



FACT SHEET: CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTIONS CENTER

The Clean Energy Solutions Center (Solutions Center) will assist Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) participants with the design and adoption of clean energy policies and programs to support the deployment of transformational low-carbon technologies. It will serve as a first-stop clearinghouse of information and tools, acting as a “virtual center” that provides analysis and assistance supported by a team of researchers and technical experts.

The Solutions Center will provide information on emerging policy trends and identify opportunities for international policy coordination, supplemented by dynamic policy and technology deployment services, including peer-to-peer learning, remote expert assistance and online training. It will host high-quality policy materials and assist users in finding and implementing the policy levers that will drive clean energy progress in their countries. Additionally, it will distill key messages for decision makers, helping to underpin future CEM dialogue on clean energy solutions to drive transformational change.

Rather than duplicating existing clean energy resources, the Solutions Center is linking into existing international work and leveraging the expertise of a number of key international institutions. It will also give access to information and experts associated with other CEM initiatives that cover a broad range of clean energy technologies, including energy-efficient appliances, electric vehicles, bioenergy, hydropower, wind and solar power, smart grid, and carbon capture and storage.

Progress Since the First Clean Energy Ministerial

- The Clean Energy Solutions Center secured multiyear financial commitments from the United States and Australia and brought on the U.S. National Renewable Energy Laboratory to serve as the operating agent.
- The team compiled current clean energy policy and deployment data from existing sources and the CEM initiatives, as well as through targeted data collection activities undertaken by the International Energy Agency. The Solutions Center is partnering with other international organizations and initiatives to facilitate access to and build from the policy resources they offer.
- The Center’s design and priority topics were informed by feedback from participating CEM countries through a survey and an interactive demonstration Web site.

- The Web site was launched on 6 April at www.cleanenergysolutions.org, with data and technical resources, expert assistance, peer forums, and online training available across a broad range of clean energy policy and deployment topics.

Upcoming Activities

- The Solutions Center team is working to build a vibrant network of policymakers and technical experts across countries who will actively use the portal's tools, share experiences and best practices, and provide additional policy resources.
- The Solutions Center will enhance and regularly update its interactive features throughout the year. This will include posting new educational videos and webinars starting in June 2011 and expanding its interactive expert assistance and peer dialogue services to a broader range of clean energy policy topics. The Solutions Center team will send its users monthly newsletters highlighting new features. The team will also consistently seek user feedback to help refine the site to ensure it helps to underpin the CEM and is tailored to its participants' needs.
- By the third CEM, which will be held in 2012, the Solutions Center aims to establish an advisory board of CEM country representatives and a geographically diverse network of leading technology experts. The Solutions Center will also actively seek to work with additional countries and nongovernmental organizations to build Solutions Center tools and resources.

Participants as of 7 April 2011

Participating governments include Australia, France, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates and the United States. Other partners include the ClimateWorks Foundation and the International Energy Agency.