



Report to WTO TBT Committee

October 2020

The following organizations are mentioned in this report:

ACCSQ	ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality
ACONOQ	Agence Congolaise de Normalisation et de la Qualité (the Congolese Agency for Standardization and Quality)
AFSEC	African Electrotechnical Standardization Commission
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BSN	Badan Standardisasi Nasional (the National Standardization Agency of Indonesia)
CANAME	Cámara Nacional de Manufacturas Eléctricas (the Mexican Chamber of Electrical Manufacturers)
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
COPANT	Pan American Standards Commission
CROSQ	CARICOM Regional Organization for Standards and Quality
DRI	Department of Research and Innovation, in the Ministry of Education, Myanmar
DTI	Department of Trade and Industry, Philippines
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
GSO	GCC Standardization Organization
ICONTEC	Instituto Colombiano de Normas Técnicas y Certificación (the Colombian Institute of Technical Standards and Certification)
IEM	The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia
IFC	International Finance Corporation
INEN	Servicio Ecuatoriano de Normalización (the Ecuadorian Service for Standardization)
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
PASC	Pacific Area Standards Congress
TBS	Tanzania Bureau of Standards

The following IEC acronyms are used in this report:

ACAS	Affiliate Conformity Assessment status
ACB	Academy & Capacity Building
ACP	Affiliate Country Programme
CA	conformity assessment
CAB	Conformity Assessment Board
IEC-AFRC	IEC Africa Regional Centre
IEC-APRC	IEC Asia-Pacific Regional Centre
IEC-LARC	IEC Latin America Regional Centre
NC	National Committee
NEC	national electrotechnical committee
SMB	Standardization Management Board
TC/SC	technical committee/subcommittee
USNC	IEC National Committee of the United States of America

IEC activities on behalf of developing and newly industrialized countries

May 2020 – September 2020

This report to the WTO TBT Committee highlights the activities undertaken by IEC, including its members, affiliates and regional centres, with the aim of increasing the participation of developing and newly industrialized countries in IEC standardization and conformity assessment activities during the period from 1 May to 30 September 2020.

IEC collaboration with the WTO

In the late 1990s, the WTO challenged international organizations to find new ways to support least developed and developing countries in:

- implementing international standards as a basis for national or regional standards or regulations
- increasing participation in international standardization activities

As a response, IEC established the [Affiliate Country Programme](#) in 2001, to enable developing countries that are not IEC members, to take part in IEC international standardization and global conformity assessment activities, within the terms of the programme, but without any membership financial obligations.

The programme has evolved over the years and has progressively added new features and benefits for affiliate countries that surpass the initial challenge set by the WTO. Today, the programme includes a wide range of learning and competency building programmes in international standards development, conformity assessment and national quality infrastructure, with local assistance through the IEC Regional Centres and mentoring programme.

As a result of the WTO challenge, 16 developing countries became IEC affiliates, and successfully completed the programme, have since become valuable IEC members.

Through the activities undertaken by its Geneva office and regional centers, IEC continues to pursue its close collaboration with the WTO TBT Committee, advance the goals of the challenge and report on a regular basis on the activities of the ACP.

IEC support for off-grid electricity access

The [World Bank](#) estimates that over 700 million people worldwide lack access to electricity while a further 789 million people do not have reliable access to electricity. To help improve this situation, the [IFC](#) and the World Bank, both members of the World Bank Group, set up [Lighting Global](#) with the intention of bringing sustainable and affordable electricity to homes using off-grid renewable energy.

Since the establishment of Lighting Africa in 2009, the precursor to Lighting Global, the number of households without electricity has been reduced by over [400 million](#)^{*}. Off-grid renewable energy solutions have become a critical component in helping homes access electricity and achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Lighting Global established its [Quality Assurance Framework and Quality Standards](#) to ensure that products met minimum performance and safety requirements. In June 2020, the Lighting Global Quality Standards became an official IEC Technical Specification known as [IEC TS 62257-9-8](#).

