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## Welcome to the July 2024 newsletter

The U4E newsletter provides a digest of the progress and upcoming developments of U4E and its partners. During the last quarter, we have strengthened collaboration partnerships, achieved some significant project milestones, and participated in many joint and third-party events and trainings.

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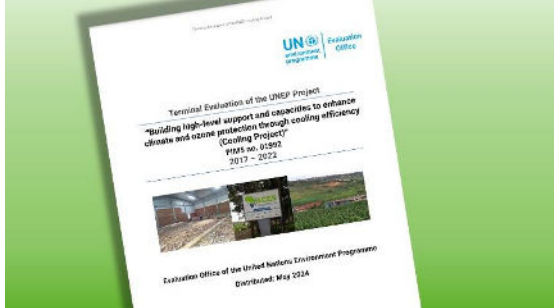
### News

At the end of June, Programme Manager Paul Kellett retired, handing over the leadership of U4E to Brian Holuj and Patrick Blake following nearly eight years of dedicated service in UNEP. Our team is grateful for Paul's professionalism and commitment to effectively advancing the global sustainable energy agenda. We also recognize the outstanding work of Moira Mathers, who recently retired as Communications and Gender Lead. Their tireless contributions will be missed. We look forward to building upon their legacy as U4E expands into new areas in the energy efficiency arena.



We are also pleased to welcome two new team members: Steve Cowperthwaite as Strategic and Partnerships Lead following 20+ years with the UK Government and most recently as lead for their F-gas team, and Camila Luz as Communications Expert, who joins us from the Inter-American Development Bank.

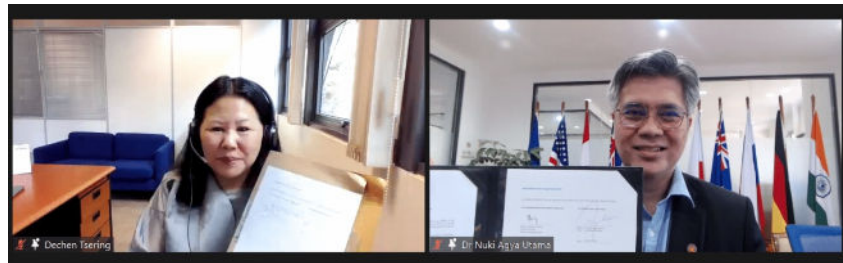
In May, the independent evaluation of our cooling project, [\*Building high-level\*](#)



support and capacities to enhance climate and ozone protection through cooling efficiency, was published with a rating of “Highly Satisfactory”, which is a testament to the hard work and excellent overall execution over the years. The project was implemented between November 2017 and November

2022, focusing on U4E's cooling portfolio and including related activities with OzonAction, Cool Coalition, Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), and other partners within and beyond UNEP. The project's objective was to significantly increase and accelerate the climate and development benefits of the Montreal Protocol refrigerant transition with a simultaneous improvement in energy efficiency in the cooling sector.

On 19 June, UNEP and the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that aims to



foster energy efficiency and promote gender mainstreaming in energy policy in the ASEAN region. The agreement was signed by Dr. Nuki Agya Utama, Executive Director of ACE, and Dechen Tsering, Director, Climate Change Division at UNEP. The signing was held together with a webinar, Advancing Energy Transition in ASEAN through Energy Efficiency and Gender-Responsive Policy, which provided an overview of the current and planned activities. This included a presentation from U4E Programme Manager, Patrick Blake, covering the savings opportunities in ASEAN from energy-efficient lighting, cooling appliances and equipment, and U4E's Model Regulation Guidelines.



South Africa has aligned its Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) with the U4E model regulation guidelines. We estimate 7.3 TWh of electricity savings annually, equivalent to 7.7 million tonnes of CO2 savings, over three large power stations of 500MW and 726 Million USD due to reduced

electricity bills. U4E is currently supporting South Africa in adopting additional MEPS on air conditioners and residential refrigerators, aligned with the regional SADC MEPS approved in November 2023. The regional cooling MEPS is a significant milestone achieved after a comprehensive multi-year process that included data collection, regional discussions, national consultations, and voting by member states. The finalized MEPS have now been distributed to all 16 member states to begin national implementation.

