



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Climate Change Expert Suresh Garimella to Visit Trinidad and Tobago on Behalf of ECPA Senior Fellows

**Washington, D.C., July 20, 2012** – Suresh Garimella, a Senior Fellow in the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), will be traveling to Trinidad and Tobago July 23rd through July 25th to participate in meetings and events regarding higher education and green technology. Dr. Garimella is an Associate Vice President for Engagement at Purdue University who specializes in renewable and sustainable energy systems policy and technology.

The Senior ECPA Fellows program is a network of high-level technical experts in the fields of climate change and energy who travel between countries in the Western Hemisphere to consult with governments or other institutions that request them. The Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Western Hemispheric Affairs and administered by Partners of the Americas. There are currently 21 Senior ECPA Fellows who participate in these five-day exchanges in their field. The main areas of focus for the program are: Energy Efficiency; Renewable Energy; Energy Infrastructure; Energy Poverty and Access; Sustainable Forestry and Land Use; and Climate Change Adaptation. (For more information, see below.)

Dr. Garimella has served as Jefferson Science Fellow at the U.S. Department of State since August 2010. He coordinated the March 2011 Washington Energy Seminar, which is organized to brief officers across the U.S. Government on energy issues. As a member of the interagency roundtable working group on rare earth elements led by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, he contributed to formulating diplomatic and policy solutions to recent supply shortages of critical materials. He was the State Department delegate to the International Energy Agency. Dr. Garimella has Guest Professorship appointments at the Technical University of Darmstadt in Germany, Xi'an Jiaotong University in China, and University of New South Wales in Australia.

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**Partners of the Americas** is an international network that promotes social and economic development in the Americas through leadership, voluntary service, and development programs. Its mission is to connect individuals, volunteers, institutions, businesses, and communities to serve and to change lives through lasting partnerships. Partners envisions an interconnected hemisphere that maximizes the social and economic potential, and leverages the full diversity, of the Americas. For more information, visit [www.partners.net](http://www.partners.net).

The **Energy and Climate Partnership of the America (ECPA) Senior Fellows Program** is a capacity building program that was launched in 2010 to share best practices with our partners throughout the Americas. ECPA Senior Fellows are experts from the academic, non-profit, and private sector that carry out speaking engagements and act as consultants in the Western Hemisphere. Embassies are

encouraged to select ECPA Senior Fellows whose expertise matches the needs of host country governments, the private sector, and civil society and non-profits. Posts are requested to work with Partners of the Americas to coordinate travel and logistics. <http://www.ecpamericas.org/>