



50 CITIES AT 50°C

Is your city ready?

Cities are on the frontlines of extreme heat — and hold the key to a cooler future.

FAQ

What is 50 Cities at 50°C (50@50)?

“50 Cities at 50°C” is a global activation for World Environment Day 2026 (June 5th). It will bring together 50 diverse cities to spotlight how urban areas are preparing for extreme heat, showcasing practical and sustainable cooling solutions and mobilizing communities and leaders to take action. This activation is designed both for cities already experiencing 50°C-equivalent conditions seeking to showcase and strengthen their responses, and for those preparing for rising temperatures aiming to build resilience before such extremes arrive.

What does it mean for my city to engage in the 50@50 activation?

Cities can engage at three different levels, depending on their interest, readiness, and capacity.

High (Preparedness & Planning):

- Commit to a structured heat preparedness and planning exercise over the next 6 to 18 months (with guidance from the City of Paris and global partners).
- Cities are also encouraged to engage in activities corresponding to the medium and light engagement levels.

Medium (Public Engagement):

- Organize a small public activation showcasing cooling solutions, a public event, or a public information campaign using the manual of activities provided
- Cities are also encouraged to engage in activities corresponding to the light engagement level.

Light (Awareness & Storytelling):

- Join a coordinated social media moment
- Share the global “Day at 50°C” animation and content
- Showcase your city’s actions on the 50 Cities at 50°C digital map
- Activate your city’s billboards and digital screens to help raise public awareness

What are the practical steps to commit to the 50@50 activation?

Please write to us (Wei.Huang@un.org and Lou.Perpes@un.org) to signal your interest and share the level of engagement you would like to commit to. Please nominate a focal point and share their name, role and contact details.

By when do we need to communicate our engagement?

Ideally, by May 1st to enable us to support you best. Later commitments are also welcomed, but no later than May 22nd.

How can I engage if World Environment Day (June 5th) is during our cold/ rainy season?

World Environment Day is the beginning of the 50@50 journey. We request cities to commit by then, but 50@50 activities can be scheduled for any period of time after June 5th, when it’s more relevant for the city.

What support will I get from UNEP?

The support to be provided varies with the level of engagement.

High (Preparedness & Planning):

- Methodological guidance on heat preparedness and planning exercise
- Peer-to-peer learning
- Hyperlocal data access
- Support for medium and light engagement level

Medium (Public Engagement):

- Practical activity manual that includes suggested ideas and formats, and guidance on how to implement these activities effectively

- 50 Cities at 50°C” will be referenced in the global press release for World Environment Day, with a selection of cities from the medium and high engagement tiers featured. Further detail will be provided through dedicated regional media outreach.
- In addition, we are exploring a standalone press release to allow for more depth, specifically focused on “50 Cities at 50°C.” To shape this effectively, we would welcome your inputs—particularly on participating cities, key announcements, and any longer-term milestones or outcomes that could strengthen the narrative beyond World Environment Day itself.
- Feature on World Environment Day global events, and reference to 50 Cities at 50°C” in the global press release for World Environment Day.
- Live feed updates on World Environment Day website provided that photos and details are provided for effective coverage
- Support for light engagement level

Light (Awareness & Storytelling):

- Digital map showcasing your commitment and cool solutions
- Communication materials (e.g., visual asset templates that can be adapted for social media channels, key messages, animation, content for billboards) in multiple languages
- Part of social media coverage on 50 cities at 50°C.

Where can I learn more about the city of Paris exercise?

Please see [here](#) the webpage dedicated to the Paris’ exercise, including videos, summary and methodological guide in French.

In English, please see the exercise summary [here](#) and the methodology guide [here](#).

My question is not listed above, how can I get an answer?

Please write to us! We will be happy to answer to your question: Wei.Huang@un.org and Lou.Perpes@un.org