

Global player in hydrogen industry opens Caribbean office in Barbados

Minister of Energy and Business Development, Senator Lisa Cummins addressing the launch of the HDF Energy's Caribbean office in Hastings, Christ Church. (GP)



HDF Energy, a global leader in hydrogen energy solutions, has opened an office in Barbados, establishing the island as a regional hub for green hydrogen development, providing opportunities for skilled and unskilled workers, and expanding the local knowledge base.

The French-based company said the expansion – with the office in Hastings, Christ Church – also underscores its commitment to supporting regional efforts to enhance energy security, unlock climate finance, and accelerate the transition to low-carbon, green energy systems across the Caribbean.

Through targeted knowledge-sharing initiatives and training programmes, HDF will build local capacity, equipping Barbados and the broader Caribbean region to lead in renewable energy innovation.

Speakers at the launch ceremony highlighted the importance of collaboration and the critical need for integrated strategies and unified efforts to address energy challenges, leverage economies of scale, and drive sustainable growth across the Caribbean.

Minister of Energy and Business Development, Senator Lisa Cummins noted: “The procurement, the investment, and the approaches towards renewable development in this Caribbean region have to be pooled. They have to be aggregated. We have to be able to use those learnings, anchored in people, to create financial instruments that support regionalisation of energy production, energy procurement, and energy integration. This is a conversation that we in the region must have.”

This emphasis on regional integration and collaboration, combined with a focus on local participation, aligns directly with HDF’s work in the region. Commenting on the move to Barbados, Vice President, USA & Caribbean, at HDF Energy, Thibault Ménage, said the establishment of the Caribbean office represents the company’s commitment to contributing to the region’s clean energy transition.

He added that “by providing a dedicated hub for renewable energy innovation and collaboration, we aim to strengthen regional energy independence and accelerate progress toward shared decarbonisation goals”.

HDF said its decision to anchor its operations in Barbados not only highlights the island’s pivotal role in the region’s renewable energy landscape but also reflects growing global confidence in the Caribbean’s ability to lead in clean energy solutions.

“The Caribbean has collectively prioritised enhancing energy security through resilient and sustainable technologies,” said Head of Corporate and Public Affairs at HDF, Dr Kirt St Bernard. “HDF’s regional presence will provide a platform for knowledge transfer, capacity building, and the coordinated development of projects that not only support the mitigation of climate risks but also create economic opportunities for local communities.”

The newly minted HDF Caribbean team has already begun operations and will oversee several landmark projects, including the Renewstable Barbados (RSB) project; a pioneering green hydrogen power plant to be constructed in the parish of St Philip designed to provide clean, stable and reliable electricity to 18 680 consumers by integrating solar power with green hydrogen storage.

The RSB project, developed in partnership with Rubis, further represents a model for attracting foreign direct investment into the renewable energy sector across the Caribbean. It incorporates opportunities for local equity investment, allowing Barbadian institutions, such as credit unions, to actively participate in and benefit from the energy transition.

Since 2019, HDF Energy has invested in clean hydrogen and energy initiatives in the region. In addition to the RSB project, HDF is advancing other projects in the Caribbean such as the NewGen Green Hydrogen Project in Trinidad and Tobago, and similar projects in Jamaica and Saint Lucia.

(PR/BT)



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