



Independent  
Evaluation Office  
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

# Evaluating Transformative Change in the GEF: Rapid Impact Evaluation of the GEF/UNIDO Energy Efficiency Program in South East Asia

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*Stream 2: “Sustainable development  
and transformative change”*

*Panel Discussion*

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# Evaluating Transformative Change at the GEF

- **Criteria:** transformational interventions are Relevant; Deep/Systemic; Large-scale; and Sustainable.
- **Findings** on GEF interventions that supported completed transformations:
  - i. Established a *Demonstration and Replication mechanism*;
  - ii. Supported by the *Policy and Economic Environment*;
  - iii. Achieved *Financial Sustainability* by mobilizing market forces or by eliciting government budgetary allocations.
- **Lessons:** level of ambition; effective transformational mechanism; quality of implementation and execution; harnessing market forces; size does not matter.

# The GEF/UNIDO Energy Efficiency Program in South East (SE) Asia

- **Aim:** Assist countries to improve EE in targeted industrial sectors in 5 countries, and extend to other countries in SE Asia
- **Components:**
  - i. Support to government for a National Regulatory Framework for EE in industries (including ISO 50,000)
  - ii. Tools/Training for enterprises on EnMS and SO, and of service providers (equipment, consulting) as well as financial institutions (lending for EE investments)
  - iii. EE Pilots with national commitments to the number of enterprises adopting EnMS and SO.

# Rapid Impact Evaluation - Methodological pillars

**Simple metrics to assess future effects**



Magnitude



Likelihood

**Scenario-based counterfactual**



**Three different types of expert groups provide assessments**



**Interest-based approach to stakeholders**



# Rapid Impact Evaluation - Application

- **Aim**: Assess the extent of GEF programs delivery of broader and long term impacts through case studies
- **How**: Iterative design phase, with visits in Washington DC and Vienna, plus missions to 2 out of 5 countries
- **Results**: GHG emission reduction estimates from the 3 expert groups in each country and from a global panel:
  - i. Significant energy savings/GHG emission reductions
  - ii. Potential for in-country replication, but replication to other countries unlikely

The RIE Case Study Report is available on our website

[www.gefieo.org](http://www.gefieo.org)

## Concluding remarks

- RIE proved useful in informing on some criteria of the program potential for transformative results
- Program design potentially had all the elements for achieving transformational change in EE in SE Asia
- It was an ambitious and well executed program, and RIE showed the potential for in-country replication
- But the program fell short in describing an effective transformational mechanism to achieve change beyond the 5 countries