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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Ninety-second Meeting
Montreal, 29 May to 2 June 2023
Items 9 (c) and (d) of the provisional agenda¹

UNEP's WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2023

¹ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/1

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.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE FUND SECRETARIAT

1. UNEP is requesting approval from the Executive Committee of US \$5,567,563, plus agency support costs of US \$66,300 for its 2023 work programme listed in table 1. The submission is attached to the present document.

Table 1: UNEP's work programme for 2023

Country	Activity/Project	Amount requested (US \$)	Amount recommended (US \$)
SECTION A: ACTIVITIES RECOMMENDED FOR BLANKET APPROVAL			
A1: Renewal of institutional strengthening projects			
Cambodia	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase XII)	298,522	298,522
Dominican Republic (the)	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase XII)	355,929	355,929
Eritrea	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase VI)	180,000	180,000
Eswatini (the Kingdom of)	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase VIII)	180,000	180,000
Gambia (the)	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase XII)	180,000	180,000
Kenya	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase XIII)	401,857	401,857
Kiribati	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase IX)	180,000	180,000
Kuwait	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase IX)	279,056	279,056
Liberia	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase X)	225,780	225,780
Mali	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase X)	180,000	180,000
Mongolia	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase XIII)	180,000	180,000
Nicaragua	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase XI)	180,000	180,000
Niue ²	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase IX)	100,000	100,000
Palau	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase X)	180,000	180,000
Philippines (the)	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase XIV)	479,930	479,930
Republic of Moldova (the)	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase XII)	183,707	183,707
Rwanda	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase X)	180,000	180,000
Samoa	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase XII)	180,000	180,000
Tonga	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase X)	180,000	180,000
Tuvalu	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase IX)	180,000	180,000
Zambia	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase IX)	180,000	180,000
Zimbabwe	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (phase XII)	392,782	392,782
Total for A1		5,057,563	5,057,563
A2: Project preparation for HCFC phase-out management plans (HPMPs)			
Albania ^a	Preparation of an HPMP (stage III)	10,000	10,000
Subtotal for A2		10,000	10,000
Agency support costs		1,300	1,300
Total for A2		11,300	11,300
A3: Project preparation for Kigali HFC implementation plans (KIPs)			
Burundi ^b	Preparation of a KIP (stage I)	119,000	119,000
Subtotal for A3		119,000	119,000
Agency support costs		15,470	15,470
Total for A3		134,470	134,470
SECTION B: ACTIVITIES RECOMMENDED FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION			
B1: Technical assistance to prepare a verification report on HCFC consumption			
Benin	Verification report for stage II of the HPMP	30,000	*
Bhutan	Verification report for the HPMP	30,000	*

² The Government of Niue is aware that under decision 91/63(d) IS phase IX is eligible for funding of US \$180,000. The present request for US \$100,000 is based on the country's capacity.

Country	Activity/Project	Amount requested (US \$)	Amount recommended (US \$)
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Verification report for stage II of the HPMP	30,000	*
Eritrea	Verification report for stage II of the HPMP	30,000	*
Ethiopia	Verification report for stage II of the HPMP	30,000	*
Liberia	Verification report for stage II of the HPMP	30,000	*
Palau	Verification report for stage II of the HPMP	30,000	*
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Verification report for the HPMP	30,000	*
Samoa	Verification report for stage II of the HPMP	30,000	*
Solomon Islands	Verification report for stage II of the HPMP	30,000	*
Tonga	Verification report for stage II of the HPMP	30,000	*
	Subtotal for B1	330,000	*
	Agency support costs	42,900	*
	Total for B1	372,900	*
B2: Project preparation for Kigali HFC implementation plans (KIPs)			
Guatemala ^a	Preparation of a KIP (stage I)	51,000	*
	Subtotal for A3	51,000	*
	Agency support costs	6,630	*
	Total for A3	57,630	*
	Total for A1, A2, A3, B1, B2	5,567,563	5,186,563
	Agency support costs for A1, A2, A3, B1, B2	66,300	16,770
	Grand total	5,633,863	5,203,333

^a UNIDO as lead implementing agency

^b UNIDO as cooperating implementing agency

* Recommended for individual consideration

SECTION A: ACTIVITIES RECOMMENDED FOR BLANKET APPROVAL

A1: Renewal of institutional strengthening projects

Project description

2. UNEP submitted requests for the renewal of the institutional strengthening projects for the countries listed in section A1 of table 1. The description for these projects is presented in Annex I to the present document.

Secretariat's comments

3. The Secretariat reviewed the requests for the renewal of 22 institutional strengthening projects submitted by UNEP on behalf of the Governments concerned against the guidelines³ and relevant decisions regarding eligibility and funding levels. The requests were cross-checked against the original work plans for the previous phase, country programme (CP) and Article 7 data, the latest report on implementation of HPMPs, the agency's progress report, and any relevant decisions of the Meetings of the Parties. It was noted that these countries have submitted their 2021/2022 CP data and are in compliance with the control targets under the Montreal Protocol, and their annual HCFC consumption does not exceed the annual maximum allowable consumption indicated in their HPMP Agreements with the Executive Committee.

