



Concept note and Programme

Launch of Renewables Readiness Assessment (RRA) Paraguay

20 September (17.00 – 18:30h, GST)

Background.

Paraguay is a global reference thanks to its clean energy matrix for power generation as well as the exploitation of the country's hydro resources with the development of bi-national mega projects. In general, Paraguay's energy sector is predominantly renewable and has one of the highest shares of renewable energy in South America. Hydropower accounts for the largest share of the country's electricity generation, representing around 99.5% of the installed power capacity. Therefore, Paraguay is highly dependent on the hydrological conditions of the rivers that feed the main hydroelectric power plants of the country, where most of the electricity produced is exported to neighbouring countries.

Even though renewables (hydropower and biomass) are the largest source of Paraguay's primary energy consumption, emissions have been increasing gradually, due to the growing use of fossil fuels mainly in the transport sector, which place oil derivatives as the second-largest source of energy in the country. With the ratification of the Paris agreement in 2016 and the National Energy Policy 2016-2040, the country released the National Climate Change Law in 2017 and is currently in the process of updating its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), reiterating Paraguay's commitment to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

Paraguay's renewable energy resources are vast and diverse and have an important role in enhancing energy security, promoting economic growth, and contributing to aligning the country to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Therefore, the diversification of the Paraguayan energy matrix with renewable energy and low carbon technologies, can facilitate the decarbonisation of the end-use sectors, contribute to the promotion of energy efficiency, attract investments, and bring diverse socio-economic benefits to the country's population.

IRENA's Renewable Readiness Assessment (RRA), developed in close coordination with the Ministry of Public Works and Communications, represented by the Vice Ministry of Mines and Energy (VMME) reflects on country-led consultations that provide a venue for multi-stakeholder dialogue to identify challenges to renewable energy deployment and to devise solutions to existing barriers. IRENA's analysis in Paraguay includes a set of six key thematic areas to be carried out beyond the RRA report to overcome these existing barriers. Within these areas, the Agency identified recommended actions for the short and medium-term that could create more conducive conditions for renewable energy deployment, intending to support Paraguay in unlocking its renewable energy potential.

The key areas of work identified during the RRA process focus on strengthening energy institutions and governance; enhancing long-term planning and regulatory framework for the renewable energy



sector; developing policy and implementing initiatives to foster energy efficiency; promoting institutional coordination and the use of renewable energy beyond the power sector; foster investment on renewable energy technologies; and reinforcing the continuous creation of institutional and human capacities.

Objective

This virtual session will feature the official launch of the RRA Paraguay. The event will serve as a platform to address several important topics relevant to renewable energy development in Paraguay amongst government officials and regional partners to promote the implementation of the RRA recommendations.

The session will build on the insights from IRENA's analysis, including the linkage between the set of six key thematic areas to be carried out beyond the RRA.

Audience.

The event will gather participants from government institutions, utilities, developers, and innovators from the private sector, financial institutions, development partners, media, and non-governmental organizations.

The session will take place in a hybrid format, allowing selected local stakeholders to interact in person during the launch event, while some of the participants will be able to connect utilising the IRENA Zoom platform. The RRA virtual launch has availability of Spanish-English interpretation.

For more information, please contact José Torón (JToron@irena.org) and Fabian Barrera (FBarrera@irena.org).



Agenda

1 September 2021		
9:00 – 9:20	<i>Opening Remarks</i>	<p>Opening Remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Arnoldo Wiens Durkesen, Minister of Public Works and Communications ○ Francesco La Camera, Director-General, IRENA ○ Félix Sosa Giménez, President, National Electricity Administration (ANDE) ○ Carlos Zaldívar, Viceminister of Mines and Energy
9:20-9:30	<i>Findings of the Renewables Readiness Assessment (RRA) Paraguay</i>	<p>Presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gurbuz Gonul, Director Country Engagement and Partnerships (CEP), IRENA
9.30-9.35	GROUP PHOTO	
9:35-10:25	<i>Panel Session: Post Renewables Readiness Assessment action plan and way forward</i>	<p>Panel Discussion: <u>Moderator:</u> José Torón, Regional Programme Officer, Latin America and the Caribbean, IRENA</p> <p><u>Potential Panellists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Felipe Mitjans, VMME ○ Francisco Escudero, ANDE ○ Veronique Gerard, UNDP ○ Verónica Prado, IDB ○ Enrique Duarte, Paraguay Industrial Union (UIP)
10:25-10:30	<i>Closing Remarks - Carlos Zaldívar, Viceminister of Mines and Energy</i>	