



BARBADOS SOLAR MODEL

“The Barbados Experience”



United Nations
Environment Programme



Climate
Change



Disasters
& Conflicts



Ecosystem
Management



Environmental
Governance



Chemicals
& Waste



Resource
Efficiency



Environment
Under Review



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Success Stories

The economic analysis in the Green Economy Report builds in part on the encouraging signs and results of many initiatives around the world. A number of these come from developing countries, including emerging economies, and illustrate the positive benefits from specific green investments and policies, that if scaled up and integrated into a comprehensive strategy, could offer an alternative development path, one that is pro-growth, pro-jobs and pro-poor. A limited selection from a growing range of experiences in different sectors, are summarized below, highlighting their economic, social and environmental benefits. While some represent established broad-based policies and investment programmes, others are newly initiated pilot projects. In this sense the collection underlines that a green economy strategy has established and proven examples on which to build. At the same time, some recent developments also illustrate the growing interest in seizing opportunities to move to a green economy.

We are interested in your own experience with success. Contact us if you have a story to tell.

Solar Energy in Barbados

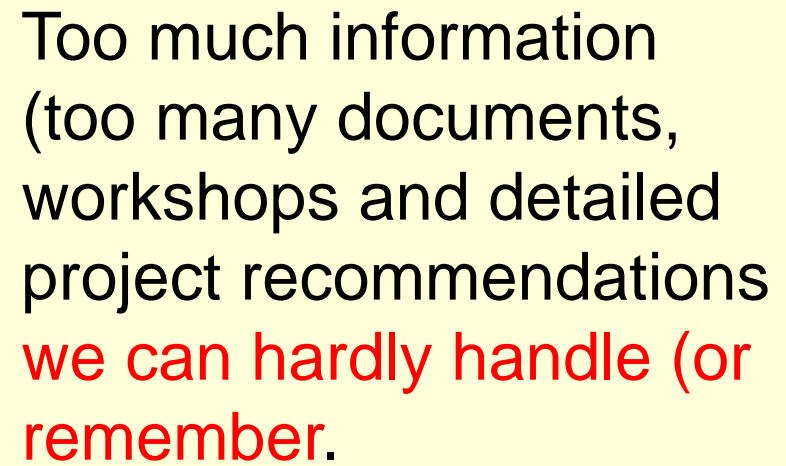
Barbados' overreliance on imported fossil fuels has become one of the island's major environmental concerns. The Barbadian government's National Strategic Plan of Barbados for 2006-25 is designed to rectify this dependency by increasing the country's renewable energy supply, with a particular focus on raising the number of household solar water heaters by 50 per cent by 2025. Solar water heaters are now a widely used renewable energy technology in Barbados, with installations in nearly half of the island's dwelling units.





Most well managed countries have put reasonable policies and programs in place. We all know what these are typically. Most times they don't lead to spiraling growth and global leadership. Yet with limited budget Barbados recipe has worked and worked well.

I don't need to spell out standard policy. What I will do instead is outline what the special, unique and maybe secret small ingredients that made Barbados uniquely successful



GET TO THE POINT

(Before I forget what you are saying)



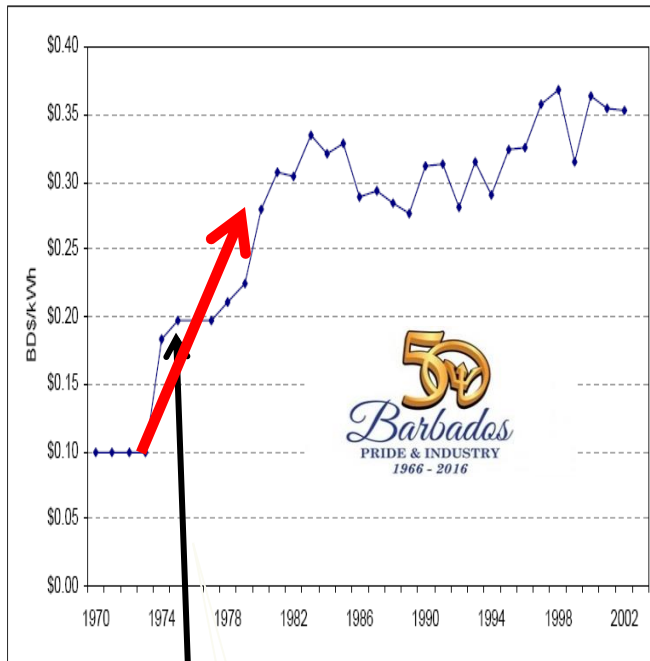
Success secret 1:
Time you start up at beginning
of crisis and let that give you
the boost



