









OAS to Host II Seminar on Innovation, Science and Technology for Energy Efficient Development of Central America

Washington, DC, July 23, 2013 - The Department of Sustainable Development of the Organization of American States (OAS) will host the II Seminar on Innovation, Science and Technology for the Energy Efficient Development of Central America. The event will be held at Rafael Landivar University in Guatemala City the 6 and 7 of August, 2013, as part of the activities of the Energy Efficiency Working Group of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA). Rafael Landivar University's Institute of Science and Technology for Development, the International Centre for Theoretical Physics Abdus Salam (ICTP) and the Mexican National Commission for the Efficient Use of Energy (CONUEE), are supporting the organization of this seminar focused on energy efficiency in transport.

The seminar will assess the challenges facing Central American countries with respect to energy efficiency in transportation, and the strategies developed to address them from a regional and geopolitical perspective. The region has launched numerous national and regional efforts aimed at facilitating multiple safer, cleaner and faster modes of transportation. The seminar will include roundtable discussions to analyze these efforts and discuss opportunities for cooperation. Potential partnerships will be fostered with the purpose of achieving specific objectives aimed at promoting energy efficiency in the transportation sector and encourage multisectoral dialogue. The OAS, through the ECPA Energy Efficiency Working Group will support those efforts that are the most promising to encourage the development of a Central American energy efficiency network. Experts from Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama and the United States, will share their experiences on the implementation of multimodal transportation programs.

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The Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) is hosted by the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development of the Organization of American States through its Department of Sustainable Development. ECPA is a flexible mechanism through which governments in the Western Hemisphere, on a voluntary basis, may lead multi-country or bilateral initiatives to promote clean energy, advance energy security, fight energy poverty, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions for a sustainable Americas. For more information on ECPA initiatives, news, and events, please visit, www.ecpamericas.org