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This project, the specialist explained, consists of replacing the equipment in the thermal energy area of sugar mills (steam boilers, turbine generators, water treatment equipment, transformers connected to the national electricity system, biomass storage areas) for new, energy efficient equipment.

This paper applies a methodology to evaluate the potential of the primary biomass sources in Cuba. It also quantifies the availability of biomass for electricity generation through bio-thermoconversion processes and analyzes possible alternatives for its valorization for energy purposes in different scenarios.

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Sugar cane, or bagasse, is one source of biomass implemented in Cuba (image courtesy of Shutterstock). The fact that in Cuba's 2008 biomass production increased 13% on the previous year had shown the potential. Cuba has developed sugarcane with high fibre content specifically for the energy industry.

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In Cuba, the current biomass based energy production is 25,908 GWh, for which bagasse and sugarcane straw (55%) and wood (31%) are the main sources. Other biomass sources include biogas (10%) and charcoal, rice husk, sawdust and coffee husk (4% in total) (Suarez et al., 2016).

The reduction of energy dependence in Cuba entails more intensive exploitation of local renewable energy resources: biomass, wind, or solar radiation. However, the exploitation of these resources depends on the area that is dedicated to them, such that solar panels, wind turbines, and biomass crops must compete to occupy

land surfaces across ...

The main energy sources are concentrated in biomass (99.3%), followed by hydroelectric energy (0.6%), and in lesser proportions solar energy (photovoltaic and thermal; 0.06%) and wind energy (0.04%).

The project aims to convert a biomass-driven thermal electric power plant, to a more energy efficient system that combines cogeneration and gasification technologies. This will allow more energy to be imported to the national grid, supply more electricity for residential and commercial use, and offset greenhouse gas emissions associated with ...

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