

# Press Release

Buenos Aires, 15 December 2017

## ARE and IDB launch joint publication on off-grid case studies from Latin America & the Caribbean

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Energy Week in Latin America & the Caribbean in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 4 – 7 December 2017 gathered 200 participants to exchange on experiences and knowledge related to the energy sector. The main objective of the conference was the contribution to sub-regional and regional integration in energy transition scenarios. On the occasion of the HUB SEforALL Americas Day conference on 6 December 2017, Marcus Wiemann, ARE Executive Director, revealed its latest publication: [Access to Energy Services through Renewable Sources in Latin America & the Caribbean](#). With 29 case studies from 19 Latin America & the Caribbean (LAC) countries, the publication showcases successfully completed projects and presents key recommendations to advance clean energy for rural electrification in LAC.

Statistics indicate that electricity coverage in the region is at present about 97%. However, this means that some 22 million people – about six million households and most of them in rural regions – still lack service. Providing electricity access to these people requires solutions based on an evaluation of factors such as technology, environmental and social context, economic viability and a cost-benefit analysis, and requires the mutual collaboration of both the public and private sectors.

**Roberto Aiello, IDB Energy Principal Specialist:** *“The report on access to energy services through renewable sources provides valuable lessons learnt from the business association perspective. It is an important input to the development of strategies in the region’s way forward to reaching universal access.”*

This report prepared by ARE and commissioned by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) provides valuable reflections and lessons learned on clean energy access projects from the business association perspective. Part of IDB’s strategy to reach universal access in the region involves joining forces with other energy access initiatives and networks such as ARE.

**Karl Kolmsee, ARE Board Member & Chair of ARE Sub-Working Group Latin America & the Caribbean:** *“The variety of projects reflect the diversity of this colourful continent. Making use of the natural resources available such as solar, wind and hydro in the most remote areas for power generation helps its people seek economic and social integration.”*

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**For further information or request images please contact:**

Ling Ng  
Communications and Marketing Officer  
+32 2 709 55 42  
[l.ng@ruralelec.org](mailto:l.ng@ruralelec.org)

### Note to the editor

The [Alliance for Rural Electrification \(ARE\)](#) is an international business association representing the decentralised energy sector working towards the integration of renewables into rural electrification markets in developing and emerging countries. We enable improved energy access through business development support for more than 120 members along the whole value chain for off-grid technologies.

