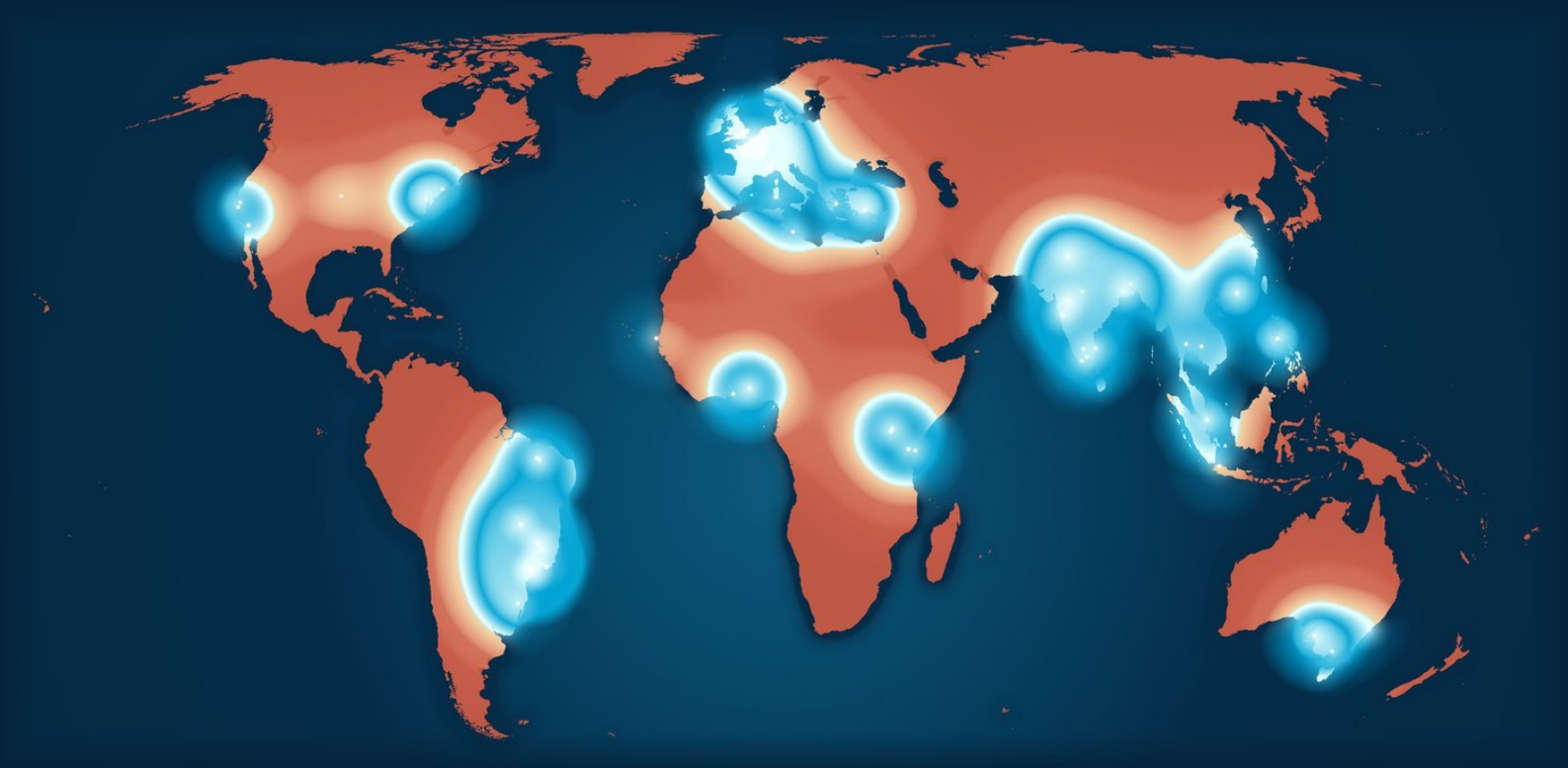
UN environment programme

Cool Coalition
a UNEP-convened initiative

#BEAT THE HEAT

Year 1 Highlights

100 Stories from Belém to Antalya



November 2026

Foreword

When Beat the Heat was launched in Belém at COP30, Brazil introduced us to a word that captures what tackling extreme heat requires: *mutirão* - people coming together to get a shared job done. This publication reflects that spirit, bringing together 100 examples from cities, states and partners that chose to act rather than wait for the next heatwave.

The past year underscored the urgency of that action. Global temperatures reached new highs, and UNEP's *Limiting Overshoot* report made clear that the world is likely to exceed 1.5°C of warming. Yet what happens next remains shaped by the choices we make today. Every fraction of a degree matters.

Extreme heat is already affecting lives, livelihoods and economies. Cities are particularly exposed, often significantly warmer than surrounding areas. At the same time, the demand for cooling is growing rapidly. Meeting that demand with inefficient buildings and high-emission technologies would deepen the challenge. A different path is possible through passive design, energy efficiency and low-emission cooling solutions. That is why Beat the Heat, as the local implementation mechanism of the Global Cooling Pledge, approaches heat resilience and sustainable cooling as a shared agenda.

In its first year, this *mutirão* has grown to 300 cities and states across around 45 countries, supported by 100 partners. Our engagement with local governments revealed a common challenge: awareness of heat risks is growing faster than preparedness. Many cities recognise extreme heat as a major threat but still lack the resources, data and capacity needed to respond effectively.

The examples in these pages show how that gap is beginning to close. Cities are improving heat monitoring and planning, embedding heat into governance, and delivering practical solutions in homes, schools and public spaces. Partners are also helping protect those most vulnerable to heat, including women, farmers and outdoor workers.

These achievements are encouraging. Accelerating progress will require stronger coordination across levels of government, greater technical capacity and more investment to scale proven solutions. The challenge ahead is to ensure tested solutions are available to many more cities facing rising temperatures.

We thank the COP30 Brazil Presidency for helping shape Beat the Heat and carrying its momentum from Belém to Antalya, as well as Türkiye and the City of Antalya for hosting COP31. Above all, we thank the cities, states and partners whose work fills these pages. Their efforts show that ambition can be translated into action. Our task now is to build on that momentum and move faster, together.



Gulnara Roll
Head, Sectorial Transitions Section
Mititgation Branch
United Nations Environment Programme

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01

BUILDING HEAT KNOWLEDGE, DATA AND TOOLS

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Photo: #82 Heat Resilience Challenge

Data, tools and research

1 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
Urban heat island solution catalogue

In response to requests from its technical departments, the City of Brussels' Climate Team developed a catalogue of solutions to help identify effective measures for addressing urban heat island effects. The resulting catalogue has been published to inspire and help any urban developer that wishes to better include heat resilience to their designs.

The catalogue provides a clear overview of available solutions and enables users to compare them across criteria such as cost, expected impact and implementation time. By making this information more accessible, it supports the wider adoption of effective heat resilience practices.

- Urban Heat Island Solution Catalogue
- Urban Heat Island Solution Catalogue: Shading Solutions



Urban Heat Island Solution Catalogue

2 ARUP
Assessing heat risk in the UK's urban built environment

Arup prepared a report for the UK Climate Change Committee on heat risk and adaptation in the urban built environment. The report sets out the growing impacts of heat on health and economic productivity across the UK and practical pathways for adapting buildings and cities to rising temperatures.

> The findings informed the UK's Fourth Climate Change Risk Assessment, supporting national preparedness for the climate impacts ahead.



London Climate Action Week Panel and launch of report. Does heat adaptation pay? From solutions to measurable impact at scale (with guest panelists from National Heat Risk Commission, UNEP Cool Coalition, London Climate Ready Partnership and Climate Change Committee)

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3 CARBONCARE INNOLAB
Revealing heat burden on family carers in inadequate housing

CarbonCare InnoLab (CCIL) and the Concerning Subdivided Units Alliance released the findings of the Inadequate Housing Heat Survey 2026 in Hong Kong. Average indoor temperatures in inadequate housing reached 29.93 °C during the day and stayed at 29.42 °C at night, above the Hong Kong Observatory's hot night threshold of 28 °C.

29.93 °C

Average indoor temperatures in inadequate housing

> The survey exposes the "heat injustice" faced by residents of inadequate housing, with family carers who spend long periods at home bearing the heaviest physical, psychological and financial burden.

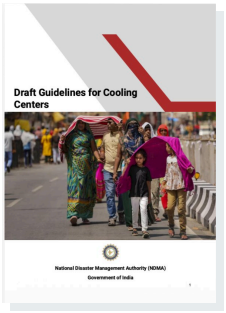
- CCIL: Inadequate Housing Heat Survey 2026



CarbonCare InnoLab: presentation of the 2026 household heat survey. Source: CarbonCare InnoLab.

4 COALITION FOR DISASTER RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE (CDRI)

Setting national guidance for cooling centres in India



Draft Guidelines for Cooling Centers

CDRI and partners supported India's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in developing national guidance on cooling centres. The guidance covers both existing buildings designated as cooling centres and temporary structures, and how to make them safe, accessible and resource-efficient.

Adopted by NDMA as national guidance, it gives municipal bodies across India practical specifications for location, passive design, low-energy cooling, health services and inclusion. It prioritizes people most exposed to heat and with the least access to cooling.

- NDMA: Cooling Centre Guidelines

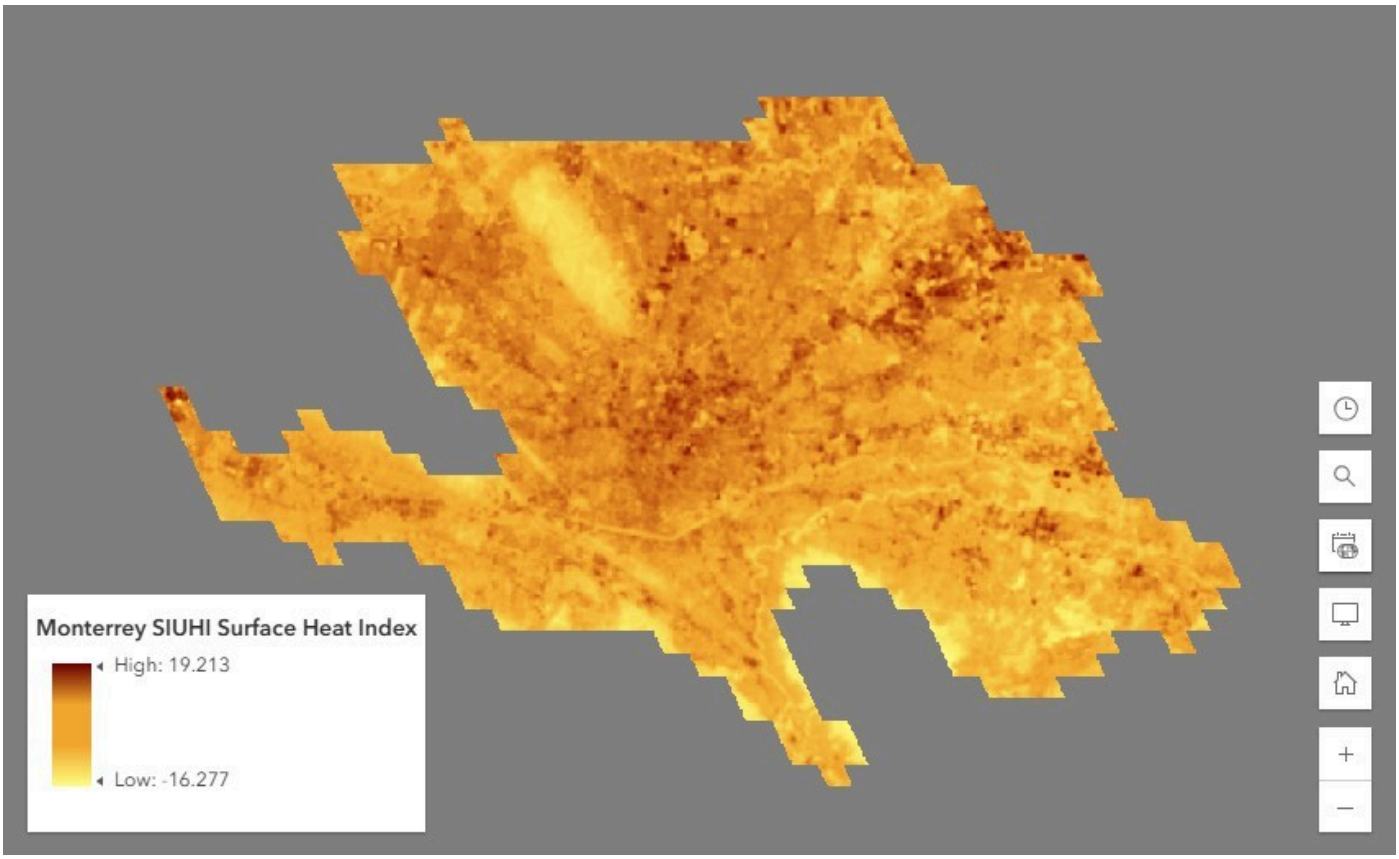
5 ESRI

Helping cities map urban heat and access free heat resilience tools

Esri has developed a cloud-based workflow that lets users create a heat-risk index map for any city using Landsat thermal data, combining heat intensity and its spatial distribution with land-use and demographic data. With the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM) and UNEP, Esri has also developed a Heat Resilience collaboration site that provides spatial data, analytical workflows and tutorials on urban heat resilience, along with opportunities for in-person training.

