

How can Cuba build a more resilient energy system?

Building a Cleaner, More Resilient Energy System in Cuba recommends numerous ways by which domestic policy in Cuba can prioritize working towards a more sustainable, resilient grid -- especially by investing in the energy transition-- and ways in which international cooperation can support these goals.

Is Cuba's energy infrastructure in a precarious state of aging and disrepair?

The report highlights the issue that not only is Cuba's energy infrastructure in a precarious state of aging and disrepair, but also that its entire energy system relies heavily on external aid and imported fossil fuels.

What are Cuba's energy goals?

The Cuban government intends to reduce its reliance on crude oil by more than 10% and to increase the share of renewable energies for power generation, although the energy mix will still be quite reliant on fossil fuels. See Table 2 for a breakdown of the 2030 goals and a comparison to the 2014 data.

Why is the energy sector at a crossroads in Cuba?

Cuba's energy sector is at a crossroads. The country's mostly fossil fuel-fired energy system faces a number of longstanding and serious challenges, including breakdowns at aging power plants, decreasing fuel imports and fuel shortages, and the growing threat of climate change-related disruptions.

What was the energy mix in Cuba in the 1990s?

In the 1990s, Cuba's energy mix was still dominated by fossil fuels, but at the beginning of that decade, almost 11% of the electricity was generated from renewable energy carriers, basically sugar cane waste. Electricity generation was severely affected by the drop of oil imports and loss of access to spare parts for the power plants.

How will Cuba's relationship with other countries impact the energy transition?

Cuba's relationships with other countries will be key to realizing the energy transition. Since 2000, Venezuela has been Cuba's primary source of imported oil. However, political and economic troubles in Venezuela caused oil exports to Cuba to fall by about half, resulting in Cuba increasingly seeking oil imports from Mexico and Russia.

Cuba aims to have renewable energy sources account for 24% of its energy matrix by 2030. President Miguel Díaz-Canel announced on November 27 that the country plans to achieve more than 2,000 megawatts (MW) of photovoltaic energy within the next three years, equivalent to two million KW.

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This study evaluated the possibilities of energy transition in Cuba 2030. Cuba is currently in a vulnerable energy situation since it strongly depends on the importation of fossil energy.

As shown by the devastation to Cuba's energy grid caused by Hurricane Ian in 2022, increases in extreme weather events can reduce the supply of fossil fuels, damage generation and grid infrastructure, reduce output, and affect the security of supply.

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HAVANA, Feb 28 2022 (IPS) - Cuba has readjusted its plans to achieve at least 37 percent of electricity from clean energy by 2030, a promising but risky challenge for a nation that is a heavy consumer of fossil fuels and has persistent financial problems.

This report provides detailed information on the current state of Cuba's energy sector and identifies opportunities to accelerate the deployment of renewables and advance climate resilience.

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