

Donor country Finland			
Project/programme title Energy and Environment Partnership with Central America			
Purpose To promote the use of renewable energy sources and sustainable development			
Recipient country Central American countries	Sector Energy/mitigation	Total funding EUR 7,000,000	Years in operation 2003–2009
<p>Description</p> <p>The partnership was launched at the Johannesburg Summit for Sustainable Development in 2002 to promote the use of renewable energy sources and clean technologies in the Central American region, to combat climate change and to make energy services more accessible to the poor. The partnership aims at finding support for public or private investments, developing effective and consistent strategies in the national energy policies of each country as well as improving sustainable development of renewable energy on a small scale. Other goals are strengthening of effective programmes of rural electrification and developing capacity in the areas of financing and technical engineering on a regional level.</p> <p>The goals are in conformity with the EU Energy Initiative, which is a new type of partnership model for multi-donor development cooperation to support sustainable development through utilisation of renewable energy resources. Public and private sectors are participating in the programme, which has increased the co-financing interest of international banks and funding institutions. The countries involved are Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic. Austria joined the Partnership as donor in 2007.</p> <p>So far, partial funding has been granted to about 200 projects. These include feasibility studies, research projects and pilot and demonstration projects in all fields of renewable energy and energy efficiency. Thematic seminars have been organised twice a year to disseminate the experiences and best practices. To date 13 such seminars have been organised, with more than 2,500 participants.</p> <p>A similar partnership programme has recently been launched in South Africa, the Mekong river area in Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, Indonesia and Columbia. Finland is providing EUR 6 million for the third phase of the partnership in 2010–2012.</p>			
<p>Indicate factors that led to project's success</p> <p>Wide participation of the private sector, universities, donors and research institutes in the programme. A regional coordination office is located in San Salvador in the building of the General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System (SG-SICA). Capacity building and training (including CDM). Programme includes developing financing models, energy market development work and energy resource surveys and studies.</p>			
<p>Technology transferred</p> <p>Demonstration projects e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of solar systems for a vaccination programme in Honduras • Photovoltaic systems for two Kuna communities in Panama • Solar electrification in Guatemala and solar pumping system in El Salvador • Use of sawdust, coffee residues and sugar cane bagasse as biomass suitable for energy co-generation in Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Nicaragua • Support for ecological stove programmes in Honduras and Guatemala • Feasibility studies and equipment for small hydroelectric power plants in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. Support for <i>Jatropha curcas</i> plantations in several countries. <p>Central American Carbon Finance Guide was published in 2004 and updated in 2008</p>			
<p>Impact on greenhouse gas emissions/sinks</p> <p>A number of CDM projects have been supported.</p>			