



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Climate Economic Analysis for  
Development, Investment, and Resilience

Discussion Series

# Navigating the Climate Economy: Investing for Growth and Resilience

## Private Sector Investment in Clean Energy in Central America

March 24, 2016

Crown Agents, Washington, DC

***Moderator:***

**David Ross**

*U.S. Trade and Development Agency*

***Speakers:***

**Gwendolyn Andersen,**

*Abt Associates*

**Francisco Acuña,**

*InTrust Global Investments, LLC*

# Agenda

## Welcome and Introduction

**Dr. Marcia Trump**, *Chief of Party, CEADIR project*

## Project Development in Central America

**David Ross**, *Country Manager, Latin America  
Renewable Energy Worldwide Team Lead,  
U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA)*

## Clean Energy Investment in Central America

**Gwendolyn Andersen**, *Senior Climate Energy Economist,  
Abt Associates*

## Energy Development in Central America: Dealing with Social Risk

**Francisco Acuña**, *CEO, InTrust Global Investments, LLC*

## Open Forum

# Project Development in Central America



## David Ross

*Country Manager, Latin America and  
Renewable Energy Worldwide Team  
Lead*

**U.S. Trade and  
Development Agency**

- Mr. Ross is responsible for developing and supervising USTDA's activities in Colombia and the Caribbean
- Leads USTDA's worldwide renewable energy sector team, and educates and advises Agency staff on current technology trends and market opportunities
- Prior to USTDA, worked for the U.S. Department of Treasury, in the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

# **Clean Energy Landscape in Central America**

U.S. Trade and Development Agency  
(USTDA)





# Our mission

USTDA helps companies create U.S. jobs through the export of U.S. goods and services for priority development projects in emerging economies.

**USTDA links U.S. businesses to global infrastructure opportunities.**



# Priority Sectors



**Transportation**



**Energy**



**Telecommunications**



# Project Planning

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- Feasibility Studies
- Technical Assistance
- Pilot Projects



A group of approximately ten people, including men and women, are posed for a photo in an outdoor setting. Most of them are wearing yellow or white hard hats. They are standing in front of a field of tall grass, with several large wind turbines visible in the background under a blue sky with scattered clouds. The image is partially covered by a semi-transparent orange rectangle on the left side, which contains the title and a descriptive paragraph.

# Reverse Trade Missions

USTDA brings foreign project sponsors to the United States pending upcoming procurements to observe the design, manufacture, and operation of U.S. products and services.



# USTDA evaluates projects based on:

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- Development priority
- Financial viability
- U.S. export potential

# Clean Energy Finance Facility for the Caribbean and Central America (CEFF-CCA)

## **Eligible Projects:** Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

- Develop clean energy projects in the Caribbean and Central America
- \$20 million allocated for grants to support project planning

## **Eligible Countries**

- **Caribbean:** Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- **Central America:** Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama



# USTDA in Clean Energy

## Central America Project Examples

- El Salvador: Ilopango Hydro and CEL Solar Pilot
- Honduras: IDB Platanares Geothermal
- Panama: ENSA Smart Grid Pilot and Anton Valley Geothermal
- Regional: Energy Efficiency RTM for Water Utilities

## Areas of Interest

- Geothermal
- Solar
- Wind
- Energy Storage
- Landfill Gas
- Smart Grid
- Energy Efficiency





# How to work with USTDA

- Propose potential projects
- Participate in Reverse Trade Missions
- Follow opportunities on [www.fbo.gov](http://www.fbo.gov)
- Obtain reports from USTDA's library



# Connect with us

David Ross, Country Manager



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[Twitter.com/USTDA](https://twitter.com/USTDA)



**Facebook:**

[facebook.com/USTDA](https://facebook.com/USTDA)

# Clean Energy Investment in Central America



**Gwendolyn  
Andersen**

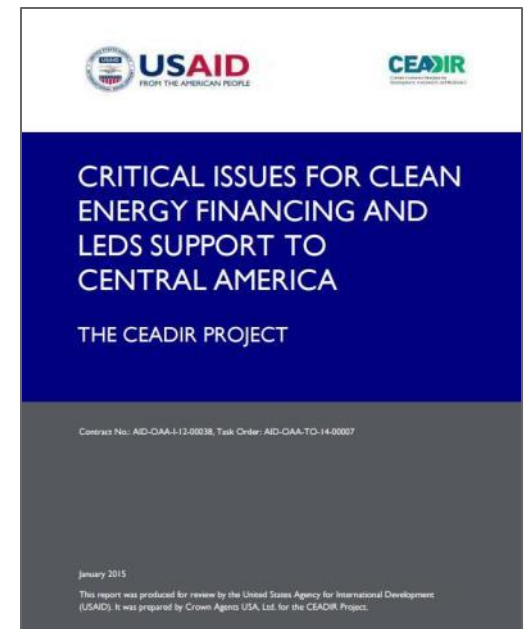
*Senior Clean Energy Economist*

**Abt Associates**

- 25+ years experience in renewable energy and climate change
- Senior energy economist with the CEADIR project at Abt Associates
- Managed a renewable energy non-profit, educating stakeholders, conducting financial analysis, and fostering development of a \$55 million wind farm

# Summary: CEADIR Phase I Analysis of Clean Energy Investments in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras

- CEADIR and USAID/El Salvador's Central America Regional Program objectives: mobilize and scale up private sector clean energy (CE) investments
- Assessment of CE investments, which are again on the rise in these countries
- Excess electricity demand and current policies promote expanding renewable energy (RE)
- Energy efficiency (EE) not well supported by financing institutions



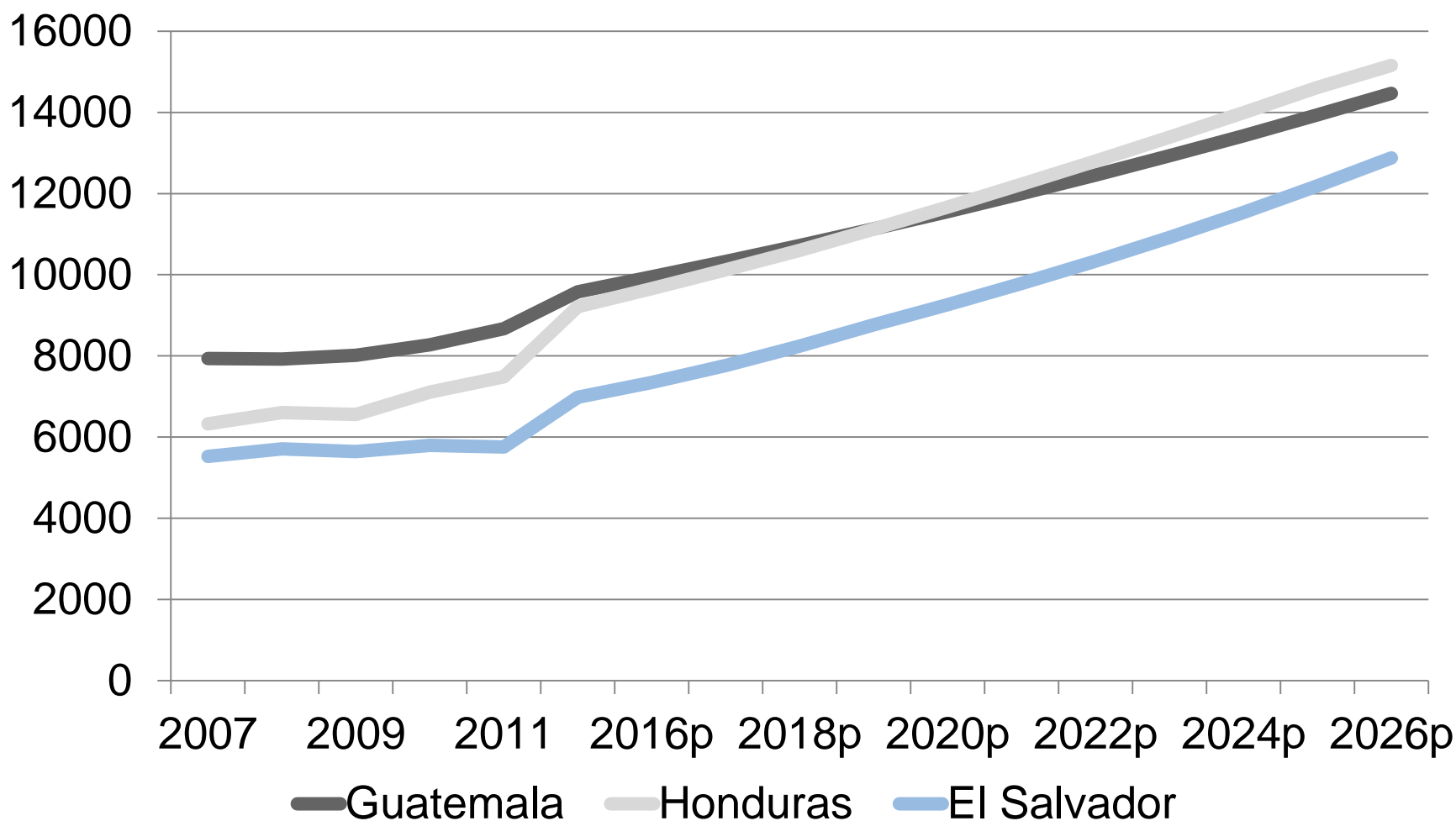
[Read report on Climatelinks](#)

