



# Global Cooling Pledge Signatories Focal Points Meeting

June 13 - 14 2025 | Bonn, Germany

11:00 – 13:00

# Session 2

## Global Cooling Pledge Implementation



Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Climate Action,  
Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety



MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE  
E DELLA SICUREZZA ENERGETICA



وزارة الطاقة والبنية التحتية  
MINISTRY OF ENERGY & INFRASTRUCTURE

# Session Opening

## Global Cooling Pledge Implementation



**Mozah Alnuaimi**

Director of Productivity and Demand  
Management Department  
Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure  
of the United Arab Emirates



# 2030 Implementation Strategy

## Overview, priorities and progress



### **Amr Seleem**

Country Engagement and Climate Policy  
Lead, Cool Coalition Secretariat  
UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

# 2030 Pledge Implementation Strategy

**5 rounds of consultations** held between February and July, with final approval from the Pledge Contact Group in August 2024



Bonn Climate  
SB62 Meeting  
6th June 2024



6<sup>th</sup> United Nations  
Environment Assembly  
(UNEA-6)  
27 February 2024

# Pledge Implementation: Strategy Overview

## Implementation Phases

### FIRST PHASE : 2024 –2026

Focus on **building frameworks, tools, data collection systems**, and initial implementation support.

### SECOND PHASE : Post 2026

**Scale-up actions** based on needs assessments, expanded technical assistance, policy updates, and financing strategies.

## Intermediate Objectives 2024-26

- **Review implementation progress** of the Global Cooling Pledge
- **Build the database on sustainable cooling** to drive evidence-based policy-making
- **Leverage strategic partnerships** to deliver on Pledge Implementation
- **Mobilize signatories to the Global Cooling Pledge**, with an additional focus on G20 countries.

Strategy to be reviewed and updated at least every two years by the Cool Coalition Secretariat in consultation the IGCC .

# Workstreams

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## 1 DATA

to drive evidence-based policymaking on cooling

## 2 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

and technical assistance to Implement the Pledge

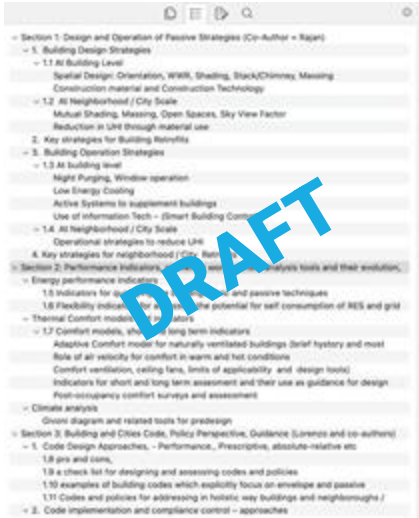
## 3 COOLING PLANS

and investment plans for Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)

## 4 PASSIVE COOLING

## 5 ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS

# Progress: Data for evidence-based policy



## Annual policy survey



## Global Cooling Watch Biannual Report – 2026

### New focus:

- Extreme heat interaction with rising demand and access inequities

### What's new in 2025:

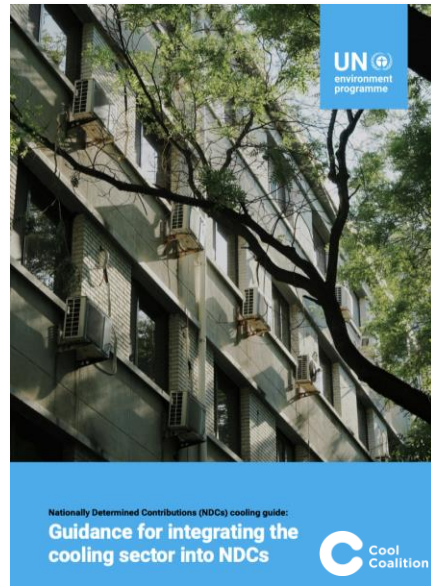
- Stronger heat-demand link
- Passive cooling and cost assessments