³ Decision 91/63: (b) to approve the revised format for terminal reports and requests for the extension of institutional strengthening funding and the corresponding performance indicators; and (c) to request Article 5 countries, through the bilateral and implementing agencies, to use the revised format referred to in subparagraph (b) above for all requests for institutional strengthening renewal as of the first meeting of the Executive Committee in 2023.

Furthermore, all the request submitted included an assessment of performance indicators and achievement of the institutional strengthening objectives, in accordance with decision 91/63(b).

4. The Secretariat noted that the Gambia, Kuwait, Niue, and Zambia have not yet submitted their CP implementation report for 2022 and encouraged these countries to submit these prior to or at the meeting of the Executive Committee as timely submission of data is one of the objectives of the IS funding.

Secretariat's recommendation

5. The Secretariat recommends blanket approval of the institutional strengthening renewal requests for Cambodia, the Dominican Republic, Eritrea, the Kingdom of Eswatini, the Gambia, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Liberia, Mali, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Niue, Palau, the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Zambia and Zimbabwe at the levels of funding indicated in section A1 of table 1 of the present document. The Executive Committee may wish to express to the aforementioned Governments the comments presented in Annex II to this document.

A2: Project preparation for HCFC phase-out management plans

Project description

6. UNEP submitted a request for the preparation of stage III of the HPMP for Albania as the cooperating implementing agency, with UNIDO as the lead implementing agency. This request is shown in section A2 of table 1. As the lead implementing agency, UNIDO has requested US \$20,000, plus agency support costs of US \$1,400 in their work programme for 2023.⁴

Secretariat's comments

7. UNIDO as lead implementing agency provided in its work programme for 2023 the justification for the requested project preparation funding; a progress report on the implementation of stage II of the HPMP; and the list of activities to be undertaken during project preparation and the corresponding budgets; the Secretariat's comments are also included therein.

Secretariat's recommendation

8. The Secretariat recommends blanket approval of project preparation for stage III of the HCFC phase-out management plan for Albania, at the level of funding shown in section A2 of table 1.

A3: Project preparation for Kigali HFC implementation plans

Project description

9. UNEP submitted a request for the preparation of stage I of the KIP for one country as the lead implementing agency with UNIDO as the cooperating implementing agency, as shown in section A3 of table 1. UNIDO as the cooperating implementing agency for Burundi requested US \$51,000, plus agency support costs of US \$3,570 in its work programme for 2023.⁵

Secretariat's comments

10. In reviewing the request, the Secretariat considered the guidelines for the preparation of KIPs as contained in decision 87/50; the activities proposed for project preparation and their connection with enabling activities and other HFC-related projects. UNEP, as the lead implementing agency, described the

⁴ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/19.

⁵ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/19.

activities required for the preparation of the overarching strategy for the KIP for Burundi using the format for requests for project preparation for KIPs. The submission included data on the consumption of HFCs and HFC blends for 2019 to 2022. Project preparation activities included a nationwide survey and data collection on HFC consumption, analysis of the use of HFCs and alternatives; policy and legislation reviews; data collection and capacity analysis of the customs and trade enforcement structures; data collection and capacity analysis for the refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) servicing sector, an evaluation of training and equipment needs; review of existing and needed standards and codes, including for flammable refrigerants and minimum energy performance standards (MEPS); assessment of gender mainstreaming activities; the development of an overarching HFC phase-down strategy; consultation meetings with stakeholders; and data validation meetings.

11. UNEP clarified that the project preparation for the overarching strategy for the KIP would draw on the activities implemented under the enabling activities, as these were the first actions associated with the phase-down of HFCs and had contributed to the ratification of the Kigali Amendment.

12. The Secretariat noted that Burundi has ratified the Kigali Amendment;⁶ that the country has provided an endorsement letter indicating their intention to take early action on HFC phase-down; and that the funding requested is in accordance with decision 87/50(c).

Secretariat's recommendation

13. The Secretariat recommends blanket approval for project preparation for the Kigali HFC implementation plan for Burundi at the level of funding shown in section A3 of table 1.

SECTION B: ACTIVITIES RECOMMENDED FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

B1: Technical assistance to prepare a verification report on HCFC consumption

Project description

14. In line with decision 61/46(c),⁷ the Secretariat drew a sample of 16 low-volume consuming (LVC) Article 5 countries for the purpose of verifying compliance with their HPMP Agreements. The selected countries are listed in table 5 of document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/13 on the overview of issues identified during project review. UNEP as lead implementing agency is requesting funding for the verification of the HPMPs for Bhutan and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and stage II of the HPMPs for Benin, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Liberia, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga.

Secretariat's comments

15. In line with the proposal of the Secretariat to streamline the process of approving funding for the verification of HCFC consumption for LVC countries as described in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/13, the requests for funding for Benin, Bhutan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Liberia, Palau, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga are included in the present document.

16. The Secretariat noted that the funding requested was consistent with the funds approved for similar verifications in previous meetings and it further noted that the verification reports must be submitted at least

⁶ 26 March 2021.

