

**Seminar on Innovation, Science and Technology for the Energy-Efficient Development:  
Green-Sustainable Buildings**

**Information Form**

**COUNTRY: TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

Name: **Indra Haraksingh**  
Nationality: **Trinidad and Tobago**  
Current Position: **Lecturer and President of the Caribbean Solar Energy Society**  
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**Short biography**

Her focus is in Pure Physics, Solar Energy, Geophysics and Earth Sciences. She holds a Ph.D. in Physics in Solar Energy, a Diploma in Education, and BSc. – Physics and Mathematics Degrees. Dr. Haraksingh has been serving for nineteen years as Chair of the *Trinidad and Tobago Mathematics Olympiad*. She is a founding member and President of the *Caribbean Solar Energy Society*, a member of the *Steering Committee of the World Renewable Network* and a Member of the Projects Steering Committee of the CARICOM (Caribbean Community) appointed *Caribbean Renewable Energy Development Programme (CREDP)*. She is currently a member of the Cabinet appointed *Renewable Energy Committee of Trinidad and Tobago* and *Renewable Energy Committee of the University of the West Indies*. She heads the Organization of American States (OAS) project on *Alternative Energy Education Dissemination* involving Trinidad & Tobago, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Belize, and is the Technical Advisor for the UWI for the Germany-based INEES and DIREKT projects.

Dr. Haraksingh is one of the key persons involved in training and capacity building in Renewable Energy in the Caribbean region. In July 2002 Dr. Indra Haraksingh was honoured as the Recipient of the **Outstanding Scientist Award** at World Renewable Energy Congress in Cologne, Germany, and in July 2008 she was presented with the **International Pioneer Award for Solar Energy** at the Tenth World Renewable Energy Congress held in Glasgow, Scotland. More recently, in September 2012, Dr. Haraksingh was honoured by the National Institute for Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology with the **NIHERST Award for Excellence in Science and Technology in the Silver Category**.

**Impact policy / research**

Energy security is a major problem facing the Caribbean region since most of the energy needs comes from importation of fossil fuels, resulting in high electricity prices throughout the region. Implementation of renewable energy technologies is a matter of urgency, but the appropriate trained workforce is not in place to absorb this move.

I have been involved for many years in training and capacity building in renewable energy. This has been targeted to a wide range of personnel, such as policy makers, the electorate inspectorate, teachers, technicians etc. The impact of my work has been throughout the entire Caribbean region in an effort to have the region equipped for the expansion of renewable energy technologies.

One of my more recent achievements is the development of an MSc in Renewable Energy Technology, which is a first for the University and the Caribbean region. In the area of research, I have been supervisor for several post graduate students in the area of Solar Energy and Geothermal Energy. I have also been training professionals in the region in Energy through OLADE.

The MSc project does cover some EE; One of the courses is Shaping Sustainable Energy Systems. We cover all the RE technologies, which in principle is promoting EE Technologies.

The courses covered in the programme are:

- Energy Economics
- Shaping Sustainable Energy Systems
- Programme and Project Management
- Solar Energy Conversion
- Wind Energy I
- Bioenergy I
- Energy Use and Energy Auditing
- Electrical Integration of Renewables
- Hydro and Marine Power
- Geothermal Energy
- Energy Storage
- Bioenergy II
- Wind Energy II
- Advanced Solar Energy