## Public Dashboard



# Progress: NDC, NCAPs and Investment Roadmaps



**12 Countries : Regionalized NCAP methodology**

**10 Countries : NDC guidelines**

*Launching soon*

**3 Countries: Cooling investment roadmap guidelines with World Bank Group**

# Progress: Advocacy and Country Engagement



**COP Presidencies**



**16 New Pledge Signatories**



**Cool champions**



**G7 and G20**



**Focal Point Meeting**



***"We must respond [to extreme heat] by massively increasing access to low-carbon cooling; expanding passive cooling and clean up cooling technologies while boosting their efficiency."***

UN Secretary-General Guterres,  
Press Conference on Extreme Heat  
July 2025

# Priorities for 2025

## Mobilize technical and financial support

Establish a mechanism to support Pledge delivery with partners

Coordinate and mobilize funding for implementation

Propose interim targets and finalize indicators & reporting template

## Strengthen Country-Led Implementation and Coordination

Form a governing body of countries for inclusive decision-making

Develop governance for structured subnational engagement

# An EPIC solution

## Enabling Pledge Implementation for Cooling (EPIC)



**Myriem Touhami**  
Head, Finance Unit  
UN Environment Programme (UNEP)





**1.2 Billion** people at risk

from heat stress and lack of cooling

Demand **to triple**

by 2050

**10% of all emissions**

projected are related to cooling alone

# GLOBAL COOLING PLEDGE

Launched at **COP28** with the support of **60 countries** committed to **reducing over 60% of GHGs** from cooling



# GLOBAL COOLING PLEDGE

But...

Only 25% of  
countries have enabling  
**policies**

Insufficient  
**technical  
assistance**  
(UNEP-IFC, 2024)

Lack of  
**dedicated  
finance**

**\$400-800B**  
**finance gap**  
in developing countries





# What can

# we do?



# EPIC

## Enabling Pledge Implementation for Cooling

EPIC enables countries to go **from pledges, to plans, to local impact**—combining technical assistance and smart finance to scale sustainable cooling solutions globally.

From pledges  
**Cool Coalition  
Secretariat**

to plans

**Technical Assistance  
Facility – EPIC Solutions**

To local impact

**Finance Accelerator  
Fund – EPIC Deploy**



**Finance accelerator  
fund**

## EPIC Deploy

Innovative finance models,  
building viable business  
cases, and linking technical  
assistance to real investment  
opportunities.

## Italy's Contribution

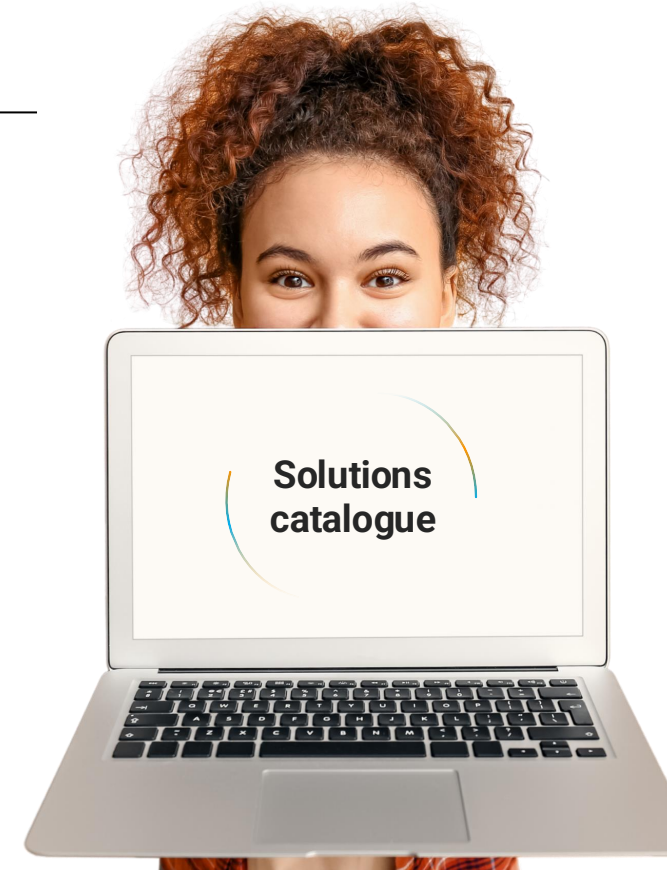
Italy supports  
2 EPIC Deploy with a  
\$2M fund in 2025 to  
kickstart projects in  
Djibouti and Brazil.



