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Phase-out of Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)- Institutional Strengthening and Sector Plans Implementation



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Millennium Development Goal:

Goal 7 – Ensure
Environmental
Sustainability

Targets:

Integrate the principles of sustainable
development into country policies and
programmes, and reverse the loss of
environmental resources

Relevant India Development Goal:

India is committed to phasing out
chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) in all the sectors,
as part of the Montreal Protocol

Background

In support of international initiatives to protect the depleting ozone layer, India signed the Montreal Protocol on 17 September 1992. Since then, significant progress has been made to strengthen institutions to coordinate activities of the Montreal Protocol in India, as well as to enhance the implementation of the sector plan for phasing out chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).

In addition, an Ozone Cell has been set up to coordinate activities of the Montreal Protocol in India. The Cell is also responsible for formulating and amending the Ozone rules and regulations, besides coordinating with the Fund Secretariat, and other implementing agencies such as industry associations, ministries, other countries, NGOs and the Press. The project is supported by a range of partners including the Government of Japan; GIZ; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; United Nations Environment Programme and INFRAS.

Objectives

This project has two complementary objectives – institutional strengthening and investment support to the CFC-generating sector to curb emissions. As part of institutional strengthening, support is being provided to the Cell to improve the effectiveness of its activities in phasing out CFCs in the foam and refrigeration manufacturing, halon, carbon-tetrachloride, Metered Dose Inhalers (MDI), and refrigeration servicing sectors. A sector phase-out unit has also been set up within the Cell to provide technical assistance, capacity building and investment support to the recipient companies in the above sectors.

Project Information

Area: Environment and Energy

Budget: US\$ 15.5 million
(Montreal Protocol)

Duration: 2002 – 2014

Government Counterpart:
Ministry of Environment and Forests,
Government of India

Implementing Partner(s):
Ozone Cell (Ministry of Environment and
Forests, Government of India)

Other Partner(s):
GTZ, Infrass (Swiss), United Nations
Industrial Development Organization
(UNIDO) and United Nations
Environment Programme (UNEP)

Location(s):
National-level (various small enterprises
in the country)

Results so far

- Phase out of CFC completed in August 2008 before the mandated target of January 2010

Institutional Strengthening

- An Ozone Cell, mandated to coordinate the phase out of CFCs, established, as part of the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol
- Ozone rules and regulations formulated
- Capacity of concerned governmental agencies such as customs officials and officials from the ministries of law, commerce and revenue strengthened
- Awareness building on the issue initiated at the industry level

Sector Plans

- Appropriate technologies identified and provided to 140 small and medium units for the phase out of CFCs in the foam sector, and to 200 units in the refrigeration manufacturing sector
- Small equipment such as the vacuum charger, leak detectors provided to refrigeration technicians as part of the Servicing Sector Plan. As a result of this programme, 120 technical institutes in India have benefited
- Recovery and recycling equipment provided to government agencies like the Railways and the Army to recover and recycle CFC for essential use
- Small enterprises in metal cleaning industries being identified for supporting Carbon Tetra-Chloride (CTC) phase-out
- Efforts to phase out the use of CTC in plants of the Steel Authority of India and two other private units ongoing
- National awareness campaign launched by the Cell
- Support provided to four pharmaceutical industries to phase out CFCs in the MDI sector

Looking to the Future

- The Ozone Cell and UNDP are working on the phase-out of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC) Programme

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