

# 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Global Conference on Energy Efficiency

## Special Event: Accelerating Energy Efficiency in Buildings

**Wednesday 22 May 2024: 10:00-12:30 EST**  
**Marquee, Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya**

### Event background

With buildings accounting for over [34% of global final energy demand](#) and 37% of total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the sector is critical for driving progress towards doubling energy efficiency improvements by 2030. In the IEA Net Zero Scenario (NZE), average energy intensity improvement rates for buildings reach over 5% on average from now until 2030, a more than quadrupling of the average rate in the last decade. While COP28 has indeed brought energy efficiency to the forefront, the focus must now shift to more ambitious policy action, incentives and support from countries, organizations, and financial institutions. Accelerating energy efficiency improvements in buildings will require a package of policies, incentives and information measures to maximise progress.

Building codes play a pivotal role in advancing energy efficiency and sustainability in the buildings sector, and global coverage has expanded in recent years. Around 80% of all building codes globally are mandatory, but one third have not been updated since 2015. Only a few building codes set requirements for achieving net zero performance of new and retrofitted buildings. Developing countries are anticipated to see an 80% growth in floor area by 2030, emphasizing the importance of integrating energy-efficient practices early on. In Africa, [70%](#) of buildings are yet to be constructed, and the continent is expected to experience the fastest urban population growth by 2050.

Currently, numerous buildings are being financed, designed, and constructed without adequate energy efficiency measures, underscoring the critical need for collaboration to ensure sustainability across the built environment. In the buildings sector strengthened policies on energy efficiency should be combined with financial incentives such as green mortgages, preferential loans and grants that can motivate consumers and developers to invest in energy efficient solutions.

As countries look to formulate their updated submissions for Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), implementing an effective policy package for energy efficiency in buildings can ensure a pathway for increased ambition and action. This event will aim to bring together stakeholders from governments, the private sector, financial institutions and civil society to explore the actions to be taken now that can drive energy efficiency in the buildings sector out to 2030. Aligning policies, incentives and information measures to achieve optimal outcomes in a range of global settings will form a key part of discussions, aiming to draw on best practices from around the world.

## Agenda

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| 10:00-10:10  | <b>Opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hon. Alice Wahome. Cabinet Secretary – Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development</li> </ul>   |
| 10:10- 11:10 | <b>Session 1: Implementing robust energy efficiency policies in the buildings sector</b><br>Energy efficiency must remain at the forefront of climate action and the energy transition, as reflected in NDCs, national strategies, and organizational agendas While COP28 has brought energy efficiency to the forefront, the focus must now shift to implementation by governments, organisations, and financial institutions. An effective combination of policies covering regulations, incentives and information can be effective in maximising energy efficiency outcomes in the buildings sector.<br><br><b>Moderator:</b> Elizabeth Wangeci Chege, Energy Efficiency Specialist, SEforALL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audrey Nugent, Head of Advocacy, WorldGBC</li> <li>Pramod Singh, Senior Director, AEEE</li> <li>Cherop Soy, SGD7 Global Ambassador for Youth at SEforALL</li> <li>Dorah Modise, Regional Director, Africa, C40</li> <li>Professor Wei Feng, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)</li> </ul>  |
| 10:10-10:30  | <b>Coffee break</b>  |
| 10:30-12:30  | <b>Session 2: Incentivising and financing the shift to efficient, flexible buildings</b><br>An effective policy package for accelerating energy efficiency in buildings required incentives that can attract financing and encourage best practices. In the buildings sector strengthened policies on energy efficiency should be combined with financial incentives such as green mortgages, preferential loans and grants that can motivate consumers and developers to invest in energy efficient solutions. This session will aim to explore how governments can achieve this by adopting a holistic stakeholder approach towards the built environment.<br><br><b>Moderator:</b> Reuben Muhindi Wambui, Climate Finance Specialist, Founder, Net-Zero Africa Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zhao Yanbing, Senor Programme Officer, Low Carbon Cities Programme, Energy Foundation China</li> <li>Elizabeth Wangeci Chege, Energy Efficiency Specialist, SEforALL</li> <li>John Kaburu, Regional Manager &amp; Head of Mortgage, Absa Bank</li> <li>Goodman Kazoora, Energy Efficiency Expert for Buildings, AFREC</li> <li>Molly Brown, Head of Carbon Strategy, BURN</li> </ul> |
| 12:30        | <b>Closing remarks</b>   |