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THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
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Montreal, 1-5 December 2025
Item 9(e) of the provisional agenda[1]

UNEP'S COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR 2026

Introduction

1. UNEP has submitted the budget for its Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) for 2026 at a total cost of US $11,276,967, plus agency support costs of US $902,157. The submission contains the 2025 progress report and the 2026 work programme, which are attached to the present document.

2. The proposed CAP 2026 work plan is submitted for the final year of the 3-year CAP strategy for 2024-2026.

2025 CAP progress report

3. The progress report is contained in Part II of the attached submission, with further details provided in the annexes. The submission describes relevant results and impacts from the CAP implementation. UNEP CAP implemented the following activities from September 2024 to August 2025:

(a) Continued operation of regional networks of national ozone officers (NOOs) in all 10 regions and organized 24 network and thematic meetings on topics relevant to Montreal Protocol compliance; trained 84 new NOOs and assistants in five regions through the NOO training programme to enhance the capacity of National Ozone Units (NOUs) to address emerging issues and facilitate information and best practice sharing; developed a short training on negotiation skills for effective participation in Montreal Protocol and Multilateral Fund meetings;

(b) Supported 34 countries requesting specific assistance through country-to-country exchanges, experience sharing, and study tours on topics such as border management, implementation and monitoring of minimum energy performance standards (MEPS), ODS and HFC destruction, and electronic platforms for HCFC and HFC quota tracking; held

[1] UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/97/1

Pre-session documents of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol are without prejudice to any decision that the Executive Committee might take following issuance of the document.

50 information sessions in seven regions to assist NOUs in developing methodologies for establishing inventories of used or unwanted controlled substances and identifying strategies and business models in line with decision 91/66;

(c) Provided compliance assistance and supported data collection in all 147 Article 5 countries; regularly monitored Article 7 and country programme (CP) data reporting; supported all NOUs in analyzing trade data, resolving inconsistencies and understanding annual aggregated export data from the Ozone Secretariat; informed NOUs of various approaches, such as through awareness-raising and education, to enhance their national Montreal Protocol monitoring, reporting, verification, and enforcement systems; promoted the informal Prior Informed Consent (iPIC) mechanism;

(d) Delivered customized compliance assistance in 59 countries; supported the implementation of institutional strengthening projects in 101 countries; supported training on online CP data reporting in 58 countries; provided guidance to interested NOUs from Group 2 countries on establishing HFC baselines and starting points for sustained reductions; supported 12 countries in ratifying the Kigali Amendment in collaboration with the Ozone Secretariat;

(e) Supported the adoption of legislative measures related to issues highlighted by the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP), such as fire suppression and refrigerant lifecycle management; assisted countries in establishing or enhancing HFC licensing and quota systems, and strengthening HCFC regulatory frameworks to combat illegal trade, and supported all NOUs to have an increased understanding of the technical and regulatory issues related to HFCs and alternatives used in mobile air-conditioning (MAC) and in the food cold chain sectors;

(f) Developed the HFC Quota Tracking and Monitoring Tool to help NOUs track HFC quota utilization in CO_2-equivalent tonnes to ensure Kigali Amendment compliance; provided 40 tools, including videos, applications, guides and training materials, developed by UNEP and its partners, for use in the delivery of customs and technician training (e.g., the UNEP-World Customs Organization (WCO) training manual for customs authorities, the United for Efficiency (U4E) model regulations guidelines for refrigerators, and the Air-conditioning and Refrigeration European Association (AREA) F-gas guide, an OzonAction/ClimaCheck article on sustainable cooling, and the What-Gas application);

(g) Continued capacity-building activities in countries to improve refrigerant handling, minimize leakages, and maintain/enhance the energy efficiency of refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) appliances; promoted the adoption of the UNEP-AREA training manuals and e-learning courses; assisted nine universities in integrating the UNEP-ASHRAE[2] university course on refrigerant management into the engineering curricula; provided technical and policy assistance for the development of national RAC certification programmes;

(h) Facilitated synergies between NOUs and national energy efficiency policymakers and financial focal points through the NOO and Energy Efficiency Policymaker Twinning workshops with 422 participants; followed up on the recommendations from phase I of the twinning project, including developing and sharing existing capacity-building materials on energy efficiency and low-global-warming-potential (GWP) refrigerants; and started the implementation of phase II of the project, including the provision of information and

[2] American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers

assistance to interested NOUs to enhance or establish policies and regulations to improve the energy efficiency of existing and new RAC equipment;

(i) Developed regional and global capacity-building products, including factsheets, publications, applications, and training manuals; maintained the OzonAction website; disseminated 22 biweekly OzoNews newsletters and three special editions; supported 30 public awareness activities such as World Ozone Day celebrations, workshops, Ozone2Climate roundtables and technology roadshows, and World Refrigeration Day;

(j) Supported the implementation of the Multilateral Fund's gender policy in CAP services and projects; supported NOUs in completing gender assessments with tools and resources; offered networking and mentorship opportunities through the International Network of Women in Cooling (INWIC); supported countries in integrating gender activities into HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) and Kigali HFC implementation plan (KIP) projects;

(k) Supported the preparation and submission of projects approved at the 95th and 96th meetings, including 34 HPMP tranches and new stages, 40 HPMP verification reports, 28 KIPs, 39 institutional strengthening projects, 20 preparation projects, 20 energy efficiency components under decision 89/6, one pilot project under decision 91/65, 35 projects on inventories and action plans for used or unwanted controlled substances, in line with decision 91/66; and

(l) Supported the implementation of HPMPs in 102 countries (75 as lead agency, 27 as cooperating agency), KIPs in 50 countries (32 as lead agency, 18 as cooperating agency), energy efficiency projects in 39 countries, and projects for the preparation of national inventories of used and unwanted substances and the subsequent action plans in 51 countries.

Report on technical and policy support for low-volume consuming countries to support KIP implementation

4. Through decision 93/95(d), the Executive Committee approved an increase in the CAP budget for 2024, 2025, and 2026 to provide technical and policy assistance to low-volume consuming (LVC) countries to support KIP implementation, on the understanding, inter alia, that UNEP would report on the technical and policy assistance activities provided to LVC countries and their impact as part of the CAP annual progress reports. At the 95th meeting, UNEP reported that special assistance to LVC countries was to be provided in four priority areas, selected based on their relevance, potential impact, and replicability across various LVC country contexts. Since the last report, the area to build NOU capacity for early action in the MAC sector and assess consumption trends has been replaced with a new priority area to build capacity in safe and sustainable cooling by strengthening occupational safety in the RAC sector. UNEP intends to continue supporting LVC countries under the four priority areas, now including the new one, and to hire consultants to supplement the CAP team's technical and policy expertise for KIP implementation in LVC countries. At the time of preparation of this document, UNEP indicated that two consultants had been hired for this purpose. The following activities were undertaken in each of the three original priority areas:

(a) *Strengthening the capacity of LVC countries to implement licensing and quota systems for HFCs and to collect data on HFC consumption trends*: UNEP selected two LVC countries to pilot initiatives and engaged a consultant to evaluate HFC licensing and quota systems, including data monitoring and reporting mechanisms, and analyze HFC consumption trends relative to baseline levels in the two selected LVC countries, focusing on the underlying drivers of fluctuations in consumption patterns, the specific requirements of domestic markets, and projections of future demand. The findings from both assessments will inform the development of factsheets/information materials, including one on methodologies used

for consumption trend analysis; these, together with the findings and outcomes of the assessments, will be disseminated through Montreal Protocol-related meetings;

(b) *Assisting NOUs in identifying consumption in the local installation and assembly subsector and to convert enterprises in this subsector to low-GWP alternatives through non-investment activities:* To create guidance and resources for all LVC countries, UNEP selected Zimbabwe to pilot activities as a replicable model. A small-scale funding agreement was signed, and a coordination meeting with the Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Association of Zimbabwe (HEVACRAZ) was held. A joint field mission was conducted to inspect various installation and assembly enterprises across Zimbabwe, and UNEP is currently undertaking stakeholder mapping and a readiness analysis including an assessment of legislation, regulations, and institutional barriers within the commercial refrigeration sector. Preparations are ongoing for a national sector-wide survey on refrigerant usage, technician certification, and readiness to adopt low-GWP technologies. These activities will support the development of a comprehensive readiness report, which will integrate a technical skills and policy gap assessment, as well as a mapping of equipment and an analysis of institutional weaknesses; the design and pilot of a national technician registry and incentive activities to enhance sector visibility and promote the adoption of low-GWP technologies; provide a practical commercial refrigeration toolkit comprising sizing software, technical checklists, and accompanying guidance materials; and foster sector engagement through targeted awareness materials and training resources, with content designed to be adaptable for replication in other LVC countries; and

(c) *Training for CAP staff on energy efficiency and MEPS*: Representatives from the CAP Latin America region participated in a training event that brought together regional stakeholders to explore energy efficiency policies across Latin America. Attendees gained insights into how energy efficiency can deliver multiple benefits, including economic development, improved public health, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions; energy efficiency policy options; and the exploration of energy efficiency in appliances and equipment, including the potential for harmonized standards, labeling programmes, and market transformation initiatives to drive improvements in energy performance. It has been planned that the CAP Asia and the Pacific region staff participate in specialized training on energy efficiency in December 2025.

2026 CAP work programme

5. The 2026 work plan has been developed in the context of the 2024-2026 strategy noted in decision 93/91(a). UNEP will implement the following activities in support of the outcomes identified under the three-year strategy and specific ones for 2026, as outlined in the complete work plan contained in Part I of the attached submission:

(a) Continue to provide technical assistance in monitoring, reporting, and implementation of institutional strengthening projects, and, upon request, country-specific assistance to Article 5 countries to address specified technical, policy or operational issues; organize network meetings in all 10 regions to address priority issues requested by network member countries, exchange information, and share experiences; continue training for all new NOOs and assistants to effectively manage national compliance programmes and to offer advanced training to interested officers to enhance the management of NOUs;

(b) Continue to assist interested NOUs in understanding the methodology for establishing inventories of banks of used or unwanted controlled substances and the identification of potential strategies and business models for their end-of-life management; encourage country-to-country activities for specific needs and promote South-South/North-South

cooperation; and support NOUs in exploring synergies related to the Kigali Amendment implementation;

(c) Monitor and support data reporting requirements, and support NOUs in the use of online reporting systems; continue to support Article 5 countries in identifying and adopting best practices for data collection, cross-checking, reconciliation, and reporting, especially for HFCs; assist NOUs in understanding HFC baseline calculations and the starting points for sustained aggregate reductions; provide guidance on establishing HFC baselines and monitoring compliance with the 2024 freeze control measure;

(d) Continue to assist Article 5 countries in developing, revising, and implementing policies, laws and regulations, including those related to licensing and quota systems, and enhancing monitoring, reporting, verification, and enforcement of HCFC and HFC regulations; continue to promote existing tools (e.g., handbook for data reporting, iPIC, quota calculators) and the adoption of electronic licensing systems; assist Article 5 countries that have not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment in doing so, and support Group 2 countries in introducing licensing and quota systems for HFCs; encourage policy measures related to fire suppression and refrigerant life-cycle management;

(e) Continue engaging with customs and enforcement agencies to integrate Montreal Protocol-related work into their operations and promote the use of digital tools and materials developed by UNEP and its partners (e.g., electronic tracking systems, shared enforcement databases, the Single Window customs system, HCFC Quota and Licence Tracker Desktop Application); support training for enforcement officers, cross-border collaboration, dialogue, and data sharing, and cooperation with customs brokers on the proper classification of refrigerants; encourage all NOUs to institutionalize cooperation with customs authorities; support interested NOUs to work with customs authorities to promote the adoption and/or implementation of the 2022 Harmonized System (HS) codes or otherwise adopt regional codes, national subcodes or other measures to facilitate the monitoring of individual HFC imports and exports; assist interested regional and sub-regional organization and national customs authorities to assess and align national tariff systems with individual HS code for HFCs under the 2027 HS code system; encourage NOUs to participate in the WCO's programme for transboundary trafficking in waste and ozone depleting substances; develop and disseminate an enforcement toolkit, a guide for combating illegal trade, and a report on recent trends in illegal trade;

(f) Continue implementing the global clearinghouse activities through, inter alia, the preparation and dissemination of targeted information and educational materials, and services to stakeholders in digital and printed formats, the publication of technical briefs on alternative refrigerants and technologies; maintenance of the OzonAction website and meeting portal; and dissemination of the OzoNews bi-weekly publication and three OzonAction Scoop special topical publications; promote support of the Montreal Protocol through regional awareness activities agreed by countries at network meetings; and encourage NOUs and customs authorities to participate in World Ozone Day, World Refrigeration Day, and World Customs Day to promote Montreal Protocol objectives and showcase monitoring and enforcement work;

(g) Support all NOUs with training in the refrigeration servicing sector through the provision of training products and information on alternative refrigerants and technologies, sound refrigerant management, guidelines and standards for their safe and responsible use, and the local installation and assembly sector; provide all NOUs with updated training curricula for servicing technicians to support their HPMP and KIP training activities; assist interested universities to integrate refrigerant management courses into their engineering curricula;

assist NOUs to cooperate with Technical Vocational Education and Training authorities with respect to RAC servicing sector training, and to strengthen their national RAC associations; provide guidance to NOUs on niche applications consuming HFCs and on establishing or enhancing technician certification programmes; promote Ozone2Climate roundtables and roadshows; continue to support NOU capacity related to HFCs and alternatives used in the MAC and cold chain sectors; and develop materials for technicians working in the informal sector;

(h) Continue to implement phase II of the twinning project for NOOs and energy efficiency policymakers and to follow up on recommendations from phase I; develop and/or share existing capacity-building materials related to energy efficiency and low-GWP refrigerants; continue providing updated training curricula for technicians on the installation and maintenance of energy-efficient RAC equipment, and to support NOUs in establishing policies or regulations to enhance the energy efficiency of RAC equipment including procurement policies for energy-efficient RAC appliances, and databases for refrigerant and energy performance of RAC appliances;

(i) Ensure that all UNEP-implemented Multilateral Fund projects include gender components, support NOUs in completing gender assessments in line with the Fund's gender policy; encourage and assist all NOUs in promoting the participation of women in the RAC sector through awareness raising, information, and training; continue to include gender in the context of national Montreal Protocol programmes, projects and activities, and as a topic at regional network meetings; and offer networking and mentorship opportunities through the INWIC; and

(j) Continue supporting project preparation, submission and implementation of HPMPs, KIPs, additional activities in HPMPs to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector, pilot projects to maintain and/or enhance energy efficiency of replacement technologies and equipment in the context of HFC phase-down, projects to support the preparation of national inventories of banks of used or unwanted controlled substances, and the preparation of verification reports; continue activities in priority areas to provide additional support to LVC countries.

Technical and policy support for low-volume consuming countries to support KIP implementation in 2026

6. In 2026, UNEP will use the special assistance to support LVC countries that have approved KIPs in the implementation stage, as well as those that would be submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration at the 97th and 98th meetings. This will be done through existing activities in the three originally identified priority areas and the newly added one, and by hiring an additional consultant to supplement the CAP team's technical and policy support for LVC countries to support KIP implementation. It is also expected that the other CAP teams (i.e., Africa, West Asia, Europe and Central Asia, and Global CAP) be trained on energy efficiency in 2026, depending on the availability of relevant specialized training programmes. As part of the 2026 CAP progress report, UNEP will provide a preliminary summary of the achievements of the first two years of these special additional allocations.

7. The new priority area, on safe and sustainable cooling through strengthened occupational safety in the RAC sector, is considered by UNEP as critical for many LVC countries, where the transition to low-GWP refrigerants presents both environmental and safety challenges due to limited technical capacity, regulatory enforcement, and access to safe technologies. The initiative is currently in the formulation stage and is expected to be implemented in four phases. These include: selecting pilot countries and assessing national policies against international safety standards to identify regulatory gaps; developing culturally resonant training materials such as pictorial warning labels, job aids, and illustrated brochures, and disseminating them via WhatsApp and community radio; creating a "Safety-Scan" mobile app to help technicians assess

risks in real time and support data collection and monitoring; and integrating lessons learned into national policies, including the adoption of Kigali-aligned occupational safety and health (OSH) regulations within national KIPs.

Changes in the CAP 2026 budget

8. The proposed CAP budget for 2026 of US $11,276,967, plus agency support costs of US $902,157 (8 per cent) is contained in Part III of the attached submission. The overall CAP budget includes the additional allocation of US $150,000 in decision 93/95 (budget line 3216) for technical and policy support for LVC countries to support KIP implementation. The total budget is 0.77 per cent higher than the budget approved in 2025 (i.e., US $11,191,331, also including the additional allocation of US $150,000 in decision 93/95, plus agency support costs). The proposed budget is below the maximum budget increase per annum of 3 per cent allowed by decision 47/24(a)(iii).[3]

Changes in the programmatic budget[4]

9. For activity lines, the proposed budget is based on a zero-growth scenario. The budget proposes a 3.00 per cent increase in staff lines to cover mainly inflationary costs for encumbered positions, a decrease of 0.70 per cent in travel costs, a 0.30 per cent increase in regional activity and meeting costs, and a reduction of 17.54 per cent in global services and advisory costs.

Changes in CAP staff [5]

10. UNEP has based the 2026 staff budget request on the cost of encumbered positions in 2025, plus a 3.00 per cent inflation adjustment. For vacant positions, UNEP used the official UN 2025 standard costs. UNEP is not proposing changes to the staff lines for 2026. In line with internal guidance about prudent budget management and organizational resilience, starting 21 February 2025, all UNEP job openings for positions of one year or longer are advertised as one-year Fixed-Term Appointment (FTA)-limited, and all OzonAction fixed-term positions are now subject to renewals for a maximum of one year.

Global advisory services

11. The reduction in global services is due to the exceptional allocation of US $150,000 in the 2025 budget (budget line 3213) to engage energy efficiency experts to support Article 5 countries with the submission of energy efficiency-related projects under the relevant Executive Committee decisions. Renewal of this budget line was not requested for 2026. The allocation was intended to be short-term and revisited in subsequent CAP budgets.

Travel, regional activities and meetings, and space and equipment components

12. The budget for these components is based on a zero-growth scenario, with minor adjustments, i.e., a US $4,000 decrease in the travel budget (0.70 per cent) and a US $4,000 increase in regional activity and

[3] Requests for future increases in the CAP budget would be limited to 3 per cent, unless the Executive Committee was given evidence that inflationary pressures justified otherwise.

[4] Decision 95/83(c)(ii): UNEP was requested in future submissions of the CAP budget, to continue extending the prioritization of funding between CAP budget lines so as to accommodate changing priorities and providing details, pursuant to decisions 47/24 and 50/26, on the reallocations made.

[5] Decision 95/83(c)(iii): UNEP was requested in future submissions of the CAP budget, to report on the current post levels of staff and informing the Executive Committee of any changes thereto, particularly with respect to any increased budget allocations.

meeting costs (0.30 per cent), which compensate for each other.[6]

Comparison of the budget for 2024-2026

13. In line with decision 95/83(c)(iv),[7] UNEP has provided a three-year comparison of the CAP budget, as shown in table 1.

Table 1: CAP budget for 2024-2026 (US $)

Budget item	2024			2025		2026
	Approved	Expenditure	Balance	Approved	Expenditure [a]	Proposed
Staff and consultants	7,626,200	6,743,871	882,329	7,854,531	7,381,500	8,090,167
Travel	548,000	548,000	0	575,400	575,400	571,400
Regional activities and meetings	[b]1,117,000	1,115,360	1,640	[c]1,316,400	1,316,400	1,320,400
Global services and meeting support	[d]750,000	407,088	342,912	[e]855,000	725,000	705,000
Space and equipment	590,000	480,575	109,425	590,000	570,000	590,000
Sub-total	**10,631,200**	**9,294,894**	**1,336,306**	**11,191,331**	**10,568,300**	**11,276,967**
Programme support cost	850,496	743,592	106,904	895,306	845,464	902,157
Total	**11,481,696**	**10,038,486**	**[f]1,443,210**	**12,086,637**	**11,413,764**	**12,179,124**

[a] Estimated expenditure as of 31 December 2025.
[b] Included expenditure on advisory and consultative meetings – budget line 4210.
[c] Budget line 4210 (meetings/support) removed from total to align with detailed budget in Part III of the submission going forward.
[d] Included global services budget lines 3210-3216 only.
[e] Included budget line 4210 (meetings/support) to align with detailed budget in Part III of the submission.
[f] Balance returned to the 97th meeting.

14. Balances from the 2024 CAP are being returned at the 97th meeting in the amount of US $1,336,306 plus agency support costs of US $106,904. Most of the balances being returned relate to staff lines for positions that were vacant for part or all of the year.

SECRETARIAT'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION

COMMENTS

15. The Secretariat reviewed the CAP budget submission and the changes in the programme and staffing in line with decision 95/83(c)[8] taking into account the overall structure of the CAP, its operations, regional structure and other relevant decisions.

[6] This is an adjustment of US $4,000, made in accordance with decision 95/83(c)(ii), which allows UNEP to extend the prioritization of funding between CAP budget lines to accommodate changing priorities.
[7] Decision 95/83(c)(iv): UNEP was requested in future submissions of the CAP budget, to continue providing a budget for the year in question, and a report on the costs incurred in the year prior to the last year, noting sub-paragraphs (d)(ii) and (d)(iii).
[8] Decision 95/83(c) requests UNEP, in future submissions of the CAP budget, to continue (i) providing detailed information on the activities for which the global funds would be used; (ii) extending the prioritization of funding between CAP budget lines to accommodate changing priorities, and to provide details, pursuant to decisions 47/24 and 50/26, on the reallocations made; (iii) reporting on the current post levels of staff and informing the Executive Committee of any changes thereto, particularly with respect to any increased budget allocations.

16. The Secretariat enquired whether UNEP had considered holding wide consultations in 2026, the final year of the 2024-2026 CAP strategy, to conduct a thorough review of the current strategy during the development of the 2027-2029 strategy with revamped activities. UNEP indicated that, as the 2024-2026 CAP strategy is approaching its final year, in 2026 UNEP OzonAction would hold consultations with key stakeholders to seek their input on how to better address the needs of Article 5 countries, and to reflect on lessons learned and innovative approaches.

17. In reviewing the proposal, the Secretariat observed that the activity to develop and pilot a short training course for NOOs on effective participation and negotiations in Montreal Protocol and Multilateral Fund meetings, included in the 2025 work plan, was included again in the 2026 work plan. UNEP explained that, with the arrival of the OzonAction capacity-building manager in February 2025, training materials have been prepared, and the pilot training is scheduled to take place in 2026. It was added that certain regions and countries have expressed interest in the pilot training.

18. To the Secretariat's question on how the CAP is providing support to strengthen data collection and analysis, UNEP indicated that data reliability has been a recurrent agenda item of regional network meetings. Supporting countries in conducting the surveys on ODS alternatives and those needed for KIP preparation has enhanced data accuracy. Guidance materials on data collection and analysis methodologies, as well as standardized questionnaires, have been prepared and circulated to countries through the networks. OzonAction has developed a KIP preparation kit that includes a checklist to support experts and NOUs in data collection. To strengthen data collection and analysis capacities, national and regional experts have also participated in dedicated capacity-building sessions. The CAP has compiled a report summarizing activities included in submitted KIPs and will continue to update this as more KIPs are approved. In addition, UNEP supports NOUs through the implementation of institutional strengthening projects, tailored training to new NOOs, and ad hoc technical assistance is also provided to address country-specific needs, including reconciling data from different sources to produce a single, accurate set of data for reporting.

19. In response to the Secretariat's query on how the CAP supports interested NOUs with updating their national Montreal Protocol legal frameworks and provides advisory support to draft or amend laws and regulations, UNEP indicated that OzonAction partners with the Montevideo Environmental Law Programme (MELP) under UNEP's Law Division to provide specialized legal support to Article 5 countries. The MELP team includes environmental law experts who, jointly with the technical expertise of the CAP regional teams, support NOUs in drafting and amending legal and regulatory frameworks needed for Montreal Protocol compliance and implementation.

20. The Secretariat also enquired about the status of the draft Global Communication Strategy to support compliance with the Montreal Protocol and the Kigali Amendment. UNEP indicated that it has been developed throughout 2025 and is being adjusted further to consultations held. It is expected to be finalized by the end of 2025.

21. Regarding the proposed 2026 budget, the Secretariat enquired about the unencumbered positions. UNEP explained that there are six positions, of which three are at an advanced stage of the recruitment process, with all internal processes expected to be completed by the first weeks of December, and that recruitment for the other three positions has started and is ongoing.

22. In reviewing the proposed 2026 CAP budget against the 2025 approved budget, the Secretariat observed that the additional funding included in 2025 to engage energy efficiency experts to support Article 5 countries had not been included in the 2026 proposal. The Secretariat therefore requested a report on the outcomes achieved with the additional funds (US $150,000) that had been approved in the 2025 budget under the global services line. UNEP indicated that the funding has not yet been allocated to either centralized or regional support for energy efficiency projects due to other programme considerations, and that consultations with the regional CAP teams are ongoing, aiming at obligating the funding prior to the 97th meeting. Any funding not obligated by the end of 2025 would be returned to the Multilateral Fund, as

per the normal practice. Table 2 presents a comparison between the 2025 approved CAP budget and the 2026 proposed budget.

Table 2. Comparison of the 2025 approved CAP budget and the 2026 proposed budget (US $)

Budget line	2025 Approved	2026 Proposed	Difference	Change (%)
1100 (staff personnel)	7,854,531	8,090,167	235,636	3.00
1600 (travel)	575,400	571,400	(4,000)	(0.70)
2030 (regional activities)	1,316,400	1,320,400	4,000	0.30
3200 (global services)	850,000	700,000	(150,000)	(17.65)
4210 (advisory and consultative meetings)	5,000	5,000	0	0.00
5200 (office operations/communication)	590,000	590,000	0	0.00
Total	**11,191,331**	**11,276,967**	**85,636**	**0.77**

RECOMMENDATION

23. In the light of the information provided by UNEP and the comments above, the Executive Committee may wish:

(a) To note the 2025 progress report and the 2026 work plan and budget for the UNEP Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP), as contained in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/97/83;

(b) To approve the CAP activities and budget for 2026 in the amount of US $11,276,967, plus agency support costs of 8 per cent amounting to US $902,157, noting the adjustments proposed therein; and

(c) To request UNEP, in future submissions of the CAP budget, to continue:

(i) Providing detailed information on the activities for which the global funds would be used;

(ii) Extending the prioritization of funding between CAP budget lines to accommodate changing priorities, and to provide details, pursuant to decisions 47/24 and 50/26, on the reallocations made;

(iii) Reporting on the current post levels of staff and informing the Executive Committee of any changes thereto, particularly with respect to any increased budget allocations; and

(iv) Providing a budget for the year in question, and a report on the costs incurred in the year prior to the last year, noting sub-paragraphs (c)(ii) and (c)(iii) above.

OZONACTION COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

2026 WORKPLAN, PROGRESS REPORT AND BUDGET

Submitted by
United Nations Environment Programme
to the 97th Executive Committee Meeting

24 September 2025

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INTRODUCTION

1. In its capacity as an Implementing Agency of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, UN Environment Programme (UNEP) is submitting this document for the consideration of the Executive Committee at its 97th meeting. The document comprises:

- Part I: 2026 CAP Workplan.
- Part II: Highlights of 2025 CAP Progress Report.
- Part III: 2026 CAP Budget.
- Annexes.

PART I: 2026 CAP WORKPLAN

Context of the 2024-2026 CAP Strategy

2. The proposed 2026 Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) Workplan and Budget has been developed in the context of UNEP's 2024-2026 CAP Strategy, which was noted by the Executive Committee at its 93rd meeting through Decision 93/91(a). [1] The strategy sets the overall vision and direction for UNEP in its capacity as an Implementing Agency of the Multilateral Fund during this three-year period. UNEP developed the strategy based on the current and anticipated needs of countries operating under Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol that have been identified from various sources and through consultations and interactions with concerned stakeholders. The strategy follows UNEP's Results Based Management approach.

3. UNEP's work under the Multilateral Fund revolves around certain major thematic areas that are critical for Article 5 countries with respect to their Montreal Protocol obligations and which relate to UNEP's specific mandate. When UNEP became an Implementing Agency on 19 June 1991, the Executive Committee entrusted UNEP with:

- Political promotion of the objectives of the Protocol.
- Research and data gathering, according to the provisions of the Protocol.
- Assistance in Clearinghouse functions as per Article 10 (3)(b) of the Montreal Protocol. [2]

4. UNEP fulfills this mandate through the Law Division's OzonAction Branch. The discharge of this mandate contributes directly or indirectly to UNEP's 2022-2025 Medium Term Strategy (MTS), which

[1] The full strategy is presented in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/93/94.
[2] The clearinghouse function comprises: (i) Assist Parties operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5, through country specific studies and other technical co-operation, to identify their needs for cooperation; (ii) Facilitate technical co-operation to meet these identified needs; (iii) Disseminate information and relevant materials, hold workshops and training sessions and other related activities for the benefit of Parties that are developing countries; and (iv) Facilitate and monitor other multilateral, regional and bilateral cooperation available to Parties that are developing countries. As a result of this mandate, UNEP is the only Implementing Agency that focuses on "non-investment" services and projects under the Multilateral Fund.

focusses on three interconnected planetary crises – climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. [3] The MTS employs seven interlinked sub-programmes for action: Climate Action, Chemicals and Pollutions Action, Nature Action, Science Policy, Environmental Governance, Finance and Economic Transformations and Digital Transformations. Most of UNEP's work under the Multilateral Fund falls under the Environmental Governance sub-programme, although some of it contributes to Climate Action as well.

5. UNEP's mission is to enable developing countries to meet and sustain their compliance obligations under the Montreal Protocol, which include several critical compliance milestones during the 2024-2026 period covered by the strategy.

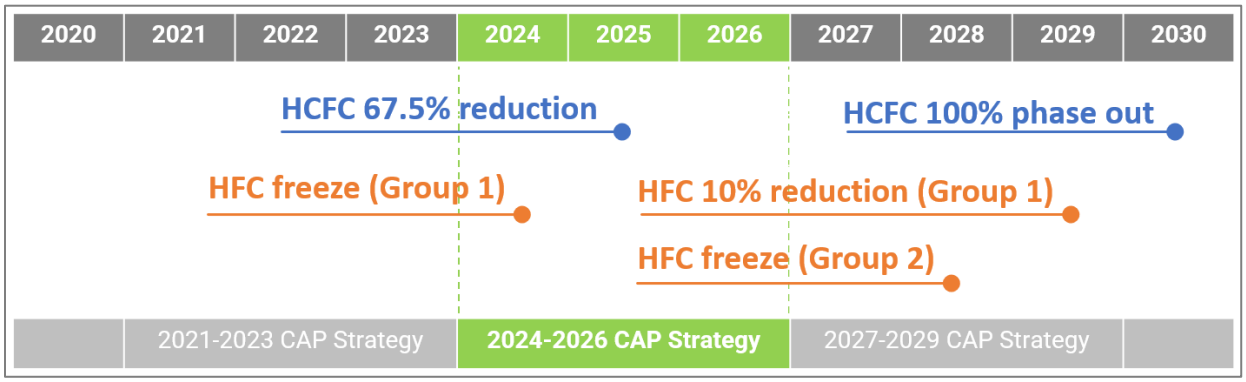


Figure 1. Milestones for Article 5 countries during the period covered by the 2024-2026 CAP Strategy.

2026 Workplan

11. This workplan proposes outputs that support the achievement of these outcomes. Through the implementation of this workplan, UNEP will continue using its comparative advantages to effectively assist Article 5 countries to meet and sustain compliance with their commitments under the Montreal Protocol and its Amendments. Note: The specific indicators for each of the following activities are presented in Annex 1 – Logical Framework Analysis for 2026.

OUTCOME 1
National Ozone Units effectively manage their national programmes

12. UNEP will deliver the following activities in 2026 to help achieve this outcome:

- Provide all Article 5 countries with IS projects approved for UNEP implementation with technical assistance to expedite the preparation, implementation, monitoring and reporting of IS phases as per Annex 2.

[3] https://www.unep.org/resources/policy-and-strategy/people-and-planet-unep-strategy-2022-2025.

- Provide support to any NOU requesting region- and country-specific compliance assistance needed to address specific technical, policy, or operational issues as per Annex 3, or as per ad hoc requests.
- Organise Regional Network meetings for Ozone Officers in all ten regions, including physical and/or online regional, sub-regional, inter-regional, and/or thematic meetings, so that all Ozone Officers and/or their assistants and key stakeholders can learn from peer-to-peer interaction and strengthen cooperation at the regional and international levels.
- Offer introductory training to all new Ozone Officers and/or their assistants to provide them with the basic skills, competencies and understanding of the Montreal Protocol and Multilateral Fund needed to effectively manage their national compliance programmes and projects.
- Offer advanced training to interested Ozone Officers to acquire advanced skills to further enhance her/his management of their NOUs.
- Develop and pilot a short training course for Ozone Officers on effective participation and negotiations in Montreal Protocol and Multilateral Fund meetings.
- Support NOUs requesting or needing specific support through country-to-country (south-south/north-south) cooperation facilitated by CAP, e.g., NOU-NOU meetings, study tours, technology roundtables.
- Assist NOUs to explore synergies related to Kigali Amendment objectives with national energy efficiency policies and financial mechanisms.

OUTCOME 2
Article 5 countries report accurate and timely data

13. UNEP will deliver the following activities in 2026 to help achieve this outcome:

- Regularly monitor the status of Article 7 and Country Programme data reporting to identify and avoid late submissions or risks of non-compliance and follow-up as needed with respect to the data reporting deadlines.
- Assist any NOUs requesting support with reviewing and/or reporting accurate Article 7 and/or Country Programme data and ensuring consistency between those two data sets.
- Assist all NOUs to understand and use the new online reporting systems for Article 7 and Country Programme data.
- Make all NOUs aware of best practices and methodologies for data collection, cross-checking and reporting requirements for all controlled substances and encourage the institutionalization of those processes.
- Encourage all NOUs to identify and analyse differences between their country's reported trade data and those reported by other countries with whom they trade and to resolve any inconsistencies with their counterparts, including assisting the NOUs with understanding the annual aggregated export data provided by the Ozone Secretariat.
- Offer interested NOUs guidance for establishment of their HFC baselines and starting points for sustained aggregate reductions in HFC consumption.
- Provide assistance to interested NOUs in Group 2 Article 5 countries with the establishment of their baselines and issues related to HFC data reporting.

- Regularly analyse HFC data for compliance with the 2024 freeze control measure to identify necessary actions needed to avoid potential non-compliance.

OUTCOME 3
Effective legal, regulatory and policy frameworks are in place and enforced

14. UNEP will deliver the following activities in 2026 to help achieve this outcome:

- Inform all NOUs about options, including best practices and preventative approaches involving awareness and education, to enhance their national Montreal Protocol monitoring, reporting, verification and enforcement (MRVE) systems.
- Assist all NOUs of Group 1 Article 5 Parties to the Kigali Amendment which have not yet established their HFC licensing systems, as well as NOUs in Group 2 countries, with the establishment of their HFC licensing systems.
- Assist all NOUs with existing HCFC and HFC licensing systems to operate, strengthen and/or enforce them.
- Assist all NOUs to design, establish and/or enforce their HFC quota systems.
- In collaboration with the Ozone Secretariat, assist all NOUs in Article 5 countries that have not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment to do so, including those in Group 2, to achieve universal ratification by the time of the Amendment's 10th anniversary in 2026.
- Provide guidance to all NOUs about the approaches, benefits, and best practices for electronic licensing systems to control HCFCs and HFCs.
- Assist NOUs already participating in the informal Prior Informed Consent (iPIC) mechanism to use it effectively to support enforcement of their licensing and quota systems, encourage more countries to join, and improve the system based on user feedback.
- Support interested NOUs with updating their national Montreal Protocol legal frameworks (e.g. standards, energy efficiency, illegal trade, HFCs, etc.) and provide technical/legal advisory support to draft or amend laws and regulations in cooperation with *inter alia* UNEP's Montevideo Environmental Law Programme.

OUTCOME 4
Imports and exports are controlled, and illegal trade is reduced/prevented

15. UNEP will deliver the following activities in 2026 to help achieve this outcome:

- Assist all NOUs requesting support to update, monitor or enforce their national regulations and policies to facilitate and monitor legal trade in controlled substances and to combat illegal trade through an integrated approach.
- Provide all NOUs with tools developed by UNEP and its partners for use in the delivery of their national Customs training, and, as appropriate, training of environmental inspectors and other law enforcement officers.
- Increase the awareness and understanding of all NOUs about critical Montreal Protocol customs issues, including best practices, risk profiling, second-hand or obsolete equipment imports, innovative approaches and ways to combat illegal trade in controlled substances.

- Encourage all NOUs through Regional Network meetings to explore the use of digital tools for enhanced customs and enforcement work such as Single Window, electronic tracking systems, e-licensing platforms, or shared enforcement databases.
- Make all NOUs aware of methods that support enforcement of national licensing systems, both at and beyond the Customs check point in domestic markets, including market surveillance and facility inspections.
- Facilitate cross-border coordination, dialogue and data sharing between interested NOUs, Customs agencies, and enforcement authorities for enhanced detection, prevention, and reporting of illegal trade in controlled substances.
- Encourage all NOUs to institutionalize cooperation with Customs Authorities, possibly through signing MoUs, and interact more closely with Customs agencies to promote regional and international action to combat illegal trade.
- Encourage and assist interested national Customs training academies to adopt the UNEP-WCO Customs Training Manual into their national curricula.
- Develop and disseminate an Enforcement Toolkit to be complemented with additional enforcement related themes and interactive exercises.
- Develop a guide on approaches for combatting illegal trade of controlled substances via online marketplaces and the feasibility of using artificial intelligence to identify such potentially illegal offers.
- Develop a report on the extent of illegal trade and its recent trends in cooperation with partner organizations.
- Assist interested NOUs to work with Customs to promote the adoption and/or implementation of the 2022 Harmonized System codes or otherwise adopt regional codes, national subcodes or other measures to facilitate the monitoring of individual HFC substances imports and exports.
- Collaborate with interested regional and/or sub-regional organization and national customs authority in identification of existing national tariff system to accommodate individual Harmonized System (HS) code for HFCs under 2027 HS code system.
- Support NOUs to strengthen inter-agency cooperation on enforcement issues through their customs and law enforcement participation in global enforcement operations, e.g. *Operation Demeter* coordinated by WCO and *Custos Viridis* coordinated by Europol.
- Encourage all NOUs to work with Customs brokers on the proper classification of refrigerants and their products, to improve data collection, verification reporting and border control.
- Strengthen collaboration with actors involved in the enforcement chain at the global, regional and national levels (e.g., Interpol, Europol, UNODC, and actors such as police, port authorities, environmental inspectors, prosecutors, judges), explore strategies for effectively combating illegal trade (e.g., awareness raising activities for prosecutors) and links to other crimes (e.g., corruption, tax invasion).
- Promote the concept of Green Customs and include related sessions in selected enforcement meetings.

OUTCOME 5
Key stakeholders and the public enthusiastically support national compliance programmes

16. UNEP will deliver the following activities in 2026 to help achieve this outcome:

- Prepare and disseminate targeted information, communications and educational materials and services to ensure that NOUs, key stakeholders and the public are well informed about priority topics related to the Montreal Protocol through digital and print media.
- Promote public support for the Montreal Protocol at the regional level through awareness activities agreed by the Regional Network members.
- Outreach Montreal Protocol issues at key international, regional, and national forums including those related to Montreal Protocol and climate.
- Maintain and enhance the OzonAction website (www.unep.org/ozonaction) and OzonAction Meeting Portal (www.ozonactionmeetings.org).
- Update the online OzonAction Knowledge Maps to provide NOUs and other stakeholders with access to key and recent data to support Montreal Protocol implementation.
- Produce and disseminate the OzoNews service on a bi-weekly basis.
- Produce and disseminate the OzonAction Scoop on topical subjects three times per year.
- Encourage and support national celebrations of World Ozone Day (WOD) on 16 September, including the development of specific materials.
- Encourage and support celebrations of World Refrigeration Day (WRD) on 26 June, in cooperation with the WRD Secretariat and refrigeration and air conditioning partners to promote Montreal Protocol objectives to policymakers and the public.
- Encourage NOUs and their customs authorities to participate in World Customs Day (WCD) on January 26 to showcase their joint work under the Montreal Protocol to monitor and control trade of controlled substances and combat illegal trade.
- Translate prioritised publications and tools into UN languages, depending on regional priorities and available resources.
- Implement a Global Communication Strategy to support compliance with the Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment.

OUTCOME 6
Non-ODS, low-GWP technology is adopted and used safely, and servicing sector workforce skills are strengthened

17. UNEP will deliver the following activities in 2026 to help achieve this outcome:

- Provide all NOUs with key information to make informed choices related to the refrigeration servicing sector, including up-to-date information on sound refrigerant management, alternative low- GWP refrigerants, guidelines and standards for their safe and responsible use, information on technologies including not-in-kind, and the installation and assembly sector.
- Provide all NOUs with updated training curriculum for servicing technicians to support their HPMP and KIP training activities to promote the sound and safe handling of refrigerants, minimization of leaks, and maintainance/enhancement of energy efficiency of RAC appliances.
- Assist interested universities to integrate the updated University Course-Refrigerant Management for Future Engineers into their engineering curriculum.

- Encourage and assist all NOUs to increase their cooperation with their Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) authorities with respect to RAC servicing sector training and certification programs.
- Provide interested NOUs with information and technical and policy assistance for developing national RAC certification programs.
- Develop easy to understand materials promoting safe and best practices for technicians working in the informal sector.
- Provide interested NOUs with guidance for the establishment and/or improvement of national certification systems using materials and lessons learned from the development of the Refrigerant Driving License (RDL) global qualification program.
- Encourage interested NOUs to strengthen their national/regional RAC associations, encourage them to interact regularly with their associations, and exchange best practices so that the associations have increased engagement in their countries' national Montreal Protocol activities.
- Encourage interested NOUs to provide increased attention to the food cold chain sector and to strengthen their cooperation with stakeholders in that sector.
- Support all NOUs to have an increased understanding of the technical and regulatory issues related to HFCs and alternatives used in mobile air conditioning (MAC).
- Support all NOUs to have an increased understanding of the certain niche applications consuming HFCs (e.g. hair removal).
- Promote Ozone2Climate roundtables and road shows in interested regions and countries.

OUTCOME 7
Energy efficiency is maintained or increased in the RAC sector

18. UNEP will deliver the following activities in 2026 to help achieve this outcome:

- Encourage interested NOUs to interact with their national energy efficiency policy makers and identify areas of cooperation to promote energy efficiency during the HFC phase-down.
- Follow up on the recommendations from Phase I (2023-2024) of the Ozone Officers-Energy Efficiency Policymakers Twinning project and begin implementing Phase II (2025–2027), including the development and dissemination of new capacity building materials.
- Provide all NOUs with updated technician training curricula on how to maintain energy efficiency of existing RAC equipment through best installation and servicing practices.
- Provide all NOUs with guidance on legislative and policy options to maintain and/or enhance energy efficiency of existing and new RAC equipment.
- Assist interested NOUs with the review of existing registration and approval procedures for RAC appliances from the energy efficiency and refrigerant perspectives and streamline registration/approval procedures to enable the countries to have databases for both refrigerant and energy performance of RAC appliance.
- Assist interested NOUs with the development of national procurement and development assistance policies for compliant RAC appliances/integration of high energy efficient and low GWP RAC appliances in the existing building codes.

- Decision 96/51: Provide all NOUs with information and experiences about the pilot projects on energy-efficiency revolving funds for end users through Implementing Agency presentations during Regional Network meetings.

OUTCOME 8
Gender issues and approaches are considered and addressed in Montreal Protocol programmes and projects

19. UNEP will deliver the following activities in 2026 to help achieve this outcome:

- Ensure that all UNEP-implemented Multilateral Fund projects include gender components.
- Assist NOUs to complete gender assessment as required by the Multilateral Fund's Gender Policy by providing a methodology and tools.
- Assist NOUs to identify the entry point to integrate gender into implementation workstreams of the Montreal Protocol.
- Provide all NOUs with Regional Network meetings to use as a forum when requested to further consider gender in the context of their national Montreal Protocol programmes, projects and activities.
- Offer interested women working in the RAC sector in Article 5 countries networking and mentorship opportunities through the International Network of Women in Cooling (INWIC), and assist interested countries to incorporate those activities into HPMP and KIP projects.
- Encourage and assist all NOUs to promote the participation and inclusion of women in the RAC sector and customs through awareness raising, information and training provided by CAP.

CONTRIBUTING TO ACHIEVING ALL OUTCOMES
Article 5 countries meet their commitments through effective and timely implementation of Multilateral Fund projects

20. UNEP will deliver the following activities in 2026 to help achieve this outcome:

<u>HCFC phase out</u>

- Support all Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare, submit and implement HPMP stages or tranches as Lead or Cooperating Agency, ensuring consistency of the project, Article 7 and Country Programme data sets.
- Assist all Article 5 countries with HPMP verification projects approved for UNEP implementation to have their HCFC consumption verified in a timely and effective manner and help them implement the recommendations in the verification reports.

<u>HFC phase down</u>

- Support all Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance, including those of Group 2, to prepare, submit and implement KIPs as Lead or Cooperating Agency, ensuring consistency of the project, Article 7 and Country Programme data sets.

<u>Unwanted controlled substances</u>

- Decision 91/66: Assist all Article 5 countries with inventory of banks of used or unwanted controlled substances projects approved for UNEP implementation to implement them in a timely and effective manner.

Energy efficiency projects

- Decision 89/6(b): Support all LVCs requesting UNEP assistance to prepare, submit and implement additional activities in their HPMPs under the special funding window to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector.
- Decisions 91/65 and 94/60: Support all Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare, submit and implement pilot projects to maintain and/or enhance energy efficiency of replacement technologies and equipment in the context of HFC phase-down.

Additional support to LVCs in 2026

21. As noted in the 2024-2026 CAP Strategy, UNEP prioritizes CAP assistance for low volume consuming countries (LVCs), which have specific needs and conditions, and which require tailored and continuing support. Through Decision 93/95 (d)(ii), the Executive Committee approved an increase in the CAP budget for the years 2024, 2025 and 2026 for providing technical and policy assistance to LVC countries to support KIP implementation. This year will be the third and final installment of that funding provision, noting that each year's approval has a unique duration of 24 months.

22. In 2026, UNEP will use this special assistance to support LVCs that have approved KIPs that are in the implementation stage, as well as those that would be submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration at the 97th and 98th meetings (for 2025 activities, see Section II, *CAP Progress Report: Report on technical and policy support for LVC countries to support KIP implementation*). This will be done through existing activities funded under the first installment of this assistance (Strengthen Capacity of LVCs on Licensing and Quota System and Consumption Trends; and Strengthening the Local Installation and Assembly Sector in Commercial Refrigeration for LVC Countries), Training of CAP staff on energy efficiency and MEPs, a new activity (Safe Sustainable Cooling for Africa: Strengthening Occupational Safety in the RAC Sector) and by hiring consultants to supplement the CAP team's technical and policy support for LVC countries to support KIP implementation. As part of 2027 CAP progress report, UNEP will provide a preliminary summary of the achievements of the first two years of this special assistance.

PART II: HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025 CAP PROGRESS REPORT

Introduction

23. This report provides highlights of the progress made by UNEP in the implementation of the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) and results achieved for the period September 2024 - August 2025, i.e., since the submission of the previous CAP Progress Report. Progress is presented according to

the eight outcomes and 85 activities and indicators listed in the Logical Framework Analysis of the 2025 CAP Strategy [4].

24. Highlights of UNEP's achievements are provided in the summary below. More details can be found in the section that follows, as well as in Annex 5 – *Details of 2025 CAP Progress Report*, Annex 7 – *Progress report on global CAP activities*; Annex 8 – *Report on the use of CAP staff time*; and Annex 9 – *Meetings and workshops organized by CAP.*

Highlights

25. During the period September 2024 - August 2025, UNEP made significant progress in assisting Article 5 countries in meeting and sustaining compliance with their Montreal Protocol obligations through the delivery of the planned CAP activities and services. Overall achievements include the following:

- The 2025 CAP Progress Report demonstrates UNEP OzonAction significant contribution to support Article 5 countries in sustaining their commitments through a combination of targeted national support, regional cooperation, training, and policy guidance. CAP sought to continue to be responsive to emerging challenges, including institutional changes, compliance challenges, and obligations under the Kigali Amendment.
- Across all regions, UNEP OzonAction provided assistance for over 100 country-specific technical assistance activities, convened 24 regional and thematic network meetings, and supported 147 cases of data collection and reporting to prevent non-compliance. Special emphasis was placed on establishing and enforcing HFC licensing and quota systems, enhancing customs enforcement capacity, and building synergies between ozone protection, energy efficiency, and climate policy. Gender integration was also considered across activities, with new opportunities created for women's engagement in the Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning (RAC) sector.
- A central achievement in 2025 was the integration of energy efficiency into Montreal Protocol activities. Through the completion of Phase I of the Ozone Officers–Energy Efficiency Policymakers Twinning Project, UNEP built bridges between National Ozone Units (NOUs), energy policymakers, and financial focal points across all regions. This initiative not only strengthened technical knowledge and policy coordination but also produced regional and global reports with actionable recommendations on maintaining or enhancing energy efficiency during the HFC phase-down. Article 5 countries were supported with technician training, legislative options, and pilot projects, ensuring that efficiency gains are sustained in both new and existing RAC systems.
- Another area of focus was support to low-volume consuming (LVC) countries, which face unique compliance challenges due to their small size and limited resources. UNEP OzonAction provided LVC-targeted technical and policy assistance for the design and implementation of Kigali Implementation Plans (KIPs) and HPMP activities. Tailored missions, country-specific training, and contractual arrangements ensured that LVC countries could strengthen their NOUs, improve data reporting, and introduce low- Global Warming Potential (GWP) technologies while maintaining energy efficiency. These efforts helped safeguard the compliance of some of the most

[4] UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/97/94

vulnerable Parties to the Protocol, while also ensuring that they benefit from w funding opportunities under the Multilateral Fund.

- Overall, during the reporting period, Article 5 countries have continued to strengthen their institutional and technical capacities, enabling them to sustain compliance while working to meet obligations under the Kigali Amendment and related energy efficiency objectives.

