



# Energy and Climate Change Mitigation

Department of Sustainable Development

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## REEEP TO HOST THREE SIDE EVENTS AT COP15 IN COPENHAGEN

The Partnership is working to reduce the barriers limiting the uptake of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies with a focus on emerging markets and developing countries

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The fifteenth Conference of the Parties (COP15) under the United Nations Framework Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) will take place on December 7-18, 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark. REEEP will take advantage of this major gathering with a full slate of activities surrounding the UNFCCC conference.

#### Regional Secretariats Showcase

On December 9, REEEP's six Regional Secretariats will showcase key projects and initiatives at an open house event at the Carlsberg brewery in Copenhagen.

#### Official REEEP-SouthSouthNorth side event

On December 11, the REEEP will host its official side event in cooperation with South-SouthNorth. The event to be held at the Bella Center



renewable  
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—COP15's official venue—will highlight successful north/south and south/south interventions in promoting clean energy development.

#### EEC side event on Building Energy Efficiency and Mitigation

Energy efficiency in buildings is an untapped resource for mitigating climate change. This issue will be the focus of the Energy Efficiency Coalition (EEC) event to be held at the Crowne Plaza Copenhagen Towers on December 10.

A position paper calling on negotiators to focus on the "low-hanging fruit" of energy efficiency will be circulated

prior to, and during, COP15.

An additional high-profile COP15 side event together with the Commonwealth Club of California, a non-partisan US public debate forum, will bring senior participants from California, China and Europe together to exchange views on achieving a low carbon economy.

Finally, a Worldwatch Institute side event to be held on December 17 will highlight the IPCC Renewable Energy and Climate Mitigation project report. Janet Sawin, Worldwatch's Energy and Climate Change Program Director, is the lead author on the Policy, Financing and Implementation chapter. The event will be hosted at the Bella Center.

For more information about these events visit REEEP's website at [www.reeep.org](http://www.reeep.org).

## REEEP AND OAS MEET WITH BRAZILIAN OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS THE COUNTRY'S ENERGY EFFICIENCY PLAN

The Government seeks to reduce electricity demand by 10% by 2030

Brazil's Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) is working on a plan that will allow the country to cut back on its electricity consumption through conservation and efficiency. MME's Department of Energy Development is leading this effort geared at reducing electricity consumption by 106 TWh by the year 2030.

The Department of Energy Development called upon REEEP, the OAS and other

international agencies to discuss ways in which these partners can contribute towards achieving the new goal set by the Government. As a result, the REEEP Regional Secretariat for Latin America and the Caribbean region offered its technical support for the preparation of a project proposal to be submitted to REEEP for funding in early 2010. Discussions around a REEEP-sponsored event on renewable energy focused on the Rio

de Janeiro 2016 Olympic Games also took place.



Brasília's Esplanada dos Ministérios and National Congress.

**SAINT LUCIA, DOMINICA AGREE ON FINAL VERSIONS OF THEIR NEW NATIONAL ENERGY POLICIES**  
**The OAS is providing technical and financial assistance aimed at developing new policies that will provide for energy security and sustainability in both Caribbean nations**

Since 2008, the Organization of American States (OAS) has been working closely with the Government of Saint Lucia and Dominica on the drafting of a new and modern national energy policy for this lush Caribbean island nation. On



*The Pitons, a characteristic feature of Saint Lucia's landscape, and a UNESCO World Heritage site.*

November 24, 2009, the OAS/DSD hosted a final consultation in Castries, Saint Lucia. At the event, government and energy sector stakeholders agreed upon the final version of the energy policy to be submitted to the Prime Minister's Cabinet for approval. The policy is expected to be finalized and approved by the end of 2009. "The bold commitments that Saint Lucia is making through this national energy policy are expected to help transform the energy market to be more attractive for renewable energy and energy efficiency investments", said Mark Lambrides, Division Chief for Energy and Climate Change Mitigation at the OAS Department of Sustainable Development. "The policy will promote Saint Lucia's energy security and the sustainability of the sector".

The energy policy is the result of the efforts undertaken under the Caribbean Sustainable

Energy Program (CSEP). Project partners include the CARICOM Secretariat, the Caribbean Electric Utility Association (CARILEC), and the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP). The project is being funded through the European Union Energy Initiative.

The energy policy was drafted in close collaboration with the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ). CSEP seeks to facilitate the adoption of national energy policies and sustainable energy legislation in seven Caribbean island states with the goal of establishing favorable market conditions for the development and use of renewable energy and energy efficiency systems by mitigating the barriers to their use.

**Dominica is advancing towards new energy policy**

Dominica is taking similar steps in developing a new energy policy. In March 2009 the OAS/DSD met with senior government officials and private sector stakeholders to analyze opportunities to advance a new national energy policy. Discussions revolved around a reform that would



*Steam raising from a field in Dominica. The island has the potential to produce more than 1,300 MW from its geothermal resources.*

entail greater use of indigenous renewable resources and the adoption of energy efficiency measures. A transition towards greater sustainability of the energy sector would bolster the island's energy security and reduce its exposure to fluctuating fossil fuel markets.

Since their meeting in March, the OAS/DSD and Dominica's Ministry of Public Utilities, Energy and Ports have been actively engaged in developing a comprehensive policy that will lead the way to said transition. The joint exercise concluded with a draft National Energy Policy finalized in November. The draft was submitted to the Government for review. If approved, the new policy will create favorable market conditions for the deployment of new renewable energy developments on the island.

As in Saint Lucia, the OAS provided technical assistance as part of CSEP.

**OAS, IADB SIGN AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT BIOENERGY ACTION PLAN IN HAITI**

**The initiative has the potential to create new jobs and strengthen energy security**

On October 30, the Organization of American States and



the Inter-American Development Bank formalized an agreement to support the implementation of a bioenergy action plan in Haiti. The action plan aims at attracting the investments needed to create a new bioenergy market, and diversifying the energy matrix while ensuring a sustainable food supply. If successful, the action plan will create new sources of employment, and reduce the nation's dependence on oil imports.

The OAS will support the establishment of a national bioenergy policy, an implementing strategy, and a defined regulatory framework for bioenergy. A series of studies will be carried out to broaden the Government's knowledge with regard to bioenergy, thus fostering informed decision-making. The initiative will be administered in the context of the Bilateral Agreement on Biofuels between the United States and Brazil. Through this Bilateral Agreement both countries provide technical and political cooperation to third-party countries to advance biofuels projects, programs and policies.

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