

## Kongres Container

# Uruguayan new energy companies engaged in energy storage



## Overview

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Is Uruguay a net importer of energy?

Once a net importer of energy, Uruguay now exports its surplus energy to neighbouring Brazil and Argentina. In less than two decades, Uruguay broke free of its dependence on oil imports and carbon emitting power generation, transitioning to renewable energy that is owned by the state but with infrastructure paid for by private investment.

What is the benefit of unused energy in Uruguay?

In Uruguay, unused energy sometimes cost the utility as much as \$90 million a year, according to officials. But it also allowed them to stabilize the grid and, according to the energy think tank Ember, accomplish something no country besides Denmark and Luxembourg has: shoot beyond 40 percent for wind and solar.

Why does Uruguay have a power grid?

In the same way Uruguay's abundance of wind and rivers proved fortuitous for energy sovereignty, so was the government's oversight of the electric grid.

Is Uruguay a repeatable framework of energy sovereignty for developing countries?

Ramón Mendéz Galain believes so. Uruguay's former national director of energy in the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining, who was the impetus for the country's shift away from dirty fuels, has been promoting the country's success as a repeatable framework of energy sovereignty for developing countries.

Where does Uruguay's electricity come from?

Half of Uruguay's electricity is generated in the country's dams, and 10% percent comes from agricultural and industrial waste and the sun. But wind, at 38%, is the main protagonist of the revolution in the electrical grid. But how

did the country achieve it?

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How difficult was it to get electricity in Uruguay?

“It was difficult for us to cope,” Ramón Méndez Galain, a professor at the University of the Republic in Montevideo, Uruguay, said in an interview with NPR. He is one of the architects of the energy revolution in that country. “It was difficult to get electricity.

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