IEC TS 62257-9-8 sets the baseline requirements for the quality, durability and advertising accuracy for stand-alone renewable energy products with the aim of protecting consumers. The evaluation of these requirements is based on the test methods defined in [IEC TS 62257-9-5](#). Both of these publications are part of the [IEC 62257](#) series which focus on rural electrification.

Because the market for off-grid renewable energy products is embryonic, international standards can provide a catalyst for building trust between manufacturers, consumers, and governments.

For further information, please read the article available on [IEC e-tech](#).

* Source: Lighting Global, *Off-Grid Solar Market Trends Report 2020*

A word from Rojas Manyame, IEC Affiliate Leader

Every three years, the IEC General Secretary nominates an affiliate leader to act as the collective voice for the ACP and to liaise with IEC governing bodies. Rojas Manyame has served as Affiliate Leader since January 2018 and President of the [NEC of Namibia](#) since 2013. In an interview with [IEC e-tech](#), Rojas spoke about some of the benefits and challenges his country is facing in terms of standardization:

“Standardization is very important because standards provide the foundation for countries and industries to adopt and build sustainable technologies. Standards also form the basis for innovation. Each party will not just be doing what they want but will be able to rely upon applied best practices. Standards are also very important for quality and risk management.

We have a number of mirror committees with IEC technical committees. Because access to electricity is quite a challenge in Namibia, [IEC TC 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems](#), is a committee that can help us.

TC 82 has been quite helpful with their series of standards for off-grid solar energy access and we are actually moving forward in providing access to people in rural areas that are far from the grid and might never have access to the grid. Those standards are very useful. When you go to rural areas, almost every household has solar roof panels. Taking into account off-grid energy access, you might find that Namibia is 80-90% electrified.

The availability and mobility of experts is our biggest challenge. We have about 10 mirror committees and we are trying to find experts for these committees and to participate in these technical committees. In Namibia, we have adopted standards and put them in place. Moving forward, however, we need to be able to contribute to the standardization process.”

Membership update – Ethiopia joins as a new IEC Member

In June 2020, the [National Committee of Ethiopia](#) joined the IEC as an associate member following an active participation in the IEC ACP since 2002.

- As of 30 September 2020, the IEC has a total of [89 members](#): 62 full members and 27 associate members.

IEC Regional Centres activities and regional collaboration

IEC has six administrative offices around the world with one office located on each continent. IEC activities in developing and newly industrialized countries are managed through three regional centres, IEC-AFRC in Nairobi, Kenya, IEC-APRC in Singapore and IEC-LARC in São Paulo, Brazil, in coordination with the IEC Geneva Office, Switzerland.

Due to the travel restrictions resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, most meetings and events were held online since March 2020.

IEC Africa Regional Centre

The IEC Africa Regional Centre ([IEC-AFRC](#)) is the focal point for IEC activities on the African continent. It aims to promote awareness of IEC in the region, increase the use of IEC International Standards and IEC CA Systems and enhance participation in IEC activities.

- On 27 May, IEC organized a webinar for the [NEC of Tanzania](#). Participants included NEC officers as well as the Director General of [TBS](#). During the session, IEC-AFRC introduced the structure of the IEC and provided information on IEC membership and fees. The [IEC CAB](#) Secretary presented the benefits of the IEC ACP, IEC CA Systems and [IEC ACAS](#).
- On 4 June, IEC-AFRC, together with [IEC ACB](#), provided online training about the IEC Collaboration Platform to the [AFSEC](#) secretariat. By using the IEC Collaboration Platform, AFSEC

officers and experts can connect with other specialists from around the world and share their standardization work online.

- From 14-16 July, IEC-AFRC and IEC ACB organized a series of web meetings for [ACONOQ](#) in Brazzaville, [Congo](#), in order to introduce IEC standardization activities. Participants included stakeholders in the field of electrotechnology.
- Between 12-26 August, IEC ACB organized two webinars for the two newest IEC members in the African region, [Uganda](#) and [Ethiopia](#). Topics included NC participation in IEC work, the organization of NC mirror committees and how to provide support to national stakeholders. Each webinar brought together 40 participants.
- From 18-20 August, IEC organized three webinars – one for IEC members in the African region and two for IEC affiliate countries. The first webinar provided IEC members with insight on IEC governance and a broader perspective of the role played by NCs, as well as an introduction to the IEC CA Systems. It was attended by 11 IEC members and three regional organizations.

