Objectives

An initiative of the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) and an IPEEC Task Group, SEAD is a voluntary collaboration among governments working to promote worldwide the manufacture, purchase and use of energy-efficient appliances, lighting and equipment.

Three key programme strategies enable SEAD to accelerate market transformation:

• Research and analysis: Providing member governments with access to high-quality research and expertise on a variety of product areas and market transformation policies.
• Implementation and training: Driving high-quality, high-efficiency products into markets by creating tools and launching campaigns, and by testing and awarding products for efficiency.
• Dialogue and collaboration: Fostering peer-to-peer exchange among policy makers to drive collaboration and the sharing of policy best practices and technical information.

2018 • Seizing energy savings in widely used equipment

SEAD’s most significant accomplishments in 2018 include:

• Executed the Global Appliance Testing Costs Analysis project to help stakeholders understand product testing costs, prepare comprehensive plans and determine appropriate resource allocation for compliance programmes (see page 13).
• Concluded a study on Baseline Evaluation and Policy Implications for Air Conditioners in Indonesia to help increase energy savings from the country’s standards and labelling (S&L) programme.
• Delivered the SEAD Policy Exchange (SPEx) Forum, The Road to Low-Carbon Heating Systems: Key Barriers to Overcome.
• Announced the successful accomplishment of the Global Lighting Challenge, exceeding the campaign goal to deploy 10 billion energy-efficient lighting products worldwide. The success of the campaign and its retirement were announced by the Swedish Energy Minister at the 9th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM9).
• Developed the new Terms of Reference document as a strategic guide for SEAD moving forward, including details on the new, more collaborative leadership team.

2019 • Sharing information to support targeted action

To continue addressing the efficiency potential of appliances, SEAD plans a number of activities for 2019:

• Increased emphasis on member-led, project-based work and greater member engagement.
• Continue to provide technical assistance and analysis to Argentina, Indonesia and Mexico, through in-kind funding from the United States government for the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to conduct this work.
• Host SEAD Policy Exchange Forum (SPEx) webinars.
• Host International Steering Committee meetings.
• Continue to support dialogue around and collect information on national or regional product databases and registries for appliance energy efficiency, as well as S&L policies for appliance energy efficiency.
• Continue communications and outreach towards SEAD members and partners.

Membership

Lead Members: Canada • European Commission • India • United Kingdom • United States

Participants: Argentina • Australia • Brazil • Chile • China • Germany • Indonesia • Mexico • Republic of Korea • Russia • Saudi Arabia • South Africa • Sweden • United Arab Emirates
Impact: Addressing the high cost of assessing high-impact appliances

Testing the energy performance of appliances is an essential part of certification, monitoring and enforcement (compliance) frameworks. It is also vital to reducing end-user energy demand and expenses, and to building consumer trust. However, product testing can be very costly and is often under-resourced.

In 2018, SEAD conducted the Global Appliance Testing Costs Analysis project to gather information on and analyse global appliance testing costs for high-impact appliances – including the costs of building and operating a testing laboratory and testing products.

Understanding product testing costs helps policy makers and compliance authorities prepare comprehensive testing plans and determine the best solutions for where to conduct testing; for example, in existing national or foreign for-profit accredited test laboratories or whether to invest in their own government-run accredited test facility. However, data on testing prices, as well as the costs of building a laboratory, are often scarce or difficult to access.

Information published within this project aims to demystify the full testing costs, thereby empowering governments and compliance authorities to prepare appropriate compliance policies and programmes. In addition to delivering a catalogue of product testing prices, the project provides information on test lab set-up, operations and country-specific maintenance costs. It also suggests resource allocation options and alternatives to setting up new test laboratories.

Shining the light on energy efficiency

SEAD has achieved several important milestones since its establishment in 2010, including:

• Launching and promoting the Global Lighting Challenge, resulting in commitments to deploy more than 14 billion high-efficiency, high-quality and affordable lighting products.

• Providing the SEAD Street Lighting Tool, which helped Canada, India and Mexico evaluate quality, efficiency, technical compatibility and lifetime cost of different lighting products.

• Launching and executing, since 2012, the Global Efficiency Medal competition to identify innovative technologies that push the boundaries of efficiency and slash energy consumption. Seven award cycles have recognised more than a dozen companies and awarded over 50 products.

• Launching the India Mobile Application to improve appliance energy efficiency programmes and support consumer awareness of energy-efficient products.

• Generating savings in South Africa by collaborating with local partners to address major energy shortfalls. With minimum energy performance standards recommended by SEAD, the country could save 46% of energy consumed by water heaters – adding up to 3.8 TWh of electricity by 2030.