# Research for Phase I

- Desktop study with secondary sources
- Interviews with experts from OPIC, IADB, World Bank, GEF, InTrust, and Sustainable Energy – Central America
- Scoping mission interviews with financial institutions, utility personnel, government officials, renewable energy developers, and equity investors



# Projected Electricity Consumption (GWh/yr)

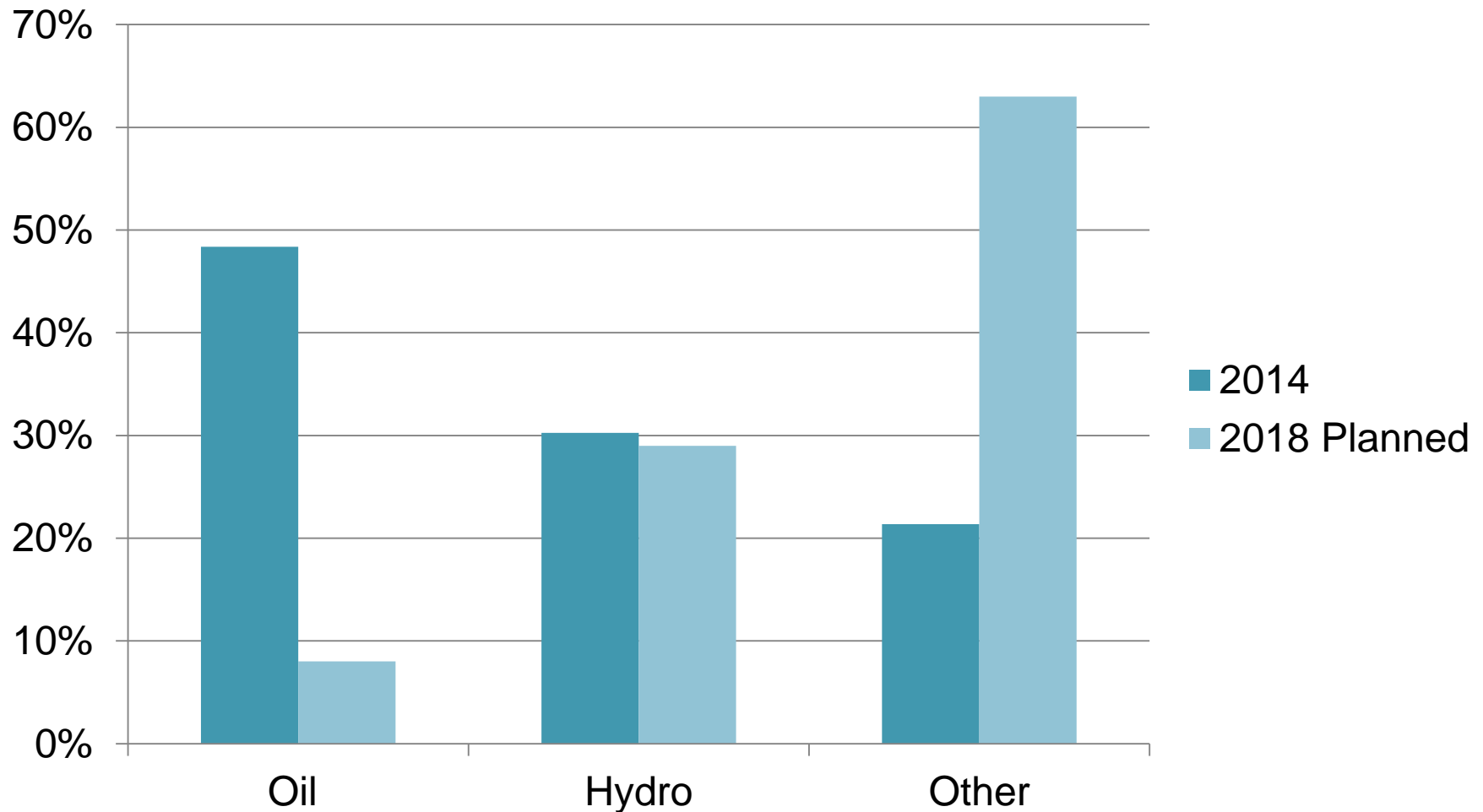


Source: *Plan Indicativo Regional de Expansión de la Generación. Periodo 2012-2027.* San Salvador: Consejo de Electrificación de América Central

# Trends Encouraging Investment in Clean Energy in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras

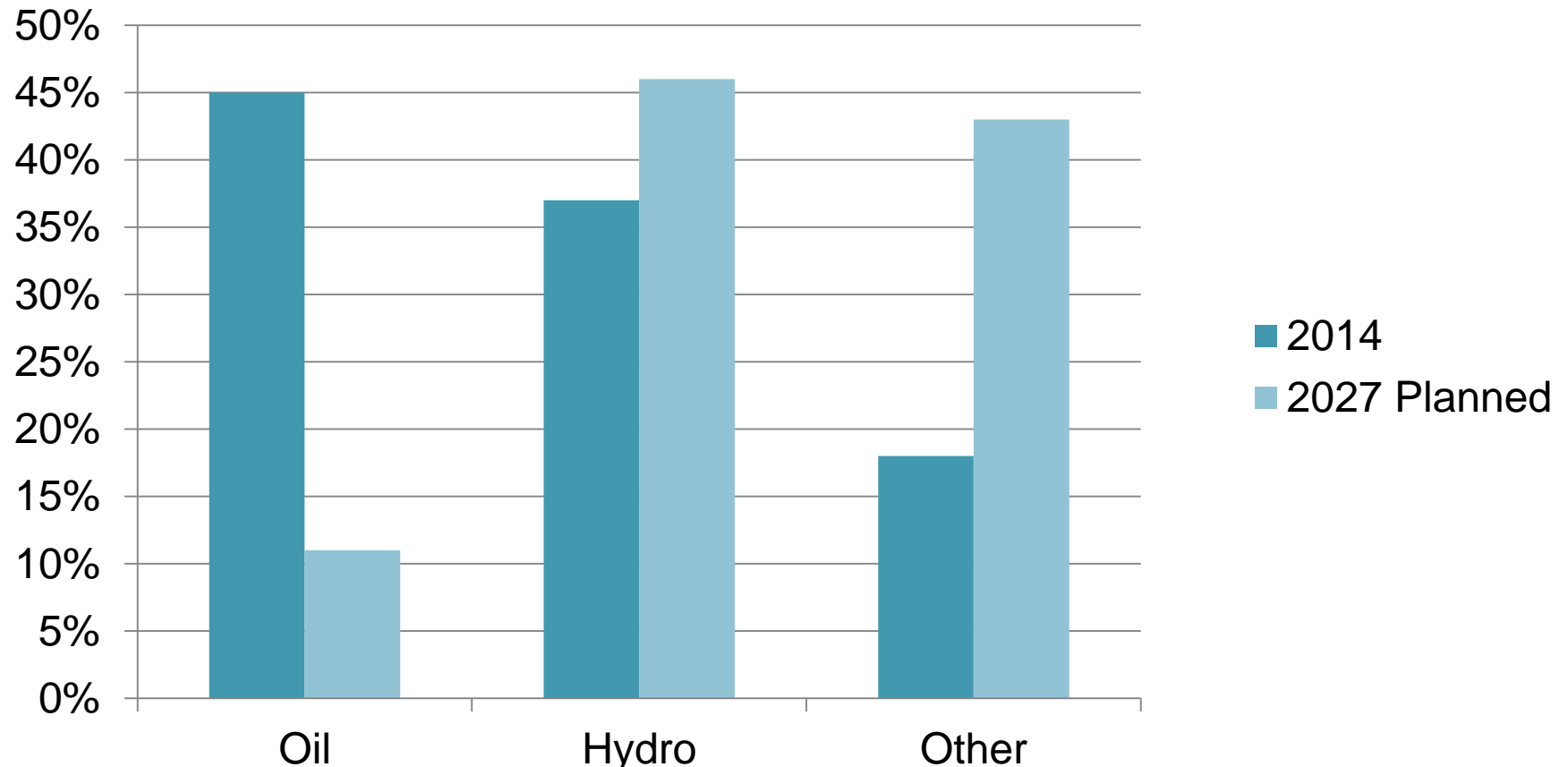
- Increasing demand for electricity
- Decreasing cost for wind and solar
- Countries promoting RE with fiscal policies
- Donor support