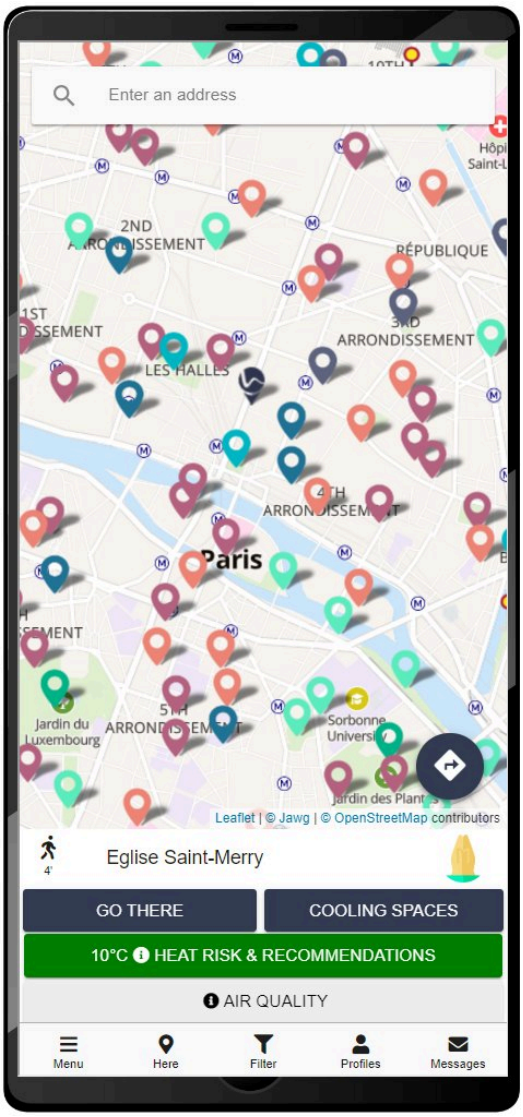
Cities and practitioners have free access to data and methods for analysing urban heat, helping them identify where measures to reduce the urban heat island effect will be most effective, without needing specialist infrastructure.

- Esri: Mapping intra-urban surface heat islands with Landsat
- Esri Heat Resilience Hub



Monterrey surface heat index. Image: Esri.

6 EXTREMA GLOBAL
Using heat intelligence to help protect cities and residents



EXTREMA Global App

EXTREMA Global is being deployed as an operational service on the European Union's Destination Earth (DestinE) platform. It combines heat nowcasting, vulnerability mapping and cooling network analysis to help cities identify priority areas and plan targeted interventions. A free multilingual mobile app gives residents and visitors personalized heat-risk information, cooling spaces and cooler walking routes.

Validated in Athens and now being adapted for other cities, including Bucharest, the service helps cities move from reactive heat response to proactive, evidence-based protection.

- EXTREMA Global

7 FORTYGUARD
Screening heat around AI data centres

In August 2026, FortyGuard published its Data Center Ambient Thermal Screen, assessing 36 operating AI data centre campuses in the United States with data from June to August 2025. It combined satellite surface temperature, air temperature, heat stress and drought conditions.

9.6–28.1 °C

hotter than the air above them

Campus surfaces were 9.6–28.1 °C hotter than the air above them. The screen gives a basis for comparing sites and further investigation, though it does not establish that data centres cause the surrounding heat.

8 GOOGLE
Making AI-powered heat data available to more than 200 cities

Google is providing more than 200 Beat the Heat cities with data from its Heat Resilience tools: Tree Canopy and the Roof-Level Albedo datasets. Using AI with satellite and aerial imagery, Tree Canopy maps existing tree cover to guide urban forestry. The Roof-Level Albedo dataset measures how much sunlight individual roofs reflect, helping cities identify where cool roofs could be most effective.

Cities in the Beat the Heat network can use high-resolution, building-level data to target tree planting, urban greening and cool-roof programmes in areas where they are most needed.

- Google Research: Heat Resilience



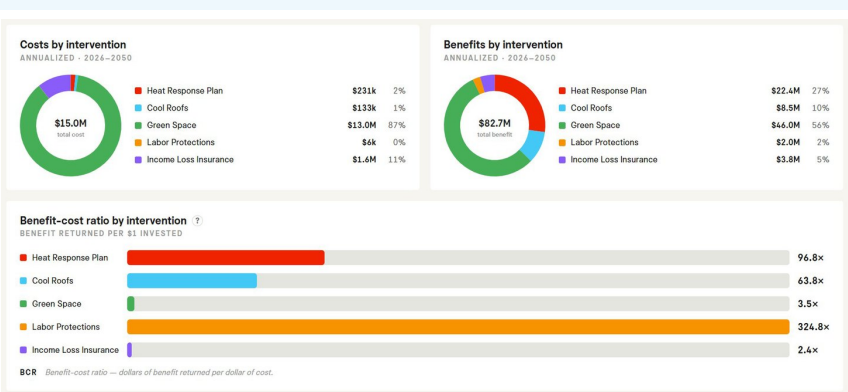
Roof-Level Albedo Tool

9 HEAT RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION (HERA)
Calculating the costs and savings of heat action

HERA's City Heat Solutions Calculator estimates the costs of extreme heat in cities around the world. It also models how much targeted interventions could save, from heat response plans and cool roofs to urban greening and income-loss insurance.

The calculator gives governments, practitioners, development partners and others an accessible way to assess the impacts of extreme heat and make the case for investing in solutions.

- HERA City Heat Solutions Calculator



HERA Heat Solutions Calculator

10 HEATPRINT
Measuring the heat impact of mitigation projects and strategies

The Heatprint Platform uses the Radiative Forcing Protocol and science vetted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to calculate how much a carbon footprint or mitigation project contributes to atmospheric heat. It covers a broader range of climate pollutants than standard carbon accounting and shows results over several timeframes, including the near term. The platform received the 2026 Keeling Curve Prize in the Climate Finance category.

Companies, governments and investors can see the heat impact of their emissions and compare the climate return on investment of different mitigation strategies.

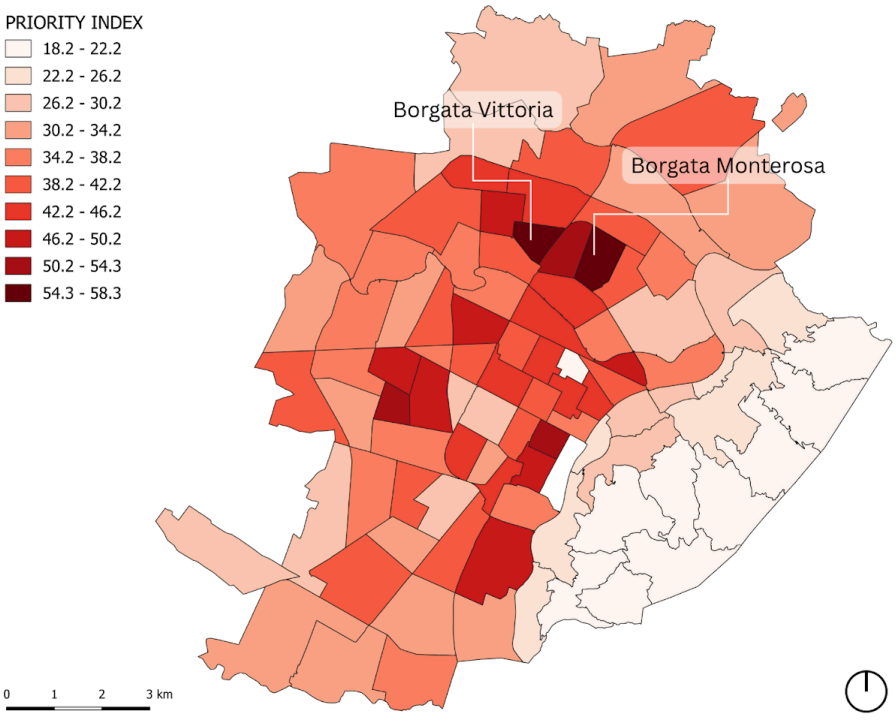
- Heatprint

11 LINKS FOUNDATION
Mapping where heat adaptation is needed most

LINKS Foundation and the University of Turin developed and tested a method for identifying the urban areas most in need of heat adaptation. It combines data on urban heat, environmental conditions, exposure and social vulnerability. A complementary decision-support tool helps cities choose the most suitable nature-based solutions for each area.

Tested in Turin (Italy), Rennes (France) and Rybnik (Poland) through JA PreventNCD, the European Joint Action on preventing cancer and other non-communicable diseases, the tools help cities turn heat-risk evidence into targeted action. The method is being developed into guidance so that other European cities can use it.

- JA PreventNCD: Nature-based solutions for healthy urban environments



Priority areas for nature-based solutions in Turin. Source: JA PreventNCD.

12 RAMBOLL
Integrated Urban Cooling Solutions Catalogue



Integrated Urban Cooling Solutions Catalogue

Ramboll, together with Henning Larsen, has developed Integrated Urban Cooling Solutions Catalogue, a practical catalogue showcasing approaches to reducing urban heat across four areas: water and nature-based solutions, urban design and masterplanning, building materials and construction, and transport and mobility. Developed as part of Ramboll's contribution to Beat the Heat, the catalogue reflects shared ambition to accelerate practical action on urban heat. It will be launched at COP31, in partnership with UNEP, in Antalya. Additionally, Ramboll is developing ClimaSense, a digital tool designed to help cities assess the combined impacts of urban flooding and extreme heat and explore nature-based adaptation measures. The tool is intended to help cities use climate-risk information to identify and assess practical interventions, taking an integrated approach to heat, flooding and climate resilience.

> The catalogue translates experience and real-world solutions into a practical resource for cities, policymakers and practitioners, demonstrating how different cooling measures can be combined and adapted to local climate, geography and needs.

