ISSUE NO#13

September 2026

MINISTRY OF PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC UTILITIES

THE RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

REVIEW



CANADA-WORLD BANK CLEAN ENERGY AND FORESTS CLIMATE EQUITY

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RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
RESDP
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RESDP PROGRESS REPORT

Social Development & Safeguards

Construction of House for Project-Affected Household in Belvedere, Fond St. Jacques, Underway

Construction of a disaster-resilient, two-bedroom, single-storey reinforced concrete house to resettle a project-affected household of +Belvedere, Fond St. Jacques, is underway. Construction of the resettlement house is a Government of Saint Lucia (GOSL) commitment under the Renewable Energy Sector Development Project (RESDP) to ensuring that households affected by project activities are appropriately resettled and provided with safe and adequate housing.



Under Construction Replacement House for Project Affected Person

The construction of the new residence is being undertaken in accordance with the project's approved Resettlement Action Plan which outlines measures to address physical displacement and safeguard the well-being and livelihoods of project affected persons. The initiative reflects the GOSL's commitment to implementing project activities in a socially responsible manner while ensuring that affected households receive the necessary support throughout the resettlement process.

The construction contract was awarded to Beyond Premium Construction Inc. The latter is responsible for delivering the new residence in accordance with approved building specifications, quality standards and applicable safety requirements. The house was designed and is being constructed to provide a safe, secure and disaster-resilient living environment for the affected household. Construction is scheduled to take six months, followed by a 12-month defects liability and maintenance period. During this period, any defects identified will be addressed in accordance with the applicable contractual requirements.



Staff of the PIU and Beyond Premium Construction Interact After an E&S Inspection

Throughout the construction process, the RESDP's Project Implementation Unit (PIU) will monitor progress and coordinate with the contractor and relevant stakeholders to ensure that works are executed in accordance with established project requirements. Particular attention will be given to construction quality, environmental and social risks and impacts, occupational health and safety, and the timely completion of the residence.

Upon completion, the affected household will be facilitated in transitioning to their new home. The GOSL remains committed to ensuring that the resettlement process is undertaken in a transparent, inclusive and considerate manner and with due regard for the welfare and housing security of the affected household.

Environmental Safeguards

RESDP Conducts Bird Survey of Areas Near Drilling Sites

During the month of October, the RESDP will be undertaking a bird survey near the drilling sites in the three drilling communities. The general objective of the survey is to minimize the risk of adverse impacts of the project on birds, particularly those nesting or breeding within and around the project sites, and to support compliance with the Wildlife Protection Act of 1980.

While the specific objectives are:

(i) to collect data to verify that civil works activities have no impact on birds' activity during the active works period, and

(ii) to recommend corrective measures if birds' habitat (nesting and breeding) or habitats are adversely affected by civil works.

The survey will commence on Friday, October 9, 2026, and is expected to continue for approximately 14 days, subject to weather conditions." Former Chief Forestry Officer and Forest Ecologist, Adams Touissant, will be conducting observations and collecting the required information throughout the survey period. The findings will help determine whether project activities are affecting bird nesting, breeding or habitats and, where necessary, inform recommendations for appropriate corrective measures.



St. Lucia Wren, One of the World's Rarest Birds.
Photo Credit: Adams Toussiant

RESDP Receives Approvals to Proceed with Drilling and Water Abstraction

The Development Control Authority (DCA) and the Water Resources Management Agency (WRMA) have each granted the RESDP the required project and water abstraction approvals to advance its geothermal drilling operations in St. Lucia.

All land development initiatives in Saint Lucia require approval from the DCA. During the reporting period, the PIU submitted and received approvals for all land developments required for its drilling operations.

Geothermal drilling requires a steady, high-volume water supply to mix drilling muds, cool downhole tools and flush out rock cuttings. In Saint Lucia, water can only be extracted under a license from the WRMA. The approved water abstraction license for the RESDP provides authorization for the project to extract water from 4 distinct sources to support drilling activities.

The project is expected to follow the below regulatory and legal requirements:

- **National Law:** Conforms with St. Lucia's *Physical Planning and Development Act* (*Chapter 5.12*) and the *Water and Sewerage Act* (*Section 18*).
- **International Safeguards:** Aligns with World Bank Environmental Assessment guidelines (*OP/BP 4.01*).

With the licenses and approvals now approved, the project meets all regulatory and legal environmental requirements to proceed.

Technical Coordination

RESDP Advances Geothermal Exploration Phase with Major Contract Awards and Technical Milestones

During the month of October, the RESDP reached significant new milestones in Saint Lucia's transition toward clean energy and national energy independence.

Following competitive procurement processes, the GOSL formally awarded the Civil Works contracts for Well Pads and Access Roads (Lot 02) and Water Supply for Drilling (Lot 03) to Kee Chanona Ltd. This builds upon the previously awarded Access Roads contract (Lot 1) held by Namalco Construction Services Limited. Together, these contracts establish the critical infrastructure required across the primary geothermal exploration sites in Saltibus, Belle Plaine, and Fond St. Jacques.



