

FIER: A Decade promoting integration



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FIER:

A decade promoting integration

During its 10 years of existence, the Regional Energy Integration Forum (FIER from the Spanish) has played a key role by encouraging and supporting energy integration processes and initiatives in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as promoting cooperation and coordination among OLADE's member countries. Year by year, this ongoing project has clearly contributed to establishing strong, viable links among key energy authorities of Latin America and the Caribbean, international public, private and public-private energy firms, international organizations, the academic and scientific sector, and the civil society.

To mark its tenth anniversary, OLADE decided to publish this special edition, **"Ten Years Building Energy Integration in Latin America and the Caribbean."** In addition to providing information and background on the history of the FIER, three analytical and informational articles illustrate OLADE's energy integration efforts.

The editorial entitled **"Looking Back on the Lima Agreement"** outlines a review of the contents and outcomes of the first Meetings of Experts and Meetings of Ministers from the birth of OLADE until 1984. It critically assesses how the tenets of the **Lima Agreement** were upheld in the initial projects developed by the Permanent Secretariat, with particular emphasis on efforts to create the Latin American Energy Bank and the Regional Energy Market.

The article on **"The Evolution of Energy Integration in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2004-2014: Institutional Frameworks and Production Processes"** reviews the relationship between regional energy integration and the interplay of national production factors in Latin America and the Caribbean, balancing energy sovereignty and energy security with the conditions to ensure energy integration.

Next, **"Toward Comprehensive, Sustainable Energy Planning"** describes energy policy-making and planning activities and projects aimed to supply OLADE's member countries with the tools and resources needed to draw up guidelines and develop criteria to implement long- and medium-range energy plans and programs, forecasts, simulations, and data management systems to meet their national goals for sustainable energy development.

There is also a retrospective study on the key objectives, findings and issues addressed by the FIER since its inception, including statistics on the countries, institutions and participants that were involved.

In sum, this publication is designed to describe and publicize the FIER's contributions to regional energy integration as a means to further negotiations and joint efforts towards bilateral, sub-regional and regional cooperation and interaction. ●

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