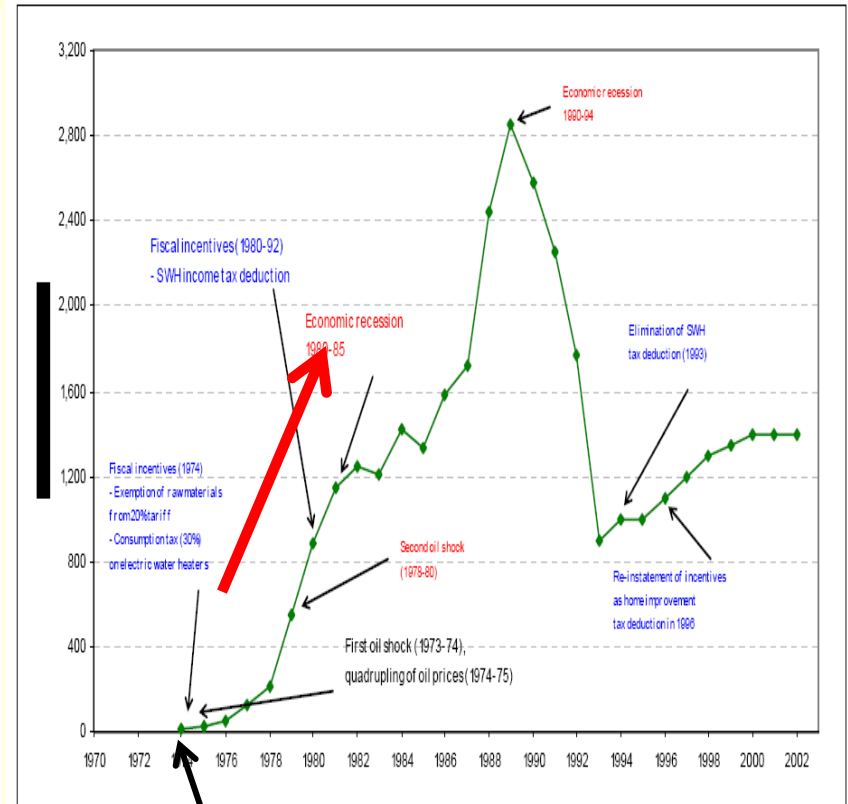
Be careful not to start the effort too late after the crisis
because the impact would not work

1974: The first oil crisis started in 1974.... The first local manufacturing company started in Barbados a few weeks (months) later

Figure 4. Changes in average domestic electric rates (1970 – 2002).



