

United for Efficiency (U4E) is a global initiative supporting developing and emerging economies switch to energy-efficient lighting, appliances and equipment.

This public-private partnership is convened by UNEP and brings together a range of stakeholders who are united in a common cause to improve energy efficiency in developing and emerging economies.

YOUR QUARTERLY CONNECTION TO HIGH-EFFICIENCY SOLUTIONS | Vol. 4, Issue 3



NEWSLETTER 2021

Welcome to the October 2021 newsletter

The U4E team and partners have been very active since the July newsletter, with participation in many high-profile events in the lead-up to the [COP26](#) UN Climate Conference in Glasgow and Montreal Protocol [MOP33](#) meeting and continuing developments with national projects and resources. This newsletter provides a digest of progress and upcoming outputs.

News



At the Energy Action Day session, [*Energy Efficiency – Making the Energy Transition Possible*](#), organized by U4E, UNEP colleagues, [Cool Coalition](#), [Global Alliance for Buildings & Construction](#) and SEAD, a prestigious panel of speakers highlighted the key contribution of energy efficiency as ‘the

first fuel’ for emissions reduction, energy security, economic growth, sustainable development, alleviating energy poverty, and for job creation. By sharing the experience of their countries and regions in implementing significant energy efficiency measures, they sought to inspire actions to deliver energy efficiency improvements in buildings, appliances, and equipment.

During [Africa Climate Week 2021](#) (ACW 2021) in September, U4E joined colleagues from across UNEP to contribute to the understanding of climate challenges and opportunities facing the continent, and to showcase solutions already being implemented, such as the [Africa Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Cooling and Cold-Chain](#) in Rwanda and [ECOFRIDGES](#) in Ghana and Senegal. UNEP-led Track 3, *Seizing Transformative Opportunities*, showcased ongoing efforts to tackle the climate crisis and meet Agenda 2030 targets.



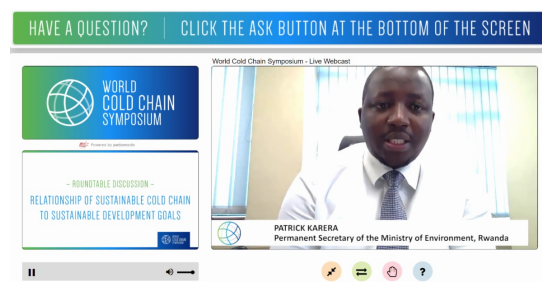
[Developing and Implementing National Cooling Action Plans in Africa: An Interactive Workshop for Officials and Civil Society](#) was hosted by U4E and the Cool Coalition as part of ACW 2021 to link officials with experts on how to develop and implement NCAPs,

including lessons learned by countries in the region and funding opportunities for NCAP development and implementation.

The [Path to Sustainable Cold Chains for All in Africa](#), hosted by U4E and the [Cool Coalition](#) at ACW 2021 focused on the essential role of integrated cold chains in sustainable development by reducing food and vaccine loss while enhancing economic opportunities and nutrition.



This session showcased best practices and highlighted key challenges to bridge the gap between data, technology, economy, and implementation for the expansion of cold chains in the African continent.



Cold chains also featured as part of the World Cold Chain Symposium. The event included speakers such as Patrick Karera, Permanent Secretary of Rwanda's Ministry of Environment, who explained how the [Africa Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Cooling and Cold-Chain](#)

emanated from the country's award-winning National Cooling Strategy. He and fellow speakers provided context on the state of cold chains, gaps and opportunities for enhancing the world's food systems "from farm to fork".

This theme was further emphasised by Juliet Kabera, DG, Rwanda Environment Management Authority, during the *Sustainable Cold Chain and Rome Declaration Dialogue*. She noted, “We need to leapfrog to a new paradigm in which sustainable cold chains are central to development programmes throughout Africa, leveraging collective wisdom and resources to go much farther, faster.” Sentiments echoed during the *International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste* where the [UN called for increased action](#) to end the culture of throwing out food uneaten and in so doing, help to address the triple planetary crisis of climate change, nature loss and pollution and acknowledged contribution of U4E projects to tackling the problem.



A new initiative launched at the start of this month focused on the transition to mercury-free, energy-efficient LED lighting. The Clean Lighting Coalition (CLiC) inaugural digital campaign, #CleanLightingProtects, aims to develop deeper linkages between safe lighting

technologies, public health, economic development and climate change. CLiC is a global partnership working to transition markets to safe, cost-effective, and energy-saving LED lighting by removing the exemption for fluorescent lighting products in the Minamata Convention on Mercury. It is seeking partners to join the #CleanLightingProtects campaign and raise awareness of the benefits of safe, clean and energy-saving LEDs. CLiC is coordinated by CLASP, a U4E partner. Find out more on the [CLiC website](#).

New Resources & Tool



In August, U4E hosted a webinar, [*Product Registration Systems to Maximize the Effect of Policies on Energy Efficiency for Lighting, Equipment and Appliances*](#), to discuss product registration systems as a mechanism to monitor the products that are sold in a market to ensure compliance with national policies. U4E

shared their product registration system prototype and speakers from the [ASEAN Centre for Energy \(ACE\)](#), [South African National Energy Development Institute \(SANEDI\)](#), and [East African Centre of Excellence for Renewable Energy and Efficiency \(EACREEE\)](#) shared their experiences of using product registration systems at a country and regional level in the African and Asian continents. All the [presentations](#), and the [webinar recording](#), are available on the U4E website.

