**ESRER - Background and Requirements**

# BACKGROUND

1.01 The Borrowing Member Countries[[1]](#footnote-2) (BMCs) of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) have vast renewable energy (RE) potential in the form of solar, wind, geothermal, hydropower, bioenergy[[2]](#footnote-3), and marine resources, which could deliver electricity at unit prices below fossil fuel options, and with very attractive returns for RE/energy efficiency (EE) investments[[3]](#footnote-4). For more than 15 years, however, these countries have been seeking to significantly increase the contributions of RE to their energy matrices, towards transitioning their energy sectors away from the status quo of overreliance on fossil fuels. While there has been some progress, in general, it is observed that the pace and scale of the adoption of RE is much too slow for these countries to meet their 2030 targets.

1.02 Starting from a base of 8% in 2012, the CARICOM regional targets for RE capacity for electricity were established by Energy Ministers (through the COTED) in 2013[[4]](#footnote-5), as 20% by 2017, 28% by 2022, and 47% by 2027 (or extrapolated to 55% by 2030)[[5]](#footnote-6). At the end of 2020, the RE penetration was approximately 12% (or ~700 MW), well below the 2017 target; the 2022 target has been missed by a large margin; and based on the current trajectory, the 2027 target will likely be missed by a large margin also. *To achieve the targeted RE capacity in 2030, the penetration level (% and capacity) must increase four-and-a-half fold, and the rate of RE capacity installation per year must increase about fourteen-fold, requiring more than US$1,250,000,000 per year over the next 8 years.[[6]](#footnote-7)*

1.03 This level of investment, necessary for this gap to be filled, can be described as **massive** relative to current levels**.** Further, to meet the target, the investments must be made in a very short time and be delivered at an **express pace**, even multiple times the current pace of investment**.** It is therefore clear that the targets cannot be achieved by the current (or the business-as-usual) approach and will require **bold and assertive actions**, **reflecting urgency in the scaling up of private investments.** Further, given the known weaknesses and vulnerabilities, this must be conducted in a manner that also promotes improvement in ***resilience.***

1.04 Against this background, the *Accelerated Sustainable Energy and Resilience Transition 2030* (**ASERT-2030)** Framework[[7]](#footnote-8) has been conceived as a key strategy of the Bank’s Energy Sector Policy and Strategy (**ESPS-2022**) approved in 2022, for encouraging and supporting BMCs to significantly increase the speed and scale of sustainable energy (SE) investments, in order to meet their 2030 Climate targets and energy-related sustainable development goals. It aims to facilitate the Bank’s leadership role in promoting bold decision-making in relation to pursuing **transformative initiatives (ASERTives)** for scaled RE investments projects. In this regard, the Bank is embracing the challenge to play an increased leadership and coordination role in the sector, leveraging its unique position of having the widest set of borrowing members in the Caribbean, and also being the only multilateral development bank with a focus entirely on the Caribbean (given that its membership includes all CARICOM Members and most Associate Members).

1.05 Based on an analysis of the situation across BMCs, the Bank considers that existent **weaknesses in their domestic enabling framework (policy, legislative, regulatory, institutional/administrative)** form **the single most significant barrier** inhibiting the rapid and wide-scale investments in RE across all BMCs. Therefore, this area has been prioritised for ASERTive intervention.

1.06 As a result, CDB proposes to develop a **Regional Electricity Sector Regulatory ASERTive** aimed at transforming the regulatory landscape across all its BMCs going forward, while leveraging lessons of the past, experience of countries which are ahead, common and harmonized approaches (where feasible), and coordination of support and resources from various international development partners and regional institutions. Against this background, in collaboration with key partners[[8]](#footnote-9) (such as the Organisation of Caribbean Utility Regulators (OOCUR), the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CCS), and the Caribbean Centre for RE and EE (CCREEE)), a **Regional Regulatory (RR) Accelerated Sustainable Energy and Resilience Transition (ASERT) 2030 Dialogue (Workshop)** was held on *Tuesday, February 28 – Wednesday, March 1, 2023 in Barbados*.

1.07 The Workshop produced some useful outputs to guide the development of the Regional Electricity Sector Regulatory ASERTive, reflecting a comprehensive technical assistance funding programme for CDB and its partners. While various partners will pursue their interventions independently, the overall aim is to facilitate a coordinated approach towards more impactful results through increased complementarity, and more optimal use of resources, while leveraging of lessons across BMCs.

1.08 Given the range of activities for the regulatory reforms and strengthening initiative to be pursued by CDB, BMCs, and partners in the shortest possible time, it will be necessary to engage and deploy the range of appropriate expertise as efficiently as possible, while ensuring that in the process, the regional human resource capacity is strengthened. To this end, **CDB is seeking to establish an Electricity Sector Regulatory Expert Roster (ESRER)** of professionals and specialists to support the thrust for regulatory strengthening and reforms across BMCs. Where relevant, CDB will draw on the ESRER for candidates for technical assistance being pursued directly by CDB or CDB-sponsored programmes as a part of the Bank’s Regional Electricity Sector Regulatory ASERTive.

