The global market for off-grid appliances is poised for rapid, significant growth – driven by the impact potential and increasing demand for income-generating technologies like refrigerators and solar water pumps.

The Next Phase of the Off-Grid Market

A vibrant market has emerged for off-grid products and clean energy systems, providing modern energy services to underserved communities around the world. Household and productive-use appliances like refrigerators and solar water pumps represent the next phase of this market and have the potential to unlock significant additional growth.

Off-grid refrigerators and solar water pumps – if appropriately designed and priced – can provide households, farms, and businesses access to modern refrigeration and irrigation for the first time. These energy services, in turn, enable a multitude of benefits.


The Global LEAP Awards is an international competition to identify and promote the world’s best off-grid appliances, accelerating market development and innovation.

By providing the off-grid marketplace clear and actionable signals about the quality and energy performance of off-grid appliances, the Global LEAP Awards enable companies, investors, and policymakers to make faster, better-informed decisions.

The 2019 Global LEAP Awards will identify super-efficient, high quality off-grid refrigerators and solar water pumps.

Global LEAP Awards evaluates eligible products on their affordability, quality and durability, off-grid design, and energy performance. We test in accredited test laboratories according to internationally-accepted test methods, and an expert panel of judges identifies the Winners. The products recognized by the Global LEAP Awards offer a strong balance of price, energy efficiency, performance, and reliability.

Manufacturers and distributors are encouraged to nominate products at globalLEAPawards.org.
The Global LEAP Awards

Benefits to Winners and Finalists

- Winners and Finalists will have the opportunity to find potential investors through the newly-formed Efficiency for Access Coalition Investor Network, which includes 12 leading investment organizations.

- Previous winners and finalists have been eligible for financing programs, innovation prizes, and other benefits. More forthcoming.

“The impact investment community wants to find new technologies and business models and learn how customers can benefit from this next wave of off-grid appliances. Programs like the Global LEAP Awards provide direct insight on the quality and viability of the most innovative solutions.”

Leslie Labruto
Global Energy Lead at Acumen

Impacts

- Appliance Manufacturers can differentiate their products in the marketplace and increase sales.

- Off-Grid Energy Companies & Distributors can more easily identify and procure superefficient, high-quality off-grid appliances.

- Investors can identify the most promising companies in an early-stage, dynamic global market.

- Policymakers and Donor Organizations will benefit from clearer information about appliance quality and efficiency, features that help the market grow.

Timeline

- Nov. 8 Nominations open
- Jan. 18 Nominations due
- Feb. 8 Preliminary Finalists selected by expert panel
- Feb. 11 Nominators notified of preliminary finalist status
- Feb. 25 Date by which products must be available for random warehouse sampling
- Mar. 15 Date by which random warehouse sampling must be completed
- Apr. 5 All samples received by test laboratory
- Apr. 15 Laboratory testing begins
- Jun. Laboratory testing ends & Winners identified
- Jul. 19 Competition Winners & Finalists named

Contact

globalLEAPawards.org
info@globalLEAPawards.org
@LEAP_Awards

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