



## International Seminar:

### “Energy access and poverty reduction achieve the Millennium Development Goals in Latin-America and the Caribbean”

Santiago de Chile, 20-22 October 2009

#### Background

In order to highlight the political priority of the close linkages between energy access and poverty reduction, ECLAC, UNDP and Club de Madrid have jointly coordinated the study: “Contribution of Energy Services in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and Poverty Reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean”. The relationship between energy and sustainable development has been the subject of analysis in previous United Nations publications.

The Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development (GNESD) is a UNEP facilitated knowledge network of developing world Centers of Excellence and network partners. The main objective of GNESD is to carry out policy analysis on thematic energy issues which can facilitate in reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). Fundación Bariloche and CENBIO / Centro Clima are the network members’ organizers for the LA&C Workshop.

#### Objectives

The objective of the Workshop is to discuss the key role that access to energy services has in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and poverty reduction in particular, in Latin America and Caribbean countries. In addition, outcomes of GNESD studies on urban and peri-urban energy access to poor sectors, the role of renewable energy in poverty alleviation, including key challenges and policy proposals will be presented for discussion.

#### Assistants and Language

Participants from 15 to 18 countries in the region are going to be invited by ECLAC and Fundación Bariloche, CENBIO Center Climate. Attendance is expected from government representatives, regional experts from research centers in Latin America and the Caribbean and agencies such as UNDP and ECLAC; participants include Prof. Thomas Johansson (President of GNESD) and ex-President Ricardo Lagos (Club de Madrid).

There will be Spanish-English translation for all sessions.



Facilitated by UNEP

