

OzoNews

A fortnightly electronic news update on ozone and climate protection and the implementation of the Montreal Protocol brought to you by OzonAction

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In this issue:

1. **Green Propellants and the Future of Metered Dose Inhalers2**
2. **World Cold Chain Symposium – Save the date | November 1 | Nairobi, Kenya2**
3. **40 years - 40 voices campaign3**
4. **Ghana Launches New Climate and Energy Project to Tackle Inefficient Cooling and HFCs3**
5. **Atelier régional de formation des techniciennes en réfrigération et climatisation (RAC) en Afrique francophone, Dakar, Sénégal4**
6. **New bulk HFC import permits issued for 2026 – New Zealand.....6**
7. **Calculating the global warming potential of new buildings: Open for public feedback7**
8. **Misión de ONUDI en Chile: trabajo conjunto para avanzar en la implementación de la Enmienda de Kigali8**
9. **Implementation Models WG8**
10. **Sixteen students take part in refrigeration and air conditioning summer school in Ecuador.....9**
11. **EPA Proposes Reforming Biden Technology Transitions Rule to Lower Costs for American Families at the Grocery Store, Make Refrigerants Affordable, Safe and Accessible Again.....9**
12. **Enabling Ultra-low GWP Cooling and Heating: Updating U.S. Safety Standards and Codes..... 10**
13. **UNEP OzonAction and League of Arab States Enhance Regional Dialogue on Ozone Protection 11**
14. **Jordan's Green Industrial Shift Will Help Protect the Ozone Layer 12**

GLOBAL

1. Green Propellants and the Future of Metered Dose Inhalers



The pressure is on to reduce the carbon footprint of respiratory drugs by using next-generation green propellants

Addressing global climate change is pushing industries to re-evaluate their environmental footprint. The pharmaceutical sector is no different, with drug developers seeking to minimize the impact of their drug products on global warming. Metered dose inhalers (MDIs) have been a particular focus in recent years. While millions of patients depend on these devices, the traditional propellants have a global warming potential (GWP) far greater than carbon dioxide.

Global legislation is increasingly requiring companies to phase out standard propellants in favor of lower-GWP next-generation propellants (NGPs). For example, the 2016 Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol mandates a [70 percent reduction](#) in high-GWP hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by 2030. In line with its obligations as a signatory to this amendment, the EU has introduced F-Gas regulation with a target of an ambitious [95 percent HFC reduction](#) by 2034. Comparable regulations are emerging in [the US](#) and the [United Kingdom](#). This evolving regulatory landscape indicates that current MDI exemptions will likely be phased out, compelling pharmaceutical manufacturers to respond promptly.

Transitioning to alternative gases is also an economic imperative. Due to the introduction of the legislation discussed above, the supply of existing HFCs for MDIs is becoming constrained as their reduced usage makes their production less profitable, leading to significantly increased costs for MDI manufacturers. Furthermore, a mass transition of patients from MDIs to alternative devices, such as dry powder inhalers (DPIs) or soft mist inhalers (SMIs), could incur substantial additional expenses for healthcare systems, patients, and insurers. As just one example in the UK, studies suggest such a switch could cost the National Health Service an extra [~£12.7 million each year](#) (~\$17.2 million).

Leading pharmaceutical companies such as GSK, AstraZeneca, and Chiesi have already announced plans to launch NGP MDIs by 2025/2026, but the change must be managed carefully for the sake of patients. An unmanaged, widespread transition away from pressurized MDIs could inadvertently compromise patient adherence, and lead to an increase in disease exacerbations and hospitalizations. MDIs remain vital for numerous patients, particularly for fast-acting relief medications. [Continue reading...](#)

Source/image: [The Medicine Maker](#), 9 October 2025

2. World Cold Chain Symposium – Save the date | November 1 | Nairobi, Kenya

Less food waste. Reduced greenhouse gas emissions. Greater food security. This is the path to addressing hunger and a better future. It takes a more sustainable cold chain to get us there.

The World Cold Chain Symposium (WCCS) is a global conference organized by the [Global Food Cold Chain Council](#) (GFCCC), the [United Nations Environment](#)



[Programme](#) (UNEP), and sponsored by [Carrier](#). The 2025 World Cold Chain Symposium will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, on **Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025**.
[Register now](#)

Source/image [WCCS](#)

3. 40 years - 40 voices campaign

To commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer in 2025, UNIDO's Montreal Protocol Unit launched a dedicated social media campaign titled "40 Years – 40 Voices" bringing voices from various stakeholders related to the work of the Montreal Protocol.



