



11th Annual Global Conference on Energy Efficiency

Co-hosted by



Gouvernement
du Canada

Government
of Canada

Montreal, Canada
29-30 June 2026

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International
Energy Agency



Protecting consumers and building resilience through energy efficiency

In the context of heightened global energy market volatility and economic uncertainty, energy efficiency remains one of the central tools for strengthening energy security, enhancing industrial competitiveness and improving affordability for households, while also helping governments pursue their shared goals on sustainability.

Energy efficiency can simultaneously shield consumers from the worst effects of short-term price shocks while making whole economies and industries more resilient in the longer term. When consumers drive more efficient cars, live in more efficient buildings and work for companies that have maximised their energy productivity, less energy is wasted, bills and emissions are lower, and households and businesses are all better prepared for the future. Energy efficiency allows them to do so in healthier, more productive environments, while enjoying the wider benefits of secure and sustainable jobs.

The **IEA's 11th Annual Global Conference on Energy Efficiency** will be the central moment of 2026 in which governments, businesses and civil society will come together to strengthen collaboration towards these aims. The 11th edition of the Global Conference, which follows recent successes in Brussels and Nairobi, will be co-hosted by IEA Executive Director, Dr Fatih Birol, and Canada's Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, the Honourable Tim Hodgson.

The event will provide a unique forum for ministers, CEOs and other senior leaders to discuss their plans to accelerate progress on energy efficiency, through two days of high-level panels, roundtable discussions and bilateral meetings. At this critical moment for global energy security, the event will highlight the strength and urgency of collaborative action to accelerate efficiency – a cornerstone of a more secure and sustainable energy system. Integrating demand-side measures, achieving energy savings, and promoting resilience will be at the forefront of discussions in Montreal, allowing governments and industry alike to learn from the previous crisis and to address the current one.

Overview

The 11th Global Conference will take place at the Palais des congrès de Montreal on **29 and 30 June 2026, with a welcome evening reception on the evening of 28 June**. There is no registration fee for participation. Attendance is by invitation – to discuss your participation alongside over 600 other senior representatives from government and industry, please contact energy.efficiency@iea.org.

Sunday 28 June	Registration opens Welcome cocktail reception
Monday 29 June	Grand opening High-level panels Ministerial roundtable discussion CEO roundtable discussion
Tuesday 30 June	Further high-level panels Thematic sessions

Sunday 28 June

17:00-19:00	<p>Welcome reception – Room 725</p> <p>Informal cocktail reception to welcome participants to Montreal. Following some short open remarks, winners of the IEA Youth Energy Efficiency Leadership Award will be announced and winning entries introduced. Conference registration will open from mid-afternoon.</p> <p>Brian Motherway, Head of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Inclusive Transitions, IEA Effie Giannou, Deputy Mayor, City of Montréal Pascale Déry, Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks, Québec Dave Rhéaume, Executive Vice President - Energy and Regulatory Strategy and Industrial Operations Frank Des Rosiers, Assistant Deputy Minister, Natural Resources, Canada</p>
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Monday 29 June

08:40-10:00	<p>Grand Opening – Room 517-BC</p> <p>The conference will begin with welcome remarks from the co-hosts, before a panel discussion in which ministers and CEOs will discuss the strategic importance of energy efficiency in meeting objectives around energy security, affordability and industrial competitiveness.</p> <p>Steven Graham, Citizen of the Otipemisiwak Metis Government within Alberta</p> <p>Fatih Birol, Executive Director, IEA Tim Hodgson, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Canada Julie Dabrusin, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Canada Dan Jørgensen, Commissioner for Energy and Housing, European Commission Claudine Bouchard, President and Chief Executive Officer, Hydro-Québec</p>	
10:00-10:30	<p>Coffee break and networking</p>	
10:30-11:30	<p>Business leadership on energy efficiency – Room 517-BC</p> <p>A panel discussion highlighting how businesses are demonstrating leadership on energy efficiency.</p> <p>Jennifer Layke, Executive Director, ACEEE</p> <p>Kelly Becker, President of North America Operations, Schneider Electric Brandon Spencer, President of Motion Business, ABB Kristian Strand, President, Danfoss Climate Solutions Anil Rawal, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Intellismart</p>	<p>Ministerial Roundtable on Energy Efficiency</p> <p>Closed-door session for Ministers to discuss steps needed for stronger policy action and international collaboration on energy efficiency.</p> <p><i>Room 517-D</i></p>
11:30-12:30	<p>Efficiency for industrial competitiveness – Room 517-BC</p> <p>A panel discussion underlining how policies can unlock the potential for energy efficiency to drive industrial competitiveness and jobs.</p> <p>Satish Kumar, President and Executive Director, AEEE</p> <p>Charlotte Mitha, President and Chief Executive Officer, BC Hydro Paula Glover, President, Alliance to Save Energy Jes Munk Hansen, President and Chief Executive Officer, Rockwool Jim Matthews, President, International Electrotechnical Commission</p>	
12:30-13:30	<p>Lunch</p>	

