

“Energy Efficiency in Public and Commercial Buildings”

Charles Murove, CaBEERE Adviser

The public and commercial sector programme will build capacity in the sector and introduce energy efficiency standards in the buildings.

Implementation of the public sector energy efficiency programme is government's response to begin the process of de-coupling energy demand from GDP growth, provide overall leadership and lead the rest of the economy by example.

The DME endeavors to ensure that there are mechanisms in place:

To finance cost effective interventions that quality assurance is built into the overall programming and that performance is periodically monitored and verified so that the programme will deliver actual verifiable energy savings.

Successful programming will provide financial benefits for building owners and those renting buildings. Initially the programme will start in buildings under the control of National Government. Hereafter the programme will be rolled out to local levels and the commercial sector.

Additional benefits

There will be employment creation opportunities where service providers are developed, accredited and/or certified to undertake and monitor high quality building energy audits. It is envisaged that the programme will provide a vehicle through which small and emerging Energy Services Companies (ESCOs) can grow and flourish.

The building energy efficiency standards will be incorporated in the National Building Regulations. The aim is to design for energy efficiency and to “get it right the first time” thus the designers will work in a team with the key technical people right from the building sketches.

Summed up all these benefits will be significant and the approach dovetails with the country's overall social, economic and environmental sustainability goals.

Focus Areas 2004-2007

Capacity Building

“Building Energy Audit Training

Building EE Standards

“Energy Efficiency Standards for Artificially Ventilated Buildings (AVBs)”

National Level

“Rollout Energy Management to Buildings Under the Control of National Government”

Provincial and Local Level

“Rollout Energy Management to Buildings Under the Control of Provincial and Local Government”

Appliance Labelling

Helene Rask Grøn, CaBEERE Manager

South Africa introduces appliance labels.

In May 2004, the DME with support from CaBEERE and the Industry will launch the national introduction of household appliance labelling. All electrical household articles like refrigerators, washing machines etc will be labelled according to a national standard. The standards are divided into 7 categories with A representing the most efficient appliance and G representing the least efficient appliance. The label is similar to labels used across the world like China and Europe.

The appliance label is envisaged to push consumption of household appliances towards the C and B products. These products use less electricity than the G products. Consumers are expected to realise reduced electricity bills as they replace inefficient household appliances with more efficient products.

The label will include a unique South African symbol if the product is produced in South Africa.