# Historic and Planned RE Electricity Mix in El Salvador



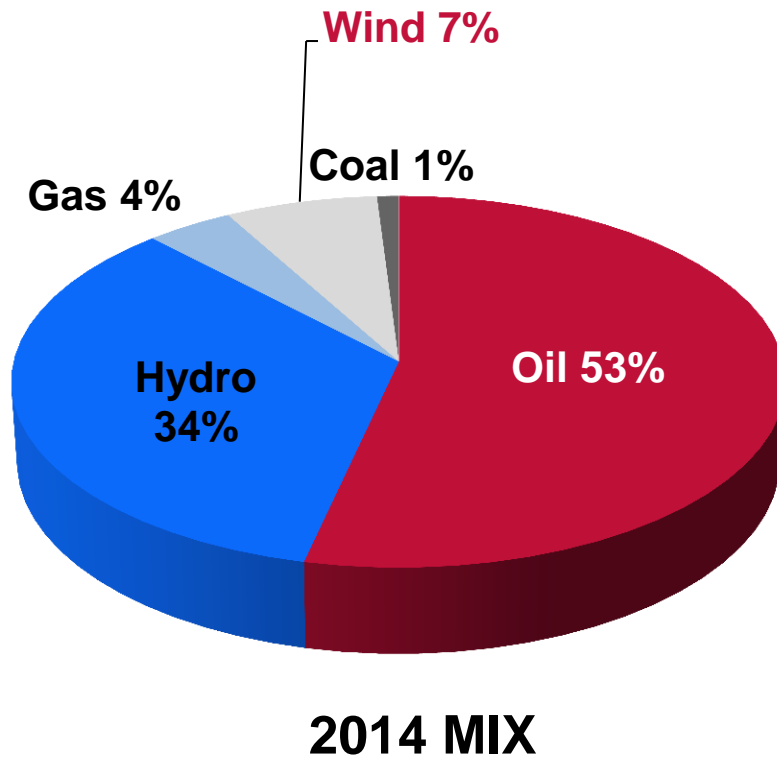
Source: BNEF, CEADIR desktop study

# Historic and Planned RE Electricity Mix in Guatemala





# Historic and Planned RE Electricity Mix - Honduras



## Generation Expansion Plan 2008-2022 Goals:

- Reduce reliance on hydrocarbons
- Renewable energy provides 60% of electricity by 2022 and 80% by 2038
- Expand electricity access to 85% by 2015 and 90% by 2020
- Invest US\$1.5B in renewable energy (e.g. hydroelectric power) by 2022

# CEADIR Clean Energy Financing for Central America: Phase I Needs Assessment Findings

- Installed capacity expected to double, requiring investments of US\$24-27 billion, 2012-2027 (CEAC, 2012)
- \$597 million in clean energy investment last year (BNEF)
- Clean energy lending is moving but far larger investment potential
- Local finance generally only balance sheet finance, most local financial intermediaries (FIs) offer no special purpose vehicle finance
- FIs have limited understanding of EE financing mechanisms and market



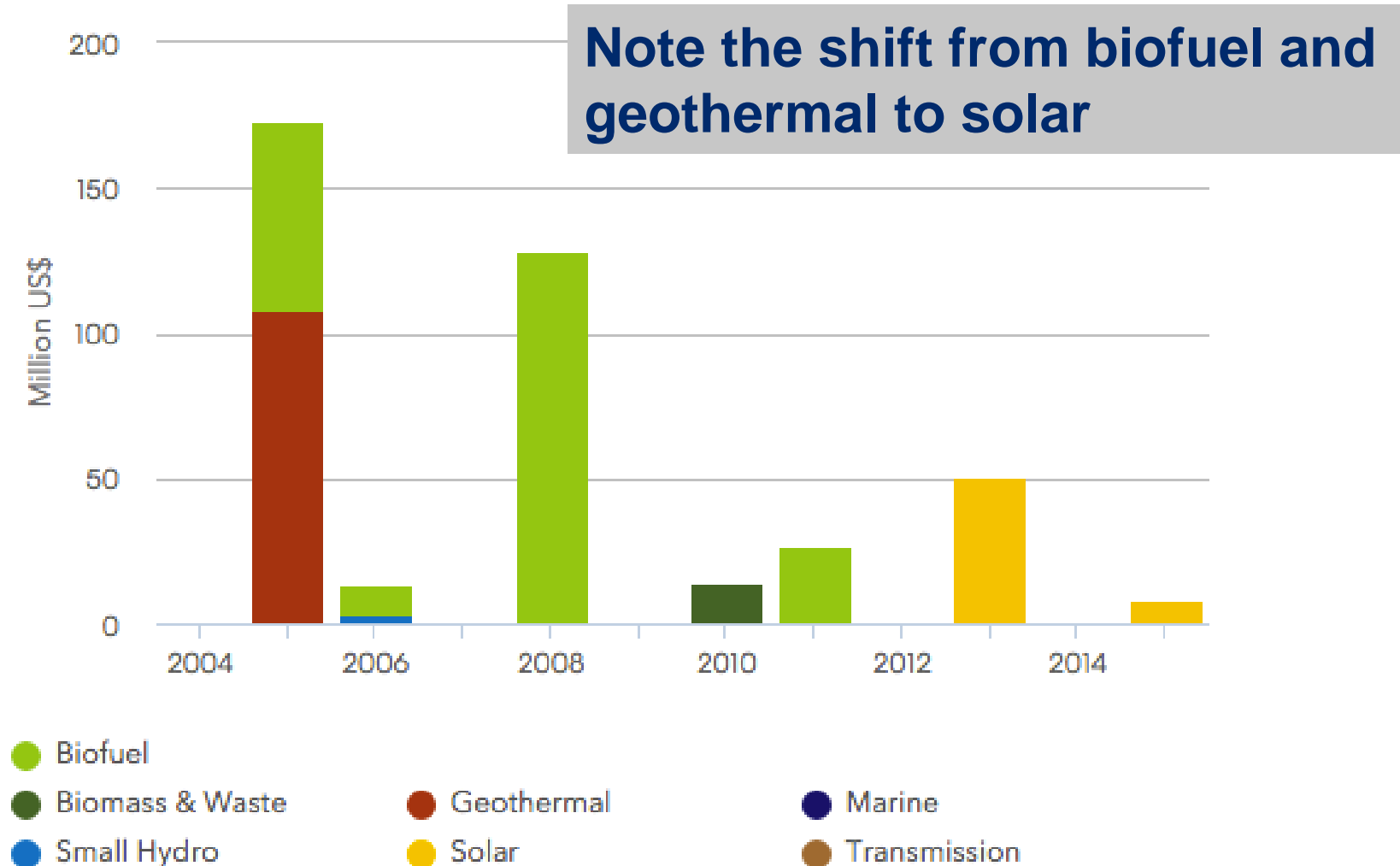
Source: Wikimedia Commons

## Recent Clean Energy Investment (2006-2013)

Country	Total Clean Energy Investment, 2006-2013 (US\$ B)	Installed Power Capacity (GW)	Renewable Share (%)	Total Clean Energy Generation (GWh)
<b>Belize</b>	0.2	0.16	56	<b>308</b>
<b>Costa Rica</b>	1.7	3	31	<b>3952</b>
<b>El Salvador</b>	0.2	2	22	<b>1691</b>
<b>Guatemala</b>	0.6	3	23	<b>2031</b>
<b>Honduras</b>	0.8	2	22	<b>1196</b>
<b>Nicaragua</b>	1.6	1	31	<b>1442</b>
<b>Panama</b>	1.3	2	8	<b>685</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>13.2</b>		<b>11,305</b>

