

Fundación Solar

Fundación Solar worked with the government of Guatemala to prepare a regulatory framework for distributed generation to allow electric generation projects to be connected to distribution lines, as well as main transmission systems.

The goal of the project was to open the market for renewable energy projects at the end of distribution lines, as well as the regulations to interconnect to the existing transmission grid, develop and use the existing renewable energy resources of Guatemala, and reduce external dependency of imported fossil fuels and support the stability of the national balance of payments. It had environmental and social side effects: improving environmental conditions by reducing emissions from fossil fuels, fostering rural economic development and job creation in rural areas, and supporting economic development in Municipalities with renewable energy resources to be developed.

Fundación Solar worked with government agencies and outside experts to prepare the document—the impact was the publication of distributed energy guidelines in the National Gazette on March 5th, 2007. These can be downloaded from the CNEE page web page (www.cnee.gob.gt), under *Reglamento de la Ley General de Electricidad (RGLE)*, Decree 68-2007.

This project allows small renewable energy generators to develop and invest in small energy generation facilities, because of guidelines for interconnection to the end of distribution lines and step up allowances to transmission lines. Fundación Solar found that the lesson learned in this case was to take the opportunity when it came, and just DO IT. “We were very lucky to get the support from TPW, and we decided to move mountains if needed, to not let go of this one-time chance.”

