

Conclusions

Lessons learned

This workshop provided an international forum for energy efficiency policy professionals and decision makers to exchange information on lessons learned, and identify innovations in NEESAP development, implementation and review.

As a result of discussions held during this workshop, it is clear that there is significant international experience with NEESAP and a growing understanding that essential NEESAP elements include:

- a systems perspective (linking energy efficiency to the broader policy context)
- clear rationales and expectations for NEESAP goals and scope
- a focus on critical priorities
- an action plan
- targets
- a learning approach
- accountability
- consultation and stakeholder engagement

That said, delegates concluded that many NEESAP are still mainly compendiums of actions and not overarching government initiatives. To improve NEESAP, governments need to give more attention to:

- making explicit the governance and resourcing challenges ahead for NEESAP and exploring how they might be addressed;
- securing the resources and capital or strategies to recycle rapid savings;
- addressing the institutional failure in some economies that could substantially delay the necessary widespread roll-out of energy efficiency policy;
- developing a sense of the dependencies between interventions, necessary hierarchies and the order in which elements of interventions need to be rolled out.

Next steps

To address the above issues, workshop delegates debated the next steps and made the suggestions below.

On an international level, policymakers should strive to:

- link NEESAP to the highest level of political commitments;
- receive agreement from across G8/IEA member countries to align efforts and pursue a global programme to implement the IEA's 25 energy efficiency recommendations;
- ensure the IEA monitors international progress with NEESAP development and implementation in order to share experience between countries.

On a national level, policymakers should strive to:

- Develop strategic policy capability in energy efficiency – expand synergies in energy efficiency initiatives and between climate change policy, broader energy strategy and energy efficiency policies.
- Identify the national potentials, priorities, and strategic mixes of interventions to ensure best roll-out of interventions.
- Maximise energy efficiency effectiveness by ensuring accountability from energy efficiency agencies and mainstream policy departments.
- Expand a very limited pool of energy efficiency analytical, technical and strategic expertise.
- Contribute to international alignment and cooperation efforts.

Pursuing these actions can assist countries in improving energy efficiency strategies and action plans. With more effective NEESAP, the aim of significantly enhancing the energy efficiency of our economies can be achieved.