

## Communiqué

### From the Dialogue to Develop a Regional Quality Assurance Program for Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs)

USAID ECO-Asia Clean Development and Climate Program  
Asian Development Bank Headquarters, Manila, Philippines

28 June 2007

Sixty eight representatives from seven Asia-Pacific countries and seven manufacturers participated in a Dialogue to Develop a Regional Quality Assurance Program for Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs). The Dialogue was a part of the Asia Forum on Clean Energy held in Manila June 26 - 28 2007 in Manila, Philippines.

The forum was sponsored by U.S. Agency for International Development's Regional Development Mission for Asia (USAID RDM/A) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and it was organized by ECO-Asia Clean Development and Climate Program.

The participants agreed on the following key outcomes from the meeting:

1. CFLs represent a quick, easy, and cost effective tool for the region to address energy efficiency, energy security and climate change concerns.
2. Low quality CFLs represent a significant barrier to the full realization of this strategy for the whole region.
3. There is an urgent need for a regional uniform process to test and assure the quality of CFLs sold in the region.
4. Quality standards are needed to keep low quality CFLs out of the market.
5. Participants agreed on the need for one, or possibly two, CFL performance levels that could be recognized across the region. Government agencies and bulk purchasers of CFLs would be free to recognize the common CFL level, or levels, on a *voluntary* basis.
6. The Efficient Lighting Initiative (ELI) has an established certification scheme for CFLs that can be used by governments in the region as a common metric for defining, testing, and certifying CFL quality.
7. Having a common set of defined quality levels and mutual recognition of test results will reduce manufacturer costs for testing and compliance.
8. Government agencies in the region require funding and technical assistance in setting up testing and compliance procedures.
9. Some countries in the region expressed an interest in establishing national accredited laboratories in their countries.
10. Government agencies, the private sector and NGOs in the region should take concrete actions to increase awareness of high-quality products.
11. A number of the participants expressed the need for technical assistance to help improve the quality of CFLs manufactured in their countries.
12. Multi-national suppliers were encouraged to take the lead in setting and meeting CFL quality standards.
13. Low quality CFLs have higher negative environmental impacts than high-quality CFLs.
14. Participants identified the need for a regional advisory body on energy-efficient lighting. It was suggested that the USAID ECO-Asia Clean Development and Climate Program can convene meetings of a *de facto* regional advisory body until a more permanent body is established.
15. The Asian Development Bank expressed its strong interest in supporting efforts to scale up investment in CFLs, as well as efforts to build capacity to test and certify CFL quality.

Participants of the session agreed to release this communiqué to record the outcome of their dialogue.