



## 6<sup>th</sup> ecpa Ministerial Meeting

Dominican Republic | 20  
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6<sup>th</sup> ECPA Ministerial Meeting | Thematic Side Event

# Decarbonization Pathways for Heavy Industry in Latin America and the Caribbean

March 14th, 2024 | 8:30AM – 10:30AM

Barceló Bávaro Convention Center, Punta Cana

[ecpamericas.org](http://ecpamericas.org)

## Description

The thematic side event scheduled on the sidelines of the 6th ECPA Ministerial will address a critical aspect of climate change mitigation: the decarbonization of heavy industry. With industry activities contributing to about a third of global emissions, the urgency to transition to net-zero CO2 emissions by 2050 is clear. This is especially pertinent given that nearly half of the industry's emissions stem from just three sectors: iron and steel, chemical, and cement. These sectors are not only significant for their current contributions to global emissions but are also expected to see substantial growth due to increased urbanization and demand for manufactured goods.

In the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), industrial activities are responsible for 17.5% of annual total emissions. The primary sources of these emissions are manufacturing and construction activities, particularly from iron and steel making, as well as industrial processes, mainly involving cement production. Decarbonizing these heavy industries presents a formidable challenge, necessitating a comprehensive approach that includes the integration of renewable power supplies, adoption of efficient technologies, transition to cleaner fuels, and the implementation of carbon capture and storage technologies. Achieving this will require a concerted effort involving collaboration between public and private sectors to foster an enabling regulatory environment, financial incentives, and the facilitation of research and information exchange.

The thematic side event will also highlight how heavy industry decarbonization aligns with the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and clean fuel strategies being developed across LAC. The event underscores the region's steps towards clean fuel strategies, particularly focusing on green hydrogen, as a part of their broader efforts to combat climate change and promote sustainable development.

## Speakers

**Maria José García**

Executive Director, Inter-American Cement Federation (FICEM)

**Andrés Rebolledo**

Executive Secretary, Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE)

**Dolf Gielen**

Hydrogen Lead, The World Bank

## Moderator

**Christiaan Gischler**

Lead Energy Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

✉ Please contact Juan C. Monticelli ([jmonticelli@oas.org](mailto:jmonticelli@oas.org)) for questions about this side event.