

# Technical Committee for Cool Coalition Knowledge Products

## Terms of Reference (ToR)

### 1. Background

The UNEP-led Cool Coalition is the leading global multi-stakeholder network that connects over 250 members from government, cities, international organizations, businesses, finance, academia, and civil society groups, to facilitate knowledge exchange, advocacy and joint action, towards a rapid global transition to efficient and climate-friendly cooling. Knowledge sharing and technical guidance are essential to ensure that cooling policies, innovations, and strategies are based on robust data, research, and global best practices.

This Technical Committee will be comprised of international experts and leading organizations in the field of cooling. The appointment of Committee members will be managed through a Secretariat-led selection process based on sectoral and regional expertise, as prioritized by the UNEP-Cool Coalition workplan; and will remain inclusive of gender and global representation. The committee will provide strategic guidance and technical input on the development of knowledge products, ensuring that they are scientifically sound, relevant, and actionable.

### 2. Purpose of the Committee

The primary purpose of the Technical Committee is to guide the Cool Coalition in the creation and dissemination of high-quality knowledge products, which include reports, policy briefs, research papers, and guidance documents. Specifically, the committee will:

- Offer expert input on the design, scope, and content of Cool Coalition's knowledge products.
- Provide critical feedback and peer review of drafts and outputs.
- Ensure the alignment of knowledge products with the latest data, technology advancements, and best practices in the field of sustainable cooling.
- Ensure the alignment of knowledge products with the Cool Coalition's work plan and strategic objectives.
- Ensure that knowledge products support global goals such as the Paris Agreement, Sustainable Development Goals, and the Kigali Amendment.

### 3. Composition

The committee will include representatives from international bodies, research institutions, and leading experts with demonstrated expertise in cooling, energy efficiency, and climate solutions.

Current members include, academia and independent research institutions specializing in cooling and energy efficiency:

- Carbon Trust
- CEPT University
- ClimateWorks Foundation
- Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP)
- ECOTEN Urban Comfort
- Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development (IGSD)
- International Energy Agency (IEA)
- International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR)
- International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL)
- Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI)
- Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All)
- The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- University of Birmingham
- World Bank Group
- World Resources Institute (WRI)

#### **4. Key Responsibilities**

The members of the Committee will:

- 1. Provide Strategic Guidance**
  - 1.1. Assist in shaping the overall strategy for knowledge products developed by the Cool Coalition.
  - 1.2. Recommend focus areas and topics that reflect both current trends and emerging challenges in sustainable cooling.
- 2. Identify Knowledge Gaps**
  - 2.1. Help identify gaps in the current body of knowledge on cooling solutions, technologies, and policies.
  - 2.2. Provide suggestions for future research and areas requiring further investigation or attention.
- 3. Offer Technical Expertise and Review**
  - 3.1. Ensure the scientific rigor and accuracy of all knowledge products.
  - 3.2. Provide expert review of research methodologies, data sources, and findings within the knowledge products.
  - 3.3. Validate findings, conclusions and recommendations to ensure they are evidence-based and actionable.
- 4. Support Knowledge Dissemination**
  - 4.1. Advise on effective dissemination strategies to ensure that knowledge products reach policymakers, practitioners, and the general public.

4.2. Socialize key findings, and where possible, represent UNEP-Cool Coalition in presenting key findings of knowledge products at relevant fora

4.3. Contribute to the development of user-friendly formats, such as executive summaries and infographics, to communicate findings effectively.

#### 5. **Contribute to Capacity Building**

5.1. Recommend ways to build capacity in emerging economies and key sectors for sustainable cooling by identifying the need for guidance, tools, trainings etc. that may be developed.

5.2. Contribute to training materials, webinars, and other educational resources as part of the knowledge product portfolio.

5.3. Provide recommendations when Cool Coalition members request to have a Cool Coalition 'endorsement' for publications, tools, projects etc. For each such request, members of the technical committee will be asked to review and act as a clearing house to provide such an endorsement.

#### 5. **Meetings and Working Modality**

- The committee will meet annually, with ad-hoc meetings scheduled as needed to review draft knowledge products and provide timely feedback.
- The committee will be contacted by email for any endorsements, reviews, and feedback over email on a needs-basis.
- Meetings will be held virtually, with potential for in-person meetings at key global events.
- Sub-groups may be established to work on specific knowledge products or thematic areas.

#### 6. **Deliverables**

- **Guidance on knowledge product development:** Recommendations on topics, methodologies, and data sources for knowledge products.
- **Peer review of products:** Critical feedback and validation of key knowledge products, ensuring they meet the highest standards of quality and relevance.
- **Contributions to dissemination strategies:** Advise on how to effectively share and communicate findings with relevant stakeholders, ensuring the uptake of knowledge products.

#### 7. **Duration**

The committee will operate for an initial period of **two years**, with an option for renewal based on the ongoing needs of the Cool Coalition.



## **8. Secretariat and Coordination**

The Secretariat for the Technical Committee will be hosted by the Cool Coalition Secretariat. The Secretariat will facilitate and coordinate meetings, circulate documents, and serve as the point of contact for the Technical Committee members.