

PROMOTION OF CAPACITY AND ENERGY EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION (PROCEED) 2013–2017 Finland Futures Research Centre

Location of the action: Barbados, Jamaica, Cuba

Total costs of the project: 587 000 €

Funded by: EuropeAid, Co-operation Programme in Higher Education EDULINK II

Length of the project: 10/2013–4/2017

Project partners: Tampere University of Technology (TUT), Finland; University of West Indies, Cave Hill (UWI Cave Hill), Barbados; University of West Indies, Mona (UWI Mona), Jamaica; University of Technology (UTech), Jamaica; Universidad de Oriente (UO), Cuba

PROCEED project concentrates on energy access and efficiency in higher education capacity building in partner institutions located in Barbados, Jamaica and Cuba. The action contributes to the first overall objective of the EDULINK II capacity building and regional integration through institutional networking by organizing joint workshop seminars with the partners, fostering information exchange among the partners and providing trainings of finance and coordination management, as well as curricula development and increasing the mobility of teaching staff and PhD students. The action will be carried out using a "training of trainers" approach, which ensures multiplier effects. Through the action, the trained staff at the partner universities will have the skills and capacities to give lectures on the identified key questions in energy efficiency and access.



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The increased knowledge will be transmitted to the students of energy-related courses at the partner institutions. The energy models are designed together with the local experts from the partner institutions to ensure relevance to their teaching priorities, national circumstances and socio-economic development priorities. The project will enhance energy education in the local context through increased access and use of the latest research-based knowledge on energy access and efficiency and by stimulating local partners' own research in the field. New theoretical insights, methods, models and practices in the field of energy access and efficiency will be introduced in the participating higher education institutions.

The expected results of the project are improved 1) academic capacity in energy education and curricula development, socio-economic and political aspects affecting energy access, energy efficiency in renewable energy technology and modelling scenario building for sustainable planning; 2) administrative and financial management capacity; 3) cooperation within the partner institutions and inter institutional networking among Caribbean higher education institutions through increased mobility of postgraduate students and teaching staff.

Although still in its first years of implementation, the project has already been able to improve nearly hundred staff members' and students' knowledge on renewable energy and has initiated preliminary discussions for joint degree programmes and increased mobility. The project has been able to engage with various actors including research institutions, governmental organizations, think tanks, energy companies and the private sector in the Caribbean as well as in Finland.

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