⁷ The Secretariat was requested to provide, at the first meeting of each year, a list representing 20 per cent of countries with an HCFC consumption baseline of up to 360 metric tonnes, and with an approved HPMP, to approve funding for them for the purposes of verification of that country's compliance with the HPMP agreement for that year.

10 weeks prior to the applicable Executive Committee meetings where the next funding tranche for the HPMP is being sought.

17. The Secretariat further noted that the request will be contingent on the approval of the list of countries selected for compliance verification contained in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/13.

Secretariat's recommendation

18. The Executive Committee may wish to consider, in line with the discussion on the verification of compliance of selected low-volume consuming countries with their HCFC phase-out management plan Agreements under agenda item 9(a) Overview of issues identified during project review, approving the preparation of the verification report of the HCFC phase-out management plans (HPMPs) for Bhutan and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and stage II of the HPMPs for Benin, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Liberia, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga, each in the amount of US \$30,000, plus agency support costs of US \$3,900, on the understanding that the verification reports must be submitted at least 10 weeks prior to the applicable Executive Committee meetings where the next funding tranches for the HPMPs are being sought.

B2: Project preparation for Kigali HFC implementation plans (KIPs)

Project description

19. UNEP submitted a request for the preparation of stage I of the KIP for one country as the cooperating implementing agency with UNIDO as the lead implementing agency, as shown in section B2 of table 1. UNIDO as the lead implementing agency for Guatemala requested US \$119,000, plus agency support costs of US \$8,330 in its work programme for 2023.⁸

Secretariat's comments

20. The Secretariat noted that UNIDO as lead implementing agency for Guatemala provided a description of the activities required for the preparation of the KIP and the corresponding costs of each activity in its work programme; and further noted that Guatemala had approved the ratification of the Kigali Amendment, but the instrument of ratification had not yet been deposited to the UN Depository. The Secretariat's further comments are included the work programme for UNIDO.

Secretariat's recommendation

21. The Executive Committee may wish to consider approving the project preparation for the Kigali HFC implementation plan for Guatemala in the amount of US \$51,000, plus agency support costs of US \$6,630, on the condition that the official instrument of ratification had been deposited and received at the UN Depository signifying the country's ratification to the Kigali Amendment.

⁸ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/19.

Annex I

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING PROJECT PROPOSALS

Cambodia: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
Phase I:	Mar-02	30,000
Phase II:	Dec-03	100,000
Phase III:	Nov-05	112,667
Phase IV:	Nov-07	112,667
Phase V:	Jul-09 & Jul-10	112,667
Phase VI:	Jul-11	112,667
Phase VII:	Jul-13	112,667
Phase VIII:	May-15	112,667
Phase IX:	Jul-17	144,214
Phase X:	May-19	144,214
Phase XI:	Jul-21	144,214
	Total:	1,238,644
Amount requested for renewal (phase XII) (US \$):		298,523
Amount recommended for approval for phase XII (US \$):		298,523
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase XII to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		298,523
Date of approval of country programme:		2003
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2010
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.5
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		15.0
Annex E, (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.00
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		5.48
Annex E, (methyl bromide)		0.00
	Total:	5.48
Year of reported country programme implementation data:		2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):		4,676,144
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):		4,033,643
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):		101.6
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):		95.4

1. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	930,000
(b) Institutional strengthening:	1,238,644
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	2,507,500
	Total:
	4,676,144
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	150,000

Progress report

2. During phase XI of the institutional strengthening (IS) project Cambodia implemented the HFC licensing system put in place in 2021. The NOU continued enforcing the HCFC licensing and quota system

through the application of the Sub-decree on ODS Management (2021) which had been improved through the adoption of an online electronic system, mandatory labelling of HCFC cylinders and market inspection. NOU activities included: submission of country programme (CP) and Article 7 data reports following collaboration with the Customs Department; coordination with stakeholders to complete the fourth tranche of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) and progress the preparation of stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan (KIP); awareness activities related to HCFC phase-out targeting the public and stakeholders; and participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. The NOU made steps to integrate gender mainstreaming in some activities. Of the seven IS objectives, six were achieved and one was partially achieved because the awareness action plan had not yet been developed (objective 5).

Plan of action

3. Under phase XII, Cambodia will focus on preparing the country to meet the freeze in HFC consumption by 1 January 2024. Activities will include: implementation and enforcement of the HCFC and HFC quota and licensing system with the HFC quota system operating from January 2024; working with customs to monitor the trade of controlled substances and identify the approach to track individual import/export statistics of HFCs under the ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN 2022); data collection and reconciliation for HCFC/HFC import/export statistics to prepare CP and Article 7 data reports; coordination with stakeholders for the implementation of the HPMP and stage I of the KIP; public awareness; and participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. All planned activities will integrate gender mainstreaming.

Sustainability and risk assessment

4. Factors contributing to the achievement of IS objectives included high-level government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, timely signing of agreements and disbursement of funds, stable funding from the Multilateral Fund, and support from the regional network. Regarding communications and awareness activities under the IS project, HPMP and future KIP, the NOU will prepare an action plan for awareness to ensure a clear understanding of the different awareness activities under each project to ensure they meet the objectives of the individual projects. The NOU of Cambodia has stable staffing and operates smoothly with the support of its management. The country has recognized the importance of an electronic licensing system to control HFCs and the need to interface it with the National Single Window System to contribute to the sustainability of the implementation of the Montreal Protocol.