The two webinars for affiliate countries provided information about the benefits of the ACP and ACAS. The session held in English was attended by 19 affiliates and three regional organizations while the session held in French brought together 20 affiliates and five regional organizations.

IEC Asia-Pacific Regional Centre

The IEC Asia-Pacific Regional Centre ([IEC-APRC](#)) is the focal point for IEC activities in the Asian-Pacific region. It aims to promote awareness of IEC in the region, increase the use of IEC International Standards and IEC CA Systems and enhance participation in IEC activities. In addition, IEC-APRC provides support to IEC technical committees and subcommittees.

- On 20 May, [PASC](#) organized a web meeting with IEC, [ISO](#) and [ITU](#) to strengthen its engagement with these organizations. The meeting was an occasion to encourage PASC members to participate in IEC work and fortify the existing relationship. Over 90 participants attended the meeting including the IEC General Secretary & CEO.
- On 27 May, IEC-APRC attended a webinar organized by [Standards Australia](#) as part of their initiative [Indo-Pacific Digital Trade Standardisation](#). The webinar provided an introduction to international standardization and best

practices, explained the link between standardization and the WTO and encouraged participants to become involved in the work of standards developing organizations such as IEC, ISO and ITU. Thirty representatives from 10 countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tonga and Vanuatu) attended the meeting.

- On 12 August, [BSN](#) organized a [webinar](#) where IEC Young Professionals from Indonesia were invited to discuss the role of the next generation of experts in contributing to the work of the [NC of Indonesia](#). The webinar was an opportunity for IEC-APRC to encourage the nearly 200 participants to participate in IEC activities.
- On 26 August, IEC-APRC attended the [ACCSQ](#) Working Group 1 on Standards meeting to further promote the harmonization of standards and raise awareness about IEC activities in smart manufacturing. It was also an opportunity for IEC-APRC to discuss the possibility of organizing a webinar on industrial cyber security and the [IEC 62443](#) series of standards.
- On 10 September, IEC-APRC presented at a regulatory advisory committee web meeting on electrical and electronic equipment hosted by [WorkSafe New Zealand](#) and chaired by [DTI Philippines](#). The meeting promoted dialogue between regulators and cooperation in the field of electrical safety between [APEC](#) members. It was also an opportunity for IEC to share its response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Twenty-seven participants from 12 countries attended.

- On 23 September, [IEM](#), [Standards Malaysia](#) and the Energy Commission of Malaysia [Suruhanjaya Tenaga](#) organized the online [ASEAN Electrotechnical Virtual Symposium & Exhibition 2020](#). This symposium, attended by over 250 participants from Southeast Asia, provided an overview of how standards drive electrotechnical safety and innovation. It was an opportunity for IEC-APRC to promote awareness of IEC work in support of innovation and the importance of IEC Standards in energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainability.

IEC Latin America Regional Centre

The IEC Latin America Regional Centre ([IEC-LARC](#)) is the focal point for IEC activities in the Caribbean and Latin American region. It aims to promote awareness of IEC in the region, increase the use of IEC International Standards and IEC CA Systems and enhance participation in IEC activities.

- On 18 May, IEC-LARC, with the support from the IEC ACP, hosted a webinar on IEC CA Systems for COPANT members. The webinar, conducted in English, was attended by 30 delegates from six countries. A Spanish language version of the webinar took place the following day and was attended by 125 delegates from 12 countries.
- On 3 July, the NC of Mexico invited IEC-LARC to present IEC activities to the Mexican candidates for the IEC Young Professionals Programme. The meeting brought together 30 attendees.
- On 8 July, IEC-LARC, together with IEC ACB, held an online training course for the NC of Peru with the participation of 25 attendees.
- On 28 July, IEC-LARC gave a presentation on IEC and cyber security during a webinar organized by CANAME which was attended by more than 70 participants.
- On 26 August, IEC-LARC participated in the *International Virtual Forum on Quality* organized by ICONTEC and gave a presentation about IEC and the future of digitalization. The online event attracted more than 650 attendees.