26. Highlights of the achievements based on the outcomes include:

Outcome 1: National Ozone Units effectively manage their national programmes

- Provided support to NOUs to ensure they function effectively, and Institutional Strengthening (IS) projects are implemented. Technical assistance was provided to NOUs through 101 IS projects, including their preparation, implementation, and monitoring. *As a result, most NOUs were able to deliver their IS activities, strengthen institutional structures, focused on compliance with the Montreal Protocol reporting obligations and phaseout targets, and national stakeholders and public are supportive of Montreal protocol objectives.*
- 107 region- and country-specific services were delivered to address technical, policy, and operational challenges. These included support for HFC licensing systems, compliance missions, and project troubleshooting. For example, missions were conducted to Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Tonga, Kiribati, Nauru, Vanuatu, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Papua New Guinea to review the status of Multilateral Fund project implementation, identify country-specific implementation challenge and provide country-specific support and advice to the NOO and stakeholders during the mission. *As a result, countries received targeted solutions to prevent delays and potential non-compliance.*
- Provided a platform for exchanges among NOUs and key partners to cultivate experience and best practices sharing through 24 regional and thematic network meetings, reaching all ten CAP regions. Examples include the joint South Asia–West Asia meeting in India, thematic workshops on KIP design in Mombasa, and a youth-focused workshop in Belize. These meetings discussed such issues as suitable long term alternative technologies for the air conditioning sector, national inventory of ODS/HFC banks, strategies for management of unwanted controlled substances, and sustainable cooling. *As a result, countries received support to deal with emerging issues, information and good examples were shared, and networking was enhanced.*
- 84 new Ozone Officers and assistants across Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Africa, South-East Asia, Pacific Islands countries, West Asia and Caribbean regions were trained, ensuring they gained the fundamental skills to manage national compliance programmes. While advanced training and negotiation skills workshops were postponed, preparations are underway to launch them in the next cycle. Two regions benefited from training environmental inspectors for the first time. *As a result, new NOUs acquired the core skills needed to implement Montreal Protocol activities at the national level through enhanced knowledge and resources/*
- 34 activities were delivered in the context of South-South and North-South cooperation. Examples include study visits to Singapore and the Philippines on energy efficiency and electronic licensing systems, a technology roundtable in Serbia, and bilateral collaboration between West Asian countries on certification schemes. *As a result, countries shared practical*

experiences on technology, policy, and enforcement. These exchanges deepened regional cooperation and transferred practical solutions to existing challenges.

- In exploring synergies related to Kigali Amendment objectives with national energy efficiency policymakers the first phase of the Twinning Project was completed with 422 participants brought together from nine networks. NOUs collaborated with national energy efficiency and finance focal points, strengthening technical and policy linkages under the Kigali Amendment. A proposal for Phase II of the Twinning Project was formulated reflecting the evolving needs of countries under the Kigali Amendment and placing greater emphasis on strengthening national policy frameworks, deepening technical capacity, and enhancing inter-agency coordination. *As a result, NOUs deepened collaboration with energy efficiency policymakers and laid the groundwork for Phase II of the Twinning Project.*
- In support of the ODS/HFC Banks & Lifecycle Management UNEP OzonAction supported 50 projects and sessions across all regions on inventories of unwanted substances. Countries piloted strategies conducted site visits to destruction facilities, and shared methodologies for data collection and analysis. *As a result, countries have advanced plans for managing used or unwanted controlled substances.*

Outcome 2: Article 5 countries report accurate and timely data

- Monitored Article 7 and Country Programme data reporting for 147 countries, providing reminders, technical guidance, and tailored support. For example, a session on the new online Country Programme data reporting system was organized during the Network Meeting for South Asia National Ozone Officers held in Bangkok, a follow-up support was provided to Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras on online Country Programme data reporting in cooperation with the Multilateral Fund Secretariat and to Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Suriname on the submission of 2023 A7 data to avoid potential non-compliance. *As a result, countries avoided late submissions and strengthened compliance.*
- 59 countries received direct support for data collection and accuracy checks. For example, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova were assisted in preparing their KIP baselines, assistance was provided to Pacific Island Countries (PICs) with reconciling import/export data, and targeted assistance was delivered to Grenada, Suriname, and Saint Kitts and Nevis to prevent potential non-compliance. *As a result, inconsistencies were reduced and reporting improved.*
- In collaboration with the Multilateral Fund Secretariat, UNEP OzonAction organized orientation sessions to ensure NOUs have a good understanding of the revised formats and could use the platforms effectively. Timely reminders and one-on-one assistance were provided to countries experiencing technical difficulties.
- Over 50 training sessions, reminders, and technical sessions were delivered to enhance NOUs understanding of the new online system guidelines for data reporting and accessing A7 data reporting system and the new online Country Programme reporting system. *As a result, awareness of NOUs on the use of online reporting platform was raised.*
- Methodologies and best practices were shared with 147 NOUs, encouraging cross-checking, reconciliation, use of multiple data sources, and analysis of discrepancies with trading partners. *As a result, national data quality was strengthened.*
- HFC Quota Tracking and Monitoring Tool were pilot tested in two countries aiming to help countries calculate allocations in CO_2-equivalent terms and compare them against quotas.

- NOUs from Group 2 countries were provided with information to establish their HFC baselines and the starting point for sustained aggregate reductions in HFC consumption. NOUs received support in identifying and resolving discrepancies between national and partner country trade data, including use of Informal Prior Informed Consent (iPIC). Through network meetings, country missions, and consultations with National Ozone Officers (NOOs), countries were assisted with HFC data collection, considering new usage sectors and baseline calculations. *As a result, countries improved accuracy and transparency.*

Outcome 3: Effective legal, regulatory, and policy frameworks

- A number of sessions on monitoring, reporting, verification and enforcement (MRVE) systems were organized in different regions. Countries in Latin America for example were informed about the best practices and preventative approaches to enhance their national MRVE systems, some regions identified the need of the network to further strengthen collaboration with the customs authorities on MRVE systems through the existing mechanisms.
- Article 5 countries received assistance in establishing and enforcing HCFC/HFC licensing and quota systems, including electronic systems. Special attention was given to countries in Group 1 that had not yet operationalized HFC licensing. Electronic licensing systems were introduced to Kenya, Namibia, Rwanda, and Zimbabwe, while also countries like Bhutan received support to set up quota management tools. Best practices on establishing electronic systems to improve monitoring and control were promoted.
- NOUs from Parties which have not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment received support for their national ratification processes, including targeted assistance in Africa, South Asia, and West Asia. For example, missions and consultations were carried out in the Central African Republic, Iran, Nepal, and Pakistan, aiming these countries to overcome institutional and political barriers to ratification.
- Support was provided in drafting or amending national regulations as part of countries' national legal frameworks, with UNEP technical/legal advisory input. Examples include strengthening enforcement provisions, integrating energy efficiency into refrigerant regulations, and designing Monitoring, Reporting, Verification, and Enforcement systems. Engagement model is being developed to secure cooperation with UNEP's Montevideo Environmental Law Programme.
- Countries were encouraged to join and effectively use the iPIC mechanism to enhance compliance and trade controls.

Outcome 4: Imports and exports controlled; illegal trade reduced

- NOUs received support in updating and implementing regulations to monitor trade in controlled substances and prevent and combat illegal trade. Collaborated with WCO on a number of activities, including information notes, training materials, information about enforcement operations. Encouraged NOUs to set up electronic licensing and tracking systems to improve transparency.
- Supported national and regional workshops and sessions with customs and/or on customs matters. Regional network meetings facilitated discussions on enforcement matters such as electronic tracking and establishing national and regional HS codes for HFCs.
- Strengthened engagement with international enforcement partners such as Interpol, Europol, and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), linking refrigerant smuggling with broader crime prevention strategies. Encouraged all NOUs in the regions to participate in the

online briefing sessions on the World Customs Organization (WCO) enforcement Operation Demeter and Police enforcement operation Custos Viridis led by Europol and encourage them to promote their countries' participation in the enforcement operations. This approach recognized that combating illegal trade requires multi-agency cooperation at national, regional, and global levels.

- Supported NOU-Customs Border Dialogues to strengthen collaboration at national borders and promote the Green Customs Initiative.

Outcome 5: Stakeholder and public support

- Produced OzoNews (bi-weekly), factsheets, leaflets, and toher supporting materials, maintained the OzonAction website and Meeting Portal, and updated Knowledge Maps to provide accessible data.
- Promoted tools and materials produced by the OzonAction through national, regional, and global activities, e.g. WhatGas application and Refrigerant Identifier Video, iPIC online platform, to new a few.
- Public awareness was raised through support for international days of action: World Ozone Day (September 16), World Refrigeration Day (June 26), and World Customs Day (January 26). These events helped highlight national achievements and mobilize public and political support for Montreal Protocol objectives.
- Engaged with global and regional fora to link Montreal Protocol objectives with climate and sustainable development agendas, ensuring ozone issues remained visible in wider policy dialogues.
- Key materials were translated into UN languages based on regional demand.

Outcome 6: Adoption of low-GWP technology and workforce skills

- Continued to equip NOUs with information and curricula to guide refrigerant management and safe adoption of alternatives. Updated training materials for technicians were disseminated, with emphasis on leak reduction, energy efficiency, and safe handling of flammable refrigerants.
- Certification schemes advanced, with UNEP promoting the Refrigerant Driving License (RDL) concept and supporting countries to build or strengthen national systems. Cooperation with Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions and universities was encouraged, with initiatives to integrate refrigerant management into engineering education.
- Special focus was placed on the cold chain and mobile air conditioning sectors, both of which are critical for compliance and food security. South-South cooperation, including site visits to destruction facilities and manufacturers, helped NOUs and technicians learn best practices.

Outcome 7: Energy efficiency in the RAC sector

- Energy efficiency gained new prominence in 2025 as countries linked Kigali obligations with sustainable cooling goals. UNEP concluded Phase I of the Twinning Project, holding eight regional workshops with 422 participants. These workshops brought NOUs together with energy efficiency policymakers and financial focal points, fostering a culture of collaboration across traditionally separate sectors.
- The workshops produced region-specific reports and a consolidated global report highlighting lessons learned and actionable recommendations. Common themes included the need for

integrated regulatory frameworks, financing models such as "cooling as a service," and stronger inter-agency coordination.

- Provided guidance on integrating energy efficiency into RAC legislation and building codes. Countries were assisted in reviewing registration/approval procedures and developing procurement policies for efficient RAC appliances.

Outcome 8: Gender integration

- Strengthened gender related efforts by ensuring all Multilateral Fund projects included gender considerations in line with Multilateral Fund Gender Policy. Tools and methodologies for gender assessments were provided to NOUs, and discussions on gender were integrated into regional network meetings.
- Promoted women's participation in the RAC sector through mentorship opportunities with the International Network of Women in Cooling (INWIC). UNEP also encouraged NOUs to actively include women in customs and enforcement training, expanding their representation in traditionally male-dominated fields.
- Supported awareness-raising, training, and information-sharing to increase women's participation in RAC and customs.

OVERARCHING: Article 5 countries meet their commitments through effective and timely implementation of Multilateral Fund projects

- Assisted Article 5 countries with the preparation and submission of 154 projects approved at the 95th and 96th Executive Committee meetings – including 34 HPMP tranches and new stages, 40 HPMP verification projects, 28 KIP preparation and submission projects, 50 KIP implementation projects, 20 energy efficiency components under decision 89/6, 1 pilot project under decision 91/65, and 35 ODS banks and disposal projects under decision 91/66. As a result, most countries submitted project proposals on time and in line with UNEP's Business Plan, though some regions faced delays for which UNEP is providing priority support.
- Supported the implementation of HPMPs in 102 countries (75 as Lead Agency and 27 as Cooperating Agency) and KIPs in 50 countries (32 as Lead Agency and 18 as Cooperating Agency), alongside the implementation of 39 energy efficiency projects. As a result, Article 5 countries remained on track with their Montreal Protocol obligations, HCFC phase-out was sustained, and KIP implementation was effectively initiated.

2025 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

In commemoration of 2025 International Women's Day, the significant progress and the ongoing challenges in achieving gender equality within the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) sector, known globally as HVACR (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration) was highlighted. Initiatives from around the world, including countries such as Grenada, North Macedonia, Sierra Leone, Armenia and Peru, are paving the way for a more inclusive and equitable industry.

ASSESSING RAC PLANT SUSTAINABILITY TOOL BY ASHRAE WITH SUPPORT FROM UNEP

SHARE THIS

To achieve energy-efficient, safe, and environmentally sustainable performance, RAC plants must meet key parameters in eight dimensions of practice plus the use of appropriate tools and servicing techniques.

To enable plant managers and service technicians to assess their progress, ASHRAE and UNEP OzonAction have developed Best Practices Checklists describing the mindset needed for each dimension of practice, objective, required actions, measures of success, and additional resources.

The checklists are supported by guidance sheets providing instructions on the steps to be taken.

There is no cost to access the checklists, but registration is required. Registration enables UNEP and ASHRAE to send free updates and solicit feedback.

Checklists

- **Safe Storage and Proper Handling of Refrigerants**
- **Periodic Leak Checking and Proper Documentation**
- **Preventive Maintenance of Equipment**
- **Preventive Maintenance of Automatic Controls**
- **Energy-Efficient Operation**
- **Proper Commissioning and Recommissioning Practices**
- **Proper Disposal of Equipment and Refrigerant**
- **Competencies of Operating and Service Personnel**

ASHRAE

UN environment programme

OzonAction COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

Visit ASHRAE UNEP Portal

GLOBAL CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT OPERATION DEMETER X

The tenth iteration of WCO Operation DEMETER, which targets illicit wastes, ozone depleting substances (ODS) and potent greenhouse gases, took place over eight weeks in the second semester of 2024. It saw the participation of a record 110 Customs administrations and led to 450 seizures. UNEP OzonAction has been a committed partner in DEMETER operations since 2019 when the Montreal Protocol was added to the scope of the operation, providing technical expertise, capacity-building support and networking opportunities among national Customs and ozone officers, particularly to developing countries under the Montreal Protocol.

Outcomes of the operation DEMETER X:

- **450 seizures** were reported by **42.7% of participating administrations**—a **28.2% increase** from 2023.
- **99 seizures** involved **ODS, HFCs, or equipment** containing controlled substances, reported by **17 Members**—a **70% rise** in reporting administrations and a **115% surge** in seizures compared to DEMETER IX.
- **344,625.9 kg** of ODS & HFCs were intercepted, alongside **24,198.9 kg** and **11,620 pieces** of non-compliant equipment.

HFCs were the most-seized illicit commodity in the 2024 operation, reflecting disparities in phase-down schedules between developed and developing countries. High demand, coupled with attempts to bypass licensing systems, has created a lucrative black market. Smugglers exploit countries with remaining production quotas, shipping banned substances to regions where quotas are dwindling.

Additionally, Customs officials noted a rise in seizures of older equipment containing phased-out ODS/HFCs, as well as newer non-compliant devices. Equipment with obsolete refrigerants may fall under both the Basel Convention (as e-waste) and the Montreal Protocol, requiring close collaboration between Customs and environmental authorities to classify and act. During DEMETER X, eight administrations reported 27 seizures of illegal equipment, weighing over 24 metric tons, plus an additional 11,620 individual units.

PART III: 2026 CAP BUDGET

Overview of proposed 2026 budget

Summary

1. While developing this budget proposal, UNEP considered feedback received from Article 5 countries about their needs related to early preparation for the total phase out target for HCFCs in 2030, maintaining the HFC freeze and preparing for the upcoming reduction targets (Group 1 countries), preparing for the upcoming HFC freeze (Group 2 countries), new Kigali Amendment responsibilities, and recent developments under the Montreal Protocol. The proposal also reflects UNEP's internal analysis of the CAP structure, staff roles and responsibilities, and the distribution of resources within CAP. It also considers the funds returned to the previous Executive Committee as an indication of actual expenditure. UNEP continues to exercise due diligence and optimise activities and costs to ensure the most efficient use of funds.

2. UNEP undertook an in-depth review of the actual annual expenditures for the CAP for the period 2024-2025 and this was compared with the partial expenditures for the current year up to 25 August 2025 to make projections for 2026. In accordance with Decision 95/83(c)(iv), Table 1 presents a proposed budget for 2026 and a report on the costs incurred in the prior years.

3. To deliver the planned comprehensive compliance assistance services to Article 5 countries during 2026, UNEP requests Executive Committee approval of US$ 12,179,124, which consists of a project cost of US$ 11,276,967 and programme support costs (PSC) of US$ 902,157 (8%). For personnel lines, this request reflects a 3% increase on staff lines to cover inflationary costs for encumbered positions and year 2025 UN standard costs for vacant positions. For activity lines, this request is based on a zero-growth scenario. This increase includes the US$ 150,000 allocated to UNEP for technical and policy support for low-volume consuming (LVC) countries to support KIP implementation as per Decision 93/95 (d)(ii).

4. In total, this request represents an increase of 0.77% compared to the 2025 budget. The proposed budget is within the 3% threshold that is allowed under Executive Committee Decision 47/24 (a)(iii), which limits the increase in the CAP budget to that amount unless the Executive Committee is given evidence that inflationary pressures justify otherwise.

5. Based on the projected requirements, UNEP proposes a 2026 budget level that is realistic and sufficient to cover CAP operations, noting that UNEP continues to return all unspent balances from CAP to the Executive Committee in a timely manner in accordance with Decision 35/36(d).

Personnel component

6. UNEP has based the 2026 staff costs for encumbered positions on the projected actual costs for those positions, which reflect real costs that are being incurred during the current year (i.e., 2025), plus a

3% increase to account for inflation. It is important to note that staff entitlements and benefits change from year to year and from duty station to duty station, in accordance with the UN staff regulations and rules, and final costs incurred can vary depending on the number of dependents, education grant entitlement, home leave, etc. applicable in a particular year. For vacant positions, UNEP has used the official UN 2025 standard costs since the actual costs for those positions will only be known after they are encumbered. These two factors have resulted in slight adjustments to the costs of all staffing lines.

Changes to existing staff lines

7. UNEP is not proposing any changes to the staff lines for 2026.

8. In line with the Executive Director's guidance about prudent budget management and organizational resilience, starting from 21 February 2025 all UNEP job openings for positions of one year or longer are advertised as Fixed-Term Appointment (FTA)-limited and all appointments are renewed for a maximum of one year. All OzonAction positions are now subject to this approach.

Structure

9. UNEP's continued high level of performance as an Implementing Agency of the Multilateral Fund, thanks to the expertise, dedication, and hard work of the Regional and Global CAP teams in five duty stations. Over the years, these Montreal Protocol professionals have evolved both individually and collectively to meet the ever-changing needs of Article 5 countries and to adjust to the evolution of the Montreal Protocol, including the new Kigali Amendment developments. This flexibility and ability to adapt quickly to respond to country needs is one of the hallmarks of CAP. An organigram describing the structure of CAP for 2026 follows.

Table 1: 2024-2025 approved CAP budgets, actual expenditures and balances, and proposed 2026 budget (US$)

Budget item	2024			2025				2026
	Approved	Actual expenditures	Estimated balances as of 31-Dec-2025	Approved	Estimated expenditure as of 24-Aug-2025	Estimated expenditure as of 31-Dec-2025	Projected balance as of 31-Dec-2025	Proposed 2026 Budget
Staff and personnel	7,626,200	6,743,871	882,329	7,854,531	4,917,042	7,381,500	473,031	8,090,167
Travel	548,000	548,000	0	575,400	425,902	575,400	0	571,400
Regional activities and meetings	1,117,000	1,115,360	1,640	1,316,400	713,477	1,316,400	0	1,320,400
Global services	750,000	407,088	342,912	855,000	254,886	725,000	130,000	705,000
Space and equipment	590,000	480,575	109,425	590,000	399,374	570,000	20,000	590,000
Sub-total	**10,631,200**	**9,294,894**	**1,336,306**	**11,191,331**	**6,710,681**	**10,568,300**	**623,031**	**11,276,967**
PSC	850,496	743,592	106,904	895,306	536,855	845,464	49,842	902,157
Grand total	**11,481,696**	**10,038,486**	**1,443,210***	**12,086,637**	**7,247,536**	**11,413,764**	**672,873**	**12,179,124**

* Balances to be returned to the 97th meeting of the Executive Committee.

2026 budget proposal

Budget Line	Component	Location	w/m	Grade	Approved CAP 2025	Proposed CAP 2026
10	**PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT**					
	Title/Description					
1101	Head of Branch	Paris	12	D-1	292,520	292,520
1102	Montreal Programme Officer – ECA/Global Capacity Building	Paris	12	P-3	180,600	180,868
1103	Montreal Protocol Senior Programme Management Officer – Capacity Building	Paris	12	P-5	245,800	295,610
1104	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer	Paris	12	P-4	202,910	228,660
1105	Montreal Protocol Senior Coordination Officer – ExCom	Paris	12	P-5	192,610	223,510
1106	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer	Paris	12	P-3	180,600	180,600
1107	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer – ExCom/Partnerships	Paris	12	P-3	199,820	199,820
1108	ECA Montreal Protocol Regional Coordinator	Paris	12	P-4	256,470	260,317
1109	Montreal Protocol Coordinator International Partnerships	Paris	12	P-5	278,500	278,500
1121	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer – South-East Asia & PICs	Bangkok	12	P-4	182,310	196,215
1122	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer – South Asia	Bangkok	12	P-4	201,880	201,880
1123	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer – South-East Asia & PICs	Bangkok	12	P-3	201,880	201,880
1124	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer – South Asia	Bangkok	12	P-3	200,850	200,850
1125	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer – South-East Asia & PICs	Bangkok	12	P2	160,000	164,800
1126	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer – South Asia	Bangkok	12	P2	160,000	164,800
1131	Montreal Protocol Regional Coordinator - West Asia	Beirut	12	P-4	282,220	290,687
1132	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer – West Asia	Beirut	12	P-3	188,490	194,145
1141	Montreal Protocol Regional Senior Coordinator – Francophone Africa	Nairobi	12	P-5	293,550	293,550
1142	Montreal Protocol Regional Senior Coordinator – Anglophone Africa	Nairobi	12	P-5	293,550	293,550
1143	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer – Anglophone Africa	Nairobi	12	P-3	257,500	257,500
1144	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer – Francophone Africa	Nairobi	12	P-3	202,910	206,465
1145	Montreal Protocol Associate Officer Anglophone Africa	Nairobi	12	P-2	173,761	173,761
1146	Montreal Protocol Associate Officer – Francophone Africa	Nairobi	12	P-2	176,130	176,130
1147	Montreal Protocol Programme Management Officer – Global	Nairobi	12	P-4	212,180	257,812
1151	Montreal Protocol Regional Coordinator – Latin America	Panama	12	P-4	234,840	249,769
1152	Montreal Protocol Regional Coordinator – Caribbean	Panama	12	P-4	186,430	199,575
1153	Montreal Protocol Information Manager – Latin America/Global	Panama	12	P-4	234,840	234,840
1154	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer – Caribbean	Panama	12	P-3	181,280	181,280
1155	Montreal Protocol Programme Officer – Latin America	Panama	12	P-3	234,840	195,790
1301	Principal Assistant HOB	Paris	12	G-7	127,000	127,000
1302	Programme Assistant – Regional Networks	Paris	12	G-6	112,270	112,270
1303	Programme Assistant – Clearinghouse	Paris	12	G-6	114,330	114,330
1304	Programme Assistant – Europe & Central Asia	Paris	12	G-6	107,120	109,178

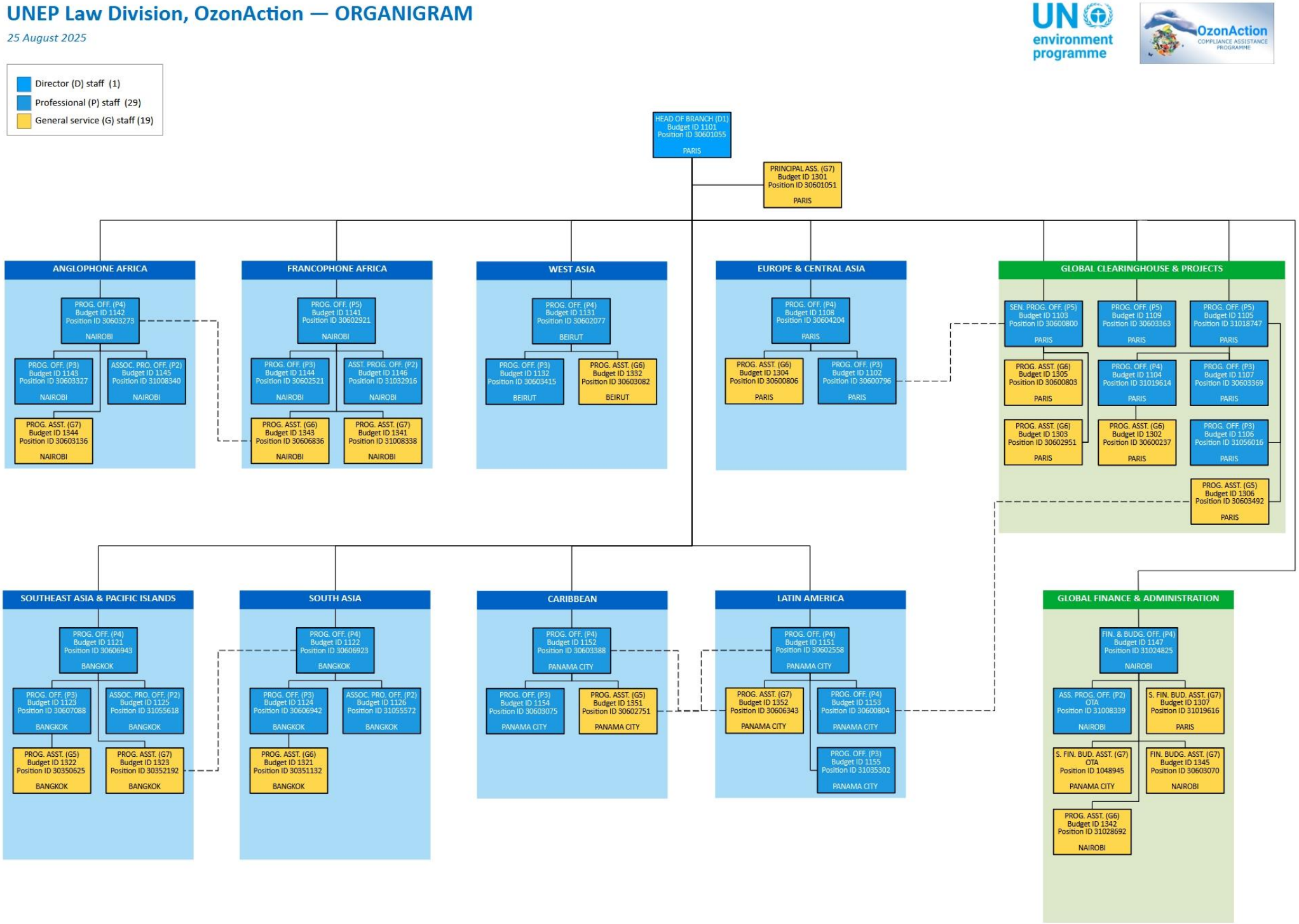
Budget Line	Component	Location	w/m	Grade	Approved CAP 2025	Proposed CAP 2026
1305	Programme Assistant – Capacity Building/iPIC	Paris	12	G-6	106,000	106,000
1306	Programme Assistant	Paris	12	G-5	95,000	95,000
1307	Senior Programme Assistant – Global	Paris	12	G-7	132,870	132,870
1321	Programme Assistant – South Asia	Bangkok	12	G-6	95,790	95,790
1322	Programme Assistant – South-East Asia & PICs	Bangkok	12	G-5	75,190	75,190
1323	Administrative Assistant – Asia-Pacific	Bangkok	12	G-7	95,790	104,294
1332	Programme Assistant – West Asia	Lebanon	12	G-6	95,790	107,724
1341	Administrative Assistant – Africa	Nairobi	12	G-7	66,950	69,077
1342	Programme Assistant – Global	Nairobi	12	G-6	49,500	49,500
1343	Programme Assistant – Africa	Nairobi	12	G-6	49,500	49,500
1344	Programme Assistant – Francophone Africa	Nairobi	12	G-7	65,920	65,920
1345	Senior Programme Assistant – Global	Nairobi	12	G-7	65,000	65,000
1351	Programme Assistant – Latin America & Caribbean	Panama	12	G-5	42,230	52,977
1352	Programme Assistant – Latin America & Caribbean	Panama	12	G-7	69,010	82,863
	Subtotal Staff Personnel				**7,854,531**	**8,090,167**
16	**TRAVEL**					
1601	Staff travel - Global	Paris			179,550	179,550
1610	Staff travel – Europe & Central Asia	Paris / ECA			26,250	22,250
1620	Staff travel – South Asia	Bangkok			34,650	34,650
1621	Staff travel – South-East Asia	Bangkok			34,650	34,650
1622	Staff travel – PIC	Bangkok			52,500	52,500
1630	Staff travel – West Asia	Lebanon			47,250	47,250
1640	Staff travel – Francophone Africa	Nairobi			63,525	63,525
1641	Staff travel – Anglophone Africa	Nairobi			63,525	63,525
1650	Staff travel – Caribbean	Panama			36,750	36,750
1651	Staff travel – Latin America	Panama			36,750	36,750
	Subtotal Travel				**575,400**	**571,400**
20	**REGIONAL ACTIVITIES**					
	CONTRACT SERVICE COMPONENT					
2210	Network and thematic meetings/Country to country cooperation/Regional awareness – Europe & Central Asia	Paris / ECA			156,000	160,000
	Subtotal Europe & Central Asia				**156,000**	**160,000**
2220	Network and thematic meetings/ Country to country cooperation/Regional awareness - South Asia	Bangkok			110,400	110,400
2221	Network and thematic meetings/Country to country cooperation/Regional awareness – South-East Asia	Bangkok			84,000	84,000
2222	Network and thematic meetings/Country to country cooperation/Regional awareness - PIC	Bangkok			126,000	126,000
	Subtotal Asia-Pacific				**320,400**	**320,400**
2230	Network and thematic meetings/Country to country cooperation/Regional awareness – West Asia	Lebanon			120,000	120,000
	Subtotal West Asia				**120,000**	**120,000**
2240	Network and thematic meetings/Country to country cooperation/Regional awareness – Francophone Africa	Nairobi			210,000	210,000
2241	Network and thematic meetings/Country to country cooperation/Regional awareness - Anglophone Africa	Nairobi			210,000	210,000
	Subtotal Africa				**420,000**	**420,000**
2250	Network and thematic meetings/Country to country cooperation/Regional awareness - Caribbean	Panama			156,000	156,000
2251	Network and thematic meetings/Country to country cooperation/Regional awareness - Latin America	Panama			144,000	144,000
	Subtotal Latin America & Caribbean				**300,000**	**300,000**
	Subtotal Regional activities				**1,316,400**	**1,320,400**
30	**GLOBAL CAP SERVICES***					
3210	NOO Training				50,000	50,000

Budget Line	Component	Location	w/m	Grade	Approved CAP 2025	Proposed CAP 2026
3211	Policy & Technical Assistance				95,000	95,000
3212	Translation & Outreach				160,000	160,000
3213	Temporary Assistance Energy Efficiency				150,000	0
3214	Refrigeration Servicing Sector Assistance				160,000	160,000
3215	Enforcement & customs				85,000	85,000
3216	Technical and policy support LVC countries				150,000	150,000
	Subtotal Global Services				**850,000**	**700,000**
40	**MEETINGS/SUPPORT**					
4210	Advisory and Consultative Meetings and Stakeholders Workshops	Paris/Regions			5,000	5,000
	Subtotal Meetings				5,000	5,000
	Subtotal Global Services/Meetings				**855,000**	**705,000**
50	**OFFICE OPERATIONS**					
5210	Office Operations/Communication (equipment, rental, supplies & maintenance)	Paris			290,000	290,000
5220	Office Operations/Communication (equipment, rental, supplies & maintenance)	Regions			300,000	300,000
	Subtotal Office Operations				**590,000**	**590,000**
	TOTAL DIRECT PROJECT COST				**11,191,331**	**11,276,967**
	Programme support costs (8%)				895,306	902,157
	GRAND TOTAL				**12,086,637**	**12,179,124**

* 3210-3216 activities and budget to be carried over to 2026. Note that for all other budget lines, the unspent balance will be returned.

UNEP Law Division, OzonAction — ORGANIGRAM

25 August 2025



ANNEXES RELATED TO 2026 WORKPLAN

Annex 1 – Logical framework analysis for 2026

Overarching Desired Outcome: ARTICLE 5 COUNTRIES MEET AND SUSTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH MONTREAL PROTOCOL AND AMENDMENTS		
Outcomes	**Outputs (2024-2026 CAP Strategy)**	**Relevant SDG targets**
OUTCOME 1 National Ozone Units effectively manage their national programmes	• All Article 5 countries with Institutional Strengthening projects approved for UNEP implementation have NOUs that function effectively and deliver the outputs described in their IS renewal. • Any NOU requesting region- and country-specific compliance assistance to address specific technical, policy, or operational issues is provided with that support. • All Ozone Officers and/or their assistants learn from peer-to-peer interaction and strengthen cooperation at the regional and international levels through participation in Regional Networks of Ozone Officers, which may include physical and/or online regional, sub-regional, interregional, and/or thematic meetings. • All new Ozone Officers and/or their assistants acquire the basic skills, competencies and understanding of the Montreal Protocol and Multilateral Fund. • Any Ozone Officer who wishes to further enhance her/his management of their NOUs acquires those advanced skills. • Selected Ozone Officers (pilot) receive training on multilateral environmental agreement (MEA) negotiation skills with regard to Montreal Protocol/Multilateral Fund meetings. • Any NOU requesting or needing specific support is assisted through country-to-country (south-south/north-south) cooperation facilitated by CAP, e.g., NOU-NOU meetings, study tours, technology roundtables. • NOUs are assisted to explore synergies related to Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment objectives with national energy efficiency policymakers, financial mechanism focal points, climate change focal points, and others through the approved twinning project and other activities.	☑ Human health is protected (SDG 3) ☑ Ecosystems are healthy (SDG 14 & 15) ☑ Climate is protected (SDG 13) ☐ Food security is improved, and food loss reduced (SDG 2) ☐ Economic competitiveness is maintained (SDG 1, 8 & 9) ☑ Sustainable technologies and practices adopted (SDG 12) ☑ More women enter workforce (SDG 5) ☑ Montreal Protocol objectives achieved through partnerships

2026 Activities		**Indicators**
1.	Provide all Article 5 countries with IS projects approved for UNEP implementation with technical assistance to expedite the preparation, implementation, monitoring and reporting of IS phases as per Annex 5	Number of IS phases successfully implemented and monitored
2.	Provide support to any NOU requesting region- and country-specific compliance assistance needed to address specific technical, policy, or operational issues as per Annex 3, or as per ad hoc requests.	Number and type of services delivered

3.	Organize Regional Network meetings for Ozone Officers in all ten regions, including physical and/or online regional, sub-regional, inter-regional, and/or thematic meetings, so that all Ozone Officers and/or their assistants and key stakeholders can learn from peer-to-peer interaction and strengthen cooperation at the regional and international levels.	Number of meetings successfully organized (2 per region target)
4.	Offer introductory training to all new Ozone Officers and/or their assistants to acquire the basic skills, competencies and understanding of the Montreal Protocol and Multilateral Fund needed to effectively manage their national compliance programmes and projects.	Number of Ozone Officers/assistants trained (all new Ozone Officers)
5.	Offer advanced training to interested Ozone Officers to acquire advanced skills to further enhance her/his management of their NOUs.	Number of Ozone Officers trained
6.	Develop and pilot a short training course for Ozone Officers on effective participation and negotiations in Montreal Protocol and Multilateral Fund meetings.	Training materials developed and the training delivered
7.	Support NOUs requesting or needing specific support through country-to-country (south-south/north-south) cooperation facilitated by CAP, e.g., NOU-NOU meetings, study tours, technology roundtables.	Number and type of country-to-country cooperation activities
8.	Assist NOUs to explore synergies related to Kigali Amendment objectives with national energy efficiency policies and financial mechanisms.	Number of twinning workshops organized

Outcomes	**Outputs (2024-2026 CAP Strategy)**	**Relevant SDG targets**
OUTCOME 2 Article 5 countries report accurate and timely data	• The status of Article 7 and Country Programme data submissions is regularly monitored, and follow-up support is offered to countries. • Any NOU requesting support with collecting, reviewing and reporting accurate Article 7 and/or Country Programme data is assisted to do so, so that they report by (or in advance of) the reporting deadlines. • All NOUs are assisted in understanding the revised data reporting formats and the new data reporting obligations related to the Kigali Amendment, and to use the online reporting systems. • All NOUs are made aware of best practices and methodologies for data collection, crosschecking and reporting requirements for all controlled substances. • All NOUs are offered information or assistance to establish their HFC baselines and the starting points for sustained aggregate reductions in HFC consumption.	☑ Human health is protected (SDG 3) ☑ Ecosystems are healthy (SDG 14 & 15) ☑ Climate is protected (SDG 13) ☐ Food security is improved, and food loss reduced (SDG 2) ☐ Economic competitiveness is maintained (SDG 1, 8 & 9) ☐ Sustainable technologies and practices adopted (SDG 12) ☐ More women enter workforce (SDG 5) ☑ Montreal Protocol objectives achieved through partnerships (SDG 17)

2026 Activities		**Indicators**
9.	Regularly monitor the status of Article 7 and Country Programme data to identify and avoid late submissions or risks of non-compliance and follow-up as needed with respect to the data reporting deadlines.	Status report on data submission. Type of support provided
10.	Assist any NOUs requesting support with reviewing and/or reporting accurate Article 7 and/or Country Programme data and ensuring consistency between those two data sets.	Number of countries supported. Type of support provided
11.	Assist all NOUs to understand and use the new online reporting systems for Article 7 and Country Programme data.	Number and type of support provided
12.	Make all NOUs aware of best practices and methodologies for data collection, cross-checking and reporting requirements for all controlled substances and encourage the institutionalization those processes.	Type of support provided

13.	Encourage all NOUs to identify and analyze differences between their country's reported trade data and those reported by other countries with whom they trade and to resolve any inconsistencies with their counterparts, including assisting the NOUs with understanding the annual aggregated export data provided by the Ozone Secretariat.	Type of support provided
14.	Offer interested NOUs guidance for establishment of their HFC baselines and starting points for sustained aggregate reductions in HFC consumption.	Type of support provided
15.	Regularly analyze HFC data for compliance with the 2024 freeze control measure to identify necessary actions needed to avoid potential non-compliance.	Number and type of support provided

Outcomes	Outputs (2024-2026 CAP Strategy)	Relevant SDG targets
OUTCOME 3 Effective legal, regulatory and policy frameworks are in place and enforced	• All NOUs are informed about options, including preventative approaches involving awareness and education, to enhance their national Montreal Protocol monitoring, reporting, verification and enforcement (MRVE) systems. • All NOUs are assisted to operate and enhance their HCFC licensing and quota systems as per Montreal Protocol and Multilateral Fund targets. • All NOUs of Article 5 Parties to the Kigali Amendment are assisted to develop, operationalize and enhance their HFC licensing and quota systems. • All NOUs in countries that have not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment are encouraged to consider introducing voluntary licensing systems. • All NOUs are made aware of the benefits of, and approaches for, electronic licensing systems for controlling HCFCs and HFCs. • All NOUs are informed about existing HCFC and HFC legislation in Article 5 and non-Article 5 countries and offered assistance with developing/enhancing their own. • All NOUs participating in the informal Prior Informed Consent (iPIC) mechanism use that system to support enforcement of their licensing and quota systems, more countries are encouraged to join, and the system is modified to reflect emerging needs. • All NOUs are provided with information and assistance to identify/establish policies or regulations to regulate RAC/MAC servicing sector. • All NOUs in Article 5 countries that have not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment are assisted to ratify through support provided by CAP in collaboration with the Ozone Secretariat.	☑ Human health is protected (SDG 3) ☑ Ecosystems are healthy (SDG 14 & 15) ☑ Climate is protected (SDG 13) ☐ Food security is improved, and food loss reduced (SDG 2) ☐ Economic competitiveness is maintained (SDG 1, 8 & 9) ☐ Sustainable technologies and practices adopted (SDG 12) ☐ More women enter workforce (SDG 5) ☑ Montreal Protocol objectives achieved through partnerships (SDG 17)

2026 Activities		Indicators
16.	Inform all NOUs about options, including best practices and preventative approaches involving awareness and education, to enhance their national Montreal Protocol monitoring, reporting, verification and enforcement (MRVE) systems.	Type of support provided
17.	Assist all NOUs of Group 1 Article 5 Parties to the Kigali Amendment which have not yet established their HFC licensing systems, as well as NOUs in Group 2 countries, with the establishment of their HFC licensing systems.	Number and type of support provided
18.	Assist all NOUs with existing HCFC and HFC licensing systems to operate, strengthen and/or enforce them.	Number of countries that established HFC licensing system. Type of support provided

19.	Assist all NOUs to design, establish and/or enforce their HFC quota systems.	Number of countries with voluntary HFC quota system. Type of support provided.
20.	In collaboration with the Ozone Secretariat, assist all NOUs in Article 5 countries that have not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment to do so, including those in Group 2, to achieve universal ratification by the time of the Amendment's 10th anniversary in 2026.	Number of countries assisted that ratified the Kigali Amendment. Type of support provided
21.	Provide guidance to all NOUs about the approaches, benefits, and best practices for electronic licensing systems to control HCFCs and HFCs	Type of support provided
22.	Assist NOUs already participating in the informal Prior Informed Consent (iPIC) mechanism to use it effectively to support enforcement of their licensing and quota systems, encourage more countries to join, and improve the system based on user feedback. to use that system to support enforcement of their licensing and quota systems, and encourage more countries to join.	Number of countries participating in iPIC. Statistics of iPIC exchanges
23.	Support interested NOUs with updating their national Montreal Protocol legal frameworks (e.g. standards, energy efficiency, illegal trade, HFCs, etc.) and provide technical/legal advisory support to draft or amend laws and regulations in cooperation with *inter alia* UNEP's Montevideo Environmental Law Programme.	Number of countries and type of support provided

Outcomes	**Outputs (2024-2026 CAP Strategy)**	**Relevant SDG targets**
OUTCOME 4 Imports and exports are controlled, and illegal trade is reduced/prevented	• All NOUs are encouraged to update, monitor or enforce their national regulations and policies to facilitate and monitor legal trade in controlled substances and to combat illegal trade through an integrated approach. • All NOUs are provided with tools developed by UNEP and its partners for use in the delivery of their national Customs training, and, as appropriate, training of environmental inspectors and other law enforcement officers. • All NOUs have increased awareness and understanding about critical Montreal Protocol Customs issues, including best practices, innovative approaches and ways to combat illegal trade in controlled substances. • All NOUs are made aware of innovative methods that support enforcement of national licensing systems, both at and beyond the Customs check point in domestic markets. • All NOUs are encouraged to interact more closely with Customs agencies to promote regional and international action to combat illegal trade. • Interested national Customs training academies are encouraged and assisted to adopt the UNEP-WCO Customs Training Manual and e-learning into their national curricula. • Interested regional and sub-regional organizations are encouraged to develop regional and/or sub-regional initiatives or policies to facilitate and monitor legal HCFC trade and to combat illegal trade. • All NOUs are assisted to work with Customs to promote adoption of the 2022 Harmonized System codes and/or subcodes or otherwise adopt regional codes or other interim measures for monitoring HFC imports and exports.	☑ Human health is protected (SDG 3) ☑ Ecosystems are healthy (SDG 14 & 15) ☑ Climate is protected (SDG 13) ☐ Food security is improved, and food loss reduced (SDG 2) ☑ Economic competitiveness is maintained (SDG 1, 8 & 9) ☑ Sustainable technologies and practices adopted (SDG 12) ☑ More women enter workforce (SDG 5) ☑ Montreal Protocol objectives achieved through partnerships (SDG 17)
2026 Activities		**Indicators**

24.	Assist all NOUs requesting support to update, monitor or enforce their national regulations and policies to facilitate and monitor legal trade in controlled substances and to combat illegal trade through an integrated approach.	Number of NOUs supported. Type of support provided
25.	Provide all NOUs with tools developed by UNEP and its partners for use in the delivery of their national Customs training, and, as appropriate, training of environmental inspectors and other law enforcement officers.	Number and type of tools provided
26.	Increase awareness and understanding of all NOUs about critical Montreal Protocol customs issues, including best practices, risk profiling, second-hand or obsolete equipment imports, innovative approaches and ways to combat illegal trade in controlled substances.	Number of sessions on customs issues in the regional network/thematic meetings
27	Encourage all NOUs through Regional Network meetings to explore the use of digital tools for enhanced customs and enforcement work such as Single Window, electronic tracking systems, e-licensing platforms, or shared enforcement databases.	Number of sessions in the regional network/thematic and/or other meetings
28.	Make all NOUs aware of methods that support enforcement of national licensing systems, both at and beyond the Customs check point in domestic markets, including market surveillance and facility inspections.	Number of sessions in the regional network/thematic and/or other meetings
29.	Facilitate cross-border coordination, dialogue and data sharing between interested NOUs, Customs agencies, and enforcement authorities for enhanced detection, prevention, and reporting of illegal trade in controlled substances.	Number of activities related to detection, prevention, and reporting of illegal trade in controlled substances delivered
30.	Encourage all NOUs to institutionalize cooperation with Customs Authorities, possibly through signing MoUs, and interact more closely with Customs agencies to promote regional and international action to combat illegal trade.	Type of support provided
31.	Encourage and assist interested national Customs training academies to adopt the UNEP-WCO Customs Training Manual into their national curricula.	Number and type of support provided
32.	Develop and disseminate an Enforcement Toolkit to be complemented with additional enforcement related themes and interactive exercises.	Toolkit available and distributed to all NOUs
33.	Develop a guide on approaches for combatting illegal trade of controlled substances via online marketplaces and the feasibility of using artificial intelligence to identify such potentially illegal offers.	Guide is developed and distributed to all NOUs
34.	Develop a report on the extent of illegal trade and its recent trends in cooperation with partner organizations	Report developed and available on the OzonAction website
35.	Assist interested NOUs to work with Customs to promote the adoption and/or implementation of the 2022 Harmonized System codes or otherwise adopt regional codes, national subcodes or other measures to facilitate the monitoring of individual HFC substances imports and exports.	Number of countries assisted. Type of support provided.
36.	Collaborate with interested regional and/or sub-regional organization and national customs authority in identification of existing national tariff system to accommodate individual Harmonized System (HS) code for HFCs under 2027 HS code system	Type of support provided.
37.	Support NOUs to strengthen inter-agency cooperation on enforcement issues through their customs and law enforcement participation in global enforcement operations, e.g. *Operation Demeter* coordinated by WCO and *Custos Viridis* coordinated by Europol	Number of activities implemented.
38.	Encourage all NOUs to work with Customs brokers on the proper classification of refrigerants and their products, to improve data collection, verification reporting and boarder control.	Type of support provided.
39.	Strengthen collaboration with actors involved in the enforcement chain at the global, regional and national levels (e.g., Interpol, Europol, UNODC, and actors such as police, port authorities, environmental inspectors, prosecutors, judges), explore strategies for effectively combating illegal trade (e.g., awareness raising activities for prosecutors) and links to other crimes (e.g., corruption, tax invasion).	Number of activities implemented.

40.	Promote the concept of Green Customs and include related sessions in selected enforcement meetings.	Number of sessions on customs issues in the regional network/thematic meetings

Outcomes	Outputs (2024-2026 CAP Strategy)	Relevant SDG targets
OUTCOME 5 Key stakeholders and the public enthusiastically support national compliance programmes	• All NOUs and specific stakeholders are well-informed about specific high-priority topics through printed, online, and/or audio-visual information products through digital and print media. • Interested NOUs are assisted to celebrate World Refrigeration Day (26 June) and World Ozone Day (16 September) at the national level to increase public awareness of, and support for, the Montreal Protocol. • Interested NOUs are assisted with training and development of communications capacities related to the Montreal Protocol. • All NOUs as well as key members of the Montreal Protocol community are kept informed about the activities of UNEP and its partners through outreach activities. • NOUs speaking UN languages other than English are provided with information in their languages. • All NOUs are informed on global communication strategies to support compliance with the Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment.	☑ Human health is protected (SDG 3) ☑ Ecosystems are healthy (SDG 14 & 15) ☑ Climate is protected (SDG 13) ☐ Food security is improved, and food loss reduced (SDG 2) ☑ Economic competitiveness is maintained (SDG 1, 8 & 9) ☑ Sustainable technologies and practices adopted (SDG 12) ☑ More women enter workforce (SDG 5) ☑ Montreal Protocol objectives achieved through partnerships (SDG 17)

2026 Activities		Indicators
41.	Prepare and disseminate targeted information, communications and educational materials and services to ensure that NOUs, key stakeholders and the public are well informed about priority topics related to the Montreal Protocol through digital and print media.	Number and type of publications, products, tools and services produced
42.	Promote public support for the Montreal Protocol at the regional level through awareness activities agreed by the Regional Network members.	Number and description of regional awareness activities
43.	Outreach Montreal Protocol issues, including gender mainstreaming and SDG linkages, at key international, regional, and national forums including those related to Montreal Protocol and climate.	Number and description of outreach events conducted
44.	Maintain and enhance the OzonAction website (www.unep.org/ozonaction) and OzonAction Meeting Portal (www.ozonactionmeetings.org)	Web statistics confirming growth/activity
45.	Update the online *OzonAction Knowledge Maps* to provide NOUs and other stakeholders with access to key and recent data to support Montreal Protocol implementation.	Web statistics for *OzonAction Knowledge Maps*. Number and type of updates
46.	Produce and disseminate the *OzoNews* e-newsletter on a bi-weekly basis.	Number of *OzoNews* e-newsletter issues produced (both regular and special issues)
47.	Produce and disseminate the *OzonAction Scoop* on topical subjects three times per year.	Number of *OzonAction Scoops* produced and disseminated
48.	Encourage and support national celebrations of *World Ozone Day* on 16 September, including the development of specific materials.	Number of countries celebrating *World Ozone Day*. Type of support provided
49.	Encourage and support celebrations of *World Refrigeration Day (WRD)* on 26 June, in cooperation with the WRD Secretariat and refrigeration and air conditioning partners to promote Montreal Protocol objectives to policymakers and the public.	Number of countries celebrating World Refrigeration Day (WRD). Type of support provided

50.	Encourage NOUs and their customs authorities to participate in World Customs Day (WCD) on January 26 to showcase their joint work under the Montreal Protocol to monitor and control trade of controlled substances	Number of countries celebrating World Customs Day (WCD)
51.	Translate prioritized publications and tools into UN languages, depending on regional priorities and available resources.	Number and type of publications and tools translated
52.	Implement a Global Communication Strategy to support compliance with the Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment.	Communication strategy implemented

Outcomes	Outputs (2024-2026 CAP Strategy)	Relevant SDG targets
OUTCOME 6 Non-ODS, low GWP technology is adopted and used safely, and servicing sector workforce skills are strengthened	• All NOUs and the main servicing sector stakeholders are provided with key information needed to make informed choices related to the refrigeration servicing sector, including up-to-date information about alternative refrigerants, technologies, and best and safe servicing practices. • All NOUs are offered the refrigeration servicing sector training products and tools developed by UNEP and its partners, and an increasing number incorporate them into their national Montreal Protocol activities. • All servicing technicians, master trainers, and other practitioners involved in UNEP-assisted capacity-building activities are assisted to acquire new or updated skills and competencies for minimizing leakages, the sound and safe handling of refrigerants, and maintaining/enhancing energy efficiency of RAC appliances. • Interested national refrigeration training institutes and NOUs are assisted to establish agreements to cooperate on refrigeration servicing sector training and they adopt UNEP-developed training materials. • All NOUs are encouraged and assisted to increase their cooperation with their Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) authorities with respect to RAC servicing sector training and certification programs. • All NOUs are provided with information and offered technical and policy assistance for developing national RAC certification programs. • More Article 5 countries consider adopting the Refrigerant Driving License (RDL) global qualification program either to complement their existing certification programme or as an alternative if they do not yet have a certification programme. • More Article 5 countries consider adopting the HFC Outlook Model as a comprehensive tool for	☑ Human health is protected (SDG 3) ☑ Ecosystems are healthy (SDG 14 & 15) ☑ Climate is protected (SDG 13) ☑ Food security is improved, and food loss reduced (SDG 2) ☑ Economic competitiveness is maintained (SDG 1, 8 & 9) ☑ Sustainable technologies and practices adopted (SDG 12) ☑ More women enter workforce (SDG 5) ☑ Montreal Protocol objectives achieved through partnerships (SDG 17)

	modelling and projecting the use of HFCs and alternatives in different consuming sectors and encourage linkage of the model scenarios with the preparation of KIPs. • All NOUs have increased awareness about relevant standards and codes of practice that promote safe handling of flammable, high-pressure and toxic refrigerants, facilitate the introduction of lower-GWP technologies into the market, and promote sound refrigerant management. • All NOUs are encouraged to cooperate with their standards organisations to consider Montreal Protocol issues. • National/regional RAC associations are strengthened, interact regularly with NOUs, and exchange best practices so that they have increased engagement in their countries' national Montreal Protocol activities. • All NOUs are encouraged and assisted to provide increased attention to the food cold chain sector and to strengthen their cooperation with stakeholders in that sector. • All NOUs have increased understanding of the technical and regulatory issues related to HFCs and alternatives used in mobile air conditioning (MAC).	
2026 Activities		**Indicators**
53.	Provide all NOUs with key information to make informed choices related to the refrigeration servicing sector, including up-to-date information on sound refrigerant management, alternative low- GWP refrigerants, guidelines and standards for their safe and responsible use, information on technologies including not-in-kind, and the installation and assembly sector	Number and type of information materials developed
54.	Provide all NOUs with updated training curriculum for servicing technicians to support their HPMP and KIP training activities to promote the sound and safe handling of refrigerants, minimization of leaks, and maintenance/enhancement of energy efficiency of RAC appliances.	Type of training products provided
55.	Assist interested universities to integrate the updated University Course-Refrigerant Management for Future Engineers into their engineering curriculum.	Number of universities using the University course
56.	Encourage and assist all NOUs to increase their cooperation with their Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) authorities with respect to RAC servicing sector training and certification programs.	Number of NOUs cooperating with their TVET authorities. Type of support provided.
57.	Provide all NOUs with information and technical and policy assistance for developing national RAC certification programs.	Number of NOUs assisted, and type of support provided.
58.	Develop easy to understand materials promoting safe and best practices for technicians working in the informal sector.	Type and number of materials provided.
59.	Provide interested NOUs with guidance for the establishment and/or improvement of national certification systems using materials and lessons learned from the development of the Refrigerant Driving License (RDL) global qualification program.	Guidance materials prepared
60.	Encourage interested NOUs to strengthen their national/regional RAC associations, encourage them to interact regularly with their associations, and exchange best practices so that the associations have increased engagement in their countries' national Montreal Protocol activities.	Number of NOUs assisted. Type of support provided
61.	Encourage interested NOUs to provide increased attention to the food cold chain sector and to strengthen their cooperation with stakeholders in that sector.	Type of support provided
62.	Support all NOUs to have an increased understanding of the certain niche applications consuming HFCs (e.g. hair removal).	Nature and type of support provided.

