LEDS GP: Seizing opportunities for competitive, green economies
The Low Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership (LEDS GP) has supported skills development and peer to peer learning among low emission development professionals since 2011. We work with over 300 countries and global and regional institutions around the world.

Members of the LEDS GP have benefited from training and technical assistance to help them design and deliver low emission development policies in more than 50 countries. This includes support for the national climate plans that countries submitted as part of the United Nations Paris Agreement. The work of the LEDS GP also underpins Sustainable Development Goal 13: *Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.*
WHO WE ARE

The Partnership is a network, creating opportunities for practitioners to identify and pool current needs and questions. We work through regional and cross-cutting technical communities of practice to enable practitioners to work collaboratively to address their priority needs through peer learning, targeted technical assistance actions, and collaborative projects.

The LEDS GP operates through an innovative distributed leadership model, with regional institutions managing four regional platforms in Africa, Asia, Europe and Eurasia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Representatives from international organizations provide technical support on analysis and tools, planning, finance, and sectors including agriculture, energy, and transport. A global secretariat is housed with the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). A steering committee composed of developed and developing country government representatives, multilateral agencies, and private foundations guides and sets the strategic direction of the Partnership.

http://ledsgp.org/about

The LEDS GP provides intellectual leadership and technical assistance through six working groups:
- Agriculture, forestry and other land use
- Benefits of LEDS
- Energy
- Finance
- Subnational integration
- Transport

The LEDS GP links practitioners and policymakers through a network of four regional platforms:
- Africa
- Asia
- Europe and Eurasia
- Latin America and Caribbean
AFRICA LEDS PARTNERSHIP (AFLP)

Chaired by:
- Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Kenya
- Ministry of Environment, Health and Sustainable Development, Côte d'Ivoire

Coordinated by:
- Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana
- SouthSouthNorth, South Africa

2017 Priorities
- Finance mobilization for LEDS and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- Minigrids
- Planning and modelling support
- Multilevel governance
- Agriculture, forestry and other land use
ASIA LEDS PARTNERSHIP (ALP)

Chaired by:
- Bangladesh Planning Commission
- USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia

Coordinated by:
- ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

2017 Priorities
- Investment mobilization for NDCs
- Renewable energy grid integration
- Multilevel governance
- Fuel economy standards and clean public transport fleets
EUROPE AND EURASIA PLATFORM (LEDS EEP)

Chaired by:
- Ministry of Environment, Georgia
- Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Ukraine

Coordinated by:
- Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe

2017 Priorities
- Jump start this new platform through outreach to increase membership and donor engagement
- Set up priority topics to deliver training and peer learning activities, including a regional workshop
- Advisory support to all countries
LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN PLATFORM (LEDS LAC)

Chaired by:
- Ministry of Environment, Chile
- Asociación Sustentar, Argentina

Coordinated by:
- CATIE, Costa Rica
- Libélula (Lima, Peru)
- Sponsored by the Inter-American Development Bank

2017 Priorities
- Integrated climate change mitigation and climate resilience building
- Linking REDD+ and LEDS
- Bioelectricity
- Implementation of NDC—transport component
- Multilevel governance
- Investment mobilization
The LEDS GP offers developing and emerging economies:

- Knowledge and tools for LEDS planning and delivery
- Remote Expert Assistance on LEDS (REAL) service
- Fellowships
- Training for professionals

In these pages, we highlight some examples of how the Partnership is making a positive difference for developing and emerging economies.

HOW THE LEDS GP...

KNOWLEDGE AND TOOLS FOR LEDS PLANNING AND DELIVERY

LEDS GP has developed resources and tools to help professionals advance low emission development. They can all be accessed via our website: www.ledsgp.org/resources

Spotlight on the LEDS GP Energy Toolkit 2.0

The Energy Working Group’s Energy Toolkit 2.0 presents a collection of leading instruments and methodologies for low emission, climate resilient development planning in the energy sector. Since its launch in November 2016 it has been downloaded over 1,500 times. Robert Anderson, Director of Energy at the Millennium Challenge Corporation, said:

“I came across Energy Toolkit 2.0 while searching for descriptions of production cost and/or expansion models applicable to developing countries. The Toolkit is an excellent resource. It summarizes many models at a very useful level of detail, plus the consistent format also makes this a very useful reference. I have often been frustrated by the lack of a common basis to compare, but you have taken a very useful step in solving this problem. My compliments to you and your team. I hope you will continue this good work. We are considering several of these models for various applications.”
**Spotlight on online resources**

LEDS GP is continuing to promote knowledge on LEDS through publication of leading edge papers and case studies on subnational integration of LEDS and private sector engagement, among other topics.