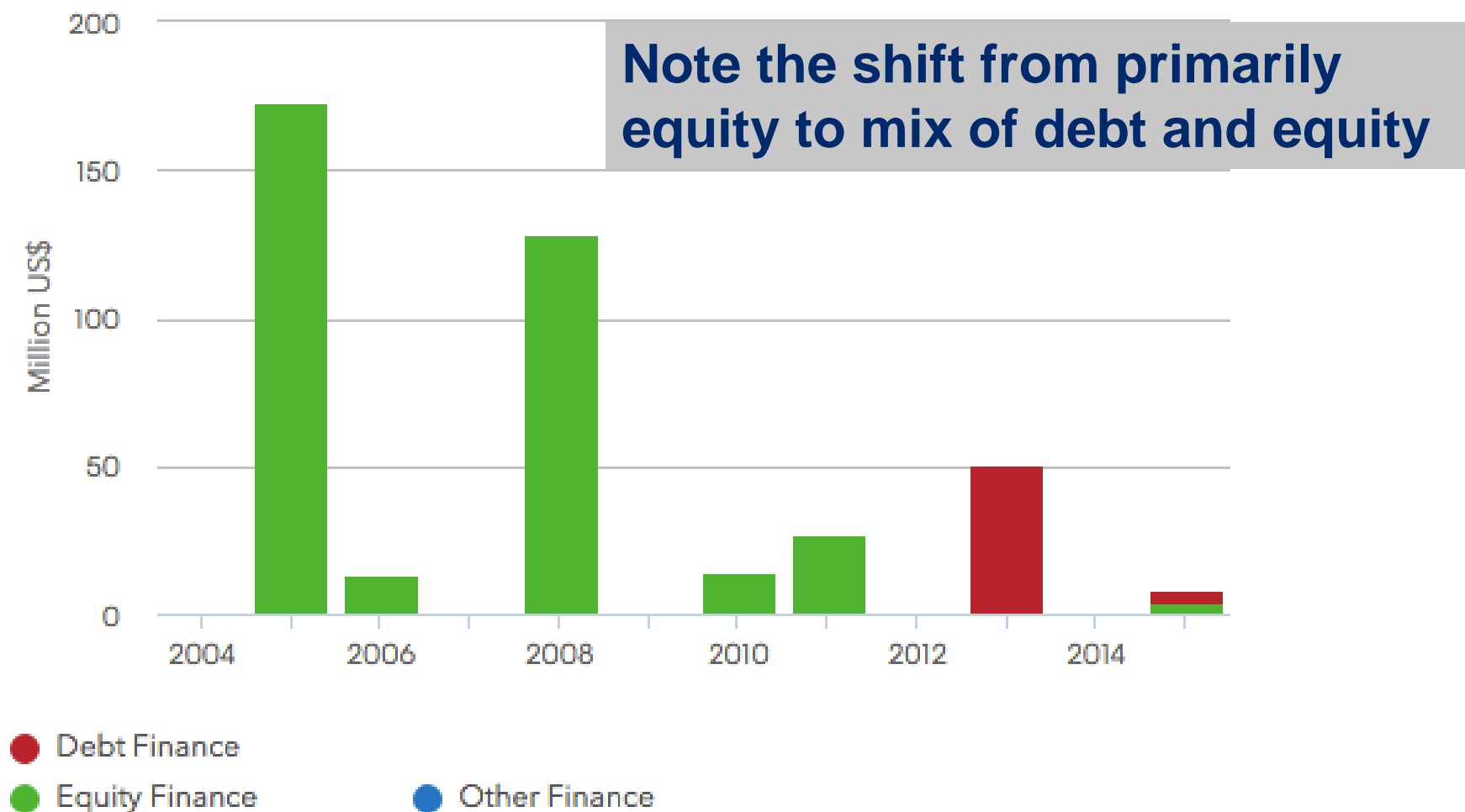
Source: FOMIN and BNEF (*Fondo Multilateral de Inversiones* and Bloomberg New Energy Finance). 2013. *Climascope 2013. Nuevas Fronteras para las Inversiones en Energía de Bajas Emisiones de Carbono en América Latina y el Caribe*. Washington, DC: FOMIN.