63.	Promote Ozone2Climate roundtables and road shows in interested regions and countries.	Number of activities organized

Outcomes	Outputs (2024-2026 CAP Strategy)	Relevant SDG targets
OUTCOME 7 Energy efficiency is maintained or increased in the RAC sector	• All NOUs are supported to interact with their national energy efficiency policy makers and financial mechanism focal points through Twinning workshops and identify areas of cooperation to promote energy efficiency during the HFC phase down. • All NOUs receive information and have their capacity strengthened to better understand energy efficiency issues related to RAC equipment. • All NOUs receive updated training curricula to teach technicians how to maintain energy efficiency of existing RAC equipment through best installation and servicing practices. • All NOUs are provided with information and assistance to enhance or establish policies or regulations aimed at maintaining and enhancing energy efficiency of existing and new RAC equipment.	☑ Human health is protected (SDG 3) ☑ Ecosystems are healthy (SDG 14 & 15) ☑ Climate is protected (SDG 13) ☑ Food security is improved, and food loss reduced (SDG 2) ☑ Economic competitiveness is maintained (SDG 1, 8 & 9) ☑ Sustainable technologies and practices adopted (SDG 12) ☑ More women enter workforce (SDG 5) ☑ Montreal Protocol objectives achieved through partnerships (SDG 17)

2026 Activities		Indicators
64.	Encourage interested NOUs to interact with their national energy efficiency policy makers and identify areas of cooperation to promote energy efficiency during the HFC phase-down.	Number of NOUs assisted. Type of support provided
65.	Follow up on the recommendations from Phase I (2023-2024) of the Ozone Officers-Energy Efficiency Policymakers Twinning project and begin implementing Phase II (2025–2027), including the development and dissemination of new capacity building materials.	Number and type of follow up activities organized
66.	Provide all NOUs with updated technician training curricula on how to maintain energy efficiency of existing RAC equipment through best installation and servicing practices.	Updated technician training curricula is available and distributed to all NOUs
67.	Provide all NOUs with guidance on legislative and policy options to maintain and/or enhance energy efficiency of existing and new RAC equipment	Type of support provided
68.	Assist interested NOUs with the review of existing registration and approval procedures for RAC appliances from the energy efficiency and refrigerant perspectives and streamline registration/approval procedures to enable the countries to have databases for both refrigerant and energy performance of RAC appliance.	Number of NOUs assisted. Type of support provided
69.	Assist interested NOUs with the development of national procurement and development assistance policies for compliant RAC appliances/integration of high energy efficient and low GWP RAC appliances in the existing building codes.	Number of NOUs assisted. Type of support provided
70.	Decision 96/51: Provide all NOUs with information and experiences about the pilot projects on energy-efficiency revolving funds for end users through Implementing Agency presentations during Regional Network meetings	Number and type of capacity building materials developed

Outcomes	Outputs (2024-2026 CAP Strategy)	Relevant SDG targets
UTCOME 8 Gender issues and approaches are considered and addressed in Montreal Protocol programmes	• All UNEP-implemented Multilateral Fund projects include gender mainstreaming components. • All NOUs receive support to identify the entry point to integrate gender mainstreaming into implementation workstreams of the Montreal Protocol.	☑ Human health is protected (SDG 3) ☑ Ecosystems are healthy (SDG 14 & 15) ☑ Climate is protected (SDG 13)

and projects	• All NOUs use Regional Network meetings as a forum to further consider gender mainstreaming in the context of their national Montreal Protocol programmes, projects and activities. • Interested women working in the RAC sector in Article 5 countries are offered networking and mentorship opportunities through the International Network of Women in Cooling (INWIC), and interested countries incorporate those activities into HPMP and KIP projects. • More women in Article 5 countries are attracted to work in the RAC sector as a result of awareness, information and opportunities provided by NOUs and INWIC. • All NOUs have enhanced awareness about gender mainstreaming related to Montreal Protocol-related customs activities and encourage their customs authorities to do the same.	☐ Food security is improved, and food loss reduced (SDG 2) ☐ Economic competitiveness is maintained (SDG 1, 8 & 9) ☐ Sustainable technologies and practices adopted (SDG 12) ☑ More women enter workforce (SDG 5) ☑ Montreal Protocol objectives achieved through partnerships (SDG 17)

26 Activities		**Indicators**
71.	Ensure that all UNEP-implemented Multilateral Fund projects include gender components.	Compliance with MLF's Gender Policy is monitored
72..	Assist NOUs to complete gender assessment as required by the Multilateral Fund's Gender Policy by providing gender assessment resources and tools.	Type of gender assessment resources and tools provided.
73.	Assist NOUs to identify the entry point to integrate gender into implementation workstreams of the Montreal Protocol.	Number of countries assisted. Type of support provided
74.	Provide all NOUs with Regional Network meetings to use as a forum to further consider gender mainstreaming in the context of their national Montreal Protocol programmes, projects and activities.	Number of meetings/sessions organized
75.	Offer interested women working in the RAC sector in Article 5 countries networking and mentorship opportunities through the International Network of Women in Cooling (INWIC), and assist interested countries to incorporate those activities into HPMP and KIP projects.	Number of projects that include INWIC activities
76.	Encourage and assist all NOUs to promote the participation and empowerment of women in the RAC sector and customs through awareness raising, information and training provided by CAP.	Type of assistance provided

Outcomes	**Outputs (2024-2026 CAP Strategy)**	**Relevant SDG targets**
OVERARCHING Article 5 countries meet their commitments through effective and timely implementation of Multilateral Fund projects	*HCFC phase out* • All Article 5 countries with ongoing HPMP Stages or tranches approved for UNEP implementation are assisted to implement them in a timely and effective manner. • All Article 5 countries with HPMP verification projects approved for UNEP implementation have their HCFC consumption verified in a timely and effective manner, and UNEP helps them implement the recommendations in the verification reports. • All Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit new HPMP Stages or tranches are supported to do so. • All Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit additional activities	☑ Human health is protected (SDG 3) ☑ Ecosystems are healthy (SDG 14 & 15) ☑ Climate is protected (SDG 13) ☐ Food security is improved, and food loss reduced (SDG 2) ☐ Economic competitiveness is maintained (SDG 1, 8 & 9) ☐ Sustainable technologies and practices adopted (SDG 12) ☐ More women enter workforce (SDG 5)

	in their HPMPs under the special funding window to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector under Executive Committee decision 89/6(b) are supported to do so. *HFC phase down* • All Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit KIPs are supported to do so. • All Article 5 countries with KIP tranches approved for UNEP implementation are assisted to implement them in a timely and effective manner. All Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit Pilot projects to maintain and/or enhance energy efficiency of replacement technologies and equipment in the context of HFC phase-down under Executive Committee Decision 91/65 are supported to do so. *Unwanted controlled substances* • All Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit projects under the funding window for an inventory of banks of used or unwanted controlled substances and a plan for the collection, transport, and disposal of such substances under Executive Committee • Decision 91/66 are supported to do so.	☑ Montreal Protocol objectives achieved through partnerships (SDG 17)
2026 Activities		**Indicators**
HCFC phase out		
77.	Support all Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare, submit and implement HPMP stages or tranches as Lead or Cooperating Agency, ensuring consistency of the project, Article 7 and Country Programme data sets.	Number of HPMP Stages/tranches approved
78.	Assist all Article 5 countries with HPMP verification projects approved for UNEP implementation to have their HCFC consumption verified in a timely and effective manner and help them implement the recommendations in the verification reports.	Number of HPMP verification projects implemented
HFC phase down		
79.	Support all Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance, including those of Group 2, to prepare, submit and implement KIPs as Lead or Cooperating Agency, ensuring consistency of the project, Article 7 and Country Programme data sets	Number of KIP projects approved
Unwanted controlled substances		
80.	Decision 91/66: Assist all Article 5 countries with inventory of banks of used or unwanted controlled substances projects approved for UNEP implementation to implement them in a timely and effective manner.	Number of projects on inventory of banks of used and unwanted controlled substances implemented
Energy efficiency projects		
81.	Decision 89/6(b): Support all LVCs requesting UNEP assistance to prepare, submit and implement additional activities in their HPMPs under the special funding window to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector.	Number of additional activities in line with decision 89/6 (b) implemented
82.	Decisions 91/65 and 94/60: Support all Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare, submit and implement pilot projects to maintain and/or enhance energy efficiency of replacement technologies and equipment in the context of HFC phase-down.	Number of energy efficiency projects implemented

ASSUMPTIONS
• Continued high-level political commitment by all Montreal Protocol Parties • Stable political and economic conditions in Article 5 countries • Operational National Ozone Units with dedicated, skilled and empowered staff at appropriate level • Government commitment in Article 5 countries to approve and enforce Montreal Protocol-related legislation, regulations and policies • Political will in Article 5 countries to ratify Kigali Amendment • Controls to monitor and control trade in controlled substances are in place and effective/can be implemented • Constructive cross-border cooperation between Customs and enforcement agencies in neighbouring countries • Skilled workforce for the servicing of refrigeration and air conditioning equipment, particularly for 'longer term' alternatives • Climate friendly and energy efficient alternatives are commercially available and affordable in Article 5 country markets • Cooperation and active participation of other stakeholders • Assistance and support provided by CAP is sufficient during the COVID-19 period, even when face to face support is not possible
RISKS
• stable political and economic situations • Natural/manmade disasters • Uncertainties in security situations • Frequent turn-over of Ozone Officers or changes in national administrations • Limited human and/organizational capacities of some NOUs • Delays due to administrative, financial, or legal procedures by Implementing Agency and/or country administrations • Delay or incomplete progress reporting by some countries due to the long process of data verification at national level (particularly in countries with political instability) • Unstable currency markets fluctuating during project implementation • Unreliability of information technology in some developing countries; access to email and prompt communication very limited in some countries • Increased trend of introducing high-GWP alternatives due to lower prices and commercial availability compared to low/lower GWP options particularly for RAC • Technology and economic related concerns for high-ambient operating conditions • Difficulties related to harmonizing standards and codes at the regional level • Weak infrastructure of the RAC servicing sector in most developing countries • RAC servicing sector and Customs not considered attractive professions for young people particularly young women

Annex 2 – Implementation of UNEP-assisted Article 5 country projects in 2026

Key:
* = All UNEP's projects (both as lead and cooperating Agency) are included in the table
● – UNEP is lead agency
● – UNEP is cooperating agency
● – KIPs as planned in the 2025-2027 Business Plan
● – Energy Efficiency Twinning project
● – Energy Efficiency projects in the servicing sector (decision 89/6)
● – Pilot projects on energy efficiency (decision 91/65)
● – Regional projects for PICs

Country	Project Services							
	IS project	HPMP PRP*	HPMP IMPL (Stage I, II, III)	HPMP VER	Energy* Efficiency	KIP PRP*	KIP IMPL*	Inventory of banks and disposal plans
Afghanistan								
Albania		●	●				●	
Algeria	●		●					
Angola	●							
Antigua and Barbuda	●		●	●	●			●
Argentina								
Armenia			●		●		●	
Bahamas	●		●	●	●	●		●
Bahrain	●	●	●			●		●
Bangladesh		●	●			●	●	
Barbados	●		●		●	●		●
Belize	●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Benin	●		●	●			●	
Bhutan	●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Bolivia	●		●		●		●	
Bosnia and Herzegovina								
Botswana	●		●		●	●	●	
Brazil								
Brunei Darussalam	●		●		●	●		●
Burkina Faso	●		●	●				
Burundi	●		●	●	●	●	●	
Cambodia	●		●	●	●		●	●
Cameroon	●							
Cape Verde	●		●	●	●	●	●	
Central African Republic	●	●	●					
Chad	●		●	●	●		●	

Country	Project Services							
	IS project	HPMP PRP*	HPMP IMPL (Stage I, II, III)	HPMP VER	Energy* Efficiency	KIP PRP*	KIP IMPL*	Inventory of banks and disposal plans
Chile			●				●	
China			●					
Colombia							●	
Comoros	●		●		●	●	●	
Congo	●		●	●	●		●	
Congo DR	●		●	●	●			
Cook Islands	●		●		●		●	●
Costa Rica								
Côte d'Ivoire	●		●			●	●	
Cuba								
Djibouti	●		●	●	●	●		
Dominica	●	●	●		●			●
Dominican Republic	●		●				●	
Ecuador								
Egypt			●					
El Salvador	●		●		●			
Equatorial Guinea	●	●	●		●	●		
Eritrea	●		●		●	●	●	●
Eswatini, Kingdom of	●		●		●		●	●
Ethiopia	●		●		●	●	●	●
Fiji	●		●		●	●	●	●
Gabon	●		●	●		●	●	
Gambia	●		●		●		●	●
Georgia					●		●	●
Ghana			●				●	●
Global					●			
Grenada	●		●	●			●	●
Guatemala	●		●		● ●		●	
Guinea	●		●				●	
Guinea-Bissau	●		●		●	●	●	
Guyana	●		●	●		●		●
Haiti								
Honduras	●		●		●		●	
India			●			●		
Indonesia								
Iran, Islamic Republic of			●					
Iraq	●	●	●			●		●

Country	Project Services							
	IS project	HPMP PRP*	HPMP IMPL (Stage I, II, III)	HPMP VER	Energy* Efficiency	KIP PRP*	KIP IMPL*	Inventory of banks and disposal plans
Jamaica	●							
Jordan								
Kenya	●					●	●	
Kiribati	●		●		●		●	●
Korea, DPR	(●)							
Kuwait	●	●	●			●		●
Kyrgyzstan	●		(●) completed		● ●		●	●
Lao PDR	●		●		●		●	●
Lebanon								
Lesotho	●						●	●
Liberia	●		●					
Libya								
North Macedonia								
Madagascar	●		●	●	●	●		
Malawi	●		●		●		●	●
Malaysia								
Maldives	●		(●) completed		● ●	●	●	●
Mali	●		●		●	●	●	
Marshall Islands	●		●		●		●	●
Mauritania	●	●	●			●		
Mauritius	●							
Mexico							●	
Micronesia, Federated States of	●		●		●		●	●
Moldova, Republic of	●		●		●		●	
Mongolia	●		●		●	●	●	●
Montenegro								
Morocco	●							
Mozambique	●		●	●	●		●	●
Myanmar	(●)					(●)		
Namibia	●					●	●	
Nauru	●		●		●		●	●
Nepal	●		●			●		●
Nicaragua	●		●		● ●		●	
Niger	●		●		●		●	

Country	Project Services							
	IS project	HPMP PRP*	HPMP IMPL (Stage I, II, III)	HPMP VER	Energy* Efficiency	KIP PRP*	KIP IMPL*	Inventory of banks and disposal plans
Nigeria							●	●
Niue	●		●		●		●	●
Oman			●			●		●
Pakistan			●			●		
Palau	●		●		●		●	●
Panama								
Papua New Guinea								
Paraguay	●		●		●			●
Peru	●				●			
Philippines	●							
Qatar	●	●	●			●		
Rwanda	●		●		●		●	●
Saint Kitts and Nevis	●	●	●		●			●
Saint Lucia	●		●	●	●		●	●
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Samoa	●		●		●		●	●
Sao Tome and Principe	●		●	●	●	●	●	
Saudi Arabia	●		●			●		●
Senegal	●	●	●				●	
Serbia			●			●	●	●
Seychelles	●						●	
Sierra Leone	●		●	●	●		●	●
Singapore								
Solomon Islands	●		●		●		●	●
Somalia	●					●	●	●
South Africa								
South Sudan	●	●	●		●	●		●
Sri Lanka			●				●	●
Sudan	●					●		
Suriname	●		●	●	●	●		●
Syrian Arab Republic		●	●			●	●	●
Tanzania, United Republic of	●		●	●		●	●	●
Thailand								
Timor-Leste	●	●	●	●	●	●		●

Country	Project Services							
	IS project	HPMP PRP*	HPMP IMPL (Stage I, II, III)	HPMP VER	Energy* Efficiency	KIP PRP*	KIP IMPL*	Inventory of banks and disposal plans
Togo	●		●	●			●	
Tonga	●		●		●		●	●
Trinidad and Tobago								
Tunisia			●				●	
Turkey			●					
Turkmenistan								
Tuvalu	●		●		●		●	●
Uganda	●		●		●		●	●
United Arab Emirates								
Uruguay								
Vanuatu	●		●		●		●	●
Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of								
Viet Nam	●						●	
Yemen	●		●					
Zambia	●		●		●	●	●	●
Zimbabwe	●		●	●	●		●	●
Total:	101	15	101	27	71	47	76	60

Annex 3 – Country-specific CAP services proposed for 2026

REGIONAL NETWORKS OF OZONE OFFICERS

NETWORK AND THEMATIC MEETINGS

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) provides CAP support to enable all National Ozone Units (NOUs) to participate in the meetings of the Regional Networks of Ozone Officers, and to specific NOUs for thematic meetings, depending on the focus of those meetings. CAP also provides support for NOUs and specific stakeholders for workshops. In 2026, UNEP anticipates providing services in this category to the following Article 5 as well as the countries with economies in transition (CEIT) with an understanding that the topics of some thematic meetings will be defined at a later stage:

Africa – Anglophone

- Network meetings: At least one Regional Network meeting to share best practices, lessons learned, and challenges in hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) and Kigali Implementation Plan (KIP) implementation; support energy efficiency and Ozone-Depleting Substances (ODS) banks projects; address compliance issues; and brief on decisions taken by the Executive Committee (ExCom) of the Multilateral Fund and Meeting of the Parties (MOP) to the Montreal Protocol. All 28 countries in the region are expected to participate in the meeting.

- Other meetings:
  - Thematic meeting on integrating energy efficiency and promoting refrigerant alternatives with the expected participation of all 28 countries in the region.
  - Thematic meeting on ODS bank destruction and strengthening technical capacity on management strategies with the expected participation of all 28 countries in the region.
  - Online meeting on Country Programme (CP) and Article 7 data reporting with the expected participation of all 28 countries in the region.

Africa – Francophone

- Network meetings: At least one Regional Network meeting with the expected participation of all 26 countries in the region.
- Other meetings: Organizing a thematic workshop on KIP preparation and KIP implementation all 15

South Asia

- Network meetings: At least one Regional Network meeting with the expected participation of all 13 countries in the region except Afghanistan.
- Other meetings: Organizing a thematic workshop on development of action plans for national inventory of banks of unwanted controlled substances based on NOUs needs following survey results for all 13 countries in the region except Afghanistan.

South East Asia

- Network meetings: At least one Regional Network meeting with the expected participation of all 11 countries in the region.
- Other meetings: Organizing a thematic workshop on survey results and development of action plans for national inventory of banks of unwanted controlled substances for all 11 countries in the region.

Pacific Island Countries

- Network meetings: – At least one Regional Network meeting with the expected participation of all 14 countries in the region.
- Other meetings:
  - Thematic workshop on options for life-cycle refrigerant management under national inventory of banks of controlled substances for the following countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.
  - Regional workshop on enforcement of licensing system of controlled substances and procedure for enforcement of Minimum Energy Performance

countries in the region where UNEP is involved in their KIP.

Caribbean

- Network meetings: At least one Regional Network meeting with the expected participation of all 14 countries in the region.
- Other meetings:
  - Thematic/Twinning meeting with NOOs and customs officials to re-engage for the joint implementation of obligations under the Kigali Amendment and prevent and combat illegal trade with the expected participation of all 14 countries in the region.
  - Regional ODS banks workshop for 11 countries with ODS banks projects with the expected participation of 11 countries in the region and optional participation for three countries.
  - Workshop on negotiations under the Montreal Protocol for NOUs with the expected participation of all 14 countries in the region.

Europe and Central Asia (ECA)

- Network meetings: Organizing two regional meetings in Kyrgyzstan and Türkiye to discuss compliance matters, brief countries on the ExCom and MOP decisions, focus on KIP implementation, energy efficiency, refrigerant life cycle management, supporting legislative / policy measures, involvement of Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) associations and experts for 11 ECA countries.
- Other meetings: Four quarterly online meetings on priority topics as expressed by the countries during the survey on ECA needs and priorities with the expected participation of 11 ECA countries.

Latin America

- Network meetings: At least two meetings to discuss compliance matters, to brief countries on the ExCom and MOP decisions, address challenges of HPMP and KIP implementation, and support the implementation of energy efficiency and ODS banks projects with the expected participation of all 19 countries in the region.

Standards and Labelling (MEPSL) for 13 following countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

West Asia

- Network meetings: Organizing two network meetings for 11 regional countries and one observer to discuss compliance, brief on ExCom/MOP decisions, drive KIP development/implementation, review legislative/policy measures, and guide the preparation of controlled substance bank inventories.
- Other meetings:
  - Organizing a second twinning workshop to strengthen collaboration between NOUs and energy efficiency policymakers.
  - Delivering a training workshop for new NOU staff.
  - Organizing a thematic meeting to provide practical guidance and new approaches for KIP preparation and implementation, leveraging lessons from HPMP experiences.
  - Organizing a technical workshop on the foam sector to address challenges in transitioning to alternative technologies, especially for spray foam. This will serve as a platform for exploring solutions and exchanging experiences, particularly among countries with high ambient temperatures, informing future policy and technical decisions.

• Other meetings: webinars on CP data reporting and Article 7 data reporting.	

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE SERVICES

COMPLIANCE

UNEP provides compliance monitoring through CAP to NOUs upon request or identified need to help the Ozone Officers ensure that national compliance commitments under the Montreal Protocol are met in a timely and efficient manner. In 2026, UNEP anticipates providing compliance related services in this category to the following Article 5 countries as well as CEIT countries as appropriate:

Africa – Anglophone
• Compliance monitoring: Reviewing and verifying of CP and Article 7 data submissions to ensure accuracy, consistency, and timeliness in data reporting with the expected participation of all 28 countries in the region.
• Focused assistance:
  ○ Monitoring licensing and quota systems to ensure adherence to phase-out/phase-down schedules and the expected participation of all 28 countries in the region.
  ○ Assistance to be provided to Libya, South Sudan, and Sudan to ratify the Kigali Amendment.
 	
Africa – Francophone
• Compliance monitoring: Reviewing and verifying of CP and Article 7 data submissions to ensure accuracy, consistency, and timeliness in data reporting with the expected participation of all 26 countries in the region.
• Focused assistance:
  ○ Monitoring licensing and quota systems to ensure adherence to phase-out/phase-down schedules and the expected participation of all 26 countries in the region.
  ○ Assistance to be provided to Central African Republic, Mauritania, Madagascar, Equatorial Guinea and Algeria to ratify the Kigali Amendment.
 	
Caribbean
• Compliance monitoring: Supporting will be provided to all 14 countries in the region.
• Focused assistance:
	Latin America
	• Compliance monitoring: Monitoring CP and Article 7 data reporting, as well as compliance consumption targets of all 19 countries in the region.
	• Focused Assistance: Assistance will be provided Bolivia and El Salvador.
	
	South Asia
	• Compliance monitoring: Supporting will be provided to all 13 countries in the region excluding Afghanistan.
	• Focused assistance:
	  ○ Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) compliance with plan of action and A7 reporting.
	  ○ Mongolia 2025 consumption in line with MOP decision XXXV/16.
	  ○ Follow up on timely data reporting and preparation for HFC baseline and freeze for group 2 countries, namely India, Iran, and Pakistan.
	
	South East Asia
	• Compliance monitoring: Supporting will be provided to all 11 countries in the region
	• Focused assistance: Allocation and monitoring of 2026 HFC quota in tonnes CO2 equivalent for all 11 countries in the region.
	
	Pacific Island Countries
	• Compliance monitoring: Supporting 14 countries in the network.
	• Focused assistance: Allocation and monitoring of 2026 HFC quota in tonnes CO2 equivalent for all 14 countries in the region

○ Monitoring and follow-up on actions regarding HPMP implementation and compliance matters for Antigua and Barbuda, Suriname, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. ○ HFC licensing and quota system monitoring for countries that have ratified the Kigali Amendment and monitoring and follow-up with seven countries that have not yet ratified, namely Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica St. Kitts and Nevis and Suriname. ○ Monitoring HFC consumption in new HFC-Using Sectors, such as the beauty sector for Trinidad and Tobago. *Europe and Central Asia* • Compliance monitoring: Close monitoring and follow-up on timely data reporting, and operational licensing and quota system including HFCs in 11 ECA countries. • Focused assistance: Timely data reporting, analysis of discrepancies between reported trade data, informal Prior Informed Consent (iPIC), licensing and quota systems and meeting the phase-out / phase-down provisions of the Montreal Protocol as needed and upon request for 11 ECA countries.	*West Asia* • Compliance monitoring: ○ Close monitoring and follow-up on timely data reporting for all 11 countries as well as one observer country in the region. ○ Supporting the implementation and operation of comprehensive licensing and quota systems, including for HFCs, across all 11 regional countries as well as one observer country. • Focused assistance ○ Supporting remaining countries in the region to complete the ratification process of the Kigali Amendment. ○ Supporting enforcing HFCs licensing and quota systems (in tonnes CO2 equivalent) and provide assistance for the preparation of HFCs freeze and subsequent phase-down obligations. ○ Assist post-conflict countries (Iraq, Yemen, Syria, and the State of Palestine) in strengthening NOUs functioning, where feasible.

POLICY SUPPORT

UNEP provides CAP support to NOUs upon request or identified need to help the Ozone Officers design, review, modify and/or enforce national legislation and policies needed to comply with the Montreal Protocol. UNEP will keep monitoring the status of ratification of the Kigali Amendment and supporting the ratification process for those countries that have not ratified it. In 2026, UNEP anticipates providing services in this category to the following Article 5 countries as well as CEIT countries as appropriate:

Africa – Anglophone • Policy support: Capacity-building workshops for policymakers and regulators on emerging policy issues to support countries in sustaining progress and achieving upcoming HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down targets. Such support will be available to all 28 countries in the region. • Focused assistance: Enhancing gender in the implementation of the Montreal Protocol. Assistance will be available to all 28 countries in the region. *Africa – Francophone*	*Latin America* • Policy support: Strengthening the legal and policy framework through the HPMPs, KIPs and the Network meetings to assist countries sustain and/or achieve upcoming HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down targets in all 19 countries in the region. • Focused assistance: Assistance will be provided to Bolivia and El Salvador. *South Asia* • Policy support: Strengthening the legal and policy framework through technical assistance in the context of the HPMPs, KIPs implementation and of the

- Policy support: Strengthening the legal and policy framework through the HPMPs, KIPs and the Network meetings to assist countries sustain and/or achieve upcoming HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down targets in all 26 countries in the region.
- Focused assistance: Assistance will be provided to Central African Republic and Equatorial Guinea.

Caribbean

- Policy support:
  - Continuing to promote gender in the implementation of the Montreal Protocol to all 14 countries in the region.
  - Developing comprehensive HFC licensing and quota systems and supporting measures for the HFC phase down in following seven countries in the region: the Bahamas, Belize, Barbados, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago
- Focused assistance: Developing of or contributing to policy guidance on new HFC using sectors, such as the beauty sector.

Europe and Central Asia

- Policy Support: Monitoring the establishment of legislative / policy measures including HFC-related measures and policy measures related to energy efficiency in 11 ECA countries.

  Focused assistance: Supporting the adoption of legislative and policy measures as part of HPMPs, KIPs and/or energy efficiency (EE) projects where UNEP is lead or cooperating agency in six ECA countries, namely Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, and Serbia.

network meetings to assist countries sustain and/or achieve upcoming HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down targets in all 13 countries in the region except Afghanistan, DPRK, and the Republic of Korea.

- Focused assistance: Assistance with the ratification of the Kigali Amendment and compliance with initial obligations after ratification in Nepal, Iran, and Pakistan.

South East Asia

- Policy support: Enhancing gender into the implementation of the Montreal Protocol in 11 countries in the region.
- Focused assistance:
  - Reviewing national legislative framework and providing support to countries in exploring timeline and options to include provisions to ban the import of R-410A air-conditioner in two countries, namely Cambodia and Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR).
  - Assisting Lao PDR to include consideration of refrigerant with Global Warming Potential (GWP) limit as part of Initial Environmental Evaluation (IEE) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).
  - Ratification of the Kigali Amendment and compliance with initial obligations after ratification in Brunei Darussalam and Timor Leste.

Pacific Island Countries

- Policy Support: Enhancing gender into the implementation of the Montreal Protocol in all 14 countries in the region.
- Focused Assistance:
  - Reviewing national legislative framework and providing support to countries in exploring timelines and options to include provisions to ban the import of R-410A air-conditioner and R-134a domestic refrigerator in 13 countries, namely Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.
  - Enhancing public procurement and foreign aid policy and building code to include consideration on energy efficiency and GWP of refrigerant in 12 countries, namely Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau,

	Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. ○ Reviewing national legislative framework and providing support to countries in exploring option to ban the registration of R-404A fisheries vessels in six 6 countries, namely Fiji, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. ○ Assisting countries to explore fiscal incentive policy with national/regional financial for low GWP and energy efficient RAC appliances in six selected countries, namely Fiji, Micronesia, Samoa, Solomon Tonga and Vanuatu. *West Asia* • Policy Support: Continuing to strengthen the legal and policy framework for HFC phase-down, while also sustaining HCFC phase-out to ensure all 11 countries as well as one observer in the region for upcoming phase-out/down targets. • Focused Assistance: ○ Supporting the development and adoption of legislative and policy measures as integral parts of HPMPs and KIPs where UNEP is the lead or cooperating agency. ○ Enhancing gender in the implementation of the Montreal Protocol. ○ Providing targeted support to enhance collaboration between NOUs and National Energy Efficiency bodies across all 11 countries in the region.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

UNEP provides CAP support to NOUs, the refrigeration and air conditioning sector, customs, and other government and industry stakeholders with technical support upon request for specific issues, such as technology, refrigerant management, standards, certification, safety, energy efficiency, new sectors such as the Mobile Air Conditioning (MAC) and firefighting, used or unwanted controlled substances. In 2026, UNEP anticipates providing services in this category to the following Article 5 countries as well as CEIT countries as appropriate:

Africa – Anglophone • Technical assistance: Providing technical assistance on technology, refrigerant management, standards, certification, safety, energy efficiency, and ODS banks for the management of unwanted controlled substances to all 28 countries in the region. • Focused assistance: Supporting certification of female technicians and promoting gender in all 28 countries in the region.	*South Asia* • Technical assistance: Continuing support on adoption of standards, new technology awareness, safety, refrigerant management, technician training and certification, energy efficiency awareness and banks of unwanted controlled substances to be provided to all 13 countries in the region except Afghanistan and DPRK. • Focused assistance:

Africa – Francophone

- Technical assistance: Providing technical assistance on new technology, certification, safety, energy efficiency, and ODS banks for the management of unwanted controlled substances to all 26 countries in the region.

- Focused assistance: Supporting certification of technicians and promoting gender in all 26 countries in the region.

Caribbean

- Technical assistance:
  - Analysing the system for compliance with the 2024 freeze control measure in all countries that have ratified the Kigali Amendment.
  - Developing and/or identifying and disseminating appropriate low GWP, Energy Efficient Standards and other measures for the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Sector (RSS) in all 14 countries in the region.
  - Supporting countries with preparing projects proposals under the MLFS' additional funding windows (Energy Efficiency and ODS Waste Disposal) for five and 13 countries respectively in the region.
- Focused assistance: Supporting to countries, namely Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago and Belize (tbc) to participate in UNEP-ASHRE Connect following Pilot Phase.

Europe and Central Asia

- Technical Assistance: Sharing of technical information during ECA meetings, dissemination of technology information and invitations to technical webinars and international conferences, organization of technology roundtable and exhibition as part of SMEITS/KGH congress in Belgrade and encouraging training on the safe use of alternative technologies with respect to 11 ECA countries.
- Focused assistance: Strengthening women's role in the RAC sector as part of network meetings and project implementation in 11 ECA countries.

Latin America

- Technical assistance: Technical assistance in technology, refrigerant management, standards,
  - Strengthening EE framework in Bhutan, Maldives, and Mongolia.
  - Strengthening servicing data collection and logbook initiatives in Sri Lanka and Iran.
  - Capacity building in MAC sector in Bhutan and Sri Lanka.

South East Asia

- Technical assistance:
  - Experience sharing on data collection and analysis and identification of suitable options for life-cycle refrigerant management for all 11 countries in the region.
  - Capacity building for MAC sector including MAC system in electric vehicles for all 11 countries in the region.
- Focused assistance:
  - Enhancing National Minimum Energy Performance Standard and Labelling and Product Registration System to include information on type of refrigerant and conducting market assessment in four countries, namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Timor Leste.
  - Integrating energy efficiency module in the existing good servicing practices training and assessment in Cambodia and Lao PDR.
  - Developing safety standards on flammable refrigerant in Cambodia and Lao PDR).

Pacific Island Countries

- Technical assistance:
  - Identifying suitable options for life-cycle refrigerant management in the Pacific context for 14 countries in the region
  - Enhancing Regional Minimum Energy Performance Standard and Labelling and Product Registration System with information on type of refrigerant and sharing results of market assessment survey in all 14 countries in the region
- Focused assistance: Competency-based training and assessment workshop of PIC master trainers on good servicing practices with integration of energy efficiency for 13 countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

certification, safety, energy efficiency, and banks of unwanted controlled substances.
• Focused Assistance: Assistance will be provided to Bolivia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay, and Peru.
	West Asia
	• Technical Assistance:
	  ○ Continuing technical support to all 11 countries as well as plus one observer country in areas vital for Montreal Protocol compliance. This includes expertise in technology solutions, particularly relevant for High Ambient Temperature (HAT) countries, Life Cycle Refrigerant Management, and the development of standards. Also support will be provided for RAC training and certification, energy efficiency will be promoted, and the MAC and fire fighting sectors will be assisted, as well as the management of unwanted controlled substances will be promoted.
	  ○ Promoting the energy efficiency of RAC appliances and enhancing safety in handling flammable refrigerants. These efforts are crucial in the context of both HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down across all 11 countries.
	• Focused assistance: Enhancing national capacities in two key areas: Life -cycle Refrigerant Management of and combating illegal trade of controlled substances.

DATA REPORTING

UNEP provides CAP assistance to Ozone Officers to help them comply with data reporting requirements under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol and Country Programme data under the Multilateral Fund for all substances controlled under the Protocol. CAP also provides support to NOUs upon request for support with responding to Implementation Committee requests. In 2026, UNEP anticipates providing services in this category to the following Article 5 countries as well as CEIT countries as appropriate:

Africa – Anglophone • Data reporting assistance: Ensuring timely CP and Article 7 data submission using the online reporting tool with assistance to be provided to all 28 countries in the region. • Focused assistance: Reviewing CP and Article 7 data reporting for countries with newly appointed ozone officers in Ethiopia, Botswana, Ghana, Namibia, Rwanda, Somalia, and Uganda. *Africa – Francophone* • Data reporting assistance: Reminder on timely submission of CP and A7 data reporting using online reporting tools will be provided to all 26 countries in the region.	*South Asia* • Data reporting assistance: Reminder on timely submission of CP and A7 data reporting using online reporting tools will be provided to all 13 countries in the region excluding Afghanistan. • Focused assistance: Reviewing the draft CP and A7 prior to submission for seven countries, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, DPRK, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. *South East Asia* • Data reporting assistance: Providing a reminder on timely submission of CP and Article 7 data reporting using online reporting tool will be provided to all 11 countries in the region.

- Focused assistance: Reviewing the draft CP and A7 prior to submission for Cote d`Ivoire Central Africa Republic, Cabo Verde, Equatorial Guinea and Sao Tome & principes.
-

Europe and Central Asia

- Data reporting assistance: Encouraging timely reporting of Article 7 and Country Programme data, cross-checking of data from different sources, promoting legislative and policy measures supporting the collection of reliable trade data e.g. mandatory reporting by importers, wholesalers and/or equipment operators or mandatory equipment logbooks, approaches to obtain reliable use data required for CP data reporting in 11 ECA countries.
- Focused Assistance: Supporting data reporting through follow-up, data analysis, query response as needed and upon request in 11 ECA countries.

Latin America

- Data reporting assistance: Assistance to ensure timely and accurate CP and Article 7 data reporting to all 19 countries in the region.
- Focused assistance: Such assistance will be provided to El Salvador.

- Focused assistance:
  - Reviewing the draft CP and Article 7 prior to submission with regard to six countries: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Timor Leste, and Vietnam.
  - Assisting Lao PDR and Timor Leste to adopt data reconciliation of ODS/HFC trade data before reporting CP and Article 7.

Pacific Island Countries

- Data reporting assistance: Reminder on timely submission of CP and Article 7 data reporting using online reporting tool will be provided to all 14 countries in the region.
- Focused assistance:
  - Reviewing the draft CP and Article prior to submission in 13 countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.
  - Assisting countries to adopt data reconciliation of ODS/HFC trade data before reporting CP and Article 7. Such assistance will be provided to 13 countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

West Asia

- Data reporting assistance: Encouraging and supporting for timely and accurate collection and submission of Country Programme and Article 7 data including review and analysis of the raw data all 12 countries including accurate and timely data reporting of HFCs, namely Bahrain, Lebanon, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Syria and United Arab Emirates.
- Focused assistance: Training on effective use of the Online Reporting System (ORS) and Multilateral Fund Secretariat Online Reporting tools and support in resolving any inconsistencies will be available to all countries.

MONITORING THE TRADE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

UNEP provides CAP assistance to support NOUs, customs and enforcement officers in their work to implement their national licensing and quota systems for substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol, to detect and prevent illegal trade in these chemicals, and to facilitate legal trade. In 2026, UNEP anticipates providing services in this category to the following Article 5 countries as well as CEIT countries as appropriate:

Africa – Anglophone

- Monitoring the trade of controlled substances assistance: Encouraging active use of iPIC and contributing data for iPIC statistics in all 28 countries in the region.
- Focused assistance: Focused assistance will be provided to Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Zambia, Ethiopia and Gambia.

Africa – Francophone

- Monitoring the trade of controlled substances assistance: Encouraging active use of iPIC and contributing data for iPIC statistics in all 26 countries in the region.
- Focused assistance: Focused assistance will be provided to Central African Republic, Cabo Verde. Sao Tome & Principe and Guinea Bissau.

Caribbean

- Monitoring the trade of controlled substances assistance:
  - Responding to iPIC queries between countries and iPIC with respect to all 14 countries in the region.
  - Monitoring the trade of controlled substances assistance through promoting the use of iPIC in all 14 countries in the region
- Focused assistance: Organizing and delivering a thematic meeting or workshop to enhance cooperation between customs officers and NOUs in the region.

Europe and Central Asia

- Technical assistance: Sharing technical information during ECA meetings, dissemination of technology information and invitations to technical webinars and international conferences, organization of technology roundtable and exhibition as part of SMEITS/KGH congress in Belgrade and encouraging training on the safe use of alternative technologies for 11 ECA countries.
- Focused assistance: Strengthening women's role in the RAC sector as part of network meetings and project implementation in 11 ECA countries.

Latin America

South Asia

- Monitoring the trade of controlled substances assistance: Encouraging and facilitating all 13 countries in the region excluding Afghanistan c to use iPIC mechanism to verify the shipment.
- Focused assistance: Encouraging NOUs to use iPIC mechanism, facilitating capacity building on risk profiling in collaboration with WCO, assisting to improve HFC quota system in Bhutan, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka or any other country in the region ratifying the Kigali Amendment, or upon request for remaining countries.

South East Asia

- Monitoring the trade of controlled substances assistance:
- Encouraging and facilitating All 11 countries in the region to use iPIC mechanism to verify the shipment.
- Assisting Association of Southeast Asian Nations. (ASEAN) member states to assign individual Harmonized System (HS) code for HFCs and blends under the ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN2027).
- Focused assistance:
  - Establishing clearly defined HFC quota allocation criteria and monitoring system based on 2024 and 2025 implementation experience in three countries, namely Brunei Darussalam, Lao PDR and Timor Leste.
  - Supporting Viet Nam to upgrade electronic licensing system to enhance monitoring of HFC quota utilization in MT and tonnes CO2 eq.

Pacific Island Countries

- Monitoring the trade of controlled substances assistance:
  - Encouraging and facilitating all 14 countries in the region to use iPIC mechanism to verify the shipment.
  - Assisting Pacific countries to assign individual HS code for HFCs and blends under the Pacific Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System 2027 (PACHS27).
- Focused assistance:
  - Establishing clearly defined HFC quota allocation criteria and monitoring system based

• Monitoring the trade of controlled substances assistance: Assistance will be provided to all 19 countries in the region. • Focused Assistance: Focused assistance will be provided to Bolivia, Chile, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, and Paraguay.	on 2024 and 2025 implementation experience for all 14 countries in the region. ○ Supporting development or upgrading electronic licensing system to enhance monitoring of HFC quota utilization in MT and tonnes CO2 eq. in six countries: Fiji, Micronesia, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga. *West Asia* • Monitoring the trade of controlled substances assistance: All countries in the region will receive the following assistance: ○ Promoting iPIC mechanism ○ Data collection and reconciliation, in particular for countries HFCs data reporting. • Focused assistance: • Strengthening risk profiling for controlled substances and guidance on market surveillance activities. • Assisting all network countries on any of the above topics through query response as needed and upon request.

INFORMATION AND OUTREACH

INFORMATION AND OUTREACH

In addition to global information, communication and education services, UNEP also provides CAP assistance to support awareness and information activities at the national and regional levels, both within and outside of the Institutional Strengthening (IS) projects. In 2026, UNEP anticipates providing services in this category to the following Article 5 countries as well as CEIT countries as appropriate:

Africa – Anglophone • Awareness raising and information outreach: Disseminating and promoting OzonAction tools such as awareness materials and mobile applications in all countries in the region. • Focused assistance: ○ Encouraging celebration of World Ozone Day and Word Refrigeration Day in all 28 countries in the region. ○ Translating and disseminating relevant material/tools developed by the Global CAP team. *Africa – Francophone*	*South Asia* • Awareness raising and information outreach: Disseminate and promote OzonAction tools such as awareness materials and mobile applications - All 13 countries in the region excluding Afghanistan. • Focused assistance: ○ Identifying and engaging with stakeholders to support HCFC phase-out/HFC phase-down in the following countries: Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka. ○ Assisting with materials that can be translated into local languages – upon request for countries that specifically request assistance. ○ Continuing support to Ozone2Climate Technology Roadshow in China.

- Awareness raising and information outreach: Disseminating and promoting OzonAction tools such as awareness materials and mobile applications in all countries in the region
- Focused assistance:
  - Encouraging celebration of World Ozone Day and Word Refrigeration Day in all 26 countries in the region.
  - Translating and disseminating relevant material/tools developed by the Global CAP team.

Caribbean

- Awareness raising and information outreach:
  - Disseminating and promoting OzonAction tools such as awareness materials, e-learning courses and applications for the RSS in all 14 countries in the region.
  - Communication strategy on Kigali Amendment to be implemented in the region, videos on Kigali Amendment outreached.
  - Ozone Secretariat's Universal Ratification Strategy to be implemented in the region with a focus on the following seven countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Suriname.
- Focused assistance: Organizing a regional workshop on negotiations for the Montreal Protocol back-to-back with a thematic Network Meeting.

Europe and Central Asia

- Awareness raising and information outreach: Encouraging the celebration of World Ozone Day and Word Refrigeration Days, supporting the implementation of awareness raising activities as part of IS, HPMP, KIP projects and implementation, outreach the Montreal Protocol related information materials and tools/products through seven dissemination lists, translation into Russian, monitoring of national Montreal Protocol Unit websites, the annual technology roundtable during SMEITS / KGH congress in Belgrade. These services will be provided to 11 ECA countries.
- Focused assistance: Assisting countries on any of the above activities through online meetings, email dissemination, and query response as needed and upon request with respect to 11 ECA countries.

South East Asia

- Awareness raising and information outreach: Disseminating and promoting OzonAction tools such as awareness materials and mobile applications in 11 countries in the region.
- Focused assistance: Identifying and engaging with stakeholders to support HCFC phase-out/HFC phase-down in Brunei, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam.

Pacific Island Countries

- Awareness raising and information outreach: Disseminating and promoting OzonAction tools such as awareness materials and mobile applications to all 14 countries in the region.
- Focused assistance: Identifying and engaging with stakeholders to support HCFC phase-out/HFC phase-down in 13 countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu)

West Asia

- Awareness raising and information outreach: disseminate and promote OzonAction tools, including various awareness materials and mobile applications, across all 11 countries in the region (plus the State of Palestine as an observer country).
- Focused assistance:
  - Knowledge dissemination: This includes the translation into Arabic, and subsequent promotion and outreach, of key policy and technical papers, as well as other relevant information materials.
  - Network support & product sharing: provide direct assistance to all network countries for any of the above activities, responding to queries as needed and upon request. disseminate their successful products within the network and beyond for broader utilization.

Latin America • Awareness raising and information outreach: Supporting the celebrations of the World Ozone Day, the World Refrigeration, and other awareness activities through the Network Meetings, and the implementation of relevant components of the IS, HPMPs, and KIPs projects. • Focused assistance: Translating and disseminating relevant material and tools developed by the Global CAP team.	

SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

UNEP provides CAP assistance upon request to facilitate cooperation between two or more countries to address specific targeted needs identified by Ozone Officers. This cooperation may take the form of bilateral country-to-country (South-South, North-South) assistance or arrangement involving several countries, depending on the needs. The cooperation may entail visits, technical missions, or study tours and varies in nature from one year to another. In 2026, UNEP anticipates providing services in this category to the following Article 5 (and CEIT) countries noting that for most regions, the activities will be determined upon a case-by-case request by countries and upon assessing the needs of the countries:

Africa – Anglophone • Facilitate exchange of experiences, publications, and cooperation among countries in the region on compliance-related matters, including KIP preparation and Kigali Amendment implementation, through seminars, technical missions, and study visits for countries in the region. • Facilitating border dialogues to strengthen cooperation and enforcement of Montreal Protocol controls for countries in the region. *Africa – Francophone* • Promoting the intraregional cooperation with West Asia Arab countries through the exchange of experiences and lessons learned during the Network meetings • Facilitating dialogues to strengthen cooperation and enforcement of Kigali Amendment s for countries in the region. • Special assistance to Central African Republic, Cabo Verde and Sao Tome *Caribbean* • Organizing and delivering cooperation activity in the area of international negotiations under the Montreal Protocol:	*Latin America* • Promoting the intraregional cooperation through the exchange of experiences and lessons learned during the Network meetings, and facilitating the participation in study tours, trainings, technical missions, webinars, etc. of relevant countries of the region. *South Asia* • Supporting the organization of RAC international training in China with the expected participation of all 13 countries in the region except for Afghanistan and DPRK. • Analysing data difference between importing and exporting countries upon request from countries that specifically request assistance. *South East Asia* • Work attachment on operation of the National Ozone Unit in Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam • Deep dive on the design of electronic licensing and quota system of HFCs in Philippines, Cambodia, Malaysia, and Viet Nam.

○ HFC quota system enhancement for Grenada and Barbados. ○ Sharing best practices for successful NOU operations for Saint Lucia and Suriname. ○ Completion of the online repository for sharing technical information and common templates for use and management by NOUs. *Europe and Central Asia* • Facilitating exchange of experience among the ECA countries and between ECA, EU and CEIT countries, arranging small-scale country-to-country meetings (physical or online) with 2-3 countries, encouraging the sharing of national experience, publications, and products with other countries upon with request to 11 ECA countries.	• Analysis of data difference between importing and exporting countries to be undertaken for any countries that expressed interest for this exercise. *Pacific Island Countries* • Deep dive on the design of electronic licensing and quota system of HFCs in Philippines Fiji, Micronesia, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. • Analysis of data difference between importing and exporting countries to be undertaken for any countries that expressed interest for this exercise. *West Asia* • Facilitating the exchange of experiences publications, products and cooperation between countries in the region and with other regions on compliance-related matters including KIP preparation and Kigali Amendment implementation, RAC training and certification, including but not limited to seminars, visits, technical missions. • Organizing a study tour to an advanced country in the field of alternatives—such as Japan or China—to explore available technologies and learn from the country's structured and informed transition process. • Continuing organizing small-scale meetings with 2-3 countries upon request to advance the policy and regulation development (HCFCs total phase out, HFCs Q&LS, Life-cycle Refrigerant Management, certification schemes, Reclamation schemes, E-licensing systems, etc.).

CAPACITY BUILDING

NOU CAPACITY BUILDING

UNEP provides CAP assistance to support learning and skill growth of Ozone Officers and their staff through sharing the collective wisdom of the wider community of Ozone Officers who are leading NOUs. In 2026, UNEP anticipates providing services in this category to the following Article 5 (and CEIT) countries noting that for some regions, it will be determined upon a case-by-case request by countries and upon assessing the needs of the countries:

Africa – Anglophone • NOU capacity building: Participating of all countries in the region in information-sharing, training, and capacity-building sessions held during Network meetings. • Focused assistance: Training of new NOO and staff from Sierra Leone, Ghana, Namibia, Rwanda,	*Latin America* • NOU capacity building: All 19 countries of the region participating in information, training, and capacity building sessions during the Network meetings. • Focussed Assistance: Organizing an advanced NOO training in Spanish for all 19 countries of the region,

Somalia as requested by countries, tailor-made training and query response.

