

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13TH
09.00 – 17.00

PRIVATE SIDE EVENTS HOSTED BY THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS), INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB), AND THE US DEPARTMENTS OF ENERGY (DOE) AND STATE.

18.00 – 20.00

REGISTRATION & WELCOME GALA RECEPTION

HOSTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14TH
08.30 – 08.40

CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

Jerry Butler, Chairman, Caribbean Renewable Energy Forum (CREF)

08.40 – 9.00

PRIME MINISTER'S WELCOME ADDRESS

Rt. Hon. Hubert A. Ingraham

Prime Minister

Commonwealth of the Bahamas

09.00 – 10.30

Panel I

THE BIG PICTURE: PROGRESS, OBSTACLES, & OPPORTUNITIES

A high level panel will provide the view from 30,000 feet. Policy, RFPs, Copenhagen, financing, investment opportunities: what's new and how is it impacting the RE/EE landscape in the Caribbean?

- The global view: how does progress in the Caribbean compare with comparable markets elsewhere in the world? What are the implications of the recent upturn in the global economy for RE/EE and what impact will that have that on the Caribbean?
- Policy snapshot of jurisdictions across the Caribbean. How do we rate current policy initiatives underway in the region

e.g. Dominica, Nevis, Grenada, Bahamas.

- What will emerge in the wake of the Copenhagen climate change talks and what are the implications for the Caribbean?
- RFP Update: Bahamas, Cayman, Jamaica, Bermuda
- Where are new opportunities emerging in the region?
- Impact of the improving global economy and implications for the financing of RE/EE projects in the Caribbean

Confirmed Speakers

Leandro Alves, Chief, Energy Division, Energy and Infrastructure Department, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) – USA

Earl Barrett, General Manager, Wigton Wind Farm – Jamaica

David Ehrhardt, CEO, Castalia Strategic Advisors – France/USA

Gabriel Goldschmidt, Manager, Infrastructure, Latin America & Caribbean, International Finance Corporation (IFC) – USA

Joseph Williams, Head, Energy Programme, Caricom – Guyana

Jerry Butler, Chairman, Caribbean Renewable Energy Forum (CREF) - Bahamas

10.30 – 11.00

COFFEE BREAK

11.00 – 12.30

Panel II

THE UTILITY DEBATE: TOWARDS A MATCH MADE IN RENEWABLES

Making a happy marriage between renewables and vertically-integrated monopolistic Caribbean utilities has proved challenging. This panel will gather a utility, a policy-maker, a developer, and other key stakeholders, to hammer out a workable vision of the profitable, RE-integrated, utility.

Confirmed Speakers

Hon. Phenton Neymour, Minister of State for Public Utilities, Government of the Bahamas

Jigar Shah, CEO, Carbon War Room; Founder & Former CEO, SunEdison – USA

Will Wynn, former Mayor, Austin, Texas; former Chairman of the Board, Austin Energy – USA

Peter Williams, Managing Director, Barbados Light & Power - Barbados
Richard Ashby, Chief Financial Officer, RES Americas – USA
Wilson Rickerson, CEO, Meister Consultants Group – USA

12.30 – 13.30

LUNCH

13.30 – 14.30

Panel III

AN INTEGRATED AND INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO FINANCING CARIBBEAN RENEWABLES

Although we still operate in a challenging economic environment, funds are available for the right projects. The challenge, increasingly, is to understand the range of sources, products, and incentives. This panel will analyse and discuss:

- Multilateral sources of financing: what's available and on what terms?
- Regional sources of capital: commercial banks, equity markets
- How viable are Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the region?
- What is the private equity view on the Caribbean?
- How should we be leveraging carbon markets to help fund renewables?
- The developers' perspective: how can we streamline the funding process to facilitate more and swifter investment?

Confirmed Speakers

Sally Yearwood, Executive Director, Caribbean-Central American Action (CCAA), USA (Panel Chair)

Jeffrey D'Souza, Partner, Oryx Investments - USA

Sharaz Ahamad, Director, Capital Markets Products, FirstCaribbean International Bank – Barbados

Charles Galante, Partner, REAL Infrastructure – USA

Allison Davis, Portfolio Manager, Economic Infrastructure Division, Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) – Barbados

Joost van Beek, Director, KPMG Corporate Finance – Netherlands Antilles

Alain Gauthier, Chief Representative, Caribbean & Central America, Export Development Canada (EDC) - Canada

14.30 – 15.45

Panel IV

UTILITY SCALE TECHNOLOGIES

A bewildering array of technologies confronts any government or utility intent on diversifying its energy mix. Which technologies are now Caribbean-ready?

