

The role of cities in the energy transition

Rio de Janeiro, February 21st – Thursday, 8:30-11:00am



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Address

336 Marquês de São Vicente St. – Gávea. Rio de Janeiro – RJ

Context

Approximately 70% of the global population will live in cities by 2050 (from 55% in 2018)¹. Governments and national policies play a relevant role in fostering the energy transition but, increasingly, cities are front running these. Around the world, cities are driving the energy transition by setting stricter emissions standards, establishing goals for renewable energy generation and banning diesel or petrol fueled cars, mainly due to local pollution challenges.²

Also, digitalization and connectivity are providing cities with better decision-making and quality of life. Smart cities are able to be more energy efficient (eg. energy consumption monitoring, smart streetlight) and to alter patterns of generation and usage of energy (eg. Distributed energy resources leading to prosumers).³

¹ UN – “World Urbanization Prospects: The 2018 Revision”, 2018

² McKinsey – “Smart cities: Digital solutions for a more livable future”, 2018

³ BNEF – “How City Policies Are Reshaping Auto Markets”, 2018

Brazil is home to two megacities (São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro), with a growing number of medium-to-large agglomerations. These cities face challenges related to pollution, congestion, inefficiency, violence and low quality public services such as health and education systems. In this sense, there is a clear opportunity for debate regarding how Brazilian cities can improve the well-being of its citizens, while keeping pace with – and leveraging on - new technologies and the energy transition. How can international models serve as examples? How to adapt them to the local reality? Can Brazil leapfrog marginal improvements and focus on smart and clean solutions?

Agenda (75 min)

Welcome coffee (8:30 - 9:00)

Opening remarks (9:00 - 9:05)

- [Jorge Camargo](#), Energy Working Group coordinator and CEBRI Trustee

Catavento presentation: context and objectives (9:05 - 9:15)

- [Clarissa Lins](#), Energy Working Group senior fellow and founding partner at Catavento

Panel: The role of cities in the energy transition - aiming for smartness and sustainability (9:15 - 11:00)

- [Mr. Drs. Hans van Ammers](#) - Senior advisor on Climate Mitigation and Climate Adaptation, Municipality of Arnhem (Netherlands)
- [Mr. Drs. Paul Antoine Matthieu](#) - Senior manager Area Development, project director Energy Transition, Municipality of Nijmegen (Netherlands)
- [Marcelo Porto](#) – Vice president, IBM Cloud Latin America
- [Luis Antonio Lindau](#) – Director, WRI Cities Brazil

Panel moderated by Clarissa Lins, followed by Q&A with the audience