

# **South America Energy Storage Power Station Hydropower Bureau 14**





## Overview

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Is hydropower a cornerstone of South America's energy infrastructure?

Providing 45% of electricity supply in South America, hydropower stands “as a cornerstone of the region’s energy infrastructure”, the International Hydropower Association reports in its 2024 World Hydropower Outlook.

Is hydropower the future of South America?

Hydropower remains the backbone of South America’s energy system, and as the region embraces innovation and sustainability – through certified projects and hybrid systems such as floating solar – its vast Andean-Amazon potential continues to shape a resilient, renewable future. Cachoeira Caldeirão hydropower project, Brazil. Credit: Engie.

Which countries are focusing on hydropower development in South America?

Currently only utilising about 20% of its estimated hydropower potential, to help support further development, Argentina has implemented several policies and incentives including feed-in tariffs and PPAs specially targeting small hydro schemes up to 30MW. Another country in South America to watch, according to the IHA, is Bolivia.

Why is hydropower important in South America?

Hydropower is vital for South America’s energy mix, and thanks to natural resources such as the Andes mountains and the Amazon basin, potential for generation is vast. A mere 30% of the region’s hydropower potential is currently being exploited, but even that satisfies approximately 45% of the continent’s electricity demand.

Can pumped storage hydropower be developed in Brazil?

Brazil is now discussing the implementation of new regulatory framework to allow pumped storage hydropower to be developed in the country, taking advantage of the country’s existing supply chain and providing a sustainable



solution for the National Grid's growing needs.

Why is Brazil promoting capacity expansion at existing hydropower plants?

Brazil is also promoting capacity expansion at existing hydropower plants, as the high volume of solar and wind generation is requiring additional dispatchable capacity to provide reliability to the grid.



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For hydro power plants, hourly and monthly historical generation data, and key characteristics in terms of type/ technology available from CAMMESA, have been combined to define a ...

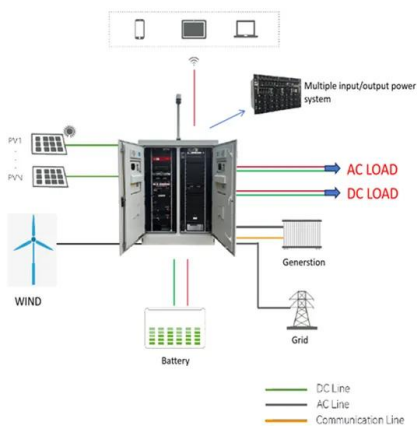
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### **Hydropower in South America**

In several countries in South America, hydropower provides more than half of total electricity supply and it is expected to remain the region's largest renewable source for years to come.

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Overview of Hydropower Plants Worldwide Global Significance: Hydropower is the largest source of renewable electricity in the world, contributing around 16% of global electricity. It utilizes the ...

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That's the promise of pumped hydropower storage (PHS) in a region where water flows through politics, culture, and now, the clean energy revolution. While Europe and Asia dominate PHS ...

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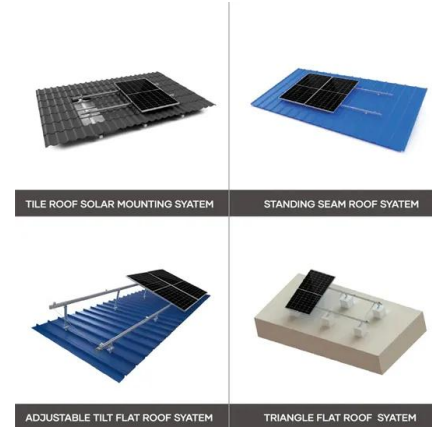




## [List of largest hydroelectric power stations](#)

Three Gorges Dam (left), Gezhouba Dam (right)  
This article provides a list of the largest hydroelectric power stations by generating capacity. Only plants with capacity larger than ...

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## [What is the largest energy storage project in South ...](#)

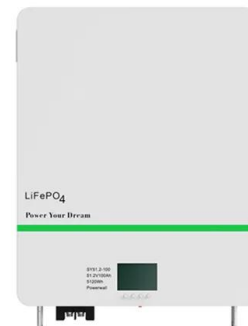
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Hydroelectric power plants, which convert hydraulic energy into electricity, are a major source of renewable energy. There are various types of hydropower plants: run-of-river, reservoir, ...

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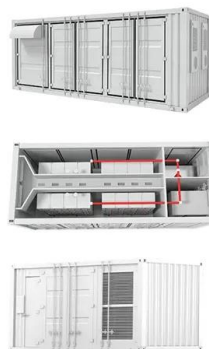




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Hydropower is not only a great source of energy for South America, but it is also a significant economic benefit. By bringing in hydropower to South America, it provides a boost ...

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Pumped storage hydropower is an energy storage technology that plays a crucial role in stabilizing power grids, balancing electricity supply and demand, and integrating ...

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