# Technical assistance facility

## EPIC Solutions

Grant	Purpose	Key features
\$1M	<p>Connecting Pledge Signatories to Tailored Technical Assistance</p> <p>The Technical Assistance Facility is an online portal where countries and cities can request technical assistance.</p>	<p>Based on <b>TRANSPARENT SELECTION CRITERIA</b> (e.g., experience, resource leverage).</p> <p>Supported <b>BY MODEL TERMS OF REFERENCE</b> to ensure quality and consistency.</p> <p><b>BUILT ON COOL COALITION GUIDANCE</b> and best practices.</p>





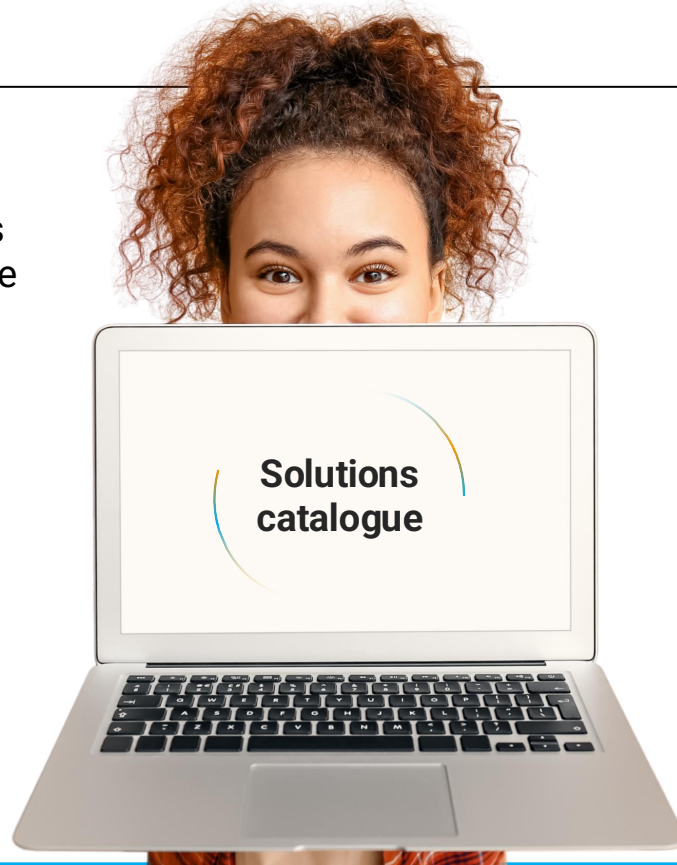
# Technical assistance facility

## EPIC Solutions

### How does it work?

#### 1 REQUEST SUBMISSION

Through the EPIC's Solutions catalogue website.



#### 2 SECRETARIAT REVIEW

Secretariat verifies scope and eligibility and prepares Terms of Reference.

#### 3 MATCHMAKING

Opportunity is shared with working group or partners (like IFC or AfDB). Interested partners submit an Expression of Interest (EOI). One is selected based on Cool Coalition criteria.

#### 3 DELIVERY

Selected partner provides technical assistance based on Cool Coalition guidance and quality standards.

# Technical assistance facility

## EPIC Solutions

National Planning

MEPS & Labels

Urban Heat Assessment

Building codes & Passive cooling

Nature for cooling

Public procurement

Renewable energy cooling

Training and CoEs

Investment roadmaps

Life-cycle refrigerant Mgmt



**Solutions  
catalogue**

# Finance Accelerator Fund

## EPIC Deploy

Seed Grant	Purpose	How it works
\$2M	<p><b>Driving Investment in Sustainable Cooling Solutions</b></p> <p>The EPIC Finance Accelerator helps countries move from plans to action by <b>piloting innovative finance models, developing viable business cases, and connecting technical assistance to real investment opportunities</b></p>	<p><b>Adaptable financing models by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Type of funding need (e.g. early-stage, growth)</li><li>• Type of actor (consumer, public, private)</li><li>• Project scale and scope</li></ul> <p><b>Grants for early-stage projects</b> in areas like : Cold storage, Energy-efficient air conditioning, District cooling</p>



