



**United Nations
Environment
Programme**

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/70/8
6 June 2013



ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Seventieth Meeting
Bangkok, 1-5 July 2013

**CONSOLIDATED MULTI-YEAR AGREEMENT PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT
(DECISION 68/6)**

Background

1. Since the 70th meeting, the electronic format of the project completion report for multi-year agreements (MYA PCR) underwent further improvements.
2. Following a discussion during the January 2013 inter-agency meeting, a consultant was recruited to follow up with the agencies on various issues related to entering data in the MYA PCR format. In addition, the IT unit of the Multilateral Fund Secretariat was in charge of the inclusion in the electronic format of the observations and suggestions made by the agencies.
3. As a result, there is now the possibility to translate the electronic format into Excel, which will allow agencies to better share information with the National Ozone Units, Government and other partners. In addition, other small improvements were introduced (such as the space for entering data) that make the work with the electronic format more user-friendly.
4. The bilateral and implementing agencies presented the schedule of submission for the MYA PCRs. According to this, about 68 PCRs will be submitted between May 2013 and April 2015.

Schedule of submission of bilateral and implementing agencies					
Submission Date	UNEP	UNDP	UNIDO	Germany	World Bank
April 2013			1		
May 2013				3	
July 2013	11		1		2
August 2013	1				
September 2013	8			5	
October 2013	5				2
November 2013	1		1		
December 2013	6	4			
April 2014		6			
July 2014		6			
December 2014		4			
April 2015		1			
Total	32	21	3	8	4
Total Number of Submissions from all agencies	68				

5. To date, however, the Secretariat received eight submissions only, not enough for a quantitative analysis. However, the lessons learned are summarized in Annex I.

Recommendation

6. The Executive Committee may wish to take note of the information provided in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/70/8 and request the bilateral and the implementing agencies to submit the multi-year agreement project completion reports according to the schedule of submissions, to the second annual meeting of the Executive Committee.

Annex I**LESSONS LEARNED****Project implementation**

- To achieve the technical, economic and commercial feasibility criteria, promising methyl bromide alternative technologies must be adopted and adapted to suit the local conditions;
- Although the float system technology has been well received, numerous issues need to be addressed.
- To ensure the fluidity of the operation, it was important to identify qualified implementation partners at the beginning of the planning, as well as to select the most qualified representatives for the training team;
- The inclusion of staff from contracting companies in the training teams was important, as 70 per cent of the national tobacco crop in Zimbabwe is grown under the contract system.

Training

- Training of Technicians: Once a technician is trained and certified, he takes it as a tool and the result from this will be putting theory into practice.
- Training activities were implemented through intensive coordination efforts with enterprises, numerous individual entrepreneurs in the refrigeration sectors and vocational training centres. Recovery and recycling of refrigerants is part of everyday practice of service shops.

Supervision and monitoring of subproject

- In relation to evaluation and monitoring: An appropriate and timely monitoring and evaluation activity by the Ozone Office facilitates the progress towards a responsive approach and ensures sustainability. Effective monitoring and evaluation of project activities supports sustainability in multiple ways. First and foremost, it identifies strengths and weaknesses in project implementation. Second, it can highlight potential linkages among project components and between projects that enhance the overall impact and benefits of the programme. The Ozone Office has made a concerted effort to consolidate lessons learned (positive and negative experiences) from the previous Refrigeration Management Plan (RMP) for Macedonia and apply them to current terminal CFC phase-out plan. For example, the monitoring and evaluation, started when the RMP project was completed, shows that training centres established at universities do not ensure sustainable training of service technicians. A better solution could be establishing of training centres at secondary vocational schools as a part of their curriculum.
- Having a PMU who was a refrigeration engineer was a real bonus and really helped with the efficient implementation of the project.

Policy and regulatory framework

- Training of Customs Officers: The frequency at which customs officials are transferred from one border post to the other is quite high hence the need for continuous training.
- A license system to restrict imports should be in parallel to the adoption of alternatives;

Annex I

- Many countries applied the current legislation (more strict) to discourage the imports (problems of toxicity, application requirements, etc.);
- Incentives for adopting alternatives to methyl bromide should be created by reducing taxes and fees for importing alternatives and giving financial support for their efficacy trials and at the same time increasing taxes and fees for methyl bromide imports.
- The success of policy implementation depends largely on the existence of institutional structures with specific functions. A participatory approach in which relevant stakeholders are involved including the private sector and the civil society is envisaged during the implementation of policy.

Public awareness

- Most people, especially the illiterate, know very little about ozone layer depletion, therefore the awareness and education of it should be on-going.

