



Government Officials from Asia and the Pacific Focus on Efficient Lighting in the Region

Lighting is Responsible for over 15% of Electricity Consumption in Asia

6 February 2015, Paris, France -- Over 70 government officials, leading industry representatives, laboratories and technical institutions from 20 Asia and the Pacific countries met from 3 to 4 February 2015 at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok, Thailand, to consider opportunities for ensuring adequate market surveillance and harmonized policy for efficient lighting.

Participants resolved that 2015 presents a unique window of opportunity to accelerate the rapid deployment of efficient lighting technologies in Asia and the Pacific. Advanced lighting solutions are critical to reduce electricity bills and greenhouse gas emissions, improve energy security, and trade balances. Lighting is responsible for more than 15% of electricity consumption in Asia.

The political commitment from the Association of South East Asian Nation (ASEAN) leaders to develop a single market for goods and services by 2015, provides a perfect opportunity to develop regional lighting standards harmonization, improve consumer confidence and foster regional trade of high-quality lighting products in this market of 600 million consumers.

At the meeting, government and industry participants proposed innovative solutions to ensure compliance with lighting standards to ensure that the billions of lamps sold in the region are safe; do not risk citizens' health and livelihood; ensure that energy bills and greenhouse gas emissions remain low; and meet the consumer quality expectations.

The Governments of Australia and the United States launched lites.asia in 2009 to facilitate the exchange of technical information on lighting between policy makers in Asia-Pacific. The [UNEP-GEF en.lighten initiative](http://en.lighteninitiative.org), with funding from the Government of Australia, supports countries to build capacities in monitoring, verification and enforcement of lighting standards through the [UNEP en.lighten Southeast Asia and Pacific Lighting Monitoring, Verification and Enforcement Project](http://en.lighteninitiative.org).

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