Africa – Francophone

- NOU capacity building: All 26 countries of the region participating in information, training, and capacity building sessions during the Network meetings.
- Focussed Assistance: Organizing an advanced NOO training in in French for all 26 countries of the region, back-to-back the Network meeting, with the support of the Global team.

Caribbean

- NOU capacity building:
  - Organizing advanced NOO training for all 14 countries..
  - Organizing training for new NOO.
- Focused assistance: Organizing a workshop for Montreal Protocol negotiating Training for NOOs – for all 14 countries, possibly back-to-back with a Network Meeting.

Europe and Central Asia

- MPU capacity building: Supporting countries through network meetings, information services, country-to-country assistance, query response in relation to all 11 ECA countries.

Focused assistance: Providing tailor-made training for new staff of Montreal Protocol Units (MPUs) and inviting additional participants, including female experts to regional meetings upon request with respect to 11 ECA countries.

back-to-back the Network meeting, with the support of the Global team.

South Asia

- NOU capacity building: Organizing training of New National Ozone Officers for all 13 countries excluding Afghanistan.
- Focused assistance: To be determined based on case-by-case requests from countries and need assessment.

South East Asia

- NOU capacity building: Organizing training of New National Ozone Officers from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.
- Focused assistance: To be determined by case-by-case requests by countries and upon assessing the needs.

Pacific Island Countries

- NOU capacity building Organizing Training of New National Ozone Officers from Cook Islands, Kiribati, Micronesia, Nauru, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu.
- Focused assistance: To be determined by case-by-case requests by countries and upon assessing the needs.

West Asia

- NOU capacity building: Capacity building of NOU staff in all network countries through regional network, inviting additional participants to regional meetings upon request through clearinghouse activities.
- Focused assistance Providing specific based needs training to new NOU staff members from the State of Palestine and Syria.

OTHER

UNEP is called upon by Article 5 countries as well as CEIT countries, as appropriate to provide tailored CAP assistance to help address country-specific needs that do not fall into the above categories. In 2026, UNEP anticipates providing services in this category to the following Article 5 (and CEIT) countries, noting that these emerging needs will be determined in the coming months upon a case-by-case request by countries and upon assessing the needs of the countries:

Africa – Anglophone	*Latin America*

• To be determined on a case-by-case basis, based on country requests and assessed needs. *Africa – Francophone* • To be determined on a case-by-case basis based on requests by countries and upon assessing the needs. *Caribbean* • To be determined on a case-by-case basis based on requests by countries and upon assessing the needs. *Europe and Central Asia* • To be determined case-by-case upon request by countries and upon assessing their needs. The surveys on needs and priorities will be continued to ensure that assistance provided, and meeting topics meet the expressed interest of the countries. • Supporting countries to prepare national inventories of banks of used or unwanted controlled substances, consider refrigerant life cycle management, and implement energy-efficiency projects, and supporting project implementation upon request from six ECA countries (Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Serbia).	• To be identified through a survey in early 2026. Based on the identified needs, assistance will be provided to priority countries. *South Asia* • To be determined based on case-by-case requests from countries and need assessment. *South East Asia* • Assisting Timor Leste with developing financial tracking table of the Multilateral Fund. *Pacific Island Countries* • Assisting 13 countries, namely Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu with developing financial tracking table of the Multilateral Fund projects. • Organizing training on developing progress reports for all projects with the participation of Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue and Tuvalu. *West Asia* • To be determined case-by-case upon request by countries and upon assessing their needs. • Supporting countries to prepare national inventories of banks of used or unwanted controlled substances and supporting project implementation upon request.

Annex 4 – OzonAction partnerships for 2026

1. Since becoming an Implementing Agency of the Multilateral Fund in 1991, UNEP OzonAction has established and maintained long-standing partnerships with key international, regional, and national industry associations, professional societies, international organizations, government agencies, industry groups, and non-governmental organizations to further the objectives of the Montreal Protocol and more recently, the Kigali Amendment. These world-recognized partners bring their institutional reputation, expertise, and knowledge products to bear on issues related to implementation or enforcement of this multilateral environmental agreement in Article 5 countries. OzonAction's partnership activities produce and deliver the necessary support, tools and services that Article 5 countries efficiently implement their commitments under the Montreal Protocol and the Kigali Amendment and respond to emerging concerns and issues. These partnerships cover most of the important focus areas for Article 5 Parties including:

- Engagement of the refrigeration and air conditioning (RAC) sector in supporting Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment objectives.
- Strengthening refrigeration servicing technicians through training, certification, awareness-raising, information exchange, and workforce development.
- Promotion and facilitation of the adoption of suitable lower-global warming potential (GWP) alternatives and technology.
- Promotion and facilitation of the adoption of technologies and practices that maintain or enhance the energy efficiency (EE) in existing and new RAC equipment.
- Assessing and analyzing the trends in consuming controlled substances in different sectors.
- Development and update of codes and standards.
- Engagement of the customs and enforcement communities in supporting Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment objectives.
- Strengthening customs and enforcement officers to better monitor trade in controlled substances and combat their illegal trade through training, awareness-raising, and information exchange.
- Support for the development and enforcement of national customs policies, regulations and HS codes related to the Montreal Protocol.

2. Table 1 provides an overview of all OzonAction partnerships. More detailed information about the partners with whom OzonAction intends to cooperate in 2026 on different initiatives, products, and activities is presented in table 2 on the List of OzonAction partnership in 2026. OzonAction may engage with new partners during the course of the year depending on the needs of Article 5 countries and other emerging issues in relation to the implementation of the Montreal Protocol.

3. In addition to partnerships mentioned above, OzonAction actively cooperates with the Ozone Secretariat and the Multilateral Fund Secretarial, as well as with our sister Implementing Agencies United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and the World Bank, and bilateral agencies. OzonAction also cooperates with UNEP-led initiatives such as the Cool Coalition, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) and United for Efficiency (U4E) on the implementation of compliance assistance programme activities and Multilateral Fund funded projects.

Table 1: OzonAction Partnerships Matrix

Partner		Area of Cooperation								
		RAC* Training & Materials	RAC Certification	Codes & Guides	Technology Advancement	Sectors Analysis	Campaigns & Awareness	Gender	Energy Efficiency	Enforcement
		Scope of Cooperation between OzonAction and the partner (G: Global – R: Regional – N: National)								
Refrigeration and air conditioning sector										
1. Air Conditioning and Refrigeration European Association (AREA)		G	G		R, G		R, G	G	G	
2. Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI)		R	G	R	R, G		R		R	R
3. Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturers Association of Australia (AREMA)		R	R	R	R				R	
4. Australian Institute of Refrigeration Air Conditioning and Heating (ARIAH)								G		
5. American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE)		G	G	G	G		G	G	G	

6. Italian Association of Refrigeration (ATF)		**G**	**R**							
7. Bundesfachschule Kälte-Klima-Technik (BFS)		**G**							**G**	
8. Chinese Association of Refrigeration (CAR)							**N, G**	**N, G**		
9. China Refrigeration and Air-conditioning Industry Association (CRAA)					**N, G**					
10. Eurovent Middle East (EUROVENT ME)		**R**	**R**	**R**	**R**		**R**		**R**	
11. Federation of Ibero-American Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Associations (FAIAR)					**R**		**R, G**	**R, G**		
12. Global Food Cold Chain Council (GFCCC)					**G**	**G**	**G**			
13. International Institute for Energy Conservation (IIEC)						**R, N**	**R, N**		**R, N**	
14. International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR)				**G**	**G**		**G**	**G**	**G**	
15. Institute of Refrigeration (IOR)		**G**			**G**		**G**	**G**		

16. Indian Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ISHRAE)					**N, G**		**N, G**	**N, G**		
17. Japan Society of Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (JSRAE)								**G**		
18. Union of Mechanical and Electrical Engineers and Technicians of Serbia (SMEITS) / Society for Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration of Serbia (KGH)					**R, N**		**R, N**		**R, N**	
19. Union of Associations of African Actors in Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning (U-3ARC)	Africa				**G**		**G**	**G**		
20. Women in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR)	North America						**G**	**G**		
21. World Refrigeration Day Secretariat (WRD)	Global						**G**	**G**		

Policy, customs and enforcement										
22. Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)	Regional									**R**
23. Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (BRS)	Global									**G**
24. Green Customs Initiative (GCI)	Global									**G**
25. Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Secretariat	Regional			**R**						**R**
26. Gulf Cooperation Council Standards Organization (GCCSO)	Regional			**R**						**R**
27. Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA)	Global									**G**
28. European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (EUROPOL)	Europe									**R, G**
29. League of Arab States (LAS) Secretariat	Regional			**R**						
30. International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)	Global									**G**

31. Oceania Customs Organization Secretariat (OCO)	Regional									
32. Overseas Environmental Cooperation Centre (OECC)	Global					**R, N**				
33. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)	Global									**N, R, G**
34. World Custom Organization (WCO)	Global									**N, R, G**

* Refrigeration and air conditioning (RAC) sector

Table 2: List of OzonAction's partnerships in 2026

Organization	Type of organization	Scope	Type of cooperation	Description of partnership
Refrigeration and air conditioning sector				
1. AREA	Professional/ Industry Association	Global	Promoting adoption of ozone-friendly lower-GWP and energy efficient RAC technology; online e-learning; technical materials on the use of new refrigerants; certification of technicians Founding partner of the International Network of Women in Cooling (INWIC)	- Sharing experience on strengthening RAC associations, training, certification, technology transfer and innovation with the network countries; developing an energy efficiency module of the "UNEP AREA training manual" on sound use of refrigerants to support training centres and programmes in Article 5 countries; - Advancing the engagement of women, promoting career opportunities, and increasing their overall participation in the HVACR sector by coordinating INWIC activities and providing resources (webinars, training opportunities, participation in meetings/conferences).
2. AHRI	Industry association	Global	Promoting a global industry approach to qualify refrigeration technicians, cooperating in addressing technical needs for promoting low-GWP alternatives.	- Supporting OzonAction in addressing research needs to examine lower-GWP alternatives in high ambient temperature countries.
3. AREMA	Industry association	Regional	Providing technical assistance to 12 Pacific Island Countries under the Regional Pacific Island Countries (PIC) HCFC Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) Stage, the Regional PIC Kigali Implementation Plan (KIP) Stage I and Additional Activities to Enhance Energy Efficiency of Refrigeration and Air-	- Supporting PIC to enhance capacity of trainers on competency-based training and assessment on good servicing practices (leakage and safety) and energy efficiency for air-conditioners through training; - Developing competency-based training and an assessment module on mobile air conditioning (MAC), good servicing practices, and enhancing capacity of trainers on competency-based training and assessment on good servicing practices for MAC through training. - Developing competency-based training and an assessment module on refrigerator and cold storage

Organization	Type of organization	Scope	Type of cooperation	Description of partnership
			conditioning in the Servicing Sector in line with Decision 89/6.	good servicing practices and enhancing capacity of trainers on competency-based training and assessing good servicing practices for refrigerator and cold storage through training; - Conducting energy efficiency assessments of common equipment and faults in PIC to enhance understanding of countries on the importance of maintaining RAC appliance at its optimal condition; - Supporting 12 Pacific Island Countries to strengthen partnership with RAC Association to implement the Montreal Protocol activities.
4. ARIAH	Professional/Industry association	Global	Founding partner of INWIC	- Advancing the engagement of women, promoting career opportunities, and increasing their overall participation in the HVACR sector by coordinating INWIC activities and providing resources (webinars, training opportunities, participation in meetings/conferences); - Strengthening knowledge and skills of RAC Association/technicians in the PIC region.
5. ASHRAE	Professional association	Global	Supporting the evolving needs of developing countries by offering specialized services, products, and initiatives that facilitate refrigerant management for climate protection and energy-efficient RAC technology in Article5 countries Supporting raising awareness and promoting understanding among stakeholders in Article5 countries about best practices in the sound management of refrigerants Founding partner of International Network of Women in Cooling	- UNEP and ASHRAE have had long-standing cooperation and biennial work plans since 2007. In early 2024 they signed a memorandum of understanding establishing a strategic partnership and agree to cooperate in the number of areas of common concern and interest; - The partnership will actively promote activities that emphasize sustainability and state-of-the-art technologies. This includes encouraging the adoption of GWP alternative refrigerants, efficient energy systems, and innovative building designs, all aimed at reducing emissions and environmental impact. - The collaboration will entail the exchange and/or development of technology awareness resources. These resources will be accessible to specialists

Organization	Type of organization	Scope	Type of cooperation	Description of partnership
			(INWIC)	and policymakers, aiding them in understanding the importance and application of emerging technologies that promote environmental protection. - ASHRAE-UNEP Portal is a collaborative online platform by ASHRAE and UNEP providing resources, training, and updates on sustainable cooling and refrigerant management for the HVAC&R industry, with a special focus on developing countries.URL: https://www.ashrae.org/professional-development/ashrae-unep-portal
6. ATF	Professional association	Regional	Advancing certification programs for refrigeration servicing technicians	- Cooperating in building national refrigeration servicing certification model similar to F-Gas certification but tailored to the needs and operating conditions of Article 5 countries; - Assist eight French-speaking countries in Africa to establish national certification schemes.
7. Bundesfachschule Kälte-Klima-Technik (BFS)	Training Institute	Global	Training and capacity building for RAC technicians, particularly in the safe use and handling of ozone-friendly low-GWP & energy efficient RAC technology	- UNEP and BFS have a long history of jointly assisting developing countries in enhancing the skills necessary for the environmentally responsible management of refrigerants in the RAC sector; - UNEP and BFS have recently cooperated in the area of capacity building with regard to natural refrigerants, i.e. low GWP, ozone-friendly substances including ammonia, carbon dioxide, and hydrocarbons. They have jointly developed over the last 4 years a set of educational and capacity-building videos on good practices in refrigeration servicing, which is one of the highly used and viewed UNEP OzonAction products. Accordingly, both parties agreed to extend the series and produce additional educational videos on refrigeration good practices and ensure that the OzonAction video library covers well the needs of the servicing sector in Article 5 countries. BFS is responsible for the

Organization	Type of organization	Scope	Type of cooperation	Description of partnership
				technical materials, setup for the video shoot and scripts of the videos.
8. CAR	Professional association	National	Founding partner of INWIC	- Advancing the engagement of women, promoting career opportunities, and increase their overall participation in the HVACR sector by coordinating INWIC activities and providing resources (webinars, training opportunities, participation in meetings/conferences); - Organizing training programme for technicians on handling cold storage.
9. CRAA	Industry association	National	Cooperation in organizing technical events & implementation of national Montreal Protocol activities	- Organizing regular and annual O2C (Ozone-to-Climate) Roadshow to showcase latest low-GWP technologies feasible for RAC industry in Article 5 countries.
10.EUROVENT ME	Professional/ Industry Association	Regional	Promoting adoption of ozone-friendly lower-GWP and energy efficient RAC technology; materials on the use of new refrigerants; certification of technicians	- Sharing experience on strengthening RAC associations, training, certification, technology transfer and innovation with the network countries; promoting the adoption/ development of required policies, guidelines and standards for EE in the HVAC sector; - Advancing the engagement of women, promote career opportunities, and increase their overall participation in the HVACR sector; - Promoting and facilitating the engagement of HAVC industry in the implementation of MP and especially its KA including facilitation of related technological transition.
11. FAIAR	Industry association	Regional	Organizing technical events, campaigns Founding partner of INWIC	- Organizing technical functions and events, cooperating in international campaigns such as the World Refrigeration Day, programmes;. - Advancing the engagement of women, promote career opportunities, and increase their overall participation in the HVACR sector by coordinating INWIC activities and providing resources (webinars, training opportunities, participation in meetings/conferences).

Organization	Type of organization	Scope	Type of cooperation	Description of partnership
12.GFCCC	Initiative (Industry and RAC associations)	Global	Mapping the needs of Cold Chain sub-sectors in relation to lower-GWP technologies while considering the relationship between energy and food loss/waste	- Organizing technical events on sustainable cold chain technologies in conjunction with the Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment.
13. IIEC	NGO	Regional, National	Strengthening capacity of Article 5 Parties on synergy between energy efficiency and phase-out/phase-down of controlled substances	- Assisting in market assessment of RAC appliance in the domestic market to understand the relationship between refrigerant, energy efficiency and price as well as consumer behavior and challenges to adopt low GWP and energy efficient appliance to assess the need to further enhance the Minimum Energy Performance Standards and Labelling (MEPSL); - Strengthening procedures of Article 5 countries on product registration that is synergized with refrigerant information and to interpret the result of energy performance test from the laboratory testing report in the absence of physical laboratory; - Supporting Article 5 countries on outreach and awareness related to energy efficiency in servicing sector
14. IIR	Inter-governmental Organization (IGO)	Global	Promoting adoption of ozone-friendly low-GWP and energy efficient RAC technology in the cold chain Founding partner of INWIC	- Sharing technical information and expertise; organizing joint events; co-organizing thematic workshops on alternative technologies; - Updating Cold Chain Technology Briefs and organizing webinars to introduce the changes; - Conducting regional surveys about women in RAC sectors in cooperation with several associations and industry partners - Advancing the engagement of women, promote career opportunities, and increase their overall participation in the HVACR sector by coordinating INWIC activities and providing resources (webinars, training opportunities, participation in meetings/conferences).
15. IOR	Professional association	National/Regional	Founding partner of INWIC	- Advancing the engagement of women, promote

Organization	Type of organization	Scope	Type of cooperation	Description of partnership
				career opportunities, and increase their overall participation in the HVACR sector by coordinating INWIC activities and providing resources (webinars, training opportunities, participation in meetings/conferences).
16. ISHRAE	Professional association	National	Training programmes, technical events, and support to small RAC associations Founding partner of INWIC	- Organizing technical conferences and technology shows in addition to providing experience and support to small RAC associations in A5 countries; - Developing sessions at upcoming expos and conferences e.g. ACREX / REFCOLD in India; - Advance the engagement of women, promote career opportunities, and increase their overall participation in the HVACR sector by coordinating INWIC activities and providing resources (webinars, training opportunities, participation in meetings/conferences).
17. JSRAE	Professional association	National	Founding partner of INWIC	- Advancing the engagement of women, promote career opportunities, and increase their overall participation in the HVACR sector by coordinating INWIC activities and providing resources (webinars, training opportunities, participation in meetings/conferences).
18. SMEITS / KGH	Industry Association	Regional, national	Joint organization of technology roundtables, exhibition booths, network meetings, outreach activities (Ozone Pages in quarterly bulletin, KGH website)	- Continued cooperation under Serbia's HPMP – awareness component, and OzonAction activities in the ECA region.
19.U-3ARC	Professional association	Regional	Initiatives, technical events, training programs, and support to RAC associations in Africa. Founding partner of INWIC	- Conducting research and data gathering to better understand the current situation of African countries with respect to the servicing sector's ability to handle low-GWP alternatives, to help inform NOU strategies and approaches; - Advancing the engagement of women, promote career opportunities, and increase their overall participation in the HVACR sector by coordinating INWIC activities and providing resources (webinars, training opportunities, participation in meetings/conferences).

Organization	Type of organization	Scope	Type of cooperation	Description of partnership
20.Women in HVACR	Professional association	National	Founding partner of INWIC	- Advancing the engagement of women, promote career opportunities, and increase their overall participation in the HVACR sector by coordinating INWIC activities and providing resources (webinars, training opportunities, participation in meetings/conferences).
21.World Refrigeration Day Secretariat	Not-for-profit organization (NGO)	Global	Global public and specialized campaign to highlight the importance of sector and environmental issues in relation to Montreal Protocol Co-initiator and a founding partner of INWIC (International Network of Women in Cooling)	- Celebrating annually the World Refrigeration Day (WRD) through international campaigns with other international partners. Previous campaigns organized in 2019, 2020, and 2021, 2022, 2023,2024 and 2025 under the themes "Refrigerant4Life", "Cold Chain4Life", "Cooling Champions", "Cooling Keeps Food Fresh" "#NextGen Cooling","Temperature matters – absolutely!" and "Cool Skills" in cooperation with many partners; - Advancing the engagement of women, promote career opportunities, and increase their overall participation in the HVACR sector by coordinating INWIC activities and providing resources (webinars, training opportunities, participation in meetings/conferences); - Delivering activities agreed in the INWIC workplan through partnership agreement between UNEP and WRD Secretariat.
Policy, customs and enforcement				
22. ASEAN	IGO	Regional	Regional collaboration on strengthening enforcement of licensing system through integrated approaches	- All SEAP countries (except Timor Leste) are members of ASEAN, which has played a vital role in the region to promote regional collaboration in a number of aspects including environment and trade controlled under the Montreal Protocol; In 2026, UNEP will liaise with the ASEAN Technical Sub-Working Group on Classification in the preparation of the 2027 regional HS code to assist in data monitoring and reporting of HFCs

Organization	Type of organization	Scope	Type of cooperation	Description of partnership
				and blends.
23. BRS Secretariat	IGO	Global	Cooperation at the global and national levels on interlinkages between the treaties including the environmentally sound management of equipment containing refrigerants and life-cycle management of refrigerants, illegal traffic and trade of hazardous chemicals and wastes under the scope of the Montreal Protocol and the BRS conventions, inventories of obsolete refrigerants, and their disposal operations.	- Joint side-events and awareness raising in person and online activities.
24. EIA	NGO	Global	Cooperation at the global and reginal levels on prevention and combatting illegal trade in controlled substances	- Joint side-events and awareness raising in person and online activities.
25. EUROPOL	IGO	Regional	Cooperation at the regional and global levels, raising awareness of police on illegal trade in controlled substances and requirements of the Montreal Protocol	- Sharing expertise and experience about the implementation of the Montreal Protocol and opportunities for strengthening cooperation at the national level to prevent and combat illegal trade in controlled substances and requirements of the Montreal Protocol; - Joint side-events and awareness raising in person and online activities.
26. GCI Secretariat	Hosted by UNEP (IGO)	Global	Customs training; compliance and enforcement; combatting illegal ODS trade	- The GCI partners include the Secretariats of the relevant multilateral environmental agreements (Basel, Cartagena, CITES, Montreal, Rotterdam Stockholm and Minamata), Interpol, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, UNEP, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the World Customs Organization (WCO). UNEP Law Division/International Environmental Law Unit currently acts as the Secretariat for the Partnership and coordinates the related activities and the

Organization	Type of organization	Scope	Type of cooperation	Description of partnership
				development and production of relevant outreach materials; - Support Indonesia in organizing national GCI workshops, planned for 2026.
27. GCC Secretariat	Regional	Regional	Monitor the trade ODS and alternatives as well as combat illegal trade. Raise awareness about the MP and promote for updated standards, policies and regulations and subregional cooperation	- UNEP is cooperating with GCC and other regional and sub-regional organizations and secretariats to support Montreal Protocol implementation in the region, including enhancement of the monitoring and control of trade in ODS and their alternatives, as well as to combat illegal trade. Furthermore, this partnership aims to raise awareness among member states about the new developments under the MP and to promote regional cooperation for adopting unified regional standards, regulations, and policies, as required for meeting Montreal Protocol targets, including the adoption of the Kigali Amendment.
28. GCCSO	IGO	Regional	Mapping the needs of the region for updating and development of required standards and codes as required to facilitate the wider adoption of long-term alternatives Raise awareness about the MP and promote for updated standards, policies and regulations and subregional cooperation	- GCCSO is a renown standards body in the WA region and has the ability and mandate to adopt unified standards and codes at the GCC region. Their products can be of great benefit even outside the GCC; - Raising awareness of member GCC region and promote for regional cooperation for adopting unified regional standards and codes as required for meeting MP targets including the adoption of the KA.
29. INTERPOL	IGO	Global	Cooperation at the global level, raising awareness of police on illegal trade in controlled substances and requirements of the Montreal Protocol	- Sharing expertise and experience about the implementation of the Montreal Protocol and opportunities for strengthening cooperation at the national level to prevent and combat illegal trade in controlled substances and requirements of the Montreal Protocol; - Joint side-events and awareness raising in person and online activities.
30. LAS Secretariat	IGO	Regional	Development and dissemination of codes	- UNEP is working jointly with LAS on updating the Arab Unified RAC and insulation codes and

Organization	Type of organization	Scope	Type of cooperation	Description of partnership
				developing tools for introduction of the developed/updated codes to all Arab Member States; - Raising awareness of Member States about the new developments under the Montreal Protocol and promoting regional cooperation for adopting unified regional standards, regulations and policies as required for meeting targets including the adoption of the Kigali Amendment.
31. OCO Secretariat	IGO	Regional	Strengthening capacity of customs/enforcement officers on enforcement of licensing system for controlled substances under the Montreal Protocol	- Capacity building of Customs Officers on HCFC/HFC data monitoring and reporting and of importers/customs brokers on declaration of HCFC/HFC shipment. - Preparation of the 2027 HS code for the Pacific Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System 2027 (PACHS27); - Including an agenda item on enforcement of national controlled substances trade control/management regulation as part of the agenda for the regional meetings/events organized by OCO.
32. OECC	NGO	Regional, National	Assessment and development of feasible options for life-cycle management in Article 5 countries	Conducting assessment of country infrastructure, policy framework related to life-cycle management and development of feasible options, action plan and policy recommendation.
33. UNODC	IGO	Global	Cooperation at the global and national levels on illegal trade in controlled substances and requirements of the Montreal Protocol in the scope of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, Global Programme on Crimes that Affect the Environment, and Passenger and Cargo Control Programme	- Cooperation and provision of expertise for regional and national activities in the context of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, Global Programme on Crimes that Affect the Environment, and Passenger and Cargo Control Programme; - Joint side-events and awareness raising in person and online activities.
34. WCO	IGO	Global	Cooperation at the global level, such as support to the	- UNEP and WCO have a formal framework for cooperation (MOU). UNEP cooperates with WCO

Organization	Type of organization	Scope	Type of cooperation	Description of partnership
			enforcement operation Demeter, participation, as relevant, in the Enforcement Committee meetings, development of training and awareness raising materials and engagement WCO to provide expert support in delivering customs training activities	Secretariat as well as WCO's Regional Intelligence Liaison Offices (RILOs); - OzonAction intends to engage WCO in national and regional activities to strengthen capacity of the customs in Article 5 countries to establish risk management, develop national Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for controls of shipments of substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol for trade controlled of substances under the Montreal Protocol, adopting national and regional HS codes and other customs related issues.

ANNEXES RELATED TO 2025 PROGRESS REPORT

Annex 5 – Details of 2025 CAP Progress Report

Overarching Desired Outcome: **ARTICLE 5 COUNTRIES MEET AND SUSTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH MONTREAL PROTOCOL AND AMENDMENTS**			
Outcomes	**Outputs**		
OUTCOME 1 National Ozone Units effectively manage their national programmes	• All Article 5 countries with Institutional Strengthening (IS) projects approved for UNEP implementation have National Ozone Units (NOUs) that function effectively and deliver the outputs described in their IS renewal. • Any NOU requesting region- and country-specific compliance assistance to address specific technical, policy, or operational issues is provided with that support. • All Ozone Officers and/or their assistants learn from peer-to-peer interaction and strengthen cooperation at the regional and international levels through participation in Regional Networks of Ozone Officers, which may include physical and/or online regional, sub-regional, interregional, and/or thematic meetings. • All new Ozone Officers and/or their assistants acquire the basic skills, competencies and understanding of the Montreal Protocol and Multilateral Fund (MLF). • Any Ozone Officer who wishes to further enhance her/his management of their NOUs acquires those advanced skills. • Selected Ozone Officers (pilot) receive training on multilateral environmental agreement (MEA) negotiation skills with regard to Montreal Protocol/Multilateral Fund meetings. • Any NOU requesting or needing specific support is assisted through country-to-country (south-south/north-south) cooperation facilitated by CAP, e.g., NOU-NOU meetings, study tours, technology roundtables. • NOUs are assisted to explore synergies related to Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment objectives with national energy efficiency policymakers, financial mechanism focal points, climate change focal points, and others through the approved twinning project and other activities.		
2025 Activities	**Indicators**	**Number**	**Progress**
1. Provide all Article 5 countries with IS projects approved for UNEP implementation with technical assistance to expedite the preparation, implementation, monitoring and reporting of IS phases as per Annex 5	Number of IS phases successfully implemented and monitored	103	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Supported IS project implementation in the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Moldova. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Support was provided to Article 5 countries for the implementation, monitoring, and reporting of IS projects, including assistance with the submission of IS renewal proposals. In South Africa, due to national policies on government bank transfers and following consultations with authorities, IS project funds were returned and reported to the ninety-sixth meeting of the Executive Committee (ExCom-96). • A regional training session was conducted for NOUs to introduce the new online Country Programme reporting tool. The session featured a full walkthrough of the system, interactive discussions, and a Q&A segment, ensuring that participants gained the knowledge required to effectively use the platform.

			• In line with MLF gender guidelines, gender was integrated across project implementation and IS renewals. This included promoting gender-balanced participation, addressing gender-specific considerations in project planning, and encouraging the collection and reporting of sex-disaggregated data where relevant. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Assisted Article 5 countries to plan implementation of approved activities and to allocate the approved budget to suit the increase in funding level and 3-year implementation modality in accordance with decision 91/63 during the preparation of Small-scale Funding Agreements (SSFAs). **Latin America (LA):** • Technical assistance was provided to eight countries of the Latin American region in the IS project implementation, monitoring and reporting, including preparation and submission of IS renewals, where applicable. **Global**: • Supported IS project implementation, monitoring and reporting, as well as submission of 30 IS renewals. • Provided tailored technical assistance and introduced innovative implementation strategies, where needed to address country-specific challenges. • Ensured that gender is integrated throughout project implementation and renewal preparation, in line with Multilateral Fund guidelines.
2. Provide support to any NOU requesting region- and country-specific compliance assistance needed to address specific technical, policy, or operational issues as per Annex 6, or as per ad hoc requests.	Number and type of services delivered	107 Country-specific and targeted support	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • In consultation with the Ozone Secretariat assisted Türkiye concerning HFC-245cb, which included issues such as whether it is a controlled substance, what is its Global Warming Potential (GWP), how it is considered under PICC, and encouraged Türkiye to share information on the use of HFC-245cb with the Secretariat. • Assisted Armenia to identify international training providers for the safe use of alternative Refrigeration, Air Conditioning, and Heat Pump (RACHP) technologies. • Supported Armenia and participated in the stakeholder consultation and project meetings in Yerevan in November 2024. • Supported North Macedonia in identifying UN numbers for HFCs from different sources for its customs administration. • Shared the offer of the Czechia's halon bank to sell 300 kg of CEA410 / C4F10, which is a replacement for halon 1301, to interested non-EU countries rather than sending it for destruction. • Supported Albania and participated in the stakeholder consultation and project meetings in Tirana in November 2024. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Country-specific support was provided to Ethiopia, including training for newly recruited NOU

			staff in Addis Ababa and assistance with the submission of four projects, all approved at ExCom-96 after a prolonged delay. • Focused assistance was extended to 12 countries for the development and monitoring of HFC licensing systems, with consultative support and peer exchanges facilitated between advanced and lagging countries. As a result, Kenya, Namibia, Rwanda Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe have successfully established functional electronic licensing platforms for ODS and HFCs. • Compliance-related support was provided to Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, Somalia, and Uganda, focusing on addressing potential non-compliance due to operational challenges and project delays. • Special missions were conducted to Ethiopia, Gambia, Liberia, Malawi, and Zimbabwe. These missions focused on resolving compliance issues linked to institutional transitions, delayed fund disbursements, and project implementation setbacks, and provided targeted policy and technical guidance to ensure effective project execution. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Targeted support was provided to the Central African Republic, as part of a technical mission, to facilitate the ratification of the Kigali Amendment and support the country's compliance with the Montreal Protocol. • CAP also strengthened the capacity of network countries to use the new Country Programme (CP) data online reporting system, contributing to improved knowledge and reporting compliance. • Support was provided to Cambodia and Lao PDR to put in place regulation to ban import of HCFC-based equipment and ban the use of HFC in the manufacturing sector. • Provided orientation on the Montreal Protocol and the Multilateral Fund project to new National Ozone Officer (NOO) and new NOU members of the Philippines and follow-up with Timor Leste on the progress of implementation to strengthen the NOU institutional structure. (SEA) • Conducted seven country missions to Lao PDR, Vietnam, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Brunei Darussalam, Timor Leste, and Vietnam with the objective to review the status of Multilateral Fund project implementation, identify country-specific implementation challenges, and provide country-specific support and advice to the NOU and stakeholders during the mission on various issues. • Provided ad hoc support to Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Tuvalu and Vanuatu to prepare a request to change HFC baseline consumption for submission to the 73rd Implementation Committee. • Continued to provide ad hoc support to Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Tuvalu and Vanuatu to reinforce their request to change HFC baseline consumption and prepare invoices/receipts of HFC trade for submission to the 74th Implementation Committee, in which the request of these countries was accepted and recommended by the Implementation Committee to the Meeting of the Parties. Cook Islands withdrew the request to change HFC baseline consumption) (PIC).

			• Follow-up with Solomon Islands on the progress of implementation to strengthen the NOU institutional structure and assisted the NOO of Tuvalu with filing and handover of the tasks. • Conducted 10 country missions to Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Tonga, Kiribati, Nauru, Vanuatu, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Papua New Guinea to review the status of Multilateral Fund project implementation, identify country-specific implementation challenge and provide country-specific support and advice to the NOO and stakeholders during the mission. **South Asia (SA):** • Organized a two-day meeting in November 2024 with the Mongolia NOU to discuss the HFC consumption issues identified during the Kigali Implementation Plan (KIP) data collection and discussed way forward for the preparation of the KIP. • Provided compliance assistance to the Democratic Republic of Korea and facilitated exchanges with the Ozone Secretariat regarding A7 reporting and action plan to return to compliance. • Bilateral meetings were conducted between the Ozone and Iran, Nepal and Pakistan to discuss the current situation, expected timeline and support needed for the ratification of Kigali Amendment. • Provided ad hoc support to Bhutan to establish their national quota management system and provided draft quota management tool for trial. • In collaboration with WCO assisted Sri Lanka NOU to conduct a dedicated training on risk profiling for customs and enforcement officers in February 2025. **West Asia (WA):** • Provided country-specific support to Ozone Officers through various channels, including direct regular contact one-on-one meetings, and other interactions, two network and three thematic meetings, and bilateral and group discussions. • Such support was crucial to countries facing challenges such as institutional changes, political instability, or changes in NOUs, specifically Iraq, Jordan, Qatar, Syria, Yemen, and the State of Palestine. • All queries and requests were addressed offering tailored assistance to Jordan, Qatar, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Yemen to meet specific project requirements. • 12 missions were also conducted to six countries to resolve outstanding issues impacting the timely implementation of HPMPs, ISPs and other approved projects. **Latin America (LA):** • Addressed country-specific requests through direct contact with Ozone Officers, virtual network and thematic meetings, and other bilateral/group discussions, one-on-one meetings, and interactions. • Followed up with countries that experienced institutional changes, political instability, or changes of NOOs, in particular, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Honduras, Peru and provided support for continued implementation of the projects.

			• Responded to all queries and requests received from network countries. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Provided country-specific services through direct contact with Ozone Officers via one workshop on youth in the Refrigeration Servicing Sector (RSS) held in 2024, one Network Meeting that took place in June 2025, and other bilateral discussions, one-on-one meetings, and interactions. • Responded to all queries and requests received from network countries. • Provided country-specific support to countries through Country Missions to Antigua and Barbuda in September 2024, Belize in November 2024, and Suriname in May 2025. • Provided support to Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Suriname for submission of 2023 A7 data to avoid potential non-compliance. • Support provided to Antigua and Barbuda for clarifying their submitted 2020 Country Programme vs A7 Data as part of the HPMP II review process. • Disseminated OzonAction technical information to all countries.
3. Organize Regional Network meetings for Ozone Officers in all ten regions, including physical and/or online regional, subregional, inter-regional, and/or thematic meetings, so that all Ozone Officers and/or their assistants can learn from peer-to-peer interaction and strengthen cooperation at the regional and international levels.	Number of meetings successfully organized (2 per region target)	24	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Organized the KIP implementation and Ozone2Climate meeting with Monreal Protocol Officers, RACHP associations and experts in Belgrade, Serbia, December 2024. It took place in parallel to the 55th International HVAC&R Congress and Exhibition of the Serbian RACHP Association Union of Mechanical and Electrical Engineers and Technicians of Serbia (SMEITS) / Society for Heating, Refrigerating and Air-conditioning (KGH). • Jointly with WA region, arranged the meeting with Montreal Protocol Officers and Environmental Inspectors in Batumi, Georgia, in June 2025 (ECA & WA). The meeting was followed by the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) workshop on lifecycle refrigerant management. • Arranged four online meetings between September 2024 and May 2025 on inventory of banks preparation projects, trade restrictions for RACHP equipment, training and certification, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) Fit for Green Cooling initiative, and green strategies of multinational companies. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Two Twinning Workshops and Border Dialogues were successfully organized to strengthen cooperation between NOOs and customs officers, with a focus on enhancing the implementation of national licensing and quota systems for ODS and HFCs. The first workshop was held for countries in Western and Northern Africa (Anglophone Network) in Freetown, Sierra Leone from 20 to 22 November 2024. The event facilitated cross-border collaboration and improved coordination between NOUs and customs administrations in the region. The second event was a three-day workshop held in Arusha, Tanzania, from 7 to 9 May 2025, involving countries from Eastern Africa: Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda. The session emphasized regional dialogue and operational alignment to ensure more effective enforcement of licensing systems and border controls. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):**

			• The following workshops were organized for the French-speaking African countries:
			  o A Thematic workshop on the Kigali implementation plan in Mombasa, Kenya, in April 2025 on capacity building for national experts and NOOs, data collection, KIP design, and utilization of OzonAction tools.
			  o A Regional Network Meeting of French-Speaking African countries back to-back with the Thematic Workshop for National Energy Experts in Tunis, Tunisia, in October 2024.
			South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):
			• Organized joint Network and/or Thematic meetings in the following regions:
			  o Joint Thematic Workshop of Southeast Asia and Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers on National Inventory of Banks of ODS/HFC and Strategy for Management of Unwanted Controlled Substances in the Philippines in November 2024; (SEA and PIC)
			  o In collaboration with the Multilateral Fund Secretariat, there was an online meeting on the use of Country Programme online in March 2025. (SEA and PIC)
			• Organized Network and/or Thematic meetings in the following regions:
			  o Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 (SEA);
			  o Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025; (PIC)
			  o Technical Workshop on Strengthening HFC Licensing and Quota System in Tonga in May 2025. (PIC)
			South Asia (SA):
			• Organized Joint Network Meeting for South Asia and West Asia National Ozone Officers in Chennai, India from 24 to 25 September 2024 (SA & WA);
			• Organized Customs Border Dialogue for South Asia and West Asia Countries in Chennai, India from 26 to 27 September 2024 (SA & WA);
			• Organized Network Meeting for South Asia National Ozone Officers in Bangkok, Thailand from 3 to 5 July 2025.
			West Asia (WA):
			• Two Joint network meetings:
			  o Joint Network Meeting of South Asia and West Asia National Ozone Officers in Chennai, India from 24 to 25 September 2024 (SA & WA);
			  o Joint ECA-WA network meeting of Montreal Protocol Officers and Environmental Inspectors in Batumi, Georgia, from 17 to 19 June 2025 (ECA & WA).
			• Organized the following thematic and technical workshops:
			  o Customs Border Dialogue for South Asia and West Asia Countries in Chennai, India from 26 to 27 September 2024 (SA & WA);
			  o Subregional technical workshop for Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries on suitable long term alternative technologies for the air conditioning sector and

			assessment of penetration of such technologies into the GCC markets in Bahrain from 16 to 18 February 2025; o Awareness session to the enforcement officers in Oman, from 24 to 26 December 2024. o Supported AHRI Middle East meeting on Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration (HVACR) next generation alternatives in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on 1 July 2025. **Latin America (LA):** • Organized the Thematic Meeting of Ozone Officers of Latin America in the Dominican Republic in November 2024. • Organized the webinar of the new online Country Programme data reporting platform in cooperation with the Multilateral Fund Secretariat for the Latin America region in March 2025. • Organized the Network Meeting of Ozone Officers of Latin America in Costa Rica in June 2025. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Organized and hosted the following meetings: o Workshop for Youth in the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Sector in Belize City, Belize, November 2024; o Thematic Network Meeting held back-to-back with Grenada's Sustainable Cooling Exhibition in St. George's, Grenada, June 2025; o Fireside Chat within the margins of the 2025 Network Meeting in St. Geroge's Grenada, June 2025; o Organized and hosted, in collaboration with the Multilateral Fund Secretariat, a Virtual Training Session on the Online Reporting System on 13 May 2025.

4. Offer introductory training to all new Ozone Officers and/or their assistants to acquire the basic skills, competencies and understanding of the Montreal Protocol and Multilateral Fund.	Number of Ozone Officers/assistants trained (all new Ozone Officers)	84	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Jointly with the global team, arranged training of 13 new staff of Montreal Protocol Units from Armenia, Georgia, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Türkiye in October 2025 in Paris, France. The training was followed by the CCAC workshop on lifecycle refrigerant management. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • A standardized training programme was conducted by CAP for new NOU staff (14 male, 8 female) in Addis Ababa, ensuring a consistent and structured approach to capacity building. The training focused on enabling participants to understand their roles and responsibilities and to perform essential NOU functions efficiently and in alignment with compliance requirements .**South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • There was no introductory face-to-face Ozone Officer/Assistant training workshop for SEA and PIC network during reporting period. However, CAP provided an online orientation training on the Montreal Protocol and the Multilateral Fund project to new NOO and new NOU members of the Philippines (SEA) and Nauru and Samoa (PIC). **West Asia (WA):** • Training workshop for the NOU and enforcement officers at the Ministry of Environment was held in Jordan from 27 to 29 May 2025. • Consultation workshop on Montreal Protocol key updates for government representatives; and the NOU training workshop were held in Qatar from 4 to 6 February 2025. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Organized and delivered an Ad-hoc training for Suriname's new NOO and NOU team as part of the country mission to Paramaribo, Suriname in May 2025. • An informal training session was organized and delivered to the NOO and NOA of Saint Kitts and Nevis in February 2025. Both sessions followed a compressed version of UNEP's NOU training programme.
5. Offer advanced training to any Ozone Officer who wishes to acquire advanced skills to further enhance her/his management of their NOUs.	Number of Ozone Officers trained	0	**Global:** • There was no advanced Ozone Officer training workshop during reporting period due to the changes in staffing and the need to provide back up support to the regions.
6. Develop and pilot a short training on multilateral environmental agreement (MEA) negotiation skills for Ozone Officers for effective participation in Montreal Protocol/Multilateral Fund meetings.	Training developed	0	**Global:** • This activity was under discussion during the reporting period. It has been requested by countries and is being planned for further development and implementation at the end of this and continuation in the next cycle.

7. Support NOUs requesting or needing specific support through country-to- country (south-south/north-south) cooperation facilitated by CAP, e.g., NOU-NOU meetings, study tours, technology roundtables.	Number and type of country-to-country cooperation activities	34 Exchange of information, experience sharing, study tours, etc.	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Supported Serbia and arranged the technology roundtable and exhibition booth in December 2024 during the 55th International HVAC&R Congress and Exhibition of the Serbian RACHP Association SMEITS / KGH. These activities were part of the HPMP awareness component. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Facilitated country-to-country communication among Eastern and Western African countries, including Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Gambia, Sierra Leone, Egypt, and Sudan, and established a collaborative platform for sharing national border management experiences, lessons learned, and best practices. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Chad and Mauritania shared on their countries' experience with the Central African Republic in support of the ratification process of the Kigali Amendment of the latter. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • South-south cooperation with Singapore: jointly organized a workshop and study visit on Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) of Room Air-conditioner – Implementation, Monitoring and Enforcement under the project "Enhancing/Maintaining of Energy Efficiency in RAC Appliance in Servicing Sector (Decision 89/6)" in November 2024 with UNEP U4E to learn experience from Singapore and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) members. The workshop was attended by NOOs, National Energy Efficiency Officers and Domestic Trade Officers from Cambodia, Lao PDR and Timor Leste (OzonAction) and Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Vietnam (U4E) (SEA). • South-south cooperation with the Philippines: facilitated a site visit to cement kiln factory with ODS/HFC destruction facility for NOOs to raise their awareness about destruction of unwanted substances (SEA and PIC) • South-south cooperation with the Philippines: Organized a session for the Philippines to deep dive electronic licensing system for tracking of HFC quota utilization during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 (SEA) • South-south cooperation with the Philippines: Organized a session for the Philippines to deep dive electronic licensing system for tracking of HFC quota utilization during the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025 (PIC) • South-south cooperation with Malaysia: facilitated a study visit of ten SEA countries to a manufacturer of commercial refrigerator, which cover polyurethane foam and refrigeration during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 (SEA) • South-south cooperation with Indonesia: facilitated coordination between Indonesia and

			Timor Leste in organizing competency-based assessment training for trainers of Timor Leste in December 2025 to enable Timor Leste to implement the competency-based training under the HPMP Stage II. (SEA) • North-south cooperation with Australia: organized sessions for Australia to share experience on (i) actions with data difference between importing and exporting parties and (ii) implementation and enforcement of HFC quota system during the Technical Workshop on Strengthening HFC Licensing and Quota System in Tonga in May 2025 (PIC) • South-south cooperation with Fiji: Identified a RAC expert from Fiji to assist Niue and Marshall Islands in delivery of RAC training workshop under the HPMP Stage II (PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Assisted China with a study tour to Belgium and Netherlands in cooperation with the EU Commission, held in December 2024. • Participated in the REFCOLD exhibition including a dedicated OzonAction informative booth, held in Kolkata, India from 3 to 5 October 2024. • International training for master trainers on R-290 Room AC GSP for participants from South Asia, South-East Asia and Western Asia regions, was held in Guangzhou, China from 7 to 9 January 2025. • Ozone2Climate Technology roadshow and Industry Roundtable was held in Shanghai China, from 27-29 April 2025. **West Asia (WA):** • Efforts continued to focus on fostering experience exchange among West Asian countries, enabling them to update their regulations and standards as needed for Kigali Amendment implementation. • Facilitating key exchanges, such as those between Bahrain & Kuwait/Qatar and Iraq/Jordan, to ensure the effective and timely execution of funded projects. • Facilitated bilateral cooperation between Kuwait and Qatar on refrigeration technician certification schemes. • An initiative involved enhancing south-south cooperation across Western Asia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia and South-East Asia regions through joint network and thematic meetings held in 2024-2025. These meetings were crucial in improving country-to-country communication and sharing national policy and technical experiences. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Facilitated country's south-south cooperation request for support to encourage participation of the youth in the RSS by organizing the Workshop for Youth in the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) in Belize in November 2024.
8. Assist NOUs to explore synergies related to Kigali Amendment objectives with national energy efficiency policymakers	Number of twinning workshops organized	15 workshops/ sessions	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Jointly with ClimaCheck arranged online training for RACHP and energy efficiency experts in September 2024 on predictive maintenance to improve RACHP system performance and energy efficiency.

		8 regional Twinning project completion reports and one final consolidated report prepared and finalized and officially submitted to MLFS	• Implemented additional energy efficiency related activities in Armenia and the Kyrgyz Republic. • Implemented energy efficiency pilot projects in the Kyrgyz Republic and prepared projects for Georgia and the Republic of Moldova for submission to ExCom-97. • Supported the Kyrgyz Republic to purchase portable devices to measure RACHP system parameters / performance and energy efficiency. • UNEP / Czechia submitted a project proposal to ExCom-95 in December 2025 to conduct a regional desk study on energy efficiency of RACHP equipment to provide an overview of equipment commercially available on the market in the European Union and ECA countries and best available technologies including costs, market penetration, and availability of after-sales service which was not approved. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Progress has been made in facilitating dialogue between NOUs and national energy efficiency policymakers to align efforts under the Kigali Amendment. Facilitated technical advice to identify synergies in cooling sector strategies and policy planning in Rwanda, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • No twinning workshop was organized for SEA and PIC networks during the reporting period. However, during the workshop and study visit on MEPS of Room Air-conditioner – Implementation, Monitoring and Enforcement in Singapore in November 2024, UNEP organized a breakout session with Cambodia, Lao PDR and Timor Leste to discuss the work that refrigerant phase-out/phase-down can be synergized with energy efficiency including product registration, license procedures, customs clearance and domestic market inspection. **South Asia (SA):** • Policy interventions relating to energy efficiency are being developed and promoted through the energy efficiency projects under 89/6 in Bhutan, Maldives and Mongolia. **Global:** • During the reporting period, the Twinning Project reached several key milestones, including the successful completion of the final two Twinning workshops, held back-to-back with the regional network meetings, and marking the conclusion of Phase I. These achievements presented significant progress and reflect strong collaboration across regional networks. The Latin America Networks Twinning Workshop was held on 1 and 2 August 2024 in Santiago, Chile, followed by the French-speaking African Network Twinning Workshop on 7 and 8 September 2024 in Tunisia. Both workshops were successfully conducted and well attended. • The events proved instrumental in addressing common challenges and reaffirmed the value of regional cooperation in advancing energy efficiency and ozone protection in Article 5 countries. NOOs strengthened their technical knowledge of energy-efficient solutions and the operation of RAC systems.