The Vienna Convention laid the groundwork for the Montreal Protocol - Considered the world's most successful environmental treaty signed by all nations on earth. [Click here to view videos](#)

Source/image: [UNIDO](#), October 2025

AT A GLANCE: WORLD OZONE DAY (16 SEPT) ACTIVITIES AND CELEBRATIONS



[Click here to access](#) – Source UNEP OzonAction

AFRICA

4. Ghana Launches New Climate and Energy Project to Tackle Inefficient Cooling and HFCs



A new two-year initiative aimed at bolstering Ghana's capacity to regulate and enforce standards for cooling appliances and climate-damaging hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) has officially been launched. The project, titled the "Deliver Training Programme for the Implementation of New Regulations on Cooling Appliances and Hydrofluorocarbons Project," held its inception meeting in Accra on Friday.

The initiative is a partnership between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Energy Commission, and the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), with vital funding from the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Strengthening Enforcement for Climate Action

The core goal of the “Deliver Training Programme” is to strengthen the enforcement capabilities of key government agencies. Through targeted training and nationwide awareness campaigns, the project will enhance the knowledge of government institutions in implementing Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS). This move is designed to ensure the effective management of HFCs—potent greenhouse gases—while simultaneously driving energy efficiency across the country.

Dr. Saeed Abdul-Razak, Head of Environment & Climate at UNDP Ghana, emphasized the initiative’s significance during his opening remarks at the inception workshop.

“This initiative stands as clear evidence of the power of partnership, collective effort, and shared commitment to advancing sustainable development and energy efficiency,” Dr. Abdul-Razak stated. [Continue reading...](#)

Source/image: [News Ghana](#), 6 October 2025

5. Atelier régional de formation des techniciennes en réfrigération et climatisation (RAC) en Afrique francophone, Dakar, Sénégal



Dakar, Sénégal, 20 septembre 2025 - Du 18 au 20 septembre 2025, le Programme des Nations Unies pour l’Environnement (PNUE), à travers l’équipe régionale francophone du Programme d’Assistance à la conformité (PAC) OzonAction, a organisé, en partenariat avec le Gouvernement du Sénégal, un atelier régional des techniciennes en froid et climatisation (RAC) d’Afrique

francophone, à Dakar, au Sénégal. L'atelier de formation a été organisé avec le soutien financier du Fonds Multilatéral.

L'atelier a vu la participation de vingt-six (26) techniciennes de froid, venues de vingt et un (21) pays d'Afrique francophone.

Les formateurs étaient au nombre de cinq (5) experts venus du Sénégal, du Bénin et du Burkina Faso, dont une femme.

L'objectif de cet atelier régional de formation était de doter les participantes de bonnes pratiques en matière d'entretien des équipements de réfrigération et de climatisation, y compris la récupération et le recyclage des HCFC et la manipulation sécurisée des réfrigérants à base d'hydrocarbures. Les communications ont porté sur le renforcement des capacités des techniciennes RAC à suivre les bonnes pratiques, les développements récents des technologies RAC, la gestion de l'efficacité énergétique, la sélection des meilleures technologies disponibles, la gestion des compétences et les exigences techniques, la problématique de l'ozone face aux pratiques du secteur du froid et les défis auxquels les femmes pratiquantes de RAC sont confrontées en Afrique.

La première journée de l'atelier a été consacrée à la présentation de la problématique de l'ozone face aux pratiques du secteur du froid. Les participantes ont été ensuite édifiées sur les défis et opportunités pour le secteur du froid et du climat de la mise en œuvre de l'Amendement de Kigali. Les autres communications de la journée ont porté respectivement sur les caractéristiques thermodynamiques et environnementales des fluides frigorigènes alternatifs à faible Potentiel de Réchauffement Global (PRG), et sur les aspects sécuritaires liés à l'utilisation des fluides frigorigènes en milieu professionnel.