13:30-14:15	Fireside chat – Room 517-BC Pierre-Olivier Pineau , Professor, Department of Decision Sciences, HEC Montréal Fatih Birol , Executive Director, IEA François-Philippe Champagne , Minister of Finance and National Revenue, Canada	
14:15-15:15	Sheltering consumers from energy shocks – Room 517-BC A panel discussion focusing on how governments are harnessing energy efficiency in the short term in order to protect consumers from energy price volatility and support a fair transition. Melanie Slade , Senior Programme Manager, IEA Michel Heijdra , Vice Minister of Climate Policy and Green Growth, The Netherlands Richard Gyan-Mensah , Deputy Minister of Energy, Ghana Kevin Hunte , Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Business Development, Barbados Mary Sprayregen , Global Head of Regulatory Affairs, Oracle Christine Egan , Chief Executive Officer, CLASP	14:20-16:15 CEO Roundtable Closed-door session for invited CEOs and senior executives to exchange views on how to leverage untapped potential for energy savings across sectors. <i>Room 517-A</i>
15:15-15:45	Coffee break and networking	
15:45-16:45	Building long-term resilience – Room 517-BC A panel discussion exploring how governments can move from shielding households and businesses in the short term to strengthening energy systems to withstand future shocks and uncertainties. Rosalinde van der Vlies , Director of Just Transition, Consumers, Energy Efficiency and Innovation, European Commission Martin McCluskey , Minister of Energy Consumers, United Kingdom Cheikh Niane , Secretary General, Ministry of Energy, Petroleum and Mines, Senegal Hugo Briones , Undersecretary of Energy, Chile Yasmin Abraham , President, Kambo Energy Group Cristina Gamboa , Chief Executive Officer, World Green Building Council	
16:45-17:45	Closing Panel – Room 517-BC A panel discussion bringing together insights from across the day to understand how best to strengthen public-private collaboration on energy efficiency, with the aim of achieving shared goals on affordability, security, competitiveness and sustainability. Brian Motherway , Head of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Inclusive Transition, IEA Waldir Ayasta , Minister of Energy and Mines, Peru Joan Groizard , Secretary of State for Energy, Spain Edmond Benjamin Nonie , Deputy Minister of Energy I, Sierra Leone Marie-Claude Dumas , President, WSP in Canada Lavinia Bauerochse , Global Head of Sustainable Finance, Deutsche Bank	
18:00-21:30	Conference dinner events	

Tuesday 30 June

08:00-09:45	<p>Diversity for Efficiency: Energy Efficiency Implementation - Diversity as a Strategic Enabler <i>co-organised with CIGRE Canada Women in Energy - Room 517-A</i></p> <p>Aligning with the conference theme of accelerating global energy efficiency, this panel will bring together senior leaders from government, utilities, regulation, and technology to explore how diversity serves as a strategic enabler of improved energy efficiency outcomes.</p> <p>Opening remarks: Julie Dabrusin, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Canada</p> <p>Aimee Intac-Leung, CIGRE Canada Women in Energy Chair Mechthild Wörsdörfer, Deputy Director-General, DG ENER, European Commission Sheila Oparaocha, Director, ENERGIA International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy Laila Porras Musalem, Director of International Affairs, Secretariat of Energy, Mexico Faqi Rawni Arndarnijariah, Youth Energy Efficiency Leadership Award Winner Emily Heitman, President, Schneider Electric Canada Brian Motherway, Head of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Inclusive Transition, IEA</p>
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Morning: High-level panels