			• The Francophone Africa workshop created a unique space for exchange among NOUs, energy efficiency, and financial focal points, many met for the first time. A breakout session on "Building Bridges" helped participants understand each other's roles, share national experiences, and open new channels for collaboration, both within and across countries. The workshop introduced participants to key aspects of the RACHP sector, including technical, regulatory, and policy dimensions. While opportunities for improvement were explored, participants also noted the need for continued training and tools. Discussions reinforced the links between the Montreal Protocol, the Kigali Amendment, and energy efficiency, highlighting the importance of sustained commitment from all stakeholders. • The Latin America & Central America workshop provided a platform for countries to exchange practical strategies for aligning national policies with the Kigali Amendment goals. Experiences from Mexico and Chile on updating MEPS and energy labelling inspired others to integrate energy efficiency into their refrigerant transition plans. Participants also explored innovative financing models, such as "cooling as a service", that ease upfront costs and support broader adoption of efficient technologies. The workshop strengthened inter-country collaboration and cross-sector engagement and demonstrated how coordination among agencies can drive sustainable change. Interactive sessions enhanced participants' technical skills and institutional capacity, laying the groundwork for future joint initiatives. The event fostered a sense of shared purpose, equipping countries with the knowledge, tools, and networks needed to advance sustainable cooling and fulfill Kigali's long-term objectives. • In total, the Twinning Project brought together 422 participants from nine regional networks. Europe & Central Asia/West Asia accounted for the largest share (91 participants, 21.6%), followed by the combined Francophone and Anglophone Africa networks (128 participants, 30.3%). Other regions were also well represented: Latin America and Southeast Asia (48 each), Pacific Islands (37), South Asia (36), and the Caribbean (34). The workshops fostered exchange and collaboration among NOOs, National Energy Efficiency Officers, National Financial Focal Points, and experts from UN agencies and international, regional, and national institutions. • Additionally, during this reporting period, eight individual reports were prepared, each documenting the outcomes, insights, and lessons learned from the regional Twinning Workshops conducted across the participating networks. These reports captured region-specific challenges, successful practices, and emerging opportunities related to the integration of energy efficiency and the phase-down of high-GWP refrigerants. • Building on these regional inputs, a consolidated and comprehensive final report was developed to synthesize the overall achievements of Phase I. The final report presented a thorough analysis of the project's impact, highlighted common themes and gaps across regions, and identified actionable recommendations to inform the next phase. • Drawing directly from this evidence base, a proposal for Phase II of the Twinning Project was formulated. The proposal reflected the evolving needs of countries under

			the Kigali Amendment and placed greater emphasis on strengthening national policy frameworks, deepening technical capacity, and enhancing inter-agency coordination. This Phase II proposal was submitted and subsequently approved at the 96th Meeting of the Executive Committee, setting the stage for continued support and expanded collaboration in advancing energy efficiency and sustainable cooling solutions in Article 5 countries.
9. Assist interested NOUs to understand methodology for establishing inventories of banks of used or unwanted controlled substances and identification of potential strategy and business model for country to handle used or unwanted controlled substances in accordance with the relevant decision of the Executive Committee.	Number and type of support	50 Information sessions, technical advice, collection and analysis, strategy, etc.	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Implemented inventory of banks preparation projects in Albania, Armenia, Georgia, the Kyrgyz Republic, and the Republic of Moldova and prepared such project for Serbia to be submitted to ExCom-97. • Arranged an online meeting on inventory of banks preparation projects in September 2024. • Included a session on inventory of banks preparation projects in the joint Eastern Europe and Central Asia and Western Asia meeting in Batumi, Georgia, in June 2025. • UNEP / Czechia submitted a project proposal to ExCom-95 in December 2025 to conduct a regional desk study on options for reclamation and destruction to provide an overview of available facilities in the European Union and ECA countries which can process controlled substances originating from Article 5 countries, relevant legislation and requirements for cross-border and transit trade as well as technologies, contractual conditions and costs, which was not approved. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Interested NOUs were supported in identifying and evaluating viable national strategies and business models for the effective management of unwanted controlled substances. This included tailored guidance on policy development, technical options, and economic feasibility. In addition, continuous technical support is provided through regional networks and bilateral cooperation, ensuring sustained capacity-building and access to specialized expertise. The countries received assistance include Eritrea, Eswatini, Gambia, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Moderated the breakout session during the 2024 Life-cycle Refrigerant Management Workshop organized by the Ozone Secretariat during the Meeting of the Parties in November 2024 to share experiences from the experts to participating countries (all networks). • During the Joint Thematic Workshop of Southeast Asia and Pacific Island Countries on National Inventory of Banks of ODS/HFC and Strategy for Management of Unwanted Controlled Substances in the Philippines in November 2024, organized sessions for experts to share knowledge and experience related to the National Inventory Project including terminology and scope of the project, experience on survey and preparation of national inventory, policy and initiatives on life-cycle refrigerant management (LRM), options for operation of LRM and initiative on LRM. A site visit to cement kiln factory

			with ODS/HFC destruction facility was conducted for the NOO to understand more about destruction of unwanted substances (SEA and PIC) • Organized a session to update management of controlled substances from Japan and implementing agency experiences during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officer in Malaysia in April 2025 (SEA) • Organized a session on data collection and analysis for the National Inventory of Banks of ODSs/HFCs during the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officer in Tonga in May 2025 (PIC) • Developed data collection and analysis strategy to understand the potential banks, recovered, reusable and non-reusable controlled substances to enable countries to have holistic pictures of situation and implementation gaps. Moderated the breakout session during the 2025 Life-cycle Refrigerant Management Workshop organized by CCAC during the 47th Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) meeting in July 2025 to share data collection and analysis strategy to Article 5 countries that UNEP is implementing agency of the project (all networks). **South Asia (SA):** • Supporting Bhutan, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal and Sri Lanka with the implementation of projects related to the preparation of national inventory of banks of waste-controlled substances and development of a national plan for management of these substances, action plan for the project has been agreed with the countries, and the hiring of the international consultant is in progress. **West Asia (WA):** • Joint ECA-WA and CCAC workshop on Life Cycle Refrigerants Management held in Batumi, Georgia on 20 June 2025. • Continue implementation of the Inventory Project for Yemen and support Iraq and Oman with newly approved projects. **Latin America (LA):** • Assistance provided to eight countries in the region in the preparation of inventories of banks of used or unwanted controlled substances through projects approved by the ExCom. Specific sessions about inventories, strategies, management plans and final disposal options were delivered during the Network meetings in the Dominican Republic in November 2024 and Costa Rica in June 2025). **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • ODS banks project approved for nine countries. • Two projects planned for submission to ExCom-97.
Outcomes	**Outputs**		

OUTCOME 2 Article 5 countries report accurate and timely data	• The status of Article 7 and Country Programme data submissions is regularly monitored, and follow-up support is offered to countries. • Any NOU requesting support with collecting, reviewing and reporting accurate Article 7 and/or Country Programme data is assisted to do so, so that they report by (or in advance of) the reporting deadlines. • All NOUs are assisted in understanding the revised data reporting formats and the new data reporting obligations related to the Kigali Amendment, and to use the online reporting systems. • All NOUs are made aware of best practices and methodologies for data collection, cross-checking and reporting requirements for all controlled substances. • All NOUs are offered information or assistance to establish their HFC baselines and the starting points for sustained aggregate reductions in HFC consumption.		
2025 Activities	**Indicators**	**Number**	**Progress**
10. Regularly monitor the status of Article 7 and Country Programme data to identify and avoid late submissions or risks of noncompliance and provide follow-up support to countries as needed.	Status report on data submission. Type of support provided	147 Online training sessions, provision of information, tailored support.	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Encouraged Georgia and the Republic of Moldova to report Country Programme data early to support the approval of their respective KIPs stage I. • Supported Georgia to clarify with the Ozone Secretariat that they had not previously reported official HFC baseline data. • Supported Georgia in searching for laser treatment technologies using R134a as an aerosol for cooling purposes, and alternative technologies, clarifying that such use is considered servicing. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Throughout the reporting period, regular communication was maintained with NOOs to reinforce awareness of key data reporting deadlines. UNEP actively monitored the status of data submissions and provided timely support as needed, including sending reminder messages and offering technical guidance to ensure accurate and on-time reporting in accordance with Montreal Protocol obligations. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Informed Papua New Guinea of deadline for reporting HFC consumption during the baseline year in Article 7 after country's ratification to the Kigali Amendment to ensure compliance with the Kigali Amendment obligations (PIC). • Sent reminder to all countries in the network to submit the online Country Programme data and online Article 7 data by the submission deadline. Regularly reminded countries that have not yet submitted the Country Programme data and Article 7 data by the deadline (SEA and PIC). **South Asia (SA):** • Organized online training session in collaboration with Multilateral Fund Secretariat for countries on the new online reporting system; • Organized a session on the new online Country Programme data reporting system during the Network Meeting for South Asia National Ozone Officers held in Bangkok, Thailand in July 2025. **West Asia (WA):** • Regularly monitored the submission status of all countries for both Article 7 and Country Programme data. And provide the required assistance for timely and accurate reporting.

			Latin America (LA): • Regularly monitored the submission status of the 19 countries of the Latin America region of Article 7 and Country Programme data reporting. • Follow-up support was provided to Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras in online Country Programme data reporting in cooperation with the Multilateral Fund Secretariat. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Provided support to Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Suriname for submission of 2023 A7 data to avoid potential non-compliance.
11. Assist any NOU requesting support with collecting, reviewing and/or reporting accurate Article 7 and/or Country Programme data.	Number of countries supported. Type of support provide	59 Supported with data collection, accuracy of data.	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Supported data collection for KIP stage I preparation in Georgia and the Republic of Moldova, and HPMP stage II preparation in Serbia. • Jointly with MFS arranged an online meeting in February 2025 on the online Country Programme data reporting system for Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Western Asia countries. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Targeted assistance was provided to enhance the accuracy, consistency, and reliability of data reporting in Angola, Botswana, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Gambia, Sierra Leone, and South Sudan. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Targeted assistance provided to Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Cabo Verde and Sao Tome and Principe. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Assisted Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, the Philippine, Timor Leste and Vietnam to review the accuracy and consistency of data reporting and provided advice to the NOOs to address data inconsistency prior to submission online (SEA). • Assisted Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marhsall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu to review the accuracy and consistency of data reporting and, provided advice to the NOOs to address data inconsistency prior to submission online prior to submission online (PIC). **South Asia (SA):** • Assisted Bangladesh, Bhutan, DPRK, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal and Sri Lanka in reviewing their data for Country Programme/A7 before submission. **West Asia (WA):** • Provided assistance to West Asia countries for reporting through the new online systems, including dedicated support to Syria and the United Arab Emirates for HFCs data reporting and verification. **Latin America (LA):** • NOOs were assisted on data collection, reviewing and reporting as part of the IS

			implementation, and through the Network Meetings of Ozone Officers of Latin America. All 19 countries of the Latin America Region participated in the webinar of the online Country Programme data reporting platform in March 2025. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Provided guidance to Antigua and Barbuda with revising 2020 Country Programme and A7 data as part of the 2024 Verification Report process. • Provided support to Saint Kitts and Nevis to review their 2023 A7 data in October 2024 prior to submission, following being on a list of countries who had not yet submitted and to avoid possible non-compliance.
12. Regularly follow up with all NOUs about data reporting deadlines and online reporting systems and/or form	Number and type of support provided	58 Online training, communication and sharing information and reminders	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Timely reminders and follow-up communication on A7 and Country Programme data reporting were provided to all 11 ECA countries. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • An online training session on Country Programme data reporting was conducted for all 28 countries in the region, aimed at strengthening the capacity of NOUs to accurately report data using the Online Reporting System. • Targeted support was provided to Sierra Leone and Gambia to assist with the successful submission of Country Programme data through the Online Reporting System platform, addressing technical challenges and ensuring compliance with reporting requirements. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • In collaboration with the Multilateral Fund Secretariat, organized the online meeting on the use of Country Programme online in March 2025 (SEA and PIC). • Provided guidance and support to countries that have difficulty logging into the online Country Programme data reporting and collaborated with the Multilateral Fund Secretariat to address the difficulty (SEA and PIC). • Provided a reminder to all countries in the network to submit the online Country Programme data and online Article 7 data by the submission deadline. Regularly reminded countries that have not yet submitted the Country Programme data and Article 7 data by the deadline (SEA and PIC). **South Asia (SA):** • Regular reminders sent to countries for the submission of Country Programme and A7 data. • Provided assistance for countries in understanding the new online system guidelines for data reporting and accessing A7 data reporting system and the new online Country Programme reporting system. **West Asia (WA):** • Regular communication with NOUs about data submission; review of draft reports and provision of required clarifications and comments to ensure complete and correct submissions. • Provided assistance to West Asia countries for reporting through the new online systems, including dedicated support to Syria and the United Arab Emirate for HFCs data

			reporting and verification. **Latin America (LA):** • Regular reminders were sent to NOUs about Country Programme data reporting and Article 7 data reporting deadlines. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Email reminders sent to all countries about a submission of 2023 and 2024 A7 and Country Programme and A7 data. Additionally, countries were encouraged to use the Online Reporting Systems for both reports. • A Virtual training session on the Multilateral Fund Secretariat' Online Reporting Systems held May 2025, where countries were also reminded to submit any pending 2024 Country Programme data and to request credentials where needed.
13. Make all NOUs aware of the best practices and methodologies for data collection, cross-checking and reporting requirements for all controlled substances and encourage the institutionalization those processes.	Type of support provided	147 Exchange of experiences and best practices	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Encouraged all countries to analyze discrepancies between reported trade data, to apply iPIC prior to issuing import / export licenses, and to use different data sources. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Assistance was provided to NOOs in all 28 countries to strengthen the data collection and reconciliation process prior to official reporting. Support focused on aligning data from multiple national sources, such as customs records, importers, and licensing systems, to ensure consistency, accuracy, and completeness in reporting under the Montreal Protocol. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Discussions held during the Regional Francophone network meetings significantly enhanced the capacity of NOOs in data collection, validation, and reporting methodologies, thereby supporting the effective implementation of the information management system. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Encouraged the s of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Timor Leste to obtain data from different sources using the template developed by UNEP. Assisted these countries' NOO to reconcile import/export statistics for reporting Country Programme and Article 7 for 2024 (SEA). • Facilitated a discussion to share practices and methodology to breakdown usage of controlled substances in different sectors based on template in the Country Programme during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officer in Malaysia in April 2025. (SEA) • Encouraged the NOO of 14 PICs to obtain data from different sources using the template developed by UNEP and conducted analysis with 13 countries including Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu on reconciliation of import/export statistics for reporting Country Programme and Article 7 for 2024. (PIC) • Assisted Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Tuvalu and Vanuatu to validate data against supporting document to ensure accuracy of submission to request the change of HFC baseline consumption for consideration by the 74th Implementation Committee Baseline change (PIC) • Organized in-person bilateral meeting with the NOU of Papua New Guinea during the OEWG meeting in July 2025 to discuss methodology for data reconciliation and implication of reporting inaccurate HFC baseline consumption. A mission to Papua New Guinea will be

			organized to provide support on data review and reconciliation to enable Papua New Guinea to report HFC baseline consumption by 30 September 2025 (PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Periodically reminded countries about the importance of data reconciliation and validation from different sources in the context of Country Programme and A7 reporting. **West Asia (WA):** • Shared effective strategies and methods for gathering data and ensuring its consistency from various sources before submission. • Devoted ample time during country missions and regional network meetings to address data collection and reconciliation challenges. • Maintained support for countries in establishing mandatory reporting systems for importers, wholesalers, and equipment operators (logbooks). **Latin America (LA):** • Awareness-raising sessions on best practices and methodologies for data collection, cross-checking, and reporting requirements, as well as on the use of online data reporting platforms are delivered to NOUs at network meetings and webinars organized with the support of the Ozone Secretariat and the Multilateral Fund Secretariat. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • All NOUs made aware and encouraged to share best practices for data collection and reporting requirements. This was done through the June 2025 Network Meeting, the Suriname May 2025 Country Mission and Antigua and Barbuda Country Mission on the HPMP II development. Barbados supported guidance on understanding HFC baseline calculation, establishing quota and a management system.
14. Develop a tool to assist NOUs in tracking and monitoring the utilization of HFC quota in CO2 tonnes equivalent to ensure compliance with obligations under the Kigali Amendment.	Tool developed	N/A	**Global:** • The HFC Quota Tracking & Monitoring Tool is currently in its initial stages of development, with the first draft completed and ready for pilot use. Designed to support Article 5 Group-I countries, the tool aims to help manage HFC importer-wise quota allocation in tonnes of CO2 equivalent, in line with the requirements of the Kigali Amendment. It also tracks and calculates national HFC trade statistics in tonnes CO2 equivalent, compares them against allocated quotas, and provides a structured way to enhance transparency, ensure compliance, and support evidence-based policymaking. • At this stage, the tool is being piloted in two countries to obtain their feedback, as this testing phase is critical, to allow for a practical assessment of the tool's functionality and alignment with national systems and capacities. The feedback gathered will guide improvements and help shape a version that can be scaled and implemented more broadly across Article 5 countries. • Available tools were shared with Countries (from the PIC region in particular and other Cooperating Implementation Agencies).

15. Encourage all NOUs to identify and analyze differences between their country's reported trade data and those reported by other countries with whom they trade and to resolve any inconsistencies with their counterparts, including assisting the NOUs with understanding the annual aggregated export data provided by the Ozone Secretariat.	Type of support provided	147 Technical advice and facilitation of communication	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Encouraged all countries to analyze discrepancies between reported trade data, to apply iPIC prior to issuing import / export licenses, and to use different data sources. • Supported Albania analyzing significant discrepancies of reported trade data for 2023, requested China to provide detailed information about the shipments and companies involved, and to apply iPIC prior to issuing export licenses to ALB, helped uploading the list of HFC quota holders for 2025 to iPIC online, and suggested improvements to iPIC online. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Encouraged all NOUs to identify and analyze discrepancies between their national trade data and the corresponding data reported by their trading partners, and to actively engage with counterparts to resolve any inconsistencies. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Actively supported NOUs in conducting thorough reviews of their national trade data, cross-referencing them with customs databases and the figures reported by trading partners, thereby fostering collaborative efforts to reconcile any discrepancies identified. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Included a presentation from the Ozone Secretariat to present 2023 data difference for both HCFCs and HFCs between importing and exporting parties during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officer in Malaysia in April 2025.(SEA) • Included a presentation from the Ozone Secretariat to present 2023 data difference for both HCFCs and HFCs between importing and exporting parties and a presentation from Australia to share experience on actions taken with data difference between importing and exporting parties during the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries NOO in Tonga in May 2025. (PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Reviewed data discrepancy information supplied by the Ozone Secretariat and helped each network country to understand their export/import data in comparison with their trade partners. • Facilitated detailed data exchange pertaining to identified data discrepancies between counties in South Asia and other regions. **West Asia (WA):** • Devoted sufficient time during country missions and regional network meetings to address data collection, reporting and reconciliation challenges arising from differences in their data reporting and those reported by exporting countries, in cooperation with the Ozone Secretariat. **Latin America (LA):** • NOOs were encouraged to identify and analyze the differences between the reported data and the data of exports reported by other countries on an ad-hoc basis, as part of the IS implementation, and during the network meetings with the support of the Ozone Secretariat.

			Caribbean countries (CAR): • Facilitated communication between the Ozone Secretariat and NOUs regarding resolving differences in submitted data. Additionally, supported Saint Vincent and the Grenadines with clarifying whether HFC data submitted voluntarily was final.
16. Offer interested NOUs from Group 2 countries information or assistance to establish their HFC baselines and the starting point for sustained aggregate reductions in HFC consumption.	Type of support provided	19 Technical advice and facilitation of communication	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Interested NOUs from Group 2 countries were offered targeted information and technical assistance to establish their HFC baselines and determine the starting point for sustained aggregate reductions, in line with the Kigali Amendment. • Support was provided through regional network meetings, in-country missions, and dedicated consultations, focusing on HFC data collection, baseline calculations in CO_2-equivalent terms, and the development of national HFC quota systems. • Countries that received direct assistance include Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, South Sudan, Namibia, Botswana, Malawi, Eritrea, Lesotho, and Uganda. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Supported Mauritania's Kigali Amendment ratification and assisted Senegal, Chad, Guinea, and Togo in establishing HFC baselines for the Kigali Implementation Plan. **South Asia (SA):** • During the Network meeting and bilateral consultations held in Bangkok, Thailand, the issue of establishing HFC baseline and starting point for Group 2 countries in the region, namely India, Iran and Pakistan were discussed. • Reminded countries that are in the process of ratifying by (Iran, Nepal and Pakistan) the KA on the need to verify the consumption of baseline years before submission upon ratification **West Asia (WA):** • Through network meetings, country missions, and consultations with NOOs, assisted with HFC data collection, considering new usage sectors and baseline calculations • Guidance on Kigali Amendment obligations, HFC quota system establishment, and HFC baseline calculation was provided through concise information sharing.
Outcomes	**Outputs**		

OUTCOME 3 Effective legal, regulatory and policy frameworks are in place and enforced	• All NOUs are informed about options, including preventative approaches involving awareness and education, to enhance their national Montreal Protocol monitoring, reporting, verification and enforcement (MRVE) systems. • All NOUs are assisted to operate and enhance their HCFC licensing and quota systems as per Montreal Protocol and Multilateral Fund targets. • All NOUs of Article 5 Parties to the Kigali Amendment are assisted to develop, operationalize and enhance their HFC licensing and quota systems. • All NOUs in countries that have not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment are encouraged to consider introducing voluntary licensing systems. • All NOUs are made aware of the benefits of, and approaches for, electronic licensing systems for controlling HCFCs and HFCs. • All NOUs are informed about existing HCFC and HFC legislation in Article 5 and non-Article 5 countries and offered assistance with developing/enhancing their own. • All NOUs participating in the informal Prior Informed Consent (iPIC) mechanism use that system to support enforcement of their licensing and quota systems, more countries are encouraged to join, and the system is modified to reflect emerging needs. • All NOUs are provided with information and assistance to identify/establish policies or regulations to regulate RAC/MAC servicing sector. • All NOUs in Article 5 countries that have not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment are assisted to ratify through support provided by CAP in collaboration with the Ozone Secretariat.		
2025 Activities	**Indicators**	**Number**	**Progress**
17. Inform all NOUs about options, including best practices and preventative approaches involving awareness and education, to enhance their national Montreal Protocol monitoring, reporting, verification and enforcement (MRVE) systems.	Type of support provided	147 Information sessions, exchange of experiences, training	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • A session on MRVE was included into the agenda of the joint Eastern Europe and Central Asia and Western Asia meeting held in Batumi, Georgia in June 2025. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Facilitated the exchange of experiences among countries on electronic licensing systems through network meetings, encouraging the development of national electronic quota and licensing platforms. Discussions covered key areas such as implementation of HCFC quota systems, HFC quota allocation, data verification, and included a dedicated module on MRVE. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Brainstormed with SEA network countries to identify the need of the network to further strengthen collaboration with the customs authorities on MRVE systems through the existing mechanisms. The SEA network reiterated the need to organize the twinning workshop with the Customs Authority on a regular basis to share experiences on MRVE. The next twinning workshop for SEA network is planned in December 2025 with a focus on risk profiling. (SEA) • Continued discussion with the NOUs and customs authorities of Brunei Darussalam, Timor Leste and Vietnam (SEA) and Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (PIC) to follow-up on adoption of integrated approach in the MRVE of licensing system during county mission in the reporting period. **South Asia (SA):** • Detailed exchange with countries on recommendations pertaining to MRVE identified during verification exercise for Bhutan and Nepal submitted to the ExCom-95. • All countries received technical information regarding HFC licensing and quota, HS codes in the context of the Network Meeting held in Thailand, July 2025. • Coordinated with WCO to support Sri Lanka with an expert for their workshop held on risk profiling techniques for ODS and non- ODS held on 21 February 2025. **West Asia (WA):**

			• Held focused sessions on MRVE, data reconciliation, and reporting at network meetings in 2024 and 2025 to discuss principles and share best practices. • Trained new Ozone Officers and assistants on MRVE methodologies and best practices. • Continued supporting countries in updating their regulatory and institutional frameworks, including setting up and operating e-licensing and quota systems. **Latin America (LA):** • Countries of Latin America were informed about the best practices and preventative approaches to enhance their national MRVE systems through the network meetings of Ozone Officers and support provided by the Ozone Secretariat and Multilateral Fund Secretariat. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Countries were informed of awareness and education and role in monitoring, reporting, verification and enforcement systems through one-on-one meetings and network meetings. • SSFAs for HPMPs and KIPs included monitoring and reporting/coordination components, for e.g. Dominica HPMP I Tranche 3 approved by ExCom-95 included an activity whereby the NOU would publish the list of certified technicians in the Gazette and the 2 national Newspapers.
18. Strengthen the capacity of all NOUs to operate and enforce their HCFC licensing and quota systems as per Montreal Protocol and Multilateral Fund targets.	Type of support provided	147 Information sessions, exchange of experiences, training	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Facilitated the invitation and participation of ECA countries in the online global debriefing organized in cooperation with WCO on the DEMETER Operation and customs updates in May 2025. • Supported Serbia concerning an import that entered Serbia not in the year for which the import quota was allocated but in the next year, clarifying that the import would count towards the next year's consumption. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • The capacity of NOUs to operate and enforce their HCFC licensing and quota systems was significantly strengthened. This was achieved through the sharing of best practices and key insights during network meetings and missions, as well as by supporting countries in applying recommendations from UNEP-assisted verification reports to improve their licensing frameworks. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Discussed with Brunei Darussalam, Lao PDR and Timor Leste (SEA) and Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (PIC) and reviewed the operation and enforcement of HCFC licensing and quota system during the country missions. • Assisted countries with UNEP-assisted verification reports e.g. Lao PDR (SEA) and Palau, Samoa, Solomon Island and Tonga (PIC) to use the recommendations from verification report produced during the reporting period to strengthen their licensing and quota systems. (SEA and PIC) • Organized Technical Workshop on Strengthening HFC Licensing and Quota System for

			Pacific Island Countries in Tonga in May 2025, which can also be applied to HCFC licensing and quota system. See activity 19 for details in HFC licensing and quota system. **South Asia (SA):** • Discussed and emphasized best practices during all network meetings. • Supported countries with recently completed UNEP assisted verification reports to use the recommendations to strengthen their HCFC licensing and quota systems in Mongolia, Nepal, Bhutan. • HCFC consumption data for each country was presented during the network meeting, and analysis was provided with regards to consumption levels, the Montreal Protocol schedule and maximum allowable consumptions in the agreements. • Supported Bhutan in clarifying HCFC servicing tail provisions. **West Asia (WA):** • Provided support to West Asia countries through their IS, HPMPs, and KIPs projects to review and enhance their ODS quota and licensing systems, pinpointing areas for improvement and sharing effective strategies for establishing electronic systems. **Latin America (LA):** • The capacity of NOUs in the operation and enforcement of their HCFC licensing and quota systems was strengthened, as part of their IS (8), the HPMPs (11) projects, and the network meetings. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Provided assistance to Suriname during an ad hoc training session in May 2025. • Held country mission to Saint Kitts and Nevis and the Virtual training session on understanding the HCFC licensing and quota systems in February 2025.
19. Assist all NOUs of Article 5 Parties to the Kigali Amendment to develop, adjust and enforce their HFC licensing and quota systems.	Number of countries that established HFC licensing and quota system. Type of support provided	56 countries specific support All countries were supported with technical advice	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Discussed HFC licensing and quota systems during the joint Eastern Europe and Central Asia and Western Asia meeting held in Batumi, Georgia in June 2025. Issues discussed included new HFC importers and the role of iPIC, with some countries recommending it as a mandatory procedure. • HFC licensing systems and quota allocation was discussed during the stakeholder meetings in Tirana, Albania, and in Yerevan, Armenia, in November 2024. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Supported 23 countries in establishing HFC quota systems based on the CO_2-equivalent metric and in creating data tracking tables to monitor quota utilization using import volumes in metric tonnes (MT). **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Continuously monitored the establishment of HFC licensing systems in countries that ratified the Kigali Amendment and encouraged them to report their progress to the Ozone Secretariat.

			South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC): • Assisted Lao PDR (SEA) and Cook Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (PIC) to develop allocation criteria and calculation model for allocation of 2025 HFC quota to importers against the maximum allowable HFC consumption under the KIP Stage I. (SEA and PIC) • Assisted Cambodia (SEA) and Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (PIC) to develop allocation criteria and calculation model for allocation of 2026 HFC quota to importers against the maximum allowable HFC consumption under the KIP Stage I. (SEA and PIC) • Organized an interactive session for countries to share their 2024 HFC quota implementation experiences and challenges at the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 (SEA) and the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025 (PIC) • Informed Papua New Guinea of deadline for confirming HFC licensing system after country's ratification to the Kigali Amendment to ensure compliance with the Kigali Amendment obligations (PIC). • Organized the Technical Workshop on Strengthening HFC Licensing and Quota System for Pacific Island Countries in Tonga in May 2025, which, included a roundtable breakout session providing a platform for each NOO to take a deep dive into the national implementation of their licensing and quota system on (i) HFC quota and linkage with license/permit, (ii) HFC licensing system procedures and template, and (iii) data monitoring, reporting and illegal trade. The workshop allowed each of 14 PICs to develop its own action plan to address national challenges, which will be used to provide support and to follow-up in the subsequent meeting of the PIC Network. (PIC) • Assisted Vanuatu to review provisions in the Ozone Layer Protection Act and drafted regulation on criteria for HFC quota allocation, which would be regulated for 2026 HFC quota to facilitate the NOU to enforce HFC quota system. (PIC) • Assisted the Federated States of Micronesia in the review of the Regulations on Controlled Substances under the Montreal Protocol. **South Asia (SA):** • All countries received technical information regarding HFC licensing and quota including best practices of HFC quota allocation and monitoring at the Network Meeting in Thailand in July 2025. • Continuously encouraged the establishment of HFC quota system in countries that ratified the Kigali Amendment and supported those countries that are preparing their KIP strategy, namely Mongolia, Bhutan, Maldives, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka with technical assistance with annual quota allocation. • Available HFC consumption data for each country was presented during the network meeting, and analysis was provided with regards to consumption levels, the Montreal Protocol schedule and maximum allowable consumptions in the agreements.

			• Provided ad hoc support to Bhutan to establish their national quota management system, and provided draft quota management tool for trial. • Helped Mongolia to clarify the requirements related to the revision of baseline. **West Asia (WA):** • Supported countries in reviewing their updated regulations for HFCs quota and licensing systems, as well as their data monitoring and reporting mechanisms, noting that four new countries have ratified the Kigali Amendment during reporting period. **Latin America (LA):** • Assistance provided to NOUs in the operation and enforcement of their HFC licensing and quota systems, as part of their IS (8), the KIP (7) projects, and the network meetings. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Provided assistance to Barbados on understanding of HFC baseline calculation, establishing quota and a management system. • UNEP provided technical support to Saint Lucia at a national consultation for Customs Brokers on HFC Quota System held on November 2024. • Countries with established quota systems were encouraged to share with the region.
20. Assist all NOUs in Article 5 countries that have not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment to do so, in collaboration with the Ozone Secretariat	Number of countries assisted that ratified the Kigali Amendment. Type of support provided	12 countries	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Jointly with the Ozone Secretariat arranged the meeting in April 2025 with countries in economy in transition to promote universal ratification of the Kigali Amendment. All 11 ECA countries (Article 5) have ratified the Kigali Amendment. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Provided targeted assistance to three countries that have not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment to facilitate their ratification process. Direct support was extended to Libya, South Sudan, and Sudan to advance their national procedures toward ratification **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized a visit in Bangkok of advisor to the Minister of Tourism and Environment and legal advisor of Timor Leste to discuss the ratification of the Kigali Amendment and amended regulation to control HFC through licensing and quota system. (SEA) • Collaborated with the Ozone Secretariat to provide update status on ratification of the Kigali Amendment by Brunei Darussalam and Timor Leste. Facilitated meeting between the Ozone Secretariat and Brunei Darussalam and Timor Leste during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025. (SEA) • Arranged a meeting with the senior officials of Brunei Darussalam and Timor Leste to inform of planned universal ratification by 2026 and encouraged them to expedite the ratification process during country missions. (SEA) • Collaborated with UNEP Asia and the Pacific Office, the Ozone Secretariat and the Multilateral Fund Secretariat to organize a high-level side event *"The Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment: A Legacy of Climate Action"* on 28 August 2025 to showcase the achievements of the Montreal Protocol and highlight the climate benefits of the Kigali

			Amendment to reinforce the political momentum, in particular the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by the remaining Parties. It featured remarks from UNEP's Deputy Executive Director, the Executive Secretary of the Ozone Secretariat, the Chief Officer of the Multilateral Fund and keynote interventions from developing and developed countries. (Asia and Pacific). **South Asia (SA):** • Organized specific bilateral online sessions on ratification for Iran, Nepal and Pakistan in April 2025; Held bilateral meetings with Iran, Nepal and Pakistan, OzonAction, and Ozone Secretariat to encourage ratification in margin of Network Meeting and OEWG-47 in Bangkok, July 2025. **West Asia (WA):** • Supported countries to complete their ratification processes including required internal consultations and approvals. In subsequent reviewing of their regulations for enhanced HFCs controls, as well as their data monitoring and reporting mechanisms, noting that four new countries have ratified the Kigali Amendment during the reporting period. **Latin America (LA):** • The 19 countries of Latin America have ratified the Kigali Amendment. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Email reminders and communication sent to seven remaining countries in the region. • A meeting was held with the NOU and Director of NMA to discuss steps to fast track the Kigali Amendment and gain support as part of the mission to Suriname in May 2025. A draft Cabinet Memo on Kigali Amendment Ratification provided to Dominica. • During the 2025 Thematic Network Meeting in June 2025, an update was presented to the meeting on steps UNEP has taken to support each country with ratification. • The region has been cooperating with the Ozone Secretariat to implement its Universal Ratification plan and has been providing regular updates.
21 Encourage all NOUs in countries that have not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment to consider introducing voluntary licensing and quota systems.	Number of countries with voluntary HFC licensing and quota system. Type of support provided	115	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Jointly with the Ozone Secretariat arranged the meeting in April 2025 with countries in economy in transition countries to promote universal ratification of the Kigali Amendment. All 11 ECA countries (Article 5) have ratified the Kigali Amendment. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • All countries were encouraged to consider introducing voluntary licensing and quota systems as proactive steps toward phasedown readiness. During the recent Network Meeting, targeted support was provided to Libya, Sudan, and South Sudan to strengthen institutional capacity and explore feasible pathways for implementation. However, ongoing political instability in Libya, Sudan and South Sudan has delayed progress, underscoring the need for continued engagement and adaptive support mechanisms. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):**

			• Continued to work with Brunei Darussalam to implement and enforce HFC licensing and quota system. • Continued to work with Brunei Darussalam and Timor Leste to collect HFC data since 2020 to ensure accurate and timely report of HFC data in the Article 7 after country's ratification. (SEA) **South Asia (SA):** • In light of the importance of proper data collection, encouraged the countries not yet party to the Kigali Amendment to introduce voluntary HFC licensing system to generate the needed data at the Network Meeting held in Thailand in July 2025. **West Asia (WA):** • Provided support to countries not yet ratified to prepare for and finalize their ratification processes, encompassing necessary internal consultations and approvals. This extended to subsequently reviewing their regulations for strengthened HFC controls and monitoring through establishing required licensing and quota systems. **Latin America (LA):** • All 19 countries in Latin America have HFC licensing systems in place **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • All countries have established licensing systems for HFCs. Voluntary quota systems are not yet established in seven countries and this has been encouraged. This is difficult as HFC data being submitted has been voluntary (in most cases) and not yet confirmed with the Ozone Secretariat. **Global:** • The implementation status of HFC licensing systems in Article 5 countries continued to be actively monitored to support timely compliance with Article 4B of the Montreal Protocol, as amended by the Kigali Amendment. This approach ensures that countries are well-positioned to meet their Kigali Amendment obligations. As of July 2025, 115 Article 5 countries have established HFC licensing systems. This marks a significant milestone and demonstrates the continued global commitment to the effective implementation of the Kigali Amendment.
22. Encourage NOUs to consider adopting electronic licensing systems where appropriate.	Type of support provided	Technical support, supporting materials	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Some countries have electronic licensing systems, but they might not fit the needs of small countries with few importers and imports per year. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • During network meetings and country missions, all NOUs were encouraged to establish electronic licensing systems for the effective control of HCFCs and HFCs. Supported countries recognized the benefits of such systems, and experience-sharing was facilitated among countries on the establishment and operation of electronic licensing and quota systems. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized a session to update of HCFC/HFC licensing and quota system and adoption of online

			system in network and to deep dive electronic licensing system for management of licensing and quota system and tracking of HCFC/HFC quota utilization during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 (SEA) and during the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025 (PIC) • Provided support to Cambodia to improve the electronic licensing system to accommodate the unit of measurement of HFCs in both MT and tonnes CO2 equivalent and shared value of GWP of different single substance and blends to ensure that GWP used in the system is GWP value as per Annex F of the Montreal Protocol. (SEA) • Discussed with Vietnam NOU and Customs Department on licensing system procedures in the National Single Window System as well as identified implementation gaps and solution to strengthen electronic licensing system under the National Single Window. (SEA) • Reviewed implementation procedures of licensing system in the National Single Window System in Vanuatu as well as identified implementation gaps and solution to strengthen electronic licensing system powered by the National Single Window. (PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Distributed the booklet on National Single Window system for HCFC/HFC control. • Supported Mongolia in the development of electronic licensing system. **West Asia (WA):** • Supported West Asia in grasping the full advantages of electronic license systems at network meetings and during country missions, fostering knowledge exchange between countries on their establishment and operation. **Latin America (LA):** • NOUs are encouraged to adopt electronic licensing systems as part of the capacity-building and awareness-raising components of their HPMPs and KIPs, as well as through the network meetings. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Countries who have not yet transitioned or are in the process of transitioning into an electronic license system encouraged to do so through bilateral meetings, network meetings and email communication.
23. Support all NOUs participating in the informal Prior Informed Consent (iPIC) mechanism to use that system to support enforcement of their licensing and quota systems, and encourage more countries to join	Number of countries participating in iPIC. Statistics of iPIC exchanges	132 countries	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Supported ALB analyzing significant discrepancies of reported trade data for 2023, requested China to provide detailed information about the shipments and companies involved, and to apply iPIC prior to issuing export licenses to ALB, helped uploading the list of HFC quota holders for 2025 to iPIC online, and suggested improvements to iPIC online. • Discussed HFC licensing and quota systems during the joint Eastern Europe and Central Asia and Western Asia meeting in Batumi, Georgia in June 2025 which cover issues related to new HFC importers. Some countries recommend a mandatory iPIC. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):**

			• Special sessions on iPIC mechanism were held at the network meetings in November 2024 and May 2025. Countries were encouraged to regularly update their iPIC contact information to enhance communication and prevent illegal trade. **West Asia (WA):** • Continuously encouraged and assisted countries in using the iPIC mechanism to monitor their trade in controlled substances, aiming to prevent illegal and unwanted trade. **Global:** • iPIC mechanism use was continuously monitored and recorded. In 2024 a total of 2,363 comparing to 3,069 in 2023 queries were recorded using the iPIC mechanism. From January to June 2025, 1,255 queries have been recorded so far. • CAP regularly encourages countries to use iPIC mechanism to monitor their trade in controlled substances and prevent illegal and unwanted trade. The total of 132 countries has an active iPIC sheet, which includes 105 countries plus the European Commission, covering 27 EU member states. • Assisted at least five countries in registering their new national iPIC focal points (six people) to the iPIC online system.
24. Inform all NOUs about existing HCFC and HFC legislation in Article 5 and non-Article 5 countries (including the MAC sector)	Type of support provided. Number of NOUs assisted with policy development/update	All countries received general support as well as 64 NOUs received tailored support	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Informed about the EU legislation and the new F-gas regulation. On several occasions, the European Commission DG Climate and the bilateral partner Czechia presented different aspects of the EU legislation. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Regularly updated all NOUs through emails, network meetings, and country missions on existing HCFC and HFC legislation, including specific regulations in the MAC sector. Continuously monitored the status of Montreal Protocol-related regulations, policies, and measures through network activities and country visits, identified regulatory gaps, and provided targeted support for necessary updates. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Regularly updated all NOUs through emails, network meetings and missions about existing HCFC and HFC legislation including specific regulations in the MAC sector. **South Asia (SA):** • Assisted Nepal in reviewing its draft legislation for the control of HFCs. • All countries were informed about India's policies and Cooling Action Plan at the Network Meeting held in Chennai, India in September 2024, and about Japan and EU's regulations on refrigerants (fluorocarbons) in MAC sector at the Network Meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand in July 2025. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized a session on Policy and Initiatives on Life-Cycle Refrigerant Management to share experiences from the following during the Joint Thematic Workshop of Southeast Asia and Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers on National Inventory of Banks of ODS/HFC and Strategy for Management of Unwanted Controlled Substances in the

			Philippines in November 2024. (SEA and PIC) o Australia on regulation to reduce emission through best practices, qualification, certification and licensing of technicians, o the Philippines on waste management regulation and management and storage of recovered unwanted refrigerant o Japan on rational use and proper management of fluorocarbon, o Sweden on refrigerant recovery/recycling/reuse scheme **West Asia (WA):** • Regularly monitored the status of Montreal Protocol related regulations, measures, and policies including through network meetings and country visits, identifying gaps and providing support for updates and monitored the implementation progress; promoted national and regional HFC legislative and policy options. **Latin America (LA):** • Technical assistance is provided, and NOUs are informed about the HCFC and HFC regional and global legislation as part of their ISs, HPMPs and KIPs. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Regularly provided space at network meetings and events for countries to provide updates on their HCFC and HFC legislation.
25. Assist all NOUs in Article 5 parties to adopt legislative and policy measures related to issues highlighted by TEAP (e.g, fire suppression, refrigerant life cycle management).	Type of support provided	Information sessions, sharing experiences and practices, identification of gaps and areas requiring updates	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Continued monitoring HCFC / HFC legislative and policy options including those related to lifecycle refrigerant management and updated the overview tables in the second half of 2024. • Arranged CCAC workshops on lifecycle refrigerant management in Paris, France in October 2024, and in Batumi, Georgia, in June 2025. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Support extended to all NOUs to review and align their national legislation with emerging issues identified by the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP), such as fire suppression and refrigerant lifecycle management. Technical guidance and policy briefs were provided to facilitate the development and adaptation of relevant regulatory frameworks. As a result, Mauritius and Zimbabwe have initiated legal reforms or policy drafting processes to address these specific sectors under their national ozone protection strategies. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized a session to share Malaysia's experience in the policy and technical challenges on phasing-down HFCs in fire-fighting sector from an Article 5 countries perspectives and Australia experience on strategy and alternatives to phase-down HFCs in the fire-fighting sector during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 to address challenge in the network on availability of fire suppression alternatives to HFC (SEA).

			• Organized a breakout session to facilitate countries to brainstorm and identify need of policy and technical measures for adoption of viable Low-GWP and energy efficient alternatives to HCFCs/HFCs during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 (SEA). **South Asia (SA):** ○ Alternatives available in the firefighting sector was discussed during the Network Meeting in Chennai, India in September 2024. ○ All countries were informed on the update on options for technically and commercially viable low-GWP and energy efficient alternatives in different sectors and an overview and update on commercial refrigeration, industrial refrigeration and transport refrigeration by a presentation by TEAP expert during Network Meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand in July 2025; ○ All countries were informed regarding Lifecycle Refrigerant Management concept, Japan's experience in enforcement of Lifecycle Refrigerant Management policies and latest refrigerant tracking and leak monitoring tools and technologies during the same meeting. **West Asia (WA):** • Regularly monitored the status of regulations, measures, and policies in the West Asia region, including through network meetings and country visits. This involved identifying gaps and providing support for updates, particularly to accommodate new focus areas like lifecycle refrigerant management. **Latin America (LA):** • The main topic of the 2025 Network Meeting of Ozone Officers of Latin America was the TEAP study on life cycle refrigerant management, which encouraged countries to adopt policies related to different stages.
Outcomes	**Outputs**		
OUTCOME 4 Imports and exports are controlled, and illegal trade is reduced/prevented	• All NOUs are encouraged to update, monitor or enforce their national regulations and policies to facilitate and monitor legal trade in controlled substances and to combat illegal trade through an integrated approach. • All NOUs are provided with tools developed by UNEP and its partners for use in the delivery of their national Customs training, and, as appropriate, training of environmental inspectors and other law enforcement officers. • All NOUs have increased awareness and understanding about critical Montreal Protocol Customs issues, including best practices, innovative approaches and ways to combat illegal trade in controlled substances. • All NOUs are made aware of innovative methods that support enforcement of national licensing systems, both at and beyond the Customs check point in domestic markets. • All NOUs are encouraged to interact more closely with Customs agencies to promote regional and international action to combat illegal trade. • Interested national Customs training academies are encouraged and assisted to adopt the UNEP-WCO Customs Training Manual and e-learning into their national curricula. • Interested regional and sub-regional organizations are encouraged to develop regional and/or sub-regional initiatives or policies to facilitate and monitor legal HCFC trade and to combat illegal trade. • All NOUs are assisted to work with Customs to promote adoption of the 2022 Harmonized System codes and/or subcodes or		

	otherwise adopt regional codes or other interim measures for monitoring HFC imports and exports.		
2025 Activities	**Indicators**	**Number**	**Progress**
26. Assist all NOUs requesting support to update, monitor or enforce their national regulations and policies to facilitate and monitor legal trade in controlled substances and to combat illegal trade through an integrated approach.	Number of NOUs supported. Type of support provided.	All NOUs received support through information and good practices sharing; 38 NOUs received specific support.	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Dedicated the first two days of the joint Eastern Europe and Central Asia and Western Asia meeting with Montreal Protocol Officers and Environmental Inspectors to the training of Environmental Inspectors including practical session on using leak detectors / refrigerant identifiers, on physical inspections of RACHP equipment, and on checking paperwork and labeling. • Shared the Czechia's Control Guide for Customs and the checklist for Environmental Inspectors during the meeting in Batumi, Georgia, in June 2025. The resource person from Czechia explained the revised EU F-gas regulation. • Serbia introduced the ban of disposable refrigerant containers **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Informed and encouraged NOUs from Uganda, Rwanda, South Sudan, Ethiopia to involve enforcement authorities in the implementation of HPMPs and energy efficiency activities to strengthen regulatory compliance. • Provided support to NOUs in updating, monitoring, and enforcing national regulations and policies. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Shared example of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for enforcement of licensing system under the Montreal Protocol, which starts from the beginning until the end of enforcement chain for adoption at the national level. (SEA) • Organized a breakout session to facilitate countries to brainstorm and identify need of policy and technical measures for strengthening Montreal Protocol Institutions including for combating illegal trade and data reporting during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025. (SEA) • Continued discussion with the NOU and Customs Authority of Brunei Darussalam, Timor Leste and Vietnam (SEA) and Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (PIC) to follow-up adoption of integrated approach in the MRVE of licensing system during county mission in the reporting period. (SEA and PIC) • Follow-up with Brunei Darussalam and Solomon Islands on progress of internal clearance of the draft specific regulations related to management of controlled substances under the Montreal Protocol to enhance the implementation of licensing and quota system. (SEA and PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Periodically encouraged countries to use iPIC system. • Continuously supporting regional countries to follow-up and resolve their iPIC requests in a timely manner.

			West Asia (WA): • Support to countries in the region was provided via network meetings and country visits, focused on informing and encouraging NOUs to involve other enforcement authorities in Montreal Protocol implementation. • Promoted domestic market inspections with customs officers across all countries and assisted in operating the iPIC system, distributing awareness materials. Crucially, this included training enforcement officers in two countries and the recent regional training for enforcement officers conducted in Batumi in June 2025. **Latin America (LA):** • Technical assistance and capacity-building was provided to NOUs in the enforcement of their legislation to prevent illegal trade, as part of their ISs, HPMPs and KIPs projects. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • NOUs received capacity-building and technical assistance support in the monitoring of legal trade and prevention of illegal trade as part of their ISs, HPMPs and KIPs.
27. Provide all NOUs with tools developed by UNEP and its partners for use in the delivery of their national Customs training, and, as appropriate, training of environmental inspectors and other law enforcement officers.	Number and type of tools provided	40 tools provided including training materials, guides, application and videos.	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Dedicated the first two days of the joint Eastern Europe and Central Asia and Western Asia meeting with Montreal Protocol Officers and environmental inspectors to the training of environmental inspectors including practical session on using leak detectors / refrigerant identifiers, on physical inspections of RACHP equipment, and on checking paperwork and labeling. • Shared the Czechia's Control Guide for Customs and the checklist for Environmental Inspectors during the meeting in Batumi, Georgia, in June 2025. The resource person from Czechia explained the revised EU F-gas regulation. • Prepared an online meeting to present WCO resources for National Customs Services to elaborate standard procedures on ODS and HFCs (Monreal Protocol)" in September 2025. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • UNEP's customs-related publications, smartphone applications, training materials, and enforcement tools were widely disseminated to all network countries and relevant stakeholders. This outreach was carried out through network meetings, capacity-building sessions for NOUs and stakeholders, as well as during country missions. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Outreached UNEP customs-related publications, smartphone applications (such as WhatGas Application) and training materials and tools to all network countries and other relevant stakeholders at networks meetings. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Continued to promote and urged enforcement authorities to adopt WhatGas application and Refrigerant Identifier Video to support operation of the enforcement authority. The

			applications were demonstrated to meeting participants during the workshop/country mission. (SEA and PIC) • Initiated discussion with the NOO, Customs Authority and local market inspector on the draft training programme to enhance capacity of the NOO, Customs Authority and local market inspector to enforce control of appliance for both refrigerant and energy efficiency perspectives. (SEA and PIC) • During the mission to Marshall Islands, Micronesia and Tonga in 2024, the WhatGas application demonstration was included in the training for Customs and Enforcement Officers. The officers were encouraged to download the WhatGas app as a convenient tool for quickly identifying controlled substances, to support monitoring and enforcement at the border. **South Asia (SA):** • Continued to promote and urged enforcement authorities to make use of the UNEP customs manual, WhatGas application and Refrigerant Identifier Video, during network/thematic meetings, including the SA & WA JNM and Customs Border Dialogue held in Chennai, September 2024. • Collaborated with WCO in fine tuning materials for training on Risk Profiling. • In collaboration with WCO, assisted Sri Lanka NOU to conduct a dedicated training on risk profiling for Customs and Enforcement officers in February 2025. • Encouraged all network countries to make use of UNEP-WCO customs training manual and e-learning course on Montreal Protocol. **West Asia (WA):** • Trained enforcement officers in two countries and at the regional training in Batumi in June 2025. • Organize a training workshop for Customs trainers jointly with NOU/KSA in July 2025. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • All tools developed by UNEP and partners shared with countries on a regular basis. • Updated tools shared during November 2024 and June 2025 network meetings. • Network meeting invited to participate in an Online briefing on WCO enforcement operations Demeter and customs updates in May 2025. Recording shared.
28. Increase the awareness and understanding of all NOUs about critical Montreal Protocol Customs issues, including best practices, innovative approaches and ways to combat illegal trade in controlled substances.	Number of sessions on customs issues in the regional network/thematic meetings	15 sessions	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • The first two days of the joint Eastern Europe and Central Asia and Western Asia meeting with Montreal Protocol Officers and Environmental Inspectors were dedicated to the training of Environmental Inspectors including practical session on using leak detectors / refrigerant identifiers, on physical inspections of RACHP equipment, and on checking paperwork and labeling. • Shared the Czechia's Control Guide for Customs and the checklist for Environmental

			Inspectors during the meeting in Batumi, Georgia, in June 2025. The resource person from Czechia explained the revised EU F-gas regulation. • Prepared an online meeting to present WCO resources for National Customs Services to elaborate standard procedures on ODS and HFCs (Monreal Protocol)" in September 2025. • ECA / CZE submitted a project proposal to ExCom-95 in December 2025 to conduct a regional assessment of approaches and best practices to combat illegal trade of controlled substances at online marketplaces in the EU and ECA countries and the feasibility of using artificial intelligence to systematically screen online marketplaces for illicit offers of controlled substances on a regular basis, possibly issuing automatic notifications to the Montreal Protocol Officers and owners of the online marketplaces. It was not approved (ECA). **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Organized a 3-day Twinning Workshop for Ozone and Customs Officers from East, West, and Northern African countries, promoting border-dialogue, regional collaboration and capacity building. The workshop focused on sharing best practices for preventing illegal trade of controlled substances, as well as enhancing data collection and reconciliation processes. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Information on seizures was shared during network meetings, and strategies to curb them were discussed. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized a session to include a presentation by the Ozone Secretariat on Decision XXXV/12 - Further strengthening Montreal Protocol institutions, including for combating illegal trade to provide overview of information shared by the parties during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 and the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025. (SEA and PIC) • During the mission to Marshall Islands, Micronesia and Tonga in 2024, presentation and discussions on combating illegal trade was included in the training for Customs and Enforcement Officers. The officers were encouraged to download the WhatGas app as a convenient tool for quickly identifying controlled substances, to support monitoring and enforcement at the border. • During the mission to Brunei in February 2025, discussions were held with the National Ozone Unit (NOU) and Customs Officers on strategies to combat illegal trade at the Brunei–Malaysia border. The discussions explored effective tactics and best practices for identifying and preventing the illegal movement of controlled substances across the border while preventing flow of traffic to and from Brunei. **South Asia (SA):** • All countries were sensitized about the role of Customs in the Montreal Protocol implementation during the South Asia and Western Asia Joint Network Meeting and

			Customs Border Dialogue held in Chennai, September 2024. **West Asia (WA):** • Disseminated customs-related publications, applications, and training materials to all countries and through various engagements and channels. **Latin America (LA):** • NOUs received capacity-building and awareness raising support in customs-related issues as part of their ISs, HPMPs and KIPs, as well as sessions related to customs, including a site visit to a port during the Network Meeting in the Dominican Republic in November 2024. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • With support from the Global Team, Network meeting invited to participate in the global online briefing on WCO enforcement operations Demeter and customs updates May 2025. Recording was shared. S • Side event on Interlinkages between the BRS conventions and the Montreal Protocol: policy, implementation and enforcement, 1 May 2025 shared with Countries. • Dominica's HPMP I Tranche 3 approved at ExCom-95 includes a MOU between Customs and the NOU to enhance illegal trade monitoring.
29. Make all NOUs aware of methods that support enforcement of national licensing systems, both at and beyond the Customs check point in domestic markets, including market surveillance and facility inspections.	Number of NOUs assisted. Type of support provided	86 NOUs	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • The first two days of the joint Eastern Europe and Central Asia and Western Asia meeting with Montreal Protocol Officers and Environmental Inspectors were dedicated to the training of Environmental Inspectors including practical session on using leak detectors / refrigerant identifiers, on physical inspections of RACHP equipment, and on checking paperwork and labeling. • ECA shared the Czechia Control Guide for Customs and the checklist for Environmental Inspectors during the meeting in Batumi, Georgia, in June 2025. • Encouraged all countries to analyze discrepancies between reported trade data, and to apply iPIC prior to issuing import / export licenses. • Facilitated the communication between the European Commission's enforcement body OLAF and Chinese authorities to exchanged intelligence and to establish a cooperation agreement. • Invited network countries to participate in WCO's briefing on Demeter and an update on Customs operations. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Provided support to all countries during network meetings to strengthen their understanding of effective enforcement methods and tools, alongside ensuring the sound operation of their electronic licensing systems. • Facilitated the exchange of experiences among countries on best practices for cooperation with Customs and other relevant national stakeholders.

