

MEDIA FACTSHEET

EMBARGOED TILL 11:00 AM ON 28 NOVEMBER 2020

ANNEX C

CLIMATE-FRIENDLY HOUSEHOLDS PROGRAMME

About the Programme

The Climate-Friendly Households (CFH) Programme aims to encourage households to take on climate-friendly action as individuals to reduce energy and water consumption, while saving costs in the long run.

2 Refrigerators are common household appliances and are one of the most energy-intensive household appliances, accounting for about 17 per cent of the total electricity consumption¹ in Singapore households. While consumers are increasingly buying more energy-efficient refrigerators², the majority of households today are still not using energy-efficient refrigerators³. If each eligible one-, two- and three-room HDB household switched to a more energy efficient refrigerator, the potential combined electricity cost savings of these households would be about \$160 million⁴ over the typical lifespan of the refrigerator. The associated carbon abatement would be equivalent to 357 million kg CO₂ of carbon emissions, or the annual carbon emissions from 110,000 cars.

3 Among the key uses of water in a household, showers make up the largest component of water usage, amounting to about 30 per cent of the total household water consumption. Installing more water-efficient shower fittings will therefore reduce the overall household water usage. If each eligible HDB household replaced one shower fitting with a more water efficient 3-tick model, the households could collectively save up to 1.1 million gallons of water per day.

4 There are currently more than 300,000⁵ one-, two- and three-room HDB households, of which 64⁶ per cent are not using LED lights. If all households switched to LED lights, they could potentially save up to \$3.7 million⁷ in annual energy costs⁸. This would be equivalent to saving enough energy to power about 5,000 three-room HDB flats.

¹ Based on NEA's 2017 household energy consumption survey.

² MELS was introduced in 2008 to help consumers make more informed choices when selecting their appliances. Refrigerator models that are more energy-efficient are affixed with three- or four-tick labels, with higher ticks indicating higher energy efficiency. Following the enhancement of the tick-rating system in 2014, sales of refrigerators rated three-tick or better under the Mandatory Energy Labelling Scheme (MELS) have increased from 20 per cent in 2015 to 54 per cent in 2018.

³ Based on NEA's 2017 household energy consumption survey.

⁴ Assuming annual savings of about \$50 over a 10-year lifespan of a refrigerator when households change to a three-tick model from a one-tick model, and an Electricity Tariff domestic rate of 22.93 cts/kWh (rate for 1 Oct – 31 Dec 2020)

⁵ Based on 2018 Singstat data.

⁶ Based on 2017 Household Energy Consumption Survey.

⁷ Assumes an Electricity Tariff domestic rate of 22.93 cts/kWh (rate for 1 Oct – 31 Dec 2020)

⁸ Assumes households are switching from CFL to LED.

About the e-Vouchers

5 The CFH Programme aims to provide one-, two- and three-room HDB households with three e-Vouchers, to purchase energy or water efficient products. The e-Vouchers consist of:

- A \$150 e-Voucher to make the purchase of an energy-efficient and climate-friendly refrigerator more affordable.
- A \$50 e-Voucher to offset the cost of changing their shower fittings to more water-efficient 3-tick models.
- A \$25 e-Voucher to purchase energy-efficient LED lights.

6 The \$150 refrigerator e-Voucher will help eligible households purchase energy-efficient refrigerators that are rated three-ticks and above, and that use climate-friendly refrigerants⁹. Switching from a one-tick model to a three-tick model could help households achieve annual energy savings of about \$50 on average.

7 The \$25 value of the LED e-Vouchers is enough to cover the cost of four to five LED bulbs. LED lights are 80 per cent more energy-efficient compared to incandescent lights, and 40 per cent more energy-efficient compared to compact fluorescent lights (CFL). LED lights can generally last longer as well. In the long-run, households can save money on both electricity costs and replacement lights by switching to LEDs.

8 The estimated cost of replacing a one- or two-tick shower fitting with a three-tick equivalent model is between \$60-\$150. On average, the \$50 e-voucher will be able to offset the upfront cost of switching to a more water-efficient shower fitting. If each of the eligible HDB households replaces just one shower fitting with a more water efficient three-tick model, each household could save about 0.3 to 0.6 m³ of water per month, equivalent to around \$10 to \$20 cost savings annually.

e-Voucher Eligibility

9 To be eligible for the programme, you should be a registered owner or renter of a one-, two- or three-room HDB flat. More than 300,000 one-, two- or three-room HDB households will qualify for the programme.

10 On 28 November 2020, eligible households will be able to apply for their e-Vouchers through the website: www.go.gov.sg/cfhp. Eligible households can also expect to receive a physical mailer in their residential mailbox containing instructions within 2 weeks from the launch. By scanning the QR code on the website or mailer, eligible households can retrieve their e-Vouchers via FormSG by logging in with their Singpass followed by filling up an online form. Upon completing the form, they will receive an SMS containing the links to the three e-Vouchers. Residents can then present the e-Vouchers at participating merchants' outlets for redemption. The e-Vouchers will expire on 31 December 2023. More information on the participating retailers can be found at www.go.gov.sg/cfhp.

Where to redeem e-Vouchers

11 There are 8 participating merchants for the CFH Programme which include Bathroom Warehouse, Best Denki, Courts, Gain City, Harvey Norman, Mega Discount Store, NTUC Fairprice and Sheng Siong. More merchants are expected to come onboard during the programme. For an updated list of participating merchants, households can visit www.go.gov.sg/cfhp.

⁹ Climate-friendly refrigerants refers to refrigerants that have lower global warming potential (i.e. ≤15) (e.g. R600a)

IMDA's Mobile Access for Seniors and Digital Literacy Skills

12 IMDA's Mobile Access for Seniors is a scheme that provides subsidized smartphone and mobile plan to lower-income seniors who want to go digital but cannot afford them. Seniors or households who do not own a smart phone can seek assistance through IMDA's Mobile Access for Seniors scheme. For more information on the eligibility criteria and how to apply, please visit <http://www.imda.gov.sg/programme-listing/Mobile-Access-for-Seniors>.

13 For gaining digital literacy skills, residents can approach IMDA's SG Digital Offices to learn how to go digital. For more information and to find the nearest SG Digital Office, residents can call 6377 3800 or visit <http://www.imda.gov.sg/for-community/Seniors-Go-Digital>.

14 For all other enquiries, please contact NEA at 6225 5632 or use the online feedback form at www.nea.gov.sg/feedback.

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