# INVITATION

The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) wishes to invite interested and eligible individuals being electricity sector regulatory professionals and specialists working as independent practitioners or employees to submit an Expressions of Interest (EOI) to be included in CDB’s electricity sector regulatory expert roster (ESRER) under a framework agreement to provide services for future potential assignments.

# GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

3.01 Theestablishment of ESRER will allow CDB to ensure a timely and adequate procurement of relevant competent and experienced professionals and specialists familiar with small island developing states’ appropriate regulatory frameworks, including instruments, capacity, and institutional arrangements. As a consequence, the Bank will be able to increase the quality and timeliness of electricity sector regulatory strengthening and reform project implementation in BMCs.

3.02 **The specific objectives** of the Invitation are to:

1. Allow the CDB to establish a register (for CDB and partners) of suitably qualified and experienced regulatory professionals, from which candidates will be selected or invited to participate in a competitive process for technical assistance assignments in BMCs.
2. Create a CDB ESRER for supporting the implementation of electricity sector regulatory strengthening and reform.
3. Identify areas for strengthening capacity of electricity sector regulatory professionals.

# DESCRIPTION

4.01 The ESRER will consist of the set of regulatory experts who after having expressed interest (by submitting all the relevant information), will be determined suitable by CDB on the basis of their experience and qualifications. **A list of key areas of expertise, relevant profiles as well as minimum qualifications and requirements are provided in Section 6 below.**

4.02The ESRER will serve as a CDB resource to expedite the procurement process in relevant energy-related policy/regulatory TA assignments. The list and related database of information will form a source from which suitable individual experts or teams will be considered for the assignments in question. For each assignment CDB would communicate with the prospective candidates to establish their availability or not for consideration for the assignment.

4.03 As requested, CDB may make available the ESRER for other international agencies or projects (based on explicit consent from applicants – See Section 8 of Application Form) to be used as the basis for invitation to provide services. Also, where possible, the Bank will use the ESRER as the basis to identify professionals to participate in capacity building and professional development workshops and training exercises.

4.03 Assignments may be funded by CDB alone or jointly with partners.

# SCOPE OF WORK

5.01 Experts who will be included in the ESRER may be contracted for specific assignments in the context of CDB and partners’ interventions, as well as for engagements by BMCs, based on the experts’ special skills and preferences. These assignments may include one or a combination of the task or sub-task[[9]](#footnote-10) areas below, but are not limited to only these tasks or sub-tasks:

1. ***Support CDB in the development of Regional Electricity Sector Regulatory ASERTive***
	1. The review and analysis of regulatory frameworks of a subset of 19 CDB BMCs to identify gaps and weakness relevant to CDB’s *minimum regulatory functions (MRF).*
	2. Support implementation of measures to address identified gaps relative to the MRF.
	3. Support review outputs from partner programmes.
	4. Support advocacy in BMCs for buy-in for the MRF.
	5. Support research and development of case studies/think pieces.
2. ***Provide Regulatory Management Services or On-call Techno-economic Services under the Regional Help Desk (as Deemed Relevant), which Will Be Established as Part of a Regional Organisation***
3. Participate as part of governance team to the Regional Help Desk. I.e. part of review panel for requests.
4. Provide advisory services in response to various requests (legal/engineering/economic ) from BMCs/regulatory bodies.
5. ***Provide Capacity Strengthening for Partner Organisations***
6. Support development of strategic plan for partner regulatory organisations.
7. ***Review and drafting of primary legislations and regulations.***
8. ***Review and assessment of human and institutional capacity needs of regulatory agencies.***
9. ***Development and implementation of specific training interventions to address identified needs.***
10. ***Provide backstopping review and advisory services to BMCs.***
	1. PPA review.
	2. Grid-feed-in mechanism.
11. ***Provide regulatory mediation services among key stakeholders in countries.***
12. Provide ‘honest-broker’ facilitator role between any two, or among the following stakeholders, viz: representatives of government, regulatory body, and electric utility

# RELEVANT PROFILES AND KEY REQUIREMENTS

***6.01 Relevant profiles***

CDB is interested in applicants with the following professional profiles (who also comply with the “Key Requirements” listed in 6.02 and are eligible as per relevant criteria detailed in the REOI):

- **Policy, legal, and techno-economic (economic, engineering and financial) specialists,** as well as **generalists;**

-**Regulatory professionals (regulatory economists, regulatory lawyers, regulatory power engineers, regulatory accountants, financial analysts, regulatory analysts, tariff design specialists, and generalists, etc.)** or professionals in similar relevant fields.

