

# Clean Energy Solutions

## Central New York Climate Change Innovation Program *Central New York, U.S.A.*

The Central New York Climate Change Innovation Program aimed to improve energy efficiency in municipal operations, increase the use renewable energy, and encourage land use and transportation policies that manage GHG emissions and reduced vehicle miles traveled. The Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board (CNY RPDB) achieved these goals by: providing energy reduction, renewable energy, and climate change management sub-grants to local governments, and providing technical assistance through education programs and outreach materials to local government staff. Each year, the Innovation Program awarded competitive sub-grants to three local governments to support energy efficiency retrofits, measures to introduce alternative-fuel vehicles and fueling systems, vehicle travel reduction projects, transportation efficiency improvements, and feasibility studies for renewable energy projects. The Innovation Program provided technical assistance to local governments grantees.

## Promoting the development of sustainable communities through good environmental practices and clean energy *Baja Verapaz, Guatemala*

The project seeks to promote the integral development of four communities through a sustainable approach by reducing carbon emissions and indoor pollution from the use of wood through the implementation of organic waste biodigestion technology for the production of biogas, strengthening the productive use of organic composting and adopting sustainable environmental practices in the micro watersheds of Xeúl Canchel and Chibalám Chimachó. All this, through participative methods where the community members are the main actors in the transformation of their community into a sustainable one.



Organization of  
American States



## Clean Energy and Transport Solutions in an Urban Hemisphere: Lessons from the Americas



Plaza Mayor - Medellín, Colombia  
Red Pavilion, Room #23  
Thursday, April 10 | 4:30-6:30PM



## I. Welcome Remarks

V. Sherry Tross, Executive Secretary for Integral Development, Organization of American States (OAS)

## II. Keynote Remarks

Ambassador Carmen Lomellin, U.S. Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States (OAS)

## III. Urban Sustainability Programs at the OAS and the U.S. EPA

- a. OAS Sustainable Communities in Central America and the Caribbean Project - Richard Huber, Chief, Sustainable Cities Program, Department of Sustainable Development at the OAS.
- b. U.S. EPA Climate Showcase Communities Program - Megan Samenfeld-Specht, International Environment Specialist at the U.S. EPA.

## IV. Sustainable Transportation Solutions

- a. San Jose (Costa Rica) - Huberth Mendez, Executive Director, Fundacion para el Desarrollo Urbano.
- b. Salt Lake City (USA) - Kate Lilja Lohnes, Communications Manager, Division of Sustainability and the Environment at the Salt Lake City Corporation.

## V. Clean Energy Solutions

- a. Baja Verapaz Department (Guatemala) - Marta Ximenez de Rivera, Energy Coordinator, Fundacion Solar.
- b. Central New York (USA) - Chris H. Carrick, Energy Program Manager at the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board.

## VI. Interactive Discussion

Ricardo José Arango Manager of the Local Organizing Committee of the Seventh World Urban Forum

## VII. Closing Remarks

V. Sherry Tross, Executive Secretary for Integral Development, Organization of American States (OAS)

## Sustainable Transportation for a Sustainable Future

*Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A.*

To reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, Salt Lake City used community-based social marketing to improve existing vehicle travel reduction programs run by the city, county, and state government. To improve these programs and reduce vehicle miles traveled and the accompanying emissions, the City worked with state agencies and consultants to develop effective community-based social marketing. First, targeted research was conducted into the barriers and benefits for each major travel group. Then, three to four programs were retooled, including the development of initiatives for corporations, community groups, and local schools. The programs were launched, and the results were assessed. The team then took the resulting Sustainable Travel for a Sustainable Future toolkit to launch vehicle travel reduction programs in at least two other Utah communities. The toolkit was refined based upon feedback from these communities. The project reduced vehicle miles traveled and, as a result, improved air quality for county residents. In addition, the project reduced greenhouse gas emissions. The program helped prepare the community for other sustainability initiatives in Salt Lake City.

## Promoting Alternative and Articulated Urban Transport Systems

*San Jose, Costa Rica*

The project seeks to contribute to the implementation of an alternative integrated urban transport system in the greater metropolitan area of Costa Rica by identifying opportunities and obstacles related to expanding the bicycle paths and the interconnection with the urban train. Likewise, this initiative will contribute to the development of bicycle paths by installing infrastructure such as traffic signs and bicycle parking while raising awareness within the local authorities to promote bicycle use.