NEWSLETTER OLADE

NEWS

STATISTICAL DATA

AUGUST 2025

AN UNPOSTPONABLE COMMITMENT TO CLEAN COOKING IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

EDITORIAL

Access to clean cooking solutions is not only a matter of technology or an economic challenge, but above all, a social, health, and environmental imperative. In Latin America and the Caribbean, more than 50 million people still rely on firewood for cooking. Beyond being an equity issue, this practice places tremendous pressure on public health and ecosystems.

According to a prospective analysis by OLADE in the eleventh Technical Note "Outlook on Clean Cooking in Latin America and the Caribbean", in the next decade, 62 million tons of firewood used annually should be replaced with electricity, liquefied petroleum gas, natural gas, and biogas. This transition would require 11 TWh of energy and an investment of around 7.7 billion dollars. Although significant, this investment is necessary and justified by the benefits it will bring: improving quality of life, reducing the incidence of respiratory diseases, and fulfilling climate and sustainable development commitments.

The challenges are by no means minor. Achieving universal access to clean cooking for 95% of the global population will depend on solid regulatory frameworks, financing, technological advancements, and inclusive public policies. The integration of civil society, the private sector, and multilateral organizations will be key actors to ensure that solutions are adapted to the cultural, economic, and territorial contexts of each community.

The region has the opportunity to become an international benchmark, demonstrating that the energy transition is not only about decarbonizing energy matrices or promoting the expansion of renewable energies, but also about bringing tangible change to the daily reality of millions of households. For us, this commitment is an integral part of the vision of a just, inclusive, and sustainable energy transformation.

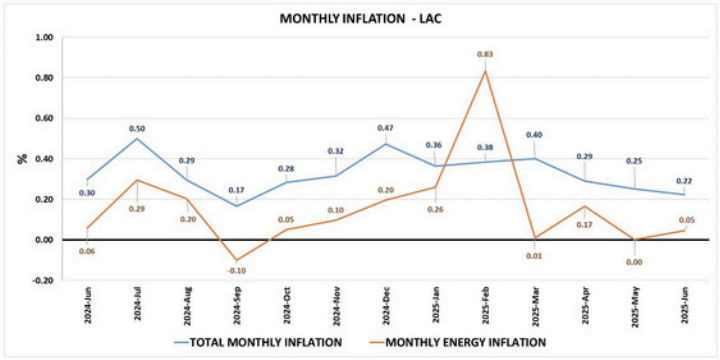
There can be no just transition while gaps persist that condemn millions of families to inefficient and polluting solutions. Energy is a basic right of all human beings, and only through collective and cooperative effort can we secure a sustainable energy future for Latin America and the Caribbean.

LOW ENERGY INFLATION PERSISTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Energy Inflation for Latin America and the Caribbean (IE-LAC) for June 2025, which reached 0.05% monthly and 1.26% year-on-year.

Monthly energy inflation in June 2025 was 0.05%, increasing compared to May of the same year. This behavior is explained by the fact that half of the 20 countries analyzed experienced either positive or zero inflation. Meanwhile, overall monthly inflation continues its downward trend that began in March, dropping from 0.29% in April to 0.22% in June. See Figure 1.

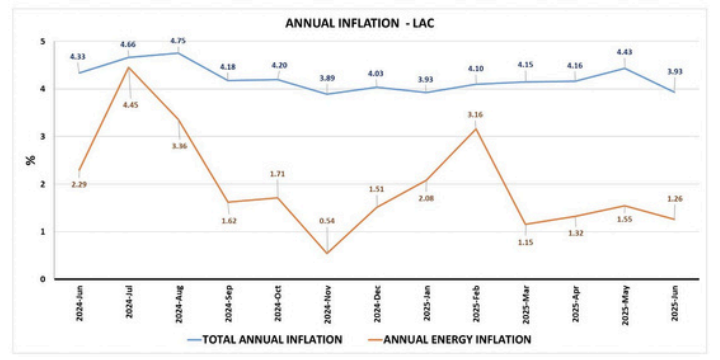
Figure 1. Evolution of Monthly Inflation in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)



Source: OLADE, own elaboration based on the information published in the Institutes of Statistics and Censuses and Central Banks (INEC) of the OLADE Member Countries.

