WORLD BANK SIDE EVENT PROGRAM

Kigali+10: Integrated Approaches for Sustainable Cooling

DATE	TIME	VENUE
6 NOVEMBER 2026	13:00-15:00 CAT	ROOM MH2-A

Overview

This event will highlight sustainable cooling through the lens of an integrated approach to support countries in meeting their Montreal Protocol (MP) obligations for HFC phase-down and HCFC phase-out while advancing energy efficiency, lifecycle refrigerant management, and national climate and net-zero goals. Covering the full cooling value chain, from manufacturing and servicing to end-users and consumers, the discussion will reflect the energy-efficiency considerations of Kigali Amendment Decision XXVIII/2.

The central challenge in achieving a sustainable transition from ozone-depleting and/or global warming refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) requires addressing three interconnected challenges in a more integrated and strategic manner – final HCFC consumption phaseout, initiation of HFC phasedown without impeding market growth, and enabling and accelerating concurrent energy efficiency improvements. Rather than treating these as parallel but separate tracks, an integrated approach positions them as mutually reinforcing components of the same transition pathway building upon experience and institutions built from past phaseout plans. Completing HCFC phase-out creates space for a new generation of climate-friendly alternatives, but the full climate benefit can only be realized if the shift to lower-GWP refrigerants is aligned with the early stages of HFC phasedown. At the same time, embedding robust energy-efficiency gains into technology transitions—through investment in local manufacturing, strengthened and coordinated policies, performance standards, and market-based incentives and financial mobilization—ensures that rising cooling demand does not undermine environmental progress.

Discussions will be kicked off by the Multilateral Fund (MLF) Chief Officer who will provide context and explain the relevance of recent approvals under the MLF's Energy Efficiency Operational Framework and associated funding windows. After a quick overview of the World Bank Group's work on sustainable cooling and where the MLF-financed MP program fits in, the four projects approved by the Executive Committee at its 98th Meeting to eliminate HCFC consumption, reduce HFC consumption, and concurrently improve the energy efficiency of cooling equipment produced and installed in Thailand will be presented. As the first large-scale program financed by the Multilateral Fund to combine grant and concessional financing, the separate components have been designed to be mutually reinforcing for following the same transition pathway and build upon past experience by the Department of Industrial Works in Thailand's Ministry of Industry as the MP focal point, as well as by other partner institutions. A panel of distinguished speakers made up of these key project partners will provide their perspectives on the policy, technical and financing ingredients necessary to make this integrated program a success in implementation.

What the Side Event will Cover

- **A sustainable cooling approach under the Kigali Amendment and the Multilateral Fund**
- **Developing complementary policies to meet MP obligations while fostering economic growth with the transition**
- **Integrated project design for HCFC and HFC implementation efficiencies and transformative impact**
- **Unlocking financing for reaching the full refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) value chain**

THE KIGALI AMENDMENT 2016–2026

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Program

KIGALI +10

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER
13:00-13:25	**Lunch**	**All**
13:25-13:35	**Opening Remarks**	**Ms. Tina Birmpili** Chief Officer, Multilateral Fund (MLF) Secretariat
13:35-13:50	**WBG Introduction to Sustainable Cooling Work of the World Bank Group**	**Ms. Mary-Ellen Foley** Senior Environmental Specialist, World Bank
13:50-14:10	**Overview of the MLF-Approved Projects that Comprise Thailand's New Integrated Approach to HCFC Phaseout and HFC Phasedown**	**Dr. Viraj Vithoontien** Montreal Protocol Senior Consultant, World Bank
	Panel Discussion	**Moderator: Ms. Eun Joo Allison Yi** Senior Environmental Specialist, World Bank
14:10-14:40	**Advancing Sustainable Cooling in Thailand through HCFC Phaseout and HFC Phasedown, Energy Efficiency Improvement, and an Energy Efficiency Revolving Fund (EERF) for End-Users: Policy, Technical, and Financing Perspectives of the Thailand Project Partners**	**Ms. Panthong Srikattanaprom** Director of the Hazardous Substance Management Division Department of Industrial Works (DIW) **FOCUS**: *Integration of HCFC and HFC reduction action to facilitate policymaking.* **Dr. Supachai Sampao** Chief of Energy Efficiency Standard and Conservation Group, Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency (DEDE) **FOCUS**: *Enabling full sector transformation: expanding the reach of minimum & high energy performance standards for RAC equipment.* **Ms. Rangsinee Prakij** Director, Demand Side Management (DSM) Division, Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT) **FOCUS**: *How EGAT's DSM program works and will play a role in Thailand's KIP/HPMP incentive program for early RAC replacement.* **Dr. Viraj Vithoontien** **FOCUS**: *EERF for end-users and other project financing aspects.*
14:40-14:55	**Q&A**	**All Speakers and Participants**
14:55-15:00	**Closing**	**Ms. Eun Joo Allison Yi**