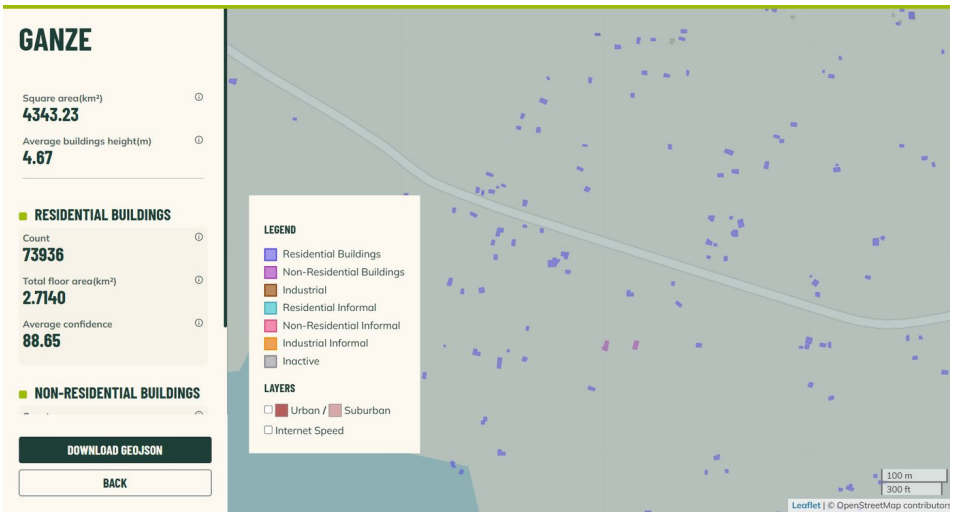
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13 SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ALL (SEFORALL)
Using building-level data to inform heat action planning in India

Open Building Insights (OBI) is SEforALL's open-access AI platform providing building-level data for energy and urban planning. It was developed with the IBM Sustainability Accelerator, the German Aerospace Center (DLR) and Open Energy Maps. SEforALL and Mahila Housing Trust have adapted OBI for heat action planning, field-testing it in Amalner (Maharashtra) and using it for heat risk assessments in Patan (Gujarat) and Churu (Rajasthan).

> Building on this work, SEforALL and Mahila Housing Trust are developing a scalable framework for building-level heat risk assessment across India.

- Open Building Insights



Open Building Insights (OBI) Platform

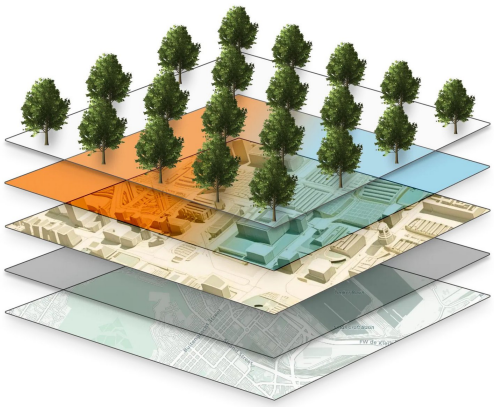
14 WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE (WRI)

Giving cities high-resolution heat data through Cool Cities Lab

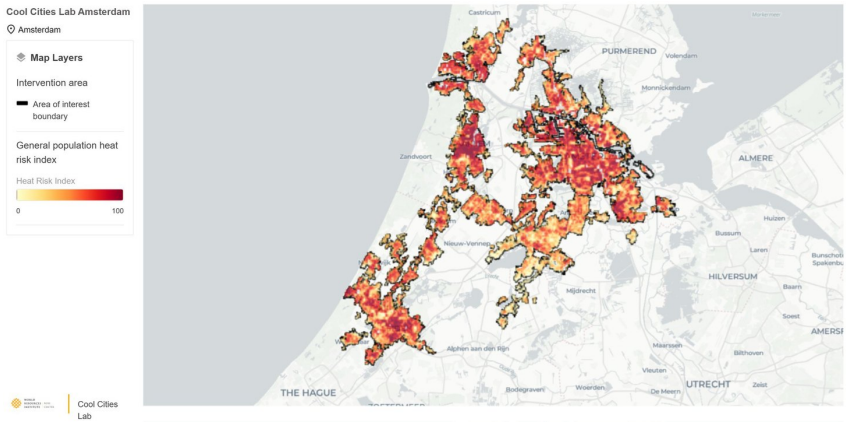
In 2026, the World Resources Institute (WRI) launched Cool Cities Lab, an open-source online data platform that provides high-resolution data to assess heat exposure, map cooling opportunities and simulate the cooling potential of heat-resilient infrastructure. Data are available for 26 cities, including 11 Beat the Heat cities: Barcelona, Belo Horizonte, Buenos Aires, Campinas, Cape Town, Florianópolis, Fortaleza, Jakarta, Kisumu, Rio de Janeiro and Teresina. WRI also offers a paid analytics service through the platform, providing custom scenario modelling of city-specific cooling infrastructure projects.

Eleven Beat the Heat cities can now use open, high-resolution data to identify where heat exposure is greatest and test which cooling solutions would have the most effect.

- WRI: Cool Cities Lab



WRI Cool Cities Lab



WRI Cool Cities Lab Heat Risk in Amsterdam

15 WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE (WRI)

Showing the untapped cooling potential of trees and cool roofs

Two new WRI analyses show the underused potential of urban trees and cool roofs to reduce heat in cities and keep residents cool. A supporting article in *Nature Communications* validates the methods behind Google's new dataset on building-level rooftop reflectivity, as well as the use of open, globally available satellite data to estimate reflectivity for many urban applications.

The research gives cities evidence on where trees and cool roofs can deliver the greatest cooling and confirms that open satellite data can reliably support these decisions.

- WRI: Urban trees' cooling potential

Heat risk assessment and monitoring

16 LAGOS STATE, NIGERIA
Mapping urban heat to guide Lagos's first Heat Action Plan

Lagos State, in collaboration with C40 Cities, is conducting an Urban Heat Assessment to understand the distribution, intensity and drivers of urban heat across the State. The findings will inform the 2026 update of the Lagos Climate Change Risk Assessment and guide the development of the Lagos Heat Action Plan, planned for 2027.

> The assessment will identify heat-vulnerable communities and provide the evidence base for targeted interventions, policies and urban planning to reduce residents' exposure to extreme heat.



Related heat action in Lagos: the 50@50 exercise.

17 OSASCO, BRAZIL
Assessing climate risks to guide adaptation planning

Osasco, in the Brazilian state of São Paulo, has carried out a Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (Avaliação de Riscos e Vulnerabilidades Climáticas – ARVC). The assessment identifies the climate-related risks and vulnerabilities facing the municipality and provides a basis for its adaptation planning.

> The assessment gives Osasco an evidence base for prioritizing adaptation measures and strengthening the city's resilience.

18 PIMPRI CHINCHWAD, INDIA
Mapping heat hotspots through land surface temperature analysis

PCMC (Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation) has conducted Land Surface Temperature (LST) analysis (2015–2026) to identify heat hotspots and occupational exposure zones. The findings are informing interventions in industrial areas, transport hubs and densely populated neighbourhoods.

> The mapping provides a basis for targeting cooling measures and informing urban planning in areas where outdoor and informal workers face high heat exposure.

19 SANTO ANDRÉ, BRAZIL
Mapping urban heat to inform local planning

In October 2026, Santo André, in the Brazilian state of São Paulo, was selected for ArborizaCidades, a federal initiative of Brazil's Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change that supports urban tree planting and action on extreme heat. Alongside tree planting, the city will develop a Local Urban Heat Action Plan. Through its environmental agency, SEMASA, it is also procuring a monitoring station and a thermal drone to identify heat hotspots and map socio-environmental vulnerability.

> The initiative will support Santo André in combining tree planting, environmental monitoring and local planning to address urban heat.

- Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change: ArborizaCidades results



Related greening work: Santo André's Green Yards.

20 TERESINA, BRAZIL
Monitoring heat and air quality across Teresina

Teresina has established a hyperlocal environmental monitoring network to better understand variations in temperature, humidity and air quality across different areas of the city. The data are already informing municipal discussions on heat protection measures, including a proposal by Mayor Silvio Mendes to adjust the working hours of public sanitation workers to reduce their exposure during the hottest hours of the day.

45.22°C

the highest since municipal monitoring began in April 2026

On 7 October 2026, the network recorded a maximum temperature of 45.22°C, the highest since municipal monitoring began in April 2026. All six monitoring stations registered temperatures of at least 40°C that day. The readings highlight the extent of the heat across Teresina and provide evidence to inform measures to protect residents and outdoor workers.

- Temperature record
- Heat protection for sanitation workers

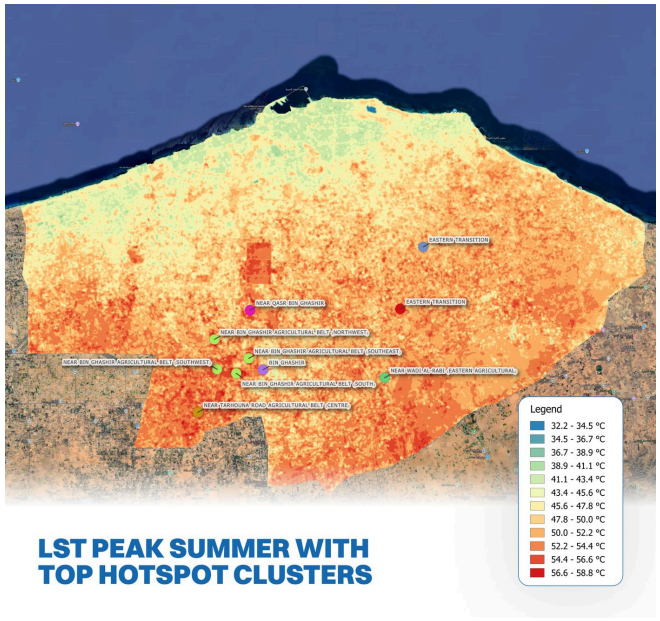
21 FORTYGUARD
Building a heat baseline for Greater Tripoli

FortyGuard built a citywide heat baseline for Greater Tripoli, Libya, covering 1,627 km² with 2025 data. It combined a year of hourly feels-like temperature with satellite surface temperature and land cover on a 30-metre grid. The study found two distinct problems: sustained heat exposure in sheltered, low-wind districts around Al-Hadba, and the hottest surfaces in the southern agricultural belt.

57

surface hotspot zones

The study mapped 57 surface hotspot zones and found around 1,800 hours a year of strong heat stress (above 32 °C on the Universal Thermal Climate Index). Its recommendations include shade and greening in neighbourhoods, and irrigation and tree planting at the urban edge.



Greater Tripoli Thermal Assessment.

22 HEAT RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION (HERA)
Mapping heat hotspots with African cities

HERA is supporting Accra, Paynesville, Monrovia and Kassa to map urban heat islands and vulnerability, and to design community-driven heat awareness campaigns. It is also supporting night-time heat mapping in Jaipur, India.

The work is expected to identify heat hotspots and inform adaptation measures tailored to each city.

- HERA: Four African cities awarded urban heat resilience grants



Accra, Paynesville, Monrovia, and Kassa are awarded HERA's African Urban Heat Resilience Grants

23 LINKS FOUNDATION
Assessing heatwave risk across Sardinia

LINKS Foundation is supporting a heatwave risk assessment method for the Sardinia Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, to better connect climate adaptation with Civil Protection planning. It combines current and future heatwave hazard with population exposure, social vulnerability and adaptive capacity to identify priority areas.

377

municipalities of Sardinia

The framework covers all 377 municipalities of Sardinia, home to about 1.55 million people in one of Italy's oldest populations. It is informing the Regional Civil Protection Plan, including a regional approach to heatwave prevention and warning.

- Sardinia Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

24 SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ALL (SEFORALL)
Charting sustainable cooling for Indonesia

SEforALL and Indonesia's Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (ESDM) are preparing a report, *Sustainable Cooling for All in Indonesia*, due for publication in 2026. It includes heat vulnerability mapping across Jakarta's kelurahan (urban villages) and findings from roundtables and project clinics held in Jakarta in September 2026.

The report will guide cooling upgrades in buildings, energy savings and strategies to attract investment in sustainable cooling.



