

Deliverable: Speech

Event: Project Preparation Facility Proposal Writing Training

Date: Monday, 28th March, 2022

Speaker: Simon Zellner

Message: This training session and the PPF in general are critical to creating the foundation that will enable the region to reach its sustainable energy goals.

Length: ~3:30 minutes

Text

Good morning everyone. Thank you for inviting me here to speak to you all as you embark on this exciting experience.

We all know that the Caribbean is at the mercy of high energy costs and a heavy dependence on fossil fuels. In addition to the negative environmental impacts, this dependence limits the region's potential for growth. The good news is that the Caribbean is rich in clean, natural energy resources that can power its future for generations to come. The not-so-good news is that those resources remain mostly untapped due to a lack of investment in sustainable energy infrastructure and projects. The *great* news is that organisations are working hard to bridge the gap between the sustainable energy projects that need financial support and the financial institutions that are prepared to give it.

The Technical Assistance Programme for Sustainable Energy in the Caribbean is one of those organisations. Implemented by the GIZ and funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, TAPSEC is committed to supporting the Caribbean's transition to sustainable development. And we know that the journey requires a comprehensive "all hands on deck" approach.

This is why TAPSEC is structured into three pillars that work together to serve as the foundation of all of our efforts. Our Policy and Regulations pillar addresses the region's need for robust and modern guidelines to chart the way forward. Our Finance pillar focuses on developing innovative ways to ensure that the necessary technical solutions have the financial support required to successfully reach the goal. And finally, our Information and Capacity Development pillar is why we are here today.

At TAPSEC, we firmly believe that the technical solutions needed for the region to reach its sustainable development goals will come from within the region itself. That is why we are dedicated to supporting efforts to help students, professionals, project developers and everyone else within the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency space learn what they need to know to lead the way in this transition.

Through our partnership with CCREEE, we support initiatives like the Project Preparation Facility, which is just one of the measures by which they are leading sustainable energy capacity development in the region. Through these types of programmes, CCREEE is

working to develop and strengthen the skills of the individuals and organisations that will help the Caribbean to adapt and thrive within this rapidly-changing energy landscape.

Within the umbrella of the PPF, this proposal writing training programme is an important part of the groundwork necessary to get your projects ready to attract the financing they need to move from concept to reality. With the insights you gain over the next two days, you'll be able to create project proposals that will show financial institutions why they should invest in your Renewable Energy or Energy Efficiency technology. And with that financing secured, you will be ready to do your part to help the Caribbean region move towards a brighter future, one where all of this region's citizens have access to modern, affordable, reliable and sustainable energy services.

Thank you for your time and have an informative and enlightening workshop.