

Mini-grid Workshop

U.S. Department of State, USAID, World Bank Group/ESMAP, UN Foundation

October 16, 2014

On October 16, the U.S. Department of State, World Bank Group/ESMAP, United States Agency for International Development, and the United Nations Foundation will host a workshop in Washington, D.C. on the development and implementation of successful, commercially operating mini-grid systems. The workshop also will include work undertaken by the U.S. Department of Energy in this area. This workshop will focus on proven private sector business models that already are in operation and leading the way in mini-grid deployment.

The objective of this workshop is to convene practitioners, government officials, donors, academics, and investors to discuss the latest developments, experiences, and results in successful mini-grid implementation. The lessons learned will be used to develop and disseminate best practices to replicate this success more broadly. Panel experts will present their strategies for successful implementation of commercially viable mini-grids. There will be four panels focusing on business models, financing, regulatory frameworks and policy, and emerging technologies and strategies necessary for scaling up mini-grid deployment.

There are several overall goals of this event (1) to facilitate knowledge sharing and peer mentoring among private sector practitioners, (2) to inform relevant investors of successful business models that can help them with their investment decisions, (3) to enable the sponsoring organizations to gather information on appropriate business models, financing options, and policies to inform their decisions, and (4) to develop a best practices report that summarizes the findings and lessons learned from the workshop and disseminate it widely.

For more information, please email: ENRMiniGrid@state.gov