# Renewable Energy Finance by Type - El Salvador

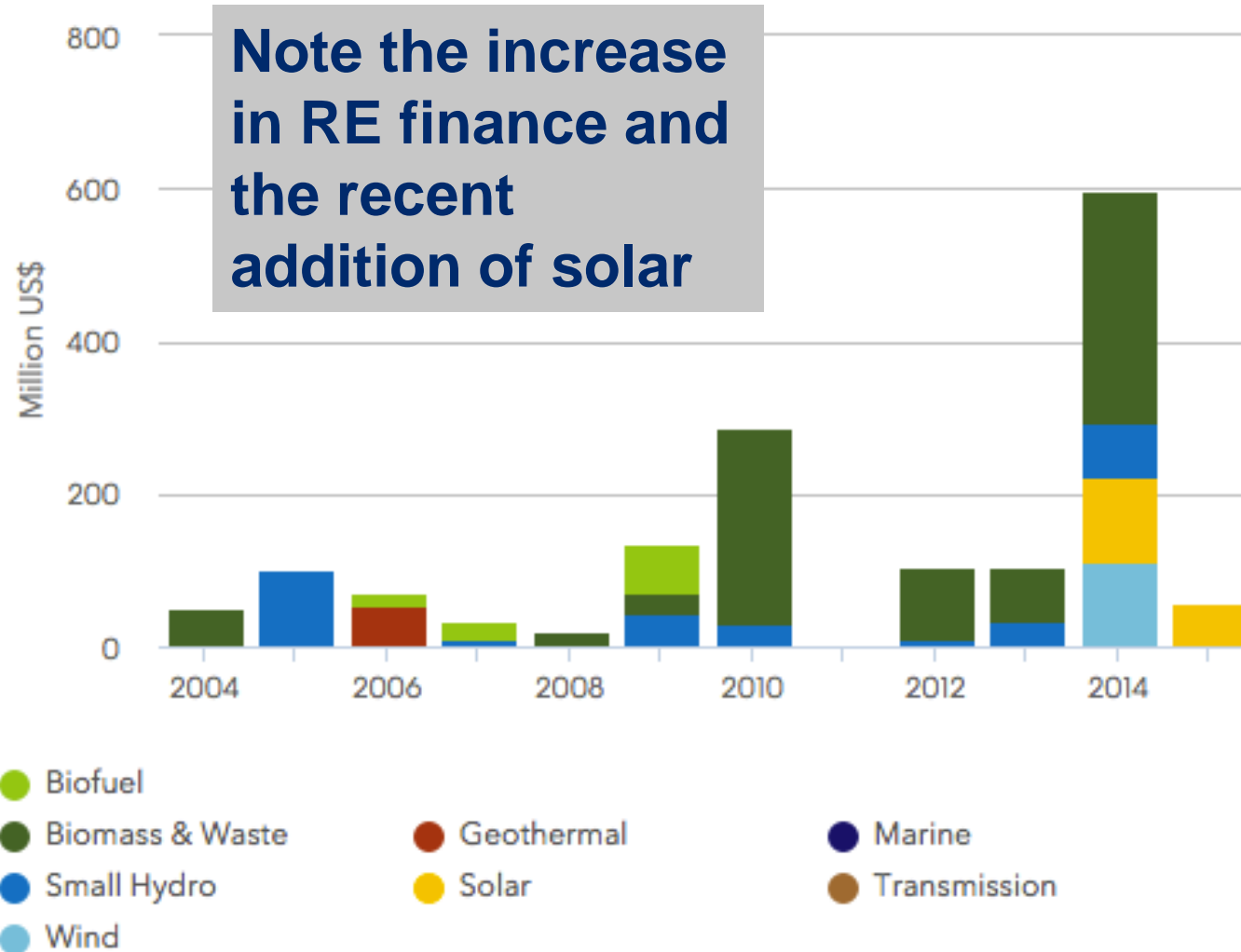




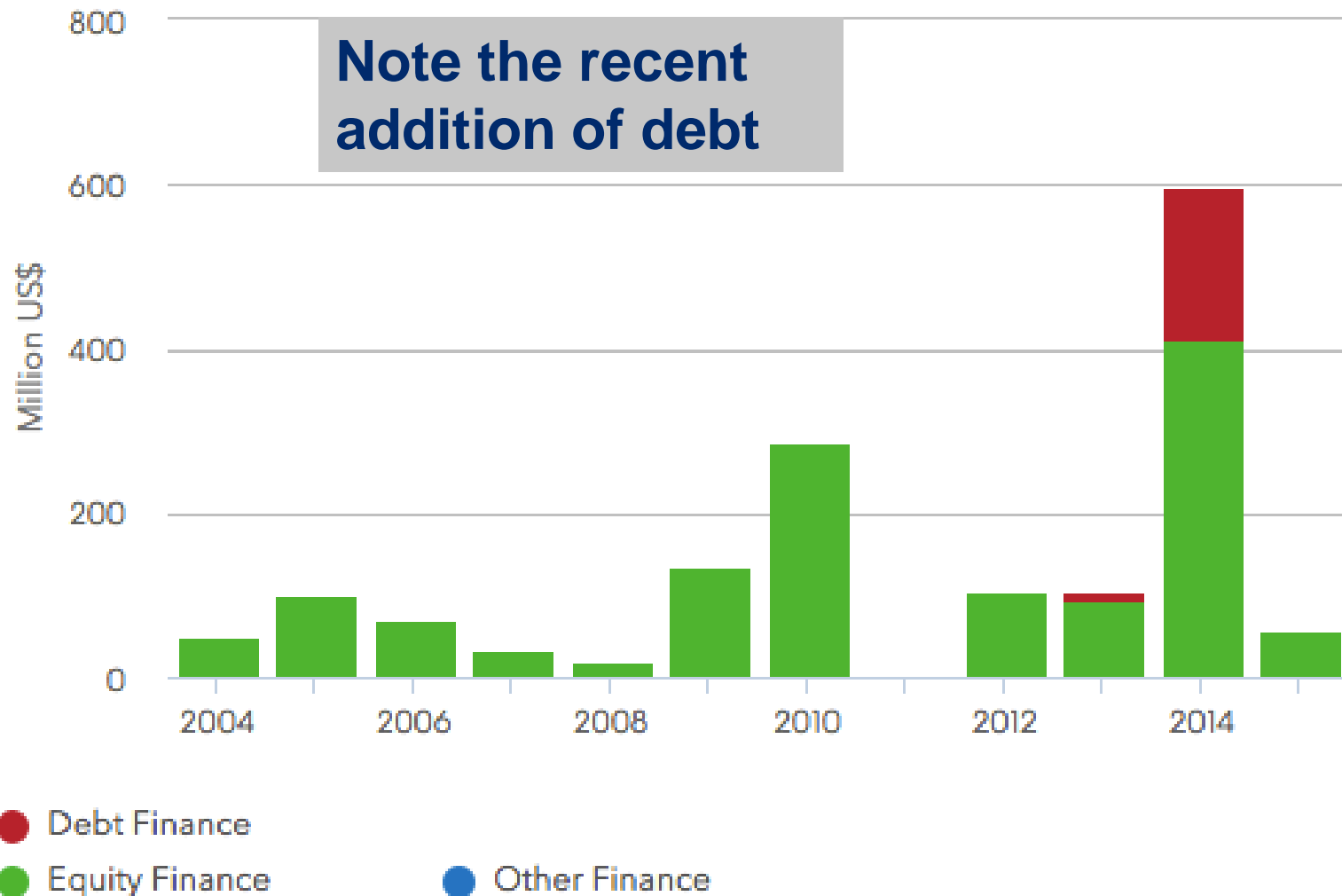
# Renewable Energy Finance by Source - El Salvador



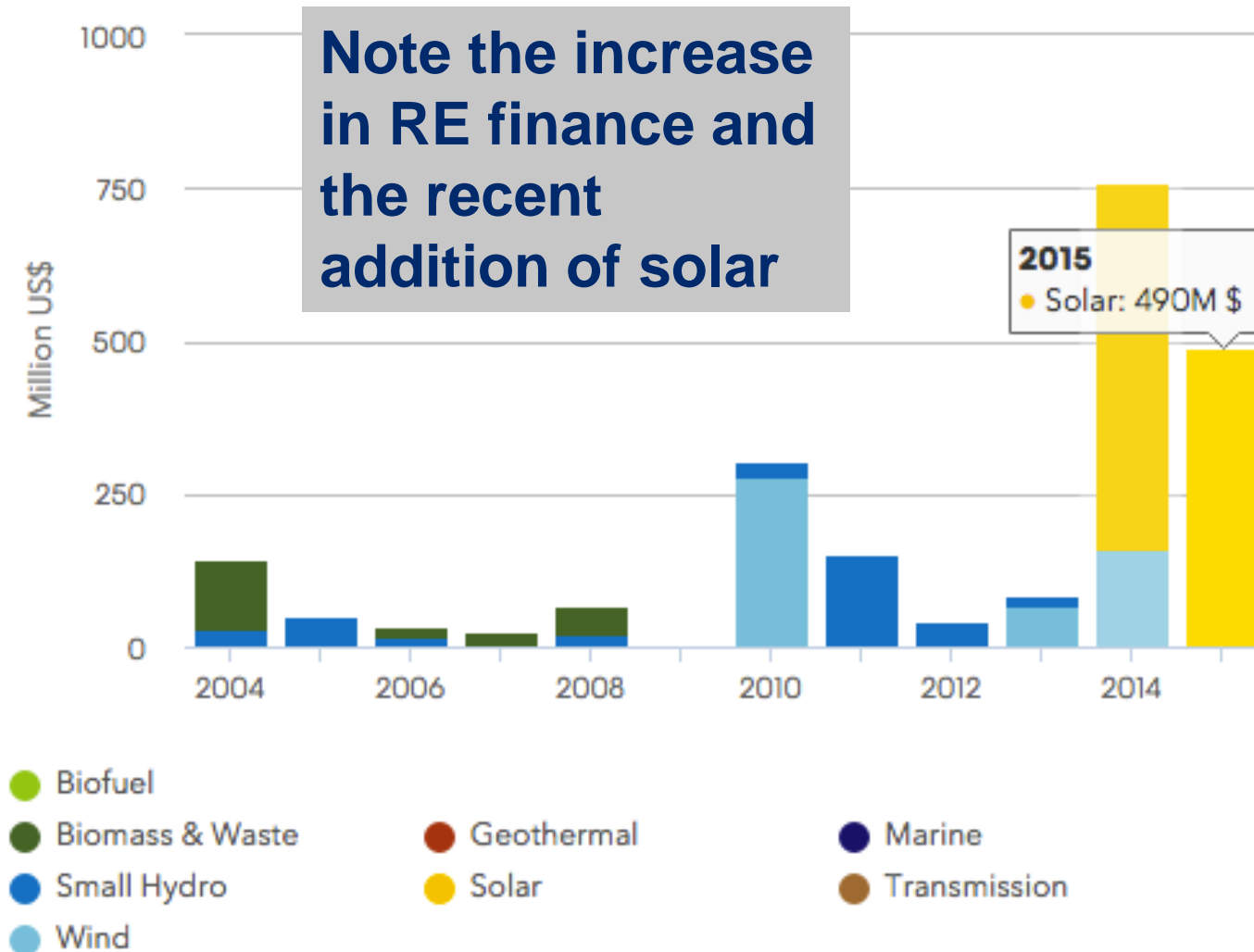
# Renewable Energy Finance by Type - Guatemala



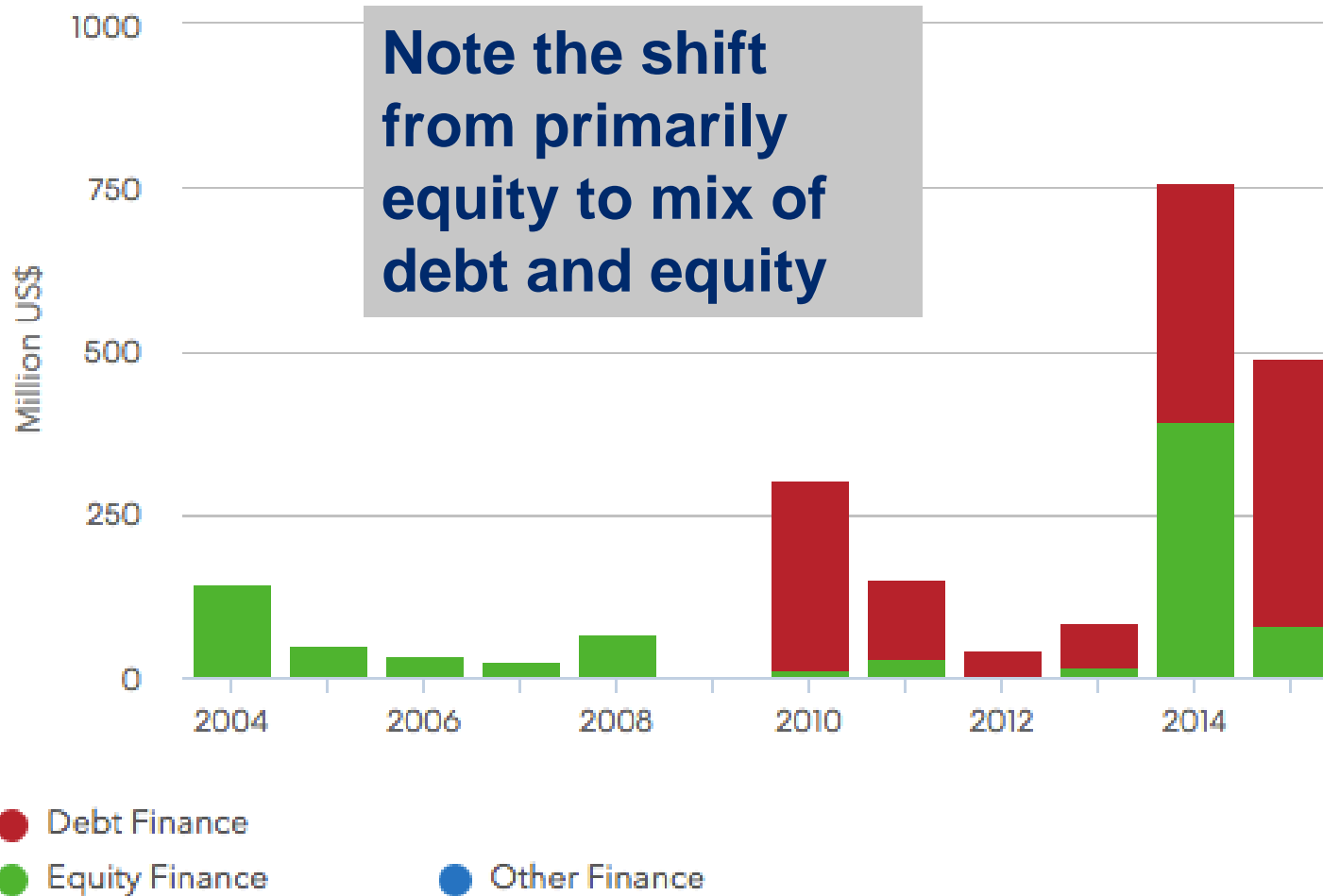
# Renewable Energy Finance by Source - Guatemala



