



ADVANCING THE USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY WORLDWIDE: *The Washington International Renewable Energy Conference*

“The United States will work with all nations that are part of this convention to gain access to clean and more energy-efficient technologies.”
 – President George W. Bush

President George W. Bush is committing \$2 billion over the next three years to create an international clean energy technology fund to help confront climate change worldwide. Along with contributions from other countries, this fund will increase and accelerate the deployment of all forms of cleaner, more efficient technologies, and help leverage private-sector capital by making clean energy projects more financially attractive.

RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

- Biofuels
- Wind Power
- Solar Energy
- Geothermal Energy
- Hydro Power

and discussions on a range of issues and innovations - are being offered by governments, universities and think tanks, and businesses. Among many others, Side Event topics include Advanced Biofuels; Renewable Fuels for Aviation; Defining Sustainable Hydropower; and Pennsylvania: State of Innovation.

CONFERENCE GOALS

- To discuss the links between energy, economic development, and climate change.
- To showcase technological options and creative initiatives for reducing greenhouse gases through the use of renewable energy.
- To demonstrate the successes of industry, government and civil society in moving clean energy technologies from the laboratory into the marketplace.
- To exchange best practices and disseminate a range of policy and financing options.

THE WIREC 2008 CONFERENCE

As part of the Administration’s commitment to combating climate change and developing new sources of renewable energy, the U.S. Government is hosting the Washington International Renewable Energy Conference (WIREC 2008), March 4 to 6, 2008, at the Washington D.C. Convention Center. The conference aims to expand efforts to enhance energy security, combat global climate change, and promote economic development through the use of renewable energy. Held in cooperation with the American Council on Renewable Energy, it is the third global ministerial-level conference on renewable energy, following meetings in Beijing in 2005 and Bonn in 2004.

The WIREC conference includes three components: a Global Ministerial Meeting; a Trade Show and Business Conference; and Official Side Events. More than two thousand representatives are expected to participate in the Ministerial Meeting, and another two thousand in the Trade Show and Side Events.

The Global Ministerial Meeting

The Ministerial Meeting will foster increased political support and public awareness for renewable energy, innovative actions to promote widespread adoption of renewable energy, and new tools for disseminating best practices to end users.

Official Side Events

More than 75 official side events - workshops, presentations

CONFERENCE OUTCOMES

- The Washington International Action Plan (WIAP) will showcase policy initiatives that encourage widespread use of renewable energy.
- Pledges to WIAP will include: financial and other commitments; development of policy instruments to increase the adoption of renewable energy; new programs to widen the use of renewable energy.

EARLIER CONFERENCES

The Bonn Conference in 2004 took place during the start-up phase of renewable energy sources. Involving over 3,600 participants, it resulted in more than 195 concrete actions and commitments by governments and other actors.

The 2005 conference in Beijing focused on policies, strategies and financing mechanisms. Government representatives from 78 countries signed a declaration of their commitment to renewable energy. ■