

International Climate Initiative

Climate Partnerships with the Private Sector: Adoption of Solar Energy by dispersed islands and communities of St. Vincent and the Grenadines

The Grenadines area of St. Vincent in the Caribbean consists of 32 dispersed natural islands. In contrast to its neighbouring island states, St. Vincent and the Grenadines are not a top tourist destination due to the current unavailability of an international airport. However, on 19 December 2016 the New Argyle International Airport has been inaugurated. It is expected that the additional influx of tourists not only provides the islands with a new source of income, but will also aggravate the energy deficit in the region. An increase of at least 50% in energy consumption over the next three years is expected.

Despite the huge potential and government policies in favour of solar energy, solar technology has still not been able to establish itself in the region due to inadequate knowledge of local communities about solar technology and limited skills of the local electricians. This applies to design, installation, operation and maintenance, as well as to 'solar entrepreneurship skills'. In the targeted country most of the communities are not even aware of the cost effectiveness of solar energy.

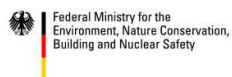
The project aim is to introduce solar technologies in the island state of St. Vincent and the Grenadines by providing a solar energy training course to local electricians and disseminate solar home systems as demonstration units. For DCH Energy GmbH this measure will on the one hand establish a sound base of professionals which can be hired for future projects in the region and on the other hand advertise their solar products in the target market.

For this purpose, DCH wants to train a group of 15 electricians from different communities (islands) in the target country for six months on solar home systems including energy storage systems. These trained solar technicians will then be supported throughout the project duration to each train three more technicians, so the final pool of trained technicians in the target country will reach 60 people by the end of the project. In addition to training activities, 5 solar home systems with total capacity of 20 kWp will be installed on the rooftop of public organizations such as community resource centers, climate protection associations, and technical institutes in different regions of the country to serve as demonstration units.

This project is financed by the International Climate Initiative (IKI).

Country:	St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Implementation:	DEG - Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft mbH, Köln
Private sector partner:	DCH Energy GmbH
Total project costs:	421,830 €
BMUB-funding:	199,737 €
Project duration:	03/2017 – 11/2018

Supported by:



INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE INITIATIVE (IKI)



KFW DEG

based on a decision of the German Bundestag