



Cooling sector

Prospects

Egypt

How fast is the demand for cooling growing and what can be done?

What is the energy and emissions saving potential for Egypt by 2050 if it were to implement a comprehensive sustainable cooling strategy for air conditioning and commercial refrigeration?

Can Egypt meet the sustainable cooling challenge?

Underlying trends are driving an increased demand for cooling.



Population growth



Increasing urbanization



Economic growth

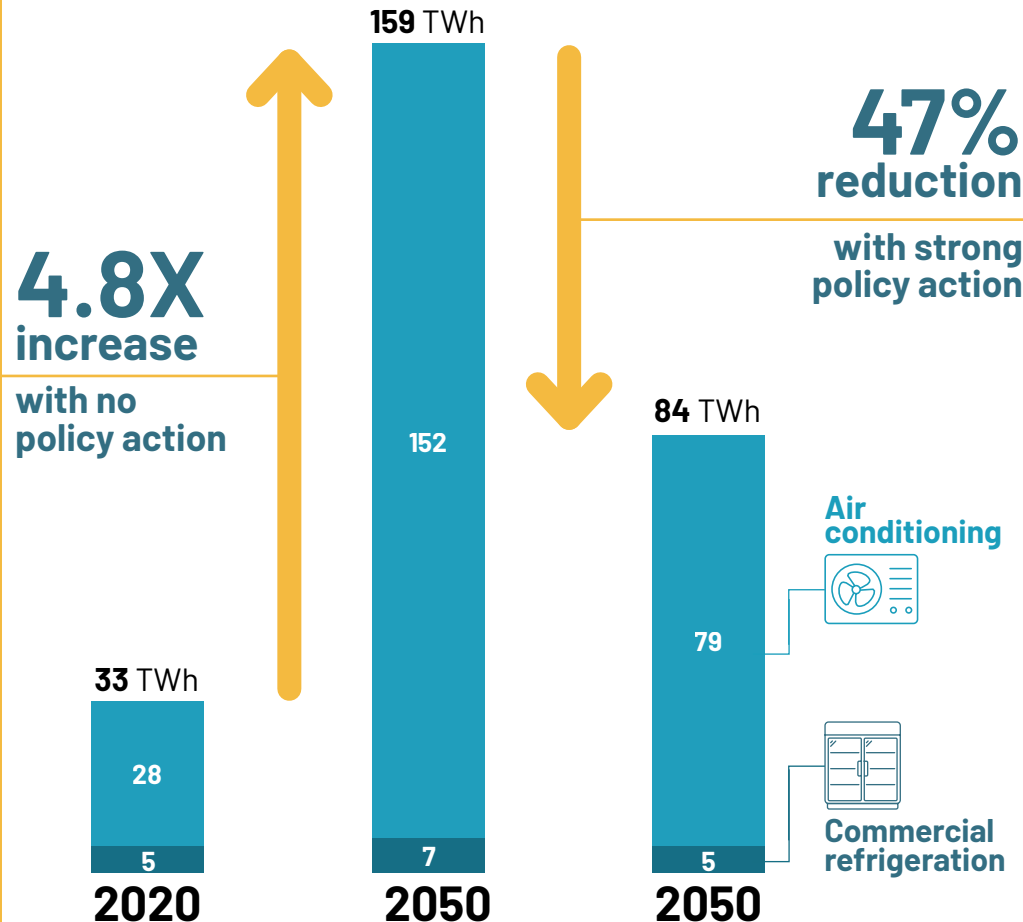


Warmer climate

A building boom is expected in Egypt, with an expected 2.5 fold increase in total floor area projected by 2050. Combined with the above factors, this is resulting in projections that the amount of **AC systems will grow nearly 7-fold** from 7.8 million units in 2020 to approx. 53 million units by 2050. Less rapid growth is expected in commercial refrigeration where the number of systems is expected to go from 1.1 million to 1.4 million. Combined, this would result in almost a **5-fold increase in electricity demand** for the sector, requiring significant investment in additional electricity generation capacity.

The use of air conditioners is set to rise rapidly, driving up energy use, emissions and costs. Action can be taken to control runaway growth.

Electricity consumption
TWh



Egypt's success will be determined by use of effective policy.



Reducing cooling demand



Boosting energy efficiency



Utilising natural refrigerants



Reducing refrigerant leakage

Early action and swift implementation of highly efficient technologies with natural refrigerants is key to achieve reductions and avoid the lock-in effects. Indirect emissions can be tackled by installing more efficient AC and refrigeration equipment, as well as employing passive cooling and building envelope technologies. Direct emissions from refrigerant leakage can be countered with use of natural refrigerants, periodic checks and end of life procedures. Capacity building of certified technicians is key to unlocking these reductions.