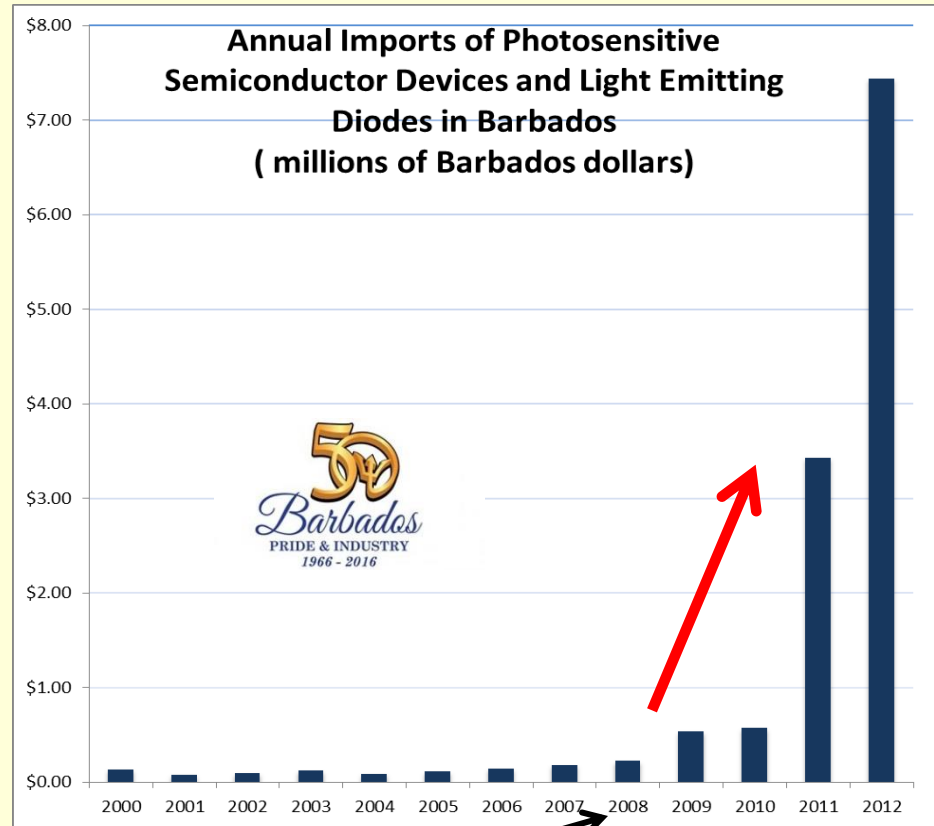
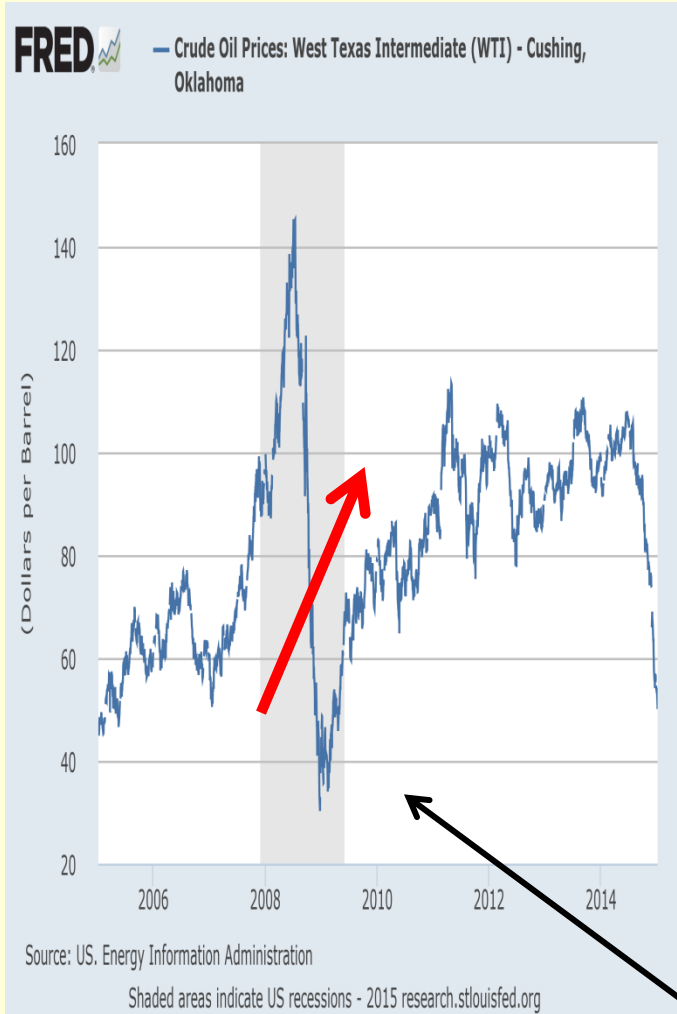
Electricity prices increased in 1974



First solar company 1974

Increasing prices drove increasing sales.

