Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt
Braunschweig und Berlin
Nationales Metrologieinstitut

TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Latin America and the Caribbean

Quality Infrastructure for Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Efficiency

german cooperation
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

Objective

The project aims to strengthen the capabilities of regional Quality Infrastructure (QI) organizations, namely the InterAmerican Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC), the InterAmerican Metrology System (SIM) and the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) along with their national members to develop demand orientated services in selected fields of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency as well as promoting their mutual coordination.

Approach

The focus is set on four core topics that reflect the jointly identified priorities: quality assurance for solar thermal water heaters, capacity building for smart grids, strengthening of reliable determination and certification (e.g. labeling) of the energy efficiency of electrical household appliances and raising awareness of the significant role of QI services in this field. The key channels for capacity and institutional building are the provision of short term experts for consultancy work and training measures, the support of seminars and awareness raising events and the facilitation of dialogues to support know-how transfer between staff members from regional and national QI institutions and international experts.

Impact

In order for governments, companies and consumers to invest in renewable energies and energy-efficient appliances, these technologies need to be reliable and of assured quality. Therefore, a functioning QI with trustworthy and internationally recognized capabilities and certification and testing services is an important prerequisite for the use of renewable energy sources and the implementation of energy efficiency programs. It enables technology improvement due to comparability based on reliable measurements and helps to increase confidence in the efficiency, reliability and endurance of new technologies such as photovoltaic, solar thermal and wind power plants. The consumer will benefit from more reliable information on the energy consumption of electrical appliances. Enhanced capacities to measure energy characteristics enable more efficient management of the grids for the transmission and distribution of electrical energy. Harmonized regulations (mandatory) and standards (voluntary) on the energy efficiency of appliances or renewable energy equipment reduce technical barriers to trade, promote regional integration as well as a cross-border trade in products and facilitate the integration of Latin American and Caribbean countries into global markets. Increased availability of recognized QI services contributes to the competitiveness of industry in the region, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises by making it easier for manufacturers to produce and to market more reliable energy-efficient appliances and renewable energy equipment.

Cooperation

The project is supported by strategic partners with regard to energy policy issues, namely the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE).

Financing

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Term

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Contact

OAS | Martha Beltrán-Martínez
+1 202 458 6195
mbeltranmartinez@oas.org

COPANT | Kory Eguino
+591 2 2774517
keguino@copant.org

IAAC | Victor Gandy
+52 155 3901 5749
secretariat@iaac.org.mx

SIM | Hector Laiz
+54 11 4724 6200/6300/6400
laiz@inti.gov.ar

Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt
Ulf Hillner
+49 531 592 8236
ulf.hillner@ptb.de

Niklas Cramer
+49 531 592 8267
niklas.cramer@ptb.de

Strategic Partners