Annual energy inflation in Latin America and the Caribbean had shown slight increases since March 2025, but in June it fell to 1.26%. This value is lower than that recorded in the same month of 2024, when it reached 2.26%. As for annual overall inflation, June 2025 saw the first decrease of the first half of the year, standing at 3.93%. See Figure 2.

Figure 2. Evolution of Monthly Inflation in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)

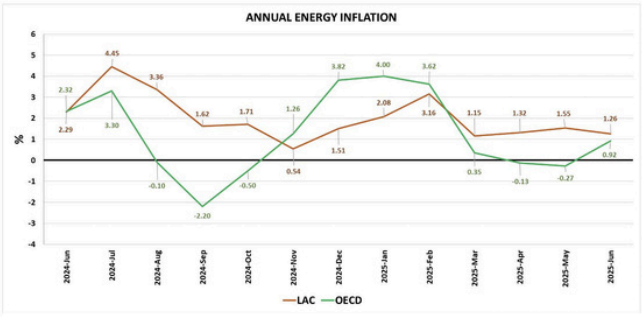


Source: OLADE, own elaboration based on the information published in the Institutes of Statistics and Censuses and Central Banks (INEC) of the OLADE Member Countries.

In June 2025, energy price inflation in the OECD was positive and reached 0.92%, as 24 of the 38 member countries recorded negative annual rates ranging from -0.35% to -9.5%, while the remaining 14 countries showed increases ranging from 0.3% to 40.6%.

In the same month, year-on-year energy inflation in Latin America and the Caribbean reached 1.26%, compared to 0.92% in the OECD, remaining for the fourth consecutive month at levels higher than those of the OECD. See Figure 3.

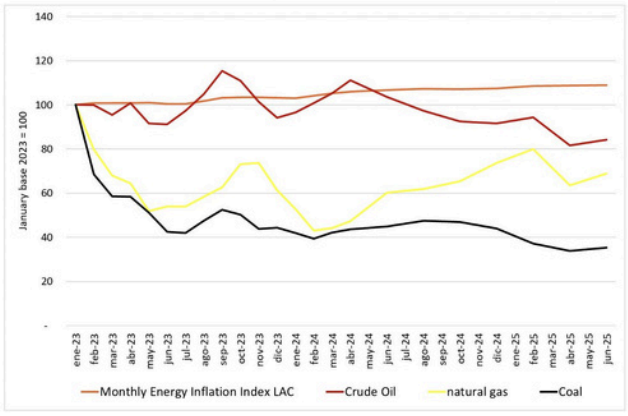
Figure 3. Evolution of Comparative Annual Energy Inflation LAC - OECD



Source: OLADE, own elaboration based on the information published in the Institutes of Statistics and Censuses and Central Banks of the OLADE Member Countries and information published by OECD.

Regarding the comparison of the evolution of monthly energy inflation in Latin America and the Caribbean calculated by OLADE and global energy prices estimated by the International Monetary Fund , Figure 4 shows the evolution of four price indices: crude oil, natural gas, coal, and energy inflation in LAC. The analysis period covers January 2023–June 2025, with all values indexed to a January 2023 base.

Figure 4. Comparison of Monthly Energy Inflation in LAC and International Energy Prices



From the previous figure, it can be concluded that the nominal international prices of crude oil, natural gas, and coal showed a downward trend during the period analyzed. In fact, by June 2025, all three indices were below the values observed in January 2023. On the other hand, the index for LAC does not seem to follow this trend; in fact, the latest value in June 2025 is 8.9% higher than the value in January 2023.

This stability in energy prices in LAC ensured that the increase in international crude oil prices (WTI) in June 2025 (9.65%) was not passed on to energy prices in the region, as the index only rose by 0.22% (see attached table).

Concept	Unit	Jun-23	Jun-24	Jun-25
Total monthly inflation	%	0.30	0.30	0.22
Monthly energy inflation	%	-0.42	0.06	0.05
% Change in WTI Price	%	-1.86	-0.31	9.65

Fuente: OLADE, EIA

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REACH 70% RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY GENERATION IN APRIL 2025

Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) have consolidated their position as one of the world's leading regions in clean electricity generation. In April 2025, total generation reached 158 TWh, representing a 5% year-on-year increase, with a renewability index of 70%, surpassing the 69% recorded in 2024. This progress reflects a remarkable recovery in hydropower and a significant growth in wind energy, according to the Monthly Electricity Generation Report for LAC prepared by OLADE.

