

Name of the Partnership/Initiative

Improving the provision of sustainable energy services for Small Island Developing States

Expected date of initiation: Dec 2002

Expected date of completion: Dec 2012

Partners Involved

- Regional development banks, IFI's;
- Private sector (tourism / manufacturing);
- SIDS governments;
- Technology producers (private, academic, government);
- Multilaterals, SU/TCDC, UNEP, UNDESA, GEF Secretariat;
- Donors: France, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands;
- NGO's;
- AOSIS.

Leading Partner:

- UNDP

Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

The overall goal of this initiative is to increase provision of sustainable energy services for SIDS over a ten year period in order to reduce the outflows of foreign exchange and to protect the environment, in keeping with the Millennium Development Goals.

Secondary Objectives:

The secondary objectives are as follows:

- Transfer of appropriate technology.
- Develop new technology based upon indigenous know how.
- Promote sustainable energy use through improved sustainable development policies.

SIDS are committed to achieving goals set out in the Barbados POA and Agenda 21 and this initiative will assist these states in reducing their vulnerability and building their resilience to potentially negative social and economic influences. The high levels of GDP currently devoted to energy consumption in many SIDS will be reduced significantly freeing scarce national resources for more appropriate use in social development programmes.

In keeping with Chapter 34 of Agenda 21 and with the paragraph 9 (a) through (g) of Chairmen's Text for Negotiation dated 9 May 2002, this initiative will assist in the transfer of environmentally sound technologies, promote co-operation and build capacity within SIDS for more efficient use of energy resources.

Expected results:

- Reduced dependence by SIDS on imported energy sources, in particular fossil fuels.
- Increased availability of reliable cost effective and sustainable energy supplies.
- Increased development of adequate human and institutional capacity to plan and manage the energy sector in SIDS.

- Realization of Cost savings in the medium to long term (5-10 years) from investments made in environmentally safe technologies resulting in more efficient use of national resources for social and economic development.
- Inter-regional co-operation and collaboration among SIDS building on experiences, expertise and indigenous know-how.
- Increased focus on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions as established in National Communications on Climate Change submitted by the majority of SIDS as obligations under the UNFCC.

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement

- Barbados +10 (by 2004) UNDP will have completed full assessment of SIDS energy policies.
- December 2007: National / Regional energy policies developed. Simultaneously, pilot projects completed which are reflective of different developmental scenarios in a selected range of SIDS. Technical and sectoral policy capacities built to address energy management issues in SIDS.
- December 2012: 10% reduction in consumption of non-renewable energy sources.

Coordination and Implementation mechanism

UNDP will convene the partnership drawing upon the technical expertise of UNEP and GEF to assist states in the assessment of SIDS energy policies and in the development of national and regional energy policies.

Implementation mechanisms will be developed within the first six months of the initiative based upon needs identified on a geographical basis. Fine-tuning of timelines will depend upon an assessment of where countries have reached in their energy management strategies and planning. For example, the Pacific region has already developed a Pacific Energy Policy and Plan (PEPP), which is expected to be endorsed by member countries in a regional Energy Meeting in mid 2002.

The Caribbean has received GEF Block B Funding towards the development of a full GEF project on Renewable Energy. The Pacific has also recently received an approval for a medium-sized renewable energy project. Thus, UNDP will need to assess the status of all SIDS efforts within the context of energy management and develop a needs/gaps template for action by the partners involved in the initiative.

SIDS governments will have full responsibility for coordination and implementation at the national level.

Arrangements for funding

GEF: Various GEF energy projects have been initiated and /or completed in SIDS regions. Opportunities for upscaling to full GEF projects will be explored in collaboration with the following GEF Implementing Agencies, UNEP, UNDP and the World Bank.

Academic institutions such as regional universities and international research centers will be drawn upon to address technology transfer, human and institutional capacity development. SIDS governments are expected to cost-share this initiative mainly through the provision of adequate human resources and institutional support.

Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer

- Identify best practices and evaluate potential for application on a wider scale within SIDS with similar needs.
- Promote the use of internships, study tours and assignments of SIDS personnel to academic, technical and energy institutions with relevant expertise and experience to maximize the transfer of appropriate technologies.
- Provide adequate incentives for attracting experts from SIDS living within the global diaspora to return home to provide expertise.
- Convene a series of SIDS workshops (sub-regional, regional and global) to share knowledge, demonstrate technology and to build capacity of SIDS experts in sustainable energy initiatives.

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)

The initiative is not expected to initiate anything from 'ground zero'. Instead it is expected to build upon initiatives taken by SIDS at the national and regional levels and to harmonise with existing sustainable development activities of relevance to sustainable energy management in SIDS, for example, the Pacific Energy Policy and Plan, the GEF Caribbean and Pacific Renewable Energy Projects and National Communications under the UNFCCC provide a range of existing platforms for integration of this initiative with on-going SIDS projects and programmes.

Monitoring Arrangements

UNDP Capacity 21 Global Advisors provide an excellent opportunity for independent monitoring and evaluation of progress under this initiative. Capacity 21 has systems in place to ensure that this panel of global experts is independent of UNDP influences. Over the ten-year period of the initiative, at least five monitoring and evaluation missions are expected.

Other relevant information:

Web-site: www.undp.org

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