



## RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCE CENTRE TRAINING LAB



# THE VISION

Wigton Windfarm Limited operates a 62.7MW wind generating facility, the largest of its kind in the English-Speaking Caribbean. The company's vision is to be a catalyst for increased usage of wind power and other renewable energies for electricity generation. The company actively supports the growth of Jamaica's renewable energy industry through the development of human capital by providing training for its own staff, external students and professionals.



## THE WIGTON RESOURCE CENTRE

The Wigton Resource Centre was constructed at the company's wind farm complex in Rose Hill, Manchester in 2010. In 2014 Wigton received a grant from the British High Commission which partially funded the installation of a solar panel roof on the Centre's Training Lab. In December 2015, the Lab was outfitted with training equipment from the Renewables Academy (RENAC) in Germany which was financed by a partial grant from OPEC Fund for International Development. Then in June 2016, a biofuels experiment area was added to the facility. Wigton's goal is for its Lab to serve as a premier renewable energy training facility.



## TRAINING COURSES

The Wigton Windfarm lab was developed to offer practical and theoretical training courses in several areas of renewable energy including:

- Solar thermal
- Photovoltaics

- Wind power
- Fuel cells
- Concentrated solar power
- Energy consumption and measurement
- Small hydro
- Bio-energy

## TRACK RECORD IN TRAINING

Wigton's mandate includes the transfer of knowledge to local Jamaicans and to this end, the company has been providing training for local Engineers since it became operational in 2004.

Wigton held Vestas Wind Energy workshops in 2011 and 2013 to train local technical staff to repair and maintain the plant independent of overseas service providers. The company also staged a Wind Resource Assessment capacity building workshop in 2012 and conducted certificate summer courses in Alternative Energy in collaboration with the University of the West Indies (UWI) from 2011 – 2015.

Wigton has also collaborated with a number of entities for training development including:

- The University of the West Indies (UWI)
- The University of Technology (UTECH)
- The HEART Trust NTA's National Tool and Engineering Institute

A Train the Trainers Programme has been instituted in order to ensure local sustainability. Under this initiative tutors from UTECH, UWI and HEART Trust NTA have been trained in various aspects of renewable energy with a view to them conducting courses at the Resource Centre each year.

In addition to catering to professionals and tertiary students, Wigton also accommodates regular tours from local primary and secondary schools.

## TRAINING FOCUS & TARGET GROUPS

The training offered at Wigton focuses on capacity building and exposure to best practices with emphasis on innovation and efficiency. Curricula are delivered through workshops, seminars, lectures, courses and practical lab work. Target groups include energy professionals and entrepreneurs, tertiary students and the general public.



## OUR GOALS

Wigton will continue to seed Jamaica's budding renewable energy industry by supporting learning and development for students and industry professionals and driving public education to increase awareness among the general population. The projected long term impact of the Wigton Resource Centre includes:

- Reduced electricity costs as more fossil fuel will be displaced through lower cost of renewable energy generation
- Increased penetration of renewable energy across the Jamaican and Caribbean energy landscape
- Enhanced economic activity locally and regionally through increased renewable energy deployment
- Job creation within the renewable energy sector

## A WORTHWHILE INVESTMENT

The Jamaica Sustainability Energy Roadmap Report published by the Worldwatch Institute in 2013 stated that up to 94% of the country's energy needs could be met through renewable energy sources. Wigton intends to play a leading role in Jamaica's energy revolution and we are actively seeking support through partnerships, financial contributions and other forms of assistance to ensure the continued development and sustainability of our Renewable Energy Resource Centre.

An investment in the Resource Centre can lead to significant positive outcomes for Jamaica including:

- Effecting a shift in the energy paradigm from an over reliance on imported fossil fuel to more indigenous, clean sources
- The development of local capacity for environmental stewardship and sustainability as well as climate change mitigation measures
- The achievement of the Government of Jamaica's (GOJ) target of adding 20% renewables to the energy mix by 2030
- Reducing the knowledge gaps in the renewable energy industry

If you would like to support us please contact:

**Wigton Windfarm Limited** | 36 Trafalgar Road, Kingston 10 | Phone: 876-960-3994 | Fax 876-960-3108