruiz**

Ambassador of Ecuador to Paraguay.



**Thiago Barral**

National Secretary of Energy  
Transitions and Planning, Brazil.



**Daniel Álvarez**

Director General of Energy,  
Hydrocarbons and Mines, El Salvador.



**Diego Pardow**

Minister of Energy, Chile.



**Gabriel Velásquez**

Technical Director of Energy-Mining  
Planning, Guatemala.



**Mark Phillips**  
Prime Minister, Guyana.



**Valerie Lalji**  
Deputy Director of Energy, Suriname



**Raphael Hosty**  
Minister of Public Works, Transport and Communications, Haiti.



**Walter Verri**  
Vice Minister of Industry, Energy and Mining, Uruguay.



**Tomás Rodríguez**  
Undersecretary of State in the Office of Energy, Honduras.



**Paula Henao**  
Vice Minister of Hydrocarbons, Venezuela.



**Juan Manuel Urriola**  
Minister of Energy, Panama.



**Timmy Baksh**  
Director of the Energy Research and Planning Division, Trinidad and Tobago.



**Claudia Centurión**  
Minister of Public Works and Communications, Paraguay.



**Achraf Benhassine**  
Senior Advisor to the Ministry of Energy and Mines, Algeria (Permanent Observer Country).



**Joel Santos**  
Minister of Energy, Dominican Republic.

# Business Council: Facilitating Public-Private Dialogue

OLADE's Business Council, created at the end of 2023, is a permanent body of the Organization with the purpose of strengthening the public-private conversation in the energy sector.

Its objective is to generate consensus on the priorities of a regional agenda for the energy transition and to establish sustainable collaboration ties with companies in the sector.

This space provides governments and industry representatives with the opportunity to discuss the current challenges of energy markets, as well as to share perspectives on medium- and long-term policies.



During the IX Energy Week,  
the topics addressed included:

- 1 The impact of the incorporation of technological changes in the sector.
- 2 The main regulatory challenges.
- 3 The pending challenges for greater regional energy integration.

## Participated

**32**

Companies

**3**

Guilds



“”

Achieving the energy transition is neither possible nor affordable without a significant and urgent increase in energy efficiency.

Marcela Silva  
Regional Director of Infrastructure for LAC, World Bank

“”

Energy efficiency is key to the transition. It has the potential to reduce the region's emissions by 25% and improve access for the population.

Tomás Serebrisky  
Infrastructure and Energy Sector Manager, IDB



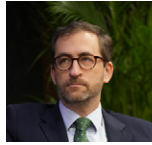
# Featured speakers: role models that inspire transformation



**Santiago Peña**  
President of the  
Republic of  
Paraguay.



**Andrés  
Rebolledo**  
Executive  
Secretary,  
OLADE.



**Tomás  
Serebrisky**  
Manager of the  
Infrastructure  
and Energy  
Sector, IDB.



**Marcela Silva**  
Regional Director  
of Infrastructure  
for LAC, World  
Bank.



**Antonio Silveira**  
Manager of  
Physical  
Infrastructure  
and Digital  
Transformation,  
CAF.



**Mary Warlik**  
Deputy Executive  
Director, IEA.



**Aurelio Bustilho  
de Oliveira**  
CEO, ENEL  
Americas.



**Carlos Hong  
Liang**  
Product Manager,  
Huawei Digital  
Power LATAM.



**Cristina Lobillo**  
Director of  
Energy Policy,  
European Union.



**Martin Abeles**  
Director of the  
Natural  
Resources  
Division, ECLAC.



**Gabriela Prata**  
Director of the  
Copenhagen  
Centre for Energy  
Efficiency, UNEP.



**Jorge Srur**  
Southern Regional  
Manager, CAF.

**Ricardo Gorini**  
Director de REmap, IRENA.

**Gabriela Elizondo**  
LAC Energy Practice  
Manager, World Bank.

**Eliana Dam**  
Vice President of  
Operations and Countries,  
Fonplata.

**Jeremy Martin**  
Vice President of Energy and  
Sustainability, IOA.

**Félix Sosa**  
President of ANDE.

**Victorio Oxilia**  
Former Executive Secretary  
of OLADE

**Marcelino Madrigal**  
Chief of the Energy  
Division, IDB.

**Susana Moreira**  
Executive Director and  
Co-President of H2Global  
Foundation.

**Juan Carlos Olmedo**  
General Director, National  
Electricity Coordinator.

**Thiago Prado**  
President, EPE.

**Antonela Cavalaro**  
Secretary General, IILA.

**Ramón Mendez**  
Executive Director, IVY  
Foundation.

**Scarlett Piantini Gil**  
Sustainable Energy Finance  
Senior Manager, Tetra Tech

**63**

Representatives  
from the public sector

**57**

Representatives of  
the private sector

**9**

References of  
the academy

**71**

Representatives of  
multilateral organizations

“”

Multilateral banks have a decisive role to play in construction risk, because once the assets are built and in operation, the market does take them.

