Aligning short-term planning with decarbonization goals

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Holding the increase in the global average temperature to **well below 2 °C** and as close to **1.5 °C** as possible

How much do we need to reduce global carbon emissions to implement Paris?

COP21 · CMP11 **PARIS 2015** UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

To meet **Paris** it is necessary to achieve **zero net CO2 emissions** between 2050 and 2070



Non-CO₂ emissions relative to 2010

A world with zero net emissions is technically possible, based on 5 pillars.





1. Decarbonizing electricity generation

2.Electromobility, to take advantage of clean electricity (and electrification of industrial processes and residential energy)

3.Increase the share of **public and nonmotorized transport**

4.Stopping deforestation and increasing **reforestation**



5.Reduce waste and increase efficiency in the energy and food sectors, and switch to **low-carbon diets and materials**







A world with zero net emission is an economic opportunity, not necessarily a cost

The cost of renewable energy and batteries is dropping

Battery Prices Plunge

Rising production of lithium-ion battery packs has slashed prices.

/ Price (\$/kWh)





Many decarbonization options come with quality of life and competitivity benefits



But one **challenge** is that the transition to zero net emissions can create **winners and losers**...



... and a second **challenge is the implementation** of immediate transformational, not incremental, changes

-100%

Time

The aim of the NDC and 2030 strategy is to build the foundations for decarbonization, not just to achieve a given level of reduction.



Emissions reduction

Long-term decarbonization strategies (LTS) recognize the long-term goal, and help navigate the two challenges in the transition





- 1. LTSs establish a clear **vision of a carbon-free** future that brings prosperity
 - Improving public transportation will improve quality of life and business environment (Costa Rica)
- 2. LTS allow anticipating costs and manage tradeoffs
 - Workers and communities affected by the closure of coal-fired power plants (Chile)
- They are the basis for deciding medium-term objectives and immediate action
 - Costa Rica: 85% electric buses by 2050 -> 30% by 2030
 -> update regulations and concessions in 2021



The long-term view allows anticipating stranded assets and manage them

- 1. Carbon lock-in: half of existing and planned power plants need to be canceled or stranded for the region to meet Paris
- Current NDCs are not the solution: improving the NDCs could reduce stranding costs by 27-40% in the power sector

Committed emissions and the risk of stranded assets from power plants in Latin America and the Caribbean



Context: Hydropower in LAC is giving room to natural gas



Absent policies, natural gas and coal could play an increasingly important role in the electricity mix. (Lucena et al 2016).

We compared committed emissions from power plants and carbon budgets consistent with 1.5 to 2C

- **Committed emissions**: Carbon emissions that would result from the operation of fossil-fueled power plants during their typical lifetime.
- Carbon budget: Cumulative emissions from the power generation sector extracted from global pathways that keep global warming in the 1.5–2°C range.

Existing and planned power plants in LAC commit emissions far in the future



Planned gas power plants represent more than 50% of carbon commitments



González-Mahecha, Rosa Esperanza, Oskar Lecuyer, Michelle Hallack, Morgan Bazilian, and Adrien Vogt-Schilb. "Committed Emissions and Risk of Stranded Assets from Existing and Planned Power Plants in Latin America." *IDB Discussion Paper 708*, 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.18235/0001827.

Low emissions today can mask substantial committed emissions (e.g. Brazil)



González-Mahecha, Rosa Esperanza, Oskar Lecuyer, Michelle Hallack, Morgan Bazilian, and Adrien Vogt-Schilb. "Committed Emissions and Risk of Stranded Assets from Existing and Planned Power Plants in Latin America." *IDB Discussion Paper 708*, 2019. <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.18235/0001827</u>.

Existing and planned power plants in the region would emit twice as much as what is consistent with the Paris Agreement goals



- 10% to 16% of existing fossil-fueled power plants need to be "stranded" to meet average carbon budgets from IPCC
- If **planned power plants are built**, meeting Paris requires stranding 52%-55% of fossil fuel power plants.
- Planned natural gas represents most of committed emissions, suggesting that natural gas is not a good bridge in the transition to zero net emissions

González-Mahecha, Rosa Esperanza, Oskar Lecuyer, Michelle Hallack, Morgan Bazilian, and Adrien Vogt-Schilb. "Committed Emissions and Risk of Stranded Assets from Existing and Planned Power Plants in Latin America." *IDB Discussion Paper 708*, 2019. <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.18235/0001827</u>.

Main messages



Even though LAC power sector emits less than 3% of global power generation emissions, the Paris agreement matters to energy planners in LAC.



Building all planned plants then meeting the Paris temperature targets would require stranding of 52% of power plants.



Almost no room for gas power as a bridge in the decarbonization.

2- Current NDCs are not the solution: strengthening the NDCs could reduce stranding costs by 27-40% in the power sector



UNEP (2018). The Emissions Gap Report 2018. United Nations Environment Programme, Nairobi.



Short-term planning and alignment with decarbonization strategies are key to reduce long-term costs.

NDCs in LAC are not quite aligned with 2°C and they virtually close the door to 1.5°C

Stronger NDCs would reduce the need for stranded assets down the road



Binsted, Matthew, Gokul Iyer, James A. Edmonds, Adrien Vogt-Schilb, Ricardo Arguello, Angela Cadena, Ricardo Delgado, et al. "Stranded Asset Implications of the Paris Agreement in Latin America and the Caribbean." Inter-American Development Bank, August 2019. <u>https://doi.org/10.18235/0001803</u>.

Thank you for your attention



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Inter-American Development Bank

- **1. Long-term decarbonization strategies** allow anticipating and managing costs in the transition to zero emissions
- 2. Carbon lock-in: half of existing and planned power plants need to be canceled or stranded for the region to meet Paris
- **3. Current NDCs** are not the solution: strengthening the NDCs could reduce stranding costs by 27-40% in the power sector



