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International Workshop

Scaling Up Energy Efficiency: Bridging the Action Gap

2-3 April 2007

International Energy Agency, Paris

The Challenge of the Action Gap

Improving energy efficiency by reducing quantities of energy consumed and by changing processes and approaches offers a powerful tool for achieving sustainable development. Better energy efficiency reduces the need for investment in energy infrastructure, cuts fuel costs, increases competitiveness for businesses and improves welfare for consumers. Improved efficiency can create environmental benefits by reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and local air pollutants, and offer social benefits in the form of enhanced energy security and improved energy services.

Energy efficiency is recognized by energy and climate analysts as the most effective short term measure for reducing the emission of greenhouse gases. For example, the IEA projects that were low carbon policies to be strengthened global energy-related greenhouse gas emissions could peak by 2030 with no loss in energy services. *Two thirds of these emissions reductions are provided by end-use energy efficiency improvements.* In many economies, however, specific action is yet to take place that captures the economic potential and accelerates improvements in energy efficiency and no economies are yet on course to reach the full potential. Put simply, there exists an action gap that needs to be overcome.

There is increased high-level political interest in improving energy efficiency, and growing experience and knowledge available from efforts that have attempted to improve energy efficiency through different approaches, including standards and labelling programmes, dedicated financing mechanisms, and energy audit support programmes, among others. This experience base comes from project and programmes undertaken in countries around the world – both developed and developing. Learning from this experience with the aim of

scaling up or creatively replicating successful approaches is a sensible step in overcoming the action gap.

Outcomes

The workshop builds on the [Energy Audit'06](#) conference held in Finland, which presented effective and proven tools in improving energy efficiency and stimulated discussion about how effective approaches might be scaled up globally. The organizers will produce a summary report with specific policy suggestions and recommendations regarding the expansion of internationally catalyzed and financed energy efficiency projects. The report will be presented to the 15th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development so that it can inform discussion amongst governments on energy efficiency and influence the policy decisions taken there. These findings will also inform the IEA's response to its mandate under the G8's Gleneagle's Initiative on Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development and will be reported to the Heiligendamm G8 Summit, to be held in June 2007 under the German presidency.

Workshop Main Topics:

- Energy Efficiency: Potentials and Challenges
- Policies and Programmes
- Learning from Successes in:
 - Standards and labels for energy efficiency
 - Energy efficiency in buildings
 - Energy efficiency in transport
 - Using audits to improve energy efficiency
 - Energy efficiency in industry
 - Energy efficiency and urban planning
- Fostering Energy Technology Programmes: International Collaboration

Dates, location, registration and additional information

The Workshop will take place on 2-3 April 2007 at:

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

Workshops participants are anticipated from financing, business, government and multilateral institutions.

Registration forms can be downloaded from the Workshop website:

<http://www.unep.fr/energy/events/Workshops/ieew/>. Completed registration forms should be returned to Ms. Lilian Chaljub, Energy Branch, UNEP: Lilian.Chaljub@unep.fr with a copy to Ms Emanuela Menichetti at Emanuela.Menichetti@unep.fr

A map and travel information to the IEA is available at www.iea.org/Textbase/about/map.asp