Jorge Srur  
Southern Regional Manager, CAF

“”

Energy policy is one of the economic areas where planning is fundamental, it is impossible to achieve an energy transition without planning it in the medium and long term.

Cristina Lobillo  
Director of Energy Policy, European Union

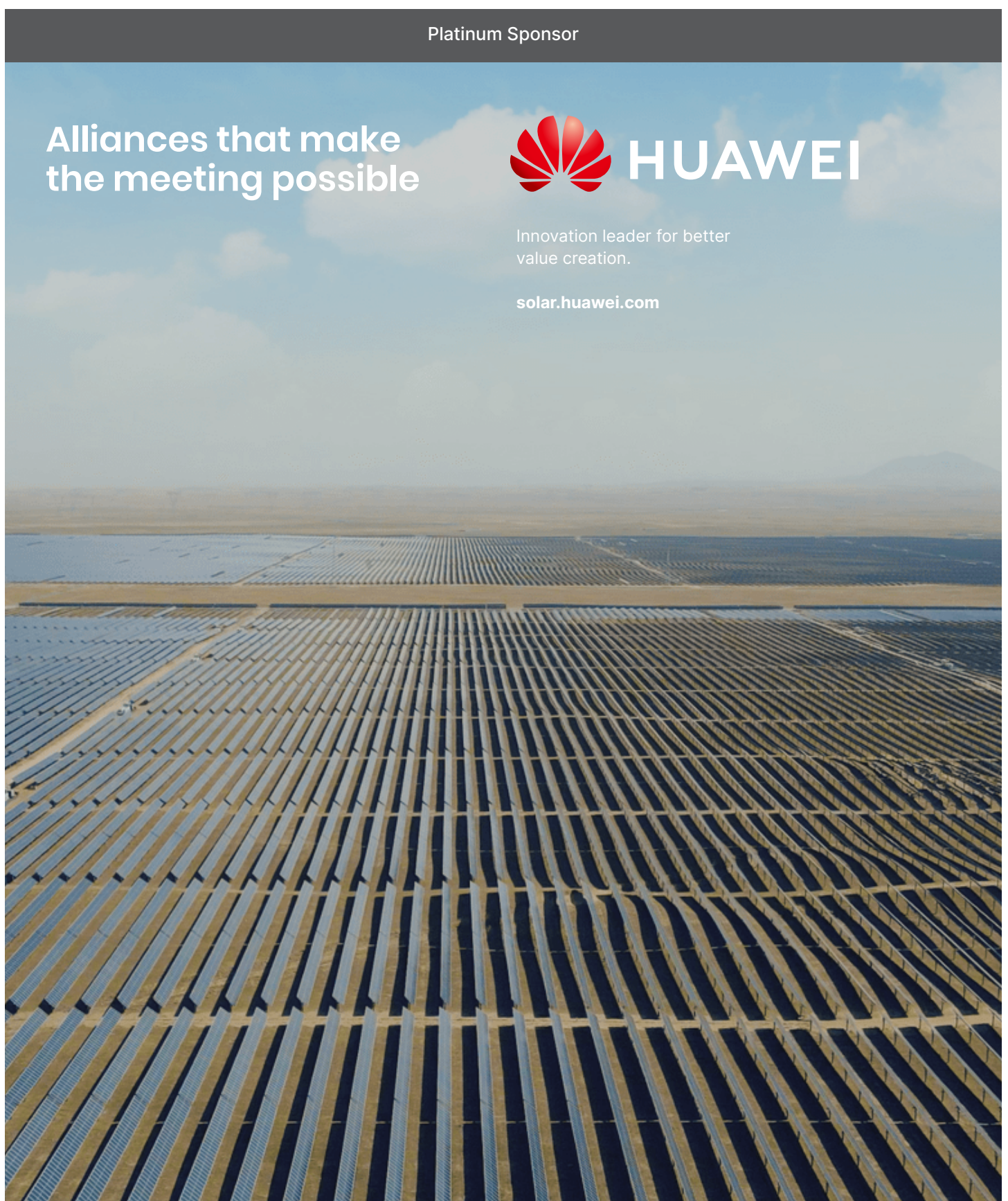


Alliances that make  
the meeting possible



Innovation leader for better  
value creation.

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## Gold Sponsor



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for People and Planet**  
GEAPP



energyalliance.org

## Silver Sponsors



## Bronze Sponsors



## Regional Partners





# Energy Week on the public agenda

The impact of Energy Week extends beyond the event,  
generating conversation in the media and digital platforms.