Dominican Republic (the): Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
	Phase I: Jul-95	155,000
	Phase II: Nov-99	103,000
	Phase III: Apr-03	134,333
	Phase IV: Apr-06	134,333
	Phase V: Nov-08	134,333
	Phase VI: Dec-10	134,333
	Phase VII: Dec-12	134,333
	Phase VIII: Nov-14	134,333
	Phase IX: Dec-16	171,946
	Phase X: Dec-18	171,946
	Phase XI: Dec-20	171,946
	Total:	1,579,836
Amount requested for renewal (phase XII) (US \$):		355,929
Amount recommended for approval for phase XII (US \$):		355,929
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase XII to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		355,929

Summary of the project and country profile	
Date of approval of country programme:	1995
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:	2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):	
(a) Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)	3.6
(b) Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)	51.2
(c) Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)	104.2
Latest reported ODS consumption (2022) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:	
(a) Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)	0.00
(b) Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)	27.13
(c) Annex E (methyl bromide)	0.00
Total:	27.13
Year of reported country programme implementation data:	2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):	11,949,228
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):	10,615,374
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):	680
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):	697

5. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	7,628,192
(b) Institutional strengthening:	1,579,836
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	2,741,200
Total:	11,949,228
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	180,000

Progress report

6. During phase XI of the IS project, the NOU of the Dominican Republic worked to achieve broad consensus on revised national legislation and the updated regulation for the sound management and final disposal of substances and equipment controlled under the Montreal Protocol was approved by Government resolution 005/2023 in January 2023. Twenty-three pilot centers were created for the collection and recovery of refrigerants. Following the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by the Dominican Republic on 14 April 2021, the operational import/export licensing system includes HFCs. New tariff codes for HFCs and HFC-blends were introduced. The NOU submitted CP and Article 7 data; completed the enabling activities for HFC phase-down; coordinated activities under stage III of the HPMP; organized training sessions and coordination meetings with the customs authorities; encouraged stakeholder participation; organized awareness-raising activities including International Ozone Day celebrations; and participated in regional network meetings. Of the seven IS objectives, six were achieved and two were partially achieved because an awareness action plan was not developed (objective 5) and gender mainstreaming activities were in progress (objective 7).

Plan of action

7. Under phase XII, the NOU of the Dominican Republic will continue implementing the HCFC/HFC licensing, the HCFC quota system, and initiate the HFC quota system; developing national capacities to allow efficient project implementation; monitoring imports and use of HCFC and HFC phase-down targets while facilitating access to and the use of new alternative substances and technologies. The NOU will continue to coordinate with customs to monitor trade of all controlled substances, facilitate the involvement of stakeholders in the implementation of the stage III of the HPMP with the aim of reduction HCFC/HFC demand; continue with to train refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) technicians; foster partnership with

public and private sector stakeholders; continue preparation of the stage I of the KIP; and continue public awareness. Gender mainstreaming will also be integrated into implementation of the next phase of the IS project including a gender focus during World Refrigeration Day and International Ozone Day celebrations as well as during national events.

Sustainability and risk assessment

8. Factors contributing to the achievement of IS objectives included high-level government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, timely signing of agreements and disbursement of funds, collaboration of stakeholders, guidance from the Government Ozone Committee (COGO), and stable funding from the Multilateral Fund. The Government of Dominican Republic plans to enhance cooperation with different stakeholder groups which is crucial to further develop initiatives for integral waste management and circular economy integration within the public and private sectors. Considering the number of HFC blends on the market, continuous training of customs brokers will be required and the correct application of the harmonized system (HS) codes to avoid illegal trade.

Eritrea: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
	Phase I: Nov-05 & Apr-08	80,000
	Phase II: Dec-12	60,000
	Phase III: Dec-16	85,000
	Phase IV: Dec-19	85,000
	Phase V: Jul-21	85,000
	Total:	395,000
Amount requested for renewal (phase VI) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase VI (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase VI to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		180,000
Date of approval of country programme:		2008
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2012
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		1.1
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.5
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		0.61
Annex E (methyl bromide)		0.0
	Total:	0.61
Year of reported country programme implementation data:		2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):		1,510,000
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):		1,032,765
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):		4.9
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):		4.4

9. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	400,000
(b) Institutional strengthening:	395,000
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	715,000
Total:	1,510,000

(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	95,000
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Progress report

10. During phase V of the IS project, the NOU of Eritrea completed the enabling activities for HFC phase-down and the Government of Eritrea ratified the Kigali Amendment on 7 February 2023. The ODS regulation was reviewed and updated to include provisions for HFCs as controlled substances that require a permit for import/export, and the requirement for labelling refrigerants and equipment based on HFCs. The draft regulation is expected to be approved in 2023. The NOU completed stage I of the HPMP; prepared the project proposal for stage II of the HPMP; conducted awareness programmes; trained RAC technicians and customs officers; enhanced collaboration with RAC experts, HCFC importers and other key stakeholders; and reported CP and Article 7 data. The NOU made efforts to encourage women to participate in meetings and training events. All seven of the IS objectives were achieved.

