INSTITUTE OF THE AMERICAS
ENLACE
Q3 - 2025

President's Column

This past summer underscored just how dynamic and interconnected the political, economic and environmental currents across the Americas have become. From on-going economic uncertainties and inflationary pressures (due in part to shifting U.S. trade policies), extreme weather events (including deadly wildfires, flooding and hurricanes) to growing demands for technology and energy due to the rising demands of AI and data centers, the region is at a challenging crossroad. Governments and businesses alike are grappling with how to harness innovation while advancing sustainable growth—a challenge that sits at the heart of the Institute of the Americas' mission.

In August, IOA convened a timely forum in Santiago, Chile focused on data centers, artificial intelligence and energy. The discussion brought together regional leaders, investors, and policymakers to examine Latin America's growing role in hosting critical digital infrastructure. With AI's energy demands poised to surge, the forum explored opportunities for cross-border collaboration to ensure that this growth is powered by clean, resilient systems and those countries across Latin America best positioned for future investment.

IOA's engagement in Chile continued in September with our participation at OLADE's Energy Week, where the Institute shared insights from our recent work on sustainable mobility. As ports from Mexico to the Southern Cone prepare for future decarbonization mandates, IOA is also helping support policies and investment pathways that balance regional economic competitiveness priorities with net zero imperatives.

Read more »

Programs

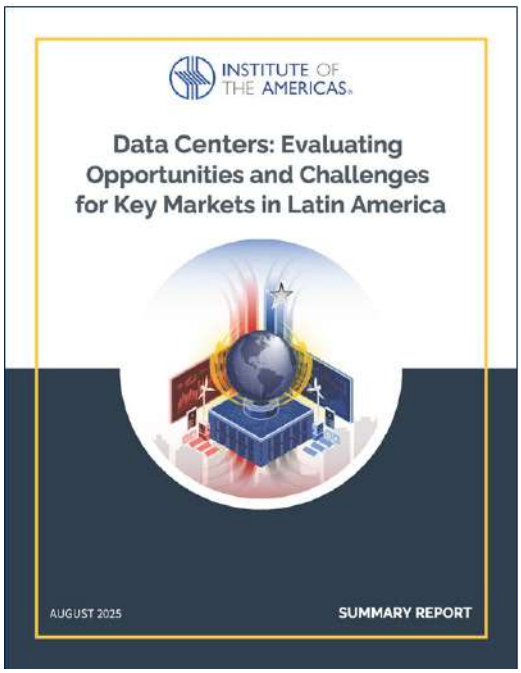
ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY

New Report: Strengthening the Resilience, Economic Efficiency, and Sustainability of Mexico's Power Sector

Our latest report, *Fortalecer la Resiliencia, la Eficiencia Económica y la Sostenibilidad del Sector Eléctrico de México*, explores **Mexico's path toward a more competitive, resilient, and sustainable power system**. It examines the 2025 energy reform and its six new laws reshaping the electricity sector, highlights the role of CFE, Pemex, and private investment in expanding capacity, and analyzes the ambitious National Plan 2025–2030 with over $23 billion in planned investment. The study underscores how innovation, regulatory clarity, and public-private collaboration are critical for integrating renewables, strengthening reliability, and advancing Mexico's energy future.

Read Report in Spanish »

Chile Data Center & Energy Forum



In late August, we were in Santiago, Chile where we hosted a major event focused on Data Centers & Energy. With energizing discussions, innovators and sector leaders gathered to assess **how Artificial Intelligence and data centers are shaping the future of energy** – particularly on the demand side. From debates on sustainability and grid reliability to fresh ideas for public-private collaboration, the conversations buzzed with the need to find urgent solutions to best seize the opportunity—especially for the Andean region. See our summary report for insights and recommendations on this critical topic for energy firms and regulators, tech firms, as well as communities and its relevance for the global energy landscape. Access Report & Other Resources »