**194**

Press releases

**20**

Accredited  
international media

**14**

Accredited  
Local Media

**+3300**

YouTube  
views



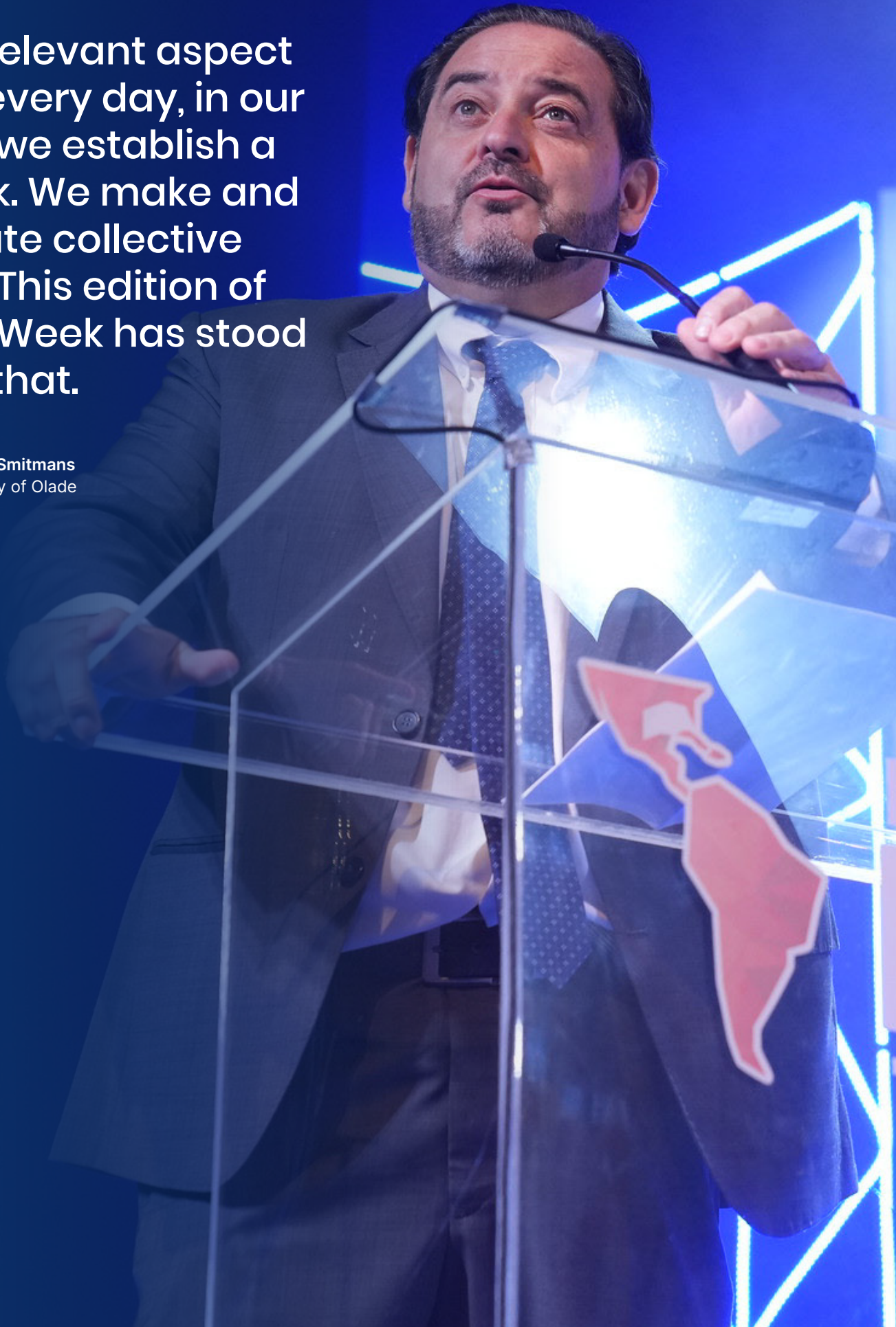
## 15 Media partners



“”

A very relevant aspect is that every day, in our region, we establish a network. We make and articulate collective efforts. This edition of Energy Week has stood out for that.

Andrés Rebolledo Smitmans  
Executive Secretary of Olade





# X Energy Week

## Prospects towards 2035

SANTIAGO DE CHILE

SEP 30 ——— OCT 3, 2025



In a context of technological and regulatory transformations, the 2025 agenda will address key issues for the evolution of the sector, from the modernization of infrastructure and the role of Artificial Intelligence to the planning of more sustainable and inclusive energy transitions.

This edition represents a unique opportunity for companies and organizations to position themselves at the epicenter of the regional energy conversation, connecting with strategic actors and exploring new opportunities for investment and innovation.

[Reserve your spot](#)

# A platform to boost the region's energy future

## Representatives from the 27 OLADE Member Countries

Participation of the main ministerial authorities of the countries of the region.

## Regional and global energy outlook

Strategic analysis of the challenges and opportunities that will mark the sector in the short, medium and long term.

## Multi-stakeholder dialogue spaces

Forums and meetings to exchange visions, strengthen alliances and define the energy development of the region.

## Networking spaces

Activities for the connection between strategic actors, the construction of agreements and the development of new business opportunities.

## Training Programs

Specialized workshops on leadership and executive training to strengthen capacities in the energy sector.

## Distinction of innovative initiatives

Recognition of entrepreneurs and high-impact projects that promote the transformation of the energy sector.

[Learn more](#)



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Co-organizers:

