



## Organization of American States

The photography exhibition *Illuminating Opportunity*: an exploration of the organization's solar energy program is presented by the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (OAS) through the Department of Sustainable Development (OAS-DSD), the Art Museum of the Americas (AMA), the Permanent Mission of Honduras to the OAS, and the Trees, Water & People (TWP) on Wednesday, November 13 in Washington, D.C.

TWP's work is supported by the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) and the ECPA Clearinghouse, which is hosted by the Department of Sustainable Development (OAS-DSD) through its Executive Secretariat for Integral Development of the OAS. AMA's mission of promoting art as an impetus for social change is furthered through this collaboration. The photo exhibit will be open to the public from November 13, 2013 – February 13, 2014 at the Organization of American States General Secretariat Building located at 1889 F Street N.W. in Washington, D.C.

The *Illuminating Opportunity* exhibit takes you to the heart of rural Honduras, where TWP works with local networks to distribute household scale solar lighting and phone charging systems. Darren Mahuron's unique photos highlight Honduran culture while showcasing TWP's important efforts to light the homes of families living off the grid.

In Honduras alone, 2.3 million people still have no access to electricity. Families rely on kerosene lamps and candles that are expensive and produce high levels of indoor air pollution. TWP's solar products deliver immediate, triple bottom line returns to the poorest communities in the Western Hemisphere. Reducing dependency on kerosene and switching over to solar lighting systems brings staggering social, environmental, and economic benefits, in addition to entrepreneurial opportunities and new sources of income.

"We envision a world where all people, no matter how rural or marginalized, don't have to depend on overly expensive, contaminating and dangerous energy sources to power their lives." said Sebastian Africano, TWP's International Director.