



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### The GIZ Hands Over the First Four Electric Vehicles to Support Saint Lucia's Transition to Sustainable Transport

**(CASTRIES, Saint Lucia, March 5, 2026)** – On Wednesday, March 4, 2025, the first four (4) units of a highly anticipated 22-vehicle electric fleet were unofficially handed over to 3 departments of the Government of Saint Lucia by representatives of the GIZ, the German governmental agency for international cooperation. Receiving the vehicles were Acting Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Infrastructure Ms. Lorraine Matthew, Deputy Commissioner of the Royal Saint Lucia Police Force Police, Mr Wayne Charlery and Sargeant Leslie George and Technical Services Manager, WASCO, Mr Tera Victor.

The exchange which took place at the compound of J. Q. Charles Motors represents the first phase of the NDC-TEC Electric Vehicle (EV) pilot, an initiative dedicated to decarbonizing the transport sector and fulfilling Saint Lucia's commitments under the Paris Agreement. Ms. Ina de Visser, NDC-TEC Programme Director, highlighted the importance of this milestone saying: *"This pilot allows many services of the Government of Saint Lucia to gain experience with fully electric vehicles in their operations. Experience will be shared between the services, as well as with other Caribbean countries. Large scale uptake of EVs combined with solar charging will contribute to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport and therefore contribute to the mitigation of climate change."*

In accordance with Saint Lucia's National Energy Policy, this delivery supports the government's commitment to ensuring 30% of its official fleet is electric powered by 2030. In accepting the E-Vehicle for her department, Acting Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Infrastructure, Ms. Lorraine Matthew noted: *"By integrating these electric vehicles into our essential services, Saint Lucia is quite literally 'walking the talk.' This initiative aligns perfectly with our National Energy Policy and our updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). We are demonstrating that our transition to a green economy is well underway, starting with the very departments that serve our citizens every day."*

The units assigned to the Royal Saint Lucia Police Force have been outfitted with professional sirens, lights, performance monitoring systems and communication technology.

While Monday's activity marks an important operational hand-off, it serves as a precursor to a larger rollout. Over the coming months, the remaining 18 vehicles will be arriving in the country and handed over to additional government services, such as the Ministry of Education, SLASPA, Postal Services, Customs and Excise Department, Fire Service Department and more. Simultaneously, the project is installing solar-powered charging stations and integrated solar systems at the government services to ensure the fleet is powered by 100% clean, local energy.

Meanwhile, an official handing-over ceremony is being planned for mid-year, where the full 22-vehicle fleet and its supporting solar infrastructure will be formally commissioned.



The NDC-TEC project is a collaborative effort between GIZ and five implementing partners, the Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREE), the University of the West Indies, Climate Analytics, and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety under their International Climate Initiative.

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## About the GIZ

The German federal enterprise, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH supports sustainable development worldwide on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and other donors. With more than 24,000 employees in 120+ countries and more than 50 years' experience in international cooperation, GIZ promotes economic development and employment, is committed to supporting energy and the environment, and works for peace and security. [www.giz.de](http://www.giz.de)

## About the NDC-TEC Project

The NDC-TEC project supports 5 CARICOM States in meeting their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) by transforming the transport and energy sectors. Through flagship demonstrations like the Saint Lucia EV pilot, the project seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and foster a climate-resilient future for the region. In addition to the pilot, the NDC-TEC has supported Saint Lucia in updating their NDC, is working with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Sustainable Development on a Sustainable Transport Policy and has conducted several training activities related to electric mobility. The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety under their International Climate Initiative (<https://www.international-climate-initiative.com/en/>)

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## Additional notes to Editors

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**NDCs:** Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are climate action plans submitted by countries under the Paris Agreement to cut emissions and adapt to climate impacts.

**The 1.5°C Goal:** Refers to the global effort to limit warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels to avoid the most catastrophic effects of climate change.

**Regional Impact:** The project specifically targets the Caribbean's two highest-emitting and most vulnerable sectors: energy and transport.

- **Consortium Expertise:**

- **GIZ:** German development agency providing technical cooperation.
- **CCREE:** Specialized CARICOM institution for sustainable energy.
- **CDB:** Regional financial institution driving social and economic development.
- **UWI:** Leading regional academic institution providing research and data.
- **Climate Analytics:** Global science and policy institute.