			South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC): • Continued discussion with the NOU and Customs Authority of Brunei Darussalam, Timor Leste and Vietnam (SEA) and Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (PIC) to follow-up adoption of integrated approach in the MRVE of licensing system during county mission in the reporting period. (SEA and PIC) • Participated in the Joint Inspection of Domestic Market and assisted Lao PDR to develop joint inspection schedule and actions to be taken based on finding from joint inspection in the domestic market. (SEA) • Provided support to the Pacific Island Countries on the implementation of the labelling requirement for HCFC containers to assist in distinguishing legitimacy of refrigerant cylinder sold in the market. (PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • A side visit to a customs check point at Chennai Sea port was organized during the Customs Border Dialogue held in Chennai, September 2024 • Periodically invited NOUs to collaborate with enforcement authorities on establishing operating procedures for market checks. **West Asia (WA):** • Through network meetings and in country engagements, assisted countries gain a better understanding of enforcement methods and tools, alongside the effective operation of their e-licensing systems. • Consistently facilitate the exchange of experiences on effective cooperation with customs and other national stakeholders for stronger Montreal Protocol enforcement. **Latin America (LA):** • NOUs received capacity-building and awareness raising support in customs-related issues, including controls beyond the customs checkpoints, as part of their ISs, HPMPs and KIPs. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Country HPMPs and KIPs include components to review and enhance national licensing system and provide capacity building for customs and other enforcement officers.
30 NOUs to institutionalize cooperation with Customs Authorities, possibly through signing MoUs, and interact more closely with Customs agencies to promote regional and international action to combat illegal trade.	Type of support provided	Regional workshops, national inter-agency consultations, border dialogues	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Organized a 3-day Twinning Workshop for Ozone and Customs Officers from East, West, and Northern African countries, promoting border-dialogue, regional collaboration and capacity building. The workshop focused on sharing best practices for preventing illegal trade of controlled substances, as well as enhancing data collection and reconciliation processes. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Continued discussion with the NOU and Customs Authority of Brunei Darussalam,

			Timor Leste and Vietnam (SEA) and Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (PIC) to follow-up adoption of integrated approach in the MRVE of licensing system during county mission in the reporting period. (SEA and PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • NOUs and representatives from national customs authorities were sensitized about the importance of NOU and Customs collaboration in the national Montreal Protocol implementation work, and dedicated time was allowed for meetings between different customs authorities to discuss ongoing issues, at the South Asia and Western Asia Joint Network Meeting and Customs Border Dialogue held in Chennai, September 2024. **West Asia (WA):** • Continued to encourage countries to conduct border dialogues and strengthen cooperation among enforcement officers; Facilitated border dialogue in WA including between six countries in the Gulf Cooperation Council subregion • Continue to promote institutionalized cooperation and engagement with Customs authorities. **Latin America (LA):** • NOUs cooperated with Customs Offices through various approaches as part of their ISs, HPMPs, and KIPs. MOUs have not been considered by countries in this region. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Dominica's HPMP I Tranche 3 approved at ExCom-96 includes signing MOU between Customs and NOU.
31 . Encourage and assist interested national Customs training academies to adopt the UNEP-WCO Customs Training Manual and elearning into their national curricula	Number of countries provided with Montreal Protocol Training Manual	0	**Global:** UNEP-WCO customs online training manual temporarily discontinued (removed from WCO website as software used for the interactive module is outdated and no longer supported by the platform). Updating of the UNEP Customs Manual is in its final stage. Once the updated version is available, customs training academies would be invited to incorporate the content into their national curricula.
32. Encourage interested regional and sub- regional organizations to develop regional and/or sub-regional initiatives or policies to facilitate and monitor legal HCFC and HFC trade and to combat illegal trade.	Number of specific meetings held (e.g., border dialogues); Type of support provided	6 organizations	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Engagement with SADC, ECOWAS has been strengthened to promote coordinated initiatives aimed at monitoring and facilitating legal trade in HCFCs and HFCs. Technical support and policy dialogue have encouraged the development of harmonized regulatory approaches and information-sharing mechanisms to combat illegal trade. Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe have begun formulating joint action plans and regional frameworks to enhance compliance and enforcement capacity across borders. (**South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Initiated a discussion with the ASEAN Technical Sub-Working Group on Classification

			(TSWGC) to discuss collaboration in 2025-2026 to strengthen monitoring of legal HCFC and HFC trade and combating illegal trade in the Southeast Asia Network. (SEA) • Organized a meeting with the Oceania Customs Organization (OCO) to discuss collaboration in 2025-2026 to strengthen monitoring of legal HCFC and HFC trade and combating illegal trade in the Pacific Island Countries Network. (PIC). **West Asia (WA):** • Continue to facilitate the engagement of the Arab League and Gulf Cooperation Council Secretariat as well as the regional industry associations in all network and thematic meetings held in the West Asia region. This ongoing effort aims to raise awareness about the Montreal Protocol and ensure their valuable contribution to its sound implementation and the enforcement of related regulations.
33. Assist all NOUs to work with Customs to promote the adoption of the 2022 Harmonized System codes or otherwise adopt regional codes or other interim measures for monitoring HFC imports and exports.	Number of countries supported. Type of support provided.	68 countries Provision of information, facilitation of expert advice from WCO and other experts, training	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • During the network meetings, NOUs received detailed information and actively exchanged experiences to support the alignment of their national HS codes with the 2022 update. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Continued to support the NOU of Lao PDR, Timor Leste and Vietnam to collaborate with the Customs Authority in exploring options to assign additional digits as specific HS code for HFCs in their national HS code system. (SEA) • Provide training to Customs Authority of Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Tonga and Vanuatu on the classification of HS code for HCFCs and HFCs during country mission (PIC) **West Asia (WA):** • Encouraged all countries to update their national HS codes in line with the 2022 Harmonized System codes and advised to work with customs authority in a timely manner to include individual national subcodes for commonly imported HFCs. The updated HS code has been adopted by all countries. **Latin America (LA):** • NOUs were assisted to work with customs counterparts to promote the adoption of the 2022 Harmonized System codes, as part of their ISs, HPMPs and KIPs, and the network meetings. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Antigua and Barbuda and Suriname encouraged to transition to the 2022 HS Codes during meetings held with Customs and the NOU during the respective Sept 2024 and May 2025 Country Missions. All other countries pending transition encouraged to adopt at their earliest convenience.
34. Collaborate with interested regional and/or sub-regional organization and national customs authority in	Type of support provided.	Facilitation of communicatio	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Collaboration initiated with interested regional and sub-regional organizations, as well as

identification of existing national tariff system to accommodate individual Harmonized System (HS) code for HFCs under 2027 HS code system		n with regional organizations, information sharing on HS codes matters	national customs authorities, to assess and align national tariff systems with the upcoming 2027 • Harmonized System (HS) codes for HFCs. Technical consultations and capacity-building activities supported during NOU-Customs border dialogue meetings in the identification of current gaps and necessary adjustments in existing customs classifications. • NOUs have begun internal reviews to prepare for the integration of individual HS codes for HFCs, aiming to improve trade tracking and enforcement. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Initiated a discussion with the ASEAN Technical Sub-Working Group on Classification (TSWGC) to discuss collaboration in 2025-2026 to strengthen monitoring of legal HCFC and HFC trade and combating illegal trade in the Southeast Asia Network, which include assigning specific HS code for HFCs and commonly used blends under the ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature 2027. (SEA) • Organized a meeting with the OCO to discuss collaboration in 2025-2026 to strengthen monitoring of legal HCFC and HFC trade and combating illegal trade in the Pacific Island Countries Network which include assigning specific HS code for HFCs and commonly used blends under the Pacific Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System 2027. (PIC)
35. Encourage interested NOUs to encourage their customs participation in WCO's Operation Demeter and other targeted enforcement actions.	Number of countries supported. Type of support provided.	75 countries Sharing relevant documents and information sessions	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Organized a 3-day NOU-Customs Border Dialogue to strengthen collaboration at national borders. Customs authorities were encouraged to actively participate in the WCO's Operation Demeter and other targeted enforcement initiatives. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Facilitated invitation to SEA and PIC countries to participate in the online briefing on WCO enforcement operations Demeter and customs updates in May 2025. (SEA and PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Encouraged all countries in the region to participate in the online briefing session for the WCO enforcement Operation Demeter in May 2025 and Police enforcement operation Custos Viridis led by Europol in April 2025. **Latin America (LA):** • NOUs of the region were encouraged to involve their Customs Offices in the 2025 Operation Demeter in April 2025. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** With support from the Global Team, Network meeting invited to participate in a global Online Briefing on WCO enforcement DEMETER and customs updates May 2025. Recording was shared with the region.

36. Encourage all NOUs to work with Customs brokers on the proper classification of refrigerants and their products, to improve data collection, verification reporting and boarder control.	Type of support provided	Training, awareness raising and technical guidance	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Organized a 3-day NOU-Customs Border Dialogue to strengthen collaboration at national borders and the event emphasized the critical role of Customs brokers in the proper classification of refrigerants and related products, aiming to improve data collection, verification, reporting, and border control. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Continued to encourage all SEA and PIC countries to include the customs brokers in the training to enhance accuracy of customs declaration (e.g. HS code, description, weight) to improve data collection, verification reporting and boarder control. (SEA and PIC) • Designed programme and provided training to importers/customs brokers of Micronesia, Marshall Islands and Tonga during country mission to educate them on the Montreal Protocol, national licensing and quota system, mislabeled cylinder and how to accurately declare the shipment which would allow the NOU to organize the national importer/customs broker training on their own. (PIC) **Latin America (LA):** • NOUs were encouraged to work with customs brokers on the proper classification of refrigerants and their products, as part of their ISs, HPMPs and KIPs, as well as during the network meetings. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Country HPMPs and KIPs Tranches and respective SSFAs include training for Customs Brokers in the proper classification of refrigerants and their products. • UNEP provided technical guidance to Saint Lucia as a training for Customs Brokers on the HFC quote system and data reporting, November 2024.
37 Promote the concept of Green Customs and include related sessions in selected enforcement meetings.	Number of sessions on customs issues in the regional network/thematic meetings	15	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • UNEP Green Customs Initiative (GCI) Information note on free trade zones was included in the folder with resource documents of the joint Eastern Europe and Central Asia and Western Asia meeting in Batumi, Georgia, in June 2025. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Organized a 3-day NOU-Customs Border Dialogue to strengthen collaboration at national borders and promote the Green Customs Initiative. The event aimed to enhance the capacity of customs and enforcement agencies to identify and prevent illegal trade in environmentally sensitive goods. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Facilitated coordination between the NOU on Indonesia and UNEP Law Division in organizing the National Green Customs Workshop, which includes the Montreal Protocol training topic. **South Asia (SA):**

			• All countries in the region were sensitized about the GCI during the Customs Border Dialogue held in Chennai, September 2024.
Outcomes	**Outputs**		
OUTCOME 5 Key stakeholders and the public enthusiastically support national compliance programmes	• All NOUs and specific stakeholders are well-informed about specific high-priority topics through printed, online, and/or audio-visual information products through digital and print media. • Interested NOUs are assisted to celebrate World Refrigeration Day (26 June) and World Ozone Day (16 September) at the national level to increase public awareness of, and support for, the Montreal Protocol. • Interested NOUs are assisted with training and development of communications capacities related to the Montreal Protocol. • All NOUs as well as key members of the Montreal Protocol community are kept informed about the activities of UNEP and its partners through outreach activities. • NOUs speaking UN languages other than English are provided with information in their languages. • All NOUs are informed on global communication strategies to support compliance with the Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment		
2025 Activities	**Indicators**	**Number**	**Progress**

38 Prepare and disseminate targeted information, communications and educational materials and services to ensure that NOUs, key stakeholders and the public are well informed about priority topics related to the Montreal Protocol through digital and print media	Number and type of publications, products, tools and services produced	2 tools
		1 E-Learning Course
		1 Technical Service
		9 factsheets/posters
		Pilot programme WhatGas application and Refrigerant identifier Video
			Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):
			• Maintained eight dissemination lists with different stakeholders and frequently sends information, webinar invitations, publications to them (MPOs, CEITs, RAC, Customs, MEPs, EU, IA / NGOs, building experts.
			• Produced the following Russian translations:
			  ○ U4E model regulations guidelines refrigerators;
			  ○ AREA EU F-gas guide;
			  ○ U4E GPP guidelines refrigerators,
			  ○ U4E Model refrigeration guidelines refrigerators supporting info,
			  ○ Scoop 8 on Montreal Protocol ozone climate and health,
			  ○ OzonAction ClimaCheck article on digital path to sustainable cooling,
			  ○ ECA overview tables on HFC legislative and policy options and RAC sector action.
			• Supported Türkiye to obtain authorization to request an ISBN for the Turkish version of ASHRAE / UNEP's university course. The English version did not have an ISBN number nor copyright.
			English-speaking Africa (AF-A):
			• Targeted information and educational materials on key Montreal Protocol topics developed and disseminated through digital platforms. These efforts have enhanced awareness among NOUs, stakeholders, and the general public, supporting informed decision-making and increased engagement in ozone protection initiatives.
			South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):
			• Continued to promote and urged enforcement authorities to adopt WhatGas application and Refrigerant Identifier Video to support operation of the enforcement authority. The applications

			were demonstrated to meeting participants during the workshop/country mission. (SEA and PIC) • During the mission to Marshall Islands, Micronesia and Tonga in 2024, the WhatGas application demonstration was included in the training for Customs and Enforcement Officers. The officers were encouraged to download the WhatGas app as a convenient tool for quickly identifying controlled substances, to support monitoring and enforcement at the border. **South Asia (SA):** • Disseminated OzonAction-AREA training materials to all NOOs during network meetings. • Assisted in the development of a Policy Brief for Mongolia NOU on Cold chain in meat processing industry. **West Asia (WA):** • All materials created for NOUs were disseminated and extensively promoted, with key publications and tools also translated into Arabic. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • All fact sheets and training courses shared disseminated to NOOs. • One Pilot Request Sheet in cooperation with ASHRAE being tested with Grenada and is at an advance stage. • Trinidad and Tobago and Saint Lucia to be included in the pilot. **Global:** • Developed a factsheet on Gender Mainstreaming Throughout the Lifecycle of Multilateral Fund Projects • Developed a factsheet on Gender Assessment for Multilateral Fund Projects • Developed a leaflet on OzonAction Tools and Resources for RACHP Technicians • Developed a promotional leaflet on UNEP – AREA Training manual • Mongolia Policy Brief: Cold chain in meat processing, storage, and distribution • Guidance on streamlining National ODS/HFC Licensing System in Asia and the Pacific. • Communication Toolkit for National Ozone Units (draft version) • Developed the OzonAction Tools and Products Catalogue that showcases a variety of OzonAction resources, namely publications, training manuals and guides, factsheets, briefs, quick tools, newsletters and bulletins, online courses, and other awareness materials in a structured and thematic way. OzonAction Products and Tools catalogue | Ozonaction • Developed four posters under the 2025 World Refrigeration Day theme #CoolSkills . • During this reporting period, the Energy Efficiency Literacy E-Learning Course was translated into French and Spanish to improve accessibility and meet growing interest from non-English-speaking regions. The course engaged 259 learners from 53 countries. The recent translation and renewed interest signal potential for broader

			uptake in future implementation cycles and continued expansion of energy efficiency awareness worldwide. • Focal Point of Communication Pilot Programme: The "OzonAction & ASHRAE Connect" pilot initiative was launched to establish structured focal points of communication between OzonAction's regional networks and ASHRAE chapters. The pilot aims to leverage ASHRAE's technical expertise to support national ozone units (NOUs) in Article 5 countries through knowledge exchange, technical assistance, and co-developed tools • A draft pilot plan has been developed and refined through multiple iterations, incorporating feedback from UNEP and ASHRAE stakeholders. The plan outlines a phased approach, beginning with the identification of two regional networks and corresponding ASHRAE chapters. A request form and monitoring framework have been created to formalize engagement and track outcomes. Initial engagement with Grenada has been positive, with local stakeholders expressing interest in participating in the pilot.
39. Promote public support for the Montreal Protocol at the regional level through awareness activities agreed by the Regional Network members.	Number and description of regional awareness activities	30 activities	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Arranged four online meetings inventory of banks preparation projects in September 2024, trade restrictions for RACHP equipment in November 2024, training and certification in March 2025, on GIZ' fit for green cooling initiative in April 2025 and on green strategies of multinational companies in May 2025. • Maintained a WhatsApp group for informal information sharing, and a YouTube channel for sharing of Montreal Protocol related videos within the region. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Promoted public support and distributed of OzonAction awareness materials during the two NOU-Customs Border Dialogue meeting . **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Collaborated with UNEP Asia and the Pacific Office, to organize the Exhibition on Ozone and Climate, which will run throughout the 6th Asia and Pacific Forum in Fiji from 26-29 August 2025 as a dynamic and visually engaging platform to highlight the achievements of the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment at the national, regional (in particular showcasing the success of the Pacific Island Countries), and global levels. (Asia and Pacific). **South Asia (SA):** • Ozone2Climate Industry Roundtable and Technology Roadshow held in Shanghai, China, in April 2025 to promote ozone and climate friendly (non-ODS, low GWP) and energy efficient RACHP technologies, including dedicated booth and UNEP presentation on policy framework and regional progresses. • Participated in the REFCOLD exhibition including dedicated OzonAction informative booth, held in Kolkata, India in October 2024. • Shared awareness materials with NOUs for the celebration of World Ozone Day.

			West Asia (WA): • Maintained ongoing liaison with key regional organizations, including the League of Arab States and The GCC Secretariat, ensuring their attendance at West Asia's thematic and network meetings. This fosters wider awareness of the Montreal Protocol and secures their support for related programs; Engaged with key regional RAC associations, such as AHRI and EUROVENT, to facilitate improved communication and engagement with RAC manufacturers and technology providers. **Latin America (LA):** • Awareness and promotion activities about Montreal Protocol-related matters are consistently undertaken as part of the network meetings and through the implementation of IS, HPMP, and KIP projects. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Workshop for Youth in RAC held in Nov 2024 was part of the region's S-S Cooperation/Regional public awareness activity. • Supported Grenada's Sustainable Cooling Exhibition held June 2025, which was held back-to-back with the Thematic Network Meeting. This attracted participants from the region, including RAC Association members, to strengthen associations. This was a request from Network members. General public from Grenada also attended.
40. Outreach Montreal Protocol issues, including gender mainstreaming and SDG linkages, at key international, regional, and national forums including those related to Montreal Protocol and climate.	Number and description of outreach events conducted	44 events	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Delivered presentation during RILO Western Europe meeting of National Contact Points in September 2025. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Montreal Protocol issues, including gender mainstreaming and linkages to the SDGs, were actively promoted at 2 regional meetings, and national forums. These outreach efforts have raised visibility of the Protocol's cross-cutting benefits and strengthened its integration into broader environmental and development agendas in Zimbabwe, Mauritius and Sierra Leone. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Addressed Montreal Protocol issues in all regional and thematic meetings and missions. Gender mainstreaming was included as an agenda item in all three implemented meetings. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized a session to include a presentation on gender mainstreaming throughout the lifecycle of projects funded under the Multilateral Fund and gender mainstreaming assessment preparation guide for Multi-Year Agreements during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 and the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025. (SEA and PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Montreal Protocol issues in all regional and thematic meetings and missions. Gender

			mainstreaming was included as an agenda item in the Joint Network Meeting of South Asia and West Asia National Ozone Officers in India, 24-25 September 2024.
			West Asia (WA):
			• Assisted countries in reflecting and integrating gender considerations in their projects and operations;
			• Eight factsheets on Gender prepared and translated into Arabic in 2025.
			Global:
			• Campaign for International Women Day:
			  o Coordination and meetings with the Gender Focal Point of the OzonAction Programme to gather details about the planned initiatives and align efforts for effective collaboration.
			  o Preparation of a video proposal outlining content, technical requirements, and logistics for field recordings.
			  o Liaison with national and regional counterparts to request audiovisual materials and respond to related inquiries.
			  o Collection, review, and organisation of submitted materials for use in video production.
			  o Review and create graphic mock-ups to enhance the visual presentation and coherence of the videos.
			  o Production of four individual promotional videos, each highlighting a specific story or contribution.
			  o Creation of one compilation video, combining the four individual videos into a unified, general feature.
			  o Development of accompanying social media assets, including visual pieces for distribution across platforms.
			  o Preparation of all the material for uploading in the OzonAction website.
			• Addressed Montreal Protocol issues in all regional and thematic meetings and missions.

41. Update, maintain and enhance the OzonAction website (www.unep.org/ozonaction) and OzonAction Meeting Portal (www.ozonactionmeetings.org)	Web statistics confirming growth/activity	See the details in the description of the progress	**Global:**
			• During the reporting period, the OzonAction website underwent a series of strategic updates and enhancements aimed at improving user experience, content relevance, and accessibility. These efforts included the redesign of multiple webpages and the integration of visually engaging infographics to better communicate technical and policy-related information. New thematic pages were created to support global observances such as World Ozone Day and International Women's Day, featuring gender-focused factsheets and sectoral stories that highlight the intersection of ozone protection and gender equality. These improvements have contributed to sustained engagement, with over 192,000 users accessing the site and more than 316,000 pageviews recorded. Organic search remains the primary traffic source, and mobile access continues to grow, reflecting broader digital trends.
			• The OzonAction Meeting Portal (OMP) was successfully upgraded from Drupal 7 to Drupal 10, addressing critical security vulnerabilities and performance limitations associated with the older platform. This migration was essential to ensure long-term stability and compliance with UNEP's digital infrastructure standards.
			• The portal now supports both public and private meeting spaces, with over 30 new spaces created during the reporting period.
			• A Web Performance Report is available to help assess the effectiveness of OzonAction's digital platforms. Key findings include:
			  o A steady increase in website traffic and engagement,
			  o High retention rates among returning users,
			  o Notable growth in video engagement, with over 161,000 views and 9,000 subscribers on the YouTube channel. These insights have informed content strategy and platform optimization efforts, ensuring that OzonAction's online presence continues to serve as a reliable and effective clearinghouse for Montreal Protocol-related information.

42. Update the online OzonAction Knowledge Maps to provide NOUs and other stakeholders with access to key and recent data to support Montreal Protocol implementation.	Web statistics for OzonAction Knowledge Maps. Number and type of updates	3	**Global:** • The Multilateral Fund Projects Knowledge Maps were maintained and updated with new datasets and enhanced filtering features. This map offers a comprehensive overview of UNEP-implemented projects in Article 5 countries, funded by the Multilateral Fund. Users can now explore project data through improved interactive global, regional, and national views. • The Refrigeration, Air-Conditioning and Heat Pumps (RACHP) Associations & Organizations Knowledge Map was also updated. This global directory continues to serve as a valuable reference for identifying national and regional RACHP associations. The map helps facilitate collaboration between industry groups and national ozone units. Recent updates focused on verifying contact information, expanding regional coverage, and enhancing user navigation.

			• The TVET Knowledge Map was refreshed to reflect the changing landscape of technical and vocational education providers worldwide. This tool helps stakeholders identify institutions offering training related to refrigerant management, energy efficiency, and sustainable cooling practices. The map supports capacity-building by promoting access to competency-based training resources and encouraging partnerships between NOUs and educational institutions. • Together, these updates improve the functionality, accuracy, and strategic value of the Knowledge Maps, strengthening their role as dynamic tools for supporting Montreal Protocol implementation and knowledge sharing across the refrigeration and air-conditioning sector.
43. Produce and disseminate the OzoNews e- newsletter on a bi-weekly basis, develop a subscription management system and enhanced functionality.	Number of OzoNews e-newsletter issues produced (both regular and special issues)	22	**Global:** • Prepared and disseminated 22 regular issues of OzoNews, along with one special edition commemorating World Ozone Day. The newsletter reached approximately 1,200 subscribers, including all NOOs and other stakeholders interested in the Montreal Protocol. • OzoNews is produced and distributed via the MDirector platform.
44. Produce and disseminate the OzonAction Scoop on topical subjects three times per year.	Number of *OzonAction Scoops* produced and disseminated	2	**Global:** • Developed OzonAction Scoop #7 abouts Plastics and the Ozone Layer. • Developed the OzonAction Scoop #8: The Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment: ozone, climate and health; and distributed during the MOP.
45. Encourage and support national celebrations of World Ozone Day on 16 September, including the development of specific materials.	Number of countries celebrating *World Ozone Day*. Type of support provided	147	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Encouraged all countries to celebrate the World Ozone Day and to report back on their activities. Reports uploaded to the respective World Ozone Day websites of OzonAction and the Ozone Secretariat. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • National celebrations of World Ozone Day on 16 September were encouraged and supported through the provision of customized outreach materials and thematic guidance. All NOUs organized awareness-raising events, leveraging these resources to engage diverse audiences and highlight achievements under the Montreal Protocol. **French-speaking Africa (AF-F):** • Shared outreach materials to support the commemoration of World Ozone Day on 16 September across the region. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Worked bilaterally with countries expressing their intertest to obtain CAP support in the planning and delivery of World Ozone Day activities based on selected activity by the country. Collect World Ozone Day celebration report and shared the report to the global team for publishing on the website. (SEA)

			• Worked bilaterally with countries expressing their intertest to obtain CAP support in the planning and delivery of World Ozone Day activities based on selected activity by the country. Collect World Ozone Day celebration report and shared the report to the global team for publishing on the website. Participated in person the celebration of 2024 World Ozone Day in Marshall Islands and in Tonga. (PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Worked bilaterally with countries expressing their intertest to obtain CAP support in the planning and delivery of World Ozone Day activities. • Shared awareness materials with NOUs for the celebration of the World Ozone Day. **West Asia (WA):** • Encouraged and supported national celebrations of World Ozone Day on September 16th, including organizing a regional celebration for 2024's World Ozone Day at the joint Network Meeting in Chennai, India. **Latin America (LA):** • Support to national celebrations of the World Ozone Day was given through the distribution of the letter from the OzonAction Branch to the Network, the distribution in the region of the video prepared by the ED and the support provided to the Ozone Secretariat in promoting the use of the materials available in Spanish. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Countries encouraged and reminded to celebrate World Ozone Day. 2024 Letter from the OzonAction Branch shared with Countries. SSFA developed during the period includes this as an activity.
46. Encourage and support celebrations of World Refrigeration Day (WRD) on 26 June, in cooperation with the WRD Secretariat and refrigeration and air conditioning partners to promote Montreal Protocol objectives to policymakers and the public.	Number of countries celebrating World Refrigeration Day (WRD). Type of support provided	147	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Encouraged all countries to celebrate the World Refrigeration Day, and to report back on their activities. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Celebrations of World Refrigeration Day on 26 June were encouraged and supported in collaboration with the WRD Secretariat and industry partners, focusing on raising awareness of the Montreal Protocol's objectives. These initiatives have helped engage policymakers and the public on the importance of sustainable cooling and the phase-down of climate-warming substances. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Sent reminder to countries celebration of the World Refrigeration Day. (SEA and PIC) **West Asia (WA):** • Encouraged the celebrations of the World Refrigeration Day on 26 June to promote Montreal Protocol objectives to policymakers and the public. **Latin America (LA):**

			• Under the theme "Cool Skills" 4 posters promoting Women in cooling: Breaking barriers with cool skills, and Cools skills bright futures, were designed and uploaded to the OzonAction website. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Encouraged participation in and celebration of World Refrigeration Day. SSFAs developed during the period include this as an activity. **Global:** • Cooperated with the World Refrigeration Day Secretariat and industry associations worldwide to celebrate World Refrigeration Day, 26 June, under the 2025 WRD campaign theme #CoolSkills, as a tribute to the dedicated professionals behind refrigeration, air-conditioning, and heat pump (RACHP) systems the hidden champions who keep our world running. A series of 4 posters and social media posts were produced and shared on OzonAction webpage and Ozone Secretariat's social media. Cool Careers for a Better World | Ozonaction
47. Encourage NOUs and their customs authorities to participate in World Customs Day (WCD) on January 26 to showcase their joint work under the Montreal Protocol to monitor and control trade of controlled substances	Number of countries celebrating World Customs Day (WCD)	At least 26 countries	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Supported NOUs and their Customs authorities to participate in World Customs Day on January 26 as an opportunity to showcase their collaborative efforts. The initiative raised awareness among stakeholder groups. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • With support from the Regional Team, Guyana and Saint Kitts and Nevis shared good practices and examples of enforcement measures related to the implementation of the Montreal Protocol and cooperation with Customs, May 2025.
48. Translate prioritized publications and tools into UN languages, depending on regional priorities and available resources.	Number and type of publications and tools translated	12 publications / tools	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Produced the following Russian translations: o U4E model regulations guidelines refrigerators; o AREA EU F-gas guide; o U4E GPP guidelines refrigerators; o U4E Model refrigeration guidelines refrigerators supporting info; o Scoop 8 on Montreal Protocol ozone climate and health; o OzonAction ClimaCheck article on digital path to sustainable cooling; o ECA overview tables on HFC legislative and policy options and RAC sector action. **West Asia (WA):** • All materials created for NOUs were disseminated and extensively promoted, with key publications and tools also translated into Arabic. **Global:** • French translations: o Translation of draft OzonAction Communications Strategy plus complete annexes

			○ Translation of draft Communications Global Survey ○ Translation of OzonAction Exhibition ○ Translation of OzonAction Exhibition Concept Note ○ Translation of the Montreal Protocol and Health • Spanish translations: ○ Translation of OzonAction Communications Strategy plus complete annexes ○ Translation of draft Communications Global Survey ○ Translation of OzonAction Exhibition ○ Translation of OzonAction Exhibition Concept Note
49. Produce a Global Communication Strategy to support compliance with the Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment.	Communication strategy implemented	N/A	**Global:** • The draft Communications Strategy for Global Compliance with the Montreal Protocol and the Kigali Amendment for 2025-2030 is in the final stage of the finalization

Outcomes	Outputs
OUTCOME 6 Non-ODS, low GWP technology is adopted and used safely, and servicing sector workforce skills are strengthened	• All NOUs and the main servicing sector stakeholders are provided with key information needed to make informed choices related to the refrigeration servicing sector, including up-to-date information about alternative refrigerants, technologies, and best and safe servicing practices. • All NOUs are offered the refrigeration servicing sector training products and tools developed by UNEP and its partners, and an increasing number incorporate them into their national Montreal Protocol activities. • All servicing technicians, master trainers, and other practitioners involved in UNEP-assisted capacity-building activities are assisted to acquire new or updated skills and competencies for minimizing leakages, the sound and safe handling of refrigerants, and maintaining/enhancing energy efficiency of RAC appliances. • Interested national refrigeration training institutes and NOUs are assisted to establish agreements to cooperate on refrigeration servicing sector training and they adopt UNEP-developed training materials. • All NOUs are encouraged and assisted to increase their cooperation with their Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) authorities with respect to RAC servicing sector training and certification programs. • All NOUs are provided with information and offered technical and policy assistance for developing national RAC certification programs. • More Article 5 countries consider adopting the Refrigerant Driving License (RDL) global qualification program either to complement their existing certification programme or as an alternative if they do not yet have a certification programme. • More Article 5 countries consider adopting the HFC Outlook Model as a comprehensive tool for modelling and projecting the use of HFCs and alternatives in different consuming sectors and encourage linkage of the model scenarios with the preparation of KIPs. • All NOUs have increased awareness about relevant standards and codes of practice that promote safe handling of flammable, high-pressure and toxic refrigerants, facilitate the introduction of lower-GWP technologies into the market, and promote sound refrigerant management. • All NOUs are encouraged to cooperate with their standards organisations to consider Montreal Protocol issues. • National/regional RAC associations are strengthened, interact regularly with NOUs, and exchange best practices so that they have increased engagement in their countries' national Montreal Protocol activities. • All NOUs are encouraged and assisted to provide increased attention to the food cold chain sector and to strengthen their cooperation with stakeholders in that sector.

	• All NOUs have increased understanding of the technical and regulatory issues related to HFCs and alternatives used in mobile air conditioning (MAC).		
2025 Activities	**Indicators**	**Number**	**Progress**
50. Provide all NOUs with the key information needed to make informed choices related to the refrigeration servicing sector including up-to-date information about alternative refrigerants and technologies, including not-in-kind technologies	Number and type of information materials developed	13 information and training sessions 1 Award 1 factsheet updated with Multilingual availability	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Arranged the KIP implementation / Ozone2Climate meeting with Monreal Protocol Officers and RACHP Associations / Experts in Belgrade, Serbia, December 2024. It took place in parallel to the 55th International HVAC&R Congress and Exhibition of the Serbian RACHP Association SMEITS / KGH. • Arranged an online meeting on training and certification in March 2025, GIZ' fit for green cooling initiative in April 2025 and on green strategies of multinational companies in May 2025. • Supported Serbia and arranged the technology roundtable and exhibition booth in December 2024 during the 55th International HVAC&R Congress and Exhibition of the Serbian RACHP Association SMEITS / KGH. It is part of the HPMP awareness component. • Jointly with ClimaCheck arranged online training for RACHP and EE Experts in September 2024 on predictive maintenance to improve RACHP system performance and energy efficiency. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • All NOUs equipped with updated technical information on alternative refrigerants, emerging technologies, and not-in-kind solutions to support informed decision-making in the refrigeration servicing sector. This includes guidance materials, training resources, and technical briefs tailored to national contexts to facilitate safe, efficient, and sustainable transitions. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized one-day session on "Options for Technically and Commercially Viable Low-GWP and Energy Efficient Alternatives to HCFCs/HFCs" to specifically discuss updated strategy, policy and technology in fire-fighting sector, refrigeration and air-conditioning sector, mobile air-conditioning sector and management of controlled substances during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025. **South Asia (SA):** • Organized specific sessions on technology updates including for specific RAC subsectors and MAC and on servicing sector training and certification during network meetings in Chennai, September 2024, and Bangkok, July 2025. • Periodically shared technical materials related to RAC technologies with all network countries. **West Asia (WA):** • Through network meetings and country visits including co-organizing of two thematic

			workshops on future alternatives (Feb. 2025, Bahrain& July 2025 Dubai) provided crucial information to all West Asian NOUs and industry, enabling them to make knowledgeable choices for the refrigeration servicing sector. This encompassed current data on alternative refrigerants and technologies, including non-in-kind solutions. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Organized and delivered the 2025 Thematic Network Meeting *back-to-back* with Grenada's Sustainable Cooling Exhibition, June 2025, to provide a space for NOUs and their RAC Association representatives to have greater access to and information on available alternative technologies available in the region. • CAP organized a Fireside Chat in June 2025 as part of the Network Meeting with a panel addressing Alternative Technologies and Their Access in the Caribbean. ASHRAE, UNDP, UNIDO and Grenada's importers formed part of the Experts for both events. **Global:** • As part of CAP 2024, UNEP partnered with IIR to assess existing Cold Chain Technology Briefs in the light of the availability and the uptake of new technologies and new refrigerants in those refrigeration sub-sectors. The analysis showed that Cold Chain Technology Briefs on Cold Storage and Refrigerated Warehouse; Commercial, Professional and Domestic Refrigeration and Fishing Vessel Applications need to be reissued to incorporate advancements in both refrigerant alternatives and technologies. Additionally, UNEP and IIR are developing an additional Cold Chain Technology Brief on Refrigerated Transport in Hot Climates. The new versions of four technology briefs will continue to support Article 5 parties and inform NOUs about the current situation and alternatives in the Cold Chain Sector. They will also facilitate the need to address the technical challenges related to equipment and existing and upcoming alternatives in the Cold Chain sub-sectors. The briefs are being prepared in English, French and Spanish. • During the reporting period, the ASHRAE–UNEP OzonAction partnership continued to advance its joint efforts to promote climate-friendly innovation and enhance technical knowledge dissemination in the refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) sector. • 2025 ASHRAE–UNEP OzonAction Lower-GWP Innovation Awards (One Award concluded): The 2025 cycle of the ASHRAE–UNEP OzonAction Lower-GWP Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Innovation Awards has been successfully concluded and promoted globally. This initiative aims to recognize and encourage the development and implementation of innovative, climate-conscious technologies in developing countries. The awards specifically highlight projects that demonstrate the use of low-global warming potential (GWP) refrigerants in RAC applications. This year, nine submissions were evaluated by an international panel of judges, resulting in the selection of two winning projects in the residential applications category: one focused on R487A use in single-cooling air conditioners, and the other on a hybrid R290-PVTS-heat pump system. The judging process included both independent reviews and virtual deliberations, with unanimous agreement on the selected projects. A promotion and recognition plan has been

			developed to maximize the visibility of the award and stimulate future participation. Discussions are also underway to refine the award's structure and criteria for future cycles, with a focus on increasing impact and alignment with Kigali Amendment objectives. Winning entries were showcased through UNEP and ASHRAE communication channels. • Updated Refrigerant Designations and Safety Classifications Factsheet (This informative factsheet undergoes biannual updates with Multilingual availability): UNEP and ASHRAE collaborated to update and disseminate the latest edition of the New Refrigerants Designations and Safety Classifications factsheet. This technical resource provides an overview of refrigerants that have been assigned an "R" number under ASHRAE Standard 34 and introduced into the international market in recent years. Key features of the update include: The inclusion of newly approved refrigerants and their corresponding safety classifications based on toxicity and flammability. Clarification of the evolving classification system, including the standalone flammability subclass 2L. Multilingual availability to support global accessibility and outreach to National Ozone Units (NOUs), industry stakeholders, and training institutions. The factsheet was widely disseminated through the OzonAction website, regional networks, and technical events, reinforcing its role as a trusted reference for safe refrigerant selection and use.
51. Provide all NOUs with the refrigeration servicing sector training products and tools developed by UNEP and its partners	Type of training products provided	Training materials such as OzonAction-Area, training videos, e-learning course Pilot project proposal prepared on refrigeration servicing sector, with a particular focus on the local installation and assembly subsector, and designed to serve as a replicable model for other low-	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • During network meetings, NOUs received access to refrigeration servicing sector training products and tools developed by UNEP and its partners, covering key areas such as good service practices, refrigerant handling, and safety. These resources have supported national efforts to build technician capacity and promote the adoption of environmentally sound technologies. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Continued sharing WhatGas application to servicing stakeholders to understand properties (ODP, GWP, safety classification) of refrigerants, RAC training video; UNEP-ASHRAE e-learning course and other newly developed material during country mission during reporting period (SEA and PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Disseminated OzonAction-AREA training materials to all NOOs during network meetings; Reminded NOOs of UNEP-ASHRAE e-learning course, GIZ e-learning course, UNEP RAC training videos. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Facilitated Dominica with 2 technicians' participation in GIZ's Cool Training - Use of Natural Refrigerants in Commercial Refrigeration Plants" in Germany, Sept 2024 (1 male/1female). Shared the invitation to the training for Master's Training Guangzhou, China January 2025, to which 1 country was nominated to attend (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines). Provided all NOUs in CAR with training products and tools developed by UNEP and its partners for the RAC sector. **Global:** • The UNEP-AREA Training Manual: Refrigerants Servicing and Best Practices, was developed

		volume consuming (LVC) Article 5 countries	in cooperation with AREA: The manual is designed in a modular format enabling the users to tailor their training programs in accordance with the local needs. The UNEP-AREA Training Manual is available through a UNEP OzonAction Downloads Portal that gives the opportunity for users to build their own course by selecting the topics and areas they need to cover in the training course they intend to offer. In 2025, UNEP partnered with AREA to develop a new Energy Efficiency module and Spanish translations on the existing modules. • Prepared and started the implementation of a pilot project in Zimbabwe aimed at strengthening the refrigeration servicing sector, with a particular focus on the local installation and assembly subsector and designed to serve as a replicable model for other low-volume consuming (LVC) Article 5 countries. The project introduces a comprehensive suite of tools and information materials developed in collaboration with national stakeholders. These include a national technician registry framework to formalize and track qualified personnel, and a set of technical checklists and servicing protocols to standardize safe and efficient installation practices. Additionally, system sizing tools and awareness materials are included to support technicians and promote best practices across the sector. These tools will be developed and piloted in Zimbabwe in close coordination with the National Ozone Unit and local industry associations. Once validated, they will be adapted and disseminated to other LVC countries, enabling National Ozone Units to develop similar toolkits tailored to their national contexts and Kigali Amendment obligations. • Completed translation and creation of subtitles in Arabic, French, Russian, Spanish for the training and educational videos Series 3 (released in 2024) as part of the OzonAction RAC training videos initiative dedicated to enhancing understanding of the theory and best practices related to the refrigeration cycle to empower stakeholders with comprehensive knowledge, enabling them to implement efficient and sustainable practices in refrigeration and air conditioning effectively.
52. Assist all servicing technicians, master trainers, and other practitioners involved in UNEP-assisted capacity-building activities to acquire new or updated skills and competencies for minimizing leakages, the sound and safe handling of refrigerants, and maintaining/enhancing energy efficiency of RAC appliances.	Type of support provided	Technical training sessions organized online and face-to-face, Provision of access to technical materials.	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Arranged the KIP implementation / Ozone2Climate meeting with Monreal Protocol Officers and RACHP Associations / Experts in Belgrade, Serbia, December 2024. It took place in parallel to the 55th International HVAC&R Congress and Exhibition of the Serbian RACHP Association SMEITS / KGH. • Arranged online meetings on training and certification in March 2025, GIZ' fit for green cooling initiative in April 2025 and green strategies of multinational companies in May 2025. • Supported Serbia and arranged the technology roundtable and exhibition booth in December 2024 during the 55th International HVAC&R Congress and Exhibition of the Serbian RACHP Association SMEITS / KGH. It is part of the HPMP awareness component. • Jointly with ClimaCheck arranged online training for RACHP and EE Experts in September 2024 on predictive maintenance to improve RACHP system performance and energy efficiency. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):**

			• Continued to assist all servicing technicians, master trainers, and other practitioners to acquire new or updated skills and competencies for minimizing leakages, the sound and safe handling of refrigerants, and maintaining/enhancing energy efficiency of RAC appliances, through sharing UNEP training materials with countries. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Collaborated with Brunei Darussalam and Cambodia to nominate RAC master trainer to attend the training on R-290 good servicing practices in Guangzhou, China. (SEA) • In collaboration with the Government of Australia and the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturers Association of Australia (AREMA), facilitated to separate good servicing practices training module into a dedicated module for (i) leakage reduction and (ii) safety in handling flammable refrigerant to enhance implementation of training to RAC technicians under the HPMP Stage II (PIC). • Identified a RAC expert from Fiji to assist Niue and Marshall Islands in delivery of RAC training workshop under the HPMP Stage II (PIC). **South Asia (SA):** • Disseminated OzonAction-AREA training materials to all NOOs during network meetings; Assisted Mongolia in organizing RAC trainings with international expert; supported NOUs with training materials upon request; Organized training for RAC technicians from SA, SEA and WA for R290 training in Guangzhou, China in January 2025. **West Asia (WA):** • Continued support to servicing technicians, master trainers, and other practitioners gain new or updated skills, including on minimizing leaks, safely handling refrigerants, and maintaining or improving the energy efficient of RAC appliances. • Shared UNEP training materials including Arabic versions with West Asian countries and delivered training in Kuwait, Qatar, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Oman. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Service technicians received capacity-building in good refrigeration practices, including minimization of leakages and the safe handling of refrigerants, as part of their HPMPs in Peru and the Dominican Republic.
53. Assist interested national refrigeration training institutes and NOUs to establish agreements to cooperate on refrigeration servicing sector training and adopt UNEP-AREA training manual.	Number of national training institutes using the training materials	Support provided to training institutes, information on how much are using materials is	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Support provided to interested national refrigeration training institutes and NOUs to establish cooperation agreements aimed at enhancing technician training in the refrigeration servicing sector. Institutions in Rwanda, Zambia and Zimbabwe have begun adopting the UNEP-AREA training manual, promoting standardized, competency-based training aligned with Montreal Protocol objectives. **South Asia (SA):** • UNEP offered and promoted training materials during the Chennai joint network

		not available	meeting (September 2024) and Bangkok network meeting in July 2025. **West Asia (WA):** • Supported national refrigeration training institutes and NOUs in West Asia to establish agreements to cooperate on refrigeration servicing sector training and adopt UNEP developed curricula.
54. Assist interested universities to integrate UNEP-ASHRAE University Course-Refrigerant Management for Future Engineers into their engineering curriculum.	Number of universities using the University course	9 universities	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Supported Türkiye to obtain authorization to request an ISBN for the Turkish version of ASHRAE / UNEP's university course. The English version did not have an ISBN number nor copyright. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Assistance extended to interested universities to integrate the UNEP-ASHRAE University Course—Refrigerant Management for Future Engineers, into their engineering curricula. This initiative has strengthened academic engagement in sustainable cooling practices and built foundational knowledge on refrigerant management among future professionals in Kenya and Zimbabwe. **Global:** • The "Refrigerant Management for Future Engineers" university course is currently undergoing a comprehensive revision process. This update is being led in collaboration with ASHRAE. The revised course, now titled "Environmental Challenges and New Cooling Technology Solutions", aims to integrate updated scientific content, enhanced pedagogical structure, and new modules on energy efficiency and alternative refrigerants. The revision process is informed by user feedback, survey analysis, and regional adaptation needs, including a Turkish version. The updated syllabus has been submitted for review and is aligned with UNEP's broader educational goals under the Kigali Amendment. Coordination with ASHRAE's editorial and academic teams is ongoing. During this reporting period, the course was requested by approximately six universities and institutions from Article 5 countries.
55. Encourage and assist all NOUs to increase their cooperation with their Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) authorities with respect to RAC servicing sector training and certification programs	Number of NOUs cooperating with their TVET authorities. Type of support provided.	54	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Continued to encourage and assist all NOUs to increase their cooperation with their Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) authorities with respect to RAC servicing sector training and certification programs. SSFAs signed between NOUs and TVET. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Participated in in-person meeting with training centers and TVET Authority in Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Timor Leste and Vietnam (SEA) and Micronesia, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu (PIC) during country mission, to assist the NOU to work with TVET Authority in the integration of good servicing practices in TVET curriculum and national qualification framework. (SEA and PIC) • Participated in in-person meeting with training center and TVET Authority in Marshall Islands during country mission, to explore possibility of institutionalizing good servicing practices in

			their course. (PIC) • Facilitated collaboration between Kiribati Institute of Technology (KIT) and the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturers Association of Australia (AREMA) to assist the KIT in the establishment of syllabus of RAC training and certification programme. (PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • As this activity is part of all UNEP components for their HPMPs, assisted each NOU through their HPMP projects to work with TVET authorities (Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Iran, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka), held specific sessions during network meetings in Chennai and Bangkok on RAC training and certification. **West Asia (WA):** • Encouraged and assisted NOUs in the region to increase their cooperation with their TVET authorities with respect to RAC servicing sector training and certification programs. • MoAs initiated in, KSA, Qatar and Oman. **Latin America (LA):** • NOUs cooperate with their national TVET authorities as part of their HPMPs, and KIPs in Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador and Peru. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • UNEP included in the HPMP and KIP SSFAs with NOUs with TVETs, cooperation in the area of training and enhancement of training facilities.
56. Provide all NOUs with information and technical and policy assistance for developing national RAC certification programs.	Number of NOUs assisted, and type of support provided	At least 70 NOUs	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Arranged online meetings on training and certification in March 2025, GIZ' fit for green cooling initiative in April 2025 and green strategies of multinational companies in May 2025. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Supported 5 countries to develop certification scheme or update servicing sector certification (Botswana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Zambia). **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Facilitated coordination between Indonesia and Timor Leste in organizing competency-based assessment training for trainers of Timor Leste in December 2025 to enable Timor Leste to implement the competency-based training under the HPMP Stage II. (SEA) • Collaborated with the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturers Association of Australia (AREMA) in the planning of regional workshop on competency-based assessment on good servicing practices for 14 Pacific Island Countries. (PIC) • Participated in in-person meeting with training centers and TVET Authority in Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Timor Leste and Vietnam (SEA) and Micronesia, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu (PIC) during country mission, to assist the NOU to work with TVET Authority in the integration of good servicing practices in TVET curriculum and national

			qualification framework. (SEA and PIC) • Participated in in-person meeting with training center and TVET Authority in Marshall Islands during country mission, to explore possibility of institutionalizing good servicing practices in their course. (PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • As this activity is part of all UNEP components for their HPMPs, assisted each NOU through their HPMP projects to work with TVET authorities (Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Iran, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka), held specific sessions during network meetings in Chennai and Bangkok on RAC training and certification. **West Asia (WA):** • Continued technical and policy support to develop/ update national certification schemes including focus support for Oman, Qatar and KSA. **Latin America (LA):** • NOUs received capacity-building, information and technical assistance support in the development of certification programs as part of their ISs, HPMPs and KIPs, as applicable. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • NOUs provided with information and technical and policy assistance for RAC certification programmes through their HPMP and KIP tranche activities.
57. Provide interested NOUs with guidance for the establishment and/or improvement of national certification systems using materials and lessons learned from the development of the Refrigerant Driving License (RDL) global qualification program.	Guidance materials prepared	N/A	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Guidance provided to interested NOUs to support the establishment or enhancement of national certification systems, drawing on materials and best practices from the Refrigerant Driving License (RDL) global qualification program. This support enabled Rwanda, Kenya, Zambia and Zimbabwe develop competency-based certification frameworks that align with international standards and promote technician professionalism. **West Asia (WA):** • As part of 2025 CAP, UNEP is partnering with AREA to transform the concept and resources developed under the RDL program into a toolkit of useful documents for countries to incorporate into their existing and new certification system, in line with the national requirements. • Continued technical and policy support to develop/ update national certification schemes including focus support for Oman, Qatar and KSA.

