



U.S. Trade and Development Agency

Linking U.S. businesses to global infrastructure opportunities

NEWS RELEASE

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SECRETARY KERRY LAUNCHES CLEAN ENERGY INITIATIVE FOR CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

USTDA a Key Partner for Mobilizing Capital for Priority Development Projects

WASHINGTON, District of Columbia – Today, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry [announced](#) the opening of a clean energy facility to catalyze new public and private sector investment in Central America and the Caribbean. The U.S. Trade and Development Agency will partner with the Department of State, U.S. Agency for International Development and U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation to facilitate investment in clean energy development in the regions' emerging markets.

“We know that our neighbors in the Caribbean and Central America have abundant renewable energy resources, and yet they suffer from electricity shortages and high prices,” said Secretary Kerry. “In Jamaica, a kilowatt-hour costs nearly four times as much as in the U.S., and this program is going to provide early-stage funding, including \$10 million in its first year alone to clean energy projects, to help catalyze greater public and private sector investment that will make all the difference.”

[Introduced by President Obama in April](#), the Clean Energy Finance Facility for the Caribbean and Central America (CEFF-CCA) will help address the region's electricity shortages and high prices, and will maximize the use of abundant renewable energy resources. By cutting down on imported fossil fuels, it will lower greenhouse gas emissions and move the region towards greater energy independence.

USTDA will draw upon its decades of experience in deploying energy solutions in Central America and the Caribbean in the execution of CEFF-CCA. It will also incorporate best practices and lessons learned from the [U.S.-Africa Clean Energy Finance Initiative](#).

Both initiatives will be highlighted by Lida Fitts, USTDA's Acting Regional Director for Sub-Saharan Africa, at the [Climate & Clean Energy Investment Forum](#) today and tomorrow in Washington, D.C. Nathan Younge, USTDA's Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, also spoke about the goals of CEFF-CCA during this week's [Caribbean Renewable Energy Forum](#) in Miami, Florida.

For more information about the CEFF-CCA eligibility criteria and application process, please visit:

<http://www.ustda.gov/ceffcca/>.

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The U.S. Trade and Development Agency helps companies create U.S. jobs through the export of U.S. goods and services for priority development projects in emerging economies. USTDA links U.S. businesses to export opportunities by funding project planning activities, pilot projects, and reverse trade missions while creating sustainable infrastructure and economic growth in partner countries.