Plan of action

11. Under phase VI, Eritrea will continue activities from the previous phase. The Department of Environment through the NOU remains committed to maintain compliance with the Montreal Protocol control measures by coordinating activities to achieve the gradual phase out of HCFCs and freeze of the consumption of HFCs at the baseline level. The import quota and licensing system for controlled substances will be implemented and the NOU will continue to collaborate with the customs to sustain ODS phase-out and prevent illegal trade of controlled substances. The NOU plans to engage with key stakeholders; implement the first tranche of stage II of the HPMP, including additional training of RAC technicians and customs officers; initiate preparation of the KIP; and conduct public awareness activities. Gender mainstreaming will be integrated into implementation of the next phase of the IS project.

Sustainability and risk assessment

12. High-level government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, and timely signing of agreements and disbursement of funds were all factors contributing to the achievement of IS objectives. Potential risks could be issues associated with the COVID-19 pandemic which can be mitigated by the adoption of online meeting platforms or awareness programmes and providing stakeholders with data bundles. Regarding sustainability, the Department of Environment, which is the focal point for multilateral environmental agreements, supervises the NOU and contributes counterpart funds. The IS project is audited by the Office of the Auditor General.

Eswatini (the Kingdom of): Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
Phase I:	Dec-94	67,320
Phase II:	Dec-03	58,344
Phase III:	Nov-07	60,000
Phase IV:	Nov-09 & Apr-10	60,000
Phase V:	Dec-13	60,000
Phase VI:	May-19	85,000
Phase VII:	Jul-21	85,000
	Total:	475,664
Amount requested for renewal (phase VIII) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase VIII (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase VIII to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		180,000
Date of approval of country programme:		1994

Summary of the project and country profile	
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan (stage I):	2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):	
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)	0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)	1.7
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)	0.6
Latest reported ODS consumption (2022) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:	
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)	0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)	0.59
Annex E (methyl bromide)	0.0
Total:	0.59
Year of reported country programme implementation data:	2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):	2,531,782
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):	2,084,905
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):	36.9
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):	34.0

13. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	839,448
(b) Institutional strengthening:	475,664
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	1,216,670
Total:	2,531,782
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	95,000

Progress report

14. During phase VII of the IS project, the NOU of Eswatini: updated the licensing and quota system and ODS regulations to cover all controlled substances including HFCs; developed energy efficiency labelling standards for refrigeration equipment with the Standards Authority and Energy Department; submitted CP and Article 7 data; continued capacity building for customs officers and technicians; organized public awareness including the celebration of International Ozone Day, and participated in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. The NOU coordinated the implementation of stage II of the HPMP and the KIP preparation project and facilitated the involvement of stakeholders including the RAC association. The NOU encouraged the participation of women in all activities and collected gender-disaggregated data. Of the seven IS objectives, six were achieved and one was partially achieved as there was no action plan for general awareness and outreach (objective 5).

Plan of action

15. Under phase VIII, the NOU will: enforce the licensing and quota system for controlled substances; register all HCFC and HFC importers and users; collaborate with and raise awareness of the Customs Department regarding the HFC controls under the Kigali Amendment; conduct awareness on the ODS phase-out/ HFC phase-down targeting key stakeholders; report CP and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively; coordinate the implementation of stage II of the HPMP and prepare the KIP; and, promote adoption of low GWP technologies to ensure smooth transition of industry towards hydrocarbon (HC) refrigerants including training of RAC technicians. Eswatini will enforce the quota and licensing system for HCFCs and HFCs to achieve the upcoming 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption and freeze in HFC consumption. A communications expert will help develop an action plan for awareness and communications and a gender specialist will assist to develop strategy to integrate gender mainstreaming into projects and activities.

Sustainability and risk assessment

16. High-level government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, timely signing of agreements and disbursement of funds, and support from stakeholders were all factors contributing to the achievement of IS objectives. The NOU had to cancel or postpone some planned activities due to political unrests in June 2021 but IS activities are now progressing. To ensure sustainability and avoid implementation gaps, the Government of Eswatini delegated a permanent officer to be Coordinator for the NOU, therefore, there is continuity even if the project officer left the unit. All NOU activities and expenditures are subjected to annual audits to manage risk and the Ozone Steering Committee ensures independent assessment of the NOU's activities.

