

RENEWABLE ENERGY INCENTIVES DATABASE MANUAL

OVERVIEW OF DATABASE

The Caribbean Renewable Energy (RE) Incentives Database is a centralised web portal containing information on incentives available for RE development within the Caribbean.

The database can be used to search and identify available incentives for RE projects, according to: the nature of the entity implementing the project(s) (business (small or large), household, utility, power producer); type of RE technology; type of incentive (tax based, FIT, net billing etc.); and country of implementation. The database provides the user with a list of available incentives according to the search criteria entered, as well as basic details on the characteristics of the incentive, such as type, status of implementation, applicable sector, summary of the incentive and the benefitting technology/ies. It also provides weblinks for obtaining further information.

STRUCTURE OF DATABASE

The RE Incentives Database tool consists of 3 main sections: A map tool (located at top centre of the page), a Search Criteria or Query panel (located just beneath the interactive map), and the Search results (located beneath the query panel).

MAP TOOL

The map tool consists of an interactive regional map that allows the user to perform a general search - for all RE incentives in a given country - by clicking on their country of interest in the map. The outlined and highlighted countries seen in the map are the countries for which the database contains information.

SEARCH CRITERIA OR QUERY PANEL

The Search Criteria or Query panel allows the user to filter the information in the database according to the specific parameters in which he is interested. It consists of the following filters.

Country

This search criterion filters the database for entries according to the country selected by the user from the drop down list. All listed RE incentives in this database are country specific.

Sector

This search criterion filters the database for entries according to the type of entity (as selected by the user) implementing a RE project or looking to take advantage of an available incentive for a RE project. Entity types included in the database are: household, small and medium enterprise (SME), Utility/IPP (Independent Power Producer) and Large Companies.

Technology Incentive Type

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This search criterion filters the database for entries according to the type of RE incentive sought, whether: tax benefit, feed-in tariff, net billing, net metering, soft loan.

RESULTS TABLE

This consists of a table showing, from left to right, the target country, the incentive type, benefitting sector, and the benefitting technology/ies. The results in the table are updated in real time as filter options are changed.

HOW TO USE THE DATABASE

Use of the database simply requires pointing and clicking with your mouse.

Your initial point of contact upon arrival to the database should be the Renewable Energy Incentives Database landing page which consists of

- An interactive **regional map** highlighting the countries for which there is information in the database
- A **query panel** below the map which allows users to refine their search through the use of filters.
- A **results table** below the query panel which gives the results of a particular search in a table format. The results table updates in real time as the user modifies his/her search via the query panel, the map, or both.

TO CONDUCT A SEARCH FOR ALL RE INCENTIVES IN A GIVEN COUNTRY, IRRESPECTIVE OF TECHNOLOGY OR IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

If you are interested in conducting a general search for all the incentives that are available for any of the given target countries, simply click on the country of interest in the **interactive map**. This will give a listing of all available RE incentives for the country of interest, irrespective of technology type or implementing entity. Selecting a country from the map is equivalent to selecting the given country in the Query panel below the map. Map selection automatically clears all other filters that may have been active in the Query panel. It is the quickest way to get a listing of all available RE incentives for the country of interest.

TO CONDUCT A SEARCH USING SPECIFIC SEARCH CRITERIA

For a more refined search, use the **query panel** below the **interactive map**. Below is a six step process for using the **query panel** to find incentives for a given project.

1. Select the intended country for implementation of the project by choosing one of the country options from the drop-down menu under the “Country” filter. If you wish to see results for all countries in the database, leave this filter on “ANY”
2. Specify the type of entity implementing the project by selecting the most appropriate option from the drop-down menu under the “Sector” filter. If you wish to get results for all sector types, leave this filter unchanged.
3. Select the type of incentive being sought by choosing an option from the drop-down menu under the “Technology Incentive Type” filter. If you wish to get results for all incentive types, leave this filter unchanged.
4. Check the **results table** (below the query panel) for the results of your search. The results table displays, from left to right: the target country, the incentive

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type, benefitting sector and the benefitting technology/ies. Results are updated in real time as filter options are changed.

5. To find out more information on a particular result, click on the incentive in the **results table**. This will give a pop-up window which shows the summary of benefits, terms and conditions of the incentive and eligibility requirements for the incentive. Where available, weblinks information for the original incentive source are also provided.

Example

A **commercial** business owner in Barbados would like to investigate and understand any **net billing** incentives potentially available for a **Solar Photovoltaic** plant being planned for his commercial complex. He would do the following:

1. Select “BARBADOS” from the “Country” filter.
2. Select the “COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL” option from the “Sector” filter.
3. Select the “NET BILLING” option from the “Technology Incentive Type” filter.
4. Check results window to see results from search.
5. Click on one of the incentives in the **results table**, e.g. “Barbados - Net billing”, to get further details on the benefits, terms and conditions of the incentive available and, where available, web link information to get further details.

TO RECOMMEND INCENTIVES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DATABASE

If you know of an incentive for renewable energy projects that you think should be featured in our database, please let us know! Go to the section “Want to have an incentive listed in our database?” and click on the “Contact Us” link. Alternatively, you can contact us using the contact information below (see Contacts).

FEEDBACK

Your feedback is valuable to us as we strive to make this tool as useful as possible. To access the feedback form, click on the “feedback” hyperlink in the section “Give us your feedback!” (below the results table). The feedback form consists of “rating” the database according to specific criteria (accuracy, user-friendliness etc.) and will take no more than a few seconds to complete.

You can also click on the feedback tab located to the right of the webpage; this will direct you to feedback forms for all our online databases and tools.

CONTACTS

You may signal concerns or suggestions by sending us an email: **renewable-energy@capricaribbean.org**