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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.

Does Cuba have a good energy policy?

Cuba faces a long and arduous road in order to achieve a comprehensive national energy policy that produces safe, clean, efficient, reliable, sustainable and affordable energy. [i] While recognizing its benefits, the particular current conditions in Cuba is hard on families.

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.

Should Cuba update its energy grid?

While small-scale, such renewable energy initiatives can reduce pressure on the energy grid and provide relief in especially vulnerable places. Due to rising temperatures and increasingly unreliable energy infrastructure, action to update Cuba's energy grid is urgently necessary.

Is there a short-term solution to Cuba's energy challenges?

There is noshort-term solution to Cuba's energy challenges. The country does not have the domestic oil and natural gas resources necessary to meet its own needs and will have to continue to rely on imports of petroleum liquids and liquefied natural gas to fuel its future economic growth.

What happened to the energy sector in Cuba?

From that more recent crisis arose the so-called Energy Revolution and the government changed the leadership of the then Ministry of Basic Industry, responsible for the sector. With few traditional sources of its own, Cuba has always been dependent on imported energy.

The National Electric System (SEN) faces far-reaching technical challenges that threaten the economic and social development of Cuba. After more than forty years of operation without capital maintenance, the basic thermoelectric generation infrastructure, as well as its distribution capacity, have collapsed.

Cuba is currently in a vulnerable energy situation since it strongly depends on the importation of fossil energy. Strategies based on intermittent RES (solar and wind) can reduce this vulnerability, but the introduction of this type of source impacts the energy system's characteristics and aspects at a country/regional scale.

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Behind these great efforts, however, a sustainable design and operation of the energy system often fell short. As a result, the Cuban energy system still faces numerous problems today. Current electricity generation is dominated by outdated power plants and generators using low quality domestic or imported oil.

Recent shifts in law and policy create new and promising opportunities and indicate a desire on the part of Cuba"s policymakers to transition to a cleaner, more climate resilient energy system. Cuba committed to generating 24% of its electricity from renewable energy sources by 2030 as part of the country"s Nationally Determined ...

To satisfy the buildings" energy demand, the village has three main renewable energy subsystems: solar PV (photovoltaic), geothermal system and solar thermal domestic hot water. Together with energy storage (batteries) and demand (buildings and appliances), they form a microgrid, which then interacts with the power grid.

Cuba"s intention to transition to renewable energy generation is key, as renewables can provide climate change mitigation, reduced local air pollution, and resilience benefits over the current fossil fuel-fired power generation system. This report provides detailed information on the current state of Cuba"s energy sector and identifies ...

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Cuba's transition to renewable energy generation would reduce greenhouse gas emissions, helping to mitigate climate change and reduce local air pollution, while also providing a more resilient source of power compared to the current fossil fuel-heavy power system.

Project leader Felix Morfis, also a representative of Cubasolar - a non-governmental organization promoting renewable energy in Cuba since 1994 ... setting the price for renewable energy fed into the National Electric System by independent residential producers at three pesos per kilowatt-hour (kWh) (about \$0.025 at the official exchange rate

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