02

PLANNING AND GOVERNING FOR EXTREME HEAT

Heat action planning and policy	18
Early warning and emergency preparedness	24

Photo: #36 Governor H.E. Andrew Mwadime and Deputy Governor H.E. Christine Kilalo are receiving the Cabinet Secretary for Energy and Petroleum, Hon. Opiyo Wandayi, in Voi ahead of the official launch of the County Energy Plan

Heat action planning and policy

25 ANTALYA, TÜRKIYE
Developing Antalya's Heat Action Plan using local evidence

Antalya Metropolitan Municipality has prepared an expanded draft of the Antalya Heat Action Plan for Urban Heat, Extreme Heat and Sustainable Cooling. The draft builds on the city's own climate-risk evidence, including the CLIMAAX–MUHIR risk assessment, district-level mortality analysis, spatial heat-risk mapping and stakeholder input, and prioritizes 72 measures. On 19 June 2026, Antalya held a workshop with 106 participants from 30 institutions to review heat risks, identify priorities and contribute directly to the Heat Action Plan. The workshop produced structured input for the Plan and strengthened cooperation on heat preparedness and adaptation across municipal departments, public institutions and academia. It has been peer-reviewed and is now being revised to strengthen implementation, governance and sustainable cooling.

> The draft brings together local evidence and input from 30 institutions to guide Antalya's next phase of heat action. The Municipality plans to present it at COP31.



Antalya's World Environment Day programme and heat action plan announcement. Source: Antalya Gündem.

26 BELO HORIZONTE, BRAZIL
Institutionalizing municipal action on extreme heat

Belo Horizonte formally established its Heat Protocol through Municipal Decree No. 19.696 of 14 August 2026. Led by COEMC (Coordenadoria Especial de Mudanças Climáticas), the development process brought together municipal departments, Civil Defence and the Observatory for Urban Health in Belo Horizonte at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (OSUBH/UFMG), establishing a shared framework for heat preparedness and response.

> A collaborative process involving 39 technical and coordination meetings translated scientific evidence and intersectoral dialogue into an institutional framework with clearly defined responsibilities.

- Municipal Decree establishing the Heat Protocol

27 CAXIAS DO SUL, BRAZIL
Strengthening local climate governance and urban heat resilience

Caxias do Sul (Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil) has strengthened its climate governance through the enactment of its Municipal Climate Emergency Statute and the development of draft legislation establishing the Caxias Sustentável e Resiliente Program. The proposed program aims to create legal mechanisms for recognizing and incentivizing sustainable and climate-resilient practices, including urban greening, nature-based solutions and measures to mitigate urban heat.

Establishment of a municipal legal framework for climate action, with additional incentive mechanisms currently under legislative development.

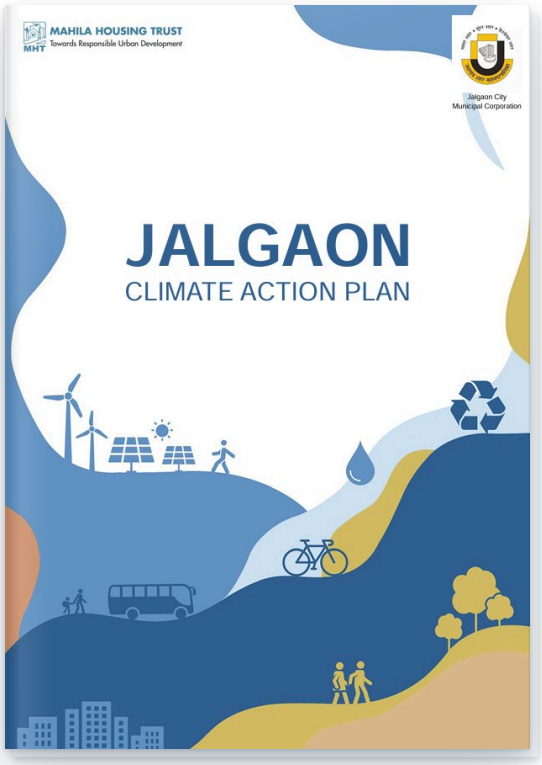
- Municipal Climate Emergency Statute

28 HOMA BAY COUNTY, KENYA
Integrating heat risk into county energy and development planning

Homa Bay County is developing its County Energy Plan alongside other climate initiatives to improve access to sustainable energy and strengthen climate resilience. It is also working to integrate heat-risk awareness and adaptation measures into community engagement and development planning.

The work is intended to ensure that planning gives attention to groups particularly exposed to heat, including children, older people, women and persons with disabilities.

29 JALGAON, INDIA
Building a heat-resilient future through the Jalgaon Climate Action Plan



Jalgaon Climate Action Plan

Jalgaon, in the Indian state of Maharashtra, has developed a Climate Action Plan with a framework for reducing rising temperatures and building long-term resilience to the urban heat island effect.

The Plan brings municipal departments together with local women's groups to set practical pathways towards a low-carbon, heat-resilient city.

- Jalgaon Climate Action Plan

30 KILIFI COUNTY, KENYA
Developing Kilifi County's first Heat Action Plan

Kilifi County is developing a County Heat Action Plan to strengthen its preparedness for and response to extreme heat. Led by the County's Energy Directorate, the Plan aims to coordinate action across county departments to protect communities from heat-related risks.

> The Plan is expected to provide a framework for coordinated heat-risk management, preparedness and protection for people most exposed to heat.



Planning meeting on the Kilifi County Heat Action Plan, County Lands Department headquarter

31 KISUMU COUNTY, KENYA IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ALL (SEFORALL)
Validating Kisumu's Heat and Cooling Action Plan with communities

From 14 to 16 October 2026, Kisumu County held combined public participation and validation sessions on its draft Heat and Cooling Action Plan 2027–2032 in the sub-counties of Nyakach, Muhoroni, Nyando and Seme, with support from Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL). The Plan sets out a multi-sectoral strategy to build long-term heat resilience and deploy sustainable cooling that protects vulnerable communities, public infrastructure, and agricultural and fisheries livelihoods. The Plan has been revised since the County joined Beat the Heat and will be submitted to the County Cabinet for approval and adoption. It went through public participation in October 2026 and is due to be published by the end of the year.

> Input from communities in four sub-counties has informed the draft Plan. A new countywide stakeholder group on heat and cooling is also strengthening coordination. On 13 November 2026, SEforALL and Kisumu County will host a Sustainable Cooling Marketplace to mobilize investment in the Plan's priority actions.
>
> - Kenya News Agency: Kisumu develops five-year plan to tackle rising temperatures

32 PARIS, FRANCE
Shifting from gradual adaptation to climate safety

After France's hottest summer on record, with five heatwaves in Paris, 48 days above 30 °C and 28 days under orange or red heat alert, the City of Paris has set out a new heat strategy. Alongside ongoing adaptation, it launches a climate safety plan defining what the City must protect even in the most extreme conditions, including possible peaks of 50 °C by 2050.

48 days

above 30 °C

> The plan will set heat thresholds that specify what the city guarantees, up to what temperature, and what it organizes beyond that. It will be guided by an expert council and tested through a new crisis exercise in 2027.

33 PIMPRI CHINCHWAD, INDIA
Adopting a Heat Action Plan to protect outdoor and informal workers

PCMC (Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation) has developed and adopted a comprehensive Heat Action Plan (2024–25) to safeguard vulnerable workers such as street vendors, construction workers, traffic police, and informal sector employees.

Covering over 1.7 million residents, the plan has introduced early warning systems, cooling centers, and awareness campaigns, ensuring timely protection and reducing heat-related health risks across the city.

1.7 million

residents

34 QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES
Coordinating citywide action on extreme heat and drought

Quezon City, in Metro Manila, Philippines, established the Quezon City Heat Action Team (QC-HAT) through Executive Order No. 12, Series of 2026, and designated Chief Heat Action Officers through Office Order No. 127, Series of 2026. The QC-HAT is the City's technical coordinating body for planning, implementing and monitoring heat and drought resilience measures, with particular attention to vulnerable residents. On 7 October 2026, it brought together water concessionaires and technical partners to prepare for extreme heat, drought and a strong El Niño expected from October 2026 to March 2027.

The QC-HAT has strengthened coordination across agencies and created a platform for aligning citywide preparedness and response. Its work is supported by partners including C40 Cities, Partnership for Healthy Cities, and the Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR-ERDB).





Quezon City Heat Action Team

35 TAITA TAVETA COUNTY, KENYA
Development of the Taita Taveta County Heat Action Plan

Taita Taveta County is finalising its County Heat Action Plan, including the stakeholder validation process. The process will be concluded by the end of March 2027, with support from Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL), providing a framework for coordinated heat-risk preparedness and the protection of vulnerable communities.

The Plan is expected to provide a county-level framework for heat preparedness, coordination across sectors and targeted measures to protect public health and livelihoods.

- Heat Action Plan Draft

36 TAITA TAVETA COUNTY, KENYA
Adopting the County Energy Plan 2024–2033, with sustainable cooling built in

Taita Taveta County has developed, secured approval for and launched its County Energy Plan 2024–2033, with support from the EU-supported SETA initiative and SNV. The plan provides a strategic framework for sustainable energy development, including opportunities to advance energy efficiency, climate-responsive buildings and sustainable cooling approaches that can contribute to more comfortable and resilient communities.

An approved long-term county energy framework that provides a basis for integrating energy efficiency, sustainable cooling and climate resilience into infrastructure development and public service delivery.

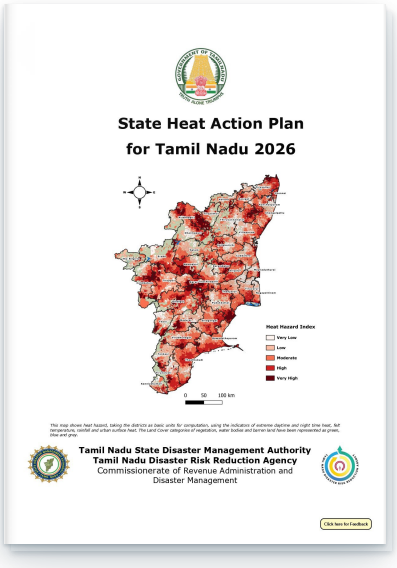
- County Energy Plan 2024–2033 launch report and photos



County Energy Plan launch, Taita Taveta County.

37 TAMIL NADU, INDIA
Launch of City-Level Heat Action Plans in Tamil Nadu

The Government of Tamil Nadu developed and launched Heat Action Plans for 11 cities—Avadi, Chennai, Coimbatore, Erode, Madurai, Salem, Tambaram, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruppur, Thoothukudi, and Vellore—through the Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority (TNSDMA), in collaboration with the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW). These city-level plans identify local heat risks, vulnerable populations and priority areas for intervention, providing a framework for strengthening heatwave preparedness, public health protection and targeted heat mitigation measures. Follow-up coordination with the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company (TNGCC) and the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department (MAWS) supports the implementation of heat resilience measures across the participating cities.



Establishes a city-level framework for identifying heat risks, protecting vulnerable communities, and coordinating targeted interventions to reduce heat-related illnesses and strengthen heat resilience across Tamil Nadu.

- Tamil Nadu city heat action plans

38 THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION
Mobilizing mayors through the Cool Cities Accelerator



Freetown Heat Health Taskforce

C40 Cities launched the Cool Cities Accelerator, supported by The Rockefeller Foundation. Through the Accelerator, mayors pledge to protect their most vulnerable residents from extreme heat now and to transform how their cities are built and lived in over the next five years. Thirty-six mayors of major cities around the world have joined.

In Bengaluru, a new heat action plan and cross-departmental governance framework have benefited 360,000 residents and vulnerable workers through cooling centres, upgraded primary health facilities and targeted heat measures. Freetown, Rio de Janeiro and Jakarta have received support to strengthen heat early warning and heat action protocols, and more than 800 healthcare workers have been trained.

- C40 Cities: Cool Cities Accelerator

39 THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION
Strengthening heat-health preparedness and early warning in Senegal

With support from The Rockefeller Foundation, the Centre de Suivi Écologique (CSE) worked with the Ministry of Health, the National Civil Aviation and Meteorology Agency (ANACIM) and other national partners to develop Senegal's National Heat Action Plan (2026–2030). The project also strengthened the national heat-health early warning system, Heat+, and advanced regional preparedness planning in Fatick, Kaffrine and Matam.

The National Heat Action Plan has been validated, and a regional action plan and coordination mechanism are in place. In an assessment of the alerts, 88 per cent of respondents reported receiving them, 84 per cent recognized extreme heat as very dangerous, and 75 per cent said they drank more water as a result.