U4E expanded its *Country Savings Assessments* to assess the potential from implementing energy efficiency standards for ceiling fans. Due to the unique characteristics of these products which often vary by market as well as relatively limited data, it was not practical to develop a widely applicable methodology for assessing potential savings across the range of countries which we have prepared for other products. Hence, the assessments are limited to a sampling of countries for which sufficient stock data and reliable projections of annual sales data are available. This analysis estimates the total electricity use of ceiling fans in each country by combining estimates of total sales and the annual energy consumption of a typical ceiling fan by year in each country. It has been possible to apply the methodology to 14 countries, including Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam.



Supported by the United Kingdom’s Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) ODA-Funding, U4E has been developing a reference approach for regional Centres of Excellence for Sustainable Cooling and Cold-Chains through a hub and SPOKE model which is creating the tools, design, knowledge base and operating structures to develop a first of its kind

integrated, system-level approach across the whole cold-chain from farm to fork for food and from manufacturer to arm for vaccines. Testing and roll-out work is in full development and implementation phase through the first physical Centre (hub) in Rwanda; the first SPOKE in Kenya, which is now operational and showcasing how solutions can be deployed in practical, real-world applications; and two Centres of Excellence in development in the states of Haryana, and Telangana, in India. These two Centres have recently conducted a successful training to provide participants with a solid and comprehensive understanding of cold chains' fundamental concepts, skills, and knowledge.

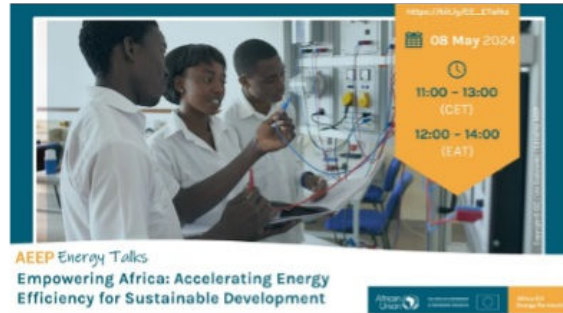
## Events

In recent months, U4E participated in and organized several events. On 4 April, the team offered the training webinar, *A Breath of Fresh Air for Ceiling Fans*, which provided an overview of how and why the Model Regulation Guidelines for Energy-Efficient Ceiling Fans were developed. Speakers explained the

contents and offered practical examples of its application in real-world settings.

On 8 May, U4E participated in the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) *4th Energy Talks* on 8 May 2024, [\*Empowering Africa: Accelerating Energy Efficiency for Sustainable Development\*](#).

The online event spotlighted the role of energy efficiency to meet Africa's energy needs, and as an essential component of SDG7 and COP28's Global Renewables and Energy Efficiency pledge. U4E underscored the need and opportunities for more strategic energy efficiency programmes across African Union countries to deliver faster, larger-scale economic savings and growth for consumers, governments and businesses.



On 15 May, at a [\*stakeholder workshop\*](#) in Abuja, Nigeria, the Director General of the Energy Commission of Nigeria (ECN), Dr Mustapha Abdullahi, called on stakeholders to upgrade MEPS for air conditioners to boost energy efficiency in the cooling sector and benefit from the 6 million tonnes of annual CO<sub>2</sub> savings by 2040 predicted by our impact assessment. The workshop was convened by ECN and U4E with the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) for a range of participants as part of our [\*Clean Cooling Collaborative-funded, Scaling Up Energy-Efficient and Climate-Friendly Cooling in Nigeria's NDC Revision\*](#) project.



On 14-17 May, U4E participated in the [\*28th EEnergy Efficiency and Conservation Sub Sector Network Associated Meetings\*](#) in Vientiane, Lao PDR with energy efficiency focal points from the 10 ASEAN member states. We presented in two workshops covering the importance of expanding MEPS for room air

conditioners in the region and the role of sustainable public procurement in promoting higher uptake of energy-efficient appliances, highlighting the tools available from U4E to support public sector bodies in this pursuit

