

EN

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Answer given by Mr Jørgensen
on behalf of the European Commission
(5.10.2026)

The Commission supports Member States to deploy sustainable cooling solutions and to upgrade the electricity grids to face increased cooling needs.

The Grids Action Plan¹ and the European Grids package² upgrade and accelerate the roll-out of electricity grids. The Connecting Europe Facility delivers direct financial support³. The Electrification Action Plan⁴ emphasises the role of efficient electrification, including in cooling of buildings and deployment of heat pumps. The upcoming Cooling and Heating Action Plan will address the growing need for efficient cooling.

The Energy Performance of Buildings Directive⁵ encourages holistic approaches integrating multiple solutions such as reduction of internal heat gain, solar shading and insulation to keep heat out, and ventilative cooling as well as active cooling⁶. The Commission also supports climate responsive building design, including passive cooling techniques and nature-based solutions, for example through the New European Bauhaus⁷ and technical guidance on climate resilient buildings⁸ and green roofs⁹.

With specific reference to cooling needs, the Commission has relevant tools, such as the EU-funded update of the World Health Organization guidance on heat-health action plans¹⁰, the Guidelines on climate adaptation¹¹, know-how via the European Climate and Health Observatory¹², guidance¹³ and online tools¹⁴ for employers and workplaces.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_6044.

² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_2945.

³ https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/connecting-europe-facility_en.

⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52026DC0595>.

⁵ Directive (EU) 2024/1275, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2024/1275/oj/eng>.

⁶ See examples in the Commission Notice providing guidance on new or substantially modified provisions of the recast Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EU) 2024/1275, https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:C_202506438&qid=1785839837825.

⁷ See e.g. the NEB Investment guidelines (p. 109): https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/neb-investment-guidelines_en.

⁸ EU-level technical guidance on adapting buildings to climate change: https://build-up.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/content/eu-level_technical_guidance_on_adapting_buildings-ml0923117enn.pdf.

⁹ See 'Implementing green roofs and walls: lessons from European experiences' - a report of the Commission's Joint Research Centre to support the implementation of the Nature Restoration Regulation: <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC145552>.

¹⁰ <https://www.who.int/europe/publications/i/item/9789289062930>.

¹¹ [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52023XC0727\(01\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52023XC0727(01)).

¹² <https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/observatory/topics/health-impacts/heat-and-health>.

¹³ <https://osha.europa.eu/en/publications/heat-work-guidance-workplaces>.

¹⁴ <https://osha.europa.eu/en/highlights>.