Site of Well Pad to Be Built in Belvedere, Fond St. Jacques

Key Project Highlights & Recent Achievements

- **Civil Works Expansion:** Formally engaged Kee Chanona Ltd. for Lots 02 and 03 to construct essential well pads, water supply systems, and localized access infrastructure to support heavy drilling rigs and technical teams.
- **Seismic Monitoring Deployment:** Completed the installation of the seismic monitoring network surrounding the three planned geothermal exploration drill sites.
- **Building Condition Survey (BCS):** Successfully completed and accepted Deliverable 06 ("Post-Seismic Activity Damage Assessment Report & Pre-Civil Works Verification Survey") for continuous monitoring of up-to-date baselines under the Building Condition Survey consultancy.
- **Legislative Advancement:** Advanced ministerial-level coordination and engagement to confirm key policy options and progress the drafted Cabinet Memorandum for our nation's Geothermal Resource Development Bill for formal presentation to our Cabinet of Ministers.
- **Site Mobilization & Safety:** Established rigorous environmental and safety protocols, including management strategies and implementation plans (MSIPs) alongside mandatory worker inductions and ongoing community consultations in each drill site area.
- **Relocation Housing for Project-Affected Persons (PAPs):** Construction is advancing across both replacement housing sites. House Lot 01 Parc Estate, Saltibus, contract executed by Innov8 Inc. is progressing through final finishing stages, and House Lot 02 at Belvedere, Fond St. Jacques, executed by Beyond Premium Construction Inc. is actively moving from foundation casting toward superstructure completion, ensuring that every displaced family is thoughtfully and safely accommodated with a resilient, and dignified new home.

The RESDP is funded by the World Bank and implemented by the GOSL to explore sustainable, local energy alternatives and reduce reliance on imported fossil fuels.



Seismic Monitoring Station Installed by UWI Seismic in Darban

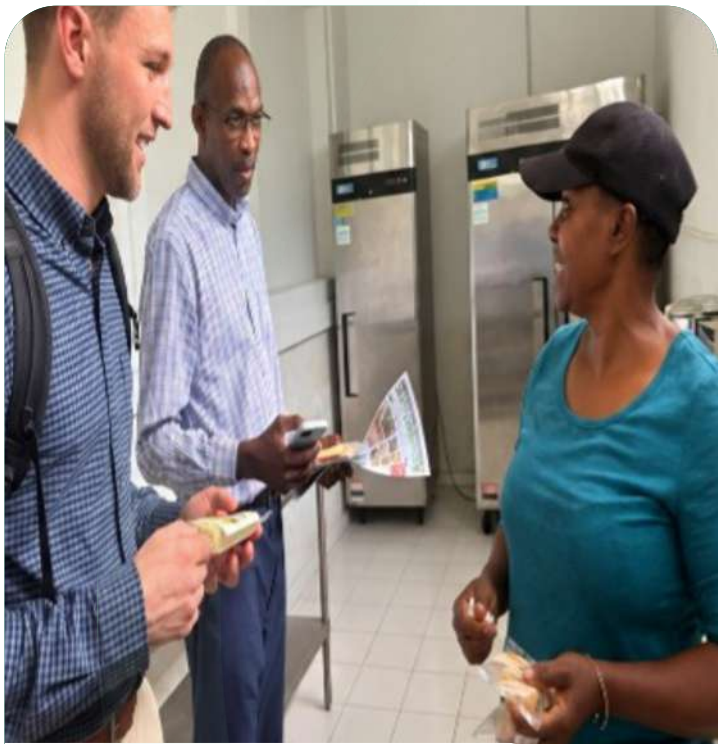


FRENZ Team Visits Saint Lucia to Explore Geothermal Direct-Use Opportunities

Stakeholder consultations and site visits highlight opportunities for geothermal energy to support agriculture, tourism, local businesses and community development.

The Ministry of Physical Development and Public Utilities welcomed a team of consultants from New Zealand under the Facility of Renewable Energy- New Zealand (FRENZ) initiative for a five-day mission to Saint Lucia from September 21–25, 2026. The visit formed part of an assessment to identify potential direct-use applications of geothermal energy and explore opportunities to support sustainable economic development, particularly close to the RESDP's drill sites.

Geothermal direct-use involves utilizing geothermal heat for practical applications such as agricultural processing, crop drying, food preservation and other commercial activities. The assessment seeks to identify opportunities that could benefit local communities, strengthen existing businesses and create new economic opportunities.



FRENZ Consultants Engage with a Community Group Member

During the visit, the FRENZ team engaged with government representatives, technical experts, private sector stakeholders and community organizations to better understand Saint Lucia's development priorities and explore potential geothermal direct-use applications.

The mission included engagements with local businesses and community representatives, alongside visits to relevant facilities. These interactions provided the visiting team with valuable insights into existing operations, infrastructure requirements and potential opportunities for geothermal direct-use development.