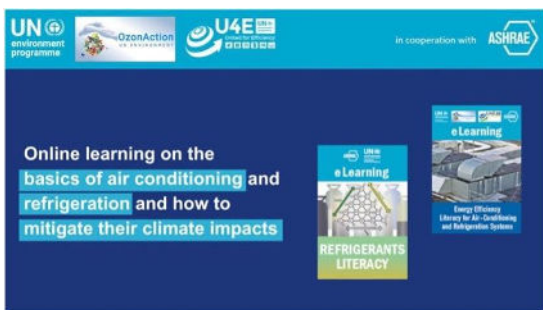
During this quarter, U4E participated in two more Twinning Workshops, a series convened by UNEP OzonAction and funded through the Montreal Protocol's OzonAction Compliance Assistance Programme. These

workshops will continue across the regions into 2024. The [first event](#) took place in Guangzhou, China, on 21–22 May, with participants from 22 South and Southeast Asian countries. U4E presented in two sessions on capacity building and initiatives to promote energy efficiency in refrigeration and air conditioning equipment. The second one, the [Twinning Workshop for National Ozone Officers, National Energy Efficiency Policymakers, and Funding Mechanism Focal Points](#), took place on 13–14 June in Maputo, Mozambique. U4E presented on the SADC Harmonised MEPS for air conditioners and refrigerating appliances, U4E Tools, and the critical importance of creating national cooling action plans.



On 6 June, U4E participated in the online event [The Role of Electrotechnology in Addressing Climate Change](#) and highlighted the importance of collaborative efforts to develop standards to meet climate targets. The webinar was organized by the International Electrotechnical Commission and was the third instalment in the series focusing on “IEC and the SDGs: partnering for a safe, efficient and inclusive future”.

## Resources



An updated version of the [Energy Efficiency Literacy for Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Systems](#) e-learning course is now available. The course was developed by UNEP and ASHRAE, to educate developing country policymakers, business leaders, and community stakeholders about the benefits of air conditioning and refrigeration, the scientific principles involved, the factors that contribute to maximum energy efficiency and the opportunities to enhance energy efficiency and energy conservation in the mechanical cooling sector.

In the last quarter, U4E also made new publications available. Our Regional Savings Assessments, which provide a summary of the potential savings that could be attained from the implementation of MEPS for lighting, appliances and equipment at a regional level, are now available for ASEAN, Central Africa, East Africa, North Africa, the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), and West Africa. These are a convincing tool for demonstrating the benefits of regional harmonization of standards for these products.

Also, the [Model Regulation Guidelines for Energy-Efficient and Climate-Friendly Commercial Refrigeration Equipment](#) are now available in Russian. Finally, the [Technical and financial feasibility assessment report](#) for an energy efficiency laboratory for ACs in the Dominican Republic is available in Spanish.

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## Partner Spotlight



The ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) is an independent intergovernmental organisation within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' (ASEAN) structure that represents the 10 ASEAN Member States' (AMS) interests in the energy sector. It aims to accelerate the integration of energy strategies within ASEAN by providing relevant information and expertise to ensure the necessary energy policies and programmes are in harmony with the economic growth and the environmental sustainability of the region. U4E has been working in partnership with ACE for more than a decade to coordinate, and maximise the effectiveness of its activities in the region. ACE is an integral part of the ongoing ASEAN regional project, including on development of a regional product database and lighting/cooling standard harmonisation, and the ASEAN Cool Initiative, established in 2023 to accelerate the implementation of the ASEAN Regional Policy Roadmap for Energy Efficient Room Air Conditioners. The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding in June marks the culmination of this partnership and an aspiration for continuing cooperation.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**2 JULY 2024**

[Unlocking Solutions: SPOKE Program Workshop](#)

**1-2 AUGUST 2024**

[Twining Workshop for Montreal Protocol Officers, Energy-Efficiency Policy Makers, Santiago, Chile](#)

**3-5 SEPTEMBER 2024**

[13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Energy Efficiency in Motor Driven Systems \(eemods'24\), Lucerne, Switzerland](#)

**5-6 SEPTEMBER 2024**

[13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Energy Efficiency in Motor Driven Systems \(eemods'24\), Lucerne, Switzerland](#)

**7-9 OCTOBER 2024**

[12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Energy Efficiency in Domestic Appliances and Lighting \(EEDAL '24\), Kitakyushu, Japan](#)

For further details on these events, please email us at [unep-u4e@un.org](mailto:unep-u4e@un.org).

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

With thanks to our funders



[unep-u4e@un.org](mailto:unep-u4e@un.org) | [united4efficiency.org](http://united4efficiency.org)

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