The regional electricity mix remains highly diverse, with renewable sources predominating; hydropower and wind power together account for more than 80% of total generation. Hydropower generation recorded a considerable year-on-year increase thanks to favorable weather conditions, while wind power output grew by 42% compared to the previous month.

Although there was a slight decline in solar participation—from 6.3% in March to 4.7% in April—this source continues to maintain a share equivalent to oil and its derivatives, thereby consolidating its role as an essential element within the region's sustainable energy mix.

OLADE PROMOTES TRAINING IN RENEWABLE ENERGIES WITH TECHNICAL VISIT TO UNI IN PERU

The Executive Secretary of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), Andrés Rebolledo, together with his executive team, carried out a technical visit to the National University of Engineering (UNI) in Peru, where he was received by Rector Arturo Talledo Coronado.

The visit took place within the framework of the ETRELA project, funded by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Government, which seeks to improve education and training in renewable energies and energy efficiency in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The project, led by OLADE along with technical partners such as Renewables Academy (RENAC) and Global Factor, and universities from beneficiary countries, promotes the creation of updated curricular programs, state-of-the-art training centers, and specialized courses for training trainers.

Among its benefits are the installation of demonstrative equipment with sustainable technology, the provision of specialists to the local industry, and the development of quality standards in renewable energy education.
During the tour of UNI's facilities and the demonstrative center implemented under the ETRELA project, the importance of these initiatives was highlighted for expanding the supply of professionals in the sector and fostering a sustainable and inclusive energy transition in the region.

With this visit, OLADE reaffirms its commitment to academic and technical cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean, driving joint solutions that strengthen training and the development of regional capacities.

OLADE PARTICIPATES IN THE SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2025 BY FORBES PERU

The Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) participated in the Sustainability Summit 2025 – Forbes Peru, an event held for the third consecutive year that brought together business leaders and experts in a dialogue space dedicated exclusively to sustainability, a strategic axis for the development of industries in a challenging global context.

OLADE's Executive Secretary, Andrés Rebolledo, took part in the panel "Energies of the Future and NetZero." In his remarks, he emphasized:"Transport represents a crucial challenge for decarbonization. Latin America and the Caribbean have clean, competitive, and secure energy that allows us to be part of the solution not only for our region but also for the world. Hard-to-electrify sectors require new alternatives such as green hydrogen, and the region holds unique advantages for its development."

Rebolledo also highlighted that electric mobility has accelerated in Latin America and the Caribbean, reaching nearly 500,000 electric vehicles in circulation by 2024, reflecting the dynamism and commitment of countries toward a low-carbon future.

With its participation in the Sustainability Summit 2025, OLADE reaffirms its commitment to the sustainable energy transition and its role as a regional articulator in building a cleaner, more inclusive, and more resilient energy future.

NUCLEAR ENERGY, A KEY ALTERNATIVE FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) participated in the Regional Workshop on Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) School of Small Modular Reactors.

During the meeting, Guido Maiulini, Head of Strategic Advisory at OLADE, presented nuclear initiatives, highlighting the launch of the OLADE Nuclear Energy Technical Group, with the participation of member countries and the support of the IAEA.

"Nuclear energy, and particularly Small Modular Reactors, is increasingly recognized as a viable, necessary, and beneficial alternative for the energy transitions of Latin America and the Caribbean. For OLADE, it is essential to promote and participate in this regional dialogue that addresses the expectations, challenges, and opportunities that this technology offers our countries," stated Maiulini.

With this participation, OLADE reaffirms its commitment to expanding international cooperation and exploring sustainable alternatives that will strengthen the future energy landscape of Latin America and the Caribbean.

OLADE AND IICA DRIVE STRATEGIC ISSUES FOR THE REGION'S ENERGY TRANSITION

The Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) received at its headquarters in Quito the visit of Manuel Otero, Director General of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), along with his executive team.