An important aspect of the assessment was ensuring that community perspectives, including those of women, farmers, entrepreneurs and other potential beneficiaries, were considered in identifying and evaluating possible applications. Stakeholders were also encouraged to participate in a community survey designed to gather additional information on local priorities, business activities and potential geothermal energy uses.

Following the mission, the FRENZ team will continue its assessment, incorporating information gathered through stakeholder consultations, site visits and community feedback into its findings, analysis and final report. Additional engagements will be undertaken where necessary to support the identification and evaluation of potential geothermal direct-use opportunities.

Through the RESDP, Saint Lucia continues to explore opportunities to maximize the potential benefits of geothermal energy while promoting stakeholder participation and sustainable national development.





GRM Performance Update: July to September 2026

During this reporting period, five grievances were formally submitted through the project's GRM. One grievance remains open and unresolved, pending the receipt of additional information from the grievant to facilitate further assessment and resolution.

At present, the project's GRM has recorded a cumulative number of thirty-two grievances since commencing operation in July 2023.

Number of Grievances Received	Number of Grievances Resolved	Timeframe for Resolution
32	*31*	*81% within 30-day period*

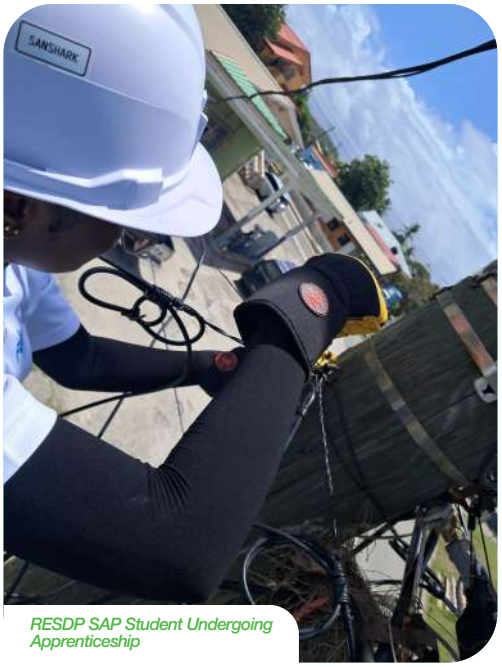
All persons affected by the project are encouraged to utilize the GRM to formally submit grievances arising from project activities. The PIU remains committed to ensuring that all grievances are addressed in a timely, fair and transparent manner, with each submission appropriately documented and managed in accordance with the established GRM procedures. Grievances may be submitted electronically via the RESDP's designated Google Form (*https://forms.gle/pofvSzU84dbjmWGm8*) and through the multiple channels listed on the GRM flyer on this page.

FUTURE ENERGY EXPERTS



From Classroom to Career: SAP Builds Pathways

During the month of June, July and August, fifteen (15) students from the Engineering and the Circular Economy Department of the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College (SALCC), recipients of the RESDP Scholarship and Apprenticeship Programme (SAP), successfully undertook apprenticeships at several hosting partners islandwide. This initiative connects technical studies with workplace opportunities, helping build locals skills for Saint Lucia's renewable energy sector.



RESDP SAP Student Undergoing Apprenticeship

Apprenticeships were undertaken at the OECS Commission, Converge Solutions Inc, Government Information Technology Services Limited, Flow St. Lucia, Computer World, WASCO, Saint Lucia Distillers, St. Lucia Electricity Services Limited, Millenium Heights Medical Complex, Peter and Company Auto, Yamaha/TH Motor and Marine, and Rasco Garage.

With the focus of SAP being on expanding opportunities for young women in technical disciplines, apprenticeships support a stronger link between education and employment. For SAP students pursuing studies in engineering, it offers a pathway towards applying their classroom knowledge to real life situations, gaining practical skills and industry experience, and participating in Saint Lucia's energy transition.

The PIU wishes to thank all of the apprenticeship hosting institutions for their support of the programme and hosting of apprentices.



RESDP SAP Graduate in the Workplace



PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CURRENT ACTIVITIES (Selection Process Ongoing):

ACTIVITY NAME	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITY PROCUREMENT REFERENCE	ACTIVITY LAUNCHED DATE	DEADLINE
Drilling Rig and Integrated Drilling Services	Request for Bids Selection method is to be utilized to engage a Contractor to drill 3 exploratory wells.	LC-MIPPDUR-255364-CW-RFB	July 31, 2026	November 4, 2026

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

ACTIVITY NAME & DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITY PROCUREMENT REFERENCE	PROPOSED LAUNCHED DATE	DEADLINE
RAP Audit Consultant– Request for Expression Selection method is to be utilized to engage an Individual Consultant to conduct a RAP Audit.	LC-SLU MIPPDUR-564581-CS-INDV	TBD	TBD
Direct Use Study		TBD	TBD
Transaction Advice Consultancy		TBD	TBD

LET'S DO OUR PART FOR A GOOD START.





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