IOA contributed and presented white paper during OLADE Latin America Energy Week

On September 29, our Diplomatic Fellow Chris Nyce presented on behalf of the Institute at OLADE's annual Energy Week in Santiago, Chile. Chris shared key insights from the chapters researched and authored by **Richard Kiy** and **Paul Youngblood** on **innovations in sustainable urban maritime transport and zero emission ferries as well as global trends in hydrogen terrestrial transport with lessons learned from California's leadership in the space**. The first edition of the *Latin America and the Caribbean Sustainable Mobility White Paper 2025*, prepared by the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), in collaboration with prestigious regional institutions, can be found here »

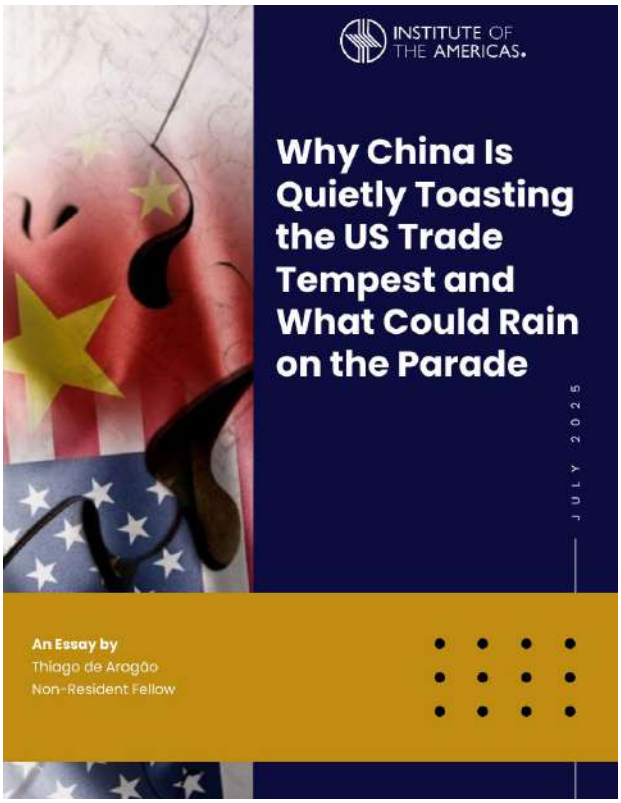
This publication serves as an analytical and decision-making support tool, aiming to provide a comprehensive overview of the progress, barriers, and outlook for sustainable mobility, with the energy dimension as the central driver of change.

A Boom-or-Bust Moment for Latin America's Copper Giants

Summer Intern and Future Energy Leader participant Paul Youngblood, along with Jeremy Martin, co-authored an essay published in World Politics Review. The piece explores **the global significance of Latin American copper** and offers insights into industrialization and value-added opportunities related to this strategic mineral.

Read essay »

Brief: Why China Is Quietly Toasting the US Trade Tempest and What Could Rain on the Parade



Our Non-Resident Fellow, Thiago de Aragão, wrote an insightful essay examining the latest twists in the **U.S.-China relationship and how ongoing trade negotiations are redefining opportunities across Latin America**—especially for Brazil. In this strategic analysis, Thiago highlights ten distinct advantages China is gaining in the current trade environment and explores how countries like Brazil are finding themselves drawn ever closer to Beijing. He also outlines five key risks that could alter this dynamic if U.S. negotiations succeed, offering a balanced look at both China's leverage and the uncertainties ahead for the region.

Read essay »

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

Fisheries Research and Conservation in Latin America

IOA's Gulf of California Marine Program participated in the 155th American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX, co-hosting a session focused on Latin American research and conservation. In collaboration with Dr. Erica Ferrer (UCSC) and Dr. Miguel García-Bermúdez (AFS), the session showcased **advances in fisheries research and conservation**, while preparing the ground for the upcoming Latin American and Caribbean Fisheries Congress in Spring 2027. With fisheries so vital for livelihoods and food security, IOA remains committed to fostering dialogue and scientific progress to enhance resource management and wellbeing.