“The information and resources obtained from implementing best practices from the AFOLU Working Group and the opportunity on e-learning courses has helped in improving the skills of our both our staff and our network members.”—Climate and Sustainable Development Network of Nigeria

The Partnership’s latest development is an interactive online map that showcases examples of countries’ leadership on low emission development. Select a country to read about its outstanding LEDS initiatives, as nominated and curated by our membership.
REAL SERVICE

Our no cost Remote Expert Assistance on LEDS (REAL) service assists governments and technical institutes to advance climate resilient, low emission development, with advice from the 60 expert members of the REAL roster. The service has supported more than 30 countries to date—including Brazil, Chile, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Pakistan.

Pakistan

Through REAL support, the Punjab Energy Efficiency & Conservation Agency, part of the Energy Department of Pakistan, is developing more energy efficient building codes and options for energy saving street lights. Experts from NREL generated a summary of street lighting standards and experiences of other countries in response to Pakistan’s REAL request. This support has helped Pakistan take stock of current approaches and lessons learned to help shape their energy policy design and its application.

Chile

The LEDS GP Benefits Working Group compiled a resource guide on Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) for Chile’s National Council for Clean Production. The guide informs the country’s efforts to strengthen its MRV system, especially for the national Clean Production Agreement, which supports clean production via time limited targets and actions. The Manager of Chile’s Clean Production Agreement, Ambrosio Yobánolo del Real, also received training on qualitative and quantitative impact assessment of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs).
"The guide is useful for us because it gives us a general framework of the things we should be looking at when implementing Clean Production Agreements, not just for data collection, but for actions that could impact other MRV categories. It also gives us an idea of interesting [metrics] that we could calculate using the data we already have."—Ambrosio Yobánolo del Real

**Democratic Republic of the Congo**

To help achieve its vision for emergent nation status by 2030, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) received REAL assistance to incorporate LEDS related concepts, objectives, and approaches into its national development plan. The LEDS GP also supported the establishment of a DRC Center of Excellence to catalyze support for governmental and nongovernmental action on LEDS in DRC and the Central and West African region, and to address complex issues related to climate change and sustainable economic, energy, and resource development.

**Brazil**

The LEDS LAC Regional Platform, together with our Working Group on Subnational Integration, collaborated with CIOESTE (a consortium of eight municipalities in western metropolitan São Paulo, Brazil) to develop an urban energy inventory and analysis for the region. CIOESTE is using this initiative as a learning opportunity to enhance its own work in low emission development decisions and infrastructure investments, and to promote discussion on ways to build better collaboration on LEDS actions among city, state, and national governments.
FELLOWSHIPS

LEDS GP launched its pilot Fellowships Program in July 2016. The pilot was designed to enable individuals or teams of LEDS practitioners to embed themselves within leading institutions, share experiences and learn practical skills that may be applied in implementing LEDS and NDCs in their home countries. The following sections highlight focus areas and lessons learned for the three 2016 Fellows.

Fellow spotlight: Africa

Abbas AbdulRafiu, Principal Scientific Officer and Head of Pollution Control, National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA), Nigeria

Abbas secured a fellowship with the Centre on Innovation and Energy Demand (CIED) at the University of Sussex, United Kingdom.

Abbas worked on evaluating energy planning processes in African countries with similar NDCs to Nigeria’s. He

- explored the security of energy supply systems
- assessed regulatory options to sustain LEDS implementation
- evaluated the impact of low emission energy supply systems on poverty alleviation, food security, and economic growth at a regional level.

Through mentoring, peer-to-peer learning, seminars, and close communication with the University of Sussex Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU), Abbas built new skills and knowledge on sound policy, technology, and investment choices leading to low emission reduction, as well as gaining an understanding of the co-benefits of clean and renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, and energy conservation. Abbas said: “LEDS GP Fellowship [...] was a turning point in my career!”

“LEDS GP Fellowship [...] was a turning point in my career!”
—Abbas AbdulRafiu
**Fellow spotlight: Asia**

Ivy Wong Abdullah, Vice President and Head of Environment Pillar, Hasanah Foundation, Malaysia

Ivy was accepted on a Climate Change and Energy Executive Education course at the Harvard Kennedy School, Massachusetts, United States.