IEC Affiliate Country Programme

The IEC ACP assists developing and newly industrialized countries in enhancing their knowledge and competencies in the areas of international standardization and conformity assessment with the aim of enabling their active participation in the IEC community. The programme seeks to help countries that do not yet have the necessary infrastructure and technical expertise to participate fully in IEC activities as IEC members. Participants join the programme, free of charge, upon invitation from the IEC General Secretary & CEO.

Participants benefit from a quota of free IEC International Standards, online learning materials, webinars, training, capacity building events, mentoring arrangements as well as personalized support from the IEC Geneva Office and Regional Centres.

- As of 30 September 2020, 84 affiliate countries participate in the programme of which 59 countries have established a national electrotechnical committee.

Update on participation

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 In July 2020, Myanmar established its NEC which is primarily constituted of governmental groups, power generating and distributing authorities, and teaching institutions. The Director General of DRI in the Ministry of Education is the NEC President while an official from the Myanmar Engineering Council serves as NEC Secretary. Because Myanmar has now adopted 133 IEC International Standards, it was granted the Affiliate Plus status, which allows the country to access an additional 200 IEC International Standards free-of-charge.

Congo has appointed experts to participate in four IEC TC/SCs, IEC SC 23E: Circuit-breakers and similar equipment for household use, IEC SC 37B: Components for low-voltage surge protection, IEC TC 59: Performance of household and similar electrical appliances, and IEC SC 59M: Performance of electrical household and similar cooling and freezing appliances.

Rwanda and Suriname declared additional adoptions of IEC Standards:

- Rwanda declared the national adoptions of 226 IEC Standards in July and August, bringing it to a total of 376 IEC Standards now adopted.
- Suriname declared the national adoptions of 13 IEC Standards in September, for a total of 183 IEC Standards now adopted.

Cabo Verde and Congo declared their first national adoptions of IEC Standards:

- Cabo Verde adopted 10 IEC Standards developed by IEC SC 32A: High-voltage fuses, IEC TC 64: Electrical installations and protection against electric shock, and IEC SC 77A: EMC - Low frequency phenomena.
- Congo declared the adoption of 10 ISO/IEC guidelines in the field of conformity assessment.

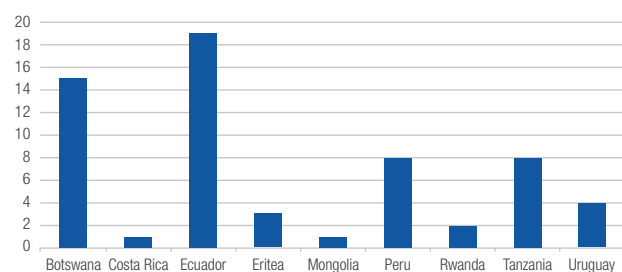
Out of the 84 affiliate countries, 32 benefit from Affiliate Plus status. This status provides access to 400 IEC Standards free-of-charge and priority access to the Affiliate Mentoring Programme.

To date, 53 affiliate countries have declared national adoptions of 8 743 IEC Standards, under the terms of the IEC ACP since its launch in 2001.

Commenting process

The commenting process is a benefit granted to countries participating actively in the IEC ACP. Active participation is defined as an affiliate country that has selected up to 11 IEC technical committees and appointed one expert to participate in each of the selected committees. Experts have the opportunity to submit comments at specific stages of the standards development process.

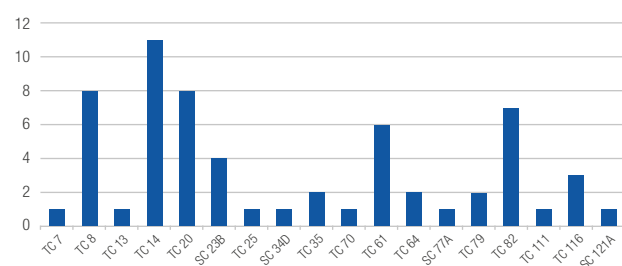
The below graphs provide an overview of the commenting activities of affiliate countries since 2004, the date when it became possible for affiliate countries to contribute comments. As of September 2020, 61 comments have been submitted by affiliate countries.



