

COOL COALITION MEMBERSHIP COORDINATION CALL

concept note and agenda

Date: 15 June 2026

Time: 15:00 – 16:30 CEST

Format: virtual (Teams)

Moderators: Eleni Myrivili, Graeme Maidment

Support: Chloé Rosset

Background

Cooling is one of the defining challenges and opportunities for climate and development. It cuts across health, food systems, productivity, infrastructure, and equity. Yet without urgent action, rising demand for cooling could drive a dangerous surge in energy use and emissions.

Led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the [Cool Coalition](#) brings together over 250 governments, businesses, cities, and financial institutions to drive comprehensive action on sustainable cooling, advancing the implementation of the [Paris Agreement](#), the 2030 Agenda, and the [Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol](#). Through key initiatives like the [Global Cooling Pledge](#), the world's first collective commitment to reducing cooling-related emissions by 68% by 2050, the Cool Coalition is helping turn ambition into implementation across sectors and regions.

The coming months represent an important period for the global cooling agenda. The first Global Cooling Pledge Assembly will provide a key moment for signatories and partners to review progress, exchange experiences, and support the implementation of commitments under the Global Cooling Pledge. The Assembly also forms part of broader efforts to strengthen action on sustainable cooling in the lead-up to COP31.

In parallel, international milestones such as the 64th Session of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB64) in Bonn and London Climate Action Week will provide opportunities to advance discussions on sustainable cooling and heat resilience.

Against this background, the Cool Coalition Coordination Call will bring together members and partners to share updates on ongoing initiatives, discuss priorities, and identify opportunities for collaboration in support of the Coalition's objectives and preparations for the Global Cooling Pledge Assembly and COP31.

Objectives

- Highlight tangible progress across key Cool Coalition initiatives to reinforce the Coalition's collective impact.
- Deepen cross-sector collaboration and foster new partnerships among members.
- Align priorities and coordinate engagement around key milestones, including the Global Cooling Pledge Assembly and COP31.

- Empower members to shape and accelerate global cooling efforts through stronger engagement and visibility.

Agenda

15:00 – 15:05 | Welcome and Opening Remarks

Opening Remarks

Lily Riahi, Head of Secretariat, UNEP Cool Coalition

15:05 – 15:15 | Strategic Priorities

Global Cooling Pledge Update and Next Steps

Graeme Maidment, Technical Lead, Cooling, Department for Energy Security and Net-Zero, UK Government

15:15 – 15:25 | Cross-cutting Policy Updates

Advancing National Cooling Action Plans in Morocco and Djibouti

Dr. Maged K. Mahmoud, Technical Director, Lead Renewable Energy Advisor, Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE)

Sustainable Cooling Access for Agriculture, Fisheries & Cities in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Tilly LENARTOWICZ, Senior Officer, Sustainable Cooling and Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL)

15:25 – 15:45 | Thematic Updates: Passive cooling & Extreme Heat

Roadmap for Extreme Heat Protection through Passive Cooling in ASEAN Region

Rio Jon Piter Silitonga, ASEAN Center for Energy

Climate-Resilient Built Environment: Science-Based Heat Stress Mitigation

Rajan Rawal, Professor, CEPT University

Cooling and Climate Resilience: Accelerating Action on Extreme Heat

Abhiyant Tiwari, Lead – Health & Climate Resilience, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

Beat the Heat: Cool Cities Lab

Eric Mackres, Senior Manager, Urban Analytics and Data Innovation, World Resources Institute (WRI)

15:45 – 16:10 | Scaling Sustainable Cooling

Demand-Side Flexibility for Sustainable Cooling

Simon Benmarraze, Senior Manager and Head of Unit, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

CREED and ImpactF

Catarina Marques, Senior Research Fellow, London South Bank University

Scaling Sustainable Cooling in Africa: From Planning to Investment

Luc Kevo Tossou, Principal Energy Efficiency Specialist and Investment Officer at African Development Bank Group

Mobilizing Finance for Sustainable Cooling through Investment Taxonomies
Rusmir Musić, Global Cooling Lead, World Bank Group

16:10 – 16:20 | Strategic Engagement

Making Cooling Matter on the Global Stage: SB64, LCAW, COP31 and Partner Visibility Opportunities
Marisofi Giannouli, Communications Lead, UNEP Cool Coalition

IDEA 2026: Connecting Networks
Rob Thornton, President & CEO, International District Energy Association

16:20 – 16:30 | Q&A and Closing Remarks

Closing Remarks

Eléni Myrivili, Global Chief Heat Officer, UNEP-led Cool Coalition Secretariat