Gambia (the): Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
	Phase I: May-96	42,200
	Phase II: Mar-00	28,000
	Phase III: Dec-03	36,573
	Phase IV: Apr-06	60,000
	Phase V: Apr-08	60,000
	Phase VI: Jul-10	60,000
	Phase VII: Jul-12	60,000
	Phase VIII: May-14	60,000
	Phase IX: Dec-16	85,000
	Phase X: May-19	85,000
	Phase XI: July-21	85,000
	Total:	661,773
Amount requested for renewal (phase XII) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase XII (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase XII to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		180,000
Date of approval of country programme:		1996
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		1.5
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.00
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		0.19
Annex E (methyl bromide)		0.00
	Total:	0.19
Year of reported country programme implementation data:		2021
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):		2,226,473
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):		1,727,052
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):		43.1
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):		42.8

17. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	383,500
(b) Institutional strengthening:	661,773
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	1,181,200

	Total:	2,226,473
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions		95,000

Progress report

18. During phase XI of the IS project, the NOU of the Gambia completed the revision of the ODS regulations to include provisions related to the Kigali Amendment. The revised regulations for controlled substances are awaiting final endorsement by the Office of the President. The NOU carried out the following activities: reported CP and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively; worked closely with stakeholders and RAC Associations to achieve the objectives of the Montreal Protocol; coordinated the implementation of HCFC phase-out activities under stage II of the HPMP and initiated preparation of stage I of the KIP; continued implementing the training programme for refrigeration technicians; and the training of customs officers and importers to support the implementation and enforcement of the licensing and quota system. The participation of women in capacity building activities increased including enrolment in the refrigeration certificate and diploma programmes at the University of the Gambia. The NOU organized awareness raising, and outreach activities including International Ozone Day and participated in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. All seven of the IS objectives were achieved.

Plan of action

19. Phase XII of the IS project will enable the Government of the Gambia to implement programmes and activities to continue the phase-out of HCFCs and to freeze the consumption of HFCs in accordance with the Montreal Protocol schedules. The NOU will ensure that the HCFC and HFC quota and import system is enforced through collaboration and monitoring by the National Environment Agency; report CP and Article 7 data; continue collaboration with stakeholders to coordinate the implementation of stage II of the HPMP and prepare the proposal for the KIP; continue capacity building of refrigeration technicians, and customs officers to support the implementation and enforcement of regulations on controlled substances; continue awareness raising including the celebration of International Ozone Day; and participate in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. The NOU will integrate gender mainstreaming into the implementation of the next phase of the IS project including encouraging the participation of women in capacity building activities.

Sustainability and risk assessment

20. High-level government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, and timely signing of agreements and disbursement of funds were all factors contributing to the achievement of IS objectives. The NOU also acknowledged the importance of support from stakeholders including refrigeration technicians, enforcement officers, environment inspectors, importers, and others in achieving compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The NOU is directly supervised by the National Environment Agency management team and the IS project is subjected to local and international audits.

Kenya: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile			
Implementing agency:			UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):			
Phase I:	Mar-93		175,000
Phase II:	Jul-98		116,667
Phase III:	Dec-00		116,667
Phase IV:	Nov-02		151,667
Phase V:	Dec-04		151,667
Phase VI:	Nov-06-Jul-07-Jul-08		227,499
Phase VII:	Jul-09		107,431

Summary of the project and country profile			
	Phase VIII:	Dec-10	151,667
	Phase IX:	Apr-13	151,667
	Phase X:	May-15	151,667
	Phase XI:	Nov-17	194,134
	Phase XII:	Dec-20	194,134
		Total:	1,889,867
Amount requested for renewal (phase XIII) (US \$):			401,857
Amount recommended for approval for phase XIII (US \$):			401,857
Agency support costs (US \$):			0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase XIII to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):			401,857
Date of approval of country programme:			1994
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:			2012
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):			
(a) Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)			1.1
(b) Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)			52.2
(c) Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)			217.5
Latest reported ODS consumption (2022) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:			
(a) Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)			0.00
(b) Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)			3.02
(c) Annex E (methyl bromide)			0.00
			Total:
			3.02
Year of reported country programme implementation data:			2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):			9,629,257
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):			7,440,888
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):			675.43
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):			477.89

21. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	5,963,973
(b) Institutional strengthening:	1,889,867
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	1,775,417
	Total:
	9,629,257
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	150,000

Progress report

22. During phase XII of the IS project, the NOU of Kenya assisted with the ratification process for the Kigali Amendment and the memorandum of ratification was submitted for approval by Parliament. The NOU in consultation with the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) implemented activities according to plan. The NOU ensured the implementation of ODS regulations through the enforcement of HCFC licensing and quota system and revised the ODS regulations to include the HFC licensing and quota system. Other activities included coordination of activities under stage II of the HPMP; training for customs officers and RAC technicians; collection of data on the number of female participants in RAC workshops; preparation of CP and Article 7 data reports; participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings where the NOU representative took part in the discussions on dumping obsolete technologies in the region; awareness activities including celebration of the 2021 International Ozone Day through social media; raising stakeholder awareness of the gender policy of the Multilateral Fund. Of the seven IS objectives, six were achieved and one was partially achieved because the process of ratification the Kigali Amendment was awaiting final approval by Parliament.

Plan of action

23. Under phase XIII, the NOU of Kenya, in collaboration with stakeholders and partners, will continue implementation of the IS programme and coordination of stage II of the HPMP, as well as HFC phase down activities related to the Kigali Amendment. Kenya will endeavour to implement the IS action plan to ensure sustained compliance with the Montreal Protocol's reduction targets, taking into consideration the Multilateral Fund gender policy. Specifically, the NOU will continue preparing reports on CP and Article 7 data; the training programmes for the RAC technicians; training of newly recruited and existing customs officers, and staff from other enforcement agencies to support the implementation and enforcement of regulations; a dialogue with regional network members and participation in regional network, and Montreal Protocol meetings; and awareness raising activities targeting industry and other stakeholders. Kenya expects that the ratification of the Kigali Amendment will be finalized during this phase. All planned activities will integrate gender mainstreaming.

