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Sophie G
cc: ABP
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Note to the Chef de Cabinet

✓ Award Ceremony of the 2016 Energy Grant

DESA has been implementing an energy grant programme, titled "Powering the Future We Want - Recognizing Leadership and Innovative Practices in Energy for Sustainable Development". The programme offers the winner a grant in the amount of one million US dollars to fund capacity building activities in energy for sustainable development.

The 2015 grant was awarded to WE CARE SOLAR, a California-based NGO that provides lighting at childbirth in rural areas in Africa, using a solar-powered suitcase. The Secretary-General kindly attended the award ceremony last year, along with the President of the General Assembly, and spoke on the importance of leadership by stakeholders in advancing climate action and sustainable development. WE CARE SOLAR has since been recognized by other UN entities and has been working with UN-WOMEN and UNICEF.

✓ Following a similarly vigorous application and review process, which includes technical review by the Department, cross-examination by an external Advisory Council and final consideration by a High-level Steering Committee, the winner of the 2016 grant has been selected (information on the winner is attached in the annex) and the award ceremony is now scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 14 December 2016. As discussed through EOSG to the Secretary-General, we would like to invite the Secretary-General to attend the award ceremony, as he did in 2015 and make a brief intervention. The President of the General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council have also been invited.

The date of the award ceremony, including its starting time at noon, has been chosen through preliminary communication with the scheduling office, taking into consideration the Secretary-General's schedule. The Department will prepare a draft scenario and draft remarks, as well as seating arrangements, upon confirmation of the Secretary-General's attendance.

WU Hongbo
22 November 2016

FILED

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2016 Winner: SINTEF¹**Background on Winner**

SINTEF is a broadly-based, multidisciplinary research institute with international expertise in technology, energy, medicine and the social sciences, distributed among eight research institutes. SINTEF is independent and not-for-profit, organised as a foundation with subsidiary companies.

The SINTEF offices are located in Oslo and Trondheim in Norway; however the organization works in a large number of consortiums on the development of new renewable energy projects, solar energy, energy management and maritime projects in the EU and globally in cooperation with local counter parties. SINTEF employs 2,000 staff from 70 different countries.

Grant Application

SINTEF aims to promote solar fuelled electric ferries by demonstrating the large potential for offloading road transport between the cities along the Mediterranean coast. However, in order to make this opportunity visible, a concrete demonstration project is required, and the chosen partnership is with Tunisia. The electric ferries will reduce transport-related greenhouse gas emissions, air pollution and fossil fuel consumption. This project is built on actually developed pilot projects with many of SINTEF's partners.

The application's first two deliverables are the reconstruction of one ferry to convert it to electric power and construction of at least one electric charging point. The third deliverable is operation, maintenance and data collection. Fourth, a social, environmental, economic and financial analysis will be performed assessing feasibility of renewable energy based maritime public transport in the region, including preparation of at least one Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA), to be submitted to the UNFCCC portal. Fifth, SINTEF will host four capacity building workshops organized for relevant Tunisian and MENA region stakeholders. The final deliverable is to conduct public outreach activities and develop a digital media strategy.

The demonstration project will document technical, environmental and socio-economic results and raise awareness about the opportunities for national and local authorities, universities and business communities about sustainable transport opportunities and socio-economic development of low cost ferries as a core for public transport between coastal cities. This will in turn benefit in particular the low and middle income part of the population.

The project will address all four approaches for mitigating transport related greenhouse gas emissions: efficiency gains and fuel switch, modal shift and transport demand moderation.

¹ Information contained in this Annex is to be considered confidential and not for general circulation, as the winner will be announced publicly at the award ceremony;



To:
Cc:
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Subject: Fw: Note to the Chef de Cabinet - (DESA-16/01239) - Award Ceremony of the 2016 Energy Grant

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Date: 22/11/2016 04:18 PM
Subject: Note to the Chef de Cabinet - (DESA-16/01239) - Award Ceremony of the 2016 Energy Grant

Dear colleagues,

Please find attached a note from Mr. Wu to the Chef de Cabinet entitled 'Award Ceremony of the 2016 Energy Grant'.

Thank you,
Michael



DESA-16-01239 note to CDC.pdf

Michael Thein |

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