The objective of Ivy’s Fellowship was to learn about the tools available to interpret the science, economics, and politics of the climate–energy nexus. Attending the six-day Harvard Kennedy School Executive Education Program has helped Ivy to engage and talk the language of economics when it comes to climate change, emissions, and growth with private sector actors and policymakers. Ivy commented:

“The most influential force in making a change towards low carbon development is the private sector, and they need to be convinced and make that transition towards a greener growth trajectory. The tools to understand the climate and energy interaction and especially its impact are necessary to talk to these two groups of stakeholders clearly […] The Fellowship has brought about peer learning experiences that have helped broaden approaches and programs in my region and country.”

**Fellow spotlight: Latin America**

Gustavo Ribeiro, Consultant in Energy and Climate Change, CIOESTE (Inter-municipal Public Consortium of the Western Metropolitan Region of Sao Paulo), Brazil

Gustavo’s fellowship took him to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Colorado, United States, where he learned about methods and tools related to energy assessments.

Gustavo was trained on the Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning (LEAP) system for climate scenario planning, with the aim of developing a LEAP model for the CIOESTE metropolitan region in Brazil. Since the Fellowship, Gustavo has trained CIOESTE’s technicians on NREL’s tools and methodologies, as well as delivering a workshop about the models to government staff, researchers from regional universities such as Universidade Federal de São Paulo—Escola Paulista de Política, Economia e Negócios (EPPEN), climate change specialists, and the general public.
TRAINING FOR PROFESSIONALS

Each year, LEDS GP brings together leading government officials and practitioners from around the world for a member led and highly interactive event, to share lessons and strengthen global cooperation on low emission, climate resilient development. Our regional platforms also run annual events and numerous sector focused training activities each year. Since 2011, LEDS GP has improved capacity and knowledge on LEDS for almost 5,000 practitioners from 78 developing countries. Participation in LEDS GP activities has enhanced the ambition of their LEDS and NDCs, and advanced implementation, often through learning innovative and effective measures from other countries. The following examples showcase these events.

Africa LEDS Partnership climate finance training

LEDS GP, together with 4C-Maroc and GIZ, brought together AfLP members to explore how to unlock international climate finance and enhance climate finance readiness. During the workshop, participants took part in a combination of technical training, peer to peer learning presentations, immersive group and individual exercises, and direct presentations from leading experts on climate finance. The diverse cross section of expertise, backgrounds, and job roles among the participants encouraged an atmosphere of collaboration and network building. Participants’ feedback included:

“The training met expectations 100 per cent […] it revealed that we need more and more of these kinds of training in order to […] share experiences.”

“The training was very beneficial to me and will be used to change things in my country.”

Ensuring that their work continues beyond the workshop itself, participants have established an AfLP climate finance community of practice, so that members can continue to share best practices.
LEDS LAC and Energy Working Group program on bioelectricity

In 2016, LEDS LAC and the Energy Working Group convened a Latin American Community of Practice on bioelectricity. It began with a three part online training program and peer learning forum with bioelectricity industry and policy experts. The program culminated in a workshop hosted by the Government of Costa Rica, which brought together these experts with 10 representatives of the energy and natural resources ministries of Argentina, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Jamaica, and Uruguay to assess progress made, identify remaining knowledge gaps, and draft concrete policy measures and work plans for countries and the Community of Practice to pursue in 2017.

Outcomes from the workshop include final, detailed, and country specific policy and project goals for developing bioelectricity in 2017; technical assistance requests; a work plan of webinar and case study topics to implement in 2017; and a framework for bioelectricity policy design. The framework includes goal setting, demand and supply modeling, and analysis of business models and value chains for generating bioenergy.

Remote training for professionals: highlights from the LEDS webinar programme to date

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CONTACT US

It is easy to join LEDS GP and there is no cost to become a member. We encourage both individual membership, which links you to the LEDS GP community of LEDS practitioners; and organizational membership, which allows you to share information on and foster collaboration with LEDS activities of your organization.

To join LEDS GP, visit www.ledsgp.org/join/

To apply for Remote Expert Assistance on LEDS (REAL), go to www.ledsgp.org/assistance/

Global Secretariat

secretariat@ledsgp.org

Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN): www.cdkn.org

Regional Platforms

Africa LEDS Partnership: africasecretariat@ledsgp.org, www.africaledspartnership.org
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Europe and Eurasia Platform: info@leds-EEP.org, www.leds-EEP.org
Latin America and Caribbean Platform: secretaria@ledslac.org, www.ledslac.org

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