Title:
Technology and Policy Approaches to Clean Energy Conversions: The Case of Brazilian Biofuels

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Abstract:
Worldwide, national policymakers and industry decision-makers face inter-related challenges of meeting sustainable energy needs in economically viable ways against a backdrop of competing societal exigencies. Confronted by resource limitations, environmental impacts and political uncertainties, the current energy system requires adaptation to provide a more sustainable supply. If managed properly, optimization of renewable energy—such as with certain biofuels, wind, solar energy or geothermal power—may provide a more lasting and environmentally benign supply of energy, while satisfying societal need and enhancing a country’s economic competitiveness.

To understand what drives and sustains national clean energy conversions, this study examines how biofuels have been adopted at scale in Brazil by focusing on technology and policy. Specific aspects include regulatory co-evolution and industry engagement for the period 1975 to the present.