# Renewable Energy Finance by Type - Honduras



# Renewable Energy Finance by Source - Honduras



# Fiscal Incentives for Promoting Renewable Energy

<b>Country</b>	<b>Capital Subsidy, Grant, or Rebate</b>	<b>Investment or Production Tax Credits</b>	<b>Reduction in Sales, Value- Added Tax, Income, Customs or Other Taxes</b>
<b>El Salvador</b>	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Guatemala</b>	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Honduras</b>	No	Yes	Yes



# Regulatory Policies for Promoting Renewable Energy

Country	Feed-in Tariff	Net Metering	Tendering	Reverse Auction
El Salvador	No	No	Yes	Yes
Guatemala	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Honduras	No	No	Yes	Yes

- Regulatory measures and public financing are less common.
- There are no renewable portfolio standards in Central America.
- El Salvador's Consejo Nacional de Energía (CNE) is in the process of developing a net metering policy.

# Increasing Potential for Energy Efficiency

- Increasing energy efficiency would result in energy savings of 12,255 GWh by 2025, or more than 15% of total demand in Central America.
- Cost savings of close to US\$1.5 billion
- Reductions in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions of up to 7.9 million tons per year
- US\$550 million in energy efficiency investments could prevent the need to invest US\$1.7 billion in new generation natural gas-fired facilities over 10 years.

# Different Financial Institution Needs

## **El Salvador**

- Interested in technical discussion of RE and EE

## **Guatemala**

- Sufficient capacity—interested in meeting regulators and developers and discussing the potential impacts of different policies and learning about potential funding sources. Need technical training in EE opportunities

## **Honduras**

- Significant potential—FIs interested in technical discussion and learning about new lending products

# CEADIR Phase II Clean Energy Financing Support

## **Activity 1**

- Technical support for collaboration in the development of clean energy lending products

## **Activity 2**

- Local financial and institutional capacity development

## **Activity 3**

- Technical assistance to increase clean energy equity investments

## **Activity 4**

- Technical assistance support with energy sector related entities

# Energy Development in Central America: Dealing with Social Risk



**Francisco Acuña**

*CEO*

**InTrust Global  
Investments**

- Experienced in wide range of strategic projects in Mexico from mobilizing finance through private and public sources to advising companies and governments on investments and strategic alliances with rural and indigenous communities.
- Founder of INDI Fund, which promotes investment in renewable energy and agribusiness projects in Mexico and emerging markets
- Previous experience as Managing Director of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips

# **Energy Development in Central America: Dealing with Social Risk**

**Perspectives from an Investor and  
Developer**

## **Our Clean Energy Work**

- 111 pipeline projects in review
- Currently vetting rural-indigenous projects in Mexico and Central America
- Implemented first educational program of its kind that trained rural professors to partner with their communities (in partnership with Harvard University)
- Received award for “Best Financial Initiative” from IADB (Beyond Banking Awards) for INDI Fund concept (Clean Energy Private Equity concept)



## **Key Investor and Developer Concerns**

1. Identifying a local Reliable Partner
2. Securing a long term off-taker
3. Technical Issues (grid, transmission, etc.)
4. Ideally using global markets
5. Regulatory Issues (predictability)
6. Social and environmental risks

## INDI Fund

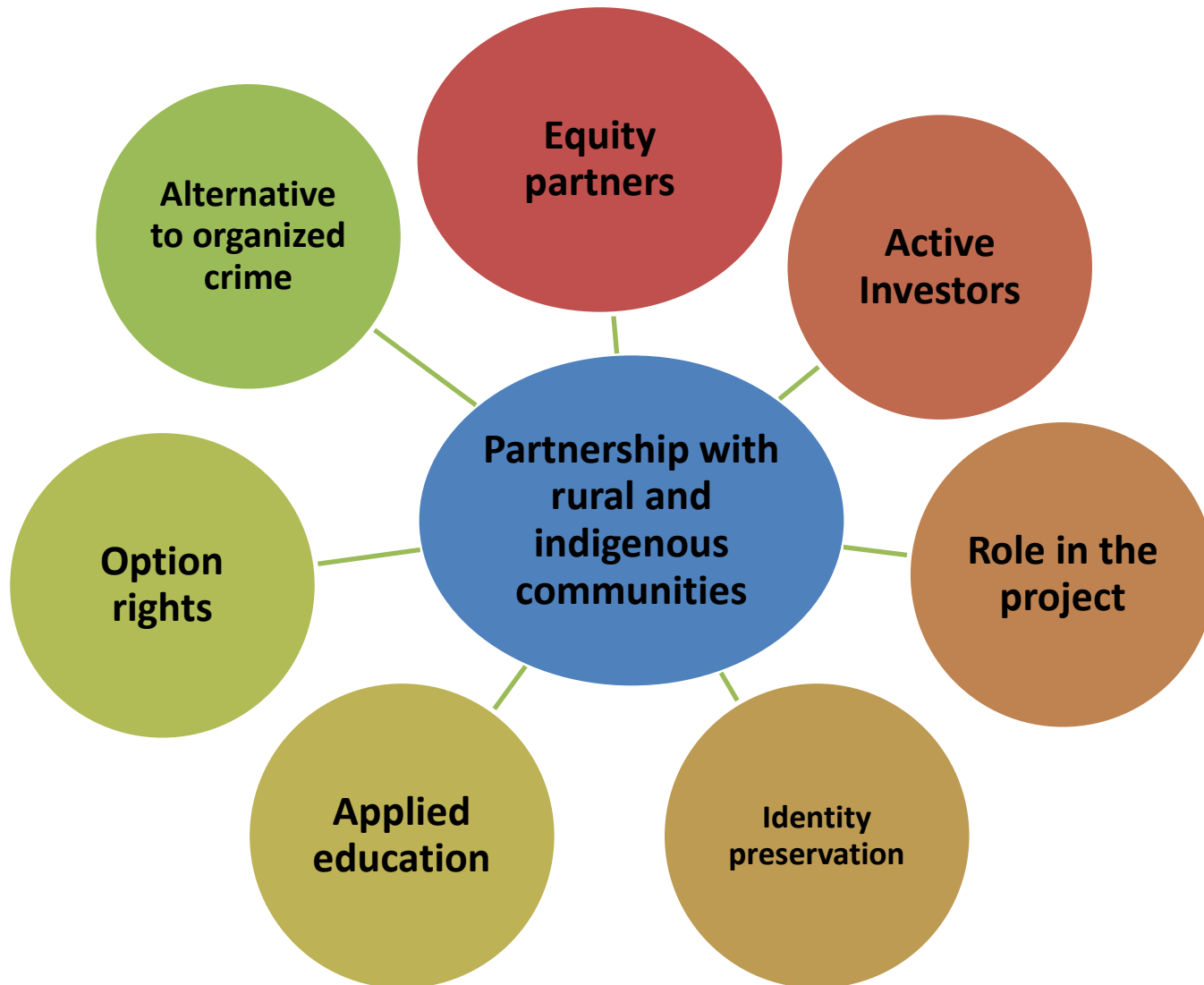
- INDI Fund first private equity model investing in partnership with indigenous communities
- Strategic Partners
  - GEF
  - InTrust Global Investors
  - ASI ENERGIA Internacional (solar)
  - Center for Public Health and Global Environment, Harvard University

