

Government and industry commence co-operation on G20 networked devices project

50 government officials and industry experts from 13 countries met at a workshop on 19-20 January 2015 in Paris, to commence the process of addressing the global energy efficiency of networked devices.

This workshop was held in response to the G20 Energy Efficiency Action: Voluntary Collaboration on Energy Efficiency Plan which was released in November 2014. The plan notes that devices connected to a communications network can bring significant benefits to the global community, including enabling energy savings through ICT solutions. However, it also highlights the unintended and significant increase in energy consumption that can arise from maintaining a network connection. This issue is explained in more detail in this short video. The networked devices work stream under the G20 Action Plan states:

Participating countries will work together to accelerate the development of new ways to improve the energy efficiency of networked devices. In 2015, this work will include consideration of options for goals for reducing the global standby mode energy consumption of networked devices.

During the Paris workshop, government and industry participants put forward a wide range of innovative solutions that lead to the improved energy efficiency of networked devices. workshop canvassed initial ideas and established a process for identifying and developing initiatives suitable for inclusion in a progress report to be tabled at the G20 meeting in November 2015.

Potential solutions span voluntary and mandatory initiatives suitable for both the short and longer terms. Given the timeframe applied by the G20 there was a strong focus in Paris on measures that could be implemented by industry on a voluntary basis.

Following the workshop, the UK Government, as leader of the G20 networked devices project, will canvas wider government and industry views, and develop a pathway for deliverables leading up to and beyond the Turkey G20 meeting to be held in November 2015.

The UK Government will be supported by the International Energy Agency (IEA), the Energy Efficient End-Use Equipment Implementing Agreement (IEA-4E) and the Super-Efficient Equipment and Appliance Deployment (SEAD) initiative. The International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC) is tasked with providing the progress report to the G20 in November 2015.

A further government / industry workshop scheduled for 17–18 June 2015 in Paris, hosted by the IEA, will report on progress and refine potential solutions to be included in a report to the G20.

Parties interested in contributing to or receiving updates on these efforts should send an email to info@edna.iea-4e.org. Further information is available from the IEA-4E website.

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