

Dominican Republic

Green Electricity from Wind Energy

THE PROJECT IN A NUTSHELL

The two wind farms on the coast of the Dominican Republic provide benefits for the climate, the environment and the local population. Every year, the projects save large amounts of CO₂ and additionally avoid the leakage of further pollutants and soot particles, which are generated when fossil fuels are used. This results in a significant improvement of air quality from which people and the environment benefit. The projects promote the development of renewable energies and make the country less dependent on non-renewable resources, which are only available in limited quantities. Moreover, the environmentally friendly power generation helps to achieve the goal of significantly reducing CO₂ emissions by 2030. In addition, the local economy is strengthened, as new jobs are created directly and indirectly through the construction and operation of the plants.

WIND ENERGY/ RENEWABLE ENERGIES

Certification	Verified Carbon Standard (VCS), Voluntary Emission Reduction (VER), Clean Development Mechanism (CDM-/UNFCCC)-Requirements are met
Project Validation	Colombian Institute for Technical Standards and Certification (ICONTEC)
Project Location	South coast, Dominican Republic
CO ₂ Savings	approx. 246,766 t CO ₂ e p. a.



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In the Dominican Republic, energy production is still largely based on fossil resources, which are responsible for one-third of the country's greenhouse gas emissions. The expansion of renewable energies is therefore an important part of the agreed climate goal of 2007 to reduce emissions by a quarter by 2030 compared to 2010 levels. The Caribbean island is not only spoiled by sunshine, but its topography of mountains and a long coastline offer good conditions for generating green electricity from wind energy. In the south of the Dominican Republic, two wind farms with a total capacity of almost 100 MW and a yearly production of clean electricity of approx. 370 GWh were built close to the windy coast. By feeding green electricity into the power grid instead of conventionally generated electricity, approximately 240,000 tons of CO₂ can be saved each year.

VERIFIED CARBON STANDARD

The Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) was established by numerous environmental organizations, including the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, the Climate Group as well as other business organizations. Its declared goal is to promote and monitor climate protection and review the standards set for CO₂ reduction projects in line with the Kyoto Protocol. Each Verified Carbon Standard project must act in accordance with the strict guidelines of the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC). In addition to improving the climate and the environment, the acquisition of a CO₂ reduction right thus supports the economy in the project country and improves the social situation of the population at the project site.

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PROJECT COUNTRY

South of the mainland United States, the Caribbean presents its palm-fringed, white sandy beaches and crystal-clear, turquoise waters. The Dominican Republic is the second largest country in the Caribbean and has a very diverse scenery. Dense tropical rainforests can be found here as well as the highest mountain of the Antilles, desert-like places, the rugged Atlantic coast, and lakes and rivers in the interior. In the north, the island is surrounded by the cold waters of the Atlantic, but it adjoins the Caribbean Sea in the south, with its white, picture-perfect beaches that make us long for this faraway place. There is also a lot to discover under water. Colourful coral reefs and sponges, shrimps stalking through the sea grass, rays gliding elegantly through the water... In order to preserve the paradisiac underwater world and the biodiverse nature on land, more than 30 percent of the country's surface has been placed under protection in various nature reserves.



POWER OF NATURE

Since wind energy occurs naturally and is abundantly available in many regions, it is one of the cleanest forms of energy. Moreover, it has a great potential: a worldwide network of wind power plants would be able to cover the current and future electricity needs of humanity. The generation of clean electricity is driven by the continuous circular motion of the rotor and a generator that converts the kinetic energy into electrical energy. As no fossil fuels or nuclear power are being used to generate electricity from wind, neither CO₂ emissions nor atomic waste is produced. Therefore, energy generated from wind is an important contribution to climate protection.

CO₂ COMPENSATION

CO₂ compensation of greenhouse gases such as methane and carbon dioxide seeks to avoid and offset climate-damaging emissions through developing and supporting international climate protection projects. These worldwide projects are financed by the Western industrial countries and signatories of the Kyoto Protocol. As a guiding principle of CO₂ compensation, it is irrelevant in which part of the world CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions are being avoided. Every climate action matters because climate is global and does not stop at national borders. Therefore, climate protection can be implemented where it is most feasible.

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

On 1 January 2016, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations officially came into force. The goals for sustainable development are political objectives where social, economic, and ecological aspects are on the agenda.

One important finding is that the eradication of poverty must be accompanied by policies supporting economic growth as well as addressing a range of social needs. This includes education, health, social protection, and employment opportunities, while tackling climate change and protecting the environment at the same time.



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Through the use of a renewable energy source like wind, the use of conventional energy sources decreases and air quality improves, which has a positive effect on the health of the population.

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

By using green electricity generated from wind energy, part of the energy demand is covered in an environmentally friendly way.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

During construction and operation of the plants, numerous jobs are created directly and indirectly, strengthening the local economy.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The construction of the wind turbines leads to the development of a new and sustainable business field.

13 CLIMATE ACTION



CLIMATE ACTION Electricity generated from wind energy does not produce any emissions and at the same time, it replaces energy generated from fossil fuels. In this way, the projects help to reduce CO₂ emissions and thus also actively contribute to climate protection.