- Offshore: wind, wave, tidal, thermal – Caribbean opportunities vs. obstacles
- Analysis of the next phase of Wigton's expansion. Is utility scale wind likely to become more prolific in the Caribbean?
- How have solar PV and CSP technologies advanced and can they be made to work at a utility level in the Caribbean?
- How has energy storage advanced and implications for utility scale RE?
- What are the relative environmental impacts of these technologies? Are there sufficient political and regulatory safeguards in place across the region?

Confirmed Speakers

Robert Blenker, VP Renewable Energy, Chief Development Officer, WRB Enterprises (Panel Chair)

Adrian Katzew Corenstein, Director, Mexico and Caribbean - Vestas

Michael Murphy, Vice President, Renewable Energy Services, HDR – USA

Roni Omessi, Senior Director Recovered Energy, Ormat – USA

Asier Aya, PV Division Director, Abengoa Solar – USA

Phil Voss, Senior Project Leader, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) - USA

15.45 – 16.15

COFFEE BREAK

16.15 – 17.30

Panel V

WASTE-TO-ENERGY

WTE is flavour of the moment. This panel will provide an independent perspective on WTE, ranging from analysis of latest technologies, to what is needed to ensure that a WTE plant becomes a dependable and long-term source of energy for its community.

- Latest technologies. How "clean" are the new processors?

- The view from Europe: perspectives from the Isle of Man and Denmark
- Impact of WTE on local economies, infrastructure, job creation, etc.
- Drilling down into the economics: costing out waste-to-energy. Analysis of financing tools and incentives.
- Overcoming challenges – policy, regulatory, waste management planning.

Confirmed Speakers

May Adams Cornwall, Executive Director, VI Waste Management Authority – USVI

Peter Chromec, VP, Energy from Waste, AE&E – USA

Andy Harris, Development Director, WTEC – Canada

John P. Foden, Executive Director, Canadian Energy-From-Waste Coalition - Canada

Rod Bryden, President & CEO, Plasco Energy Group – Canada

17.30 – 18.00

CLOSING KEYNOTE ADDRESS

18.00 – 20.00

COCKTAIL NETWORKING RECEPTION

- The latest in global technologies and applications in the region?
- Can we source reliable feedstock? If so, what and where?
- Do we have the infrastructure to export significant volumes of biofuels to the US?
- What might increased production of biofuels mean for regional energy security?
- Where next in the Caribbean for the US/Brazil biofuels initiative?

Confirmed Speakers

Aubyn Hill, Chief Executive Officer, Corporate Strategies Ltd. – Jamaica (Panel Chair)

Hillary Alexander, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy & Mining - Jamaica

E. Larry Beaumont, Senior Project Manager - Biomass Program Management, R. W. Beck

Joel Velasco, Chief Representative - North America UNICA - Brazilian Sugarcane Industry Association

Nils Semmler, President, RENTEC Renewable Energy Technologies Inc. - Canada

09.55 – 10.15

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Ambassador Nicole A. Avant

United States Ambassador to The Bahamas

10.15 – 11.30

Panel VII

PARTNERSHIPS, PROGRESS AND OCEAN PRESERVATION: THE ENERGY AND CLIMATE PARTNERSHIP FOR THE AMERICAS (ECPA) AND SUSTAINABLE OCEAN-BASED ENERGY SOLUTIONS FOR THE CARIBBEAN

This U.S. Government-hosted panel will focus on alternative energy development opportunities for The Bahamas and the wider Caribbean through President Obama's ECPA initiative. Panelists will also discuss emerging ocean-derived alternative energy technologies, including algae-based biofuels, while also assessing the environmental impact of harnessing the ocean's energy.

Confirmed Speakers

Gary Ward, Director, Office of the Americas, US Department of Energy – USA

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15TH

08.30 – 08.35

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

08.35 – 08.50

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

08.50 – 09.55

Panel VI

BIOFUELS/BIOMASS

The biofuel opportunity in the Caribbean, particularly in the context of the US Caribbean Basin Initiative, is huge. To date, however, that opportunity has not been tapped in any significant way. This panel will examine the opportunity, the challenges, the technology and the road ahead for the Caribbean biofuel industry.