58. Encourage interested NOUs to strengthen their national/regional RAC associations, encourage them to interact regularly with their associations, and exchange best practices so that the associations have increased engagement in their countries' national Montreal Protocol activities.	Number of NOUs assisted. Type of support provided	57 NOUs	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Involved national RACHP Associations in regional meetings since 2010 and supported the creation of some of them. • Arranged the KIP implementation / Ozone2Climate meeting with Monreal Protocol Officers and RACHP Associations / Experts in Belgrade, Serbia, December 2024. It took place in parallel to the 55th International HVAC&R Congress and Exhibition of the Serbian RACHP Association SMEITS / KGH. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Continued to encourage interested NOUs to strengthen their national/regional RAC associations, encourage them to interact regularly with their associations, and exchange best practices so that the associations have increased engagement in their countries' national Montreal Protocol activities. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Participated in in-person meeting with RAC Association of Lao PDR and Vietnam (SEA) and Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (PIC) during the country mission to discuss Association perspective on the implementation in servicing sector and to identify actions to enhance engagement with RAC Association to strengthen implementation of the Montreal Protocol activities. (SEA and PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Assisted NOUs in collaborating and strengthening RAC associations through HPMPs in Bangladesh, Iran, Mongolia, Sri Lanka. • Participated in the REFCOLD exhibition organized by ISHRAE held in Kolkata, India in September 2024, including dedicated presentation on woman in RAC. • Facilitate China HPMP implementation through collaboration with the local RAC associations; Co-organized Ozone2Climate technology roadshow and industry roundtable in Shanghai, China in April 2025 with the local RAC association. **West Asia (WA):** • Supported West Asia NOUs to strengthen their national and regional RAC associations, fostering regular interaction, and promoting best practice exchange. AHRI and EUROVENT ME's active participation in the 2024 and 2025 joint network meetings was instrumental in engaging the RAC industry in Montreal Protocol implementation. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Organized the Thematic Network Meeting, June 2025 in Grenada to address strengthening national and Regional RAC Associations.
59. Encourage interested NOUs to provide increased attention to the food cold chain sector and to strengthen their cooperation with stakeholders in that sector.	Type of support provided	Information sessions and sharing relevant	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Forwarded the invitation for a webinar on food cold chain to the network countries. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Continued to encourage interested NOUs to provide increased attention to the food cold

		information and materials	chain sector and to strengthen their cooperation with stakeholders in that sector during two network meetings conducted. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized a session on alternatives technology in RAC sector that include presentation by UNEP Cool Coalition on "Opportunity to enhance Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment implementation in cooling sector through National Cooling Action Plan (NCAP) and Cooling Pledge", which includes the food cold chain sector during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officer in Malaysia in April 2025. (SEA) **South Asia (SA):** • Organized specific sessions on technology updates including specific cold chain related subsectors during network meetings in Chennai, September 2024, and Bangkok, July 2025. **West Asia (WA):** • Continue to encourage all NOUs in WA through network meetings and awareness materials, to provide increased attention to the food cold chain sector and to strengthen their cooperation with stakeholders in that sector. **Global:** • As part of 2024 CAP, UNEP partnered with IIR to assess existing Cold Chain Technology Briefs in the light of the availability and the uptake of new technologies and new refrigerants in those refrigeration sub-sectors. The analysis showed that Cold Chain Technology Briefs on Cold Storage and Refrigerated Warehouse; Commercial, Professional and Domestic Refrigeration and Fishing Vessel Applications need to be reissued to incorporate advancements in both refrigerant alternatives and technologies. Additionally, UNEP and IIR are developing an additional Cold Chain Technology Brief on Refrigerated Transport in Hot Climates. The new versions of four technology briefs will continue to support Article 5 parties and inform NOUs about the current situation and alternatives in the Cold Chain Sector. They will also facilitate the need to address the technical challenges related to equipment and existing and upcoming alternatives in the Cold Chain sub-sectors. The briefs will be prepared in English, French and Spanish languages. • CAP has partnered with GFCCC as a co-organizer of the World Cold Chain Symposium in the period 2021-2024. The 2024 World Cold Chain Symposium was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2024. The Symposium focused on The Impact and Benefits of the Cold Chain; Technology for Cold Chains; Challenges and Opportunities related to Training, Servicing and Capacity Building Issues and Financing Opportunities and Mechanisms. CAP supported the participation of 32 interested NOOs and country representatives.

60. Support all NOUs to have an increased understanding of the technical and regulatory issues related to HFCs and alternatives used in mobile air conditioning (MAC).	Nature and type of support provided.	Dedicated sessions, technical briefings and capacity-building activities	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • All NOUs supported through targeted technical briefings and capacity-building activities to deepen their understanding of regulatory and technological developments related to HFCs and their alternatives in mobile air conditioning (MAC). This has enhanced national capacities to assess and implement appropriate policies and technologies in the transport cooling sector. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized one-day session on "Options for Technically and Commercially Viable Low-GWP and Energy Efficient Alternatives to HCFCs/HFCs" to specifically discuss updated strategy, policy and technology in fire-fighting sector, refrigeration and air-conditioning sector, mobile air-conditioning sector and management of controlled substances during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025. (SEA) • Organized a breakout session to facilitate countries to brainstorm and identify need of policy and technical measures for adoption of viable Low-GWP and energy efficient alternatives to HCFCs/HFCs in different sector including MAC sector during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025. The meeting identified the need of SEA networks and that the countries need to have more understanding about the difference in design of ICE and EV vehicle to enable them to design the training programme in MAC servicing sector. (SEA) **South Asia (SA):** • Organized specific sessions on technology updates including dedicated in depth session for MAC during network meeting in Bangkok, July 2025. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Contributed to the development of the Paper on Early Action for CAP Support in LVC MAC Sector, jointly with the Global Team.
61. Promote Ozone2Climate roundtables and road shows in interested regions and countries. .	Number of activities organized	9 activities	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Arranged the KIP implementation / Ozone2Climate meeting with Monreal Protocol Officers and RACHP Associations / Experts in Belgrade, Serbia, December 2024. It took place in parallel to the 55th International HVAC&R Congress and Exhibition of the Serbian RACHP Association SMEITS / KGH. It is part of Serbia's HPMP awareness component. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Promoted Ozone2Climate roundtables and roadshows in interested countries to raise awareness on ozone and climate-friendly technologies. These events facilitated dialogue among stakeholders, showcased sustainable alternatives, and encouraged the adoption of best practices in Mauritius, and Zimbabwe. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):**

			• Collaborated with UNEP Asia and the Pacific Office, to organize (i) a high-level side event "The Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment: A Legacy of Climate Action" on 28 August 2025 to showcase the achievements of the Montreal Protocol and highlight the climate benefits of the Kigali Amendment to reinforce the political momentum, in particular the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by the remaining Parties and (ii) exhibition on Ozone and Climate, which will run throughout the 6th Asia and Pacific Forum in Fiji from 26-29 August 2025 as a dynamic and visually engaging platform to highlight the achievements of the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment at the national, regional (in particular showcasing the success of the Pacific Island Countries), and global levels. (Asia and Pacific). **South Asia (SA):** • Ozone2Climate Industry Roundtable and Technology Roadshow held in Shanghai China, in April 2025 to promote ozone and climate friendly (non-ODS, low GWP) and energy efficient RACHP technologies, including dedicated booth and UNEP presentation on policy framework and regional progresses. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Supported Grenada Sustainable Cooling Exhibition, held back-to-back with the 2025 Thematic Network Meeting, June 2025. • Organized a Fireside Chat within the margins of Grenada's Sustainable Cooling Exhibition, June 2025.
Outcomes	**Outputs**		
OUTCOME 7 Energy efficiency is maintained or increased in the RAC sector	• All NOUs are supported to interact with their national energy efficiency policy makers and financial mechanism focal points through Twinning workshops and identify areas of cooperation to promote energy efficiency during the HFC phase down. • All NOUs receive information and have their capacity strengthened to better understand energy efficiency issues related to RAC equipment. • All NOUs receive updated training curricula to teach technicians how to maintain energy efficiency of existing RAC equipment through best installation and servicing practices. • All NOUs are provided with information and assistance to enhance or establish policies or regulations aimed at maintaining and enhancing energy efficiency of existing and new RAC equipment.		
2025 Activities	**Indicators**	**Number**	**Progress**

62. Encourage interested NOUs to interact with their national energy efficiency policy makers and identify areas of cooperation to promote energy efficiency during the HFC phase-down.	Number of NOUs assisted. Type of support provided	147	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Jointly with ClimaCheck arranged online training for RACHP and energy efficiency experts in September 2024 on predictive maintenance to improve RACHP system performance and energy efficiency. • Implemented energy efficiency additional activities in Armenia and the Kyrgyz Republic. • Implemented energy efficiency pilot projects in the Kyrgyz Republic, and prepared projects for Georgia and the Republic of Moldova to be submitted to ExCom-97. • Supported the Kyrgyz Republic to purchase portable devices to measure RACHP system parameters / performance and energy efficiency. • ECA / Czechia submitted a project proposal to ExCom-95 in December 2025 to conduct a regional desk study on energy efficiency of RACHP equipment to provide an overview of equipment commercially available on the market in the EU and ECA countries and best available technologies including costs, market penetration, availability of after-sales service etc. It was not approved. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Interested NOUs, Kenya, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Gambia encouraged to engage with national energy efficiency policymakers to explore collaborative opportunities that align with the HFC phase-down. These interactions have begun to identify synergies in cooling sector strategies, aiming to jointly promote low-GWP technologies that also deliver energy savings. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • During the Workshop and Study Visit on MEPS of Room Air-conditioner – Implementation, Monitoring and Enforcement in Singapore in November 2024, UNEP organized a breakout session with Cambodia, Lao PDR and Timor Leste for the NOO and Energy Efficiency Officer to discuss the work that refrigerant phase-out/phase-down can be synergized with energy efficiency including product registration, license procedures, customs clearance and domestic market inspection (SEA). • Participated in in-person meeting between the NOU and Energy Authority of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Timor Leste (SEA) and Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (PIC) during the country mission to discuss areas of cooperation to promote energy efficiency during the HFC phase-down. (SEA and PIC) • Provided support to 13 Pacific Island Countries to interact with their Energy Authority during the development of the project proposal of energy efficiency in the servicing sector under Decision 89/6. (PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Supported the exchange between NOUs and national EE policy makers through EE related project initiatives in Bhutan, Maldives and Mongolia.

			Caribbean countries (CAR): • Saint Lucia and Grenada encouraged to engage with Energy Efficiency policy makers through implementation of their KIPs. Belize, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines develop cooperation with national energy efficiency policy makers through implementation of their Energy Efficiency Projects. **Global:** • As part of the Twinning Project Phase I, UNEP successfully encouraged National Ozone Units (NOUs) to initiate structured engagement with their national energy efficiency (EE) policymakers. This activity aimed to identify synergies and foster cooperation in promoting energy efficiency during the HFC phase-down, in line with the objectives of the Kigali Amendment. • Through a series of eight regional workshops held across all UNEP-served networks, NOUs and EE focal points were brought together for the first time in a formal setting. These workshops provided a platform for dialogue, joint planning, and the identification of shared priorities. As a result, over 100 NOUs and EE agencies began exploring areas of collaboration, including: • Aligning refrigerant transition strategies with national cooling action plans. • Coordinated on minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) and labelling schemes. • Exploring joint access to climate finance and technical assistance. • The project demonstrated that NOUs are well-positioned to act as catalysts for cross-sectoral coordination. In several countries, the workshops led to the establishment of informal working groups between ozone and energy authorities. These outcomes not only enhanced national readiness for HFC phase-down but also laid the groundwork for more holistic cooling sector strategies that deliver both ozone and climate benefits. • The success of this activity has informed the design of Phase II of the Twinning Project, which will focus on institutionalizing these partnerships through national action plans, technical tools, and sustained policy dialogue. The initiative underscores UNEP's commitment to fostering integrated approaches that maximize the environmental and economic co-benefits of the Montreal Protocol.
63. Follow up on the recommendations from the 2023-2024 Ozone Officers-Energy Efficiency Policymakers Twinning workshops (Phase I)	Number and type of follow up activities organized	8 follow-up activities. See the details on the type in the progress update	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Follow-up actions initiated based on the recommendations from the 2023–2024 Ozone Officers–Energy Efficiency Policymakers Twinning Workshops (Phase I), focusing on enhancing coordination between NOUs and energy authorities. Countries have begun implementing joint action plans, policy dialogues, and technical collaborations to advance integrated strategies for HFC phase-down and energy efficiency improvements. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Send reminders to network countries on the implementation of recommendation from the Ozone Officers-Energy Efficiency Policymakers Twinning workshop Phase 1. (SEA and PIC) • Organized one-day session on "Options for Technically and Commercially Viable Low-GWP and Energy Efficient Alternatives to HCFCs/HFCs" to specifically discuss updated strategy, policy and technology in fire-fighting sector, refrigeration and air-conditioning sector, mobile

		4	air-conditioning sector and management of controlled substances, which include update on energy efficient technology in RAC sector, during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025. (SEA) • Based on conclusion and recommendation from the workshop, identified expert to help conduct market assessment to understand market penetration of air-conditioner in three dimensions; refrigerant, energy performance and price. (SEA and PIC) • Based on conclusion and recommendation from the workshop, prepared the regional project proposal of energy efficiency in the servicing sector under Decision 89/6 for 12 PICs comprising Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu and individual project proposal of Fiji, which were approved by the ExCom. (PIC) **Global:** • Following the successful completion of Phase I of the Twinning Project, UNEP has moved forward with the development and launch of Phase II, building directly on the recommendations and momentum generated during the first phase. Phase I demonstrated the value of structured engagement between National Ozone Units (NOUs) and national energy efficiency (EE) policymakers, revealing strong interest and clear opportunities for collaboration to enhance energy efficiency outcomes during the HFC phase-down. • Phase II will start implementation and is designed to institutionalize this collaboration by supporting countries in embedding energy efficiency considerations into their Montreal Protocol strategies and aims to move beyond initial dialogue and pilot engagement toward sustained, results-oriented cooperation. The implementation plan for Phase II is structured around four main key components: a) Country-Level Engagement and Assessment: UNEP will work with selected countries to assess national priorities, map existing EE and ozone policies, and identify opportunities for integration. This includes consultations with NOUs, EE agencies, and other relevant ministries to ensure alignment with national development goals. • b) produce and adapt practical tools such as RAC sector mapping templates, procurement guidelines, and policy briefs. These will be tailored to regional contexts and translated where necessary to ensure accessibility and relevance for all participating countries. Afterward, the regional workshops and peer learning sessions will be organized to share best practices, tools, and lessons learned. • Recommendation *Project Sharing*: During the 2025 Thematic Network Meeting, Grenada shared an update on its submitted Revolving Fund PRP Request to ExCom-96. • Recommendation *Youth Engagement:* Organized the Workshop for Youth in RAC to build future capacity and encourage greater participation of youth in the RSS. • Recommendation Communication Strategies: ISP SSFAs following the 3-year cycle developed during the period, include the development of a Communication and Awareness Plan, creating an opportunity to cover EE (RAC).

64. Develop new and/or share existing capacity building materials related to energy efficiency and low GWP refrigerants based on the needs assessments and the outcomes of the twinning workshops.	Number and type of capacity building materials developed	8 activities (online training, purchase of equipment, awareness raising, action plans, regional workshops, etc.) 2 1	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Jointly with ClimaCheck arranged online training for RACHP and energy efficiency experts in September 2024 on predictive maintenance to improve RACHP system performance and energy efficiency. • Supported the Kyrgyz Republic to purchase portable devices to measure RACHP system parameters / performance and energy efficiency. • Armenia produced two "Sisak and Misak" videos under their EE additional activities project which is being implemented by UNEP: 1) Sisak, Misak and Energy-Efficient Refrigerator, and 2) Sisak, Misak and Energy-Efficient Air-Conditioner. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • New and existing capacity-building materials on energy efficiency and low-GWP refrigerants developed and shared with NOUs, guided by country-specific needs assessments and outcomes from the twinning workshops. These resources are supporting national efforts to build technical expertise and promote the adoption of climate-friendly cooling technologies. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Facilitated and shared example of "Market Assessment of Consumer Behavior and Market Barrier and Recommendation to Address Barriers in Adoption of Energy Efficient and Low-GWP RAC Appliances" to discuss development of action plan for the Pacific Island Countries during the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025. (PIC) • Facilitated and shared example of "Energy and Environmental Benefits of Properly Installed and Serviced RAC Equipment" to discuss development of action plan for the Pacific Island Countries during the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025. (PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Assisted Mongolia in organizing RAC trainings with dedicated sessions on energy efficiency with international expert in August 2025. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Capacity building materials shared with countries, such as the ASHRAE course on Energy Efficiency. **Global:** • During Phase I of the Twinning Project (2023–2024), the focus was on disseminating existing knowledge products and tools to support the integration of energy efficiency and low-GWP refrigerants into national cooling strategies. This was achieved through a series of eight regional workshops, which brought together NOOs, NEEPs, and FMFPs across all CAP networks. To support these efforts, a comprehensive "Twinning Project Resources Toolbox" that included a number of knowledge products. The completion reports from Phase I, including the consolidated and regional versions, documented the effectiveness of these tools and highlighted the need for more tailored, action-oriented resources to bridge the gap between

			knowledge and implementation. During this reporting period, in collaboration with ASHRAE, finalized and launched the Assessing RAC Plant Sustainability Technical Guide, a comprehensive resource designed to support the sustainable operation and maintenance of refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) plants. The guide covers eight key dimensions, including refrigerant handling, leak detection, energy efficiency, and technician competencies, and includes practical checklists and minimum tool requirements for field servicing. Initial dissemination has begun, with strong interest from stakeholders and over 70 early registrants. Next steps include broader outreach and possible integration of the guide into national training and policy frameworks.
65. Assist all NOUs to better understand energy efficiency issues related to RAC equipment through information collection of existing information materials and/or development of new materials.	Number and type of information materials developed	7	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Collected new publications from various sources including publications on energy efficiency and climate protection. However, they could not be disseminated because meeting USBs could not be purchased. Selected publications have been shared by email. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Assisted all NOUs to better understand energy efficiency issues related to RAC equipment through information collection of existing information materials and/or development of new materials. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • During the country mission, provide a brief training to the NOO of Brunei Darussalam, Lao PDR, Timor Leste (SEA) and Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Fiji, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (PIC) to understand the concept of MEPS and how it is linked/relevant to the phase-out/phase-down of controlled substance for them to understand the linkage and potential synergies. (SEA and PIC) **Latin America (LA):** • Maintaining energy efficiency when servicing RAC equipment is a recurrent topic of the network meetings and as part of the HPMP and KIP EE-related projects approved by ExCom.
66. Provide all NOUs with updated training curricula to teach technicians how to maintain energy efficiency of existing RAC equipment through best installation and servicing practices.	Training curricula updated to reflect energy efficiency considerations	Ongoing	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • All NOUs provided with updated training curricula designed to equip technicians with the skills needed to maintain the energy efficiency of existing RAC equipment. The materials emphasize best practices in installation, servicing, and maintenance to ensure optimal performance and environmental compliance. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Included in the energy efficiency project of Lao PDR and Cambodia (SEA) and 13 Pacific Island Countries comprising Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Fiji (PIC) on development of a dedicated training module for energy efficiency to be integrated into the existing good servicing practices module. (SEA and PIC)

			• Discussed with RAC experts of Lao PDR and Cambodia on the expected outputs of the energy efficiency module. (SEA) • Discussed with the Government of Australia and the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturers Association of Australia (AREMA) on the expected outputs of the energy efficiency module 13 Pacific Island Countries comprising Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Fiji. (PIC). **South Asia (SA):** • Assisted Mongolia in organizing RAC trainings with international expert including dedicated session on how to maintain EE during lifetime of RAC equipment in August 2025. (SA) **West Asia (WA):** • Continued support to servicing technicians, master trainers, and other practitioners gain new or updated skills including minimizing leaks, safely handling refrigerants, and maintaining or improving the energy efficiency of RAC appliances. • Shared UNEP training materials including Arabic versions with West Asian countries and delivered training in Kuwait, Qatar, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Oman. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • UNEP-ASHREA and AREA courses shared with Countries during the 2025 Thematic Network Meeting, June 2025 and the 2024 Workshop for Youth in RAC, Belize Nov 2024.
67. Provide all interested NOUs with information and assistance to enhance or establish policies or regulations aimed at maintaining and enhancing energy efficiency of existing and new RAC equipment.	Number of NOUs assisted. Type of support provided	147 NOUs	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Added energy efficiency related legislative and policy options to the overview tables on HFC legislative and policy options and RAC sector action and updated these tables in December 2024. • Suggested producing a similar publication like the one on HFC legislative and policy options but focusing on energy efficiency. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Interested NOUs provided with targeted information and technical assistance to support the development or strengthening of policies and regulations that maintain and enhance energy efficiency in both existing and new RAC equipment. This support includes policy templates, case studies, and expert guidance tailored to national contexts and cooling sector priorities. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Jointly organized a Workshop and Study Visit on MEPS of Room Air-conditioner – Implementation, Monitoring and Enforcement under the project "Enhancing/ Maintaining of Energy Efficiency in RAC Appliance in Servicing Sector (Decision 89/6)" in November 2024 with UNEP U4E to learn experience from Singapore and ASEAN members. The workshop was attended by NOOs, National Energy Efficiency

			Officers and Domestic Trade Officers from Cambodia, Lao PDR and Timor Leste (OzonAction) and Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Vietnam (U4E). The regulation related to energy efficiency and MEPS were presented by each participating country. (SEA) **South Asia (SA):** • Organized dedicated informative sessions on energy efficiency with particular focus on India experience during Joint Network Meeting for South Asia and West Asia National Ozone Officers, Chennai, India from 24-25 September 2024. **West Asia (WA):** • Supported West Asia at the two joint network meetings in Chennai and Batumi, and during the AHRI thematic meeting in July 2025. This support focused on improving their understanding of policies, regulations, standards, and technical options for enhancing energy efficiency in the RAC sector. • Facilitated the exchange of experiences among countries on energy efficiency-related aspects. **Latin America (LA):** • Information on energy efficiency-related policies and assistance in RAC equipment is discussed at the network meetings and as part of the HPMP and KIP EE-related projects approved by the ExCom. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Countries assisted with enhancing and/or establishing MEPs and other policy interventions and regulatory measures through their KIPs and HPMP Tranches. **Global:** • As part of the ongoing implementation of Phase II of the Twinning Project, UNEP is actively supporting interested NOUs in enhancing or establishing national policies and regulations that promote energy efficiency in the RAC sector. This activity responds directly to the growing need to align HFC phase-down strategies with national energy and climate goals. Phase II introduces a structured approach to assist NOUs in identifying and implementing policy measures that maintain or improve the energy performance of both existing and new RAC equipment. The project provides tailored regional technical assistance and policy guidance through the following key actions: a) developing and disseminating a suite of policy tools, including model regulations, MEPS, labelling schemes, and procurement guidelines. These resources are adapted to regional contexts and informed by best practices shared during the Phase I workshops. b) Through regional workshops and bilateral consultations, NOUs equipped with the knowledge and skills to continue to engage effectively with national EE policymakers. These sessions also facilitate peer learning and the exchange of successful policy models among countries.
Outcomes	**Outputs**		

OUTCOME 8 Gender issues and approaches are considered and addressed in Montreal Protocol programmes and projects	• All UNEP-implemented Multilateral Fund projects include gender mainstreaming components. • All NOUs receive support to identify the entry point to integrate gender mainstreaming into implementation workstreams of the Montreal Protocol. • All NOUs use Regional Network meetings as a forum to further consider gender mainstreaming in the context of their national Montreal Protocol programmes, projects and activities. • Interested women working in the RAC sector in Article 5 countries are offered networking and mentorship opportunities through the International Network of Women in Cooling (INWIC), and interested countries incorporate those activities into HPMP and KIP projects. • More women in Article 5 countries are attracted to work in the RAC sector as a result of awareness, information and opportunities provided by NOUs and INWIC. • All NOUs have enhanced awareness about gender mainstreaming related to Montreal Protocol-related customs activities and encourage their customs authorities to do the same.		
2025 Activities	**Indicators**	**Number**	**Progress**
68. Ensure that all UNEP-implemented Multilateral Fund projects include gender mainstreaming components	Compliance with MLF's Gender Policy is monitored	64 approved projects	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Applied gender policy of the Multilateral Fund to all new project submissions and to the implementation of and reporting on ongoing Montreal Protocol projects. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Ensured that all UNEP-implemented Multilateral Fund projects integrate gender mainstreaming components. Provided support to all countries to incorporate gender considerations throughout project implementation and delivery. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** Organized a session to include a presentation on gender mainstreaming throughout the lifecycle of projects funded under the Multilateral Fund and gender mainstreaming assessment preparation guide for Multi-Year Agreements during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 and the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025. (SEA and PIC) • All projects submitted to the Executive Committee at 95th and 96th Meeting complied with gender mainstreaming policy in accordance with the relevant ExCom decisions. All Small-scale Funding Agreement of these approved projects include provision on gender mainstreaming (SEA and PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Included gender indicators and assessment in all new ExCom project submissions; Facilitated gender mainstreaming during implementation of Multilateral Fund supported projects in the network. **West Asia (WA):** • Assisted Western Asia countries in reflecting and integrating gender considerations in their projects and operations; 8 Factsheets on Gender Mainstreaming prepared and translated into Arabic in 2025. **Latin America (LA):**

			• The IS, HPMPs, KIPs, related EE and Inventories of Banks projects include gender mainstreaming components that are monitored during the implementation phase. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Global Team on Gender delivered updated information on the Multilateral Fund's Gender Policy at the Belize Workshop for Youth in the RSS, Nov 2024, Belize and the Thematic Network Meeting, June 2025, Belize. • All SSFAs developed included gender markers based on the Multilateral Fund gender policy. • All HPMPs and KIPs contain gender components. • Special funding made available for Grenada for *Women in RAC for the Caribbean*, to develop a series of public awareness material specific to Grenada and the Caribbean. **Global:** • Supported NOUs to address gender considerations during the preparation and implementation of all Multilateral Fund projects. • Two targeted factsheets were developed to assist NOUs to identify entry points for gender mainstreaming in the projects: o Overview of the requirements throughout the Lifecycle of Multilateral Fund Projects – presents Policy applicable to MYAs o Gender Assessment tool for projects funded by the Multilateral Fund • OzonAction conducted an analysis of the 18 UNEP-led projects for Stage I of the Kigali Implementation Plans (KIPs), approved by the Executive Committee in 2023 and 2024. The report compiled and assessed data on how the Multilateral Fund's policy was addressed in these submissions and evaluates the strategies integrated into the KIP projects to ensure responsiveness to varied societal roles and needs of women and men.

69. Assist NOUs to complete gender assessment as required by the Multilateral Fund's Gender Policy by providing gender assessment resources and tools.	Type of gender assessment resources and tools provided.	64 approved projects 8 factsheets, Gender assessment tool	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Supported network countries conducting gender assessments when preparing new project proposals. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Assisted NOUs to complete gender assessment as required by the Multilateral Fund's Gender Policy by providing gender assessment resources and tools. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized a session to include a presentation on gender mainstreaming throughout the lifecycle of projects funded under the Multilateral Fund and gender mainstreaming assessment preparation guide for Multi-Year Agreements during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 and the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025. (SEA and PIC) • All projects submitted to the Executive Committee at 95th and 96th Meeting have gender assessment in accordance with the relevant decision. (SEA and PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Shared tools with NOUs to complete gender assessment in all new ExCom project submissions. **West Asia (WA):** • Eight factsheets on Gender prepared and translated into Arabic in 2025 **Global:** • Gender assessment tool for projects funded by the Multilateral Fund was developed in cooperation with UNEP's Gender and Safeguard Unit. It offers a framework for conducting assessments in the context of Multilateral Fund-funded projects. It helps NOUs identify potential barriers to participation of women and design interventions that ensure balanced outcomes. The tool supports evidence-based decision-making and strengthens the responsiveness of project proposals and implementation strategies to varied needs of men and women.
70. Assist NOUs to identify the entry point to integrate gender mainstreaming into implementation workstreams of the Montreal Protocol	Number of countries assisted. Type of support provided	147	**English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Provided guidance and ensured that gender mainstreaming was considered in all projects. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized a session to include a presentation on gender mainstreaming throughout the lifecycle of projects funded under the Multilateral Fund and gender mainstreaming assessment preparation guide for Multi-Year Agreements during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 and the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025. (SEA and PIC) • All project submitted to the Executive Committee at 95th and 96th Meeting has gender assessment in accordance with the relevant decision. (SEA and PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Included gender indicators and assessment in all new ExCom project submissions; Facilitated gender mainstreaming during implementation of Multilateral Fund supported

			projects in the network. **West Asia (WA):** • Assisted Western Asia countries in integrating gender considerations in their projects and operations; promoted equal opportunity in all projects and events. **Latin America (LA):** • Ten countries in the Latin American region were assisted in the identification of entry points to integrate gender mainstreaming as part of the implementation of their ISs, HPMPs, and KIPs. **Global:** • To mark International Women's Day 2025, OzonAction produced a video highlighting successful national initiatives from Grenada, North Macedonia, Sierra Leone, Armenia, and Peru. These activities aimed to enhance participation and address the specific needs of women in the context of implementation of the Montreal Protocol projects and activities.
71. Provide all NOUs with Regional Network meetings to use as a forum to further consider gender mainstreaming in the context of their national Montreal Protocol programmes, projects and activities.	Number of meetings/sessions organized	At least 12 sessions	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Identified female RACHP Experts to invite them to attend the ECA meeting in Belgrade, Serbia, in December 2024, and also the 55th International HVAC&R Congress and Exhibition of the Serbian RACHP Association SMEITS / KGH. As there was no funding available from CAP 2024 balances, the activity has been postponed. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • All NOUs provided with opportunities during Regional Network meetings to discuss and advance gender mainstreaming within their national Montreal Protocol programmes, projects, and activities. These forums have facilitated the sharing of experiences, strategies, and practical approaches to integrating gender considerations into ozone protection efforts. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized a session to include a presentation on gender mainstreaming throughout the lifecycle of projects funded under the Multilateral Fund and gender mainstreaming assessment preparation guide for Multi-Year Agreements during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 and the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025. (SEA and PIC) • Encouraged all countries to take into account gender balance while nominating participation in the relevant meeting organized by UNEP. Kept record on the number of meeting participants by gender to assess gender balance (SEA and PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Participated in the REFCOLD exhibition, held in Kolkata, India from 3-5th October 2024, including a half-day knowledge session titled *"Women in 'Cool' Careers: Her Story of Cooling" where* UNEP presented on global activities and initiatives aimed at empowering women working in the Refrigeration Air Conditioning and Heat Pump

			(RACHP) sector. **West Asia (WA):** • Through network meetings, we enabled all Western Asian countries to delve deeper into gender mainstreaming within their national Montreal Protocol efforts. Every network meeting featured special sessions focused on this topic. **Latin America (LA):** • One dedicated session to advancing the implementation of the Gender Mainstreaming Policy of the Multilateral Fund was delivered during the Network Meeting in Costa Rica in June 2025. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Organized the 2025 Network Meeting in Grenada, June 2025, where gender was discussed. • Organized the Workshop for Youth in RSS in Belize, November 2024, where young female technicians attended and gender mainstreaming was core to discussions. There were 52% female participants. **Global:** • Gender is included in the agenda of the network meetings, when meaningful and/or something new to discuss. Most of the network meetings had a session on gender that covered several related topics: o Gender considerations in the Multilateral Fund- funded projects and any updates on the Gender Policy implementation; o Promotion of resources related to gender produced by OzonAction, that are available on the OzonAction website; o Case studies from the countries about their activities related to gender mainstreaming the Montreal Protocol activities; • There were several thematic meetings/workshops that had a more prominent gender aspect, such as Youth in the RAC sector workshop, Belize November 2024, that looked specifically into gender-based barriers for young people to join the RAC sector.
72. Offer interested women working in the RAC sector in Article 5 countries networking and mentorship opportunities through the International Network of Women in Cooling (INWIC), and assist interested countries to incorporate those activities into HPMP and KIP projects	Number of projects that include INWIC activities	1	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Informed network countries about INWIC and shared information materials through various dissemination lists. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Networking and mentorship opportunities continued to be offered to interested women in the RAC sector through collaboration with INWIC. Support provided to integrate these gender-focused activities into HPMP and KIP projects, promoting inclusive participation and capacity-building in the sector. **Global:** • INWIC continued to advance the engagement of women, promote career opportunities, and increase their overall participation in the HVACR sector. • Through INWIC, UNEP OzonAction is harnessing the institutional reputation, expertise, and

			knowledge products of these RACHP sector partners to help developing countries (Article 5 countries) in the implementation of the Montreal Protocol. Products and tools, both delivered by INWIC (membership platform, mentoring, internship opportunities) and made available to the wider INWIC network by the founding partners (webinars, training opportunities, participation in meetings/conferences) aim to assist Article 5 parties mainstream gender consideration into preparation and implementation of their Montreal Protocol projects. • INWIC activities were regularly presented as part of gender sessions of network and thematic meetings. More detailed information on INWIC is provided in Annex 5. • Assessment of the use of INWIC activities in UNEP's projects will be done by the end of 2025.
73. Encourage and assist all NOUs to promote the participation and empowerment of women in the RAC sector through awareness raising, information and training provided by CAP.	Type of assistance provided	Workshops, training and information sessions	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Reflected gender aspects project proposals and during implementation / reporting. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • Continued to encourage and assist all NOUs to promote the participation and empowerment of women in the RAC sector through awareness raising, information and training. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Organized a session to include a presentation on gender mainstreaming throughout the lifecycle of projects funded under the Multilateral Fund and gender mainstreaming assessment preparation guide for Multi-Year Agreements during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers in Malaysia in April 2025 and the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025. (SEA and PIC) **South Asia (SA):** • Encouraged NOUs in the network to advocate for increased women participation during capacity building opportunities related to RAC servicing sector vis a vis their TVET authorities and the local training centers. **Latin America (LA):** • NOUs in the region were assisted with promoting the participation and empowerment of women in the RAC sector as part of the implementation of their ISs, HPMPs, and KIPs, as well as sharing of experiences and lessons learned at the Network Meeting. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Workshop for Youth in the RAC included young females. As a result of the Workshop an informal WhatsApp group was created. Special funding was made available for Grenada for Women in RAC for the Caribbean, to develop a series of public awareness material specific to Grenada and the Caribbean. Country HPMPs and KIPs include activities such as scholarships for women (Grenada, Belize, The Bahamas). **Global:** • Regional training workshops for female technicians offer a unique opportunity to discuss openly about barriers for women to enter the RAC field, challenges they are facing when working in the field and their needs and opportunities to remove barriers. In 2023-2024 CAP so organized four such workshops for female technicians in ROA-A, ROA-F, LA and CAR regions. Two follow-up regional workshops are planed for later this year in AF-A and AF-F.

			• CAP supported national training workshop for female technicians only in Zimbabwe (May 2025), organized under the National HPMP project. The workshop focused on understanding the motivations, challenges, and opportunities for professionals working in a traditionally male-dominated sector and was attended by 40 female RAC professionals from around the country. To inform the discussions, a Women in Cooling survey was conducted ahead of the event, receiving responses from 95 female RAC professionals, primarily from the servicing sector. The results of the survey were analyses and presented in a report.
74. Assist Article 5 countries to reflect gender considerations in their Customs work related to the Montreal Protocol as a result of enhanced awareness about this issue by contributing to the Green Customs Initiative's development of a publication on the subject.	Number of countries assisted. Type of support provided	147	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Disseminated the Green Customs Initiative (GCI) information note on free trade zones. **English-speaking Africa (AF-A):** • NOUs assisted in integrating gender considerations into their Customs-related work under the Montreal Protocol, building on increased awareness of the issue. This progress was supported by contributions to the Green Customs Initiative's development and enforcement practices. **South Asia (SA):** • Encouraged NOUs in the network to advocate for increased women participation during capacity building opportunities related to Customs work. **Global:** • Under the auspices of the Green Customs Initiative, CAP provided contribution to the Report on Green Customs, Trade and Gender: Considerations in the context of trade related Multilateral Environmental Agreements.
Outcomes	**Outputs**		

OVERARCHING Article 5 countries meet their commitments through effective and timely implementation of Multilateral Fund projects	*HCFC phase out* • All Article 5 countries with ongoing HPMP Stages or tranches approved for UNEP implementation are assisted to implement them in a timely and effective manner. • All Article 5 countries with HPMP verification projects approved for UNEP implementation have their HCFC consumption verified in a timely and effective manner, and UNEP helps them implement the recommendations in the verification reports. • All Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit new HPMP Stages or tranches are supported to do so. • All Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit additional activities in their HPMPs under the special funding window to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector under Executive Committee decision 89/6(b) are supported to do so. *HFC phase down* • All Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit KIPs are supported to do so. • All Article 5 countries with KIP tranches approved for UNEP implementation are assisted to implement them in a timely and effective manner. • All Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit Pilot projects to maintain and/or enhance energy efficiency of replacement technologies and equipment in the context of HFC phase-down under Executive Committee Decision 91/65 are supported to do so. *Unwanted controlled substances* • All Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit projects under the funding window for an inventory of banks of used or unwanted controlled substances and a plan for the collection, transport, and disposal of such substances under Executive Committee Decision 91/66 are supported to do so.		
2024 Activities	**Indicators**	**Number**	**Progress**
HCFC phase out			
75. Support all Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit new HPMP stages or tranches	Number of HPMP Stages/tranches approved	34	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Supported Armenia and the Republic of Moldova to prepare new HPMP stages or tranches. **Global:** • Supported six countries to submit HPMP preparation funding requests and 28 countries to prepare and submit HPMP stages or tranches that were approved at ExCom-95 and ExCom-96.
76. Assist all Article 5 countries with ongoing HPMP Stages or tranches approved for UNEP implementation to implement them in a timely and effective manner.	Number of HPMP Stages/tranches implemented	102	**Global:** • Provided assistance to 102 countries where UNEP is an implementing agency (75 as lead and 27 as cooperating agency) with ongoing HPMP stages or tranches for implementation in a timely and effective manner.

77. Assist all Article 5 countries with HPMP verification projects approved for UNEP implementation have their HCFC consumption verified in a timely and effective manner and help them implement the recommendations in the verification reports.	Number of HPMP verification projects implemented	40	**Global:** • Supported all relevant Article 5 counties with preparation and submission of their HPMP verification reports as approved by the Executive Committee. • Provided input to HCFC verification reports for countries where UNEP is the Cooperating Agency. • Encouraged and assisted all such countries to consider implementation of the recommendations from the verification reports, as appropriate.
HFC phase down			
78. Support all Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit KIPs.	Number of KIP projects approved	28	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Supported Armenia, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Serbia to prepare their KIPs stage I. **Global:** • Supported three countries to submit KIP preparation funding requests and 25 countries to prepare and submit KIP (22 UNEP as lead, including Regional KIP for PICs and 3 UNEP as cooperating agency).
79. Assist all Article 5 countries with KIP tranches approved for UNEP implementation to implement them in a timely and effective manner.	Number of KIP stages/tranches implemented	50	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Implemented KIPs in Armenia, Georgia, and the Republic of Moldova. KIP stage I for Serbia will be submitted to ExCom-97. **Global:** • Provided assistance for 50 countries with approved KIPs for UNEP as lead (32) or cooperating agency (18) for implementation in a timely and effective manner.
Unwanted controlled substances			
80. Support all Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit projects under the funding window for an inventory of banks of used or unwanted controlled substances and a plan for the collection, transport, and disposal of such substances under Executive Committee Decision 91/66.	Number of countries with funding requests for inventory of banks of used and unwanted controlled substances	35	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Implemented inventory of banks preparation projects in Albania, Armenia, Georgia, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Moldova. Serbia's project proposal is ready for submission to ExCom-97 **Global:** • Supported 35 countries, including 13 in the PIC region, in the preparation and submission of national and regional projects under the funding window established by Executive Committee Decision 91/66.

81. Assist all Article 5 countries with ODS disposal project approved for UNEP implementation to implement them in a timely and effective manner.	Number of inventory of banks of used and unwanted controlled substances implemented	51	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Implemented inventory of banks preparation projects in Albania, Armenia, Georgia, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Moldova. Serbia's project proposal is ready for submission to ExCom-97. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Joint Thematic Workshop of Southeast Asia and Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers on National Inventory of Banks of ODS/HFC and Strategy for Management of Unwanted Controlled Substances in the Philippines in November 2024. During the workshop, organized sessions for expert to share knowledge and experience related to the National Inventory Project including terminology and scope of the project, experience on survey and preparation of national inventory, policy and initiatives on life-cycle refrigerant management (LRM), options for operation of LRM and initiative on LRM. A site visit to cement kiln factory with ODS/HFC destruction facility was conducted for the NOO to understand more about destruction of unwanted substances (SEA and PIC) • Organized a session to update management of controlled substances from Japan and implementing agency experiences during the Network Meeting of Southeast Asia National Ozone Officer in Malaysia in April 2025 (SEA) • Organized a session on data collection and analysis for the National Inventory of Banks of ODSs/HFCs during the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officer in Tonga in May 2025 (PIC) • Developed data collection and analysis strategy to understand the potential banks, recovered, reusable and non-reusable controlled substances to enable countries to have holistic pictures of situation and implementation gaps. Moderated the breakout session during the 2025 Life-cycle Refrigerant Management Workshop organized by CCAC during the OEWG meeting in July 2025 to share data collection and analysis strategy to Article 5 countries that UNEP is implementing agency of the project (all networks). • Supported 51 countries, including 13 in the Pacific Island Countries (PIC) region, in implementation of ODS disposal projects. These projects focused on the development of inventories of banks of used or unwanted controlled substances, as well as comprehensive plans for their collection, transport, and environmentally sound disposal. **South Asia (SA):** • Supported Bhutan, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal and Sri Lanka with the implementation of projects related to the preparation of national inventory of banks of waste-controlled substances and development of a national plan for management of these substances, action plan for the project has been agreed with the countries, and the hiring of the international consultant is in progress. **West Asia (WA):** • Supported one project and two recently approved ones for Iraq and Oman. • Continued to encourage countries to benefit of this special window and expected

			additional requests to ExCom-97. **Latin America (LA):** • Supported eight projects approved for the Latin America region. • The project in Nicaragua was closed and the funds returned to the Multilateral Fund. **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Nine counties with approved ODS Banks projects provided with technical guidance and agreeing on the best implementation modality based on Country circumstances. • UNEP commenced the recruitment of National Consultants in Grenada, Belize and Guyana. Saint Lucia's consultant recruited. • Advance recruitment commenced for Dominica, Barbados and Suriname. An International Consultant to provide overall technical support and assistance being recruited. This would provide global coordination for the timely and effective implementation.
Energy efficiency projects			
82. Support all LVCs requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit additional activities in their HPMPs under the special funding window to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector under Executive Committee decision 89/6(b).	Number of requests for additional activities in line with decision 89/6 (b)	20	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** Implemented EE additional activities in Armenia and the Kyrgyz Republic. **Global** • All countries where UNEP is implementing HPMP projects were informed about provisions of decision 89/6 on additional activities for maintaining energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector in HPMPs for LVCs. • Targeted assistance provided for interested countries about potential activities to be included in the project proposals. • 18 countries were supported to include an additional energy-efficiency component in the tranches of their HPMP projects approved at ExCom-95 and ExCom-96, including reginal energy efficiency project for 12 PIC countries. • Two countries were supported to submit stand-alone additional energy-efficiency project in line with decision 89/6 (Fiji and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines).
83. Support all Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit Pilot projects to maintain and/or enhance energy efficiency of replacement technologies and equipment in the context of HFC phase-down under Executive Committee Decision 91/65.	Number of requests for pilot projects in line with decision 91/65	1	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Implemented an energy efficiency pilot project in the Kyrgyz Republic. Similar projects have been prepared for Georgia and the Republic of Moldova for submission to ExCom-97. **Latin America (LA):** • The energy efficiency project under decision 91/65 approved for Peru at the ExCom-95 **Global:** • One country requested UNEP's assistance to prepare and submit pilot projects to maintain and/or enhance energy efficiency of replacement technologies and equipment in the context of HFC phase-down under Executive Committee Decision 91/65 (Peru)

84. Support all Article 5 countries requesting UNEP assistance to prepare and submit energy efficiency related projects in the context of HFC phase-down under Executive Committee Decision 94/60 and any future decisions as adopted at ExCom-95 and ExCom-96.	Number of requests of EE related projects under new funding windows	0	**Global:** • There were no requests to UNEP for support in preparation and submission of energy efficiency related projects under new funding windows.
85. Assist all Article 5 countries with energy efficiency projects approved for UNEP implementation to implement them in a timely and effective manner	Number of energy efficiency projects implemented	39	**Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA):** • Implemented energy efficiency projects in Armenia and the Kyrgyz Republic. **South-East Asia and Pacific Islands countries (SEA and PIC):** • Jointly organized a Workshop and Study Visit on Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) of Room Air-conditioner – Implementation, Monitoring and Enforcement under the project "Enhancing/ Maintaining of Energy Efficiency in RAC Appliance in Servicing Sector (Decision 89/6)" in November 2024 with UNEP U4E to learn experience from Singapore and ASEAN members. The workshop was attended by Ozone Officers, Energy Efficiency Officers and Domestic Trade Officers from Cambodia, Lao PDR and Timor Leste (OzonAction) and Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Vietnam (U4E). The regulation related to energy efficiency and MEPS were presented by each participating country. (SEA) • Participated in in-person meeting between the NOU and Energy Authority of Cambodia, Lao PDR and Timor Leste (SEA) and Solomon Islands and Vanuatu (PIC) on detailed implementation of the approved project under decision 86/6. (SEA and PIC) • Facilitated and shared example of "Market Assessment of Consumer Behavior and Market Barrier and Recommendation to Address Barriers in Adoption of Energy Efficient and Low-GWP RAC Appliances" to discuss development of action plan for the Pacific Island Countries during the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025. (PIC) • Facilitated and shared example of "Energy and Environmental Benefits of Properly Installed and Serviced RAC Equipment" to discuss development of action plan for the Pacific Island Countries during the Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers in Tonga in May 2025. (PIC) • Discussed with RAC experts of Lao PDR and Cambodia on the expected outputs of the energy efficiency module. (SEA) • Discussed with the Government of Australia and the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturers Association of Australia (AREMA) on the expected outputs of the energy efficiency module 13 Pacific Island Countries comprising Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Fiji.(PIC). **Caribbean countries (CAR):** • Two countries with approved energy efficiency projects provided with technical guidance through the recruitment of an International Consultant provide country specific support and through identifying the best modality for implementation. **Global:** • Supported 39 countries, including 12 in the PIC region, in implementation of energy efficiency related projects in a timely and effective manner.

Annex 6 – Report on technical and policy support for LVC countries

Pursuant to Decision 93/95(d)(ii), the Executive Committee approved an increase in the CAP budget for the years 2024, 2025, and 2026 to enhance the provision of technical and policy assistance to LVC countries in support of KIP implementation. In response to this decision, UNEP conducted internal brainstorming sessions involving both its global and regional CAP teams to strategically identify priority areas for targeted support to LVC countries under the Kigali Implementation Plans (KIPs). Through this consultative process, four thematic areas were selected based on their relevance, potential impact, and replicability across LVC contexts. These themes are: (1) Strengthen Capacity of LVCs on Licensing and Quota System and Consumption Trends; (2) Early action to support LVCs in the mobile air conditioning (MAC) sector; (3) Strengthening the Local Installation and Assembly Sector in Commercial Refrigeration for LVC Countries; and (4) Training of CAP staff on energy efficiency and MEPs. This approval was granted with the understanding that UNEP would, inter alia, report on the technical and policy assistance activities delivered to LVC countries and their resulting impact, as part of the narrative in its CAP annual progress reports. The present report is submitted in response to that decision. Noting that the activities are still in the implementation phase at the time of submission of this document, the prioritized areas for this special assistance to LVC countries are outlined below.

1. Strengthen Capacity of LVCs on Licensing and Quota System and Consumption Trends

This activity is designed to support LVCs whose Kigali HFC Implementation Plans (KIPs) have been approved by the Executive Committee. The objective is to enhance:

a) **Implementation and enforcement capacity** through the establishment of a robust and enforceable HFC licensing and quota system. This system is inherently more complex than the mechanisms required for HCFC control, as it involves the regulation of a broader range of substances and necessitates control based on carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e) tonnes.

b) **Institutional capacity of the National Ozone Units (NOUs)** to monitor consumption trends and conduct more comprehensive and in-depth analyses. This will enable the generation of reliable and detailed data, which is essential for understanding prevailing consumption patterns and forecasting future demand. Such insights are critical for the effective implementation of HFC phase-down strategy.

UNEP OzonAction has engaged an international consultant to undertake two distinct assignments: (i) a comprehensive evaluation of the procedures governing various types of HFC licensing and quota systems, including data monitoring and reporting mechanisms, with the objective of identifying systemic gaps and recommending enhancements in two selected LVCs under UNEP's leadership; and (ii) a detailed analysis of HFC consumption trends relative to baseline levels in two selected LVCs, focusing on the underlying drivers of fluctuations in consumption patterns, the specific requirements of domestic markets, and projections of future demand. The findings from both assessments will inform the development of targeted recommendations to strengthen national capacities and support the implementation of HFC phase-down strategies. Based on the findings of these assessments, the international consultant will deliver the following specific outputs:

- Prepare a comprehensive report detailing the procedures of various HFC trade control licensing systems in two selected Low-Volume Consuming Countries (LVCs), along with two supporting factsheets/information materials: one focused on the HFC licensing and quota system, and the other on data monitoring and reporting mechanisms.
- Develop a detailed analytical report on the assessment of HFC consumption trends in comparison with baseline data in two LVCs, accompanied by one factsheet/information material outlining the methodology used for consumption trend analysis.
- Disseminate the findings and outcomes of the assessments and reports through Montreal Protocol-related meetings.

2. Early action to support LVCs in the mobile air conditioning (MAC) sector

The intervention aims to enhance the capacity of National Ozone Units (NOUs) to conduct comprehensive assessments of consumption within the Mobile Air Conditioning (MAC) sector.

- **Strengthen the capacity of NOUs** to comprehensively assess consumption in their MAC sectors, including but not limited to data on the size of vehicle fleets (new and used), types of refrigerants used, leakage rates, the number and scale of MAC servicing companies, the number of technicians working in the MAC sector (both formal and informal), the skill levels of MAC technicians, current servicing practices and equipment capabilities, the number of MAC training centers and the content of their training curricula, and end-of-life management practices for vehicles and MAC systems.
- **Evaluate national capacities** to implement containment measures within the MAC servicing sector and assess readiness to adopt potential alternative refrigerants and technologies.
- **Review existing policies, standards, and codes** governing refrigerants in the MAC servicing sector, and identify key institutional stakeholders involved in regulation and enforcement.
- **Establish a comprehensive database** that includes data on used vehicles and their contribution to refrigerant consumption within the MAC sector.

UNEP hired an international consultant to support all the above-mentioned activities. The main outputs are expected to be as follows:

- Develop a methodology for determining baseline data on HFC consumption in the MAC sector, expressed in both metric tons and CO_2-equivalent tons.
- Prepare a guide document for establishing a national inventory of MAC systems and MAC servicing workshops.
- Design a framework for a MAC Sector Response Plan, presented in a format that can be easily adapted and implemented by countries.
- Compile a comprehensive report on activities, including recommendations for integrating the Response Plan with the broader objectives and outcomes of the Kigali Implementation Plans (KIPs).

