



# 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> Global Conference will take place at the Palais de 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](mailto:energy.efficiency@iea.org).

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

## Sunday 28 June

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| <b>17:00-19:00</b> | <b>Welcome reception</b><br><br>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. |
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## Monday 29 June

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| <b>08:30-10:00</b> | <b>Grand Opening</b><br><br>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. |  |
| <b>10:00-10:30</b> | <b>Coffee break and networking</b>   |  |
| <b>10:30-11:30</b> | <b>Business leadership on energy efficiency</b><br><br>A panel discussion highlighting how businesses are demonstrating leadership on energy efficiency.   | <b>Ministerial Roundtable on Energy Efficiency</b><br><br>Closed-door session for Ministers to discuss steps needed for stronger policy action and international collaboration on energy efficiency. |
| <b>11:30-12:30</b> | <b>Efficiency for industrial competitiveness</b><br><br>A panel discussion underlining how policies can unlock the potential for energy efficiency to drive industrial competitiveness and jobs.   |  |
| <b>12:30-14:00</b> | <b>Lunch</b>   |  |
| <b>14:00-15:00</b> | <b>Sheltering consumers from energy shocks</b><br><br>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.  | <b>CEO Roundtable</b><br><br>Closed-door session for invited CEOs and senior executives to exchange views on how to leverage untapped potential for energy savings across sectors.                   |
| <b>15:00-16:00</b> | <b>Building long-term resilience</b><br><br>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.   |  |
| <b>16:00-16:30</b> | <b>Coffee break and networking</b>   |  |
| <b>16:30-17:30</b> | <b>Closing Panel</b><br><br>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.               |  |
| <b>18:30-21:30</b> | <b>Conference dinner events</b>  |  |

## Tuesday 30 June

**08:00-09:45 Diversity for Efficiency: Energy Efficiency Implementation - Diversity as a Strategic Enabler** *co-organised with CIGRE Canada Women in Energy*

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.

### Morning: High-level panels

**10:00-11:00 Financing energy efficiency**

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.

**11:00-12:00 AI for efficiency**

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.

**12:00-13:30 Lunch**

### Afternoon: Thematic sessions

**13:30-15:00 Buildings as active players in the energy transition**  
*Room 517-BC*

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 grids evolve, as well as how to scale grid interactive buildings while balancing affordability, digitalisation, and system integration.

**Digital and flexible demand-driven power systems**  
*Room 520-BE*

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.

**Energy efficiency supporting remote and rural communities**  
*Room 520-CF*

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.

**Demand-side energy data for improving lives**  
*Room 520-A*

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.

**15:00-15:30 Coffee break and networking**

**15:30-17:00**

**New frontiers in  
modern  
and efficient data  
centres**

*Room 517-BC*

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.

**Smart and efficient  
appliances fit for  
the future**

*Room 520-BE*

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.

**Driving energy  
efficiency for a  
competitive  
industrial sector**

*Room 517-A*

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.

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