Source: Affiliate Country Secretariat – Affiliate Commenting Activities

Figure 1 | Number of comments per affiliate country (January 2004-September 2010)

Figure 1 shows that nine countries have submitted comments to IEC technical committees during the standards development process. Ecuador has been the most active with 19 comments submitted, closely followed by Botswana with 15 comments.



Source: Affiliate Country Secretariat – Affiliate Commenting Activities

Figure 2 | Number of comments per TC/SC (January 2004-September 2010)

Figure 2 shows which IEC technical committees have received the highest number of comments from affiliate countries. IEC TC 14: Power transformers has received the most comments from affiliate countries, followed by IEC TC 8: System aspects of

electrical energy supply, IEC TC 20: Electric cables and IEC TC 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.

IEC Affiliate Mentoring programme

The Affiliate Mentoring Programme allows affiliate countries to benefit from the experience of IEC members for a period of two years and with the aim of reinforcing their NEC. Activities covered by the programme include how to identify and reach out to relevant stakeholders, the national adoption and implementation of IEC Standards, how to establish mirror technical committees and how to participate in IEC work through the commenting process.

USNC continues to guide IEC affiliate countries that are members of CROSQ. As part of its commitment to helping these countries, USNC has organized two webinars for participants from Barbados, Guyana and the US:

- The webinar entitled *IEC Effective Participation* brought together 52 participants to learn more about IEC and its mission, the benefits of participating in the development of international standards, the importance of consensus, the role of conformity assessment as well as the USNC structure. The webinar also provided information on how to best prepare for an IEC meeting and tips to help delegates successfully accomplish their mission.
- The webinar entitled *Understanding Electromagnetic Compatibility, its application and standardization* brought together 61 participants to discuss EMC, how it applies to electronic products and how it is designed into products so as to ensure regulatory compliance. It also provided sources of information on EMC including the reference to the organizations writing EMC standards and managing EMC activities. A special focus was given to the role of the IEC Advisory Committee on electromagnetic compatibility (ACEC) and how the USNC interacts with various IEC technical committees that address EMC in their publications.

IEC conformity assessment activities

International standard development and global conformity assessment services are the two core pillars guiding IEC activities. Since its establishment in 1906, IEC is respected for its

standardization work in the fields of electrotechnology. For over 40 years, IEC has also been involved in conformity assessment by providing the framework and systems that support an internationally accepted standardized way of conducting testing, inspection and certification of equipment, components, processes and assessment of competent persons. This is facilitated by the operation of global conformity assessment schemes and programmes within the dedicated IEC CA Systems:

- [IECEE](#) covering equipment, components, EMC, via the certification bodies scheme,
- [IECEX](#) covering equipment, components, services and personnel certification in the explosive atmospheres' domain
- [IECQ](#) covering electronic components and processes associated with the supply chain,
- [IECRE](#) covering equipment, components and systems for the renewable energy sectors.

IEC CA Systems and the services they provide continue to gain increased attention and use among developing and newly industrialized countries.

IEC Affiliate Conformity Assessment status

ACAS offers participants the possibility to benefit from the four IEC CA Systems, including any systems established by the IEC in the future. The objective is to train affiliate countries to use IEC International Standards and benefit from conformity assessment through the recognition of IEC CA certificates at the national level.

[Tanzania](#) has signed the ACAS Pledge in July 2020. This will allow users in Tanzania to benefit from IEC resources in conformity assessment, including access to the [ACAS e-learning modules](#). So far, 35 ACAS Pledges have been signed under the terms of the ACP.