Environmental issues

- The incentive project for commercial end users has, in addition to getting retrofitted to an ozone-friendly refrigerant, provided the beneficiaries the benefits of good storage temperature and plant performance.
- From an environment point of view, polystyrene trays that are used in such large quantities do not biodegrade easily. Ways need to be found to recycle these plastic trays.

Government commitment

- Zimbabwe has in place an Ozone officer who is very active and has been given sufficient powers within the Environment Ministry to push forward Ozone issues. This has greatly helped the implementation of all ODS phase-out projects in the country.

Import control

- If the customs authority can successfully apply the customs codes correctly to their ASYCUDA ++ system, one of the most commonly used customs control programs, the officers are able to control imports more effectively. This has been evident from two consignments being caught by customs dues to incorrect labelling.

Availability of alternative technologies

- Alternatives should be cost-effective and accepted by stakeholders; methyl bromide elimination has major economic implications on their enterprises (and countries). Indeed, there are real negative consequences of this financial amputation, but Zimbabwe must continue to produce and market an internationally acceptable product;
- The additional cost associated with implementation of the new technology should be met and steps taken to make the changeover smooth.

External cooperation

- The coordination of timely allocation and disbursement of MLF resources, procurement and delivery of equipment by an implementing agency was beyond the control of the NOU. The NOU staff and national consultants provided all the necessary support to the implementing agency (IA) in identification of beneficiaries and delivery, customs clearing, storage and distribution of equipment.

In relation to geo-political issues

- It was the correct approach from PNG not to become part of a single PIC combined TPMP project. The scale of consumption and the individual attention required for some of the activities was only possible because of the flexibility available to the country under its own approved project and not a combined project with other countries of the region.
- Despite government long term commitment to phasing out HFCs, the Ministry of Environment has not been able to convince other Ministries on such an approach. Primarily because costs of long term natural refrigerant-based technologies is still considerably higher than conventional HFC systems. So the NOU/Ministry of Environment has received considerable opposition to the phasing out of HFCs in the country. So NOU/1 ministry commitment is clearly not enough to bring forth changes in the sector unless it is backed by the overall government policy.

National and sectoral approach

- The phase-out of CFCs did not have any negative implications in the refrigeration and air-conditioning sectors in the country. The well-established R&R scheme enabled servicing of CFC-equipment.

Capacity building

- The National Ozone Unit is staffed by well qualified and senior people that can gain access to key government officials in order to ensure that programmes and legislation on the phase out of ODS are progressed in a timely and effective manner.
- The serious challenge for the NOU was timely development and promotion of the supportive legislation for controlling the movement and consumption of ODS in the country.
- The Ozone Unit played an active coordination role in the implementation of the National Country Programme for the elimination of substances that deplete the ozone layer.
- The NOU coordination functions were the key driving force for the project development and implementation. This terminal CFC phase out plan (TPMP) was prepared and designed by the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MoEPP), which is in charge of ozone issues in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.
- The implementation of investment and training activities required the coordination by the NOU on different levels: among governmental institutions, among implementing agencies (IA) and among national enterprises (numerous individual entrepreneurs in the refrigeration sectors and vocational training centres).

- The preparation and promotion of Import Permits for Substances that deplete the ozone layer controlled under the Montreal Protocol and Import Permits for equipment containing ODS, required interaction with the Cabinet of MoEPP.

Other issues

- Lessons learned related to on-going HPMP:
- The conceptual design of the HPMP in Macedonia was based on the positive results of TPMP.
- The training programme performed by the secondary vocational schools is improved with special attention for retrofit methods.
- The recovery and recycling scheme is also improved with new legislation as well with new recovery and recycling equipment. The recovery and recycling scheme applies not only for CFCs and HCFC, but also for HFCs.
- Training of the service technicians in secondary vocational schools will be sustainable for Stage II of the implementation of HPMP.
- Due to the frequent change of Customs officers, continuous training of Customs officers will be needed. NOU through its national experts could provide the training for Stage II of the implementation of HPMP.
- From the reports from service shops for recovered and recycled quantity of refrigerants, it is noticed that some amount of waste needs to be addressed in the future.
- In relation to sustainability of the project: NOU in Macedonia adopted several innovative approaches to implementation that are likely to ensure both immediate effectiveness and long-term sustainability of the project impact.
- The electro mechanical/refrigeration department in the local secondary vocational schools included ODS and Montreal Protocol related issues into its curricula ensuring the continuation of training activities upon completion of the project.
- The training programme covered the following areas: appropriate servicing and maintenance practices, new drop-in refrigerants, concepts of refrigerant recovery and recycling; proper handling of refrigerants, with a practical hands-on session.
- Annually, 30 graduates receive a diploma as refrigeration technicians. A positive example of this: The model leading to sustainability and the experiences gained from these programmes are shared within the region and beyond.
