

MONTREAL PROTOCOL



Recovery and refrigerants recycling for Algeria

Context

The Montreal Protocol sought the complete phase out of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) by 2010 for all developing and transition countries. The total phase out entails a ban on production, trade and consumption of CFCs in all manufacturing sectors, be it refrigeration, foam, solvents and aerosols.

Upon the request of the Government of Algeria, UNIDO developed a Refrigerant Management Plan in cooperation with the Algerian National Ozone Unit, which entailed training in good refrigerant management practices for technicians, training for customs officers and the National Ozone Unit (NOU) in monitoring and controlling Ozone Depleating Substances (ODS), and finally the establishment of the national refrigerant recovery and recycling network.

Strategy

The objective in establishing the recovery and recycling network is to ensure obsolete ODS-containing equipment is decommissioned in an appropriate manner, to prevent refrigerants from being vented into the atmosphere during repair and maintenance activities on refrigeration and air-conditioning appliances and to ensure recycled CFC is available to service equipment that have not reached their end-of-life.

Current Status

Hands-on training was provided on the operation and maintenance of the recovery and recycling (R&R) equipment. 358 technicians were taught how to recover the refrigerant from various refrigeration and air-conditioning units. The National Ozone Unit, in cooperation with UNIDO, designed a database to follow up and monitor daily R&R activities.

Impact / Outlook

The installation of the R&R database allows the National Ozone Unit to monitor the amounts of refrigerant recovered, quantities of recycled refrigerant stored at recycling centers, the quality of the recycled refrigerant as well as pricing when these are resold into the market, allowing them to effectively evaluate the efficiency of the R&R network in place. With an operating R&R network in the country, this can be extended to other refrigerants, such as HCFCs, hydrochlorofluorocarbons, the current focus of the Montreal Protocol.

At a glance

OVERALL GOAL:	Establishing a recovery and recycling scheme for refrigerants controlled under the Montreal Protocol
ARAB COUNTRIES:	Algeria
MDGs:	Goal 7: Ensure environmental stability
THEMATIC AREA:	Montreal Protocol – Energy and Environment
DONOR:	Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol
PARTNERS:	National Ozone Unit, Ministry of Environment