# Finance Accelerator Fund EPIC Deploy

## How does it work?

### 1 ASSESMENT

Needs identified through The **Technical Assistance Facility**

### 2 GRANTS

Seed funding provided to support early-stage mechanisms in priority sectors (e.g. cold storage, district cooling, EE ACs)

### 3 PARTNERS

Engage co-financing and delivery partners (e.g. WB, AfDB, KfW, Cassa Depositi e Prestiti)

### 4 PILOTS

Support at least 2 countries to test finance models (e.g. cold storage, district cooling)

### 5 REPLICATION

Scale successful models and include in Solutions Catalogue for broader use.





# Summary EPIC

From pledges  
**Cool Coalition  
Secretariat**

to plans  
**Technical Assistance  
Facility – EPIC Solutions**

To local impact  
**Finance Accelerator  
Fund – EPIC Deploy**

Led by



With support of



Coordinated by



Supported by

UNEP Trust Fund



IT'S POSSIBLE

**UN**   
environment  
programme

[www.unep.org](http://www.unep.org)

# Open Discussion

## Implementation priorities and EPIC Facility

### Moderator:



**H.E. Adalberto Maluf**

Vice Minister, Ministry of Environment  
and Climate Change of Brazil

1. What major barriers (technical, financial, policy, or data-related) are currently limiting your progress on Pledge implementation?
2. How can the EPIC Facility effectively support your national implementation efforts?
3. Are there gaps in its current design or adjustments that you would like to see addressed?

# Avenues for financial support

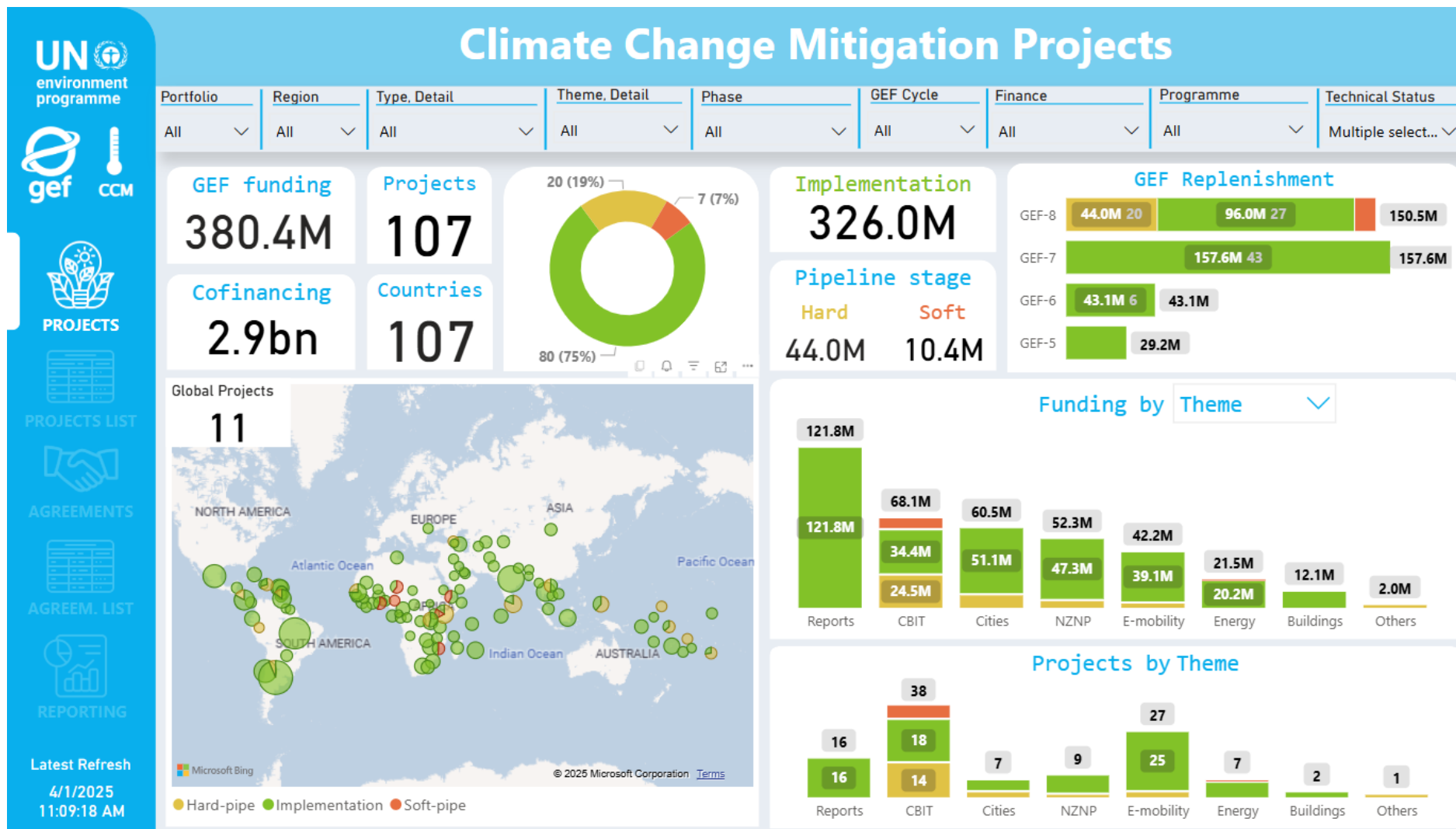
## Presentation on GEF-9 and opportunities for financing cooling pledge



