FACT SHEET: GLOBAL SUPERIOR ENERGY PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP

At the first meeting of the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) in July 2010, ministers launched the Global Superior Energy Performance Partnership (GSEP) to reduce global energy use through the following initiatives:

1) Encouraging industrial facilities and commercial buildings to pursue continuous improvements in energy efficiency.
2) Promoting public-private partnerships for cooperation on specific technologies or in individual energy-intensive sectors.

GSEP includes the following six working groups:

1. (1) Energy Management and (2) Cool Roofs and Pavement (led by the United States)
2. (3) Power, (4) Steel (5) Cement (led by Japan)
3. (6) Combined Heat and Power (led by Finland)

Energy Management Working Group
The Energy Management Working Group is developing a network of coordinated national-level certification programs to encourage industrial facilities and commercial buildings to pursue continuous improvements in energy efficiency. Public and educational facilities can also participate. The GSEP certification process will recognize facilities that meet three main criteria: (1) adoption of an energy management system that conforms with the forthcoming ISO 50001 standard, (2) achievement of a designated minimum rate of energy performance improvement and (3) receipt of third-party validation of energy performance improvement and conformance to ISO 50001.

Cool Roofs and Pavements Working Group
The new Cool roofs and Pavements Working Group will advance policies and actions that increase the solar reflectance of urban surfaces through activities such as pilot projects, the development of best practices, research to refine the understanding of the potential of cool roofs and pavements to mitigate the urban heat island effect and global warming, and the promotion of including cool roofs and pavements in building codes.

Power, Steel and Cement Working Groups
The Power, Steel and Cement Working Groups will each bring together experts and leaders from the public, private and academic/research sectors to exchange information and to create practical projects through public-private partnerships focused on their respective industries, with the goal of promoting best practices for energy efficiency. Many of the activities of these working groups were initiated through the Asia-Pacific Partnership, but they will be continued through the GSEP working groups and be expanded to include additional participating governments.
Combined Heat and Power (CHP)/ Efficient District Heating and Cooling (DHC) Working Group

The CHP and Efficient DHC Working Group will increase awareness about the potential of CHP and efficient DHC to reduce fuel consumption and emissions of greenhouse gases through activities such as the identification of enabling policies, targeted education and outreach, the development of best practices and on-the-ground projects and technical assistance.

Progress since the First Clean Energy Ministerial

- GSEP was formally adopted as a task group under the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC)
- Working groups were launched for Cement, Combined Heat and Power, and Cool Roofs
- First workshop for all working groups were planned for summer 2011

Energy Management Working Group

- Pilot projects were announced at the first CEM last July, a kickoff meeting was held, and the working group will conduct the first training in summer 2011
- Two additional companies have committed to pilot projects: Infosys and Wipro
- Mapping of existing relevant activities and programs in participating countries and subsequent identification of gaps is near completion
- Development of a strategic implementation plan is underway

Cool Roofs and Pavements Working Group

- The Working Group is recruiting both public- and private-sector participants, but has not been formally launched

Power, Steel and Cement Working Groups

- Asia-Pacific Partnership (APP) members have discussed the transition of their activities from APP to GSEP and the groups are scheduled to launch formally in summer 2011

Combined Heat and Power (CHP)/ Efficient District Heating and Cooling (DHC) Working Group

- The working group is recruiting both public- and private-sector participants, but has not been formally launched

Upcoming Activities

The Energy Management Working Group has been working with companies that announced pilot projects last July. Companies are scheduled to receive their initial training in summer 2011 to kick-off the process of measuring their baselines, set goals for energy performance improvements and implement ISO 50001.

After the final meeting of the Asia Pacific Partnership in April 2011, some of the activities initiated through that partnership will formally transition to the GSEP Power, Steel and Cement Working Groups. At the GSEP workshop in summer 2011, those working groups plus the newly formed working groups for CHP and Cool Roofs will convene public- and private-sector participants to establish a workplan and associated timeline for the coming year.
Participants as of 7 April 2011

Participating governments include Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, Finland, France, India, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, Sweden and the United States.