



# Energy and Climate Change Mitigation

Department of Sustainable Development

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### FIRST WIND FARM IN EASTERN CARIBBEAN COMMISSIONED AT MADDENS ESTATE IN NEVIS DSD played pivotal role in drafting the Power Purchase Agreement and supporting the negotiations between Nevis Island Authority and developer WindWatt Ltd.



Wind turbines at Maddens estate in Nevis

The first 1.1 MW wind farm in the Eastern Caribbean was officially commissioned in Maddens, on the island of Nevis, in July 2010. The wind farm provides

power to the NEVLEC grid utilizing multiple small turbines on specially designed towers able to be quickly winched down to the ground in the event of a hurricane. Peak demand for electricity on Nevis is approximately 10 MW.

#### Moving Towards Energy Independence

The development of another wind farm to be located in the Bellevue area on St. Kitts is moving forward with the sig-

nature of an OAS-brokered Power Purchase Agreement between the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis and Northstar in October 2010. It is anticipated that a 5 MW wind farm will be commissioned in 2011. Additionally, the DSD is assisting the federal government in advancing geothermal exploration and drilling and studying the potential for an electricity interconnection between the islands of Nevis and Saint Kitts.

### REGIONAL ENERGY AUDITING WORKSHOP HELD IN SAINT LUCIA Event strengthens national capacities to conduct energy audits and identify energy efficiency measures in public buildings.

Under the auspices of the Low Carbon Communities in the Caribbean ECPA initiative, the DSD organized a workshop to explore best approaches to energy auditing in residential, commercial and public buildings in the Caribbean. The workshop held on August 23-27 included a review of technologies, conservation meas-

ures, and consumer behavior. Energy analysis was performed using the eQUEST energy modeling tool. Government officials, utility representatives and energy users from across the region attended the workshop supported by the U.S. Department of Energy.



Twenty-nine attendees were trained in auditing techniques at the Workshop held at Coco-Palm Resort in Rodney Bay, Saint Lucia

### U.S.— CENTRAL AMERICA RENEWABLE ENERGY FORUM TO LAUNCH AT THE AMERICAS COMPETITIVENESS FORUM

The objective of the event is to identify opportunities, challenges and barriers to renewable energy in Central America and discuss how to address them.

A side event designed to encourage dialogue among senior Central American energy officials, current and potential private sector investors and

regional stakeholders will be held on November 16, 2010, in Atlanta, United States, during the Americas Competitive Forum (ATF). The dialogue will seek to identify and discuss how to address obstacles to increased use of renewable energy in Central America. The discussion will be led by representatives of the private sector who have successfully addressed renewable energy issues in the region including

solar, wind, hydro, geothermal, and bioenergy. Examples of successful projects may highlight lessons learned, challenges or barriers to increased renewable energy use. The discussion could incorporate legislative steps or regulatory reforms to that have been taken or could be taken to begin addressing such challenges. Another goal of the forum will be to spotlight synergies in renewable energy

that could be achieved through regional cooperation and harmonization in Central America. United States representatives will provide their government's perspectives on these issues. Following the successful launch of the Forum at the Americas Competitiveness Forum in November 2010, a follow on session of the CAREF would be anticipated in the Spring of 2011.

## U.S. AND BRAZIL ORGANIZE MEETING ON SUSTAINABLE URBAN PLANNING AND ENERGY EFFICIENT CONSTRUCTION FOR LOW-INCOME AREAS OF THE AMERICAS

Inspired by the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas proposed by President Obama at the Summit of the Americas in April 2009, Brazil has proposed an initiative dedicated to urban development in low-income areas of Latin America, with a focus on energy efficiency.



Kevin Sullivan from the State Department expresses the commitment of the State Department to the Sustainable and Inclusive Housing Prize Initiative

Rio de Janeiro, November 1, 2010 – The United States and Brazilian governments, with the assistance of the Brazilian Council for Sustainable Construction (CBCS) and the American Planning Association (APA), organized the seminar “Urban Planning and Energy Efficient Construction for Low-Income Areas of the Americas”. During the event, APA launched its initiative to share planning best practices across the Americas and to connect

U.S. urban planning experts with participants to build planning capacity and encourage citizen engagement.

