

Detailed Case study information

Energy efficiency

Description	The activity focused on supporting the operationalisation of Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) for air conditioners in Eswatini, in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy. In February 2026, a three-day technical workshop was conducted to translate MEPS from policy into practice. The workshop addressed the full implementation chain, including technical standards, product registration, data management systems, border control procedures, inspections, and enforcement mechanisms. Tailored to Eswatini's national context and institutional setup, the workshop used air conditioners as a practical example to build a shared understanding of how regulations, technical systems, and enforcement processes must interact to ensure effective MEPS implementation. The activity was funded by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) and implemented by GIZ Proklima under the Cooling Programme for Southern Africa (CooPSA), commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK). The programme supports partner countries including Botswana, Eswatini, Namibia, and South Africa, and runs from December 2021 to December 2027, building on earlier Proklima efforts to promote eco-friendly and environmentally sustainable cooling technologies worldwide.
Achievements	The workshop successfully established a shared and practical understanding of how MEPS can be implemented and enforced in Eswatini. Participating institutions worked collaboratively to define clear roles, responsibilities, and indicative timelines for implementation. In addition, the workshop designed key operational systems required for MEPS enforcement, including product registration and authorisation processes, database structures, and border control procedures. Participants also reviewed and refined draft MEPS regulations, resolving outstanding issues and identifying necessary regulatory improvements. By the end of the workshop, institutions had agreed on coordinated implementation plans, outlining concrete actions and responsibilities for moving forward with MEPS enactment and enforcement.
Benefits	The workshop significantly strengthened coordination and readiness among national institutions responsible for MEPS implementation and enforcement. It fostered a high level of ownership and collaboration across agencies, including energy authorities, regulators, and border control institutions. Operationalising MEPS will help prevent the import and sale of inefficient or non-compliant air conditioning units, thereby protecting consumers and improving market quality. At the same time, it supports national efforts to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to climate mitigation and sustainable development goals. Overall, the initiative provides a strong foundation for effective MEPS enforcement, delivering benefits in terms of energy efficiency, environmental protection, and consumer safeguards.
Next steps	The next steps focus on finalising the MEPS regulations and addressing remaining gaps identified during the workshop. This will be followed by the implementation of the agreed systems, including product registration, inspections, and enforcement procedures with clearly defined penalties.
Source	From Policy to Practice: Operationalising MEPS for Air Conditioners in Eswatini - GIZ Proklima

Description	Funded by the Clean Cooling Collaborative of the ClimateWorks Foundation, the Accelerating Air Conditioning Transformation through Enhanced Energy Performance Standards (ACT MEPS) project is implemented by GIZ Proklima in the Philippines and Viet Nam. The project institutionalizes regional Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) into national contexts to ensure regular updates, accelerate the transformation of the air-conditioning (AC) market, and drive the uptake of energy-efficient, low-global-warming-potential (GWP) technologies. Through structured stakeholder consultations and targeted trainings, ACT MEPS builds the pathway toward the ASEAN roadmap for ambitious MEPS—culminating in Level 2 MEPS at a CSPF 6.09—by engaging national standards bodies, academia, and industry representatives (manufacturers and importers). In both countries, the project supports evidence-based policymaking via market data collection, test procedure alignment, and capacity building for compliance and enforcement institutions.
Achievements	ACT MEPS has supported the set-up and strengthening of national standards and labelling frameworks, including the development of technical guidelines and alignment with ASEAN Harmonized MEPS. The project established a strategic dialogue with national, regional, and international AC manufacturers to balance interests and advocate for progressively more ambitious MEPS trajectories, while identifying transition needs along the supply chain. In the Philippines, MEPS were updated to align with the ASEAN Harmonized MEPS at CSPF 3.7. However, a lower MEPS was adopted for units with cooling capacities ≤ 4.5 kW, which represent a large market share. With project support, the Philippine Department of Energy (DOE) advanced preparatory steps toward higher ambition—consistent with Level 2 MEPS at CSPF 6.09—through market data collection, stakeholder roundtables, and groundwork to inform the upcoming regulatory update. In Viet Nam, ACT MEPS has convened consultations with the National Standards Institute and industry, prepared draft proposals and technical justifications, and supported test capacity improvements. Updated MEPS are planned to be formally proposed to the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) in November 2026 following the project-facilitated consultation process.
Benefits	- Stronger coordination and enforcement readiness: By aligning test methods, strengthening market surveillance capacities, and clarifying roles across institutions, the project improves national readiness to implement and enforce higher MEPS. - Supports energy savings, climate goals, and consumer protection: More efficient ACs lower electricity consumption and peak loads, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and help protect consumers by ensuring transparent performance information and quality standards—while facilitating the transition to lower GWP refrigerants in line with regional and national climate targets.
Next steps	- Continue supporting MEPS updates in both countries, ensuring a predictable, stepwise increase in ambition and alignment with the ASEAN roadmap. - Develop a roadmap for achieving CSPF 6.09 MEPS in Viet Nam, beyond the current update, including milestones for policy adoption, market preparedness, and compliance systems. - Define and implement targeted support for local manufacturers in Viet Nam to accelerate the MEPS increase, including technology options, cost–benefit analysis, and transition assistance. - Develop AC test guidelines and build technician capacity in Viet Nam to improve test accuracy, product installation quality, and after sales performance.

	- Provide analysis for Philippine policymakers on the “country of origin” clause and its implications for achieving ambitious MEPS, ensuring a level playing field while maintaining high efficiency targets.
Source	- Accelerating Air Conditioning Transformation through Enhanced Energy Performance Standards - ESP - Windows of Opportunity: ACT MEPS Project in the Philippines - GIZ Proklima - Stakeholders Advance Stronger Energy Standards for Air Conditioners in the Philippines - GIZ Proklima