



Organization of
American States



Energy and Climate
Partnership of the Americas

Organization of American States Hosted Regional Workshop on Energy Efficiency in Saint Lucia

Saint Lucia, March 4, 2013 – The Executive Secretariat of Integral Development of the Organization of American States (OAS), through the Caribbean Sustainable Energy Program (CSEP) and the Energy Efficiency Working Group of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), hosted a workshop on energy efficiency designs for office and public buildings in tropical climates. The event took place at the Bay Gardens Inn in Rodney Bay from February 28 through March 1st, 2013.

The workshop addressed the capacity of governments and energy stakeholders in charge of developing energy efficiency standards in buildings and provided guidance on opportunities and challenges linked to energy efficiency measures and renewable energy conversion technologies. A roundtable was held to debate future challenges, gaps and barriers linked to the implementation of energy efficiency standards, ways to advance discussions on this topic with policymakers, and next steps for their successful deployment. The Delegates also highlighted the need to create greater public awareness in the Caribbean with regard to energy efficiency.

About 40 guests from the National Standards Bodies and Energy Desks of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, delegates from the European Union, the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ), the Embassy of Mexico in Saint Lucia, the Caribbean Development Bank, the Organization of the Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Secretariat, the Government of Germany, through its Caribbean Renewable Energy Development Programme (CREDP/GIZ), and engineers and members of the Saint Lucia Institute of Architects attended the event.

Participants provided feedback on the prospective guidelines on energy efficiency designs for office buildings, which were developed by the Spanish consulting firm Trama TecnoAmbiental (TTA) at the request of the OAS Department of Sustainable Development. The delegates indicated their interest in reviewing the proposed guidelines in order to ensure they respond to Caribbean needs and challenges.

Paulo Cesar Galván Tobón, from the Commission for the Efficient Use of Energy (CONUEE) of Mexico, announced his Government's willingness to support the efforts of the Caribbean nations in the advancement of energy efficiency policies and regulations. "The Government of Mexico is committed to supporting the governments of the Caribbean countries in improving energy efficiency", said Galván Tobón addressing the Caribbean delegates present at the meeting.

The Department of Sustainable, with the support provided by the Government of Mexico through CONUEE, will use the feedback it received at the workshop to design future activities of the ECPA Energy Efficiency Working Group in the Caribbean. Said activities will contemplate public awareness in energy efficiency, implementation of the ISO 50001 standard on energy management systems, and energy efficiency in the transport sector among other topics.

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The [Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas \(ECPA\)](#) is a flexible mechanism through which governments in the Western Hemisphere, on a voluntary basis, may lead multi-country or bilateral initiatives to promote clean energy, advance energy security, fight energy poverty, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions for a sustainable Americas. For more information on ECPA initiatives, news, and events, please visit, www.ecpamericas.org.

The [Energy Efficiency Working Group](#) supports the efforts of the governments of the Americas to promote energy efficiency. Under Mexico's leadership, the Working Group provides information and tools to countries in the region to promote energy efficiency and conservation. One of the objectives of the Working Group is to establish institutional links and coordination mechanisms with other ECPA energy efficiency activities.

The [Caribbean Sustainable Energy Program \(CSEP\)](#) fosters the adoption of energy policies and laws that create favorable market conditions for the deployment and use of renewable energy and energy efficiency systems in the Caribbean region.