

# IANAS ENERGY PROGRAM



LIGHTING THE WAY; TOWARD A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE

The IANAS Energy Program is advancing in the Americas the insights and recommendations of the 2007 InterAcademy Council's report, *Lighting the way; Toward a sustainable energy future*.

## Achievements

The program has identified the report's highest priorities for the Americas, shared information on these priorities among academies and scientific organizations and outside experts in annual workshops, drafted action plans in these priority areas and begun the initiation of these plans.

## Energy for unserved and underserved populations

Provide modern energy to the 29 million without electricity and the 65 million who use traditional biomass for cooking. This is a complex challenge that needs cooperation among the private sector, governments and the Academies working together to create hubs of networks, assembling, collating and analyzing information, and making coherent and balanced policy recommendations and actions.

**Renewable energy.** Expand the use of energy that comes from resources which are continually replenished such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, waves and geothermal heat. Use scientific advances to persuade decision makers to adopt renewable energy plans both nationally and in multi-state initiatives with common renewable resources.

**Bioenergy.** Demonstrate in the Americas the optimal use of bioenergy to provide a renewable energy resource while protecting food supplies and the environment. The primary activity builds on Brazil's leadership in the Global Sustainable Bioenergy (BSB) project that envisions an expansion of the use of ethanol from sugarcane and other bioenergy feedstocks.

**Energy efficiency.** Reduce the amount of energy required to provide products and services through advances in science and engineering. The goal is to increase energy efficiency throughout the energy chain—from energy sources to final end uses. The plan is to raise awareness of these interconnections, highlight advances, and strengthen cost-effective efficiency programs.

**Capacity building.** Strengthen and balance conventional approaches by stressing the importance of a top-down perspective on capacity building. The approach asks science academies: What do you want to accomplish? What do you want to do in the above priorities? The answers will include questions of leadership, research, development, education, training... When guided by this top-down perspective, the impact of capacity building programs will be strengthened.

## Activities for 2014-2016

The Energy Program will hold its 2013 workshop this fall in Irvine, California. In addition to country reports and priority breakout sessions, the focus will be on the status of a book that reviews past work on these priorities and sets forth future plans. The schedule is to complete the draft chapters of the book by the end of 2013, followed by reviews, revisions and publication in the spring of 2014. At the California meeting, we also plan to arrange meetings with international government and financial institutions.