



Organization of  
American States



## Regional Dialogue on Water-Energy Nexus

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Ave Manuel Espinoza Batista, Panama City  
Orquideas Room

May 24-25, 2016

### Preliminary Agenda

**Objectives:** On May 25-26, 2015, Energy Ministers and Senior Officials of the Americas met in Merida, Mexico, for the Second Ministerial Meeting of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas. During the Ministerial, Panama's National Secretary of Energy, Victor Carlos Urrutia, Mexico's Secretary of Energy, Pedro Joaquin Coldwell, and the United States Secretary of Energy, Ernest Moniz, participated in a water-energy nexus discussion to address the intrinsic relationship between energy and water, best practices in the region and the prospective multilateral initiatives.

This regional dialogue on the water-energy nexus taking place in Panama May 24-25, 2016 is proposed as a follow up to the exchanges initiated in Mexico and aims to:

- promote an integrated view of water and energy management systems;
- showcase successful experiences where issues arising from the linkages between water and energy systems have been well managed;
- establish an inter-American cooperation framework that encourages an integrated water and energy management with an adequate assessment of the intrinsic relationship between them;

**Background:** Historically, the regulation and management of water and energy systems have been delegated to government agencies that work parallel and independent of each other.. Nowadays, given the, growing awareness of the intrinsic relationship between water and energy systems, this relationship is changing. Considering large amounts of water is needed in almost all phases of the energy generation process and substantial amount of energy is required to extract, process, transport and supply water for human use and to process wastewater before returning them to their natural beds

As climate change is one of the major determinants of water availability (IPCC, 2013) its impacts should be analyzed and managed in the context of the water-energy nexus. This new trend requires the review of traditional patterns of water and energy systems management in order to adapt them to a comprehensive vision that takes into account the reciprocal impacts of both systems.

**Methodology:** The speakers will present the experiences of each of the sector's managing both the energy and water resources, emphasizing the use of essential elements such as institutional and legal frameworks, financial mechanisms, public participation, transparency and accountability. Two perspective areas will be presented, a transnational or sub-regional approach and a national approach.

The **Americas Business Dialogue** will meet on May 25 at 2:00 PM. All guests of the Regional dialogue on Water-Energy Nexus are invited to participate in this dialogue sponsored by the Inter-American Development Bank.

The [Americas Business Dialogue](#) is an initiative led by the private sector and facilitated by the IDB in order to promote a public-private high-level political dialogue among regional business leaders and government representatives on priorities, challenges, and opportunities for economic growth and development. The Energy Working Group is comprised of leading companies in the sector in the Americas.

This Americas Business Dialogue session will focus on renewable energy, energy efficiency, natural gas and regional energy integration. A dialogue table will be created for governments and private sector to jointly analyze ways in which available technologies can be currently used to supply the energy needs of the region and the economic, financial, infrastructural, and regulatory challenges to make them viable.

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<b>Tuesday, May 24, 2016</b>		
<b>08:30 AM Registration</b>		
<b>09:00 AM Opening and Introductory Remarks</b> Pedro Vuskovic, OAS Representative in Panama Ariel Yépez, Energy Division Chief, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Mirei Endara, Minister of Environment, Panama Victor Carlos Urrutia, National Secretary of Energy, Panama		
<b>09:30 AM Water for Energy and Energy for Water: Identifying this Nexus in Latin America</b> Maximiliano Campos, Principal Water Resources Specialist, Sustainable Development, OAS Juan Cruz Monticelli, Senior Energy Specialist, Sustainable Development, OAS		
<b>10:00 AM Break</b>		
<b>10:30 AM Basic Management Principles of Water-Energy Nexus: Complementarity, Subsidiarity, Transparency and Accountability</b> Isaac Castillo, Deputy Secretary of Energy  There is interdependence between water and energy systems. The links between the two systems need to be addressed taking into account basic principles of good governance. This session will tackle common aspects of both systems, and basic elements required to improve their management, supported by concrete examples in Latin America.		
<b>11:15 AM Management Tools and Mechanisms at the National and Transnational Levels</b>  This session will analyze the incidence of legal, institutional, financial and public participation frameworks and mechanisms in the water-energy nexus management. From the national level perspective, a sectorial analysis will be presented, since current energy and water management systems are developed, managed and regulated in parallel and independently. From the transboundary point of view, energy integration models will be analyzed. <b>Moderator:</b> James Spalding, General Director, ITAIPU Paraguay		
<b>Transnational level</b>	<b>SIEPAC</b>	Ing. Iván Barría Mock, General Manager, Empresa de Transmisión Eléctrica, S.A. (ETESA)
	<b>Connecting the Americas 2020</b>	Marcela Bonilla, Advior, Energy and Mining Planning Unit (UPME), Colombia
<b>12:15 PM Q&amp;A session</b>		
<b>12:45 PM Lunch – Hosted by the Inter-American Development Bank</b>		
<b>01:45 PM Management Tools and Mechanisms at National and Transnational Level (Cont.)</b>		
<b>National level</b>	<b>Industry and Commerce</b>	Ricardo Sotelo, President - Chamber of Industries of Panama
	<b>Urban</b>	Roberto Olivares, General Director, National Water and Sanitation Companies Asociacion (ANEAS), Mexico
	<b>Agriculture</b>	Olga Xóchitl Cisneros Estrada, Mexican Water Institute (IMTA)
	<b>Port</b>	Jorge Durán, Chief of the Secretariat, Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP)
<b>03:15 PM Q&amp;A Session</b>		
<b>03:45 PM Break</b>		
<b>04:15 PM Open Discussion: Benefits of an Integrated Management of Water-Energy Nexus</b> In light of the discussions held in the previous session, the advantages, disadvantages and feasibility of integrated water and energy management will be discussed. <b>Moderator:</b> Mauro Nalesso, Water and Energy Division Specialist, IDB		
<b>5:30 PM Conclusions and Closing Remarks</b>		
<b>6:30 PM Optional Networking Reception with private sector representatives</b>		