Prospects for mitigation actions

Introducing the four prospects for the transition of the cooling sector to 2050

Prospect 0
Current trend

Prospect 1
Moderate impact

Prospect 2
High impact

Prospect 3
High impact +

Modelling results for each prospect is given for:



Electricity demand

Provides results on the development of energy demand up to 2050 resulting from the AC and commercial refrigeration sectors.



GHG emissions

Provides results of the corresponding direct GHG emissions from refrigerant leakage and indirect GHG emissions from energy consumption of AC and commercial refrigeration units.



Economic costs

Provides results on the overall expected investment costs and corresponding annuities discounted over the lifetime of the project up to 2050. Comparison of these costs also provides the expected costs savings of the different prospects compared to the P0 trend.

Energy efficiency of systems



Use of natural refrigerants



Reduction in refrigerant leakage

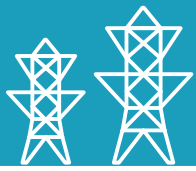


Reduction in cooling demand



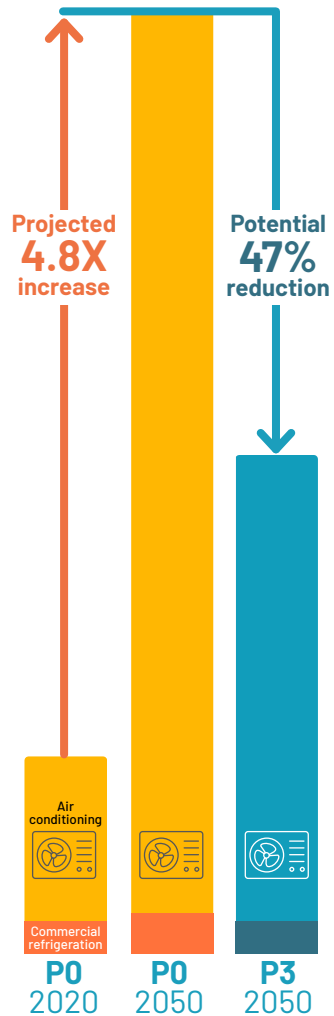
Leapfrog HFC





How much can electricity demand be reduced?

Electricity demand growth comes almost exclusively from growth in the residential AC market



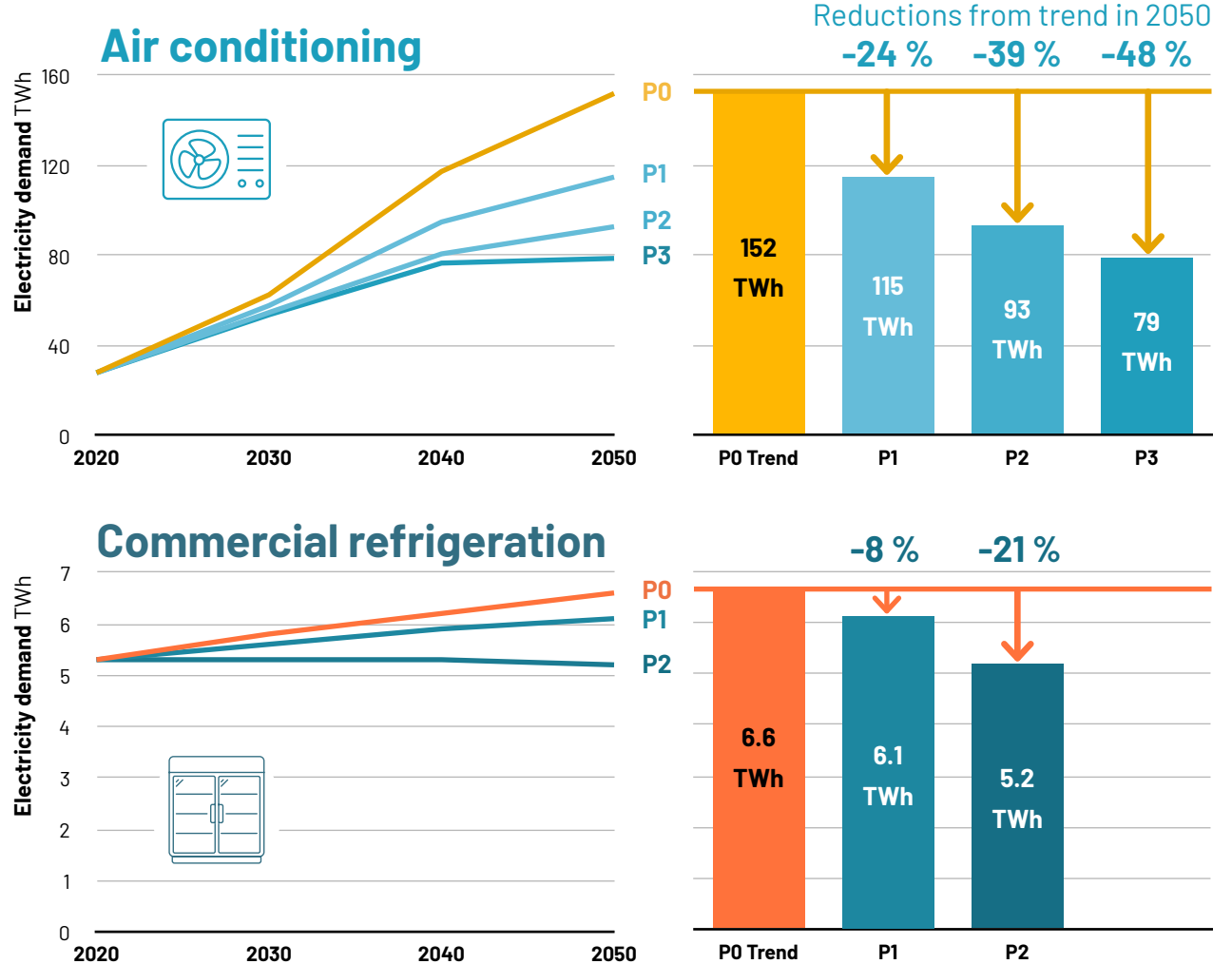
High growth of the RAC market represents both challenges and opportunities

