

Thirteenth session of the IRENA Assembly

Side Event

13 January 2023, 12:30 – 13:30 GST

St. Regis Hotel, Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi

Renewable Energy Roadmaps for Latin America: perspectives and way forward

Background

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) released the World Energy Transitions Outlook in 2021, which shows that a drastic reduction in greenhouse gas emissions is needed in order to meet the Paris Agreement goal of keeping the rise in global temperature well below 2°C. A key driver for reducing emissions during the coming decades will be a substantial increase of investments related to the energy transition, including a greater deployment of renewable energy and changes in the energy infrastructure.

IRENA developed the Renewable Energy Roadmaps Programme, REmap, to provide strategies for the energy transition at the country and regional levels, with perspectives for 2030 and 2050. The aim of developing regional studies is to understand how a region can promote an energy transition pathway, respecting countries' unique energy resources, socio-economic status, as well as institutional and regulatory endowments, while at the same time contributing to the global emission reduction objective and leveraging opportunities to meet regional energy and investment goals. In Latin America, both Central and South America are the regions which have most recently benefited from the ongoing work of IRENA's REmap Programme.

There are several ongoing initiatives in the countries of Central America, carried on by local partners such as SICA, OLADE, ECLAC and IDB, to contribute with the energy transition strategies of the region. In this sense, the REmap and FlexTool analysis for Central America developed a series of scenarios that considers the current situation of the countries in terms of their economic development, energy intensity, national and regional power sector contexts, as well as the current initiatives, plans and pledges to tackle sectoral emissions.

The REmap Central America study (March 2022) and REmap South America (under development) explore the role of end-use sectors electrification, the feasible increase of renewables in electricity generation and direct uses, energy efficiency solutions as well as the importance of expanding the existing regional power sector integration.

Specific sector technological pathways and investment opportunities and tailor actions are important outcomes that will enrich the regional debate and help to accelerate the energy transformation.



Objectives

This event will convene representatives from countries of the Latin American region and aims to present the REmap study's objectives, scopes and expected outcomes, as well as to delve into the overall insights and lessons learned from the development of the Central America report, plus deliver an update on the most recent advances of the South America report and the way forward once both reports are fulfilled. Country delegates will be encouraged to share their nation's most recent activities related to the energy transition and the energy subsectors which are currently being prioritised, and identify potential support by IRENA related to the outcomes of the RE Roadmaps developed.

Associated Publications

[Renewable Energy Roadmap for Central America: Towards a Regional Energy Transition](#) (2022)

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