During the meeting, strategic issues for the region were addressed, including:

• Water resource management: a priority challenge to ensure energy security and the sustainability of production systems.
• Energy impact of artificial intelligence: its growing adoption in the global economy demands resilient infrastructure and regulatory frameworks adapted to the increase in electricity demand.
• Opportunities of biofuels: their development opens new possibilities to diversify the energy matrix and advance toward a low-carbon transition, with benefits for agriculture and the regional industry.

This meeting strengthens the cooperation between OLADE and IICA, consolidating a shared commitment to promote joint solutions that integrate energy sustainability, technological innovation, and the well-being of communities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

OLADE HIGHLIGHTS THE VALUE OF ENERGY BALANCES IN REGIONAL PLANNING

The Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) took part in the event commemorating the 60th anniversary of the National Energy Balance (BEN), organized by Uruguay's Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining (MIEM).

The official ceremony, held on August 20, was attended by the Minister of Industry, Energy and Mining, Fernanda Cardona, and the National Director of Energy, Arianna Spinelli.

In a message delivered for the occasion, OLADE's Executive Secretary, Andrés Rebolledo, underscored the relevance of the BEN in the regional energy context, highlighting its role as a key instrument for the formulation of public policies.
The BEN report provides a summary of energy production, transformation, and consumption, consolidating itself as a reference source on the evolution of Uruguay's energy landscape.

Meanwhile, Fitzgerald Cantero, OLADE's Director of Studies, Projects and Information, participated in the cycle of technical talks and noted that energy balances are essential for planning, as they make it possible to identify challenges and opportunities in the transition toward more sustainable and resilient systems.

Cantero emphasized that these tools promote efficiency, sustainability, and energy justice, while also strengthening institutional frameworks and supporting the use of new technologies to improve people's quality of life. "Energy must be a tool for development and equity. Planning with data is planning with the future," stressed Cantero.

With this participation, OLADE reaffirms its commitment to supporting energy planning processes in Latin America and the Caribbean, promoting technical cooperation and access to reliable, high-quality information.

OLADE HIGHLIGHTS THE ROLE OF DATA CENTERS IN THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY TRANSITION OF LAC

The Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) participated in the event "Data Centers and Energy in the Andes: Reliability and Mapping of Supply and Demand", organized by the Institute of the Americas in Santiago, Chile. The meeting brought together leaders from the private sector, governments, and NGOs to analyze the challenges and opportunities of the growing data center market in the Andean region, with an emphasis on reliability, energy supply and demand, to ensure sustainable development.

The event featured OLADE's participation and aimed to generate knowledge to strengthen regulation and promote a sustainable energy transition in Latin America and the Caribbean.
Key topics addressed included:

• Growth of the data center market: The sector in Latin America is experiencing rapid growth, with investments expected to continue increasing.
• Sustainability and renewable energy: The need to ensure that this expansion takes place sustainably, as reflected in Microsoft's commitment to operate its data centers with 100% renewable energy.
• Energy regulation: The urgency of updating regulatory frameworks to accompany the transformation of electricity systems and the incorporation of new technologies.
• Development and energy transition: OLADE's role in strengthening capacities, generating knowledge, and promoting regulations that foster regional sustainability.

During his intervention, Fitzgerald Cantero, OLADE's Director of Studies, Projects, and Information, highlighted that data centers have become indispensable infrastructure for the digital economy. He noted that in Latin America and the Caribbean, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Colombia, and Argentina account for 78% of the region's data centers, and projections estimate that by 2035 their consumption will represent 5% of the region's electricity demand.

Cantero stressed that attracting investment, energy integration, and technical training will be decisive factors in turning this trend into an inclusive, sustainable, and resilient energy transition.

104 PROJECTS FROM 15 COUNTRIES COMPETE FOR THE OLADE ENERGY EXCELLENCE AWARD 2025

The Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) has closed applications for the 2025 edition of the OLADE Award for Energy Excellence, receiving a total of 104 projects from 15 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. From small organizations to large companies, educational institutions, and public bodies, they participate in the four categories of this second edition, which recognizes achievements in Decarbonization, Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Education. This diversity reflects the region's cross-cutting commitment to a sustainable energy future.