- CSE: Two new climate and health projects for a more resilient Senegal



Launch of the SSACH and F4ClimHealth climate-health projects in Dakar. Photo: Centre de Suivi Écologique (CSE).

Early warning and emergency preparedness

40 BELO HORIZONTE, BRAZIL
Translating local health evidence into heat alert thresholds

Belo Horizon's Heat Protocol draws on locally developed research examining the association between daily maximum temperature and mortality, using meteorological and health records from 2014–2024. This evidence informed an initial advisory stage and four escalating heatwave alert levels, combining temperature thresholds with event duration to guide prevention and response.

4,018 days

provided a locally grounded scientific basis for municipal decision-making

Analysis of 4,018 days provided a locally grounded scientific basis for municipal decision-making, directly connecting climate monitoring with public health priorities.

- Scientific article published in Revista Brasileira de Epidemiologia.

41 BELO HORIZONTE, BRAZIL
Advancing operational preparedness across municipal services

COEMC is reviewing and integrating departmental Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) into Belo Horizonte's Extreme Heat Contingency Plan, covering health, Civil Defence, education, social assistance, food security, parks and outreach to vulnerable urban communities. Progress includes receipt of the updated Health Department SOP on 15 October 2026 and technical feedback to departments to strengthen activation criteria, responsibilities, resource planning and coordination.

These procedures are translating the Heat Protocol into practical preparedness arrangements, prioritizing populations and neighbourhoods most vulnerable to extreme heat. The Extreme Heat Contingency Plan is being developed for integration into the Municipal Risk and Disaster Management Plan.

- Municipal Risk and Disaster Management Plan and associated protocols.

42 PARIS, FRANCE
Sharing heat preparedness with cities worldwide

Paris leads the 50@50 initiative with UNEP and C40, through which more than 50 cities share their responses to heatwaves. The City's "Paris at 50°C" crisis exercise in 2023 tested emergency coordination under extreme heat.

> London, Barcelona and New York are preparing to replicate the exercise, and lessons from the network will inform Paris's next crisis exercise in 2027.



Methodology guide; a climate shelter in the Petite Ceinture tunnel; street outreach on the day

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43 SALEM, INDIA
Summer Heatwave Preparedness and Public Advisories in Salem

The Salem District Administration issued summer heatwave precautionary guidelines on 26 March and 6 May 2026 to communicate heat-related risks and promote public preparedness during the summer season. These advisories represent district-level efforts to raise awareness of heatwave precautions and encourage protective measures among the public.

> Strengthens local heat-risk communication and public awareness, supporting heatwave preparedness and reducing potential heat-related health risks in Salem.

- Salem heatwave advisories: 26 March 2026 and 6 May 2026

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44 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)
Developing a gender-responsive heat early warning system in Siem Reap, Cambodia

In Siem Reap, Cambodia, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) is supporting the development of a gender-responsive early warning system for extreme heat. The prototype forecasts heat risks up to three days in advance and provides users with localized alerts and practical advice, including where to find cooling shelters, nearby health facilities, and women's support services, as well as ways to stay cool when temperatures reach certain levels. The system is being designed with input from women farmers, students and teachers, and tourism workers.

> Initial responses indicate improved access to heat-risk information, with more women receiving heat alerts and taking action to protect themselves and those in their care.

- iOS app
- Android app

45 INSTITUTO ALANA
Tracking Brazil's preparedness for El Niño 2026–2027

In July 2026, Política por Inteiro, an initiative of Instituto Talanoa, launched the El Niño 2026/2027 Monitor. It tracks decrees, committees and programmes from federal, state and municipal governments in Brazil to prevent, monitor and respond to the impacts of El Niño, alongside technical analysis of the phenomenon and of adaptation policy.

The Monitor gives policymakers, journalists and the public a single place to follow how Brazil's governments are preparing for El Niño.

- El Niño 2026/2027 Monitor

46 THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION
Turning heat warnings into local health action in Brazil

Brazil's Climate and Health Information Centres (CISCs), part of the AdaptaSUS programme led by the Ministry of Health with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and supported by The Rockefeller Foundation, combine climate and health data to turn heat early warning triggers into local action. Training, technical assistance and municipal action planning build this information into health system preparedness and response.

Starting with extreme heat, the first phase covers Santarém, Belém, Fortaleza, Cuiabá, Belo Horizonte, Curitiba and Porto Alegre, across all five of Brazil's regions, as well as the State of Bahia. The model can later be extended to other climate risks.

- Completion of the first CISC training workshop



Brazil's Climate and Health Information Centres (CISCs) Workshop



03

IMPLEMENTING HEAT RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABLE COOLING

Urban greening and nature-based solutions	28
Cooler buildings, schools and public spaces	33
Protecting vulnerable groups from extreme heat	39

Photo: #61 Kashmere Gate Interstate Bus Terminal Cool Roof Project

Urban greening and nature-based solutions

47 ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA
Prioritising tree planting on Adelaide's hottest streets



Example of Greening Streets Green Infrastructure

In 2026, the City of Adelaide developed a five-year Greening Streets Green Infrastructure Plan to deliver the "Greener and Cooler City" priority of its City Plan – Adelaide 2036. The goal is a green grid that allows people to walk for 20 minutes in continuous shade.

> By directing tree planting to the city's hottest streets, the Plan will reduce the impacts of heat on people, homes, infrastructure and natural assets where it is needed most.

- City Plan – Adelaide 2036

48 ANTALYA, TÜRKIYE
Turning heat plans into tree-based cooling through EUTrees

Antalya has been awarded the EUTrees project under the EU Interreg Programme. The project will support nature-based solutions, urban greening and tree-based cooling, passive cooling, meteorological monitoring and demonstration actions.

> EUTrees gives Antalya dedicated resources to turn Heat Action Plan priorities into local interventions that can be demonstrated and scaled.

49 CAXIAS, MARANHÃO, BRAZIL
Urban tree cover and nature restoration to reduce heat

Caxias, in the Brazilian state of Maranhão, is developing an Urban Afforestation Plan to reduce urban heat and improve residents' quality of life. The Plan includes mapping priority areas, planning green corridors, setting planting targets and promoting appropriate tree management. Caxias also acquired 42,500 açaí seedlings to restore degraded areas along the Itapecuru River, combining ecosystem restoration with a long-term source of income for riverside communities.

Initial priority areas have already been identified, including Parque da Cidade and Vila Esperança, laying the groundwork for targeted, nature-based cooling across the city.

- Caxias City Hall: Urban Afforestation Plan
- Caxias City Hall: 42,500 açaí seedlings for reforestation



Municipal team discussing the Urban Afforestation Plan in Caxias. Source: Caxias City Hall, May 2026



Municipal environmental staff handling seedlings for reforestation and environmental restoration initiatives in Caxias, Maranhão, Brazil. Source: Caxias City Hall, March 2026.

50 CHENNAI, INDIA
Scaling Up Passive Cooling Interventions (Cool Roof) in Chennai Government Schools

The Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department (ECCFD), with technical support from UNEP, implemented cool-roof interventions in three pilot schools in Chennai. The interventions demonstrated the potential to reduce indoor temperatures by up to 3°C, improving thermal comfort in classrooms. Building on these pilot interventions, the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) is expanding cool-roof measures across 55 schools in Chennai to reduce indoor heat exposure and provide more comfortable learning environments for students and teachers.

> Supports city-level heat mitigation by reducing indoor heat in school buildings, improving thermal comfort and demonstrating the potential for wider adoption of reflective cool-roof coatings across Chennai's educational infrastructure.

Beneficiary highlighting the Impact of Cool Roof Pilot Project in Government Schools

Tmt. Vanitha Rani, Headmistress, Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Girls Higher Secondary School, Ambattur

"The Cool Roof initiative has been very beneficial for our students. During the summer examination period, students often experience significant discomfort due to high temperatures. Through this Cool Roof intervention, the indoor temperature can be reduced by up to 3°C. As a result, our students are able to remain more comfortable during examinations and write their exams with greater enthusiasm, confidence, and focus."





51 CURVELO, BRAZIL
Planning nature-based solutions for a greener, more resilient city

Curvelo, in the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais, is developing the "Curvelo + Verde e Resiliente" (Greener and More Resilient Curvelo) initiative with ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability. The initiative is shaping nature-based solutions and green and blue infrastructure to guide tree planting, environmental restoration and the expansion of green areas.

> These interventions have the potential to improve thermal comfort across the city and provide a nature-based framework for reducing urban heat.

52 HOMA BAY COUNTY, KENYA
Engaging communities in tree planting and conservation

Homa Bay County promotes environmental conservation, tree planting and community participation to build climate-resilient communities. The County plans to expand these nature-based cooling solutions with national government agencies, development partners and local communities.

The initiative intends to improve local thermal comfort, contributing to healthier living environments for residents.

53 JALGAON, INDIA
Growing 20,000 native trees in dense urban forests

Jalgaon is creating two dense Miyawaki forests to reduce rising urban temperatures, with 3,000 saplings at one site and 17,000 at the other.

The 20,000 native trees will reduce the urban heat island effect, restore local biodiversity and create cooler green spaces for densely populated neighbourhoods.

20,000
native trees

54 LAGOS STATE, NIGERIA
Engaging residents in urban greening through Me and My Tree

The Lagos State Government launched the Me and My Tree programme to expand urban greening across the metropolis. Through the linked My Tree Challenge, participants receive free seedlings, submit quarterly photo updates and compete for a ₦2.5 million prize for the best-maintained tree after one year.

By 30 June 2026, the programme had planted 13,401 trees, 67% of its 20,000-tree target, expanding green cover in the State's urban spaces.

- Lagos State Parks and Gardens Agency: Me and My Tree



Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu (represented by Secretary to the State Government Barr. Bimbola Salu-Hundeyin), Deputy Governor's wife Mrs Oluremi Hamzat, Permanent Secretary Office of Drainage Services, Lagos State Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

55 OSASCO, BRAZIL
Growing urban orchards with native Atlantic Forest species

Through its Urban Orchards Project (Pomares Urbanos), Osasco has established 26 orchard sites and planted 1,300 fruit tree seedlings native to the Atlantic Forest. Educational workshops and community engagement accompany the planting, and the project is part of the municipality's wider support for urban agriculture.

1,300

fruit tree seedlings native to the Atlantic Forest

The orchards are expanding green cover, supporting heat resilience and creating opportunities for environmental education and more sustainable local food systems.

56 PIMPRI CHINCHWAD, INDIA
Planting 100,000 native trees to create an urban forest

PCMC (Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation), in collaboration with Green Yatra, has launched a large urban afforestation initiative at Spine Road, Bhosari, to enhance green cover, strengthen climate resilience, and restore ecological balance.

More than 100,000 native trees from over 100 species are being planted using the dense plantation method, creating a thriving urban forest ecosystem. This initiative is transforming the site into a vibrant community green space that promotes recreation, health, environmental awareness, and stronger connections between people and nature.

57 SANTO ANDRÉ, BRAZIL
Restoring streams and green spaces through nature-based solutions

Santo André's Quintais Verdes (Green Yards) and Água Limpa, Córrego Vivo (Clean Water, Living Stream) programmes combine environmental restoration, new and improved green spaces, agroforestry, environmental education and the restoration of urban streams.

Expanding vegetation and better urban spaces are strengthening the city's resilience to heat. By June 2026, three streams were being restored, and water quality along a section of the Taioca Stream had also improved from "poor" to "good".

- SEMASA: Água Limpa, Córrego Vivo



The Green Yard in Jardim Ana Maria

Cooler buildings, schools and public spaces

58 ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA
Extending Cool Wayfinding to cyclists and mobile phones

The City of Adelaide's Cool Wayfinding tool, an online map that suggests the coolest walking routes on hot days, is being extended with a new cycling mode. It guides riders along routes that minimize heat exposure, weighing heat, shade and surface materials. The tool is also being adapted as a mobile web app that works without an app store.

Residents and visitors can plan cooler journeys through the city, using routes validated by the City's microclimate sensors and satellite imagery, with nearby seating and drinking fountains shown along the way.

