

Energy Sustainability

What are doing, what needs to be done?

The Big Picture

Tourism represents approximately 60% of the region's Gross Domestic product.

This if for no other reason is an overriding imperative to move to sustainable energy alternatives.

The region must protect its natural beauty.

What is being Done

- equitable access and contribution to the proper functioning of the national grid for those who wish to use the grid for various services (storage, top-up, dumping of excess energy, etc.)
- ensuring that the interconnection of RE generators is done in a safe and secure way
- ensuring that the grid is suitably reinforced for providing the level of services that the RE generators require
- managing the cost effectiveness of additional RE generation while servicing existing long term contracts with fossil fuel plants.

Do we have what it takes?

- The Caribbean is undoubtedly rich in energy sources – high solar loads, trade winds, geothermal sources, ocean thermal, tidal bore and waste management
- Yes we have the raw material
- No we don't have the funds necessary to reap the benefits from these sources
- A waste to energy facility can cost US\$400 million

The Caribbean

- We must recognize that our region although covering hundreds of miles is made up approximately thirty different countries.
- population is 40 million with Cuba 30 million without
- Many Caribbean countries have a population less than 200,000
- A \$400 million investment in any one country with a turnaround of 25 years is dicey.

Strength in Numbers

- Going forward organisations like OOCUR/CARICOM must find innovative ways to facilitate regional investment.
- We have to eschew narrow national objectives and strive for a true CARICOM Common Market.
- Through this and other fora we must exchange ideas and maximise the resources available within the context of a single integrated region

Thank you

- The Organisation of Caribbean Utility Regulators (OOCUR) brings together regional regulators, promoting Research, Training and Transparency. Its annual conference is the last week in October.
- david.geddesjm@gmail.com
- www.oocur.org