A timeline of the ACAS Recognition of Achievement certificate

After having signed the ACAS Pledge and introduced conformity assessment in the national standardization strategy in 2016, the former President of the [NEC of Ecuador](#) was the first person to successfully complete all three levels of the [ACAS IECEE e-learning](#) modules in 2016 and was awarded the ACAS Recognition of Achievement certificate that same year. From 2017-2020, more than 40 participants from the Ecuadorian standardization body [INEN](#) have followed this example and were equally awarded.

During the same period, six countries ([Burkina Faso](#), [Mauritius](#), [Peru](#), [Rwanda](#), [Uganda](#) and [Uruguay](#)) were engaged in completing the IEC CA Systems' e-learning modules. In April 2020, two participants from Burkina Faso have completed all modules of the four IEC CA Systems. In May 2020, one participant from Mauritius completed the IECEE modules.

IEC encourages affiliate countries to participate actively in the ACAS e-learning modules to reinforce their knowledge in the IEC CA Systems.

Survey on IEC ACAS e-learning platform

In June 2020, the IEC Affiliate secretariat launched a survey to better understand the needs of ACAS participants and how the ACAS e-learning platform could be improved.

Feedback to the survey was received by respondents in Africa (56,9%), Latin America (23,5%) and Asia Pacific (19,6%). The respondents indicated that they were most interested in learning about IECEE followed by IECEX, IECQ and IECEX which generated similar levels of interest. In terms of the three available formats used to deliver the ACAS e-learning platform – videos, PowerPoint slides and PDF documents – respondents indicated a slight preference for the use of downloadable PDF versions. Respondents also showed interest in accessing the e-learning platform in other languages such as Arabic, French, Mongolian, Russian and Spanish.

Given the importance of the ACAS e-learning modules, the ACB team, together with the ACP secretariat, is currently developing a new version of the modules, taking into account the survey responses.

Virtual IEC General Meeting, 9-20 November 2020

Due to the travel restrictions resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, the [IEC General Meeting 2020](#) will be held online from 9 to 20 November 2020 in a reduced format consisting primarily of management meetings.

Despite these changes, the ACP will host its yearly meetings dedicated to affiliate country participants. The following events are scheduled:

- [Affiliate forum](#): Monday 16 November (12:00 – 16:00 CET)
- [Workshop for industrializing countries](#): Tuesday 17 November (12:00 – 15:00 CET)
- [NEC Secretaries and Chairs workshop](#): Wednesday 18 November (12:00 – 15:00 CET)

Affiliate forum

The Affiliate forum will focus on how to identify and engage stakeholders in NECs as well as the benefits of training in conformity assessment. The forum will also provide the Affiliate Leader with an opportunity to report on new developments in the programme and its main achievements in the past 12 months.

Representatives from two affiliate countries will present case studies to share their experience and best practices in the programme. Delegates will have the opportunity to break out to three virtual rooms and discuss topics of a regional interest.

Workshop for industrializing countries

WIC brings together affiliate countries, IEC NC delegates as well as regional and international organizations.

This year, WIC will focus on the UN SDGs. A presentation by the IEC Ambassador for SDGs will provide a strategic overview of the role of IEC in helping to achieve these goals. Other topics to be discussed include the circular economy and the perception of the SDGs from the Affiliate Leader and the Secretary of the [NEC of Mongolia](#).

NEC Secretaries and Chairs workshop

The NEC Secretaries and Chairs workshop will focus on ACAS, its declaration form and the recognition of IEC CA certificates. Representatives from [Ecuador](#) and [Sudan](#) will share their best practices.

IEC Academy & Capacity Building activities

ACB provides high quality training, e-learning and national workshops to the global IEC community, including affiliate countries. In addition, ACB organizes webinars on a regular basis to share information with the IEC community on key topics of interest. Through its activities, ACB facilitates the active participation in IEC work by IEC members and provides support to strengthen national standardization infrastructure.

- On 22 June, in collaboration with [GSO](#), ACB participated in a webinar entitled *Organization, Standardization, Tools and Sales* which targeted participants in the Middle East. The webinar was attended by 80 participants.
- On 15 July, ACB organized a public webinar about the contribution of standardization and conformity assessment towards achieving the SDGs. The webinar was attended by 380 participants.
- On 25 August, ACB organized a public webinar about the transition undertaken by [Peru](#) from an affiliate country towards IEC membership including lessons learned and good practices. The webinar was attended by 50 participants.
- On 9 September, an online call for action on the SDGs was presented to IEC members and affiliates. Best practices were presented included activities on the national level.