**Asher Lessels**

Head, GEF Mitigation Unit  
UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

# UNEP GEF Mitigation





# The Global Environment Facility : Overview

## The GEF at a Glance

**The GEF is the family of funds for the environment.** It is a financial mechanism for six multilateral conventions. With GEF support, countries address the root causes of challenges as they strive for international environmental goals.



Overall since 1991:

**\$26B+**  
in financing provided



**\$149B**  
in capital mobilized



**Global Environment Facility Trust Fund:** Focus on biodiversity, chemicals and waste, climate change, international waters, and land degradation, plus integrated programming.



**Global Biodiversity Framework Fund:** Newly-created fund to support the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its 2030 nature-positive goals.



**Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund:** Supports action on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization.

Serve the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change



**Least Developed Countries Fund:** The only dedicated source of multilateral funding for Least Developed Countries' most urgent climate adaptation needs.



**Special Climate Change Fund:** Climate adaptation fund focused on technology and innovation, with dedicated window for Small Island Developing States.



**Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency Trust Fund:** Support for climate change data and reporting, in support of the Paris Agreement's Enhanced Transparency Framework.

## IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES



# The Global Environment Facility

- The GEF has 4-year replenishment cycles
- Every 4 years, each developing country receives a new allocation of grant funds (called STAR allocation):
  - For climate mitigation, biodiversity and land-degradation projects.
  - Fully flexible (can be used as the country likes)
- Additional separate funding streams for climate adaptation (LDCF, SCCF), chemicals and waste, and international waters

GEF REPLENISHMENT CYCLES

\$5 billion

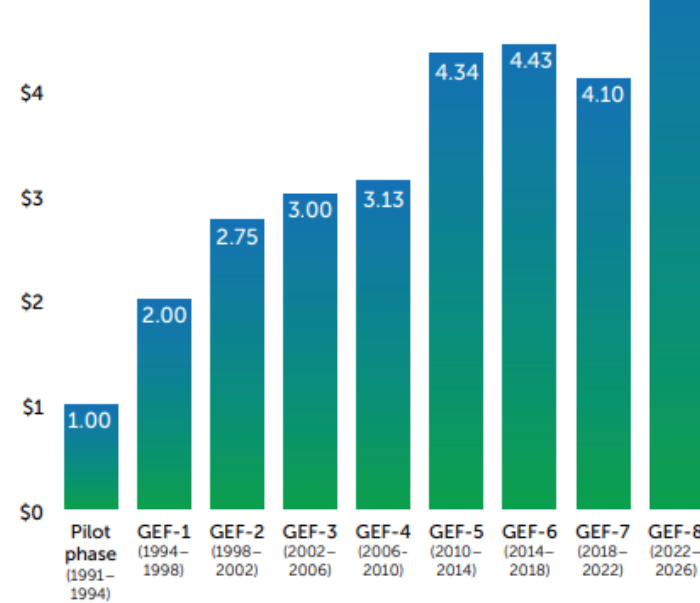


Table 2: Initial GEF-8 STAR Country Allocations (\$US Million)