La deuxième journée, 21 septembre, a permis aux participantes de se familiariser avec les techniques de récupération des fluides frigorigènes, ainsi que sur l'efficacité énergétique dans maintenance des technologies Inverter en climatisation individuelle. Un module a été dédié à la réglementation, les normes et la sécurité dans le secteur du froid. Les techniciennes ont ensuite suivi avec attention la présentation des défis rencontrés par les femmes frigoristes dans l'industrie du froid en Afrique.

La deuxième journée s'est conclue par la présentation sur l'analyse de l'efficacité énergétique des équipements frigorifiques fonctionnant au R-290 et au R-22.

La troisième et dernière journée, le 20 septembre, a été consacrée aux travaux pratiques. Il s'est agi de la technique de la coupe du cuivre, l'ébavurage, le dudgeonnage, l'emboîture et le cintrage. Les participantes ont ensuite été formées à la soudure au poste oxyacétylénique.

L'ébavurage consiste à retirer les bavures résultantes de la coupe du tube. Le dudgeonnage du cuivre consiste à utiliser une petite longueur droite pour réaliser une partie conique sur laquelle on pourra adapter un écrou raccord pour assurer l'étanchéité sur les éléments à visser.

L'emboîture consiste à porter le diamètre intérieur d'un tube à celui de son diamètre extérieur. La mise en forme des tubes par cintrage permet d'obtenir des changements de direction en toute sécurité car, dans la plupart des cas, il évite le chauffage du tube. Utilisation du poste

oxyacétylénique.

La technique du brasage capillaire est une méthode utilisée pour assembler deux éléments métallurgiques à l'aide d'un métal d'apport (baguettes) dont la température de fusion est inférieure à celle des éléments assemblés.

À l'issue de cet atelier, les participants repartent renforcées par des connaissances, et des compétences techniques sur la relation entre leur travail et la protection de la couche d'ozone ; pour mieux manipuler les réfrigérants dans les ateliers ; une bonne application de la récupération et du recyclage des fluides frigorigènes ; minimiser les fuites lors des travaux d'entretien et de réparation ; une bonne utilisation des outils dans les ateliers ; une confiance renforcée en elles-mêmes en tant que pionnières du secteur RAC dans leurs pays respectifs.

Source/image: [UNEP OzoneAction](#), 20 octobre 2025

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

6. New bulk HFC import permits issued for 2026 – New Zealand

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has issued permits to import new bulk hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) in 2026.

"HFCs have a global warming potential vastly higher than carbon dioxide," says Dr Chris Hill, General Manager Hazardous Substances and New Organisms. "We have been working to reduce their use since 2019, as required by domestic legislation and international agreements."

The 2025 limit for importing HFC gases was decreased last year and will decrease further every two years, in line with Ozone Layer Protection Regulations.

By 2036, consumption of the gases in Aotearoa New Zealand will have dropped by 80 percent compared with 2020.

HFCs were created to reduce our reliance on ozone-depleting gases such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), but they also contribute to climate change. The global phase down of HFCs is expected to avoid up to 0.5 degrees Celsius of global warming by 2100.

At least 20 percent of New Zealand's total imports of new HFCs each year are available for special import permits administered by the EPA through a contestable pool, says Dr Hill.

"This year the EPA received 15 applications from wholesalers and individual businesses, who requested more than twice the amount available for allocation."

Hydrofluoroolefins (HFOs) are an alternative group of gases used in refrigeration that do not affect the ozone layer and have minimal impact on the climate. Some businesses are already using HFC/HFO blends to help adjust to a lower amount of HFCs available for import.

New Zealand is a party to the Montreal Protocol, an international treaty to phase out certain gases that damage the Earth's ozone layer and warm the atmosphere.

The protocol is considered one of the most effective and successful global environmental agreements ever made, and the 2016 Kigali Amendment to decrease production and use of HFCs is important to its continued success.

Read the HFCs special permit decision for 2026.

[HFC special permit decision for 2026 – decision made September 2025 \(PDF, 234KB\)](#)
[Find out more about HFCs](#)

Source: [Environmental Protection Authority](#), 26 September 2025

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

7. Calculating the global warming potential of new buildings: Open for public feedback



The Commission has opened the [feedback period](#) on draft rules relating to the calculation of the life-cycle global warming potential (GWP) of new buildings.

The life-cycle GWP of a building brings together greenhouse gas emissions embodied in construction products with direct and indirect greenhouse emissions from the use stage.