10:00-11:00	<p>Financing energy efficiency - Room 517-BC</p> <p>High-level speakers come together to explore how governments can help create the conditions to rapidly accelerate investments in energy efficiency and, together with private and financial bodies, help overcome financing constraints.</p> <p>Mechthild Wörsdörfer, Deputy Director-General, DG ENER, European Commission</p> <p>Erika Gupta, Head of Sustainability, Siemens Financial Services Drew McDonald, Country Head, Bank of America, Canada Maxine Fu, Co-Founder and CEO, Yo-I Consultancy China Lavinia Bauerochse, Global Head of Sustainable Finance, Deutsche Bank Amit Khare, Programme Manager, Sequoia Climate Foundation</p>	<p>High-level Roundtable on Policies to Improve Energy Affordability for Households</p> <p>Closed-door session to discuss the crisis's impact on energy affordability, share short-term support measures for households, and explore long-term policies that strengthen affordability and energy security.</p> <p><i>Room 517-D</i></p>
11:00-12:00	<p>AI for efficiency - Room 517-BC</p> <p>A panel discussion that examines the range of promising new AI tools that are being harnessed worldwide as a positive tool for unlocking new routes to energy efficiency.</p> <p>Reena Suri, Executive Director, India Smart Grid Forum</p> <p>Rachel Fletcher, Group Director Regulation and Economics, Octopus Energy Julien Gennetier, Executive Vice President, Alfa Laval Dorin Junghietu, Minister of Energy, Moldova Mary Sprayregen, Global Head, Oracle Asako Ueno, Deputy Commissioner for International Affairs, Japan</p>	
12:00-13:30	Lunch	

Afternoon: Thematic sessions

13:30-15:00	<p>Buildings as active players in</p> <p>This session will explore the pivotal role that grid-interactive buildings can play in ensuring the security and affordability of energy systems. Discussions will examine both near-term actions to unlock demand-side flexibility and longer-term strategies to ensure buildings remain adaptable as</p>
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	<p>the energy transition</p> <p><i>Room 517-BC</i></p>	<p>grids evolve, as well as how to scale grid-interactive buildings while balancing affordability, digitalisation, and system integration.</p>
	<p>Flexible grids for electrification</p> <p><i>Room 520-BE</i></p>	<p>This session will explore the growing importance of electricity grids, demand-side response and digitalisation in lowering energy system costs and ensuring security. It will discuss the policy, regulatory and investment conditions needed to modernise grids, unlock flexibility and accelerate deployment at scale.</p>
	<p>Energy efficiency supporting remote and rural communities</p> <p><i>Room 520-CF</i></p>	<p>This session will focus on practical experiences to promote energy efficiency in remote and rural contexts, including how to engage effectively with local communities, address affordability challenges and ensure accessibility. It will also explore tools and approaches that support the development of inclusive policies that can be adapted to different local contexts.</p>
	<p>Demand-side energy data for improving lives</p> <p><i>Room 520-A</i></p>	<p>This session will explore how stronger demand-side energy data can support energy systems, particularly in rapidly growing economies of the Global South. It will highlight the challenges of fragmented and limited data, and examine how emerging approaches, such as geospatial tools, open data frameworks and AI-enabled methods, can enable more continuous, affordable and accessible data systems.</p>
15:00-15:30	Coffee break and networking	
15:30-17:00	<p>New frontiers in modern and efficient data centres</p> <p><i>Room 517-BC</i></p>	<p>This session will explore how energy efficiency can support the sustainable growth of data centres in the face of rapidly rising electricity demand. It will examine how improvements in design, operation and system integration can align expansion with power system needs, as well as the role of data, metrics and transparency in informing policy, investment and operational decisions.</p>
	<p>Smart and efficient appliances fit for the future</p> <p><i>Room 520-BE</i></p>	<p>This session will explore how smart and efficient appliances can deliver benefits across the energy system, and highlight key policy priorities, particularly for emerging economies. Discussions will draw on experience from successful policy programmes and will look ahead to how appliance policies must evolve in a more digitalised and electrified energy system.</p>
	<p>Driving energy efficiency for a competitive industrial sector</p> <p><i>Room 517-D</i></p>	<p>This session will explore how energy efficiency can strengthen industrial competitiveness in a context of rising energy costs, growing demand and increasing global competition. It will highlight the significant untapped potential across industrial sectors, alongside practical case studies that illustrate both the opportunities and the key barriers to implementation.</p>

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