The award seeks to highlight and recognize initiatives that generate a positive impact on the rational use and protection of energy resources, promoting social, productive, and educational activities that can be replicated in different contexts. Among the applications received, proposals range from technological solutions and community projects that improve quality of life to educational programs that train new generations in energy sustainability.

The winners will be announced at X Energy Week 2025, the most important energy sector event in Latin America and the Caribbean, bringing together authorities, companies, institutions, and opinion leaders. This event offers a unique platform to give international visibility to the award-winning projects and strengthen the exchange of experiences that drive the region's energy transition.

More Information: https://www.olade.org/noticias/104-proyectos-de-15-paises-compiten-en-el-premio-olade-a-la-excelencia-energetica-2025/

OLADE AND RENAC STRENGTHEN RENEWABLE ENERGY TRAINING IN LAC

For four days, experts and academics from seven countries met in Quito to advance regional training in renewable energy economics, within the framework of the ETRELA-IKI project.

The headquarters of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) hosted the In-Person Training Workshop on Renewable Energy Economics, an initiative of the ETRELA project, funded by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Government and implemented by the consortium led by OLADE together with the implementing partners: The Renewables Academy (RENAC), Global Factor, and universities from the region.

The program, aimed at professors, researchers, and academic assistants, sought to strengthen technical capacities and provide training materials to facilitate the development of academic programs in renewable energies.

At the opening, Rafael Juan Martí, Head of Division & Trainer at RENAC, highlighted the importance of this in-person phase of the "Academic Ambassadors in Renewable Energy Economics" training program, while Gloria Alvarenga, Director of Integration, Access, and Energy Security at OLADE, emphasized that "technology alone is not enough: highly trained professionals are required to design, finance, and implement sustainable solutions that ensure universal access to energy and respond to the challenges of urbanization."
The ETRELA project, now in its second phase, involves eight universities from seven countries in the region as direct beneficiaries. However, many of the activities also indirectly benefit all countries in the region.

The sessions included presentations, case studies, and practical workshops, covering topics such as economic and financial analysis, contractual aspects, as well as strategies for risk management in renewable energy projects.

More than just a course, the workshop represented a space for regional cooperation and professional network-building, key to driving a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient energy transition in Latin America and the Caribbean.

OLADE PROMOTES TRAINING IN ELECTRICITY MARKETS TO STRENGTHEN THE ENERGY TRANSITION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) is conducting, from August 19 to September 2, the course "Fundamentals of Electricity Markets and their Development in Brazil, Colombia, and Chile". This technical training aims to strengthen knowledge on the functioning of electricity markets, from their economic foundations to their practical application in representative regional experiences.
The course covers principles such as dispatch and price formation, market structures, operation models, auction design, competition mechanisms, and coordination with power grids.

At the opening, OLADE's Executive Secretary, Andrés Rebolledo, emphasized the urgency of having updated regulatory frameworks in the context of accelerated technological transformation: "The transformation of power systems requires relevant regulations that encourage investment and accompany the incorporation of new technologies in the region."
Meanwhile, Gloria Alvarenga, OLADE's Director of Integration, Access, and Energy Security, underlined the importance of the electricity sector as a cornerstone for regional development: "The electricity sector is a strategic pillar for economic and social development. A deep understanding of it is essential to address the challenges of the energy transition in Latin America and the Caribbean."

During the sessions, experts such as Sebastián Novoa and Gabriel Olmedo shared reflections on different regulatory models in the region, highlighting the need to understand common principles that allow progress toward more competitive, efficient, and sustainable systems. Through this training initiative, OLADE reaffirms its commitment to capacity building, technical cooperation, and the design of energy policies that contribute to building more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable power systems in Latin America and the Caribbean.

ELECTRIC MOBILITY IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES FOR ITS MASS ADOPTION

Fitzgerald Cantero Piali, Director of Studies, Projects and Information at the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), carried out an academic agenda at the Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral (ESPOL), where he delivered the keynote lecture "Impact of the Energy Transition and Electric Mobility" to authorities, faculty, and students of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Production Sciences.

During his presentation, Cantero outlined the regional panorama of electromobility and highlighted that, according to OLADE's 2024 map, Ecuador ranks seventh in two key indicators:

- Among the Latin American and Caribbean countries with the highest number of electric buses in circulation (106 units).
- Among the countries with the largest charging station networks (144 points).

