

Energy-Efficient and Climate-Friendly Cooling in the Caribbean

30 October 2017

Background: UN Environment was selected by the [Kigali Cooling Efficiency Program](#) (K-CEP) to support the development of financial mechanisms and policies for energy-efficient and climate-friendly cooling products in select Caribbean countries. K-CEP is a philanthropic programme that aims to advance the [Kigali Amendment](#) of the Montreal Protocol. UN Environment seeks to build upon the wealth of related activities in the region - collaborating with ongoing initiatives while contributing new resources and expertise to complement existing efforts.

Geographic scope: Bahamas, Barbados, Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Saint Lucia

Objective: Transition markets for refrigerators and air conditioners (AC) toward energy-efficient and climate-friendly products that save consumers and businesses money on utility bills, reduce electricity waste, enable greater comfort and productivity for building occupants, advance economic development priorities for governments, and mitigate pollution and greenhouse gas impacts on the planet.

Approach: Provide technical support, capacity building, high-profile recognition, and convening capacity to assist:

- Corporate tourism stakeholders with new financial mechanisms that will be tailored to help with purchasing energy-efficient and climate-friendly products for their facilities; and
- Energy and environment officials with developing and implementing national cooling strategies and model policies.

Activities:

1. Gather input from hoteliers, existing initiatives in the region, industry associations, and tourism officials on barriers inhibiting investments in energy-efficient and climate-friendly cooling in hotels. Convene stakeholders to share the findings and secure initial commitments to develop a financial mechanism tailored to address key barriers (examples could include [energy savings insurance](#), bulk procurement schemes, energy savings performance contracts, etc.). Schedule: Q4 2017 – Q2 2018.
2. Develop the financial mechanism(s) and select where to pilot it (in at least 2 countries) based on the interest of hotels and the input of governments. Host a launch event. Schedule: Q2 2018 – Q2 2019.
3. In collaboration with each government, convene stakeholders to draft a national strategy for transitioning to energy-efficient and climate-friendly cooling products. Seek official endorsement for the strategy once it has been vetted with appropriate officials and finalised. Help the government to promote the strategy. Schedule: Q2 2018 – Q2 2019. Each national strategy is expected to include:
 - overview of the refrigeration and AC markets in the country;
 - roadmap and timetable to adopt MEPS for residential refrigerators and room ACs;
 - linkages to the country's existing energy policies, refrigerant transition plans, Nationally Determined Contributions, etc.;
 - assessment of the potential to expand the use of financial mechanisms to address cost barriers;
 - recommendations to address cooling demand through building codes, cool roofs, shading, etc.
4. Develop model MEPS and product labels for each country. Consult officials, manufacturers, consumer groups, retailers, etc. to ensure various views are considered. Schedule: Q2 2018 – Q3 2019.
5. Provide training and expert advice to facilitate the government's adoption and initial implementation of MEPS and supporting policies and programmes. Schedule: Q1 2019 – Q4 2019.

Participants:

- [UN Environment](#): Overall lead for the project, coordinated via UN offices in Kingston and Panama City and leveraging expertise and resources from across the organisation
- [Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory](#): technical advisor on MEPS and cooling strategies
- [Basel Agency for Sustainable Energy \(BASE\)](#): technical advisor for financial mechanisms
- Governments: offer strategic guidance, feedback on draft materials, help champion the project
- Possible collaborators: CCREEE, CCCCC, CHTA, IDB, CARCEP, CAF, DBJ and/or others

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