



## Caribbean Cooling Initiative: HVACR Technicians Regional Consortium

Concept Paper – Draft 06 September 2019

### Background

The Caribbean Cooling Initiative (C-COOL) by UN Environment's [United for Efficiency](#) (U4E) and the governments of the Bahamas, Barbados, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, and Saint Lucia is showcasing the myriad benefits of a comprehensive transition to efficient and climate-friendly air conditioners and refrigerators. With funding support from the Kigali Cooling Efficiency Program, C-COOL is providing policy recommendations and a financial mechanism that will help to accelerate a widespread switch to these products from outdated cooling technologies that are currently commonplace.

Newer cooling solutions with superior performance and lower environmental impacts incorporate a mix of technologies, such as higher efficiency compressors, micro-channel heat exchanges, variable frequency drives, refrigerant gasses with lower global warming potential, and so on. For C-COOL to succeed in spurring a transition to such solutions, it is paramount that heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVACR) technicians are familiar with the design, installation and maintenance of state-of-the-art equipment. There is strong interest among national training institutes in C-COOL countries to work together toward that end.

GIZ's Cool Training in the Field: Caribbean project in Grenada is conducting training on technical concepts that could serve as a model for others. Moreover, Grenada through the TA Marryshow Community College (TAMCC) and with support from the National Ozone Unit (NOU) is in the process of establishing a hub for HVAC technicians in the region to collaborate on capacity building and information sharing, informed by the GIZ project and experiences from training institutes in the C-COOL countries.

### Strategic Planning Workshop Objectives

A strategic planning workshop will be conducted in Grenada for a senior training institute representative and/or a senior industry association representative from each of the C-COOL countries and Grenada. The aims are to:

- ✓ identify a pathway toward establishing a common curriculum throughout the region
- ✓ consider opportunities for encouraging new students to enter the field
- ✓ explore how to make HVACR a licensed profession
- ✓ discuss ways to establish a consortium of HVACR technician training institutes that fosters a regular exchange of best practices and lessons learned while minimising duplication of effort

The gathering should yield a range of findings, including those that can be put into action by the participants in the near-term, and others that may be aspirational for the future and that may require additional outside funding and support. The meeting is meant to be informal and interactive, with minimal use of PowerPoint presentations.

### Proposed Agenda



### Monday 28 October

- Participants from CCOOL countries arrive in Grenada

### Tuesday 29 October

#### **9:00 – 10:10 Introductions and Big-Picture Context**

- Welcome by Government of Grenada, overview of current and planned activities in Grenada in this topic area
- Overview by U4E on how this topic relates to broader market transformation aims of CCOOL (and big picture perspectives on why U4E is focused on promoting cooling).
- Overview by GIZ of relevant tools and activities that may be of interest to participants
- Brief perspectives from each of the CCOOL country representatives on their progress and challenges in this arena and their aims for the workshop

#### **10:30 -12:00 Identifying the Status and Gaps**

- Assess commonalities and differences in existing curricula, facilities, and approaches in the region
- Review certification programmes
- Review accreditation approaches and status

#### **12:00 – 13:00 Lunch**

#### **13:00 – 14:30 Opportunities to Build Connections & Leverage Expertise / Resources**

- Explore policies, communications campaigns and other supporting efforts beyond the remit of the training institutes that are needed to prepare the next generation of technicians
- Consider what is required to build capacity in existing institutes / industry-led training programmes

#### **14:50 – 16:00 Opportunities to Build Connections & Leverage Expertise / Resources**

- Identify additional opportunities to leverage each other's resources and experiences

### Wednesday 30 October

#### **Morning**

- Visit relevant training facility in Grenada for a demonstration of the tools and practices in use in the country

#### **Afternoon**

- Recap key findings and lessons learnt
- Select ~3 priority near-term opportunities that can be readily pursued across the countries (e.g. better aligning curricula, conducting joint online courses, signing MOUs to formalise collaboration, etc.)



- Select ~3 longer-term opportunities that might require additional external funding and support (e.g. Creation of a Caribbean Institute of Refrigeration and Air Conditioning, getting HVACR to be a licensed profession in each country, etc.)

### **Evening**

- Participants from CCOOL countries depart Thursday evening or Friday morning

### **Roles of Workshop Organisers and Participants**

The Government of Grenada will help facilitate the discussion and provide opening perspectives on their developments in this arena and future plans.

U4E will organise the representatives from C-COOL countries, cover their transportation and DSA, and share key findings more broadly with C-COOL countries following the conclusion of the meeting.

GIZ will help organise and facilitate the running of the sessions, share technical insights based on its experience with HVAC training around the world, and cover the cost of breakfast, lunch, and local transportation to/from the meeting location and any off-site visits.

Meeting participants are expected to come prepared with ideas to share for the group's consideration. They are also requested to share the key takeaways from the workshop with officials and stakeholders in their home countries during check-in meetings that U4E will be organising under C-COOL in the month of September.

### **Contacts**

Government of Grenada – Leslie Smith [smithld31@gmail.com](mailto:smithld31@gmail.com)

U4E – Loreto Duffy-Mayers [loreto.duffy-mayers@un.org](mailto:loreto.duffy-mayers@un.org) and [marco.duran@un.org](mailto:marco.duran@un.org)

GIZ – Marion Geiss [marion.geiss@giz.de](mailto:marion.geiss@giz.de)