Cantero stressed that the transition to electric mobility requires not only infrastructure and technology but also "a cultural change", which involves citizens adopting practices such as charging vehicles at home.
On the technical side, he noted that in an internal combustion vehicle, between 15% and 84% of the energy is lost, whereas in an electric vehicle, the loss is only 11%. This is further supported by the region's potential to generate electricity from renewable sources such as hydropower, solar, and wind.

He also emphasized that Ecuador already has an advanced legal framework to facilitate the incorporation of electric vehicles.
Juan Peralta, coordinator of the Master's in Energy Systems at ESPOL and member of the National Committee on Energy Efficiency, stressed that upgrading transformers "will be an essential component to ensure capacity and supply quality," and that tax incentives could accelerate the adoption of this technology.
OLADE's participation in this space reinforces its commitment to promoting policies and actions that advance a fair, sustainable, and inclusive energy transition in the region.

OLADE PARTICIPATES IN WORKSHOP ON INTERNATIONAL HYDROGEN CERTIFICATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

As part of the triangular cooperation project between the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), the European Union (EU), and the Chilean Agency for International Development Cooperation (AGCID), National Workshops on Capacity Building in International Standards for the Certification of Low- or Zero-Emission Hydrogen and its Derivatives were held in Colombia and Panama.

Representing OLADE, Fabio García, specialist at the organization, presented the objectives, scope, and expected outcomes of the H2V EU-AGCID-OLADE triangular project, highlighting the coordination of the working team.

Meanwhile, Medardo Cadena, Advisor to the Executive Secretary of OLADE, spoke about the attributes that renewable hydrogen projects in Latin America and the Caribbean must meet to access international markets such as the European Union. He stressed the importance of certification and metrology to ensure traceability and sustainability. In addition, David Delgado, Technical Director of the project at OLADE, shared the regional vision for the development of hydrogen in the region, outlining the requirements for renewable hydrogen projects to enter export markets and the relevance of certification for traceability.

Key highlights included:

- The high potential of renewable energy in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- The need for robust certification and metrology schemes to ensure sustainability and access to international markets.
- The projection of competitive hydrogen production costs in the region.
- Regulatory challenges, water stress, and emission certification methodologies.
- The expected impact on investments, job creation, and human capital development in the regional energy sector.

The workshops brought together government authorities, technical institutions, the private sector, and international cooperation, fostering dialogue on opportunities, regulatory challenges, and certification models applicable to the Colombian and Panamanian contexts.

Through these initiatives, OLADE reaffirms its commitment to promoting hydrogen as a strategic vector for the sustainable energy transition in Latin America and the Caribbean.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REQUIRE 11 TWH AND US$ 7.7 BILLION BY 2035 TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN CLEAN COOKING METHODS

By 2035, Latin America and the Caribbean should replace around 62 million tons of firewood used annually in residential cooking with electricity, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), natural gas, and biogas. This ambitious goal will require investments of approximately US$ 7.7 billion, according to Technical Note No. 11 published by the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) under the title "Overview of Clean Cooking in Latin America and the Caribbean."

The report states that firewood currently accounts for 31% of residential energy consumption in the region and that, to ensure 95% of the population has access to clean cooking by 2035, it will be necessary to provide around 50 million people with modern technologies, including electric, gas, or improved wood-based stoves.

The projected scenario involves partially replacing wood with about 1.7 billion cubic meters of natural gas, as well as requiring around 46 million barrels of LPG and 11 TWh of electricity.

Investments should focus on increasing electricity capacity, modernizing distribution networks, and promoting both local production and the import of necessary fuels.

The partial substitution of firewood with modern energy sources, combined with the adoption of efficient stoves, could generate a 33% energy saving by 2035 compared to the current trend, with direct benefits for public health, reduced deforestation, and, consequently, progress toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

OLADE emphasizes that the success of the plan also depends on ensuring affordable prices, especially for vulnerable households, mostly located in rural areas where, traditionally, when fuel supply is available, it is at low cost for families — an integral part of local culture. In addition, household electrification must be accompanied by a significant expansion of dedicated infrastructure.

