



**IPEEC address at the G20 Energy Efficiency Forum
6 September 2016 - Beijing**

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning. I am very pleased to be here at the first G20 Energy Efficiency Forum in Beijing. This event, specially dedicated to energy efficiency, says a lot about energy efficiency's growing importance and crucial role in economic prosperity, sustainable growth, and climate change globally. Energy efficiency needs more dialogue and exchanges, and so this forum is a welcome creation.

Energy efficiency is like love. The more you share, the more it grows. Money, for instance, is the exact opposite: the more you use and share, the less you have, and the same goes for energy resources: the more we use, the less we have. But energy efficiency is different. This is at the heart of our international energy efficiency forum today in Beijing. As the lead implementing agency of the G20's energy efficiency activities, IPEEC is delighted to take part in today's event.

This year in the G20, energy efficiency truly entered the spotlight.

It received major attention thanks to the leadership of the Chinese G20 presidency and the strong work conducted by countries under the previous presidencies and the 2014 G20 Energy Efficiency Action Plan (EEAP). Significant international work on vehicles, buildings, networked devices, industrial energy management, electricity generation and finance not only continued, but progressed well. Stimulating discussions were held by countries on the way forward on energy efficiency, and what the world needs and how.

All this culminated with the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme (EELP), a major achievement for the G20.

The EELP is a long-term framework for energy efficiency in the G20, the first of its kind. It was endorsed by G20 Energy Ministers in June 2016 here in Beijing. The EELP provides the basis for a "comprehensive, flexible, and adequately-resourced" framework for strengthened voluntary collaboration among G20 members. It builds upon the 2014 EEAP but takes it further both in time and in scope, adding:

- G20 Voluntary Pillars for energy efficiency cooperation, which characterize international collaboration as "beneficial, innovative, inclusive, and sharing".
- A long-term aim for countries to improve energy efficiency through national programs, policies, and measures, according to their needs and priorities.
- Additional areas of collaboration, extended from 6 under the EEAP to 11. The new areas include: top ten best available technologies and best practices (Top Tens), super-efficient equipment and appliance deployment (SEAD), district energy systems, data and metrics, and knowledge-sharing.

The EELP gives energy efficiency the timeframe necessary to realize results, because energy efficiency must be envisioned and supported over a long time to give the opportunity for projects to mature and bear the best

outcomes. It is also a dynamic process that must be continuously engaged with, since the low-hanging fruits of energy efficiency, once picked, grow back.

By providing a long-term framework, the EELP puts the G20 on a path to realize the level of energy efficiency action the world needs in the coming years. Most importantly, the EELP shows the very best of the G20 process: how countries can decide together, commit together, and act together to do more for the world.

As a group of the largest energy consumers globally (80% of primary energy consumption and 80% of GHG emissions), the G20 - and what it does - matter. Strengthened G20 collaboration on energy efficiency can make a real difference: for economies and climate change, individuals and businesses.

Energy efficiency never comes out of a vacuum: to become reality, energy efficiency requires a set of ingredients: political willingness, special human, technical and institutional capacities, massive data gathering and analysis, dedicated tools and instruments (metrics, ratings, monitoring, etc...).

The recently approved Paris Agreement needs huge financial flows toward investment in energy efficiency solutions, in all sectors and in all economies, and over the decades to come. The role of energy efficiency policies, measures and instruments is precisely to give a visible face to energy savings, to allow market transactions to perceive and act on energy efficiency solutions. Energy efficiency policy frameworks are the foundations on which markets transform.

The settling of EE policy frameworks has a cost and requires a small but sustainable financial flow: more is needed in numerous economies on that front. Climate finance under the Paris Agreement offers a unique opportunity to the international energy efficiency community. Climate finance, and in particular the Green Climate Fund, has the potential to provide the financial flow for the technical assistance that is so needed in energy efficiency.

Energy efficiency is by nature domestic and very local. Energy efficiency solutions are the results of very granular decisions and investments. International cooperation does not seek to replace or to supersede national policies. Instead, when properly established, collaboration can accelerate the exchange of information, technical opportunities for regional harmonization, and mobilization of key partners by national governments (typically financial institutions). International collaboration can therefore greatly accelerate the adoption and implementation of domestic energy efficiency policies – and this is stated clearly in the text of the EELP.

With the EELP, the G20 is now in place to provide greater inspiration, leadership, and results for energy efficiency action.

To end as I began, let me repeat: energy efficiency is now in the spotlight, confident and ready to play its part. We are better placed now to make the most of the opportunities before us. But let us not forget: it took many years for energy efficiency to gain the attention it deserves, and more, always more, can be – must be – done to create a sustainable future.

Thank you.

Benoit Lebot
Beijing, September 2016