Country	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Land Degradation	Total
Afghanistan	2.00	4.00	4.96	10.96
Albania	1.00	3.00	4.24	8.24
Algeria	2.49	4.94	4.82	12.25
Angola	3.52	11.23	3.70	18.45
Antigua and Barbuda	2.00	4.00	4.42	10.42
Argentina	5.24	18.75	2.82	26.80
Armenia	1.05	3.00	4.24	8.30
Azerbaijan	2.33	3.00	3.88	9.21
Bahamas	2.00	5.58	2.00	9.58
Bangladesh	4.58	4.00	2.00	10.58
Barbados	2.00	4.00	3.25	9.25
Belarus	2.75	3.00	1.21	6.96
Belize	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
Benin	2.00	4.00	6.63	12.63
Bhutan	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	2.17	15.59	2.86	20.61
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1.00	3.00	1.46	5.46
Botswana	1.00	3.00	3.89	7.89
Brazil	15.19	62.59	2.06	79.83
Burkina Faso	2.00	4.00	7.74	13.74
Burundi	2.00	4.00	4.89	10.89
Cambodia	2.00	4.65	3.14	9.80
Cameroon	1.26	17.12	2.01	20.40
Central African Republic	2.00	4.00	2.89	8.89
Chad	2.00	4.00	5.39	11.39
Chile	3.51	18.84	3.27	25.62
China	47.02	43.64	3.03	93.68

# The Global Environment Facility

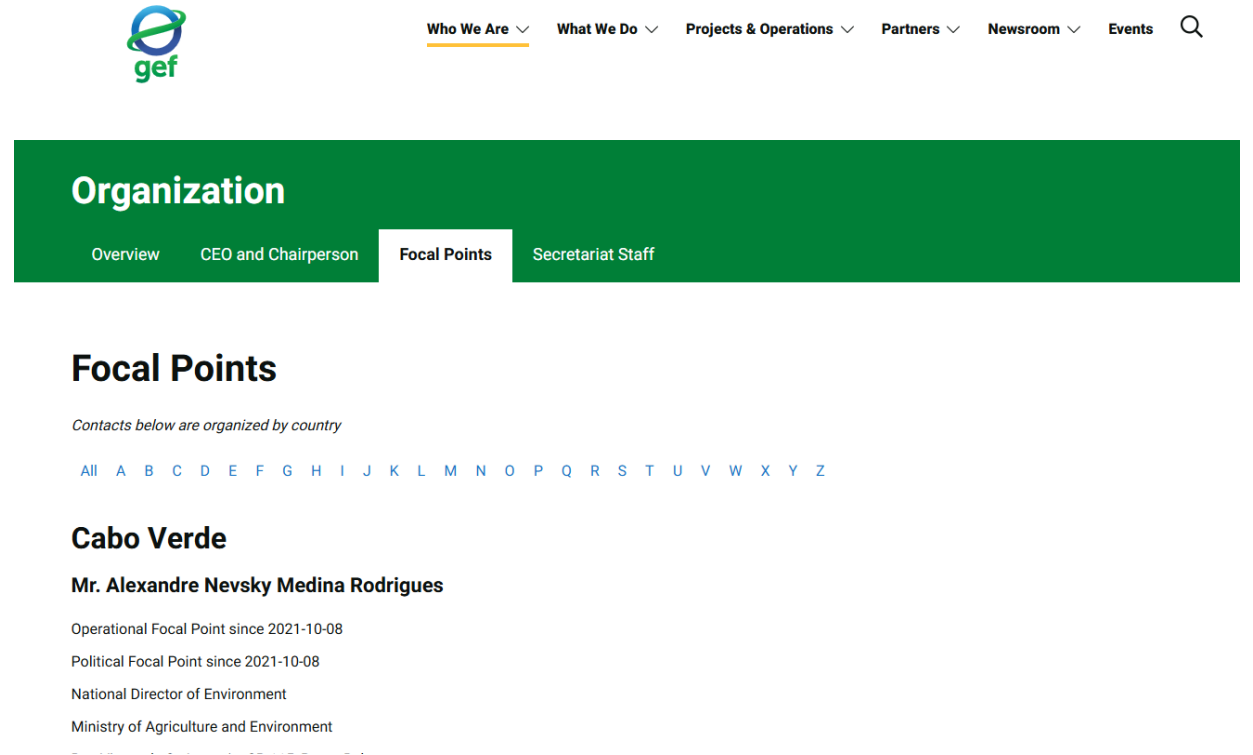
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- The GEF issues **public documents on its programming directions** for each replenishment cycle and the country STAR allocations
  - Currently we are in **GEF-8: July 2022 to June 2026**
    - Programming directions:  
[https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2022-04/GEF\\_R.08\\_29\\_Rev.01\\_GEF8\\_Programming\\_Directions.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2022-04/GEF_R.08_29_Rev.01_GEF8_Programming_Directions.pdf)
    - Country allocations:
      - [%20Country%20Allocations\\_\\_0.pdf](#)
  - **GEF-9 starts July 2026 and runs to June 2030**
-

