Refrigeration could take up 30 to 40% of energy consumed in a supermarket. An interview held with a branch manager of one of the biggest local supermarkets in Uganda revealed that most refrigeration systems are still running on synthetic refrigerants such as R-22. These refrigerants with ozone depleting potential are to be phased out in the coming years as they have a negative impact on the environment.

UNIDO together with the IIR have developed a decision tree for supermarket managers/owners to guide them towards achieving energy savings from their refrigeration systems. In the attached decision tree, the main barriers to the adoption of energy efficient, environmentally friendly technologies in the retail sector have been identified and guidelines on how these can be overcome have been included.