



MAPPING THE TRANSBOUNDARY ENERGY SECTOR IN THE PASO DEL NORTE REGION

“project to foster local and binational crossborder competitiveness in the paso del norte region”

GENERAL INFORMATION

Experience: Mapping the Transboundary energy sector in the Paso del Norte region

Country: México and the United States of America

Coordinating Institution: University of Texas, El Paso

Other institutions involved: *México:* Secretaría de Energía, Comisión Federal de Electricidad (Ciudad Juárez, México), Petróleos Mexicanos, Cámara Nacional de la Industria de Transformación (Ciudad Juárez, México)

United States of America: Department of Energy, U.S., El Paso Electric (Texas, USA), The Mexico Institute, Wilson Center for International Scholars, North American Research Partnership

Duration of the experience: June 2015 – Present

Webpage: <http://huntinstitute.utep.edu/>

Social networks:

<https://www.linkedin.com/pub/hunt-institute-for-global-competitiveness/a1/403/43>

<https://www.facebook.com/HuntInstitutePdN?ref=hl>

<https://twitter.com/HuntPasoDeNorte>

Area of the successful experience: Private Sector Involvement

DETAILED INFORMATION

1) Description

The Aviation Industrial Center is a multi-tenant aviation The Paso del Norte region, located at the intersection of Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, El Paso, Texas, and Las Cruces, New Mexico, has become a point of geostrategic significance in recent decades. Not only do its more than 3 million inhabitants

require a stable and economically prosperous region, so do the economies of Mexico and the United States.

One of the critical issues that underlies this stability and prosperity, at both local and binational levels, is a vibrant energy sector. The region's industrial base, one of the largest in Mexico, and its export logistics depend on affordable and accessible energy whose inputs are traded back and forth across the border.

Over the course of 2015, the Hunt Institute has been undertaken two major projects in close collaboration with the Institutions listed above:

1.) Publishing a Transboundary Energy Indicator Review, illustrating the autochthonous primary energy sources, their respective and comparative regulatory structures, physical infrastructure, tariffs, and deployment toward the end user. This report is publically available and disseminated in both countries in both English and Spanish; and,

2.) Mapping, on an accessible, web based framework, the comparative assets such as commercial enterprises, academic institutions, and research and design facilities, among others, engaged in the energy sector in Chihuahua, New Mexico, and West Texas.

These ongoing projects greatly strengthen the knowledge base of institutions in both the public and private sector, in the region and across the US Mexico border, by providing unequalled and comparative insight into the role that diverse energy markets play regionally and binationally.

2) Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries are numerous and principally include private sector actors at both the local crossborder level and at the broader binational levels, such as El Paso Electric and Western Refining on the U.S. side, as well as Comisión Federal de Electricidad (CFE) and Petróleos Mexicanos (PEMEX) on the Mexican side. In particular, this research should be of great help to both CFE and PEMEX now that they are productive enterprises. Now, as a consequence of this crossborder public-private participation, companies, states, universities, municipalities, trade associations, and investors, for example, can, for the first time, base decisions on a systematic mapping and analysis of primary energy resources in the region, the physical and regulatory infrastructure which governs its extraction, transmission, and end use, as well as the resulting comparative cost analysis associated with fuel consumption and electricity generation.

3) Implementation

The Hunt Institute worked to create a platform where information and data were collected in partnership with the specific entities above as well as from a wide array of other research sources. From here, the Institute created both narrative and visual tools to disseminate and explain the various functioning structures of the entire energy sector.

First, a Transboundary Energy Indicator Report narrates and elucidates the inner-workings and interconnectedness of the map, looking first at the upstream energy sources, then at the downstream deployment of these resources. This report is also translated into Spanish for fullest reach and exposure in both countries.

Secondly, the Transboundary Energy Sector Asset Map was prepared to see, at once and in a holistic fashion, the location and details regarding the industrial, academic, research, design, and test facilities active in the energy sector. This map is an open, accessible web based tool.

In both circumstances, the Secretaría de Energía, the U.S. Department of Energy, the CFE, PEMEX, El Paso Electric, Western Refining, and others, were instrumental in providing the raw data that serve as the backbone of the Report. Numerous public, private, and academic sector actors provided the entirety of the sector's assets that were mapped.

4) Accomplishments and Results

The most important results to date are that for the first time, there is in the region, a detailed analysis of the local energy sector and how it relates to not only the US and Mexican economies, but also the international energy markets. Secondly, the project produced a comprehensive and exhaustive mapping, at the local crossborder level, of the diverse assets, academic, research, public, and private, active in the entire Paso del Norte region: Chihuahua, New Mexico, and West Texas.

Having these analyses and maps on hand provides a window into the comparative features of the intangible structures (e.g., regulatory and legal) as well as the physical structures (e.g., generation, research, and academic) that govern the energy sector in the region. As the U.S. and Mexico grow inexorably closer industrially, this comparative analysis of the binational energy sector will foster good investment and public policy decisions, not only at the local crossborder level, but at the binational level as well.

5) Offers of cooperation with the region to exchange good practices

February through August of 2016:

Workshops

Mentoring

Technical tours and visits of experts

Sharing of information via e-mail

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The collection of experiences showcasing successful projects implemented by stakeholders in countries of the Americas is one of the most important tasks of the Inter-American Competitiveness Network (RIAC). There are more than 200 experiences available in the Signs of Competitiveness in the Americas Reports 2012 -2015: www.riacreport.org.

The Organization of American States (OAS) serves as the RIAC Technical Secretariat to facilitate the knowledge sharing between countries, multilateral and academic institutions. The experiences and intellectual contributions presented by RIAC members for the 2015 Signs of Competitiveness in the Americas Report will provide valuable input for the RIAC Annual Meetings and the panel discussions during the IX Americas Competitiveness Forum (ACF) to be held in Guatemala City, on November 16-18, 2015.

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