CURRENTLY FOCUSING IN PROJECT BY PROJECT (versus Fund Model)

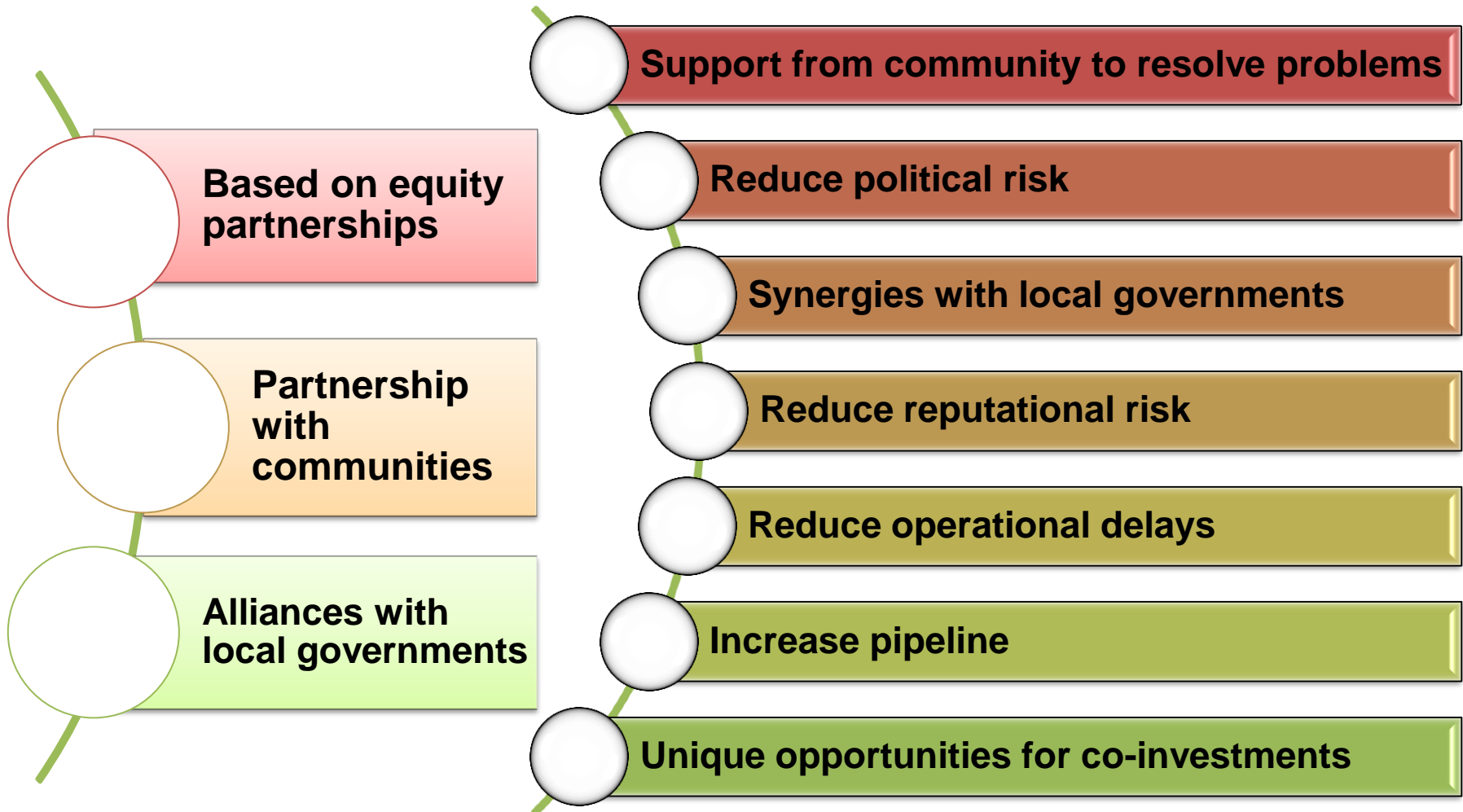
## Our Approach to Social Risk

- In Latin America the indigenous component is a key variable for development
- Although rural and indigenous lands contain rich natural resources, their communities haven't been able to develop them
- What financial models could trigger new approaches for development in partnership with these communities?
- What could be the role of energy in the development of the region?

