



Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS), Institute for Advanced Studies (CBAE) and COPPE, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro

Hydrogen-based and Bio-based Pathways to Climate Neutrality in Brazil and Europe

Healthy Competition or Contradictory Developments?

October 14, 2021,

10:00 – 12:00 Brazilian Time (Rio, GMT-3) /

15:00 – 17:00 Central European Time

Webinar

In the face of accelerating climate change, an increasing number of countries have announced climate neutrality goals by mid-century. Consequently, climate policy discussions have expanded their scope and now address questions pertaining to the transformation of hard-to-abate sectors, such as heavy transport, aviation and industrial processes. In the European Union, the development of climate-friendly hydrogen is considered to be a key enabler for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in these sectors, spurring initiatives to kick-start a global market for the energy carrier. In Brazil, hydrogen has been identified as a potential disruptive technology in its National Energy Plan for 2050, but the government has yet to launch its own national strategy. Moreover, the National Energy Plan emphasizes the role of bio-based solutions for the transition to climate-neutrality.

This roundtable discussion will bring together experts from Brazil and Europe to discuss the potential role and challenges of both hydrogen-based and bio-based pathways to climate neutrality. Do they complement or contradict each other? What can Brazil and Europe learn from each other? And what avenues are there for cooperation to accelerate the phase-out of fossil fuels in hard-to-abate sectors?

Agenda:

Moderation: **Dr. Rainer Quitzow**, Research Group Leader and Speaker of the Research Area “Energy Systems and Societal Change” at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS Potsdam)

- Welcome
 - **Prof. Adilson de Oliveira**, Institute for Advanced Studies (CBAE), Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro
- Section 1: Presentation “Hydrogen and Bio-based Solutions for What?” and Q&A (approximately 45 minutes)
 - *Presentation:* **“Hydrogen and Bio-based Solutions for What?”**
Prof. Roberto Schaeffer, Associate Professor of Energy Economics at the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro
 - *Discussant:* **Torsten Schwab**, Director of the International PtX Hub / GIZ
- Section 2: Roundtable Discussion (approximately 60 minutes):
 - **Rafaela Guedes**, Petrobras’ Chief Economist & Senior Fellow at the Brazilian Centre for International Relations
 - **Andrea Wiesholzer**, Policy Advisor on Grids for the Energy Transition at Germanwatch
 - **Dr. Giovani Vitoria Machado**, Director of Economic and Energy Studies of the Energy Research Company (EPE) from the Ministry of Mines and Energy of Brazil
 - **Prof. Dr. Martin Wietschel**, Head of the Competence Center Energy Technology and Energy Systems at the Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research (ISI)

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For more details see: <https://www.iass-potsdam.de/en/research/geopolitics-energy-transformation>