The recordings, slides and Q&A from IEC public webinars are available on www.iec.ch/academy.

IEC Young Professionals Programme

The [YPP](#) encourages the next generation of IEC experts and leaders to become involved in IEC work on a long-term basis. The programme facilitates the contribution by young professionals to standardization and conformity assessment activities as well as serves as a conduit for IEC to welcome new voices and ideas into its community.

Each year, the YPP has the opportunity to develop projects that can support YPs in their involvement with IEC and help to further

advance the programme. The 2019 YPs, through their elected [YP Leaders](#) are developing a project that can promote the cultural diversity within IEC by helping the most recent IEC members from Africa ([Ghana](#), [Uganda](#) and [Côte d'Ivoire](#)) to establish national YP programmes. They are also developing a project to improve the participations of YPs from Asia via national YP programmes.

Useful brochures/flyers

How the IEC helps achieve the SDGs

Building upon the knowledge and expertise of its membership, the IEC provides a framework necessary for the development of global technologies. It ensures the safety, performance and sustainability of electrical, electronic and information technologies that underpin all SDGs. With its consensus-based approach, the IEC reflects the needs of countries across the world.



Secrets of effective participation

The aim of this pocket guide is to give you general pointers that can accelerate your learning curve and hopefully increase the efficiency of your participation.



IEC Affiliate Mentoring: a gateway to new markets

The purpose of the IEC Affiliate Mentoring Programme is to enhance participation at all levels (standards development, management, conformity assessment) by encouraging national committees to share their expertise with developing countries who participate in the IEC Affiliate Country Programme.



Welcome to the IEC

A useful flyer to help communicate about IEC. It gives a basic overview of IEC structure, work and partnerships. Do not hesitate to download or ask for hard copies.



Annex A

89 IEC National Committees (as per 2020-09-30)

Albania	Associate member	Korea, Republic of	Full member
Algeria	Full member	Kuwait	Full member
Argentina	Full member	Latvia	Associate member
Australia	Full member	Lithuania	Associate member
Austria	Full member	Luxembourg	Full member
Bahrain	Associate member	Malaysia	Full member
Bangladesh	Associate member	Malta	Associate member
Belarus	Full member	Mexico	Full member
Belgium	Full member	Moldova	Associate member
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Associate member	Montenegro	Associate member
Brazil	Full member	Morocco	Associate member
Bulgaria	Full member	Netherlands	Full member
Canada	Full member	New Zealand	Full member
Chile	Full member	Nigeria	Full member
China	Full member	North Macedonia	Associate member
Colombia	Full member	Norway	Full member
Côte D'Ivoire	Associate member	Oman	Full member
Croatia	Full member	Pakistan	Full member
Cuba	Associate member	Peru	Full member
Cyprus	Associate member	Philippines, Rep. of the	Full member
Czech Republic	Full member	Poland	Full member
Denmark	Full member	Portugal	Full member
Egypt	Full member	Qatar	Full member
Estonia	Associate member	Romania	Full member
Ethiopia	Associate member	Russian Federation	Full member
Finland	Full member	Saudi Arabia	Full member
France	Full member	Serbia	Full member
Georgia	Associate member	Singapore	Full member
Germany	Full member	Slovakia	Full member
Ghana	Associate member	Slovenia	Full member
Greece	Full member	South Africa	Full member
Hungary	Full member	Spain	Full member
Iceland	Associate member	Sri Lanka	Associate member
India	Full member	Sweden	Full member
Indonesia	Full member	Switzerland	Full member
Iran	Full member	Thailand	Full member
Iraq	Full member	Tunisia	Associate member
Ireland	Full member	Turkey	Full member
Israel	Full member	Uganda	Associate member
Italy	Full member	Ukraine	Full member
Japan	Full member	United Arab Emirates	Full member
Jordan	Associate member	United Kingdom	Full member
Kazakhstan	Associate member	United States of America	Full member
Kenya	Associate member	Vietnam	Associate member
Korea, DPR of	Associate member		