Under Article 7 of the revised [Energy Performance of Buildings Directive](#), the Commission is required to establish an EU framework for the national calculation of the life-cycle GWP of new buildings. It must be disclosed in the energy performance certificate for large new buildings (with a floor space of over 1000m²) from January 2028 and for all new buildings from January 2030. The draft delegated regulation sets out a harmonised, simplified way of carrying out this calculation.

The mandatory calculation of GWP based on the calculation framework in the delegated regulation creates an incentive to use low-carbon construction materials including clean steel and cement, thereby fostering lead markets for such products, and biobased material such as wood which promotes the carbon storage in buildings. The Commission believes that this harmonisation and simplification to the rules can foster transparency and boost European competitiveness and industrial innovation.

This draft delegated act builds on a series of consultations and workshops since the start of this year. Following this 4 week feedback period (which closes on 31 October) and an opinion from the relevant expert group (likely before the end of October), the aim is that the delegated regulation can be formally adopted in December. Under EU rules, the Council and the European Parliament will then have a 2-month period to object (which can be prolonged by a further 2 months if requested).

Source/image: [European Commission](#), 6 October 2025

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

8. Misión de ONUDI en Chile: trabajo conjunto para avanzar en la implementación de la Enmienda de Kigali



Entre los días 8 y 10 de septiembre 2025, Chile recibió la visita de Marcela González, gerente de proyectos de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo Industrial (ONUDI) Sede Viena-Austria.

Durante tres jornadas de trabajo con el equipo de la Unidad Ozono del Ministerio del Medio Ambiente, la gerente de proyectos se reunió con representantes de la Cámara Chilena de Refrigeración y Climatización, de la División de Energías Sostenibles del Ministerio de

Energía, el Departamento de Mitigación y Transparencia Climática de la División de Cambio Climático y la Oficina de Economía Circular del Ministerio del Medio Ambiente, además de Regener Chile, con quienes la Unidad Ozono trabaja en proyectos específicos para la regulación y la reducción del consumo de hidrofluorocarbonos (HFC).

En los encuentros se presentaron los objetivos del Proyecto regional SPODS Fase II (Sustainable and climate-friendly Phase-out of Ozone Depleting Substances and hydrofluorocarbons mitigation actions for the implementation of the Kigali Amendment under the Montreal Protocol), una iniciativa internacional de la Unión Europea en la que Chile fue seleccionado como país participante, junto con Argentina, Ecuador y Uruguay. “Este proyecto busca apoyar a los países de la región en la implementación de la Enmienda de Kigali al Protocolo de Montreal, entregando asistencia técnica y promoviendo colaboraciones para avanzar en la reducción gradual de los HFC, potentes gases de efecto invernadero utilizados en refrigeración y climatización”, explicó Marcela González, quien también valoró el compromiso del país: “El trabajo que está realizando Chile en la protección de la capa de ozono y en el cumplimiento de sus acuerdos internacionales es un ejemplo para la región. La misión nos permitió identificar espacios de cooperación para apoyar de manera concreta la implementación de la Enmienda de Kigali en el país”.

Por su parte, la coordinadora de la Unidad Ozono, Claudia Paratori, destacó la importancia de las reuniones sostenidas: “La visita de ONUDI fue muy fructífera. Nos permitió definir líneas de acción conjuntas para que Chile siga avanzando en la reducción gradual de los HFC, en línea con nuestros compromisos ambientales, y contando con el apoyo de instituciones y entidades que son claves en este desafío”. [Leer más...](#)

Source/image: [Ministerio del Medio Ambiente](#), Chile, 24 Septiembre 2025

9. Implementation Models WG

2nd COPA Implementation Models Working Group meeting showcases Mexico and Dominican Republic's approaches to lifecycle refrigerant management

The Climate and Ozone Protection Alliance (COPA) convened the second meeting of its Implementation Models Working Group, bringing together members to exchange lessons and explore practical approaches for lifecycle refrigerant management (LRM).

With global banks of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) projected to release up to 90 gigatons of carbon dioxide-equivalent emissions by 2050 if left unmanaged, the session underscored the urgency of developing effective national systems for recovery, reclamation, and destruction.

