**CENTRAL AMERICA** 



GDP: **\$1.6bn** 

Five-year economic growth rate: 3.8%

Population: 0.3m

Total clean energy investments, 2009-2014: **\$0.0m** 

Installed power capacity: 154.8MW

Renewable share: 55.7%

Total clean energy generation: 316.2GWh

Top energy authority:

Ministry of Energy, Science & Technologies and Public Utilities

**OVERALL RANKING** 

2015

2014

OVERALL SCORE

2015

32 38

0.81

PARAMETER	RANKING	SCORE
I. Enabling Framework	27	1.21
II. Clean Energy Investment & Climate Financing	44	0.26
III. Low-Carbon Business & Clean Energy Value Chains	52	0.46
IV. Greenhouse Gas Management Activities	26	1.22

#### **SCORE SUMMARY**

Belize moved six places lower to 38th place overall in *Climatescope* 2015, with score of 0.81. Belize's 2014 score was 0.98.

The country's overall rating suffered from reduced activity on the Loans, Grants, Grant Programs Indicator of Parameter II. On Enabling Framework Parameter I, Belize in 2015 lost nine places, arriving at rank 27 with a score of 1.21. Its 2014 score was 1.31.

Belize in 2015 slumped to 44<sup>th</sup> place from 19<sup>th</sup> placed in 2014 on Clean Energy Investment and Climate Financing Parameter II. Its 2015 score of 0.26 contrasted with a 2014 rating of 0.67.

**★**Belmopan

On Low-Carbon Business & Clean Energy Value Chains Parameter III, Belize in 2015 scored 0.46, ranking 52nd. Its 2014 metrics were a 0.63 score and a rank of 50<sup>th</sup>.

On Greenhouse Gas Management Activities Parameter IV, Belize in 2015 gained one rank, scoring 1.22. In 2014 it was 27<sup>th</sup> on the parameter, with a 1.05 score.

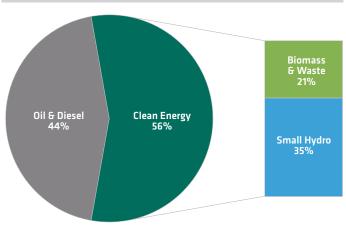
#### **OVERVIEW**

Belize's electricity market is controlled by Belize Electricity Limited (BEL), the sole transmission and distribution company in the country. In 2013, most of the total 308GWh was generated by independent power producers (IPPs) and sold to BEL.

In 2013, oil and diesel accounted for 68.5MW of total capacity, followed by small hydro (54.5MW), biomass and waste (31.5MW) and solar (0.5MW). The national electricity grid is connected to Mexico's. BEL's supply from Mexico national utility CFE is constrained by a 60MW maximum transfer capacity of the 115kv transmission line linking the two national systems. Moreover, BEL is currently unable to take more than 50MW of power from Mexico without experiencing voltage regulation problems.

## **INSTALLED POWER CAPACITY BY SOURCE, 2014 (%)**

## 155MW total installed capacity



Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance, Barbados Light & Power Company

In 2011, the government released the National Energy Policy (NEP), which sets goals of fostering sustainable production and distribution of energy; minimizing the cost of energy in the local economy; mitigating the impacts of external shocks; and creating a national culture of energy efficiency.

#### **KEY POLICIES**



The Public Utilities Commission held an auction to contract 15MW of solar and wind power. Fifty-four entities were eligible, but no winners have been announced yet.

Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance Policy Library

A year later, the 2012–2017 National Strategic Plan created a framework to transition Belize to a low-carbon economy and presented the National Sustainable Energy Strategy (NSES) 2012-2033. The NSES sets targets, which includes the reduction of the country's dependence on imported fuels by 50% by 2020, from 1m barrels to 0.5m barrels by increasing the production of renewable energy and improving the energy efficiency.

# **AVERAGE RETAIL ELECTRICITY PRICES, 2014 (\$/kWh)**



Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance

The country held its first tender in 2013, which aimed to contract 75MW of power, of which 60MW was destined for competitive bidders across all energy sources, and 15MW was reserved exclusively for solar and wind. In June 2014, PUC received 22 bid submissions, but only 20 were approved to the next step. Among them, there were hydro, biomass, wind and solar projects, as well as fossil fuel proposals.