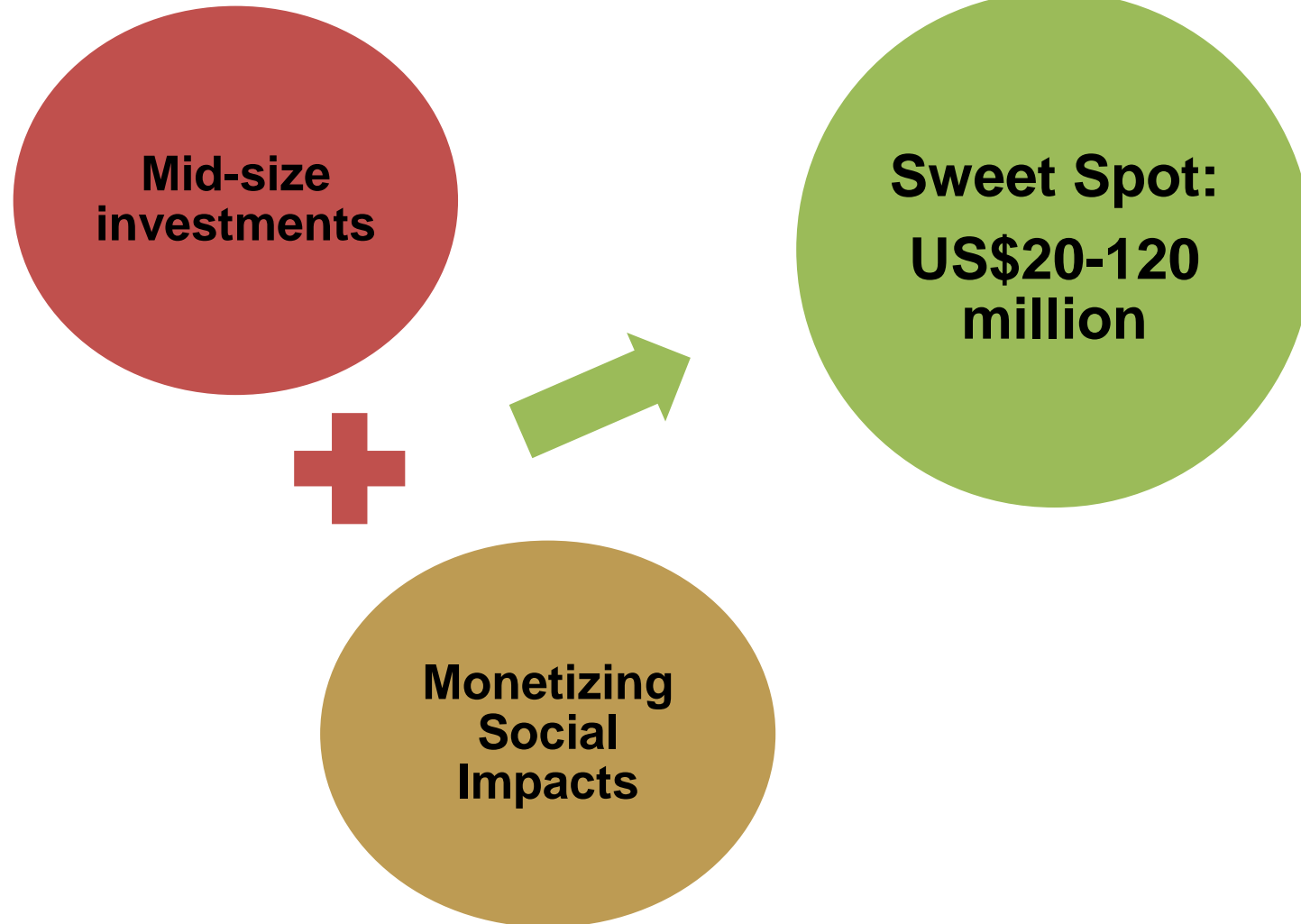
## Benefits of InTrust Investment Model



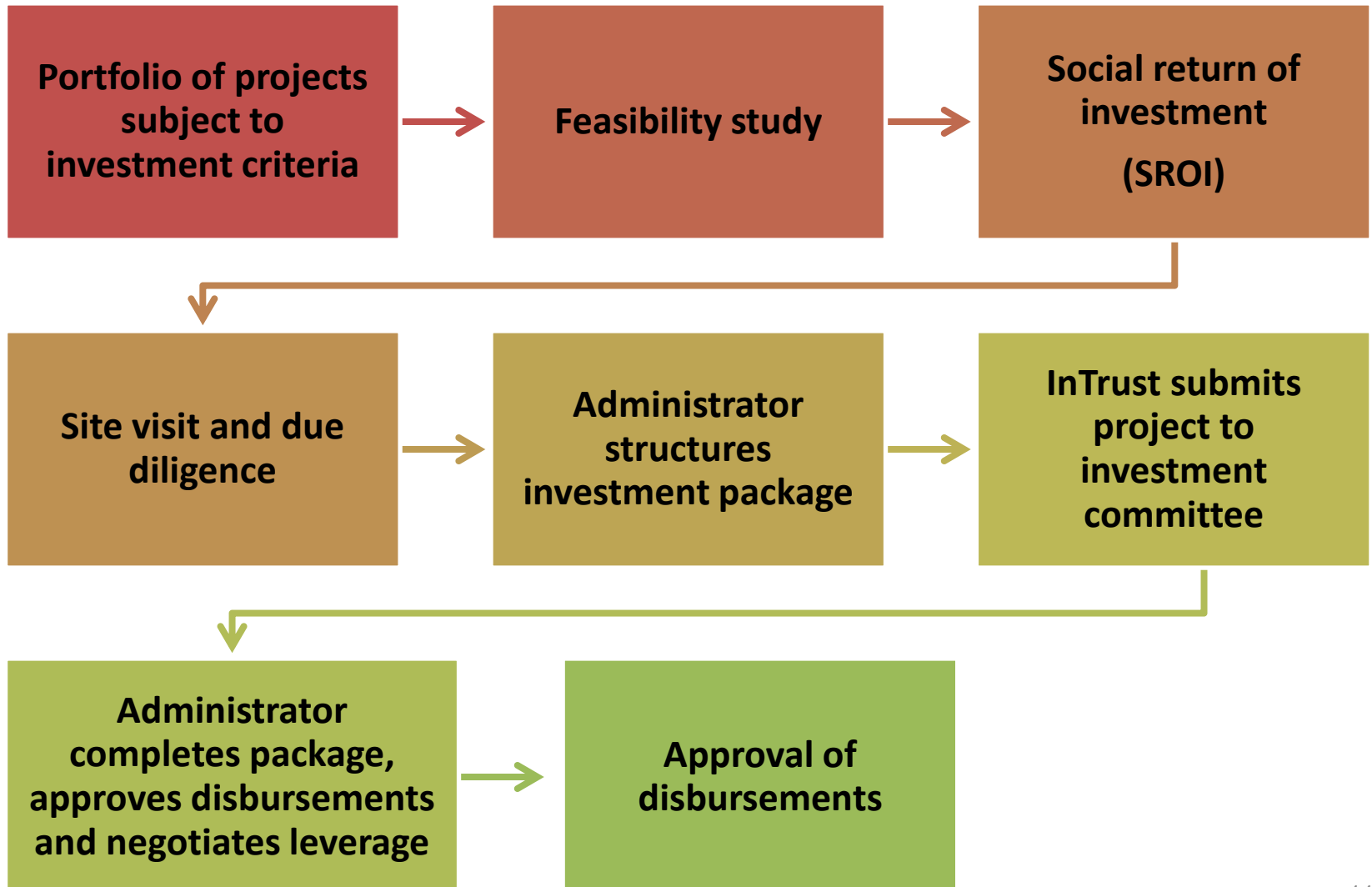
## Benefits for Investors and Developers



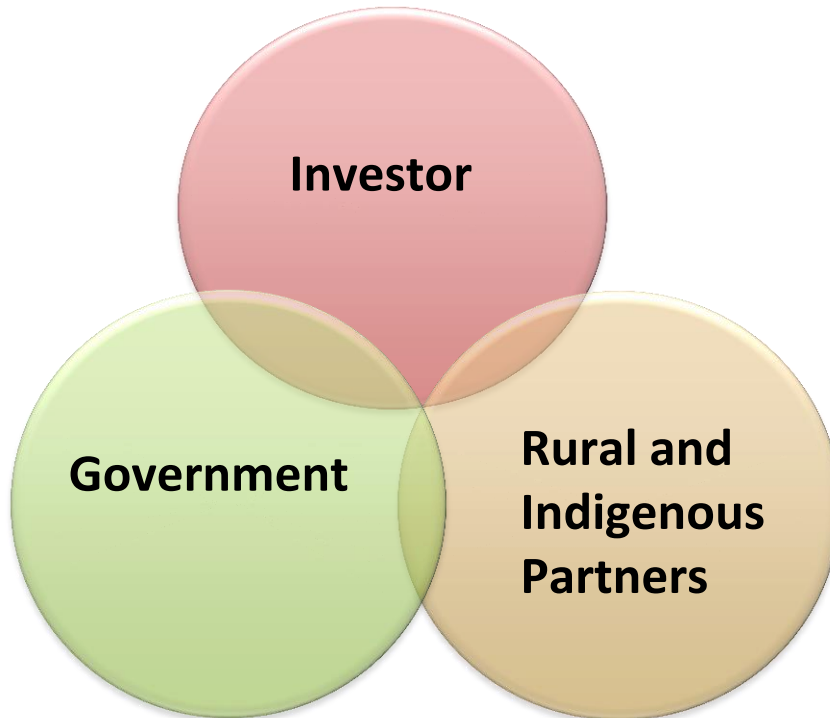
## Strategic Approach: Scale



## InTrust Investment Process



## Interest Alignment



- Alignment protects all parties involved
- All parties aligned in same goal: maximized returns and project value.
- Loss of one party affects the other



## Exit Strategies

**5 to 7 Year  
Period**

**After  
generation  
of income  
stream**

**Favorable  
Environment**

**Aiming 8.5 to 10  
EBITDA  
(Earnings Before  
Interest, Taxes,  
Depreciation  
and  
Amortization)**

**High Value  
Projected**

**High social  
impact and  
reduced  
political risk  
and  
reputational  
risk**

**SROI  
Adherence**

**Not only  
Equator  
Principles and  
IFC  
stakeholder  
agreements  
and similar.  
SROI confirms  
the economic  
impact  
involved**

**Involved  
Markets in  
Strong  
Growth**

**Expectation in  
the region is  
that clean  
energy  
projects  
develop faster  
than the  
economy  
itself**

## Case Study: Oaxaca

- 21 renewable energy plants in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec
- 4 have not generated electricity
- Local opposition
- Other projects cancelled



## Current InTrust Projects

- 5 communities are now in negotiations with developers
- ~ 5 million hectares for development of 100 MW of wind power
- Community landowners are co-owners
- Local construction and operation and maintenance jobs
- Communities represented on project Board of Directors
- Project development proceeding with
  - Identification of potential customers
  - Selection of technical partners and suppliers

## **Francisco Acuña**

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# Q&A Session



**David Ross**

*Country Manager, Latin  
America and  
Renewable Energy  
Team Lead*

**USTDA**



**Gwendolyn  
Andersen**

*Senior Clean Energy  
Economist*

**Abt Associates**



**Francisco  
Acuña**

*CEO*

**InTrust Global  
Investments**

# About CEADIR

**CEADIR** supports countries to assess and scale up low-carbon, climate resilient development.

CEADIR covers three thematic pillars of USG climate change strategy:



Adaptation



Clean Energy



Sustainable  
Landscapes



## **CEADIR Series**

- ❖ Expert dialogues
- ❖ Critical issues
- ❖ Economic analysis
- ❖ Financing climate change

# Up Next

- A recording and copy of today's presentation will be sent to all attendees.
- Listen to previous CEADIR discussions on [Climatelinks YouTube page](#).
- Additional questions?
  - Dr. Marcia Trump, Chief of Party, CEADIR project, [marcia\\_trump@abtassoc.com](mailto:marcia_trump@abtassoc.com)
  - Dr. Robert Voetsch, Project Manager, CEADIR project, [rvoetsch@crownagents.com](mailto:rvoetsch@crownagents.com)

Up next in the *Navigating the Climate Economy* discussion series:

**[Lessons from Mexico on Energy Efficiency](#)**

*April 12, 2016 at 9am EDT*

For more information, visit

<https://ceadirseries.adobeconnect.com/admin/show-event-catalog>

# References

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- Personal email communication, Laura Castro, Bloomberg New Energy Finance, March 23, 2016