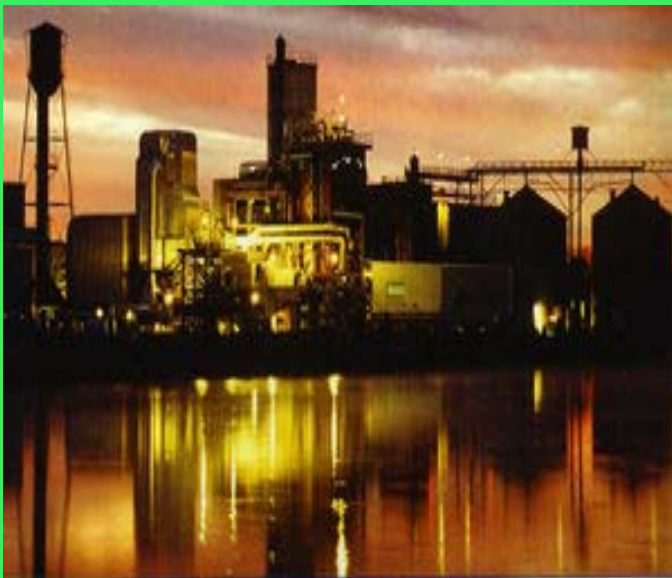




Brazil: A Country Profile on Sustainable Energy Development



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Brazil enjoys a broad mix of energy resource endowments and technologies and valuable environmental assets. The Amazon rainforest of Brazil, for instance, represents 30% of the planet's remaining tropical forest. In addition to acting as a mechanism for absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, the Brazilian Amazon forest provides shelter to at least one tenth of the world's plant and animal species.

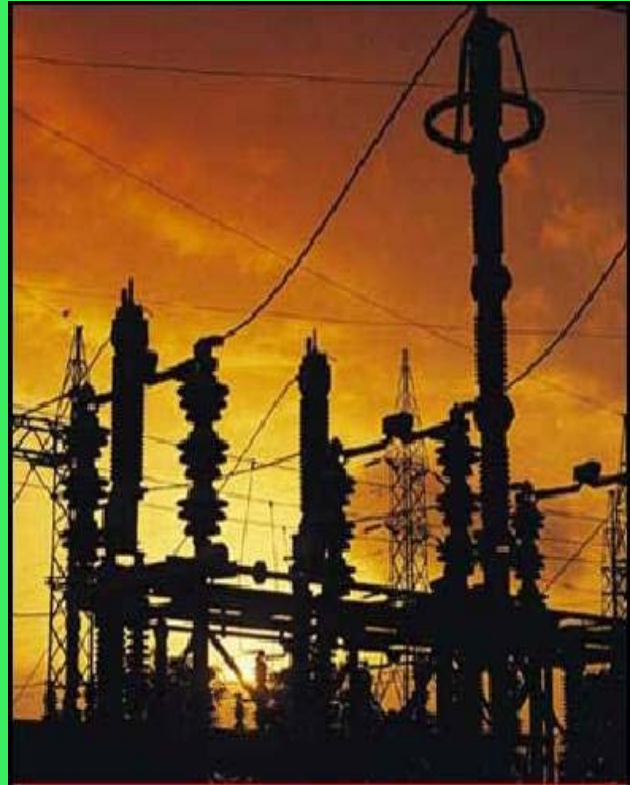


A major priority for Brazil is to satisfy growing energy demand fueled by population and economic growth, and to balance this effort with environmental priorities and other issues such as energy affordability, accessibility, security, and efficiency. Energy policies now being implemented and the formulation of future policies should be monitored and evaluated in the light of sustainable development needs, and of their effectiveness in ensuring efficient expansion of energy services.

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Brazil is an ideal candidate for demonstrating the feasibility and merits of constructing the first country profile on sustainable energy development. It is the fifth most populous country, the third largest energy consumer in the Western Hemisphere (behind the United States and Canada), and one of the largest emitters of carbon dioxide emissions in the region.

The final objective is to assess the progress of Brazil towards a sustainable energy future and to identify potential strategies to follow.



The study will result in the First Country Profile on Sustainable Energy Development.

Recommendations will be helpful both to decision makers and to the general population of Brazil. A second output would be a video to be developed for the layman providing simple but valuable ideas on how to contribute in the country's effort toward a sustainable energy future.

The ideas should foster socio-economic development and the saving of natural and financial resources. The same approach can be followed to develop Country Profiles for other nations.

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An Ad-hoc Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. José Goldemberg (Brazil) will oversee the project. The Committee includes 10 members, 5 experts from Brazil and 5 from international organizations including: COPPE (Federal Univ. of Rio de Janeiro), CENBIO (University of Sao Paulo), the IAEA (Vienna), the UNDESA (New York) and others. This IAEA initiative has been registered as a Type 2- Partnership of the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development.



Startup funds are being provided by participating institutions. More is needed. Additional voluntary contributions are being sought. Countries with high environmental priorities may see this project as an opportunity to help developing countries move towards sustainable development.

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