



Regional Program in Energy Efficiency for the Industrial and Commercial Sectors in Central America

FIRM STEPS TOWARD ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The Regional Program in Energy Efficiency for the Industrial and Commercial Sectors in Central America presents the *Flash Informative No. 2*. We welcome your comments and suggestions, so we can include them in future editions.

PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE OF THE INITIATIVE:

To identify and remove the barriers that impede the development of energy efficiency in the industrial and commercial sectors at a regional level, thereby reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases from electricity production.

One of our principle objectives is to overcome the lack of knowledge barrier with regards to Energy Efficiency (EE). The purpose of this bulletin is to present some basic concepts on the topic.

What is meant by efficiency?

It is a parameter that indicates the ratio or percentage of energy that is *generated* by a system with respect to the energy that *enters* the system.

What is meant by energy efficiency?

It is the capacity to provide better services and products with less resources and less impact on the environment, which translates into lower production costs and reduces the overall use of energy.

What is the rational use of energy?

It is taking advantage of technical and financial resources, providing capacity for adequate management, and optimizing the consumption of energy in a process that is in the end both profitable and sustainable.

How do we define the industrial sector?

The industrial sector is defined as a group of businesses that understand, on different scales, the production processes of raw materials into finished products, using energy as a necessary productive input in order to add value and achieve a profit through this process.

How do we define the commercial sector?

The commercial (and service) sector is defined as all those activities related to the commercialization of goods and the lending of a variety of services without introducing changes to them.

What is meant by air conditioning?

Air conditioning is a process that cools, cleans, and circulates the air, controlling also, the humidity content.

How do we define a lighting system?

It is the reflected light onto a surface which is measured as a quotient between the quantity of incidental light (measured in Lumens) over a certain surface and the area of this surface (measured in m²). The unit of measurement is lumen/m².

The illumination expressed in light is equivalent to lumens per square meter.



Compact Fluorescent Lights



Incandescent Lights

What is a motor?

It is an electrical machine that can convert electrical energy into mechanical energy.



EFFICIENCY AGENDA

- ✓ July 28, Induction Workshop (Costa Rica)
- ✓ August 10, Financial Conversation, BCIE Costa Rica

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