Applicants can be **independent practitioners** as well as **employees of legal, engineering, technical or consulting firms, or regulatory agencies**. If applicants are employed, they need to secure and submit the requested information, including a statement that the firm is willing to release them for relevant ESRER assignments to act in the capacity of an individual expert for specified assignment or period.

***6.02 Key qualifications and requirements***

* 1. In assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to the following qualifications and experience possessed by applicants (for a definition of relevant areas of knowledge and professioanal expertise please refer to subsection 6.03 below):
		1. ***Education and Training***
1. University degree or above in a field relevant to the subject.
2. Relevant certifications in relevant areas of specialization.
3. Trainings completed related to one or more relevant areas.
	* 1. ***Experience and Knowledge***
4. At least five years of proven working experience in relevant sectors.
5. Regional (Caribbean) project-related experience.
6. Experience in relevant areas listed at paragraph 6.02.
	* 1. ***Past experience in regulation***

(d) ***Asset:*** Experience in working in regulatory agency or for regulatory agency.

***6.03 Relevant areas of expertise***: Scope of the previous work in specific areas of regulation.

Applicants **should demonstrate** competence (training and experience) in **at least one or several** of the following main areas:

***Main Areas***

1. Management and administration of regulatory agency, or regulatory functions.
2. Managing, administering or supervising aspects of economic regulation.
3. Drafting or reviewing of electricity supply laws (primary legislations) and regulations.
4. Providing legal advisory services in the context of a regulatory agency.
5. Designing, or reviewing/negotiating power purchase agreements.
6. Drafting of geothermal energy ordinances and regulations.
7. Designing and implementing RE policies.
8. Designing of incentives for RE (E.g. tax incentives and subsidies).
9. Designing and implementing of RE grid-feed-in mechanisms (FIT, net-billings).
10. Monitoring of electric utility performance and compliance.
11. Design and implementation of utility quality-of-service standards.
12. Designing or analysing electricity tariff structures in the context of regulatory administration.
13. Preparing and leading electricity rate application or reviewing of same.
14. Rate review and negotiation.
15. Regulatory streamlining and permitting.

In addition, applicants who possess competence (training and experience) in one or more of the following other areas of potential relevance for ESRER, are invited to indicate it in Section 6 of the Application Form (Appendix 1) ::

***Other Areas***

1. Procuring RE projects.
2. Designing and implementing demand-side management strategies.
3. Conducting electricity load research.
4. Conducting electricity cost of service studies.
5. Investment or connection obligations and reviews.
6. Grid planning and development.
7. Administration of connection and access rights.
8. Development/implementation of grid performance standards.
9. Design of grid connection requirements.
10. Grid code compliance and enforcement

***6.04 Important notes***

1. Professionals responding to this Invitation should be as precise as possible about the areas and levels of experience and skills. A reliable and specific database will allow for quicker and more appropriate selection of experts by CDB.
2. Selecting a low score for a particular area of specialization and experience in the Application Form (Appendix 1) **does not** necessarily mean that experts will not qualify. A realistic ranking gives CDB the opportunity to establish an exact profile and engage experts according to their specialist area and level of experience.
3. Depending on the submitted information CDB may request further material or proof of information. CDB reserves the right to request (as deemed necessary) proofs of relevant academic achievements/trainings, as well as reference letters.

# APPLICANTION SUBMISSION STEPS:

7.01 To submit application applicants should:

1. Complete the attached Application Form (Appendix 1) covering relevant information.
2. Submit the Application Form, together with an updated CV covering relevant information. The Application Form and CV shall be submitted **following the modalities prescribed in the Request for Expression of Interest.**

# REMENERATION

8.01 CDB shall conclude framework agreements, with agreed daily fee rates, with candidates deemed to have the necessary qualifications and experience and these consultants shall form part of the ESRER. When necessary, CDB will compare and select consultants from the ESRER for specific assignments and “call down” services under their framework agreements. CDB reserves the right to consider the use of individual consultants outside of the ESRER, as necessary, and to share details of consultants on the ESRER with CDB client agencies who are seeking to contract individual regulatory consultants in their own right under CDB financed projects.