# The Global Environment Facility

- Use of the country allocation is generally determined through a national process, although varies from country to country
- Each country have a GEF operational focal point:

<https://www.thegef.org/who-we-are/focal-points>



The screenshot shows the GEF website's 'Focal Points' page. At the top is the GEF logo and a navigation menu with links: 'Who We Are' (highlighted), 'What We Do', 'Projects & Operations', 'Partners', 'Newsroom', and 'Events'. Below the navigation is a green header bar with the title 'Organization' and four tabs: 'Overview', 'CEO and Chairperson', 'Focal Points' (selected), and 'Secretariat Staff'. The main content area is titled 'Focal Points' and includes a sub-header 'Contacts below are organized by country'. Below this is a horizontal list of letters from A to Z, with 'A' highlighted. The section for 'Cabo Verde' is displayed, featuring the name 'Mr. Alexandre Nevsky Medina Rodrigues' and his roles: 'Operational Focal Point since 2021-10-08', 'Political Focal Point since 2021-10-08', 'National Director of Environment', and 'Ministry of Agriculture and Environment'.

**Organization**

Overview CEO and Chairperson **Focal Points** Secretariat Staff

## Focal Points

*Contacts below are organized by country*

All A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

### Cabo Verde

**Mr. Alexandre Nevsky Medina Rodrigues**

Operational Focal Point since 2021-10-08

Political Focal Point since 2021-10-08

National Director of Environment

Ministry of Agriculture and Environment

# GEF and opportunities for financing cooling pledges

## GEF-8

- Proposals can be submitted until mid-2026
- Projects can be executed beyond that date
- Many countries might have already used their STAR allocations

## GEF-9

- Proposals submitted between: 2026-2030
  - Programming directions under development
    - To be finalized by mid-2026
  - Financing areas
    - 8 integrated programs (to be confirmed)
      - Sustainable cities
    - 3 STAR focal areas
      - Climate mitigation
      - Biodiversity
      - Land degradation
    - 2 non-STAR focal areas
      - Chemicals and waste
      - International waters
  - Least Developed Climate Fund
  - Special Climate Change Fund
- Cooling entry points
- Cooling entry point



GEF/R.9/05  
April 22, 2025

First Meeting for the Ninth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund  
May 20-21, 2025  
Paris, France

**NINTH GEF REPLENISHMENT:  
DRAFT GEF-9 STRATEGIC POSITIONING  
AND PROGRAMMING DIRECTIONS**

*PREPARED BY THE GEF SECRETARIAT*



Official Use Only



# GEF-9: mitigation focal area

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## Objective 1

- 1.1. Integrated long-term net-zero planning and just transition
- 1.2. Resource efficiency and circular economy (cooling, buildings, circular economy, industry sector)
- 1.3. Power systems and energy access (smart-grids, energy communities, energy storage)
- 1.4. Integrated and zero-emission mobility (active transport, public transport, electric mobility)
- 1.5. Nature-based solutions for climate mitigation (AFOLU, REDD+, carbon sinks)