Annex B

84 IEC affiliates (as per 2020-04-30)

Afghanistan	2007	Lebanon	2001
Angola	2002	Lesotho	2005
Antigua and Barbuda	2002	Liberia	2016
Armenia	2001	Madagascar	2005
Azerbaijan	2011	Malawi	2001
Bahamas	2012	Mali	2001
Barbados	2001	Mauritania	2002
Belize	2002	Mauritius	2001
Benin	2001	Mongolia	2002
Bhutan	2006	Mozambique	2003
Bolivia	2001	Myanmar	2007
Botswana	2001	Namibia	2001
Brunei Darussalam	2001	Nepal	2001
Burkina Faso	2001	Nicaragua	2019 May
Burundi	2002	Niger	2006
Cabo Verde	2017	Palestine	2009
Cambodia	2001	Panama	2003
Cameroon	2005	Papua New Guinea	2004
Central African Republic	2008	Paraguay	2001
Chad	2008	Rwanda	2001
Comoros	2001	Saint Kitts and Nevis	2013
Congo	2008	Saint Lucia	2002
Congo (Dem. Rep. of)	2001	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2008
Costa Rica	2001	Sao Tome and Principe	2018
Djibouti	2019 March	Senegal	2002
Dominica	2002	Seychelles	2001
Dominican Republic	2005	Sierra Leone	2003
Ecuador	2003	South Sudan	2013
El Salvador	2008	Sudan	2004
Eritrea	2001	Suriname	2008
Eswatini (Kingdom of)	2007	Syrian Arab Republic	2016
Fiji	2001	Tanzania	2001
Gabon	2007	Togo	2006
Gambia	2008	Trinidad and Tobago	2007
Grenada	2001	Turkmenistan	2001
Guatemala	2001	Uruguay	2001
Guinea	2007	Uzbekistan	2015
Guinea Bissau	2006	Yemen	2002
Guyana	2001	Zambia	2002
Haiti	2002	Zimbabwe	2001
Honduras	2007		
Jamaica	2001		
Kyrgyzstan	2003		
Lao PDR	2002		

About the IEC

The IEC, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, is the world's leading publisher of international standards for electrical and electronic technologies. It is a global, independent, not-for-profit, membership organization (funded by membership fees and sales). The IEC includes 173 countries that represent 99% of world population and energy generation.

The IEC provides a worldwide, neutral and independent platform where 20 000 experts from the private and public sectors cooperate to develop state-of-the-art, globally relevant IEC International Standards. These form the basis for testing and certification, and support economic development, protecting people and the environment.

IEC work impacts around 20% of global trade (in value) and looks at aspects such as safety, interoperability, performance and other essential requirements for a vast range of technology areas, including energy, manufacturing, transportation, healthcare, homes, buildings or cities.

The IEC administers four conformity assessment systems and provides a standardized approach to the testing and certification of components, products, systems, as well as the competence of persons.

IEC work is essential for safety, quality and risk management. It helps make cities smarter, supports universal energy access and improves energy efficiency of devices and systems. It allows industry to consistently build better products, helps governments ensure long-term viability of infrastructure investments and reassures investors and insurers.



A global network of 173 countries that covers 99% of world population and electricity generation



Offers an affiliate country programme to encourage developing countries to participate in IEC work free of charge



Develops international standards and runs four conformity assessment systems to verify that electronic and electrical products work safely and as they are intended to



IEC International Standards represent a global consensus of state-of-the-art know-how and expertise



A not-for-profit organization enabling global trade and universal electricity access



Key figures

89

national committees with full members (62) and associate members (27)

84

affiliates with adoption (53), with NEC (59)

210

technical committees (109) and subcommittees (101)

>25 000

experts from industry, test and research labs, government, academia and consumer groups

>11 000

international standards in catalogue (as per 2020-09-30)

4

global conformity assessment systems

>1 million

conformity assessment certificates issued



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