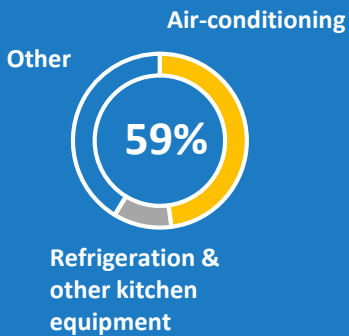


Caribbean Cooling Initiative (C-COOL)

Cooling's share of electricity consumption in Caribbean Hotels' ¹



REGIONAL CONTEXT

Air conditioners and refrigerators provide essential services in the year-round tropical climate of the Caribbean. Growing local populations and the tourism that helps drive many economies are demanding ever more cooling products. Unfortunately, inefficient models remain common and much of the electricity is wasted. With high electricity prices and reliance on imported fossil fuels, this waste has big implications: residents and businesses suffer from expensive power bills, utilities struggle to meet peak energy demand, governments are saddled with increasing dependence on imported energy (with prices that fluctuate), and pollution and greenhouse gas emissions are exacerbated.

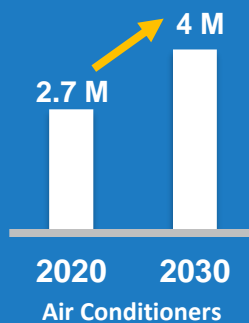
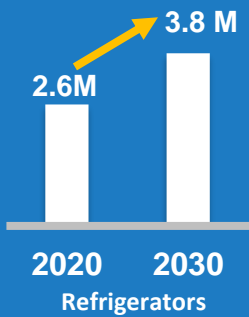
Improving air conditioner and refrigerator performance with available and affordable solutions, while transitioning to new refrigerants (the gases used in the operation of the equipment), offers an unparalleled opportunity to address these challenges. The Bahamas, Barbados, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and St. Lucia have been proactive in pursuing a variety of energy and environment goals over the years. They represent a diverse cross-section of the Caribbean, and their governments and tourism industries have expressed a strong interest in transforming their markets for cooling products.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

UN Environment's United for Efficiency (U4E) programme is conducting market transformation projects in nearly 40 developing and emerging economies around the world. U4E brings together leading experts from international organisations, the private sector, and civil society groups to provide tailored technical assistance to participating governments and stakeholders. Typical support ranges from developing regulatory guidance and conducting awareness campaigns to assisting with market monitoring, product testing, piloting financial mechanisms, recycling used equipment, and beyond. U4E has also developed a variety of tools, guidance, and training packages for policymakers and practitioners.

In 2017, U4E was selected by a new philanthropy - the Kigali Cooling Efficiency Program - to assist the aforementioned countries with transforming their markets. The resulting Caribbean Cooling Initiative (C-COOL) was launched in early 2018. The aim is to showcase the myriad benefits of a rapid and comprehensive transition to energy-efficient and climate-friendly air conditioners and refrigerators. Government officials, tourism stakeholders, technology providers, financial institutions, and civil society organisations will be engaged throughout the project.

Projected Stock in Participating Countries²



¹ CHENACT. Assess Performance (Phase II): Analytics & Recommendations. 2016
² Approximation from U4E Country Savings Assessment, 2019



ACTIVITIES

Market Assessment: An in-depth market assessment will be undertaken to gather data and stakeholder input on the current stock and future projections of refrigerators and air conditioners in each country, the impacts on electricity demand and other factors, and the supply chain and key actors (e.g. importers, distributors, retailers, installers, service companies, financial providers, civil society organisations).

National Cooling Strategy: A strategy will be developed in consultation with government officials and stakeholders. It will include:

- insights from the market assessment on the cooling sector;
- Guidance on minimum energy performance standards and energy labels for room air conditioners and refrigerators to address additional opportunities that may exist in each market;
- links to existing energy policies, refrigerant transition plans, Nationally Determined Contribution, etc.;
- an overview of the potential to use financial mechanisms to address first-cost barriers to adopting higher-performance products;
- insights on how to address cooling demand through building codes, use of shading and cool roofs, operations and maintenance, etc.

Financial Mechanism: Financial analysis (e.g. return on investment, sensitivity analysis) will be conducted to assess the impacts of investments in new technologies. Suitable risk coverage instruments (e.g. standardized contract, surety insurance, bank guarantee, independent validation mechanism) will be considered. Based on the findings and interests of participating organisations, a scheme will be developed to help address barriers to purchasing energy-efficient and climate-friendly products. Local financial service providers and their clients will be engaged in the development process. Volunteers will be solicited to pilot the financial mechanism in at least two countries.

Policies and Capacity Building: Based on the feedback received on the National Cooling Strategy, the project team will provide technical assistance to support consideration and potential future adoption of recommend policies and programs. Stakeholder consultations will be conducted with relevant groups (manufacturers, consumers, civil society organisations) to ensure different viewpoints are properly considered, and recommendations that will be provided on public outreach.

GET INVOLVED

C-COOL's success depends on the input and collaboration of a range of organisations from the public, private and non-profit sectors. Senior policymakers and representatives from the private sector will provide overall strategic guidance and input on key deliverables to the project team. For information on how to get involved, please contact the C-COOL project lead, Loreto Duffy-Mayers, at loreto.duffy-mayers@un.org. U4E's coordinator for cooling activities may be reached at brian.holuj@un.org.

For more information, please visit: www.united4efficiency.org | www.k-cep.org

Estimated Benefits in 2030 from Transforming the Cooling Markets*



~3,000 GWh of Electricity Savings

Bahamas: 140

Barbados: 120

Jamaica: 770

Dom. Republic: 1900

St Lucia: 66



\$695 million in Energy Bills savings

Bahamas: 32

Barbados: 35

Jamaica: 350

Dom. Republic: 270

St Lucia: 8.4



3 Million tonnes of CO2 emissions avoided

Source: Approximation from U4E Country Savings Assessment, 2019.

*Note: Assumes MEPS are adopted in 2020 based on the Minimum Ambition Scenario.