## Objective 2

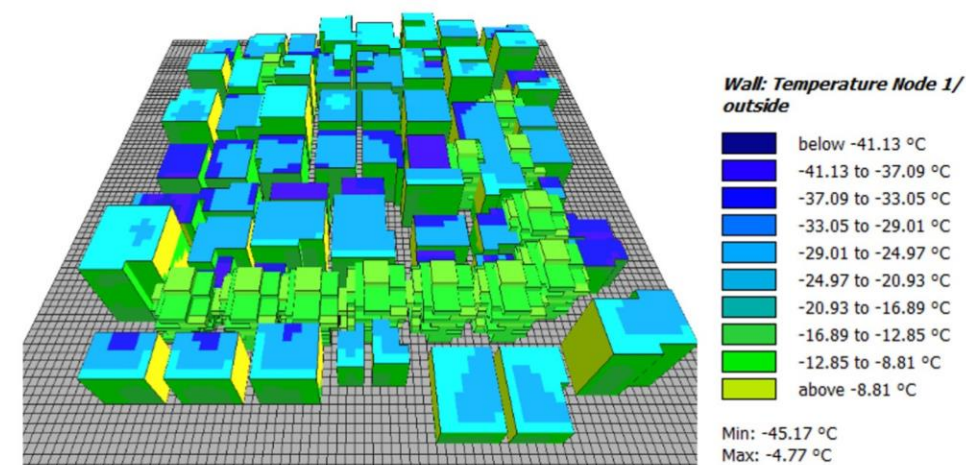
- 2.1 CBIT (Capacity-building initiative for transparency)
  - 2.2 Convention obligations and enabling activities (BTRs, national communications, NDCs, TNAs)
-

# GEF-9 global programme on cooling and extreme heat

- UNEP to lead global programme
  - Global coordination hub
  - Country projects
- Global coordination hub
  - Promote implementation of cooling pledges
  - Bring together key global actors and countries
  - Enhance knowledge sharing (north-south, south-south, south-north)
  - Avoid “reinventing the wheel”
- Country projects
  - Use GEF-9 STAR allocation (mitigation)
  - Can also use LDCF, SCCF (adaptation) where eligible and interested
  - Led by any of the 18 GEF agencies



# Project idea for national project Cooling and extreme heat



(c)

Theme	Possible interventions	Possible investment demonstrations
Cooling and extreme heat  GEF grant funding: \$3-7 million  4 year duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- National policies and regulations on extreme heat and cooling</li><li>- Capacity building of government officials and key stakeholders</li><li>- International technical visits</li><li>- Gender-responsive and just-transition planning</li><li>- Creation of funding mechanisms and business models</li><li>- Investment pipeline development and connection to financiers</li></ul>	<p>Low-emission buildings (energy efficiency, passive building design, district cooling, etc.)</p> <p>Nature-based solutions for reducing heat-island effect (green roofs, green facades, etc.)</p>

# Indicative timeline

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Conceptual design of national projects (5-10 page proposal) with support of GEF Agencies and country GEF operational focal point	Now to June 2026
Prepare global programme package including national projects	July 2026
Submit to GEF	September 2026
Project design	First half 2027
Start project execution	Second half 2027

# Open Discussion

## Country Perspectives on GEF-9 Global Programme on Cooling Finance

### Moderator:



**H.E. Adalberto Maluf**

Vice Minister, Ministry of Environment  
and Climate Change of Brazil

1. What type of technical assistance or capacity-building initiatives would enhance your country's ability to develop and implement sustainable cooling projects? How can the GEF-9 Programme support these capacity-building efforts?
2. How can a GEF project help countries that have not signed the Cooling Pledge strengthen data, knowledge, and coordination to enable future participation?





# Thank you!

Global Cooling Pledge Signatories Focal Points Meeting

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