2008: oil prices shot up after 2008,
Barbados solar PV accelerate after
2008



2008

William Hinds
caribbeanret@yahoo.com

We rode the wave of sudden energy price increase



Success Secret 2: We need a surfboard to ride the wave of sudden energy price increase

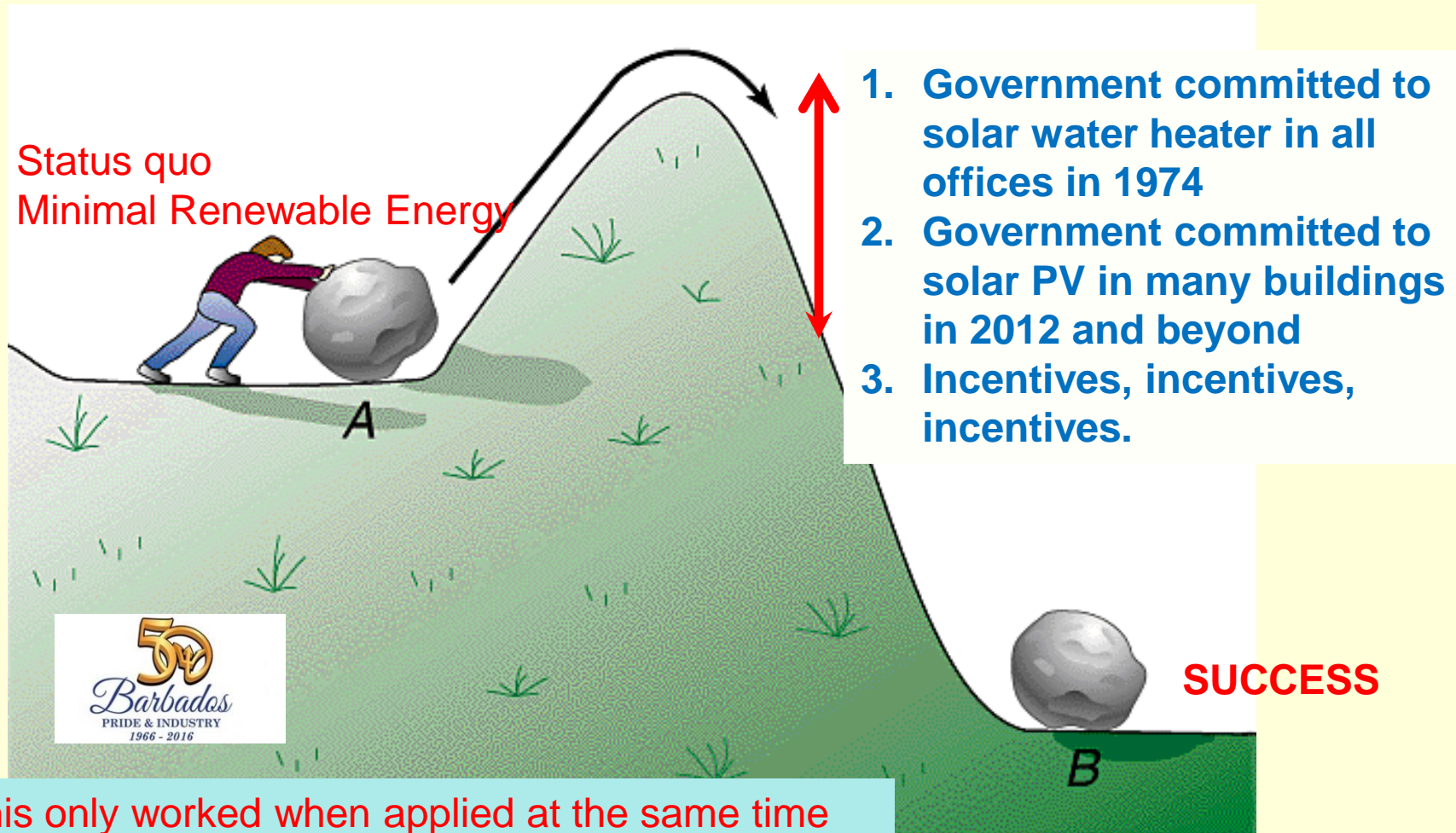
Government provided the incentives that buoyed the industry (the surfboard)