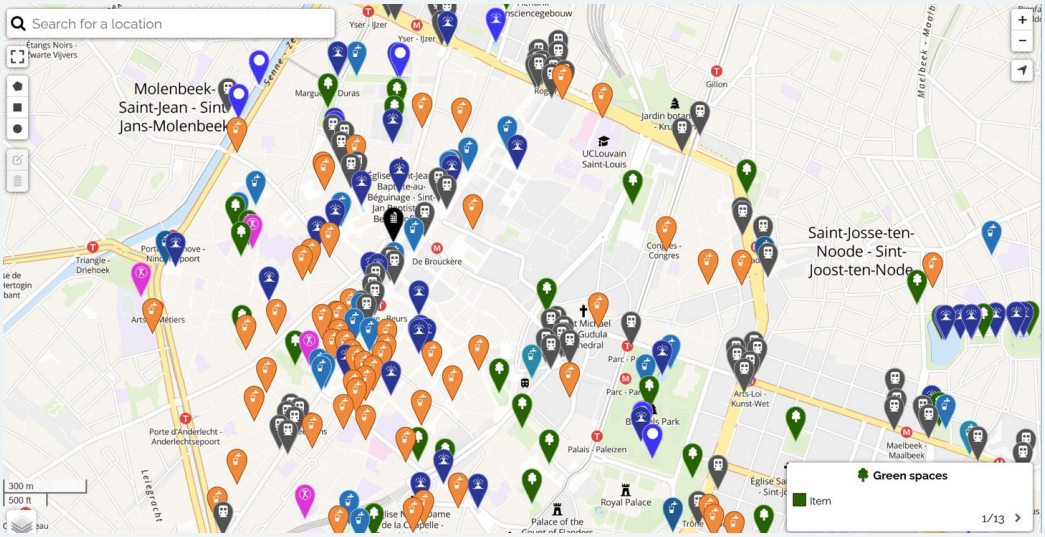
- City of Adelaide: Cool Wayfinding Tool

59 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
Brussels' Cooling islands map

In 2026, Brussels created and published a map of all the free and public areas where residents and visitors can find shade, water and cooler conditions during hot weather. The map helps people identify nearby places to seek relief during periods of extreme heat.

The map helps residents and visitors find places to cool down on hot days. It also raises awareness among building owners and urban designers about the importance of accessible public cooling spaces.

- Cooling Islands Map



Brussels' Cooling Islands Map

60 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
Heat-resilient urban design on the Place de Ninove

The redevelopment of Place de Ninove aims to set a new standard for urban planning that reduces heat stress in Brussels' historic city centre. The project combines permeable surfaces, mature trees, water features and urban furniture to create an attractive and accessible public space that provides relief during hot weather.

> The number of people visiting and spending time in Place de Ninove has increased significantly. The project demonstrates how green and blue infrastructure can work together to create cooler, more welcoming public spaces and help reduce heat stress.



Place de Ninove

61 DELHI, INDIA
Cooling one of India's busiest transit hubs with a cool roof

Following the launch of the Delhi Heat Action Plan, the UNEP Cool Coalition is partnering with the Government of Delhi and India's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to scale up passive cooling solutions that are people-centred, cost-effective and scalable. This work is part of the BeCool project, supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. Work has begun on a high-performance cool roof covering nearly 14,000 m² (150,000 sq ft) at the Kashmere Gate Interstate Bus Terminal, with a second pilot planned at Anand Vihar. In parallel, UNEP is supporting the development of a comprehensive Delhi Cooling Action Plan and exploring financing and incentive models to scale up passive cooling across the city.

> The reflective roof will lower indoor temperatures and improve comfort for more than 200,000 commuters who pass through the terminal every day, showing how practical cooling solutions can strengthen heat resilience in India's cities.



Kashmere Gate Interstate Bus Terminal Cool Roof Project

62 JALGAON, INDIA
Cooling homes in low-income communities with reflective roofs

Jalgaon has applied solar-reflective paint to the roofs of 150 homes in low-income communities: 50 in Laxmi Nagar and 100 in Samta Nagar.

> The cool roofs reduce indoor heat for 150 households that cannot afford mechanical cooling, lowering their exposure to extreme heat and its health risks.






Cool Roof Initiative Jalgaon

63 PARIS, FRANCE
Equipping every school and nursery with a cooled room

In summer 2026, the City of Paris upgraded around 100 schools and nurseries with ceiling fans, solar protection, cool roofs and new “Oasis” schoolyards, which are depaved and planted with greenery. By summer 2027, every school, nursery and lower secondary school will have a cooled room, solar protection will cover more than 360 facilities, and 245 Oasis schoolyards will be complete.

245
Oasis schoolyards

> Children will have safe spaces during heatwaves, and teaching can continue. The City is prioritizing low-carbon cooling: its district cooling network, Fraîcheur de Paris, will serve around 20 facilities by summer 2027 and up to 300 in the long term, alongside shallow geothermal energy.



Oasis courtyard at École Thionville, Paris: shade and greening in the wider cooling programme. Photo: Joséphine Brueder / Ville de Paris.

64 SANTO ANDRÉ, BRAZIL
Opening a climate refuge in the city centre

On 27 October 2026, Santo André launched Santo André pelo Clima – Extreme Heat Action Initiative, which brings together climate adaptation, health, environmental education, green infrastructure and public participation. As a first action, the City opened a climate refuge on Rua Senador Flaquer in the city centre, with shade, a smart drinking water station, a rain garden and sponge planting beds.

The refuge shows how everyday public spaces can protect people from extreme heat, and the city plans to replicate it in other neighbourhoods.

- SEMASA: Santo André pelo Clima – Extreme Heat



IoT-Enabled Hydration Station

65 CARBONCARE INNOLAB (CCIL)
Training volunteers to cool homes with window films

In Hong Kong, CarbonCare InnoLab (CCIL) trained eight volunteers to install heat-insulating window films in social housing, so they can fit the films in their neighbours' homes. The films block up to 78 per cent of infrared radiation and 65 per cent of total solar energy, limiting the heat that enters through glass.

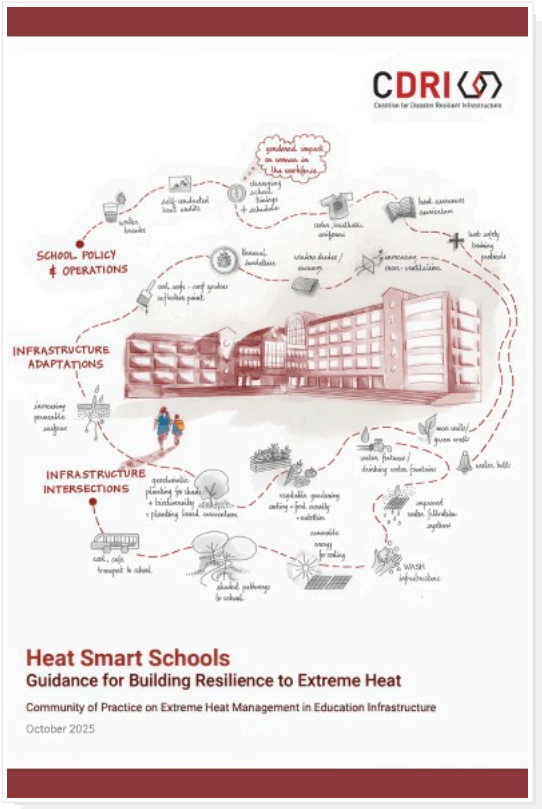
78 per cent
of infrared radiation

The films keep indoor spaces cooler and reduce the need for air conditioning, while building community skills to extend this low-cost solution to more households.

66

COALITION FOR DISASTER RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE (CDRI)

Making schools heat-smart to protect children and learning



Heat Smart Schools guidance. Source: CDRI.

CDRI convened a global Community of Practice on Heat Smart Schools and developed practical guidance to help schools, education authorities and cities prepare for extreme heat. More than 150 professionals from over 70 organizations contributed across eight expert sessions, spanning education, architecture, public health, climate science and municipal governance.

The guidance sets out seven practical steps, from passive cooling retrofits to heat alerts and financing. It also includes ready-to-use tools such as a Heat Smart School checklist, a heat audit form and alert templates.

- CDRI: Heat Smart Schools

67

LINKS FOUNDATION

Turning historic courtyards into cool public spaces

Through the Interreg Central Europe RE-PUBLIC SPACES project, LINKS Foundation developed guidelines for reducing heat in historic courtyards and applied them to the Town Hall courtyard in Pinerolo, Italy. The work used climate analysis, scenario modelling and pedestrian thermal comfort indicators to compare measures such as vegetation, shading and reflective surfaces.

The pilot produced design recommendations that cool a heritage space while preserving its architecture, along with guidance for municipal staff on maintenance. The method can be used in other historic courtyards, which could then become small-scale climate refuges.

68

WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE (WRI)

Turning heat resilience ideas into bankable projects in Brazilian cities

WRI Brasil piloted the Urban Heat Solutions Accelerator in five Brazilian cities: Campinas, Fortaleza, Florianópolis, Recife and Teresina. The Accelerator supported a pipeline of heat resilience projects, such as linear parks, green corridors, urban forests, shaded streets, permeable surfaces and cooling spaces. It took them from early concepts based on basic heat data through project structuring and financing to bankable investments.

> The first cohort of cities has developed an estimated US$42–55 million in project investment opportunities, with US$4 million in project financing unlocked so far.
>
> - WRI: Urban Heat Solutions Accelerator

US$42–55 million

in project investment opportunities



Urban shade and public space, illustrating the Urban Heat Solutions Accelerator. Source: WRI.

Protecting vulnerable groups from extreme heat

69 ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA
Protecting people sleeping rough during extreme weather

The City of Adelaide is developing an Extreme Weather Response Guideline for 2026–2027 to improve preparedness, awareness and communication during heatwaves and other extreme weather. The guideline focuses on supporting people sleeping rough and other vulnerable members of the community.

> Beyond communicating South Australia's state-wide Extreme Weather Response, the city offers heat care packages through its libraries and access to climate-controlled daytime spaces, reducing the health risks of extreme heat for people sleeping rough.



Example of extreme heat care package

70 PARIS, FRANCE
Adapting public services to protect residents during heatwaves

Paris will adjust opening hours, reception protocols and outreach to forecast and observed temperatures. Parks will stay open at night during heatwaves, 100 new shade sails will be installed in the hottest public spaces by summer 2027, and the bathing season in the Seine and canals will start in June.

10,000
older residents

> This builds on summer 2026, when the city called 10,000 older residents on its Reflex register every day. The register will be extended to people receiving disability and long-term care allowances, and a new citizen reserve will strengthen neighbourhood solidarity.

71 TERESINA, BRAZIL
"Páginas Amarelas" (Yellow Pages), Protecting Maternal Health from Extreme Heat

Building on research conducted in partnership with UNFPA on the impacts of extreme heat during pregnancy, Teresina developed the "Páginas Amarelas" prototype through a behavioural science training programme supported by the Van Leer Foundation. The initiative focuses on improving access to information and practical guidance for pregnant women, helping translate local evidence on heat-related vulnerabilities into potential public health interventions.

Development of a behavioural science-based public policy prototype focused on maternal health and extreme heat, presented at the 2nd Pernambuco Congress on Innovation and Integration in Health.

- Páginas Amarelas

72 GREEN GLOBE FOUNDATION
Direct Hydration Support for Outdoor Workers

As part of its heat-action efforts, GGF distributed drinking water and ORS packets to industrial labourers, traffic police personnel and other outdoor workers exposed to heat.

50 bottles of drinking water and 50 packets of ORS were distributed, providing immediate hydration support.



Hydration Support for Outdoor Workers

73

HEAT RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION (HERA)

Protecting women working on the frontlines of heat

HERInsura, HERA's flagship initiative, is designed around the realities of women working in extreme heat. It combines insurance with cash, early warnings and other practical support to help women protect their health and incomes before, during and after dangerous heat.

about

350,000

women in several countries

What began in India in 2023 now reaches about 350,000 women in several countries, including Sierra Leone, Thailand and Pakistan.