**Wednesday, May 25, 2016 \***

**08:30 AM Best Practices of Watershed Resource Management**

This session will analyze the legal, institutional, financial and public participation frameworks and mechanisms in the integrated management of national and transnational watershed, and the way they incorporate energy-related topics.

**Moderator:** Dr. Judith Dominguez, Research Professor. Center for Demographic, Urban and Environmental Studies, College of Mexico.

<b>Transnational watershed</b>	<b>Itaipu</b> Brasil – Paraguay	James Spalding, General Director, ITAIPU Paraguay
	<b>Tijuana, Bravo y Colorado</b> México – Estados Unidos	Alfredo Ocón Gutiérrez, Engineering and Binational Affairs Manager, National Water Commission, Mexico
<b>National Watershed</b>	<b>Santa Eulalia</b> Peru	Juan Carlos Sevilla Gildemeister, Chief, National Water Authority
	<b>Panama Canal</b> Panama	Dr. Carlos Vargas, Executive Vice President of Environment, Water and Energy, Panama Canal Authority (ACP)
	<b>National Hydric Security Plan</b> Panama	Emilio Sempris, Viceminister, Ministry of Environment

**09:45 AM Q&A session**

**10:15 AM Break**

**10:45 AM Hydro-IDB: Integrated system for simulating climate change impacts on water resources in Latin America and the Caribbean**

Sergio Campos, Chief, Water and Sanitation Division, IDB

It is estimated that, in the 2050s, between 79 and 178 million people in the region will experience water stress. This session will introduce a tool used to do hydrological and climate analysis, which estimates the availability of fresh water at the basin and sub-basin. This system helps the adoption of policy decisions related to water management and infrastructure projects.

**11:30 AM Q&A session**

**12:00 PM Open dialogue: Lessons learned in the integrated water resources management applicable to the water-energy nexus management**

For decades, governments have adopted a watershed-based Integrated Resource Management, even reaching transboundary levels. This type of management is based on the need to implement a holistic strategy to optimize the management of all aspects of the geographical area occupied by the watershed, thereby avoiding the treatment of these issues in isolation, uncoordinated or in disconnection. The discussion will address three key issues:

1. Viability of a water-energy integrated management in Latin America;
2. Relevant lessons learned in the integrated water resources management applicable to water-energy nexus;
3. Ways to promote an integrated water - energy management at the national and supranational level (cross-border, sub regional and regional)

**Moderator:** Roberto Olivares, General Director, National Water and Sanitation Companies Asociacion (ANEAS), Mexico

**12:45 PM Conclusions, Next Steps and Closing**

Dr. Miguel Ángel Esbri, Secretary, Competitiveness and Economic Affairs Secretariat, Panamá

\* Americas Business Dialogue will commence at 2:00 PM. Regional Dialogue on Water-Energy Nexus guests are also invited to participate in this event, sponsored by the Inter-American Development Bank.