- Develop a resource package for dissemination to other LVC countries, to support replication and adaptation in similar projects.

This work is critical in enabling NOUs to make informed, data-driven decisions for effective policy development and implementation in the MAC sector. By building robust assessment capacities, countries can better monitor consumption patterns, identify opportunities for emission reductions, and ensure compliance with Kigali Amendment obligations. Moreover, the methodologies and tools developed through this initiative are highly replicable and adaptable, making them especially valuable for LVCs, which often face resource constraints but share similar sectoral challenges as non LVCs. Strengthening these foundational capabilities not only supports national environmental goals but also equips countries—particularly LVCs—with the necessary tools to effectively implement approved HFC phase-down strategies.

3. Strengthening the Local Installation and Assembly Sector in Commercial Refrigeration for LVC Countries

The commercial refrigeration sector in LVC countries plays a vital role in supporting public health services, food systems, and broader economic activities. Despite its importance in advancing the national transition away from high-GWP refrigerants, the local installation and assembly subsector remains inadequately supported by national policies and local programme frameworks. Technicians operating within the informal sector lack access to structured and accredited training programmes, regulatory oversight, and incentive mechanisms that would facilitate and encourage the adoption of environmentally sustainable practices in refrigeration servicing and installation. This activity seeks to address these gaps by establishing foundational standards for the installation and assembly of environmentally responsible commercial refrigeration systems. It comprises four interrelated components: sectoral assessment, technician registration and incentive schemes, development of technical toolkits, and targeted awareness-raising activities. Conceived as a UNEP initiative for LVCs, the project is intended to serve as a replicable model for other LVC countries facing similar challenges. As part of this initiative, UNEP has selected Africa as the initial focus region, with Zimbabwe serving as a key partner country under the pilot activity.

The expected outcomes of the activity are as follows:

- Deliver a comprehensive National Readiness Report identifying skill and equipment shortages, policy gaps, and institutional weaknesses.
- Design and pilot a National Technician Registry and incentive activities to enhance sector visibility and promote the adoption of low-GWP technologies.
- Provide a practical Commercial Refrigeration Toolkit comprising sizing software, technical checklists, and accompanying guidance materials.
- Foster sector engagement through targeted awareness materials and training resources, with content designed to be adaptable for replication in other LVC countries.

The activity was conceived from the outset with scalability as a core principle; each tool, report, and training resource being designed as a modular component, allowing for easy adaptation and replication by other LVC countries.

The activity commenced following the signing of the Small-Scale Funding Agreement (SSFA) between UNEP and the Ministry of Environment, Climate, Tourism, and Hospitality Industry. Prior to project initiation, the National Ozone Unit (NOU) convened an initial coordination meeting with the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Association of Zimbabwe (HEVACRAZ). This meeting served to define the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders, establishing timelines, and set standards for reporting and communication. It laid the groundwork for national partners to align expectations and facilitated deeper engagement at the field level.

A joint field mission was conducted alongside planning activities to inspect various installation and assembly enterprises across Zimbabwe. Representatives from both the NOU and HEVACRAZ participated in this mission. The site visits provided direct insights into technician practices and revealed significant challenges in accessing and handling low-GWP refrigerants, as well as the critical support required to improve operations. Technicians expressed a strong interest in formal recognition through a registry system, along with improved safety guidance for installations and better access to tools and spare parts. The findings underscored the need for data-driven evaluations and the development of specialized training programmes tailored to the sector's needs.

UNEP is implementing stakeholder's mapping and a readiness analysis. The following steps are scheduled for implementation during the third quarter of 2025:

- A stakeholder database is currently being planned and designed to identify key participants, their roles, and their potential influence on the subsector.
- A policy analysis is underway to examine existing standards, the regulatory framework, and institutional barriers within the commercial refrigeration sector.
- Preparations are ongoing for a national sector-wide survey, including the design of survey instruments. The survey will collect data on refrigerant usage, technician certification, and readiness to adopt low-GWP technologies.

These activities will support the development of a comprehensive Readiness Report, to be delivered by the end of 2025. The report will integrate a technical skills gap assessment as well as a mapping of tools and equipment.

The design of this activity incorporates built-in elements to facilitate future expansion. Key components—including the Readiness Report, the technician registry system, and the Commercial Refrigeration Toolkit— being structured to enable adaptation and deployment in other LVC countries. To support this objective, the following steps will be undertaken:

- Systematic documentation of lessons learned throughout the implementation process.
- Compilation of success stories and case studies to be shared with other regions.
- Collection of feedback from technicians, industry stakeholders, and regulatory bodies to improve the relevance, functionality, and usability of the system.

Ultimately, this activity serves as an adaptable model for assisting Article 5 countries in accelerating their transition to environmentally sustainable, low-GWP commercial refrigeration systems in assembly sector.

4. Training of CAP staff on energy efficiency and MEPs

Representatives from CAP Latin America region participated in the IEA Latin America Energy Efficiency Policy in Emerging Economies Training Week, held from 2 to 5 December 2024 in São Paulo, Brazil. Organized by the International Energy Agency (IEA), the event brought together regional stakeholders to explore the evolving landscape of energy efficiency policy across Latin America, with a particular emphasis on Brazil.

The training provided a valuable platform for participants to deepen their understanding of the opportunities, challenges, and solutions associated with energy efficiency in the region. Through a series of expert-led sessions and interactive discussions, attendees gained insights into how energy efficiency can deliver multiple benefits, including economic development, improved public health, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

A key focus of the training was on energy efficiency policy options, where participants examined a variety of instruments and approaches tailored to the Latin American context. These included regulatory frameworks, incentive mechanisms, and strategies for fostering public-private collaboration. The sessions emphasized the importance of designing policies that are both ambitious and adaptable to local realities. One of the thematic highlights was the exploration of energy efficiency in appliances and equipment. This segment addressed the potential for harmonized standards, labeling programs, and market transformation initiatives to drive improvements in energy performance. Participants discussed how regional cooperation could enhance the effectiveness of these measures and accelerate their implementation.
Overall, the training week served as a strategic opportunity for CAP Latin America representatives to engage with peers, share experiences, and strengthen their capacity to support energy efficiency initiatives in their respective countries. The knowledge and perspectives gained during the event are expected to contribute meaningfully to ongoing efforts to advance sustainable energy policies throughout LVCs in the region.

5. Safe Sustainable Cooling for Africa: Strengthening Occupational Safety in the RAC Sector

In addition to the four initial thematic areas, UNEP identified a new area of work during the summer of 2025 to further support LVC countries: Safe and Sustainable Cooling for Africa: Strengthening Occupational Safety in the RAC Sector**.** Africa's refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) sector is at a pivotal moment. Driven by rapid urbanization, population growth, economic development, and the escalating impacts of climate change, the demand for cooling is rising sharply. Cooling is now essential for food preservation, vaccine storage, and maintaining safe living and working conditions. However, the sector remains largely informal characteristics that are emblematic of many LVCs, with limited regulation and inadequate safety oversight. Technicians still operate without proper training, protective equipment, or insurance, exposing them to serious risks such as burns, toxic exposure, electrocution, and falls.
In this context, the transition to low-global warming potential (GWP) refrigerants under the Kigali Amendment presents both an environmental imperative and a safety challenge. Many of the

alternatives—such as hydrocarbons, ammonia, CO_2, and A2L refrigerants—are flammable, toxic, or high-pressure substances that require advanced safety protocols. These risks are particularly acute in LVC contexts, where technical capacity, regulatory enforcement, and access to safe technologies are often limited. Without adequate safeguards, their introduction could lead to increased accidents, resistance from technicians, and a loss of public and institutional confidence in alternatives. Recognizing this, UNEP is preparing Safe and Sustainable Cooling for Africa: Strengthening Occupational Safety in the RAC Sector, which places occupational safety and health (OSH) at the core of the refrigerant transition.

- Phase 1: Foundational OSH Risk Assessment will be conducted in one or two pilot countries to systematically document occupational hazards, accident patterns, and prevailing practices in the RAC sector. The assessment will benchmark existing national policies against international safety standards, providing a comparative lens to identify regulatory gaps. Extensive consultations will be held with NOUs, relevant ministries, vocational training institutes, and industry associations to ensure contextual accuracy and stakeholder alignment. The outcome will include country-specific diagnostic reports and a regional synthesis highlighting common risks, systemic weaknesses, and opportunities for targeted intervention.

- Phase 2: Communication and Behavior Change lays the groundwork for a transformative safety culture by equipping RAC technicians with knowledge and tools that are accessible, practical, and culturally resonant. This phase includes the development of pictorial warning labels and hazard indicators, 'consequence posters' that visually depict unsafe practices and their outcomes, and the dissemination of training content through WhatsApp videos and community radio programs. Technicians will also receive pocket-sized laminated job aids and illustrated brochures to reinforce safe practices in an engaging format. Together, these interventions foster a safety-first mindset, essential for scaling technical innovations and embedding behavioral change within institutions and communities—particularly in LVCs contexts where informal labor and limited access to formal training are prevalent.

- Phase 3: Innovation, Monitoring, and Scale-Up builds directly on the communication tools and behavioral shifts established in Phase 2 by providing technicians with the means to act safely and sustainably. Central to this phase is the development of a "Safety-Scan" mobile app that integrates Phase 2's visual warnings and checklists, enabling technicians to assess risks in real time. To address affordability challenges common in LVCs, technician tool libraries will be established to provide access to essential hardware. Real-time dashboards will capture data on safe practices, enabling continuous monitoring and evidence-based decision-making. This phase transforms awareness into measurable action, institutionalizes safety innovations, and supports scalable solutions tailored to the realities of LVCs.

- Phase 4: Sustainability and Policy Integration ensures that the progress achieved in earlier phases is embedded within national systems and institutional frameworks, securing long-term impact. This includes the adoption of Kigali-aligned occupational safety and health (OSH) regulations and their integration into national KIPs (stage 2), reinforcing the refrigerant transition with robust safety standards. Communication tools, mobile apps, and tool libraries developed in previous phases will be institutionalized to support ongoing technician engagement and knowledge

retention. The phase also promotes the expansion of insurance schemes, certification programs, and social protection mechanisms for informal workers—key to elevating RAC sectors in LVCs where labor is often unregulated.

As a new initiative, Safe and Sustainable Cooling for Africa is still in its formative phase, and the full scope of activities and funding requirements is yet to be determined. UNEP will initiate activities and conduct a comprehensive assessment of the resources needed to implement the initiative effectively, ensuring that interventions are scalable and responsive to the needs of LVCs across Africa and other regions facing similar challenges. UNEP will provide an update on its progress and strategic direction in the next Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) workplan and progress report.

Annex 7 – Progress report on global CAP activities

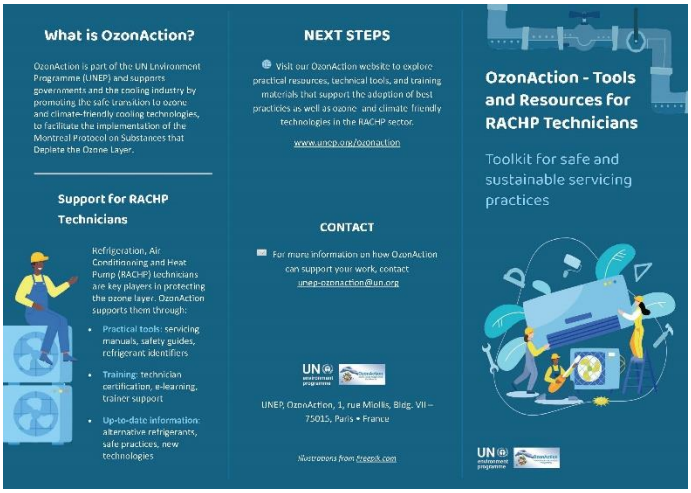
In accordance with the decision 95/82 of as set out in the report of the ninety-fifth meeting of the Executive Committee (UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/95/94), this annex provides detailed information on the activities for which the global funds were used between September 2024 and August 2025. These are four multi-year activities, namely the global training for the refrigeration servicing sector, the National Ozone Officer (NOO) training programme, activities related to integrating differentiated needs and perspectives of women and men in the Montreal Protocol activities and global activities on enforcement and customs. This annex provides a brief update on the substantive progress and outcomes of those activities.

I. Global training programme for the Refrigeration Servicing Sector

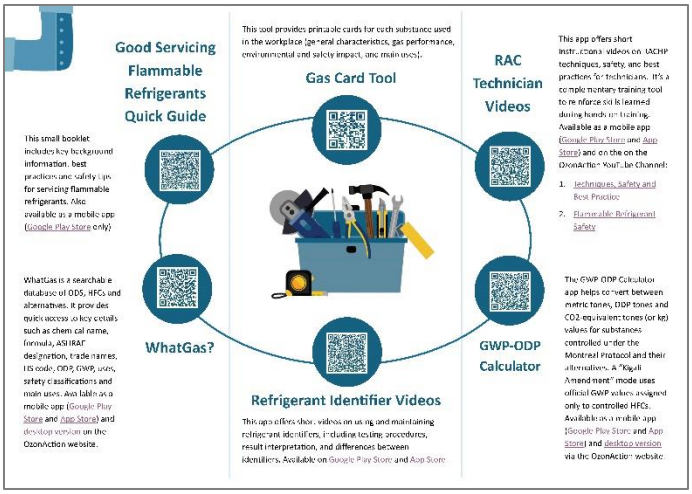
The 2024-2026 CAP Strategy included several initiatives to address the specific training needs of the Refrigeration Servicing Sector (RSS), including the development of capacity building and outreach tools. The support to the RSS remains a priority of the CAP strategy, noting the importance of this sector in the hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) phase-out management plans (HPMPs) and upcoming Kigali Implementation Plans (KIPs).

An important aspect of CAP support to RSS is ensuring diversity of products and tools in a way that can meet diverse backgrounds of RSS clients as well as offering so through different platforms to facilitate access to knowledge and skills. In relation to RSS clients, CAP tools are designed to reach:

(a) Field technicians or practitioners attending face-to-face training sessions
(b) Field technicians or practitioners not able to attend face-to-face training sessions
(c) Non-field personnel who need to be aware of refrigerant-related considerations
(d) Training institutes/centres requiring flexible materials to tailor courses according to market
(e) Informal technicians or those with limited literacy
(f) Higher-level engineering students
(g) Professional engineers and operators.



Therefore, CAP designed a range of services for RSS to be available in many formats and languages, as feasible, where it can reach all clients regardless of their background or limitations. In addition, CAP also ensured that materials can be easily and quickly updated, recognizing the fast-paced and dynamic nature of technological advancement. The type of tools offered by CAP for RSS clients includes factsheets/quick guides, training guides, educational tools, mobile applications, e-learning platform and short videos. Some highlights include:



Energy Efficiency Literacy for Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Systems e-Learning

The course is designed to educate developing country policy makers, business leaders, and community stakeholders as well as National Ozone Units (NOUs) about the benefits of air conditioning and refrigeration, the scientific principles involved, and factors that contribute to maximum energy efficiency.

During this reporting period, the Energy Efficiency Literacy e-Learning Course was translated into French and Spanish to improve accessibility and meet growing interest from non-English-speaking countries. The course engaged 259 learners from 53 countries. The recent translation and renewed interest signal potential for a broader uptake in future implementation cycles and continued expansion of energy efficiency awareness worldwide.

Focal Point of Communication Pilot Programme

The "OzonAction & American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Connect" pilot initiative was launched to establish structured focal points of communication between UNEP CAP regional networks and ASHRAE chapters that serve as local groups within the international ASHRAE organization for professionals. The pilot aims to leverage ASHRAE's technical expertise to support NOUs in Article 5 countries through knowledge exchange, technical assistance, and co-developed tools.

The draft pilot plan has been developed and refined through multiple iterations, incorporating feedback from UNEP OzonAction and ASHRAE stakeholders. The plan outlines a phased approach, beginning with the identification of two regional networks and corresponding ASHRAE chapters. A request form and monitoring framework have been created to formalize engagement and track outcomes. Initial engagement with Grenada has been positive, with local stakeholders expressing interest in participating in the pilot.

During this reporting period, the Assessing the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) Plant Sustainability Technical Guide, a comprehensive resource designed to support the sustainable operation and maintenance of RAC plants was finalized and launched in collaboration with ASHRAE. The guide covers eight key dimensions, including refrigerant handling, leak detection, energy efficiency, and technician competencies, and includes practical checklists and minimum tool requirements for field servicing. Initial dissemination has begun, with strong interest from stakeholders and over 70 early registrations. Next steps include broader outreach and possible integration of the guide into national training and policy frameworks.

University Course on Refrigerant Management

UNEP OzonAction teamed up with the American University in Beirut (AUB) to develop a special course for undergraduate engineering students. The course is the first of its type developed on the global level in accordance with academic requirements' targets engineering universities/colleges. It is a full semester elective course (16 weeks) designed with full supporting documentation. Through the cooperation with ASHRAE and its university networks comprising of over 450 engineering universities/colleges worldwide, the course is currently undergoing a comprehensive revision with the support by AUB in collaboration with ASHRAE. The revised course, now titled "Environmental Challenges and New Cooling Technology Solutions", aims to integrate updated scientific knowledge, enhanced pedagogical structure, and new modules on energy efficiency and alternative refrigerants. The revision is based on user feedback, survey analysis, and regional adaptation needs, including a Turkish version of the course. The updated syllabus has been submitted for review and is aligned with UNEP's broader educational goals under the Kigali Amendment.

The courses "Refrigerant Literacy" and "Energy Efficiency Literacy" have collectively attracted a total of 156 participants. And the "University Course on Refrigerant Management" has been requested by 24 educational institutions.

UNEP-AREA Training Manual: Refrigerants Servicing and Best Practices [5]
Developed in cooperation with the Air Conditioning and Heat Pump Contractors (AREA), this modular manual supports training on refrigerant management and safety. It allows users, training institutes in Article 5 Parties, to customize courses via the UNEP OzonAction Downloads Portal, which also tracks usage. The manual includes 10 modules covering refrigerant properties, environmental impact, and safe handling of HFCs, HFOs, and flammable refrigerants. Each module comes with lecture notes, PowerPoints, assessments, trainer and venue requirements, and a certificate template. Courses range from 5 to 56 hours and include both theoretical and practical content. Eight pre-assembled course options are also available. In 2025, UNEP OzonAction partnered with AREA to add a new Energy Efficiency module and Spanish translations on the existing modules.

Updated Refrigerant Designations and Safety Classifications: Good Servicing Flammable Refrigerants Quick Guide
A small booklet addressing key aspects related to background, best practices and safety when servicing with flammable refrigerants is available as a guide as well as a smartphone application.

Mobile applications for RAC technicians: New RAC Training Videos
A third series of instructional videos was developed in cooperation with Bundesfachschule Kälte-KlimaTechnik (BFS) to build the understanding and skill of technicians – both experienced and trainees – about basic refrigeration focusing on theory (refrigeration cycle, cold rooms, measurements, etc.) and best practices to encourage better performance and servicing.

During the reporting period, the ASHRAE–UNEP OzonAction partnership continued to advance its joint efforts to promote climate-friendly innovation and enhance technical knowledge dissemination in the RAC sector.

2025 ASHRAE–UNEP OzonAction Lower- GWP Innovation Awards
The 2025 cycle of the ASHRAE–UNEP OzonAction Lower- Global Warming Potential (GWP) Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Innovation Awards has been successfully concluded and promoted at the global level. This initiative aims to recognize and encourage the development and implementation of innovative, climate-conscious technologies in developing countries. The awards specifically highlight

[5] The training manual was previously entitled "Universal Training Kit".

projects that demonstrate the use of low- GWP refrigerants in RAC applications. This year nine submissions were evaluated by an international panel of judges, resulting in the selection of two winning projects in the residential applications category: one focused on R487A use in single-cooling air conditioners, and another on a hybrid R290-PVTS-heat pump system. The judging process included both independent reviews and virtual deliberations with unanimous agreement on the selected projects. A promotion and recognition plan has been developed to maximize the visibility of the award and encourage future participation. Discussions are also underway to refine the award's structure and criteria for future cycles, with a focus on increasing impact and alignment with Kigali Amendment objectives. Winning entries were showcased through UNEP and ASHRAE communication channels.

WhatGas?

A searchable database with information on refrigerants and alternatives, which are also available on the UNEP OzonAction website. The tool was updated in 2023 to reflect the latest GWP values for some HFCs and HFC blends. The database is periodically updated to reflect the latest information on the substances.

Support for the MAC sector

UNEP OzonAction has developed the following two products in cooperation with Mobile Air Conditioning (MAC) Partners Europe aiming to assist Article 5 parties to better understand the technical and regulatory issues related to HFCs and alternatives used in the MAC sector and their national situation with regards to MAC servicing sector: MAC Information Kit, a series of factsheets to inform NOUs about the status of the MAC sector and help them better understand the MAC sector in relation to future HFC controls; and Data Collection Kit for MAC servicing sector.

Cold Chain Technology Briefs

In 2019, UNEP OzonAction in cooperation with the International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR) developed five Cold Chain Briefs covering the Cold Storage and Refrigerated Warehouse; Commercial, Professional and Domestic Refrigeration; Refrigeration in Food Production and Processing; Transport Refrigeration and Fishing Vessel Application. Additional Cold Chain Technology brief on Vaccines was developed in 2021. All briefs were prepared in three UN languages – English, French and Spanish.
As part of 2024 CAP, UNEP OzonAction requested IIR to assess existing Cold Chain Technology Briefs in the light of the availability and the uptake of new technologies and new refrigerants in those refrigeration sub-sectors. The analysis showed that Cold Chain Technology Briefs on Refrigeration in food production and processing; Transport Refrigeration, and Vaccines are still relevant and up to date. The ones on Cold Storage and Refrigerated Warehouse, Commercial, Professional and Domestic Refrigeration and Fishing Vessel Applications need to be reissued to incorporate advancements in both refrigerant alternatives and technologies.

Additionally, UNEP OzonAction and IIR will develop an additional Cold Chain Technology Brief on Refrigerated Transport in Hot Climates. The new versions of four technology briefs will continue to support Article 5 parties and inform NOUs about the current situation and alternatives in the Cold Chain Sector. They will also facilitate the need to address the technical challenges related to equipment and existing and upcoming alternatives in the Cold Chain sub-sectors. These briefs will be prepared in English, French and Spanish languages. IIR and UNEP OzonAction will jointly organize the launch of the briefs at the MOP-37 in 2025 and three webinars to introduce technology briefs to the Ozone Officers and other stakeholders, and/or to update them on any new developments in the covered Cold Chain sub-sectors.

International Guide: Sustainable Operation and Management of RAC Installations

As part of ASHRAE-UNEP OzonAction cooperation and in line with their joint workplan, this product has been under development for the last couple of years aiming to design the first international guide for managing the operation of RAC installations with focus on management of refrigerant, servicing skills, proper and preventive maintenance as well as energy efficiency aspects. The draft guide was developed

and is currently being reviewed and evaluated by international experts.

II. National Ozone Officer Training Programme

A. Training for new National Ozone Officer (NOOs)

The Regional CAP team for the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region, in collaboration with the global UNEP OzonAction team, successfully organized a three-day training workshop for newly appointed Montreal Protocol Unit (MPU) staff. The workshop was held from 15 to 17 October 2024 at the UNESCO premises in Paris. This initiative aimed to build the capacity of new MPU officers by equipping them with the foundational knowledge and practical skills necessary to effectively support their national governments in fulfilling obligations under the Montreal Protocol. The primary objective was to:

- Introduce new MPU staff to the Montreal Protocol, its structure, and its implementation mechanisms.
- Provide comprehensive insights into the roles and responsibilities of MPUs.
- Strengthen the participants' ability to contribute to their national compliance efforts.
- Share key resources and support channels available to MPU staff.

The following countries designated new MPU staff to participate in the training: Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Türkiye.

The workshop employed a dynamic and interactive training approach, combining:

- PowerPoint presentations and background documents
- Group discussions and case studies
- Online exercises and hands-on activities
- Interactive learning techniques to enhance engagement and retention

This training workshop was conducted with the simultaneous interpretation into Russian. This was the first time that such a NOU training was delivered with real-time interpretation using the Zoom platform, allowing broader and more inclusive participation from Russian-speaking MPU staff. By the end of the training, participants:

- Gained a solid understanding of the Montreal Protocol and its operational context
- Acquired practical skills applicable to their daily work in MPUs
- Became familiar with key sources of information and support networks
- Enhanced their ability to contribute to national compliance and reporting efforts.

In the long term, the training is expected to strengthen the overall effectiveness of MPU teams and support

national governments in meeting their commitments under the Montreal Protocol.

The training programme for newly appointed Ozone Officers and their assistants was structured in a harmonized and standardized manner across all regions, ensuring consistency in content delivery and alignment with the core responsibilities of NOUs. This approach was designed to empower participants with the knowledge, tools, and confidence needed to effectively carry out their duties in support of the Montreal Protocol. Recognizing the importance of a country-driven strategy, the programme emphasizes the need for each participating Party to have well-trained, motivated, and capable personnel who can manage and coordinate ozone-related activities at national, regional, and international levels.

B. Advanced (refresher) training for experienced NOOs

As part of the ongoing efforts to strengthen the capacity of NOUs in implementing the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment, the development of the Advanced National Ozone Officers Training Programme has reached a critical mid-point. The programme is designed to provide NOUs and associated personnel with the latest technical, policy, and procedural knowledge necessary to support their governments in fulfilling their obligations under the Protocol, with a particular emphasis on the HFCs phase-down.

To date, two of the four planned pilot training workshops have been successfully conducted. The first pilot workshop was held on 20–21 November 2023 in Phuket, Thailand, and the second on 20–21 June 2024 in Panama City, Panama. These sessions brought together NOOs from various regions and provided a platform for in-depth discussions, peer learning, and the exchange of experiences. Importantly, the second workshop also featured an open dialogue format under the NOO Forum, which facilitated candid feedback and constructive suggestions from participants.

Following the completion of the first two pilot workshops, comprehensive feedback was collected and analyzed. This feedback highlighted several areas where the training content, delivery methods, and supporting materials could be enhanced to better meet the evolving needs of NOUs. In response, the decision was made to temporarily pause the rollout of the remaining two pilot workshops in order to revise and strengthen the training programme. This strategic adjustment ensures that the final pilot iterations of the training will be more targeted, impactful, and aligned with the practical realities faced by NOOs in the field.

The third and fourth pilot workshops are now planned to be delivered to NOUs from Pacific Island Countries (PICs) and Anglophone Africa, respectively. These sessions will incorporate revised training modules and updated materials, reflecting the lessons learned from earlier pilots. The core objective remains to equip participants with the tools and knowledge necessary to support national compliance and strategic planning under the Montreal Protocol framework.

Key topics covered in the training include: the development of legislative and administrative frameworks to address HFCs under the Kigali Amendment; methodologies for monitoring imports of controlled substances and mixtures in CO_2-equivalent terms; strategic planning for both near-term and long-term implementation of the Kigali Amendment; stakeholder engagement and training strategies; optimization of Multilateral Fund project portfolios; use of revised data reporting formats for Country Programme and Article 7 reporting; safety standards for alternative refrigerants; and energy efficiency considerations in the adoption of alternative technologies.

This phased and responsive approach to programme development underscores the commitment to delivering high-quality, relevant, and actionable training to NOUs. The final two pilot workshops will

serve as a validation of the revised programme and will inform eventual global rollout of the advanced training curriculum.

III. Integration of differentiated needs and perspectives of women and men

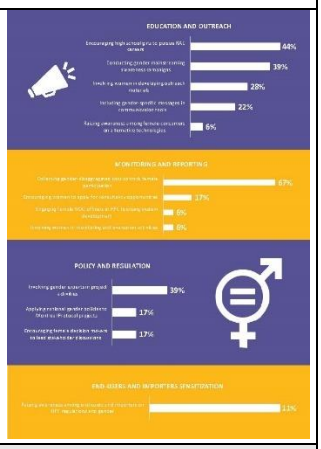
In order to help NOUs implement the Multilateral Fund Gender Policy, and to integrate differentiated needs and perspectives for men and women in the implementation of the Montreal Protocol projects and activities, CAP delivered several global products and initiatives. They are designed to support and complement similar activities organized as part of CAP regional activities and national projects implementation. Highlights for the period September 2024-August 2025 include:

ACTIVITIES RELATED TO MLF-FUNDED PROJECTS

Tools and factsheets: In collaboration with UNEP's Gender and Safeguards Unit (GSU), two targeted factsheets were developed to support NOUs in integrating approaches that account for differentiated societal roles and needs of men and women into their Montreal Protocol-related activities. These resources aim to help NOUs identify practical entry points for incorporating these considerations throughout the project lifecycle, ensuring that benefits are shared fairly across population groups.

- *Overview of the requirements throughout the Lifecycle of MLF-Funded Projects* – presents MLF's Policy applicable to the Multi-year Agreements (MYAs)
- *Assessment tool for MLF-Funded Projects* - Offers a framework for conducting assessments in the context of MLF-funded projects. It helps NOUs identify potential barriers to participation of women and design interventions that ensure balanced outcomes. The tool supports evidence-based decision-making and strengthens the responsiveness of project proposals and implementation strategies to varied needs of men and women.

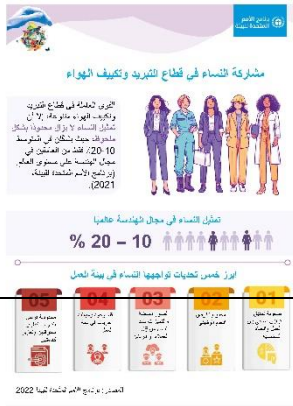
Analysis of proposed activities in UNEP's KIPs:
UNEP OzonAction conducted an analysis of the 18 UNEP-led projects for Stage I of the Kigali Implementation Plans (KIPs), approved by the Executive Committee in 2023 and 2024. The report compiled and assessed data on how the Multilateral Fund's policy was addressed in these submissions and evaluates the strategies integrated into the KIP projects to ensure responsiveness to varied societal roles and needs of women and men. The Annex highlighted responses to the checklist originally included in Appendix C of the *Interim Guide for the Presentation of KIP Stage I.*



EMPOWERING WOMEN IN THE RAC SECTOR

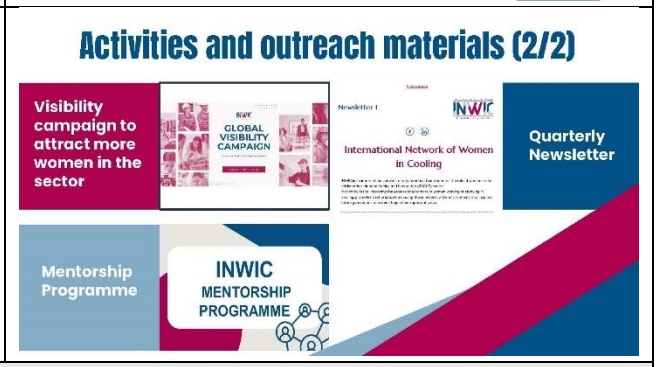
Factsheets: A series of factsheets was produced to support the integration of different perspectives of women and men into the implementation of the Montreal Protocol, with particular attention to enhancing the participation and advancement of underrepresented groups in the RAC sector.

- Using correct terminology is crucial for fostering respect, inclusion, and equality, also promotes clear, empathetic communication
- Potential Linkages between the Montreal Protocol and equality outcomes in various Sustainable Development Goals
- 6 ways to create opportunities for women to join and professionally succeed in Refrigeration and Air-conditioning sector



- three ways to create work conditions that meet the needs of both men and women
- Women in the RAC Sector: Why it matters
- Women's Participation in the Refrigeration and Air-conditioning (RAC) Sector
- Breaking Molds: Inclusion in the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Industry

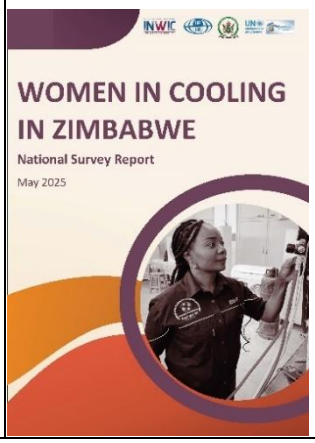
International Network of Women in Cooling (INWIC): INWIC is a joint initiative launched in cooperation with Women in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (WRD) and 11 Refrigeration, Air Conditioning, and Heat Pump (RACHP) partners to boost women's participation and career opportunities in the cooling sector. Through this network, UNEP OzonAction leverages the expertise and resources of RACHP partners to support Article 5 countries in implementing the Montreal Protocol projects and activities. INWIC offers tools such as a networking, a membership platform and mentoring, while founding partners contribute with resources such as webinars, training, and event access—all aimed at helping countries consider the distinct roles and needs of both women and men in the RACHP Sector and in MLF-funded project planning and implementation.



2025 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CAMPAIGN

To mark International Women's Day 2025, UNEP OzonAction produced a video highlighting successful national initiatives from Grenada, North Macedonia, Sierra Leone, Armenia, and Peru. These activities aimed to enhance participation and address the specific needs of women in the context of implementation of the Montreal Protocol projects and activities. More information can be found here.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL INITIATIVES

In May 2025, the NOU Zimbabwe organized a national workshop to engage RAC technicians, building on the momentum of the 2023 Regional Workshop for Female Technicians held in Cairo. The workshop focused on understanding the motivations, challenges, and opportunities for professionals working in a traditionally male-dominated sector. To inform the discussions, a Women in Cooling survey was conducted ahead of the event, receiving responses from 95 female RAC professionals, primarily from the servicing sector. As a result of the workshop, a document outlining the Elements for an Action Plan to address key challenges faced by women in the RAC sector. This draft was subsequently reviewed and discussed with a broader group of stakeholders involved in project implementation.		

IV. Global activities on enforcement and customs

A. Support provided to the enforcement operations DEMETER X and Custos Viridis

UNEP OzonAction has been supporting global enforcement operations led by the World Custom Organization (WCO) since 2019 when the Montreal Protocol was added to the scope of the operation, providing technical expertise, capacity-building support and networking opportunities among national Customs and ozone officers, particularly Article 5 countries. Operation DEMETER is a global Customs initiative that targets illegal shipments of ODS, HFCs, other controlled substances, as well as hazardous wastes regulated under the Basel Convention.

The 10th edition of Operation DEMETER, held in 2024 marked a major milestone, with 110 Customs administrations participating—including growing engagement from African countries. Coordinated by the WCO Secretariat, the operation received technical support from a Virtual Operational Coordination Unit (OCU), led by the WCO Environment Programme, the WCO Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific, and China Customs. The following results were striking:

- 450 seizures were reported by 42.7% of participating administrations—a 28.2% increase from 2023.
- 99 seizures involved ODS, HFCs, or equipment containing controlled substances, reported by 17 Members—a 70% rise in reporting administrations and a 115% surge in seizures compared to DEMETER IX.
- 344,625.9 kg of ODS & HFCs were intercepted, alongside 24,198.9 kg and 11,620 pieces of non-compliant equipment.

Similarly, UNEP OzonAction supports the 2025 edition of Operation DEMETER XI.

UNEP OzonAction also supports a global operation against waste and pollution crimes entitled Custos Viridis, coordinated by the European Police Office (Europol) in close cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), WCO, and selected Member States. Fluorinated gases and ozone-depleting substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol and the Kigali Amendment are included in the scope of the operation, among other types of commodities subject to pollution crimes.

Custos Viridis is the first global operation of its kind with police as the main target audience specifically extending its scope to controlled fluorinated gases and ozone-depleting substances. While the National

Ozone Units (NOUs) have been traditionally cooperating with customs for the enforcement of the Montreal Protocol, prevention and combating illegal trade may also require the involvement of law enforcement entities, including police, prosecutors, judges and others, depending on each Party's national circumstances. Some of the illegal trade in controlled substances may be connected to other crimes such as organized crime, corruption, fraud, money laundering, aiding and abetting, and conspiracy in combatting of which police play a critical role.

In the context of this operation UNEP OzonAction joined forces with Europol, the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) and a number of police entities to hold Refrigerant Gases webinar on 9 April 2025 to brief police officers about the importance of enforcement of the Montreal Protocol and increase the visibility of environmental crimes related to ODS and HFCs illegal activities at the national level.

These enforcement operations provide an opportunity to take targeted actions for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol on the ground as well as to promote national cooperation between NOUs and customs, police and other entities in the enforcement chain. Ozone Officers provide them with technical expertise and specialized knowledge related to the Montreal Protocol, as required.

B. International and regional cooperation with entities on customs and enforcement matters

In addition to providing support to the enforcement operations, UNEP OzonAction cooperates with a number of organizations with the mandate on enforcement issues in a broader scope. Through the cooperation with WCO, UNEP OzonAction engages with WCO on a number of side-events, seeking WCO technical support on such issues as risk management, HS codes and enforcement. This includes inputs into the development of guidelines for customs administrations for developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for controls of shipments of substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol, which is expected to become available in the second half of 2025; seeking WCO feedback on the 4th edition of the Training Manual for Customs Officers: Saving the Ozone Layer - Phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances in Developing Countries, and engaging with WCO on risk management issues in the context of training activities.

Furthermore, together with WCO, Ozone Secretariat and the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) conventions, the UNEP OzonAction organized a side-event on Interlinkages between the BRS Conventions and the Montreal Protocol held on 1 May 2025 during the 2025 Conference of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (BRS COPs), held in Geneva from 28 April to 9 May 2025. This event launched an exploratory report [6] examining how the BRS conventions and the Montreal Protocol complement each other and what they have in common. Speakers from Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ghana, WCO, and the Environmental Investigation Agency provided practical insights highlighting policy and practical experience from the perspectives of customs and environmental authorities, responsible for the Basel Convention or Montreal Protocol, and the civil society.

At the BRS COPs, the Montreal Protocol was featured in a series of high-impact discussions and exhibits. Through a number of side events and a dedicated booth, the Protocol's role in tackling issues related to chemicals, waste, and climate change was showcased highlighting the role of interlinked multilateral environmental agreements.

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[6] See Exploratory study on interlinkages between the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, document UNEP/CHW.17/INF/58-
UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.12/INF/29-
UNEP/POPS/COP.12/INF/48

UNEP OzonAction contributed to and engaged Europol, UNODC and Europol in the discussion on customs and enforcement issues held as part of the National Ozone Unit and Customs Twinning workshop & Border Dialogues for countries in the Eastern Africa region – Africa Anglophone Network, held from 7 to 9 May 2025 in Arusha, Tanzania.

UNEP OzonAction explores further concrete opportunities for cooperation with INTERPOL, UNODC, EUROPOL and the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) whether in the scope of capacity building and training or better understanding trends of illegal trade in substances controlled.

Being a partner in the Green Custom Initiative hosted by the UNEP Law Division, UNEP OzonAction participated in the x meeting of the initiative and shared with partners the latest developments related to customs under the Montreal Protocol. Furthermore, UNEP OzonAction actively participated in providing input to the information note on Free Trade Zones, Trans-Shipment and Multilateral Environmental Agreements and the report on the Green customs, trade and gender: considerations in the context of trade-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

UNEP OzonAction also contributed to the development of the information note on Transboundary movement of controlled substances: Legal and practical implications of the Basel Convention for the implementation of the Montreal Protocolled by the Ozone Secretariat and the BRS Secretariat.

C. Establishing engagement to provide legal support in the context of the Montevideo Programme

In 2025 UNEP OzonAction established cooperation with the Montevideo Programme V under the UNEP Law Division on legal assistance to support the implementation of the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment in Article 5 countries. The Fifth Montevideo Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme V) is a ten-year intergovernmental programme designed to promote the development and implementation of environmental rule of law and strengthen the related capacity in countries. Support offered to NOUs is complementary to the policy and technical assistance provided by the UNEP OzonAction. It brings together the expertise of the Law Branch and the UNEP OzonAction Branch, thereby supporting Parties to the Montreal Protocol in a coordinated manner. The proposed assistance is not intended to duplicate or overlap with existing projects already being implemented by Article 5 countries, particularly those under the Institutional Strengthening programme. It focuses on specialized legal assistance in preparing terms of references for a legislative and policy review, outreach to potential experts who could conduct the legislation and policy review and screening of possible experts among other types of assistance.

Together with the Montevideo Programme and the Ozone Secretariat the UNEP OzonAction is in the process of finalizing the report on Fostering a Culture of Compliance: enforcement measures for domestic legislation under the Montreal Protocol. The report seeks to address possible gaps in implementation and enforcement. By expanding the repertoire of enforcement measures beyond the punitive to the remedial, authorities would be in the position to build and maintain a culture of compliance.

D. iPIC platform support

iPIC is an informal and voluntary system that helps countries share information about anticipated trade in ODS, HFCs, and related products. It allows parties to consult each other through designated contact points before shipments of these controlled substances takes place.

During the previous reporting period, UNEP OzonAction continued to deliver iPIC core services, including ongoing support for informal consultations on the import and export of substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol. UNEP OzonAction assisted parties with registering newly designated focal points, managing user access, and updating accounts on the iPIC online platform.

Minor enhancements were made to the platform's functionality and interface design, along with regular troubleshooting to ensure a smooth and user-friendly experience.

Annex 8 – Report on the use of CAP staff time

1. Decision 70/10(d)(ii) requested UNEP to continue providing reports on the utilization of CAP) staff for Multilateral Fund Montreal Protocol activities according to the following five categories:

- Projects and services approved by the Executive Committee.
- Pursuing synergies or implementing joint activities with other non-Multilateral Fund partnerships and initiatives.
- Mobilizing resources for ozone protection activities from entities outside of Multilateral Fund.
- UNEP-wide processes and activities.
- Administrative activities.

2. For the period September 2024 through August 2025, UNEP continued to ensure that all staff paid through CAP were dedicated to the delivery of the activities, services and projects approved by the Executive Committee via the Business Plan and CAP Work Programme. This was done primarily through:

- Work planning. All Regional Coordinators and Global Activity Leaders have developed their individual e-Performance work plans in close consultation with the Head of OzonAction, and all other staff have developed theirs in close consultation with the Regional Coordinators or the Global Fund Management Officer. The individual work plans reflect the goals and priorities set for the staff member for this reporting period. Collectively, the implementation of these work plans reflected the projects and services approved by the Executive Committee for the reporting period.
- Monitoring of legal instruments. The Head of OzonAction reviews all proposed legal instruments with countries and organisations, commercial companies, terms of reference for consultants, as well as requests for payments, thus ensuring that Multilateral Fund resources are used for the intended purpose. The Regional Coordinators ensure that funding is commensurate with planned activities as well as review expenditure and progress reports to ensure that they reflect implementation by the countries and consultants.
- Regular communication with CAP teams. Through regular communication with regional coordinators and other team members, review of outputs and deliverables, and participation in events/missions organised by CAP, the Head of OzonAction keeps an overview on activities undertaken by CAP staff. The Regional Coordinators also play a key role in monitoring use of CAP staff time. Regional Coordinators report to the Head of OzonAction as their first reporting officer and to the Law Division Deputy Director as their second reporting officer.
- Accountability framework. As part of UNEP's accountability framework, all staff are individually responsible for the use of their time and delivery of their own work, which is to deliver Multilateral Fund outputs.

The following table provides estimates for the use of CAP staff time during this period:

CAP team	Projects and services approved by the Executive Committee (% time)	Pursuing synergies or implementing joint activities with other non-Multilateral Fund partnerships and initiatives (% time)	UNEP-wide processes and activities (% time)	Administrative activities for CAP and Multilateral Fund projects (% time)
Africa – Anglophone	75	5	0	20
Africa – Francophone	75	5	0	20
Caribbean	75	5	0	20
Europe and Central Asia	75	5	0	20
Latin America	75	5	0	20

CAP team	Projects and services approved by the Executive Committee (% time)	Pursuing synergies or implementing joint activities with other non-Multilateral Fund partnerships and initiatives (% time)	UNEP-wide processes and activities (% time)	Administrative activities for CAP and Multilateral Fund projects (% time)
Southeast Asia and Pacific Island Countries	75	5	0	20
South Asia	75	5	0	20
West Asia	75	5	0	20
Global CAP team including management	55	10	5	30

In collaboration with Ozone Officers, CAP staff continue to explore opportunities for co-financing and climate co-benefits through interactions with non-Multilateral Fund organizations, including but not limited to those indicated in Annex 4 – *CAP partnerships*.

Annex 9 – Meetings and workshops organized by CAP

During the period 1 August 2024 – 31 August 2025, UNEP organized/co-organized the following events as part of CAP services. Documentation from many of the events listed below is available on the OzonAction Meeting Portal at www.ozonactionmeetings.org.

Meetings organized or supported by CAP for NOUs and other national stakeholders:

1. ECA: 35th ECA online meeting on national plans for the collection, transport, and disposal of used or unwanted controlled substances and issues related to the installation/assembly sector, *Virtual meeting, 11 September 2024*
2. ECA: Online training on predictive maintenance of cooling systems and the use of portable devices to monitor system parameters by ClimaCheck, *Virtual meeting, 12-13 September 2024*
3. ROAP-SA, ROWA: Joint Network Meeting for Ozone Officers in South Asia and West Asia, *Chennai, India, 24-25 September 2024*
4. ROAP-SA, ROWA: Customs Border Dialogue for South Asia and West Asia Countries, *Chennai, India, 26-27 September 2024*
5. ROA-F: Regional Network Meeting of the French-Speaking African National Ozone Officers, *Tunis, Tunisia, 7-11 October 2024*
6. ROLAC-LA: Thematic Network Meeting of the Latin America National Ozone Officers, *Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 13-15 November 2024*
7. ROAP-SEA and PIC: Joint Thematic Workshop on National Inventory of Banks of ODS/HFC and Strategy for Management of Unwanted Controlled Substances, *Boracay, Philippines, 13-15 November 2024*
8. ECA: 36th ECA online meeting, on restrictions on import and use of RACHP equipment with high GWP and/or poor efficiency, *Virtual meeting, 20 November 2024*
9. ECA: 37th ECA Online Meeting on Training and Certification Schemes on the Safe Use of Alternatives, *Virtual meeting, 19 March 2025*
10. ECA: 38th ECA online meeting, "Fit for Green Cooling: Guidance for building up a qualification, certification, and registration (QCR) system", *Virtual meeting, 16 April 2025*
11. ROAP-SEA: Network Meeting for Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers – Options for Technically and Commercially Viable Low-GWP and Energy-Efficient Alternatives to HCFCs/HFCs, *Penang, Malaysia, 22-25 April 2025*
12. ROA-F: Thematic Workshop on the Kigali Implementation Plan, *Mombasa, Kenya, 23-25 April 2025*
13. ROAP-PIC: Network Meeting for Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers back-to-back with Technical Workshop on Strengthening HFC Licensing and Quota System, *Nukualofa, Tonga, 5-9 May 2025*
14. ECA: 39th ECA Online Meeting on the Role of Multinational Companies in Promoting the Deployment of Alternative Technologies, *Virtual meeting, 14 May 2025*
15. ROLAC-CAR: Thematic Network Meeting back-to-back with the Grenada Sustainable Cooling Exhibition, *Saint George, Grenada, 16-18 June 2025*
16. ROLAC-LA: Network Meeting for Latin America National Ozone Officers, *San José, Costa Rica, 17-20 June 2025*

17. ECA-ROWA: Joint ECA and West Asia Network Meeting with Montreal Protocol Officers and Environmental Inspectors, *Batumi, Georgia, 17-19 June 2025*
18. ECA-ROWA: CCAC Joint ECA and West Asia Workshop on Life-Cycle Refrigerant Management, *Batumi, Georgia, 20 June 2025*
19. ROAP-SA: Network Meeting for South Asia National Ozone Officers, *Bangkok, Thailand, 3-5 July 2025*

Other meetings organized/co-organized by CAP:

20. ROLAC: Workshop for Montreal Protocol Officers, Energy-Efficiency Policy Makers, and Financial Mechanisms Focal Points, *Santiago, Chile, 1-2 August 2024*
21. ECA: Training of new Montreal Protocol Unit staff, *Paris, France, 15-17 October 2024*
22. ECA: Workshop on CCAC and Refrigerant Life Cycle Management, *Paris, France, 18 October 2024*
23. ROLAC-CAR: Workshop for Young Technicians in the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Sector, *Belize City, Belize, 18-20 November 2024*
24. ROA-E: Border Dialogues and Twinning workshops of Customs Officers and National Ozone Officers for West African Countries, *Freetown, Sierra Leone, 20-22 November 2024*
25. ECA: Technology roundtable on ozone- and climate-friendly technologies and exhibition booth, *Belgrade, Serbia, 11-13 December 2024*
26. ROAP-SA-SEA, ROWA, ROLAC-LA: Workshop for Master Trainers on R-290 Room Air Conditioner Servicing, *Guangzhou, China, 7- 9 January 2025*
27. ROWA: Sub-Regional Technical workshop for GCC countries on the suitable long-term alternative technologies for the air conditioning sector and assessment of penetration of such technologies into the GCC markets, *Manama, Bahrain, 16-17 February 2025*
28. ROLAC-LA: Customs and Enforcement Officers Training Workshop, *Manzanillo, Mexico, 19- 20 March 2025*
29. ROAP-SEA: Ozone2Climate Technology Industry Roundtable and Roadshow, China Refrigeration Expo 2025, *Shanghai, China, 27-29 April 2025*
30. ROA-F: National Ozone Units and Customs Twinning Workshop & Border Dialogues for Eastern Africa Region – Anglophone Africa Network, *Arusha, Tanzania, 7-9 May 2025*

Other major meetings in which CAP participated:

31. Multilateral Fund Inter-Agency Coordination Meeting, *Montreal, Canada, 10-12 September 2024*
32. REFCOLD India, *Kolkata, India, 2-5 October 2024*
33. The International Network for Women in Cooling (INWIC) at Chillventa, *Nuremberg, Germany, 8-10 October 2024*
34. 73rd Implementation Committee *Meeting, Bangkok, Thailand, 25 October 2024*
35. World Cold Chain Symposium (Building a Sustainable Cold Chain), *Bangkok, Thailand, 26 October 2024*
36. Workshop on Life-cycle Refrigerant Management, *Bangkok, Thailand, 27 October 2024*
37. 36th Meeting of the Parties, *Bangkok, Thailand, 28 October - 1 November 2024*
38. 95th Meeting of the Executive Committee, *Montreal, Canada, 4-8 December 2024*
39. 19th Meeting of the Green Customs Initiative (GCI), 19-20 February 2025, *The Hague, The Netherlands*

40. Multilateral Fund Inter-Agency Coordinator Meeting, *Montreal, Canada, 3-7 March 2025*
41. Security and development dialogue. For advancing multilateral and multi-stakeholder responses to environmental crimes, *Paris, France, 8-9 April 2025*
42. Plenary meeting on the Global EUROPOL Operation CUSTOS VIRIDIS, *The Hague, the Netherlands, 28-30 April 2025*
43. BRS COPs Conventions: Interlinkages between the BRS conventions and the Montreal Protocol: policy, implementation and enforcement, *Geneva, Switzerland, 1 May 2025*
44. ASHRAE-UNEP Liaison Committee Meeting, *Paris, France, 12-13 May 2025*
45. 2025 IIR World Refrigeration Day event, *Paris, France, 18 June 2025*
46. Special session on the strategic approaches to the Kigali Amendment implementation and sustainable cooling, *Montreal, Canada, 25 May 2025*
47. 96th Meeting of the Executive Committee, *Montreal, Canada, 26-30 May 2025*
48. 74th Implementation Committee Meeting, Bangkok, Thailand, 5-6 July 2025
49. 47th Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) Meeting, *Bangkok, Thailand, 7-11 July 2025*