- Brazil is playing an increasingly significant role in the region; how will that translate into biofuels development?

Dr. Daniel Kammen, Senior ECPA Fellow & Distinguished Professor of Energy, University of California, Berkeley – USA

Andy Sharpless, CEO, Oceana – USA

Craig O'Connor, Director, Office of Renewable Energy, US Exim Bank - USA

Chris Maxey, Director, Co-Founder, Cape Eleuthera Institute – Bahamas

11.30 – 12.00

COFFEE BREAK

12.00 – 13.15

Panel VIII

TOWARDS A MORE INTEGRATED CARIBBEAN: TRANSMISSION, POLICY, AND REGULATION

Opportunities for regional synergy and inter-connection abound. This panel will examine areas of possible collaboration and what can be done to turn expressions of good-will into the real world transfer of skills, expertise – and energy.

- Is the idea of regional transmission a chimera? Analysis of findings of World Bank study. Where do opportunities for sub-regional power markets exist?
- What can we learn from the SIEPAC experience in Central America?
- Does an interconnected region reflect the most sound vision for the future energy security of the Caribbean? What other options exist?

Confirmed Speakers

Hon. Kenneth McClintock, Secretary of State, Puerto Rico

Hon. Carlisle Powell, Minister of Communication, Works, Public Utilities, and Posts - Nevis Island Administration

Philippe Benoit, Sector Manager, Energy, Latin America & The Caribbean – The World Bank

Mark Lambrides, Chief, Energy and Climate Change Mitigation, Organization of American States (Panel Chair)

13.15 – 14.30

LUNCH

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Rene Jean-Jumeau, Chief, Energy Management Unit, Ministry of Public Works, Haiti

14.30 – 16.00

Panel IX

ENERGY EFFICIENCY: POLICY, REGULATION, & FINANCING

Huge opportunities, largely unexploited, exist for energy savings across the region, and in particular in the public and hospitality sectors. This panel will explore the efficacy of regional initiatives and debate what needs to be done to encourage the implementation of energy savings programs across the region.

- Key policy drivers to effect change
- Exploring sources of financing: multilaterals, commercial banks
- Can we establish a standardized audit protocol and, if so, how swiftly?
- Carbon credits as a tool to finance micro RE and/or EE initiatives?
- Status of and results deriving from the Caribbean Hotel Energy Efficiency Action Program (CHENACT). Implications for the region's tourism sector.
- What are the core findings of the recent IDB/Bahamas Hotel Association energy audit and what are the implications for the sector across the Caribbean?

Confirmed Speakers

Matthew Ross, Of Counsel, Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice PLLC – USA (Panel Chair)

Bill Meade, Member of Management Committee, PA Consulting; Project Leader, Caribbean Hotel Energy Efficiency Action Programme, CHENACT

Lynn Tabernacki, Director, Renewable Energy & Sustainable Development Finance, OPIC – USA

Christiaan Gischler, Energy Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank – USA

Frank Comito, Executive Vice President, Bahamas Hotel Association - Bahamas

16.00 – 16.15

COFFEE BREAK

16.15 – 17.45

Panel X

ENERGY EFFICIENCY: THE TECHNOLOGY & IMPLEMENTATION PANEL

Opportunities for energy savings abound, as do a vast number of new technologies. This panel will separate the wheat from the chaff and extract the best of the emerging technologies and analyse how they are best implemented in the context of the Caribbean.

- Latest, greatest, energy efficiency technologies and their applicability in the Caribbean
- Caribbean success stories to date; what can we learn from them?
- Strategies for the construction and implementation of a long-term and world-class energy savings program.
- Case-Study: A leading global hotel operator will present on its energy efficiency program; lessons learned and perspectives on the Caribbean

Confirmed Speakers

Kevan Dean, Director, Kerzner International – Bahamas

Andy Ingraham, President & CEO, National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators & Developers (NABHOOD) - USA

Leonard Deane, Director, Energy Unit, Government of St. Vincent & Grenadines

Nigel Hosein, VP, Engineering, GENIVAR, former Executive Director, CARILEC – Trinidad

Dr Manuel Fuentes, Regional Manager, Latin America & Caribbean, IT Power – United Kingdom

17.45

CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS AND CONFERENCE CLOSE