OLADE LAUNCHES REDLACME WORK PLAN TO BOOST WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP IN THE ENERGY SECTOR OF LAC

The Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), in strategic collaboration with the Women in Energy Association of Chile and with the support of the Ministry of Energy and Mines of Guatemala, launched in Guatemala City the first National Workshop for Building Women's Energy Networks. These initiatives seek to promote women's leadership in the region's energy sector through association and collective work. The National Workshops aim to establish a local women's energy network that will, in turn, become part of the Latin American and Caribbean Women in Energy Network (RedLACME) as a regional platform for coordination and articulation, facilitated by OLADE as Technical Secretariat.

The meeting brought together specialists, authorities, and representatives from various Guatemalan institutions in the public sector, industry, and academia. Discussions focused on the challenges and opportunities to build a national women's energy network aimed at increasing women's participation in the sector, promoting their inclusion in leadership positions, and advancing public policies with a gender perspective.

Drawing from the experience of the Women in Energy Association of Chile, participants discussed association-building processes that have emerged in other countries of the region, identifying common goals, establishing statutes, governance, and membership, as well as strategic planning and actions to ensure the sustainability of a national network.

The event opened with a video message from the Minister of Energy and Mines, Víctor Hugo Ventura Ruiz, followed by remarks from Gloria Alvarenga, OLADE's Director of Integration, Access and Energy Security; Pía Suárez, President of the Women in Energy Association of Chile; and María Consuelo Morales, Head of the Gender Unit of the Guatemalan Ministry.

"When you work in community, the benefits are not only added, they multiply. Every connection created and every piece of knowledge shared has the potential to generate a far-reaching impact," said Alvarenga, who emphasized that energy is a human right that enables other fundamental rights.
For her part, Suárez highlighted that Guatemala was chosen as the venue for the first workshop due to its progress in gender institutionalization, and Morales described the event as "a historic opportunity to build a national women's energy network."

The program included three core modules — "Stories and Common Purpose," "Governance and Sustainability," and "Regional Articulation" — designed to foster collaboration, strengthen leadership, and achieve sustainability for national women's energy networks. In the final module, OLADE presented its robust work on gender and energy as a foundation for the consolidation of RedLACME at the regional level, along with the guiding principles of the initiative. This first workshop in Guatemala marks the beginning of a series of meetings to be held in several Latin American and Caribbean countries, aimed at exchanging experiences, formulating strategies, and identifying focal points for the establishment of national women's energy networks.

Through the Work Plan and the consolidation of RedLACME, OLADE reaffirms its commitment to a more inclusive, participatory, and sustainable energy future for the region.

OLADE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HAVANA PROMOTE ENERGY TRAINING IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Leaders, experts, and representatives from Central American and Caribbean countries are participating this week in the course "Energy Transitions in Central America and the Caribbean," organized by the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), the Ministry of Energy and Mines of Cuba, and the University of Havana. The meeting, held in the Cuban capital, aims to strengthen technical and human capacities for the planning, implementation, and supervision of renewable energy projects, especially photovoltaic generation.

During the opening session, the Regional Energy Outlook for Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean was presented, along with a comparative law study on the political and regulatory framework for solar energy in the Caribbean, and a case analysis of Caribbean and Central American countries in their efforts to incorporate renewable energy into their electricity matrices.

In his opening remarks, OLADE's Executive Secretary, Andrés Rebolledo Smitmans, emphasized that "the energy transition is not a destination, but a collective process that requires political vision, technical planning, regional collaboration, and above all, people committed to transformation." He added that the program "is designed to train trainers in order to amplify its impacts."
The Rector of the University of Havana, Miriam Nicado García, highlighted that the institution is working together with the Ministry of Energy and Mines on a sustainability and energy transition strategy that involves all national stakeholders.

For his part, the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Energy and Mines of Cuba, Argelio Abad Vigoa, stressed that "there is no time to lose. Under the Paris Agreements, we must reduce emissions and increase energy resilience." He noted that countries like Cuba are already moving forward with megaprojects such as solar parks, grid modernization, and energy efficiency, but warned that the path requires greater solidarity and collective action.
As part of the event, OLADE and the University of Havana signed a memorandum of understanding to develop joint academic training programs, specialist exchanges, and internships, as well as to design and implement technological innovation projects in areas such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, hydrocarbons, electricity, nuclear energy, and energy planning.