The RAC market in Egypt is growing fast with a **7-fold increase** in number of air conditioning systems expected by 2050, primarily from growth in the residential AC market. This growth leads to a strong increase in electricity demand under current conditions. This will require significant investment in additional electricity generation capacity and possibly power grid infrastructure upgrades as well.

Significant electricity savings are possible by ambitious measures

The potential success of policy measures and regulatory controls will only limit but not stop growth in electricity demand. A potential **2.5 to 5-fold increase** in electricity demand from 2020 is likely, depending on the modelled prospect. These mitigation measures can deliver significant **savings of 24-47%**.

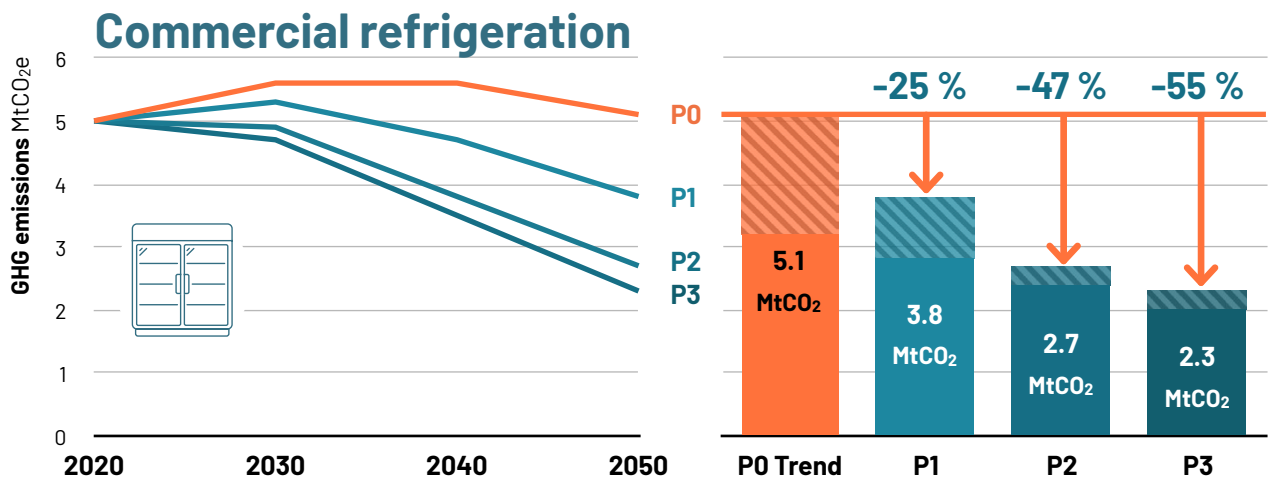
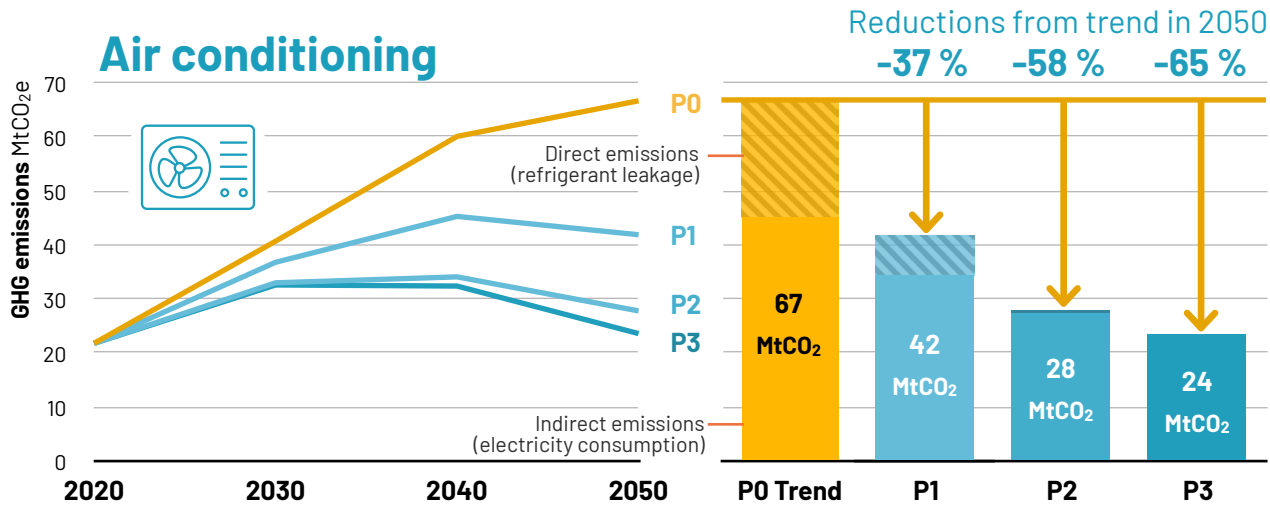
Rapid growth in electricity demand can be limited by policy measures that help install more efficient cooling equipment and build more thermally efficient buildings