- HERA: Insurance to impact

74

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

Protecting Bangladesh's farmers from extreme heat

HeatShield, led by icddr,b with support from The Rockefeller Foundation, is building and testing a model to protect farmers in Bangladesh from extreme heat. It combines heat warnings, an AI chatbot, training and protective measures, and links the country's weather, health and agriculture agencies to give the Government a model it can scale.

Ahead of the April 2026 heatwave, 18,384 farmers received voice warnings. In addition, 41 health facilities have been assessed for their capacity to treat heat-related illness, 108 health providers have been trained, and a national pool of 45 trainers is being built.

- The Rockefeller Foundation: How information beats the heat in Bangladesh



HeatShield Project in Bangladesh



04

ENGAGING COMMUNITIES AND STRENGTHENING CAPACITY

Capacity building and knowledge exchange 43

Awareness campaigns, community engagement and youth action 50

Photo: #90 50@50: Lagos Rising Against Urban Heat

Capacity building and knowledge exchange

75 CURVELO, BRAZIL
Integrating ecosystem services into municipal planning

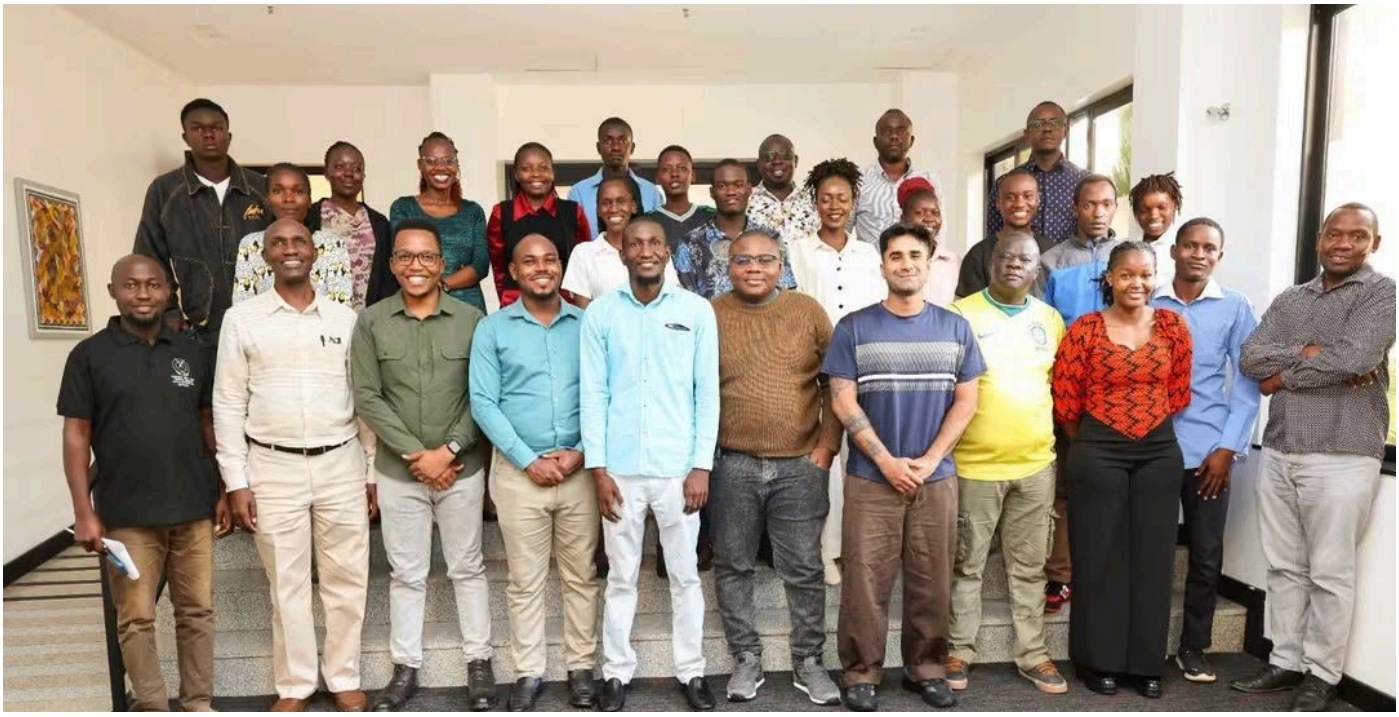
On 28 August 2026, Curvelo and ICLEI held a training session on assessing ecosystem services. The session focused on identifying the benefits that nature provides to the city and how to account for them in municipal planning.

> The training strengthened local capacity to recognize the benefits of nature, including its role in regulating temperature, and to build them into planning for a more resilient city.

76 KISUMU COUNTY, KENYA
Building local capacity for data-driven heat action planning

From 24 to 26 June 2026, Kisumu County hosted back-end training on the Energy Access Explorer platform and a demonstration of the Cool Cities Lab platform, supported by the World Resources Institute (WRI).

> Forty participants from county government, the private sector, NGOs and academia were trained in tools for heat action planning and began developing a joint approach to heat action planning in Kisumu County.



Kisumu County Training Group Photo

77

SINGAPORE & UNEP

Beat the Heat Training and Study Tour at the Global Cooling Pledge Assembly 2026

Singapore's Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment and UNEP led a Beat the Heat training and study tour from 15-16 September 2026, alongside the Global Cooling Pledge Assembly. It brought together 20 participants from 15 cities and states, including Antalya, Campinas, Kisumu, Lagos State, Phnom Penh, Quezon City and Tamil Nadu. The programme covered three key areas: heat data and governance, nature-based and passive cooling, and finance. Sessions were co-led by the World Bank Group, Arup and the Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance (CCFLA), respectively. Participants also heard from partners including Google, Ramboll, Singapore-ETH Centre, WRI, EXTREMA Global and C40 Cities. Peer learning sessions showcased approaches such as Tamil Nadu's state-wide school retrofits and Quezon City's schoolyards. The programme also included visits to Punggol Digital District and Sentosa to explore cooling solutions in practice.

> Participants gained insights into integrating nature-based solutions, passive cooling and heat data into city planning, as well as using internal financing mechanisms to advance heat resilience measures. Lessons from the Assembly are already informing heat and cooling plans in cities such as Kisumu, where SEforALL and the County will host a Cooling Investment Marketplace on 13 November 2026. UNEP is now matching city needs with the tools, data and service providers.



Beat the Heat Training Group Photo

Learning and cooling solutions in practice



Beat the Heat Participants at Punggol Digital District Site Visit





City and Partner representatives do group city case exercises

78 ARUP
Sharing heat strategies with cities worldwide

In January 2026, Arup delivered three Beat the Heat technical webinars for cities across the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia-Pacific. The sessions explored how cities can put effective strategies in place to manage rising heat risks.

149 participants from around the world took part, understanding and sharing approaches to heat management across regions.

149

participants from around the world

79 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)
Learning from Melbourne's Approach to Extreme Heat

In March 2026, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the City of Melbourne organized a study visit for government representatives from Bangladesh, Cambodia, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. Participants explored Melbourne's integrated approach to urban heat, including gender-responsive strategies to protect women and vulnerable groups. Site visits showcased solutions such as green spaces, water-sensitive urban design, community cooling centres and rooftop urban farming.

Participants identified practical measures they can adapt to their own local heat action plans.

- ADB: Melbourne Site Visit

This work is carried out under ADB's technical assistance programme, Strengthening Women's Resilience to Heat Stress in Asia and the Pacific.

80 BRAZIL'S NATIONAL FRONT OF MAYORS (FNP)
National El Niño 2026/2027 Mobilization

Through its Standing Committee on Adaptation, Mitigation and Disaster Prevention (CAMP), FNP launched a nationwide mobilization to strengthen municipal preparedness for extreme climate events, including a webinar on "El Niño, Urban Heat Islands and the Impacts of Extreme Heat on Public Health".

Over 3,700 municipal officials reached through the broader mobilization, including more than 130 participants in the extreme heat webinar and 1.164 YouTube views.

- Webinar recording
- FNP article

3,700

municipal officials

81 BRAZIL'S NATIONAL FRONT OF MAYORS (FNP)
Extreme Heat and Health - Municipal Action in Campinas

In August 2026, FNP, together with the Municipality of Campinas and WRI Brasil, organized a national event connecting local governments, researchers and partners to discuss heat-related health risks, municipal adaptation strategies and practical solutions.

20
Brazilian municipalities

Representatives from over 20 Brazilian municipalities engaged in knowledge exchange and cooperation to strengthen local heat resilience.

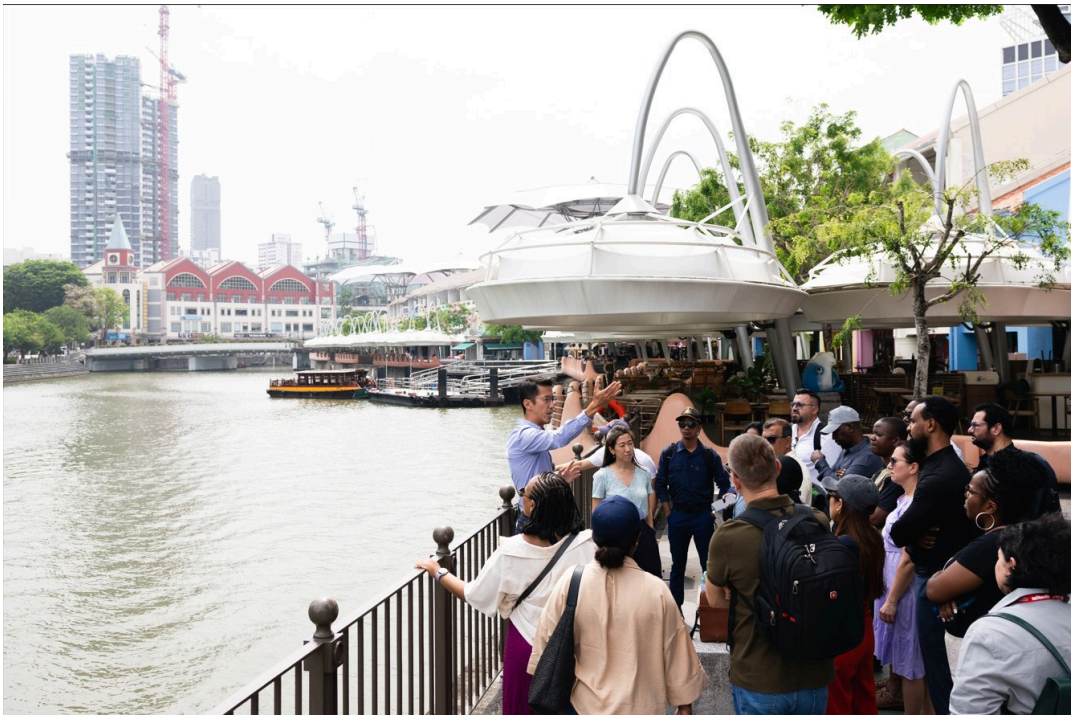
- Event outcomes
- Event overview

82 EY
Launch of EY's Climate Resilience Center of Excellence and EY's Training for National Heat Resilience Planning for 17 Countries

EY conducted a 5-day course on Introduction to National Heat Resilience Planning for government representatives from 17 countries. The programme connected policy, science, infrastructure, response planning, technology and financing within one programme, and provided countries with a broader lens through which to consider their own national heat-resilience journeys and the partnerships required to take them forward.

Heat resilience requires an integrated response rather than a single intervention. Participants were exposed to different dimensions of the resilience journey, from warning systems and response planning to modelling and implementation solutions, infrastructure, emerging technologies, nature-based solutions and operations and maintenance. The programme also extended the discussion beyond technical solutions to the critical question of how adaptation can be financed and scaled, including perspectives on insurance, investment and financing solutions.