IOA participates in 3er Foro de Economía y Crecimento Azul - Cancún, México

On August 20–22, GCMP Director Catalina López-Sagástegui joined the 3rd International Forum on Blue Economy and Growth in Cancún, contributing to a panel on maritime transport with SEMAR, Maritime Procurement Services, and WWF México. The discussion addressed **key issues like alternative energy, emissions, and coastal ecosystem protection**. IOA continues to support the advancement of sustainable maritime transport and cross-sector collaboration in Mexico.

IOA's GCMP is present at UNAM's FILUNI - Mexico City

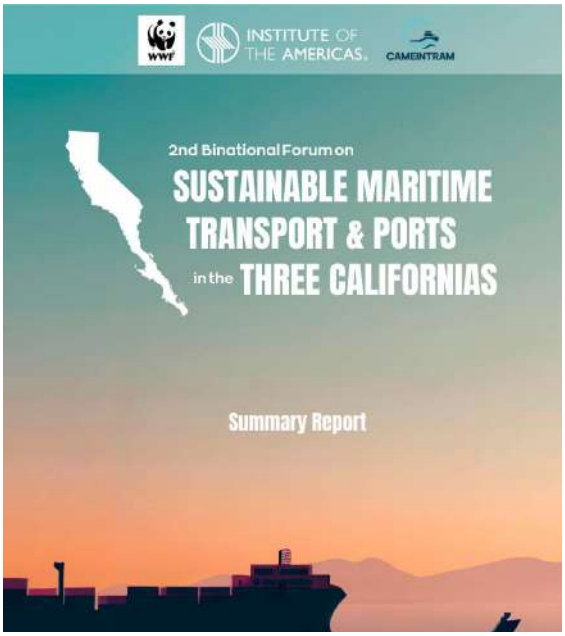
For the second year, IOA partnered with dataMares to organize three panels and a workshop at UNAM's VII International Book Fair, August 26–31. Highlights included a **scientific infographics workshop** led by dataMares, insights from Dr. Bernardo Bastien (UNAM) and Dr. Octavio Aburto (Scripps) on **science communication**, and a Mares Mexicanos panel focused on **visual storytelling for research**. Catalina López moderated a discussion with three environmental journalists, engaging over 90 attendees and expanding IOA and dataMares' efforts to advance science literacy.

Summary Report - 2nd Binational Forum on Sustainable Maritime Transport & Ports in the Three Californias

More than 110 participants from government, business, academia, and conservation came together in Ensenada, Mexico, for the 2nd Binational Forum on Sustainable Maritime Transport and Ports in the Three Californias, June 26–27. The event focused on **how to balance competitiveness with sustainability and advance toward net-zero shipping.**

The forum was co-hosted with our partners WWF, CAMEINTRAM and Global Maritime Forum.

Read the summary report and related resources here.



Our People

Welcome to the new members of the Environment Program!

Elizabeth Mosqueda will lead our Environment Program

Elizabeth brings 17 years of experience at the intersection of climate policy, finance, and corporate sustainability to her new role as the IOA's Environment Program Leader. She has dedicated her career to advancing innovative climate strategies across government, international organizations, and the private sector in Mexico, Latin America, and Europe.

Elizabeth holds a Master's degree in Sustainable Development and Energy Management from Flensburg University (Germany) and a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from UNAM (Mexico).We are delighted to welcome Elizabeth to the IOA and look forward to the vision and leadership she will bring to our organization!

Camilo Velandia Perico joins as Non-Resident Fellow to support our sustainable shipping initiative

Camilo specializes in shipping decarbonization, techno-economic modelling of alternative fuels, regulatory analysis, and life cycle assessments. His work as Associate Consultant at UMAS includes 4th IMO Greenhouse Gas Study, the Getting to Zero Coalition transition strategy, and has provided technical support to the Clean Shipping Coalition.

Marianne Feldmann joined us as Environment Program Assistant

Marianne Feldmann comes to IOA with extensive experience in the energy sector, business consulting, and regulatory affairs. Marianne has held senior roles at Minsait (an Indra Company), BBVA Mexico, and IEnova (a Sempra Company), where she delivered strategic insights, managed complex projects, and advanced stakeholder engagement to support sustainable growth and innovation. Marianne earned her MBA from IPADE Business School, with an exchange at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and a BA in International Relations from Universidad Iberoamericana, including studies in France. After a rewarding career pause to raise her two children, she is eager to contribute her expertise to projects that foster societal development and positive impact.