Bettina Schreck, international expert at HEAT GmbH and focal point for the COPA implementation models working group, noted that while earlier policy efforts under the Montreal Protocol focused mainly on phase-out and destruction technologies, recent decisions have broadened to include full lifecycle management – from recovery and reclamation to destruction. She also highlighted new financing windows under the Multilateral Fund (MLF), with 43 countries already requesting support to prepare national inventories and plans for managing ODS/HFC banks. [Continue reading...](#)

Source/image: [COPA](#), September 2025

10. Sixteen students take part in refrigeration and air conditioning summer school in Ecuador



Sixteen students, selected from various technical institutes from across the country took part in a week long, intensive summer school on refrigeration and air conditioning held at the Centro de Perfeccionamiento en el Uso de Refrigerantes (CEPUR) in Quito, Ecuador.

The Students were drawn from technical schools in Riobamba, Ibarra, Ambato, Manta, Chimborazo, Quevedo, and Joya de los Sachas. The summer school was organized by the [Ministerio](#)

[de Producción, Comercio Exterior e Inversiones](#), [UNIDO - United Nations Industrial Development Organization](#) and Escuela Politécnica Nacional.

The training covered various themes which include Ecuador's efforts in Climate action, [#MontrealProtocol](#) and its compliance, types of refrigerants, energy efficiency measures, among others. They also had extracurricular activities that allow them to experience the city and connect with peers from across the country.

"This Summer School demonstrates our commitment to empower young talent, strengthen national skills in sustainable cooling, and highlight Ecuador's leadership under the Montreal Protocol framework," said Rómulo Armas Real, Ecuador's National Ozone Officer.

Source/image: [UNIDO Environment's post](#) (Facebook), 7 October 2025

NORTH AMERICA

11. EPA Proposes Reforming Biden Technology Transitions Rule to Lower Costs for American Families at the Grocery Store, Make Refrigerants Affordable, Safe and Accessible Again

WASHINGTON — Today, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lee Zeldin issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to reform the Biden-Harris 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, a new action the agency is taking to continue meeting its statutory obligations under the

American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act without compromising economic growth or safety. If finalized, the proposed rule will balance the AIM Act mandated phasedown of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) with ensuring American families have access to functioning air conditioning systems. In doing so, businesses will also be able to install the refrigeration systems that work best for them and companies can continue making semiconductor chips that power everyday life. Specifically, EPA is proposing to extend the compliance deadlines on the use of HFCs in a number of subsectors, including residential air conditioning, retail food refrigeration, cold storage warehouses, and semiconductor manufacturing.

"Hardworking Americans have made their voices and frustrations heard about the lack of availability of refrigerant alternatives during hot summer months and regulations that increase the cost of living for families. Today, the Trump EPA is heeding the call for change," said EPA Administrator Zeldin. "With this proposal, EPA is working to make American refrigerants affordable, safe, and reliable again."

The 2023 Technology Transitions Rule forced companies to switch to specific refrigerants like designer HFC blends for residential air conditioning, ammonia or carbon dioxide for supermarket and cold storage refrigeration equipment, contributing to an increase in consumer costs and shortages. Shortages of these HFC blends meant families were left without air conditioning during hot weather. Not only has this left Americans unable to afford or access the necessary refrigerants to install critical equipment, but it has also put public safety and human health at risk as substances like ammonia are more toxic and flammable. [Continue reading...](#)

Source/image: [US EPA](#), 30 September 2025

12. Enabling Ultra-low GWP Cooling and Heating: Updating U.S. Safety Standards and Codes

As manufacturers develop next generation cooling and heating technologies to meet growing global needs, it is critical to open up the US market to ultra-low GWP refrigerant options for the residential and commercial air conditioning and heat pump sector.

Hydrocarbon refrigerants, such as propane (R-290) are efficient, cost-effective, and gaining traction in global markets as alternatives to hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). Timely action to update US standards and codes to align with international best practice for safe design and installation of new equipment using hydrocarbons can support a smooth transition to highly efficient, and highly sustainable near-zero emissions cooling and heating. [Continue reading...](#)

Source/image: [EIA](#), 30 September 2025



WEST ASIA

13. UNEP OzonAction and League of Arab States Enhance Regional Dialogue on Ozone Protection



2 October 2025, Cairo, Egypt – UNEP OzonAction Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) in West Asia and Africa, in collaboration with the League of Arab States (LAS), convened two consecutive meetings in Cairo aimed at supporting regional efforts under the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment. These included **(1) a Coordination Meeting of Ozone Officers (Ozone Arab Team)** and **(2) a Technical Meeting with the Arab Building Codes Committee.**

Hosted at the Kempinski Nile Hotel from September 30 to October 2, 2025, the meetings brought together National Ozone Units from West Asia and Arab countries in Africa, along with representatives of the Arab Building Codes Committee, as well as regional resource persons. The discussions focused on strengthening cooperation, reviewing progress in implementing Montreal Protocol projects, and exploring ways to align technical standards and building codes with evolving obligations under the Montreal Protocol.