Emissions reductions potential

Early adoption of highly efficient technologies with natural refrigerants is key to avoiding the lock-in effect and stopping growth in direct and indirect GHG emissions



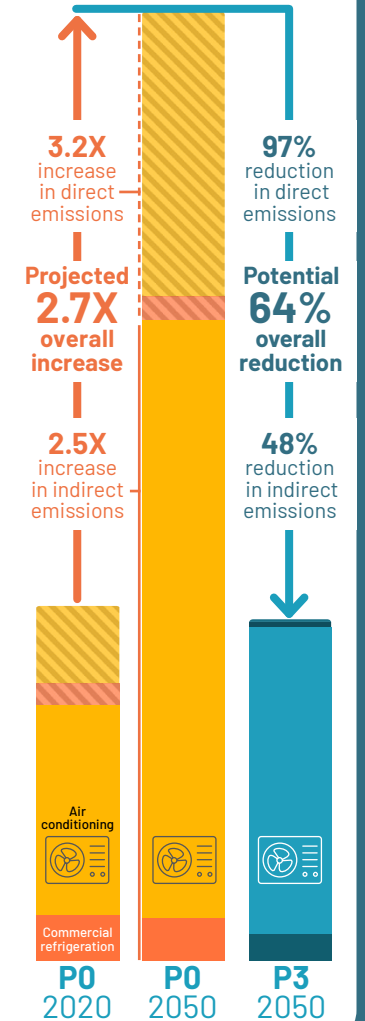
Direct emissions from refrigerant leakage can be virtually eliminated through use of natural refrigerants

Significant emissions reductions are possible

Under current conditions, overall market growth is set to dramatically increase emissions from the cooling sector. This is despite the electricity grid having a declining emissions intensity from adoption of renewables that will lower indirect emissions over time. Improvements to building envelopes under P3 show an additional 7% emissions reduction compared to P2.

Early action and swift reductions are key

A fast transformation of the RAC sector towards more efficient technologies and natural refrigerants is key to avoiding the lock-in effects from outdated equipment using standard refrigerants (such as R410A, R134a). This transition will counteract emissions from overall market growth, help achieve the Kigali targets and deliver a range of additional benefits.