Diplomatic Fellows Update

We are delighted welcome our new Diplomatic Fellow, **Christopher Nyce**.

Chris comes to the Institute with extensive experience in diplomatic engagement and environmental policy, having recently served as the first-ever Energy & Environment, Science, Technology and Health (ESTH) Officer for the U.S. Mission to the African Union from 2022 to 2025. In this pioneering role, he led initiatives to advance U.S. energy and ESTH strategies by collaborating closely with the African Union Commission and other missions. Chris also held leadership positions at the mission in Addis Ababa, acting as both Chargé d'Affaires and Deputy Chief of Mission during his tenure.

We want to extend our sincere gratitude to **Bridget Premont** for her extraordinary contributions as our former Diplomatic Fellow. Thanks Bridget, and we wish you all the best in your continued passion for serving this country.

Learn more about our Diplomatic Fellows »

Celebrating Sherry White: 34 years of exceptional service to the Institute of the Americas

With deep gratitude and warm congratulations, the Institute of the Americas announces the retirement of Sherry White, who concludes an extraordinary 34-year tenure of service and leadership.

Sherry has been woven into every chapter of the Institute's story. Over the decades, she served in a remarkable range of roles—Director of Development, Campaign Manager, STEAM Director, Community Program Director, Board Secretary, Director of Special Projects & Development, Innovation Program Director (Biotech, Health & Science), Senior Advisor for Strategic Initiatives, Vice President for Public Programs & Institutional Advancement, and most recently Senior Advisor. In each post, she brought uncommon energy, impeccable standards, and a gift for bringing people together across borders and sectors.

A master organizer and trusted ambassador for the Institute, Sherry shaped and delivered hundreds of programs and events over the years—from intimate policy roundtables and board meetings to major seminars, workshops, anniversary celebrations, fundraising events, and black-tie award galas honoring current and former Latin American heads of state. Her ability to turn ambitious ideas into seamless experiences became a hallmark of our public programming and a model for excellence across the hemisphere. Read more »

Upcoming Events

XXXIV La Jolla Energy Conference

October 21-23
La Jolla, California

Register Now

Cali-Baja Business Summit 2025

November 18
La Jolla, California

Register Now

VII Madrid Energy Conference

April 27-29, 2026
Madrid, Spain

Contact Us

IOA In The News

Why Guyana

Armogan Media

New face, same story? How Mexico's energy investors are losing patience with Sheinbaum

BNamericas

Chile's data center power demand seen at 1,360MW by 2032

BNamericas

Chile busca convertirse en polo latinoamericano de almacenamiento y transmisión de datos

IPS Inter Press Service

PEMEX: A Geothermal Leader in Mexicós Energy Transtition?

Mexico Business News

Geotermia: Clave Estratégica de Baja California ante la volatilidad de los Combustibles Fósiles

ISSUU

Data centers: la oportunidad de transformar la energía limpia en el nuevo cobre de Chile

Reporte Sostenible

A Boom-or-Bust Moment for Latin America's Copper Giants

World Politics Review

Reanudación de operaciones elevaría producción de Chevron a 260.000 bpd y obligaría a Venezuela a convertir en divisas el crudo recibido

Bitácora Económica

Expertos destacan "giro positivo" en la política de Trump con la reanudación de operaciones de Chevron en Venezuela

Hispano Post

El muro verde que no estaba

El Universal

Buscan la descarbonización y sostenibilidad del sector marítimo–portuario

WWF

Un café con Marta Jara | Head of Hydrogen Division – Ventus

Piso 40

Institute of the Americas hosts workshop for local journalists in Georgetown, Guyana

HPGTV

Guyana on the right track with energy transition- Former Colombian Energy Minister

Guyana Times

Guyana journalists explore the geopolitics of energy, climate change in pivotal three-day workshop

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