The program includes an intensive workshop with theoretical and practical activities on solar radiation, design and certification of photovoltaic modules, technical measurements, operation and maintenance of solar parks, panel recycling, and the preparation of bidding documents for renewable energy projects. Participants will also undertake hands-on training at the University of Havana's Photovoltaic Laboratory and visit solar facilities in Matanzas to apply in the field the knowledge acquired.

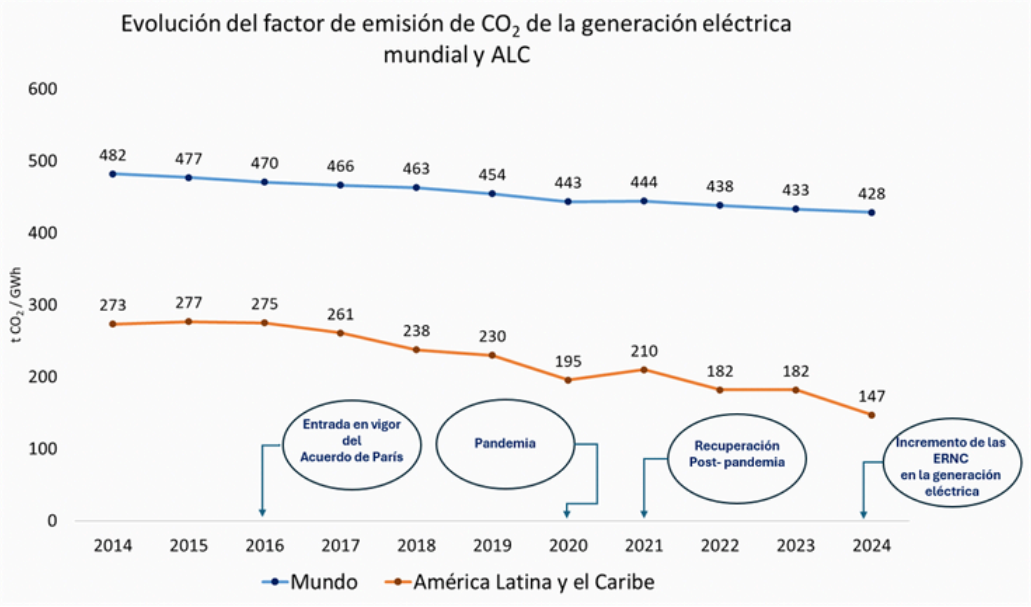
The meeting, which will run until August 8, brings together government representatives, technicians, and experts from both subregions to discuss the challenges of the energy transition and develop roadmaps tailored to the realities of Central America and the Caribbean.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ADVANCE IN REDUCING THE CO2 EMISSION FACTOR OF ELECTRICITY GENERATION

Since the emergence of large hydroelectric plants many years ago, the LAC region has been characterized by having an electricity generation matrix that is predominantly renewable and cleaner than in other regions of the world. However, over the last decade, thanks to progress in harnessing non-conventional renewable energy sources (NCRE) such as wind and solar, this feature has deepened, with a rapid reduction in the CO2 emission factor of its electricity generation, especially since 2016, the year the Paris Agreement entered into force. The signatory countries established their first Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and oriented their energy policies toward fulfilling them. It is worth noting that in 2021 this factor increased due to post-pandemic economic reactivation, but by 2022 the decreasing trend resumed, in parallel with the continued rise of renewable energy sources in the regional electricity mix.

Although at the global level there has also been a reduction in the CO2 emission factor of electricity generation in recent years, for the same reason of increased penetration of non-conventional renewable sources in the sector, this reduction has been much slower compared to LAC, given that fossil fuels have continued to play a predominant role in global electricity generation over renewables. Thus, by 2014, this indicator for LAC was almost half of the global indicator, and by 2024 it is nearly a third. See Figure.

This demonstrates the region's commitment to continue contributing effectively and sustainably to the decarbonization of the energy sector.



Fuente: sieLAC, OLADE, 2025