

Batteries to store renewable energy Uruguay

As renewable energy capacity grows, we must identify and expand better ways of storing this energy, to avoid waste and deal with demand spikes. Utility companies and other providers are increasingly focused on developing effective long-term energy storage solutions.

As part of the global energy transition, a number of battery technologies are being pioneered that can store surplus renewable power and boost efforts to decarbonize sectors ranging from data centres to road transport.

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Uruguay's government this week presented its draft green hydrogen road map, unveiling a vision for the nation to have some 10 GW of electrolysers and become a net exporter of cheap hydrogen and its derivatives in the decade after 2030.

The grid of tomorrow, then, may hum with renewable energy stored both in giant battery banks, but also stored in the landscape itself. Solar and wind power would be wasted no more.

4 In the case of Uruguay, the expansion includes renewable energy generation capacity and battery storage. Domestic transmission capacity expansion is not relevant in this case given that it is a single-node model.

A recent analysis from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) illustrates how electricity storage technologies can be used for a variety of applications in the power sector, from e-mobility and behind-the-meter applications to utility-scale use cases.

Uruguay is a frontrunner in renewable energy integration in Latin America, with developing potential in the areas of battery storage and smart grid technologies. The country's electricity matrix is highly renewable, with over 97% of its power generated from renewable sources.

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