The Coordination Meeting of Ozone Officers provided a space for countries to share experiences, highlight achievements, and discuss common challenges in phasing out ozone-depleting substances and transitioning to safer alternatives. The Technical Meeting with the Arab Building Codes Committee explored opportunities to integrate Montreal Protocol considerations into regional unified building codes, particularly in the refrigeration, air-conditioning, and foam sectors.

Participants emphasized the importance of harmonizing codes and standards to ensure the safe use of low-GWP refrigerants, many of which require updated safety and performance guidelines. Countries such as Egypt, Iraq, and Bahrain presented national initiatives that could serve as useful references for others in the region.

Mr. Khaled Klaly, Montreal Protocol Regional Coordinator for West Asia, noted: "These meetings reflect the region's continued commitment to environmental protection and cooperation. By

working together, we can support more effective implementation and build stronger technical foundations."

The meetings, funded by the [Multilateral Fund](#), were part of ongoing efforts to promote regional coordination and capacity-building in support of the Montreal Protocol.

Source/image: [UNEP OzonAction](#), 2 October 2025

14. Jordan's Green Industrial Shift Will Help Protect the Ozone Layer

Story Highlights

- *Jordan's foam, refrigeration, and air conditioning sectors once relied on chemicals that emit potent greenhouse gases and damage the ozone layer.*
- *As part of its commitment under the Montreal Protocol, Jordan pledged to phase out these substances by 2030.*
- *With support from a World Bank-funded project, the country reduced its national consumption of ozone-depleting substances by 87%.*



In the heart of Jordan's industrial sector, a quiet revolution has been taking place—one that is transforming how businesses operate, protecting the planet, and creating a new path for sustainable manufacturing. Thanks to close collaboration with the private sector, the country reduced its national consumption of ozone-depleting substances by 87% ([World Bank](#)).

For years, Jordan's foam, refrigeration, and air conditioning manufacturers—employing thousands of people—relied on hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) to produce their goods. These chemicals emit powerful greenhouse gases fueling climate change and damage the ozone layer: the most used HCFC is nearly 2,000 times more potent than carbon dioxide ([UNEP](#)). Between 2006 and 2010, Jordan's HCFC consumption surged to 1,405 metric tons, nearly doubling in just four years, driven in part by a severe summer heat wave and growing demand for air conditioning ([World Bank](#)).

With support from the World Bank, Jordan transformed this environmental threat into an opportunity for green innovation. The [Jordan Ozone Depleting Substances HCFC Phase-Out Project](#) (ODS3), implemented from 2013 to 2024, marked a decisive step in the country's commitment under the [Montreal Protocol](#)—an international treaty designed to protect the Earth's ozone layer by phasing out the production and use of ozone-depleting substances.

As a signatory, Jordan pledged to phase out HCFCs by 2030. The ODS3 project turned that promise into action by helping businesses across the country transition to safer, climate-friendly alternatives—without compromising productivity or livelihoods. As the third in a series of World Bank-supported projects since 1994, ODS3 built on earlier results including legislation to ban HCFCs, monitoring and reducing ODS imports, and promoting the adoption of cleaner alternative technologies. [Continue reading...](#)

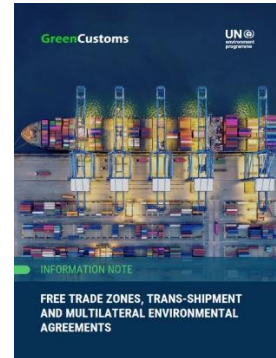
Source/image: [World Bank Group](#), 14 September 2025

RESOURCES

[FACTSHEET: Update on New Refrigerants Designations and Safety Classifications - June 2025.](#)
[Also available in French and Spanish](#)



[INFORMATION NOTE: Green Customs – Free Trade Zone, trans-shipment and Multilateral Environmental Agreements](#)



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