Between July and September 2021, U4E and the [AfDB \(African Development Bank\)](#) partnered to run three workshops aimed at energy efficiency stakeholders across Africa. Held in collaboration with the regional sustainable energy centres from Africa ([EACREEE](#), [ECREEE](#) and [SACREEE](#)) and the [Association of Power Utilities of Africa \(APUA\)](#), the webinars discussed technical aspects of new eco-efficient power distribution transformers, policy and regulatory good practices and tools, and novel financial mechanisms, such on-bill financing, energy service companies (ESCOs) and the Super ESCO concept as an innovative and sustainable means to scale up investments in energy efficiency projects in the public and private sectors. All the [presentations](#) are available on the U4E website.



New factsheets are now available for three U4E projects – [Regional Harmonization of Energy-Efficient and Climate-Friendly Cooling in East and Southern Africa](#), [Leapfrogging to Energy-Efficient and Climate-Friendly Commercial Refrigerating Appliances in Brazil](#), and

[Leapfrogging Sudan's Markets to More Efficient Lighting and Air Conditioners](#). A factsheet for the Regional Project for Leapfrogging to Energy-Efficient and Climate Friendly Air Conditioners in Cuba, El Salvador and Honduras will be available in the coming days.

The new [Street Lighting Energy Efficiency Calculator](#), developed by experts at [UNEP DTU Partnership's Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency](#) with the support of U4E, quantifies the energy, financial and climate-saving potentials for moving away from existing inefficient street lighting technologies to intelligently controlled and efficient LED systems. By entering a number of key local data inputs on the current status of their public lighting system into the [online system](#), users can get a concrete analysis of the potential energy and CO₂ savings, as well as a straightforward cost-benefit overview, for any locality, city or country.

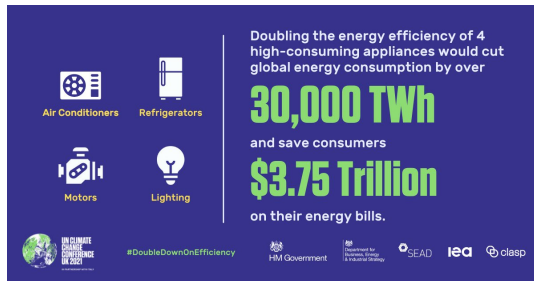
Name of technology	Lamp power (Watts)	Stock of fixtures (Number)	Local cost of lamp (USD/lamp)
Mercury Vapour • Add another Mercury Vapour lamp	Choose Watts	Add stock	Add cost
Metal Halide • Add another Metal Halide lamp	Choose Watts	Add stock	Add cost
High pressure Sodium • Add another High Pressure Sodium lamp	Choose Watts	Add stock	Add cost



And finally, U4E will soon be releasing two new documents in the sustainable public procurement (SPP) series –for lighting and air conditioners– offering guidance on how governments and other public sector bodies can leverage their purchasing power to generate demand for

these energy-efficient and climate-friendly products. Look out for them on the website and Twitter. Moreover, U4E is undertaking three new pilot projects in ASEAN and Africa to demonstrate SPP best practices.

Partner Spotlight



In the run up to COP26, the Super-Efficient Equipment and Appliance Deployment (SEAD) Initiative, of the [Clean Energy Ministerial](#), [International Energy Agency \(IEA\)](#), [UK Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy \(UK BEIS\)](#) and [CLASP](#), launched the

[Product Efficiency Call to Action](#) in an effort to double the efficiency of air conditioners, refrigerators, lighting, and motors. The Product Efficiency Call to Action aims to set countries on a trajectory to double the efficiency of four key globally-traded products by 2030. These products account for over 40% of global electricity consumption and so a doubling of efficiency from all SEAD member nations could avoid as much as 1.9 Gt of CO₂ emissions per year by 2030 (that's the equivalent electricity generation of more than 2,100 coal-fired power plants by 2030).

The Call to Action is part of the UK's COP26 Energy Transition Campaign and urges governments to commit to fast, ambitious action on appliance and equipment energy efficiency. When a country signs on to the Call to Action, it is taking a substantial step to reduce emissions and move closer to the goal of net zero. So far, governments from Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Germany, Ghana, India, Korea, Sweden and the United Kingdom have signed onto the commitment. The Call to Action has also been endorsed by 18 leading NGOs and, through a partnership with the EP100 initiative, 133 global businesses.

On 4 November 2021 during Energy Day at COP26, the UK will be hosting an event featuring Government Ministers and CEOs from international businesses to celebrate the commitments made and underscore the need for further global action on product efficiency.

UPCOMING EVENTS

18 OCTOBER 2021

Infrastructure Design for Sustainable Cooling

19 OCTOBER 2021

Africa Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Cooling and Cold-Chain (ACES) Summit

20-21 OCTOBER 2021

Transformer Days Americas

4 NOVEMBER 2021

COP26 Product Efficiency Call to Action

17 –24 NOVEMBER 2021

OLADE Energy Week

2 DECEMBER 2021

CAREC Energy Investment Forum

For further details on any of these events, please email us at unep-u4e@un.org.

With thanks to our funders



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STAY CONNECTED

