

## Network kick-off Meeting Agenda

**Date:** 05/09/2024  
**Time:** 12:00 – 16:00 (Lunch included)  
**Location:** Room 144, First Floor Conference Aston,  
Aston University, Birmingham, B4 7ET  
**Chair:** Ahmed Rezk

### 12:00 – 13:00 Opening, lunch, coffee networking

#### 13:00 – 14:00 Welcome

- Welcome and apologies.
- Introduction from network members (Everyone – app 2min each).
- Introduce new team members (New members – app 2min each).

#### 14:00 – 14:20 Introduction to the project.

- High-level overview of the project the purpose of the network, scope, expected outcomes and objectives (5min)
- Discussion of outcomes and scope – (Everyone - 15-min).

#### 14:20 – 14:30 Coffee break

#### 14:30 – 14:50 Project setup update

- Updating the network on the progress of the network setup (5-10 min).
  - Project webpage
  - Repository / shared folder(s).
  - Finance and resources, including potential funding from industry.
  - Expenses claim procedure.
  - Paperwork, recruitment, and collaboration agreement.
- Q&A about the project setup – (Everyone - 10-15 min).

#### 14:50 – 15:15 Project planning and responsibility distribution

- Revisit the initial project plan, milestones, and deadlines (5min).
- Identify WP leads, embracing ECR participation. View WPs on 2<sup>nd</sup> page.
- Discussing the project planning – interactive utilising Mero virtual platform to enable the online contribution (Everyone - 15min).

#### 15:15 – 15:45 Roles and Responsibilities (interactive session)

- View the description of roles on 2<sup>nd</sup> page (5 min):
  - Network directorship team members.
  - Network wider core team.
  - Steering committee.
  - Network coordinator.
- Discussing the steering committee membership (Everyone - 15 min). Identify industry engagement and steering committee lead.

#### 15:45 – 16:00 Conclusion, Next Steps

- Conclusion.

### Project work packages

**WP2-** Engagement with stakeholders and industry.

**WP3-** EDI embedding and monitoring.

**WP4-** Dissemination and impact generation.

**WP5-** Strategic funding planning

### Description of roles

**Network Directors:** The network includes a PI and three Co-Leads, Prof Thornley, Prof Maidment and Dr Wang, from different disciplines and career stages to help set up and manage the network. The Network Director and Co-leaders will work with the Reef-UK Network Coordinator to foster links with other networks where collaboration will be mutually beneficial. The Steering Committee (SC) and a Network Coordinator will guide and support the PI. Dr Wang will oversee the EDI across the network.

**Network wider core team:** Thematic contributors will contribute to the network development and progress of key tasks. This will allow the network to make a prompt, effective, impactful start and progress towards wider engagement with a more extensive community. They will have access to the pump-priming funding to incentivise their contribution and engage their wider teams of ECRs and PhD. The wider core team is from 10+ universities, and more information is available in the Applicant and Team Capability to Deliver section.

**Network Coordinator:** The Network Coordinator will be responsible for the routine operation of the network, such as managing website content, organising meetings and workshops, maintaining the network membership lists, establishing and updating an online platform and implementing the Data Management, RRI and EDI for the network.

**Steering Committee (SC):** The SC is from the wider core academic partners and representatives of the key industrial partners. The SC will **meet and report quarterly** via teleconference unless an event is planned at which the group can meet. SC is output-driven, and its key objectives are to:

- Provide oversight to ensure the project stays on track by monitoring its direction and progress.
- Review and validate the project plan and scope periodically.
- Support Decision Making: Support decision making on issues and conflicts that arise during the project.

These objectives help ensure that the research project is conducted efficiently and effectively to meet the overall goals. Details about the reporting mechanism is decided by the SC lead.

**Collaboration formalisation:** Collaboration agreements will be signed at the onset to formalise the collaboration between all partners, academics and industrialists.

## **Workshop #1 Agenda**

**Date:** 06/09/2024  
**Time:** 09:30 – 16:00  
**Location:** Room 144, First Floor Conference Aston,  
Aston University, Birmingham, B4 7ET

### **Introduction**

The vision of the Reef-UKC network is to lead transformative research to develop strategies for developing innovative integration between the next generation of renewable energy and efficient & clean cooling technologies to meet the ever-growing demand for cooling and support its resilience, which is otherwise powered by grid electricity and hinders grid decarbonisation. This vision encompasses undertaking evidence-based, holistic, and interdisciplinary system-level research to harness the potential of renewable energy sources, provide cooling and maximise system-level integration benefits while addressing the unique challenges and opportunities presented by the UK's economic, environmental, societal, behavioural, and political contexts. Examples of these challenges and opportunities are technical feasibility of the integrated renewable-driven cooling technologies, incentives, sustainable business models, carbon footprint and other environmental impacts, social acceptance for the new systems, supporting political and regulatory frameworks to drive upgrading to new systems and the opportunities to retrofit new systems to cooling demanding sectors. The expected outcomes of the first workshop are:

1. Promote the collaboration between the network members and encourage the engagement with a broader ECRs in the field.
2. Establish research teams to act efficiently on the network objectives.
3. Scope disruptive, impact-driven, and interdisciplinary seed-funded project ideas leading to follow up projects.

### **Project objectives**

1. Develop efficient renewable-powered cooling system-level solutions to meet the existing and future demand for cooling, specifically in rapidly growing sectors, e.g., Hydrogen, data centres.
2. Consider environmental and social impacts and behavioural changes.
3. Contemplate Cold economy, business modelling, sustainability, and design for circularity.
4. Integrate the developed solutions with the developed cooling (and potentially heating) networks approaches by other research initiatives.
5. Develop policies and regulatory frameworks to incentivise the adoption of the technology packages and communication with the UK government and local authorities.

EP/Z533129/1 - RENEWABLE Energy for Future UK Net-Zero Cooling (Reef-UKC) network  
Meeting agenda

Programme - 06/09/2024

Time	Session	Chair
09:30 – 10:00	<b>Arrivals &amp; Registration</b> Coffee provided	
10:00 – 10:10	<b>Welcome and opening</b> Prof Tony Dodd – Deputy dean of research of Aston University	Dr Ahmed Rezk
10:10 – 10:50	<b>Keynote Presentations</b>  10:10 – 10:25 Dr James Coombs OBrien – 15 min Energy – Net zero Innovation Lead (UKRI)  10:25 – 10:40 David Pearson – 15 min Sustainability manager – Star refrigeration  10 minutes Q&A included in each session	Dr Paula Blanco-Sanchez
10:50 – 11:00	<b>Coffee break</b>	
11:00 – 12:30	<b>Morning session: Design Postcard from 2050 and road map towards net-zero cooling.</b>  11:00 – 11:15 Introduction and group establishment (sector-based) 11:15 – 12:00 Interactive group session 12:00 – 12:20 Postcard presentation 12:20 – 12:30 Best postcard award	Prof Graeme Maidment
12:30 – 13:30	<b>Lunch</b>	
13:30 – 14:00	<b>Afternoon session: Project scoping sandpit:</b>  Challenges pitch – industrial partners	Dr Ahmed Rezk
14:00 – 14:45	Project scoping – group interactive	Dr Abed Alaswad
14:45 – 15:00	Coffee/comfort break	
15:00 – 15:30	Pitching idea to the sounding board	
15:30 – 16:00	<b>Funding announcement and conclusion.</b>	Dr Ahmed Rezk

