



## **Announcing an International Energy Agency workshop:**

*Energy Efficiency in Buildings:*

*Meeting the G8 Gleneagles Challenge*

### **The challenge to improve energy performance in buildings**

Approximately 40% of all energy used by OECD countries is consumed in buildings, making them the largest single energy consuming sector, ahead of transport and industry. Despite their pre-eminence as final energy consumers and in policy focus, there are very substantial differences in the energy efficiency of otherwise similar buildings and much could be done to improve the energy performance of the building stock as a whole. All IEA member countries have achieved significant improvements in the energy efficiency of their building stocks over the last few decades. However, there remains substantial potential to further reduce energy demand in buildings and thus alleviate pressures on energy security and greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, enhanced building energy efficiency commonly provides energy services at a lower cost than the marginal cost of additional energy supply and thereby offers an economically efficient means of satisfying energy service demands.

But current practices are a long way from techno-economic optimums and many challenges remain to be overcome if the cost-effective potential is to be realised. Split incentives among the key economic actors influencing building energy performance, low public awareness and limited RD&D are just some of the problems to be faced. Additional policies are thus needed to stimulate greater private-sector investments and to better align individual economic incentives with broader societal economic and environmental objectives.

### **Background**

Following a direct request from the IEA Governing Board, the IEA's Standing Group on Long-Term Co-operation (SLT) and the IEA's Committee on Energy Research & Technology (CERT) are organising a joint workshop addressing energy efficiency in buildings, drawing on the expertise of the IEA's Energy Efficiency and End-Use Working Parties and the IEA's Implementing Agreements on building technology RD&D. Furthermore, the G8 Gleneagles summit held in the summer of 2005, invited the IEA to support the G8 in examining the following building energy efficiency-related topics as part of their Plan of Action on Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development:

- review standards and codes in OECD and developing countries;
- develop energy indicators to assess efficiency;
- identify policy best practices.



## CERT/SLT WORKSHOP:

Energy Efficiency in Buildings: Meeting the G8 Gleneagles Challenge

27-28 November 2006, International Energy Agency, Paris



### Goals and outcomes

In recognition of the importance of the opportunity and the potential for enhanced government action, this workshop brings together leading international policy makers and experts from the International Energy Agency's 26 member countries to discuss the main issues relating to building energy performance. The workshop will explore key technology and policy themes regarding energy efficiency in buildings and will aim to animate discussion and draw conclusions that will result in a paper for the IEA's Governing Board to consider in advance of the 2007 IEA Ministerial meeting.

The workshop will consider the scale of the opportunity that enhanced building-related efficiency has to offer, the obstacles to be overcome to realise it and the role to be taken by government. The findings of this workshop will be central to the formulation of government thinking with regard to building energy performance in that they will directly contribute to the following:

- Preparations for IEA's 2007 IEA Ministerial Meeting;
- IEA's response to its mandate under the G8's Gleneagles Plan of Action on Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development;
- Orientation and design of policies for energy performance in buildings within IEA member countries;
- Future direction of IEA buildings-related Implementing Agreements and international buildings R&D efforts;
- Potential international initiatives in this general area.

### Agenda

Background information and a draft workshop agenda with invited speakers can be downloaded from: [www.iea.org/Textbase/news/index.asp](http://www.iea.org/Textbase/news/index.asp).

### Dates and location

The workshop will take place on 27-28 November 2006 at:

The International Energy Agency  
9 rue de la Fédération  
75739 Paris Cedex 15  
France

Please find a map and travel information to the IEA on [www.iea.org/Textbase/about/map.asp](http://www.iea.org/Textbase/about/map.asp)

### Workshop attendance and registration

Attendees will be high-level experts, policy makers and private-sector actors in this field. Participants are expected from the IEA's CERT, SLT, EUWP, EEWP, Building Related Implementing Agreements, and other interested bodies.

Attendance at this high-level workshop is free and is open to government and non-government attendees alike.

To express interest in participating please email [Chantal.Boutry@iea.org](mailto:Chantal.Boutry@iea.org).

You will be notified of your registration status shortly after that date.