**Appendix 1: Application Form**

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| * + 1. ***Personal Information***
 |
| Name | First name | Nationality | Date of Birth |
|  |  |  |  |
| Permanent Address |  |
| Email |  | Phone |  |
| ***2.. Education: Educational Institutions*** *(Please add additional rows as necessary)* |
| Name, Place and Country | Dates Attended (Start to End) | Degrees / Diplomas Obtained | Main Course of Study |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
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| ***3.. Education: Post-Qualification Training Courses / Learning Activities / Certifications*** |
| Name, Place and Country | Dates Attended (Start to End) | Degrees / Diplomas Obtained | Main Course of Study |
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| ***4.. Education: Professional and Other Certifications*** *(Please add additional rows as necessary)* |
| Regulatory Specialization/ Legal Specialization (for Attorneys) |  | Certification/Award |  | Institution |  | Year Awarded |  | Countries Eligible to Practice (for Attorneys-at-Law) |  |
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| ***5.. Experience: Employment Record*** *(Please add additional rows as necessary)* |
| Dates (Start to End) | Employer’s Name and Address/Name of Firm or Organization sponsoring the consultancy | Sector | Country | Position and Description of Duties/Name of Consultancy and brief on objective and scope (Max. 100 words per record) |
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| ***6.. Experience: Sector Experience*** | **Level[[10]](#footnote-11)** |
| **6a. Main Areas**  | **Low[[11]](#footnote-12)** | **Medium** | **High** |
| 1. Management and administration of regulatory agency, or regulatory functions.
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| 1. Managing, administering or supervising aspects of economic regulation.
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| 1. Drafting or reviewing of electricity supply laws (primary legislations) and regulations.
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| 1. Providing legal advisory services in the context of a regulatory agency.
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| 1. Designing, or reviewing/negotiating power purchase agreements.
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| 1. Drafting of geothermal energy ordinances and regulations.
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| 1. Designing and implementing RE policies.
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| 1. Designing of incentives for RE (E.g. tax incentives and subsidies).
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| 1. Designing and implementing of RE grid-feed-in mechanisms (FIT, net-billings).
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| 1. Monitoring of electric utility performance and compliance.
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| 1. Design and implementation of utility quality-of-service standards.
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Designing or analysing electricity tariff structures in the context of regulatory administration.
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| 1. Preparing and leading electricity rate application or reviewing of same.
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| 1. Rate review and negotiation.
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| 1. Regulatory streamlining and permitting.
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| ***6b.* Other Areas**  |  |  |  |
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| ***7. Summary: General Comments on Areas of Strength (Max. 600 words)*** |
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| ***Permission for CDB to share applicant’s information****:* |
| I give permission to CDB to make available my information captured as part of the ESRER, to other international agencies, or to BMCs’ projects/programmes, to be used as the basis for invitation for me to possibly provide services to them. (Indicate YES or NO) --🡪 |  |
| I certify that the information I have provided in the present document is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. DATE: SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**Appendix 2: CV**

1. BMCs are essentially CARICOM Member States and Associate Member States (Except for Bermuda which is not a BMC but an Associate Member of CARICOM). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Mainly confined to mainland BMCs. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Against the backdrop of the prevailing high electricity prices and declining prices of RE technologies. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. As part of the Caribbean Sustainable Roadmap and Strategy (CSERMS) framework within the CARICOM Energy Policy. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. CARICOM Secretariat: [www.caricom.org](http://www.caricom.org). [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. Based on preliminary estimate by CDB. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. The **ASERT-2030 Framework** is a CDB-led approach for encouraging BMCs (with the support of Partners) to implement transformative RE/EE/EI initiatives towards radically increasing the scale and pace of the energy and resilience transition in BMCs. As part of the ASERT-2030 Framework, the Bank seeks to identify (through structured consultations referred to as **ASERT Dialogues**) key barriers to rapid investments in RE and EE, and to develop/adopt relevant transformative initiatives (referred to as **ASERTives**), which can be implemented through strategic partnerships (referred to as **Strategic ASERTive Partnerships**) with BMCs, and regional and international Partners. ASERT-2030 emphasizes: (i) stretch-scenarios and ambitions for the radically increased scale and pace of RE investments, through the dismantling of identified barriers, while mobilising the appropriate resources to facilitate the investments; and (ii) complementarity, building on existing and ongoing initiatives/efforts at national and regional levels. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. **Sponsoring Organisations:** This Workshop was convened by CDB led by its Sustainable Energy Unit (SEU) in collaboration with the OOCUR, CCS, CCREEE and with funding support from Global Affairs Canada, the European Union (EU) Delegation in Barbados, the United Kingdom Foreign Commonwealth Development Office (FCDO), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The target audience was comprised of senior technical officers (permanent secretaries and senior officials) of energy ministries and regulators from CDB Borrowing Member Countries (BMCs), as well as relevant regional and international development partners. The Workshop was attended by over 80 persons drawn from the target groups, including representatives from 12 regulatory bodies. The electric utilities were represented by CARILEC. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. The scope of an assignment could range from a single sub-task, to multiple sub-tasks, to series of tasks. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. Each applicant is required to select the degree/level of experience he/she has in the relevant main areas of expertise. This indication is based on the applicants judgement about his/her experience in the particular areas selected. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. Selecting a low score for a particular area of specialization and technology experience in the form (Appendix 1) **does not** mean that experts will not qualify. A realistic ranking gives CDB the opportunity to establish an exact profile and engage experts according to their specialist area and level of experience. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)