helping to keep the lights on

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UNECE 23rd WP6
Geneva, Switzerland
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no electricity
no economy

New York blackout November 2012
Globalization is a reality

Majority of traded goods are or depend on electrotechnology

Today products are built in many countries

They depend on harmonized rules developed in the IEC
UN SE4ALL partnership

IEC joined in 2013 to:

- Provide technical support to increase access to modern energy services
- Enable energy efficiency improvements
- Provide technical basis to increase share of renewable energy
- As a start: facilitate access to technical specifications for rural electrification
off-grid energy systems

- Positively impact the lives of millions
- Produce energy more sustainably
- Require quality assurance
- IEC provides support for quality assurance programmes
IEC Technical Specifications series for small energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification developed with:

- Research and testing labs
- Universities
- Private industry
- US Department of Energy
- World Bank
- IFC
Replacing fuel based lighting

Today: preferred method for off-grid lighting

- Highly inefficient in terms of light output
- Unhealthy
- Expensive
LED off-grid lights

Cost-efficient substitute to fuel-based lighting
- Can charge mobile phones
- Extend working studying hours
- Not a substitute for grid power
Cheap, low-quality products can impact perception of solar lamps

• Informed purchase decisions are difficult
• Money spent on products that don’t deliver
• Need for consumer protection
Quality assurance programme

IFC-World Bank Group
Lighting Global

The right balance between performance, quality and affordability.

Participated in development and works with IEC International Standards framework and test methods:

- Performance-based metrics
- Rigorous test protocols
Harmonized quality assurance frameworks (based on IEC International Standards and Conformity Assessment Systems):

- Save time and money for testing
- Provide quality assurance to wholesalers, distributors, investors
- Facilitate buyer purchase decision
- Reduce end-product cost
Securing investment

Best-practice Standards frameworks support regulation:

- Protect infrastructure investment
- Enable interoperability
- Facilitate maintenance & repair
- Enhance safety of purchased/installed systems and products… and of their users
Largest multilateral agreement

IEC supports all forms of conformity assessment and administers Conformity Assessment Systems:

- Globally the only standardized form of certification
- Accepted world wide
- No duplication
- Less time and cost
- One test...one certification – many markets
State-of-the art regulations

IEC International Standards and Conformity Assessment Systems support regulatory work:

- Help control market access
- Keep laws up-to-date
- Facilitate protection of populations and the environment.
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