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Activation Energy for Renewable Energy Sector:

Although renewable energy was viable the government incentives and leadership projects were the activation energy needed to lead to success



This only worked when applied at the same time as success secret 1: Start at beginning of crisis

Recap

1. Wait for an energy crisis
2. Ride the wave of increased energy prices to achieve growth
3. The surfboard to ride the wave must be a great set of government incentives.



Success secret 3:
???

What have we forgotten
in riding the energy price
wave to renewable
energy success ???

Success secret 3: LOCAL SUPPLIERS

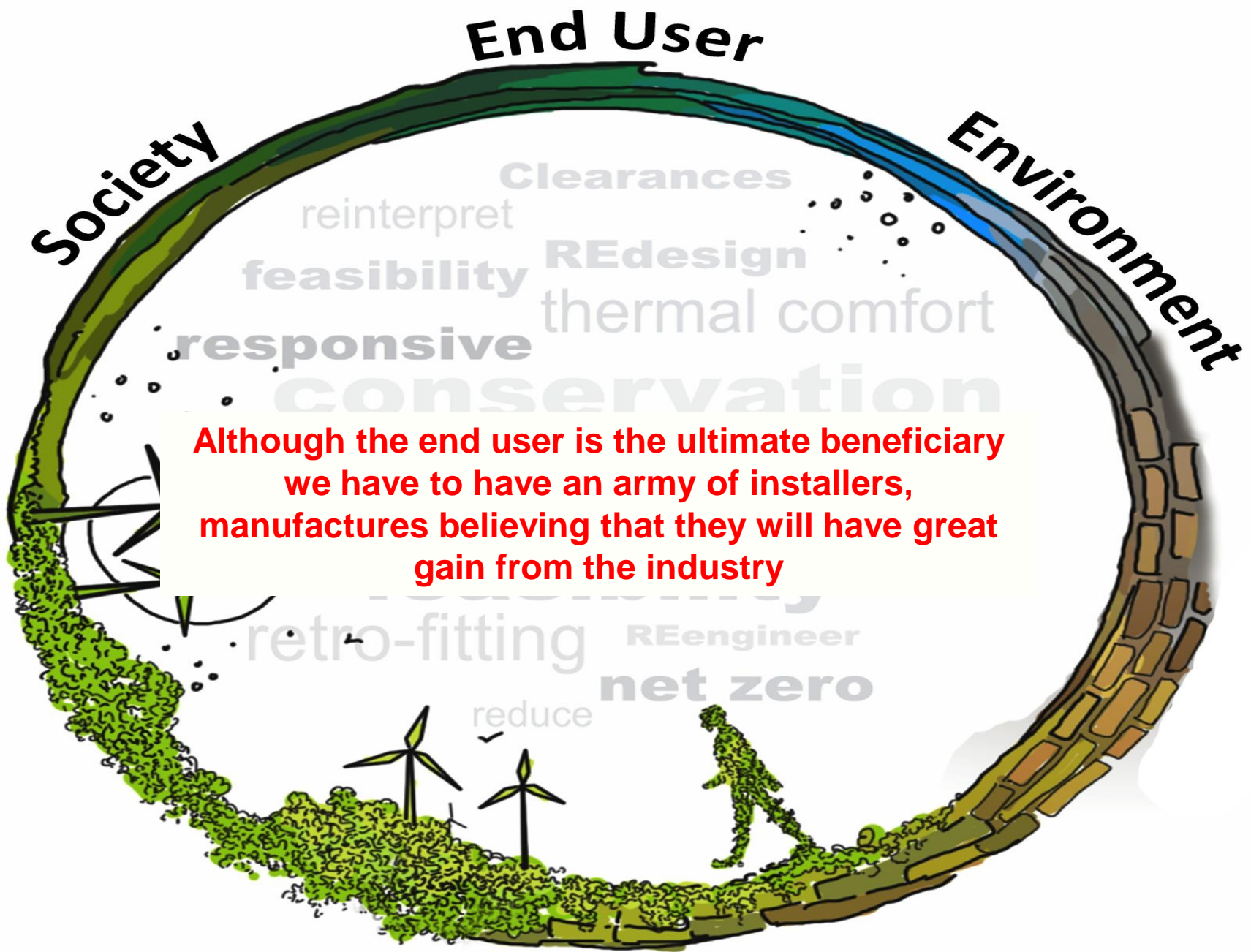
Local Suppliers need to come on board



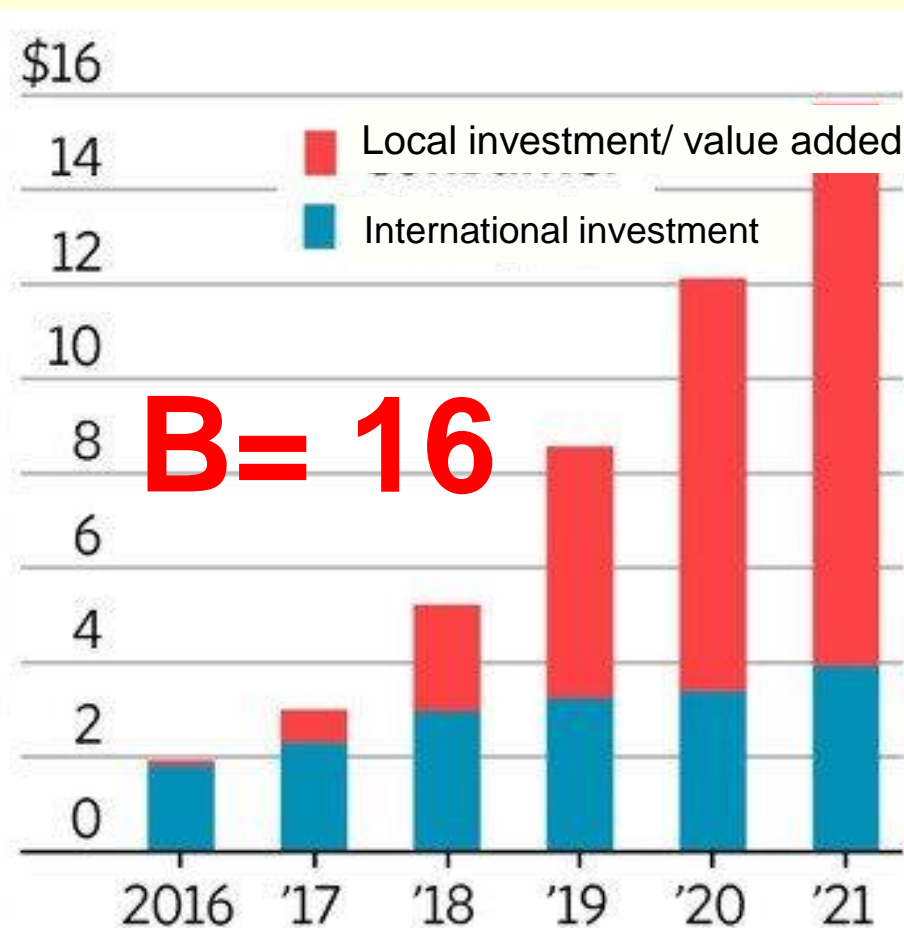
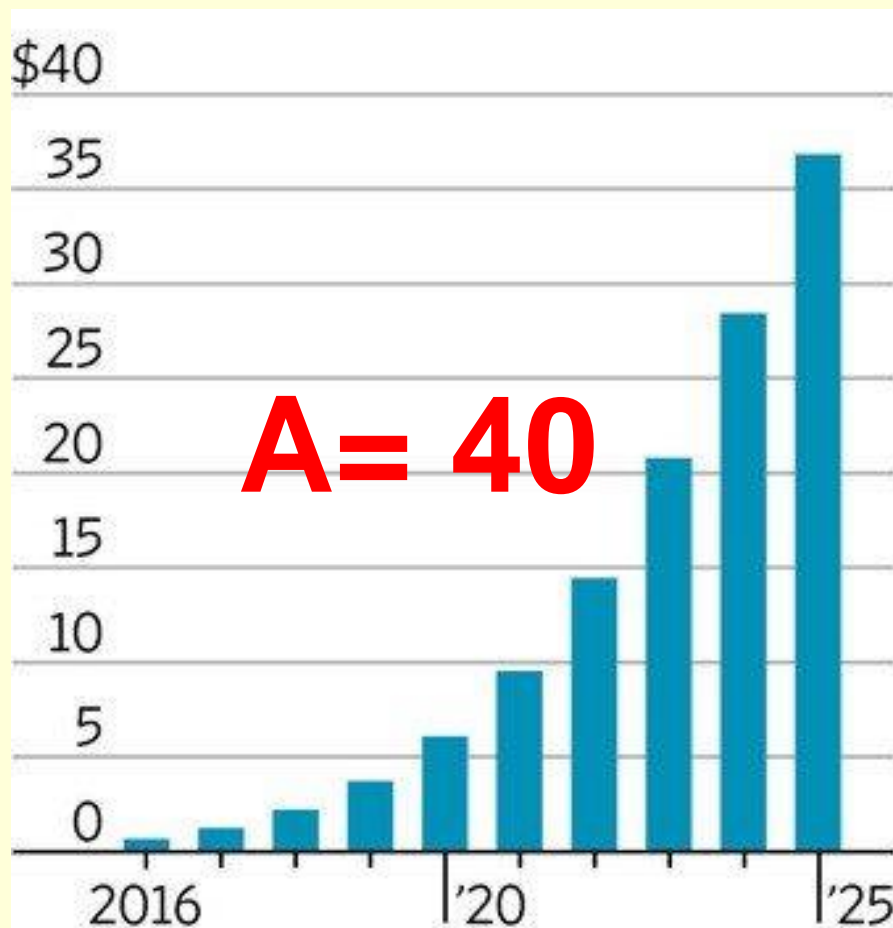
End user renewable
energy customer

Supplier, manufactures and
developers need to see the great
gains in order to get on board





Final success secret: Which is better, 'A' or 'B' ?




Its is better to have slower growth and increase value added / local investment, than to loose things by speeding things up



1. Opened in 2010 but with limits of 5 KWp and 100KWp for a few years
2. Market increased to 150 KWp for businesses and some increases to households
3. Grid study to seek new directions and laws to lead the way.. Hasten slowly
4. Open of grid to licenses over 150kWp .. hasten

RESULTS

Over 100 businesses
Over 1300 solar electric systems
Over 25 MWp added exclusively by local companies
Local manufacturing of PV being considered
Over 200 jobs



3. Encourage the surfers: Make it a key opportunity to manufactures, installers and developers
(They will encourage the end users)

2. Get buoyed: A surfboard of fiscal incentives, incentives , incentives

1. Ride the wave: Start at that exact moment when citizens need change

4. Control the wave: Control the growth to ensure value added and local investment

The Barbados model works

Barbadians are still moving forward.. Join us today.



THE END