



U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

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USTDA DELIVERS ON ADMINISTRATION'S PROMISE TO SUPPORT ASEAN'S CLEAN ENERGY NEEDS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (February 4, 2010) – Delivering on the Administration's commitment to expand U.S. relations with ASEAN and to engage with the region on clean energy issues, USTDA will sponsor the ASEAN Clean Energy Trade, Technology and Investment Forum on April 19-21, 2010 at the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel in Manila, Philippines.

The forum will introduce policymakers and project sponsors from the ten member ASEAN countries, to U.S.-based technology and financing options that can help meet the region's growing energy needs. The agenda will focus on sector development, policy issues, and financing options. The event will also support the ASEAN Secretariat's efforts to make environmentally-friendly energy production a priority for all ASEAN members. The conference will focus on best practices, policy adoption and technology solutions that enhance efficient power production with a focus on pollution reduction.

Reaffirming that the United States is committed to strengthening its engagement in Southeast Asia, President Barack Obama proposed sending a high-level energy delegation to the region in 2010 to meet with ASEAN counterparts.

"We know that there's much work left to be done, but we also know that continued dialogue and engagement between our nations can help us meet the common challenges of the 21st century and achieve our common goals," said President Obama after the first meeting ever held between a United States President and the leaders of all 10 ASEAN countries.

"And we agreed that our trade ministers should develop new initiatives to promote trade and investment that could create jobs and improve living standards in all our nations," the President continued.

Organized by USTDA, in cooperation with the ASEAN Secretariat and U.S. Department of State, the forum is a collaborative effort to ensure inter-regional cooperation in clean energy development. Senior ASEAN and U.S. government officials as well as U.S. private sector executives are expected to participate.

Taking place over the course of two and one-half days, discussions will be held on the diversification of ASEAN's supply of clean energy resources; financing access to clean energy; deploying low carbon, green buildings; and energy efficiency through sustainable fuels and power technologies. Project and business opportunities will also be presented.

“The ASEAN Clean Energy Trade, Technology and Investment Forum provides an opportunity for U.S. businesses to learn about renewable energy opportunities in Southeast Asia,” said Henry Steingass, USTDA’s Regional Director for South and Southeast Asia when he spoke about U.S. government initiatives during the Renewable Energy Technology Conference (RETECH 2010) in Washington, D.C. today. “While these opportunities are good for the environment, they also create jobs and spur growth and development.”

To register for the ASEAN Clean Energy Trade, Technology and Investment Forum, please visit the official [BCIU Event Page](#). For further information, please contact Tosha Wilkes (t-wilkes@bciu.org) or Nina Kundra (n-kundra@bciu.org) of the Business Council for International Understanding at 212-490-0460.

U.S. Trade and Development Agency:

The U.S. Trade and Development Agency advances economic development and U.S. commercial interests in developing and middle-income countries. The agency funds various forms of technical assistance, feasibility studies, training, orientation visits and business workshops that support the development of a modern infrastructure and a fair and open trading environment. USTDA’s strategic use of foreign assistance funds to support sound investment policy and decision-making in host countries creates an enabling environment for trade, investment and sustainable economic development. In carrying out its mission, USTDA gives emphasis to economic sectors that may benefit from U.S. exports of goods and services.

-30-

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