- EY national heat resilience training



Visit to Clarke Quay, Singapore

83 INSTITUTO ALANA
Equipping journalists to report on climate adaptation

In October 2025, Instituto Talanoa published a guide for journalists and newsrooms on covering climate adaptation, in English, Portuguese and Spanish. It comes with an online bank of 25 adaptation initiatives from around the world, including heat-triggered income insurance for women informal workers in India, school greening in São Paulo and a community heat observatory in Rio de Janeiro's Complexo do Alemão.

25

adaptation initiatives from around the world

The guide gives reporters tools and real-world examples across agriculture, cities, work and capacity building.

- Instituto Talanoa: Adaptation guide

84 MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE, BRAZIL
Bringing Brazilian cities together to tackle extreme heat with nature

On 7–8 May 2026, UNEP co-organised the 3rd National Meeting of Brazil's Green and Resilient Cities Programme (Programa Cidades Verdes Resilientes, PCVR) in Brasília. Its partners were the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, the Ministry of Cities, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation and the COP30 Presidency, with support from 41 organisations. The meeting focused on addressing extreme urban heat through nature-based solutions. UNEP led four thematic sessions, on data, heat action planning, nature-based and passive cooling, and finance, designed around a diagnostic survey tailored to 53 Brazilian cities.

506

in-person participants

The meeting brought together 506 in-person participants from 45 cities, including 63 municipal officials from 28 Beat the Heat cities. It also saw the launch of MapBiomas' new urban heat island module and the federal ArborizaCidades call (BRL 19 million), which now supports local heat action planning as well as urban afforestation.



Third National Meeting of the Green and Resilient Cities Programme, Brasília. Source: Associação Brasileira de Municípios (ABM).

85 RAMBOLL
Convening Beat the Heat workshops with UNEP in Singapore and New York

In partnership with UNEP, Ramboll held two Beat the Heat workshops in Singapore and New York, bringing together cities, public agencies, practitioners and other stakeholders to exchange knowledge and explore practical responses to urban heat and wider climate risks. The workshops took place alongside Singapore International Water Week and New York Climate Week, connecting the Beat the Heat agenda with major global climate and urban resilience convenings.

The workshops supported cross-sector exchange on how cities can move from understanding climate risks to integrated planning and implementation, exploring the connections between heat, flooding, nature-based solutions, mobility, infrastructure and the public realm.

- Ramboll Singapore workshop



Ramboll Beat the Heat Workshop

86 THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION
Prioritizing solutions to extreme heat at the Global Heat Forum

In October 2026, the Global Heat Health Information Network, led by the WMO/WHO Joint Office for Climate and Health, held the Global Heat Forum to identify scalable solutions to extreme heat.

Around 680 researchers, policymakers and practitioners came together to prioritize solutions for investment in heat resilience. A key output will be a Roadmap for Investment and Action on Extreme Heat.

- Global Heat Health Information Network: Global Heat Forum

around

680

researchers, policymakers and practitioners

Awareness campaigns, community engagement and youth action

87 BLACKTOWN, AUSTRALIA
Young people designing cooler suburbs

Blacktown City Council, in Western Sydney, partnered with Future Anything on the Blacktown Big Ideas – Environment Challenge. The challenge, now in its fourth year, brought together more than 170 high school students to develop solutions to urban heat. Students learned about sustainable urban design and pitched practical ideas, including a solar-powered bus shelter combining shade, greenery and rainwater collection.

more than
170
high school students

The challenge gives young people a voice in creating cooler, more sustainable suburbs and builds their understanding of how design can help address climate change.

- Blacktown City Council: Students' bright ideas could help cool our suburbs

88 COIMBATORE, INDIA
Climate Change Education and Capacity Building in Coimbatore

The Coimbatore District Administration organised a three-day residential Climate Change Education Initiative training programme for 130 government school teachers, inaugurated on 23 September 2026, under the Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission . As part of this capacity-building programme, heat mitigation strategies and initiatives were also taught to teachers, strengthening their understanding of practical approaches to address heat-related risks and promote climate resilience in school environments.

Builds teachers' capacity to understand and communicate heat mitigation strategies, supporting greater awareness of heat risks and practical cooling measures among students and school communities.

- Coimbatore teacher training programme





89 CURVELO, BRAZIL
Expanding support for youth-led climate action

In September 2026, Curvelo secured US$50,000 from the Youth Climate Action Fund for a new phase of its "Jovens Curvelanos pelo Clima" (Curvelo Youth for Climate) programme. The funding will support micro-projects designed and delivered by young people aged 15 to 24.

US$50,000

from the Youth Climate Action Fund

> The new phase strengthens community mobilization and climate education, creating opportunities for youth-led local adaptation initiatives, including on heat resilience.

90 LAGOS STATE, NIGERIA
Lagos rising against urban heat

On World Environment Day, 5 June 2026, the Lagos State Government, through the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, held "50@50: Lagos Rising Against Urban Heat" as part of the Beat the Heat 50@50 activation. The event combined a public lecture on urban heat and climate resilience, a drama performed by schoolchildren, an exhibition of urban heat hotspots across Lagos, a "Feel the Heat" exhibition and film screening, and a panel discussion with urban planners, environmental and health experts, and the private sector.

> With more than 500 participants, it was one of the largest 50@50 activations, and Lagos extended its reach further through LinkedIn and Instagram.



50@50: Lagos Rising Against Urban Heat

91 LAGOS STATE, NIGERIA
Designing a cooler school with young people

Through the Students Reinventing Cities competition, C40 Cities and Lagos State invited young people to develop solutions to urban climate and social challenges. The winning team proposed a Circular Sponge School for Community Primary School Itowolo, replacing heat-retaining concrete with green spaces and water-retention landscapes.

> The design uses compressed stabilized earth blocks and raised structures to improve natural ventilation and lower indoor temperatures, offering a passive cooling model for schools.
>
> - C40 Students Reinventing Cities: Community Primary School Itowolo



The Community Primary School Itowolo



The Circular Sponge School Plan



The winning team

92 QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES
Shaping heat resilience planning with the people most exposed

Quezon City held a series of stakeholder workshops on pilot heat action interventions with outdoor workers, the education sector, vulnerable community members and city government employees. The workshops raised awareness of heat-related risks and identified practical, climate-responsive measures.

> Insights from the workshops are informing the Quezon City Heat Resilience Framework, which will guide the City's Comprehensive Heat Action Plan and make it more inclusive and responsive to the needs of outdoor workers, school communities and city staff.



Stakeholder Workshops



Distribution of Cool Kits to Outdoor Workers in the Heat Action Intervention Workshop

93 TERESINA, BRAZIL
"Pense Quente, Teresina!" Youth Climate Action Marathon

With support from Bloomberg Philanthropies through the Youth Climate Action Fund, Teresina launched a programme to support youth-led climate solutions. The initiative provides opportunities for young people aged 15 to 24 to develop community projects to address local climate challenges, including rising heat and focusing on climate adaptation and urban resilience.

BRL 200,000
in planned funding

Public call launched to support up to 10 youth-led projects, with grants of BRL 20,000 each, representing BRL 200,000 in planned funding.

- Maratona Pense Quente, Teresina!

94 YANGZHOU, CHINA
Training frontline workers to stay safe in extreme heat

As part of its 50@50 activation for World Environment Day 2026, the Yangzhou Municipal Federation of Trade Unions and the Yangzhou Urban Management Bureau held a training session to help sanitation workers stay safe during extreme heat. Meteorological and medical experts shared practical guidance on understanding heat warnings, adjusting outdoor work schedules during peak heat, recognizing heat stress and heatstroke, and giving first aid.

Workers received cooling kits, and the organizers reinforced their commitments to heat protection measures and worker welfare, turning 50@50 participation into concrete protection for outdoor workers.



Sanitation Workers Training Session

95 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)
Built for Her: Designing for Women in a Warming World

In the lead-up to Global Heat Action Day on June 2, ADB launched Built for Her: Designing for Women in a Warming World, a campaign to raise awareness of how the built environment shapes women's exposure to extreme heat and how spaces can be designed to better reflect their daily realities. As part of the campaign, ADB organized a three-day learning event that brought together 207 participants, including government representatives, climate practitioners and experts, and development partners, to explore gender-responsive approaches to heat resilience. Discussions covered heat action plans, early warning systems, parametric heat insurance, climate-sensitive building design and passive cooling, and other measures to address heat-related risks in agriculture, health, and education.

- Built for Her campaign

**** These efforts are being carried out under ADB's technical assistance, Strengthening Women's Resilience to Heat Stress in Asia and the Pacific.*



Built for Her: Designing for Women in a Warming World Campaign

96 CARBONCARE INNOLAB (CCIL)
Reducing heat at home through smart decluttering

In hot, humid conditions, clutter such as old cardboard, fabric and clothing traps warm air and moisture, creating a "heat storage effect" that makes homes feel hotter. CCIL has launched Smart Decluttering and Carbon Reduction workshops for residents of inadequate housing in Hong Kong to help them reduce heat discomfort at home.

Participants learn practical ways to make their homes cooler and are encouraged to share these skills with their neighbours and communities.

- CCIL: Smart Decluttering and Carbon Reduction

97 FORTYGUARD
Building tools with heat data through Hackathon'26

In August 2026, FortyGuard hosted Hackathon'26, a two-week virtual build sprint sponsored by NVIDIA, with free access to FortyGuard's air temperature data. Mentors and judges came from NVIDIA, Google Cloud, Autodesk, Gensler and Stelfox Design. Winning projects included a tool that ranks buildings in Midtown Manhattan for heat retrofits by exposure and occupancy.

more than
3,800
developers, students and researchers

More than 3,800 developers, students and researchers from over 50 countries registered and submitted 556 working projects, rating the event 4.5 out of 5 on average.

98 GREEN GLOBE FOUNDATION
Climate Action Campaign

On World Environment Day, 5 June 2026, Green Globe Foundation conducted a mobile public address awareness campaign in Kolkata, sharing messages on climate action, extreme heat, heatwave awareness and environmental protection.

> The campaign brought heat-risk awareness directly to local communities and encouraged preparedness and environmental responsibility.





Climate Action Campaign

99 GREEN GLOBE FOUNDATION
Environmental Education and Community Tree Care

Through Prakriti Bodha ("Awakening to Nature"), GGF promotes environmental learning among children, including biodiversity, tree conservation, responsible resource use and stewardship. Through Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 2.0, the Foundation encourages community participation in planting and caring for trees.

> These initiatives build environmental awareness and encourage nature stewardship. Tree planting can contribute to greener neighbourhoods, shade and long-term urban heat resilience when suitable trees are selected and maintained.



Prakriti Bodha ("Awakening to Nature")

100 INSTITUTO ALANA
Supporting journalism on climate adaptation and extreme heat

The "Um hoje e um amanhã" (A Today and a Tomorrow) climate adaptation journalism fellowship, run by Instituto Talanoa and the Brazilian Association of Investigative Journalism (Abraji), supported investigative reporting on climate adaptation. Stories included extreme heat among older people in Hong Kong's cage homes and climate inequality in São Paulo.

116

applications from 11 countries

> The fellowship received 116 applications from 11 countries. Nine reports and series were published in outlets including El País, Devex, Wired Italy and the Hong Kong Free Press.
>
> - Extreme heat and elderly people in Hong Kong's cage homes (Hong Kong Free Press)
> - Inequality and extreme weather in São Paulo (El País)
> - Urban planning and climate risk in Rio Grande do Sul (Matinal)

UN environment programme

Cool Coalition
a UNEP-convened initiative

#BEAT THE HEAT

coolcoalition.org

About Beat the Heat

Beat the Heat/Mutirão contra o Calor Extremo is a COP30 - UNEP Cool Coalition flagship implementation drive, launched in 2025, to accelerate local-level solutions for extreme heat and sustainable cooling. The Drive contributes to the UN Secretary General's call to action on extreme heat and helps translate the Global Cooling Pledge into local action by supporting heat assessments, planning, nature-based cooling, sustainable procurement and building code adoption at the subnational level. To date, 300 cities and states and more than 100 partners are part of Beat the Heat.

Read more: coolcoalition.org/projects/beat-the-heat