

Institutional Strengthening for the Phase-out of Ozone Depleting Substances

The Challenge

Ozone-depleting substances (ODS) are man-made chemicals that destroy the ozone layer, a part of the atmosphere that protects life on earth from ultraviolet radiation from the sun. Increased ultraviolet radiation levels lead to higher rates of skin cancer, damage to people's immune system and diminished productivity of food crops.

Realizing the dangers of ozone layer depletion, the Chinese Government adopted the Vienna Convention (1985) and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (1987), as well as Amendments to the Protocol in London (1990), Copenhagen (1992), Vienna (1995) and Montreal (1997). The Copenhagen Amendment was ratified by the Chinese Government in April 2003. The State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) also initiated the process of ratifying the Montreal Amendment and the Beijing Amendment. Based on the progress of ODS phase-out, China accordingly formulated policies and regulations for strict control of the import and export of ODS, implementation of ODS consumption and production quota licenses, promulgated the third list of ODS for management of their import and export in China, establishment of the import and export license system for HCFC and Methyl Bromide (MB), announcement of control of TCA and MB production through a quota license system, and prohibition of the consumption of CTC use as solvent agent from June 2003. It is critical to strengthen China's capacities of the implementation, enforcement and monitoring of these policies.

The Response

To address the key issues of the ODS phase-out to protect the ozone layer, UNDP started to work with Chinese authorities in 1995 to adopt an institutional support project funded by the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, with funding renewed for each phase of two-year duration. The previous phases of the Institutional Strengthening (IS) project greatly improved the capacity of the programme management office (PMO) for ozone matters of the State Environmental Protection Administration. These phases developed and enforced policy, collected data and exchanged information, promoted training activities, controlled illegal ODS activities, improved project management, built staff capacity, and increased public awareness.

Phase VII of the Institutional Strengthening project (2007 - 2008) aims at further enhancing the overall program management capability of the PMO, especially enforcing the control of illegal production, illegal consumption and illegal trade of ODS. The extension phase was designed to provide the necessary support to assist China to maintain its momentum in phasing out the production and consumption of ODS, to accelerate the CFC and Halon Phase-out by July 2007, and to sustain the capacity of the PMO to effectively implement China's national Montreal Protocol Programme for ODS Phase out, in order to meet the established 85% reduction target by 2007 and total phaseout of ODS by 2010.

Achievements

The IS phase VII will enhance government capacity in enforcement and therefore improve the phase-out of ODS all over China.

At a Glance

Start Date: 2007

End Date: 2008

Implementing Partner: State Environmental Protection Administration

Project ID: 00057794

UNDAF: Outcome 9 - Key UN conventions promoted through improved capacity to fulfill their obligations
MDG: Goal 7 – Ensure environmental sustainability
CPAP: Outcome5 - Within the framework of international norms, conventions, and their mechanisms, and of the Global Compact, China's role in the international arena is enhanced

Donor (MLF):

US\$390,000

Project location: Beijing

To contribute to this initiative, or to find out more about the project, please visit our website or contact us at 86-10-8532 0800 or registry.cn@undp.org

UNDP is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP is on the ground in 166 countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. As they develop local capacity, they draw on the people of UNDP and its wide range of partners.