Practitioners and urban planners focused on green buildings, energy efficient housing for the poor, sustainable public transport, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from solid waste.

Identifying new strategies to address the issues of sustainability and energy efficiency unleashes economic opportunities for the urban poor and creates more resilient, livable communities for millions worldwide.

### Sustainable and Inclusive Housing Competition

Ashoka’s Changemakers, with the support of the Rockefeller Foundation, and in partnership with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the U.S. Department of State, and the American Planning Association (APA), launched an online competition to find the best solutions to integrate and develop affordable, inclusive and sustainable urban housing. Successful solutions will engage communities, entrepreneurs, and key institutions in collaboration, while simultaneously respecting the environment, local cultures and practices.

The Sustainable Urban Housing: Collaborating for Liveable and Inclusive Cities competition is being launched in anticipation of the 2012 Summit of the Americas, and in support of U.S. President Barack Obama’s Energy and Climate Partnership for the Americas (ECPA). It is funded by the Rockefeller Foundation.

More about this initiative is available at the following link: [www.ecplanning.org](http://www.ecplanning.org).

## DSD ORGANIZES SUSTAINABLE ENERGY STUDY TOUR TO EUROPE FOR ENERGY MINISTERS AND HIGH-RANKING AUTHORITIES OF THE CARIBBEAN

The event provided the Caribbean Ministers and authorities responsible for policy agendas on energy and climate change with an opportunity to establish intensive contacts with European leading experts and decision makers.

Most Eastern Caribbean countries are highly dependent on imported fossil fuels to meet their energy needs. These nations are extremely vulnerable to volatile international oil prices, and spend a significant portion of their earnings in exports, tourism and offshore financial services to purchase

petroleum products. Furthermore, the Caribbean region is particularly susceptible to environmental impacts associated with climate change, albeit they produce only a tiny fraction of global greenhouse gas emissions.

In order to help address these concerns, the DSD organized a sustainable energy study tour to facilitate knowledge transfer geared towards supporting the formulation of sound national energy policies and improving the institutional and regulatory frameworks in the energy sector. European Union (EU) experts were leveraged to offer insight into the energy situation within the various EU members. In addition,

an introduction to the EU sustainable energy markets and deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency systems provided a general understanding of technologies, applications, financing, and policy incentives in place.

The study tour also provided a perspective on the supranational regulation of energy markets in Europe. This experience is akin to the proposed creation of an Eastern Caribbean Energy Regulatory Authority (ECERA). The Sustainable Energy Study Tour is a component of the Caribbean Sustainable Energy Program (CSEP) implemented by the DSD with support from the EU.

## 2010 CARIBBEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY FORUM HELD IN THE BAHAMAS

The event is the region’s most significant renewable energy gathering.



The 2010 Caribbean Renewable Energy Forum (CREF) took place at Atlantis, The Bahamas, on October 14-15. The event attracted 40 sponsors and partners and hosted 60 keynote addresses and guest panel discussions. Over 300 representatives from governments, utilities, development banks, NGOs, academia and civil society attended the forum, which provided the opportunity for numerous discussions on strategies to advance the development and use of renewable energy and energy efficiency throughout the region.

### Caribbean Sustainable Energy Roundtable Discussion

On October 13, the DSD, at the behest of the U.S Government, convened the Caribbean Sustainable Energy Roundtable with high level government officials to discuss opportunities for the U.S.-Caribbean energy cooperation under the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA). Discussions included activities to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency, and Caribbean electricity integration.

For more information about our activities or the events announced in this newsletter, visit our website at:

[www.sepa-americas.net](http://www.sepa-americas.net)

This publication was prepared by the Division of Energy and Climate Change Mitigation of the Department of Sustainable Development of the Organization of American States

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Caribbean energy ministers and authorities at UNIDO headquarters in Vienna