

Retrofit & Energy Efficiency

Source Metadata

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sector	Buildings & Infrastructure
subsector	Retrofit & Energy Efficiency
mitigation	Y
adaptation	N
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CPI Definition & Scope

Retrofit and Energy Efficiency in CPI's GLCF framework tracks climate finance directed at improving the energy performance of existing building stock. CPI's 2025 edition expanded coverage of energy efficiency as a tracked category. This includes investment in building envelope improvements (insulation, windows, air sealing), lighting upgrades, building energy management systems, appliance efficiency programs, and comprehensive deep energy retrofits that reduce a building's energy consumption by 50% or more.

Subsectors & Examples

- **Deep Energy Retrofits** — comprehensive renovation achieving 50%+ energy reduction
- **Building Envelope** — insulation, high-performance windows, air barrier systems
- **Lighting Upgrades** — LED retrofits, smart lighting controls, daylighting systems
- **Building Automation** — energy management systems, smart thermostats, occupancy sensors
- **Appliance & Equipment Efficiency** — high-efficiency HVAC replacement, efficient motors

Mitigation & Adaptation Classification

Retrofit and energy efficiency is classified as **mitigation** in CPI's framework. The primary benefit is direct reduction of energy consumption and associated greenhouse gas emissions from the existing building stock.

Energy efficiency is often described as the "first fuel" of the energy transition, and CPI tracks it as a core mitigation investment category.

LATAM Relevance

Building energy efficiency presents significant untapped potential in Latin America. Colombia's commercial building stock, particularly in Bogota and Medellin, offers major retrofit opportunities with payback periods attractive to private investors. Peru's Lima has a large stock of inefficient buildings where cooling demand is rising due to climate change. Costa Rica's government buildings are targets for efficiency programs linked to its National Decarbonization Plan. IFC's EDGE program is driving regional adoption of efficiency standards.

Cleantech Taxonomy Crosswalk

Maps to Cleantech Taxonomy sector **BU** (Buildings) for retrofit and efficiency. Cross-references with **ES** (Energy Systems) for demand-side energy management and **IC** (ICT) for building automation and smart energy systems.

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