

# Trinidad and Tobago energy storage for renewable energy

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The Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries is pleased to report to the public, the successful deployment of Light Detection and Ranging devices (LiDARs) to the areas of Orange Valley and Galeota, Trinidad and Tobago. These devices will measure wind data to international standards for a period of 12-18 months, under the renewable energy initiative for the onshore "Wind Resource Assessment Programme (WRAP)" for Trinidad and Tobago and it marks the first steps towards official wind energy deployment in Trinidad and Tobago.

In October 2024, the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GORTT) received support from the European Union (EU) for a consultancy to provide technical expertise for the conduct of the onshore WRAP. The successful physical deployment of the LiDARS took place between the period 19th to 20th November, 2024 and was the result of the coordinated efforts of The Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries (MEEI), Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC) and the WRAP Project Implementation Agency, National Energy Corporation.

In April 2024, the Honourable Stuart R. Young SC, MP Minister of Energy and Energy Industries and Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister championed the formation of a Cabinet appointed "Wind Energy Steering Committee (WESC)" for Trinidad and Tobago. Chaired by the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries, the WESC coordinates efforts across several agencies and will oversee the execution of a WRAP and eventual Wind Energy Deployment for Trinidad and Tobago.

On 21st November 2024, the MEEI, National Energy and EU successfully partnered to host a stakeholder workshop to chart the path forward for the Utility Scale Wind Deployment. The discussions proved fruitful and will translate into a future "Action Plan for Wind Energy."

Participants at the stakeholder workshop to chart the path forward for the Utility Scale Wind Deployment which took place on 21st November 2024 at the National Energy Corporation, Head Office, Couva.

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago is currently developing a national energy policy green paper that recognizes renewable energy's (RE) combined with energy efficiency (EE) and utilization of compressed natural gas in the transportation sector, inter-alia, as important strategies for the promotion of sustainable development of the nation. The Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries is currently spearheading a number of initiatives in this regard.

A major challenge to the promotion of RE relates to subsidized domestic energy product prices which makes it difficult for RE (with high upfront costs) to compete in the local scenario. This has also militated against energy efficiency and contributes to wastage. To address these and other barriers and create a platform for

development over the long term, the following are the principal measures/instruments being employed.

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