



Total Phase-out of Methyl Bromide Used in Stored Commodities Fumigation

Context

In line with the obligations of the Montreal Protocol Cameroon, as an Article 5 country, should eliminate by 2015 methyl bromide (MB), used as an agricultural fumigant. By implementing this terminal project, Cameroon would completely phase-out MB before the deadline, by 2011. Agriculture is the main pillar of Cameroon's economy. It accounts for 43 % of the GDP, employs 70 % of the working population and generates more than one third of total export earnings. The country's main export partner is the European Union, where the elimination of MB was already carried out, thus the present project secures the work of thousands of Cameroonian farmers.

Strategy

Taking into consideration the difficult pest environment in Cameroon due to its high humidity and high average temperature, the alternate technology, Phosphine, was selected after particularly careful considerations. Phosphine is the immediate replacement for MB in terms of cost, effectiveness, availability, safety, and familiarity. The average temperature of Cameroon facilitates the application of this technology. This technology is non-transitional, frequently used in Article (2) and Article (5) countries. 20 fumigation companies. The project strategy was designed in consultation with the National Ozone Unit and with the selected national companies.



→ Results:

The project aims at phasing out 14.5 ODP tons of MB used in the initial or intermediate fumigation of about 300,400 tons of stored cocoa beans, coffee, cotton, and also imported rice and flour when stored before commercialization at 20 fumigation companies. This amount (24.16 ODS tons) represents the remaining qualifying consumption of MB in Cameroon. Outputs include:

- ◆ Integrated Pest Management developed;
- ◆ Equipment purchased;
- ◆ Training activities organized;
- ◆ Awareness campaign carried out

Projects completed in 2011

- ◆ Training activities organized for local companies and plant protection inspectors with main focus on the use of Phosphine and the application of the Integrated Pest Management;
- ◆ National consultant recruited to update the list of equipment to be purchased and distributed to the local companies;
- ◆ Equipment purchased;

Publication of awareness raising material to support and ensure the sustainability of the MB phase-out carried out.

At a Glance

MDGs:	This project addresses directly MDG #7: "Ensure environmental sustainability" and MDG #8: "Develop a global partnership for development".
DONORS:	Upon approval by the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol (MLF), the project has been implemented under a Trust Fund Agreement between the Government of Italy and UNIDO.
PARTNERS:	Government of Italy; Ministry of Agriculture, Cameroon; National Ozone Unit, Cameroon.
BUDGET:	USD 259,713
DURATION:	07/2007 – 12/2011