Investment and electricity costs

Prospect

Investment costs

Equipment costs rise rapidly but higher and faster for sustainable cooling

The annuities or discounted CAPEX costs required to increase the number of AC systems from 7.8 M to 53 M and refrigeration from 1.1 M to 1.4 M by 2050 will reach approx. 46B € in 2050 under current trends. Under P1 and P2 these costs will be 15% higher at 52B € and 25% higher 57B € respectively due to the higher costs of installing less prevalent higher efficiency, natural refrigerant technologies.



Electricity costs

Significant electricity costs savings are possible with ambitious measures

More cooling results in higher annual electricity costs. These costs are expected to rise to 47B € by 2050 under current trends, 17 times higher than 2020 levels. This level of increase can be limited to 9 to 13 times 2020 levels depending on the P1 to P3 prospects, a 24-48% saving that more than offsets increased costs for efficient, sustainable cooling technologies.

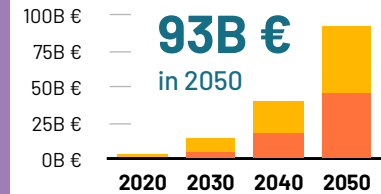
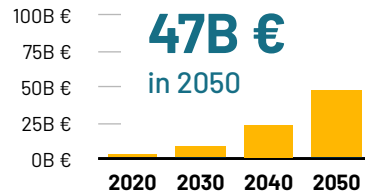
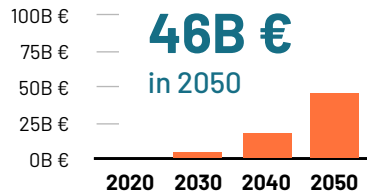


Total costs

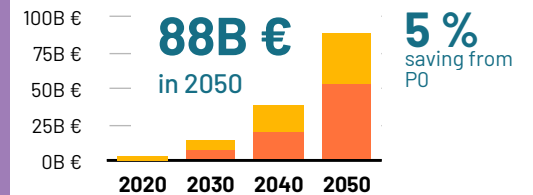
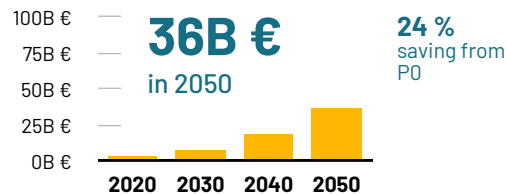
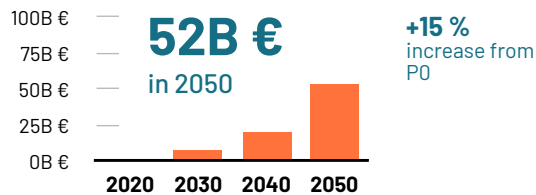
Savings outweigh costs, investing in sustainable cooling is financially smart

The overall situation shows that the higher costs of investing in sustainable cooling technologies are more than offset by the lower electricity costs, resulting in substantially lower emissions for a net financial saving. The savings could be even higher depending on electricity costs, which have risen in recent years. The electricity grid also benefits, particularly with avoided costs for peaking plants.

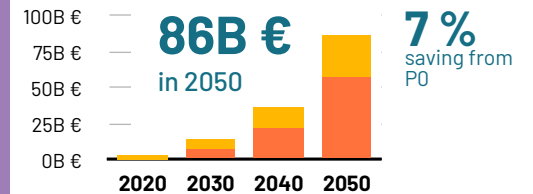
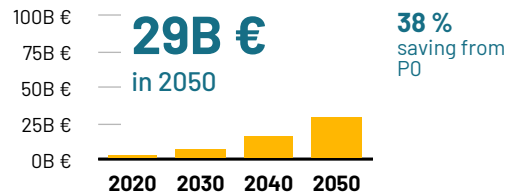
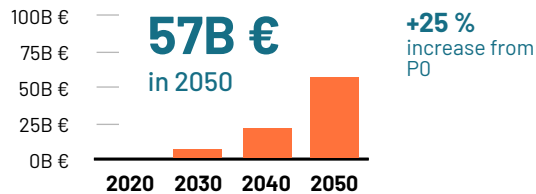
P0
Current trend



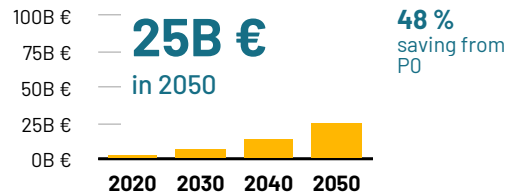
P1
Moderate impact



P2
High impact



P3
High impact +





More information

Full reports

This snapshot is based on the 2023 report entitled:

Cooling sector prospects study Egypt:

Energy and emission saving potential up to 2050 in the refrigeration and air conditioning sector

There are reports in the same series for **Jordan** and **Lebanon**