Sustainability and risk assessment

24. High-level government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, and timely disbursement of funds were all factors contributing to the achievement of IS objectives. Regarding experiences or actions that should be implemented differently a more structured approach to gathering regular feedback from key stakeholders was suggested. Potential risks could be a COVID-19 pandemic or a change of government which could be mitigated by raising the awareness of stakeholder to the need for continuity of IS activities and the use of online technology together with the provision of data bundles to enable stakeholders to participate in online meetings. With regard to sustainability, the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry contributes counterpart funds to the IS project and, at the end of each financial year, the project is audited to provide financial and managerial advice.

Kiribati: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
Phase I:	Mar-02	23,000
Phase II:	Jul-06 and Nov-07	37,666
Phase III:	Nov-09 & Apr-10	60,000
Phase IV:	Jul-11	60,000
Phase V:	Jul-13	60,000
Phase VI:	May-16	85,000
Phase VII:	May-19	85,000
Phase VIII:	Jul-21	85,000
	Total:	495,666
Amount requested for renewal (phase IX) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase IX (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase IX to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		180,000
Date of approval of country programme:		2002
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		0.1
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		0
Annex E (methyl bromide)		0
	Total:	0

Summary of the project and country profile	
Year of reported country programme implementation data:	2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):	974,266
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):	575,620
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):	0.6
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):	0.0

25. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	0
(b) Institutional strengthening:	495,666
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	478,600
Total:	974,266
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	50,000

Progress report

26. During phase VIII of the IS project Kiribati maintained compliance with the Montreal Protocol and implemented a HFC licensing system. The NOU maintained regular communication with all stakeholders in the public and private sectors, including consultations on the timing for a ban on the import of HCFC-based equipment. The national ozone officer (NOO) managed all activities regarding implementation of the Montreal Protocol including the coordination of stage I and II of the HPMP; submission of the CP and Article 7 data which indicated zero HCFC consumption in 2021. The gender equality policy, implemented under the Ministry of Women Youth Sport and Social Affairs, was integrated into the implementation of the Montreal Protocol activities to provide equal opportunities for men and women. Of the seven IS objectives, five were achieved and two were partially achieved because of the late submission of CP data due to difficulties in obtaining accurate data on HFC imports (objective 2), and because the NOU was not able to participate in Montreal Protocol meetings due to Government COVID 19 related restrictions (objective 6).

Plan of action

27. Under phase IX, the Government of Kiribati will build on the results gained to date through the following activities: implementation of the licensing and quota system for HCFCs and licensing system for HFCs through the amended ODS regulation and verification of compliance with the licenses and quota issued through periodic inspections; implementation of the HFC quota system from January 2024; collaboration with the Customs Department to effectively enforce the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU); adoption and implementation of the Pacific Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System 2022 (PACHS22)¹, which assigns the individual HS code for HFCs and blends; developing information materials for customs and importers on HFC blends; engagement with the National Steering Committee and RAC Association in the planning and implementation of Montreal Protocol activities; continue implementation of Multilateral Fund projects including preparation of the regional KIP for 12 Pacific Island Countries (PIC); awareness raising including celebration of International Ozone Day; participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings; and preparation and submission of CP and Article 7 reports. Gender mainstreaming will be integrated into implementation of phase IX of the IS project and also other Multilateral Fund projects.

¹ PACHS2022 is adapted from the Harmonized tariff classification System (HS) and adapted for use within the Pacific Customs administrations.

Sustainability and risk assessment

28. The NOU of Kiribati reported that achievement of IS objectives had been supported by high-level government support, efficient and timely support from UNDP, timely signature of agreements and disbursement of funds, stakeholder collaboration, guidance from the Steering Committee and stable funding from the Multilateral Fund. The Government of Kiribati has not yet adopted PACHS2022 so there are some difficulties to identify HFC imports to record in the Customs System due to inaccurate customs declarations. The NOU of Kiribati plans to strengthen cooperation with Customs and raise the awareness of importers and customs brokers to the importance of identifying HFCs with the correct HS code.

Kuwait: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
Phase I:	Jul-02	121,520
Phase II:	Nov-05	105,320
Phase III:	Nov-07	105,320
Phase IV:	Nov-09 and Apr- 10	105,320
Phase V:	Dec. 2012	105,320
Phase VI:	May-16	134,810
Phase VII:	Jun-18	134,810
Phase VIII:	Jul-21	134,810
	Total:	947,230
Amount requested for renewal (phase IX) (US \$):		279,056
Amount recommended for approval for phase IX (US \$):		279,056
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase IX to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		279,056
Date of approval of country programme:		2002
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2012
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		418.6
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.00
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		224.47
Annex E (methyl bromide)		0.00
	Total:	224.47
Year of reported country programme implementation data:		2021
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):		14,155,677
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):		8,807,941
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):		352.7
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):		89.9

29. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	8,356,432
(b) Institutional strengthening:	947,230
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	4,852,015
	Total:
	14,155,677
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	0

Progress report

30. During phase VIII of the IS project the National Ozone and Climate Change Committee met on a regular basis and provided strategic guidance to the NOU of Kuwait. The NOU coordinated its activities with stakeholders, the Government and the private sector updating them on Executive Committee and Montreal Protocol decisions and engaging them in the preparation of stage II of the HPMP. Industry associations are well integrated in the HCFC phase-out activities. Kuwait adopted a fully electronic licensing system within the electronic Environmental Compliance Platform and included HFCs for a test phase. The updated harmonized system (HS) codes for HFCs were adopted. The NOU continued to enforce the HCFC quota and licensing system to ensure full compliance with the agreed HCFCs reduction steps and continued to pursue efforts to identify feasible alternatives suitable for the high-ambient temperature (HAT) countries. Activities were carried out despite the challenges faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic including completion of Kigali enabling activities project; continued public and industry awareness materials; and attendance at regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. Of the seven IS objectives, four were achieved and three were partially achieved because CP and Article 7 data were submitted after the respective deadlines (objective 2); the delay in the submission of the second tranche of stage II of the HPMP (objective 4); and gender mainstreaming activities were not fully implemented (objective 7).

Plan of action

31. Under phase IX the NOU will continue to coordinate activities with stakeholders, government and the private sector updating them on Executive Committee and Montreal Protocol decisions and ensure their full engagement in implementing the ongoing projects including the implementation of stage II to achieve 2025 Montreal Protocol HCFC reduction target; pursue the outcomes of the Kigali enabling activities project and continue to facilitate the ratification of the Kigali Amendment; continue the effective operation of the HCFC quota and licensing system to ensure sustainability of phase-out already achieved and comply with future HCFC consumption reduction targets; amend the quota and licensing system to include HFCs and their blends; continue efforts to identify feasible alternatives suitable for HAT countries; continue producing public and industry awareness materials; preparing CP and Article 7 data reports; consultations with stakeholders to mainstream gender in the RAC sector and encourage female participation in all activities related to the Montreal Protocol and promote gender equality in all project activities.

Sustainability and risk assessment

32. Phase VIII of the IS project had been implemented as approved and high-level government support, timely signing of agreements and disbursement of funds, and the continued support of the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) team were all factors contributing to the achievement of IS objectives. While the current arrangements have proven effective additional staff are required and linkages with stakeholders related to energy efficiency and industry will be improved. One risk is the lack of feasible alternative substances for HAT conditions and to mitigate these risks the NOU and the Environment Public Authority will continue to work with industry and research bodies to identify long term feasible alternatives for HAT conditions, and to ensure timely implementation of the ongoing HPMP to achieve the planned HCFC phase-out targets and lay the foundation for introducing new alternatives.

Liberia: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile			
Implementing agency:			UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):			
	Phase I:	Dec-03	127,820
	Phase II:	Mar-07	85,213
	Phase III:	Apr-09	85,213
	Phase IV:	Apr-11	85,213

Summary of the project and country profile			
	Phase V:	Apr-13	85,213
	Phase VI:	Nov-15	109,073
	Phase VII:	Nov-17	109,073
	Phase VIII:	May-19	109,073
	Phase IX:	Jul-21	109,073
		Total:	904,964
Amount requested for renewal (phase X) (US \$):			225,781
Amount recommended for approval for phase X (US \$):			225,781
Agency support costs (US \$):			0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase X to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):			225,781
Date of approval of country programme:			2003
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:			2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):			
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)			0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)			5.3
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)			0.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2022) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:			
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)			0.00
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)			0.83
Annex E (methyl bromide)			0.00
			Total:
			0.83
Year of reported country programme implementation data:			2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):			2,743,122
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):			2,187,183
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):			59.8
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):			41.0

33. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	582,595
(b) Institutional strengthening:	904,964
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	1,255,563
	Total:
	2,743,122
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	95,000

Progress report

34. During phase IX of the IS project, the NOU of Liberia carried out the following activities: completed stage I of the HPMP resulting in HCFC consumption well below the target agreed in the HPMP agreement; continued to enforce the HCFC import licensing and quota system; drafted the regulations to take into account the Kigali Amendment's HFC phase down schedule and submitted the final draft to the Policy Council/Board of Directors of the Environment Protection Agency for approval (expected in May 2023); four training workshops for practicing RAC technicians including female technicians; two workshops for customs and other law enforcement officers, including female officers; collected, compiled and submitted HCFC consumption data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats; celebrated 2022 International Ozone Day; and participated in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. Of the seven IS objectives, five were achieved and two were partially achieved because the regulation to include HFCs is awaiting final approval (objective 1); and efforts to enhance coordination with national agencies and stakeholders are ongoing (objective 3).

Plan of action

35. The NOU will endeavour to implement phase XI of the IS project to ensure sustained compliance with the provisions of the Montreal Protocol. Activities will focus on gradually achieving HCFC phase-out and HFC phase down through enforcement of the import licensing and quota system; establishment of the HFC quota system; coordination of stage II of the HPMP including training for refrigeration technicians, the pilot energy efficiency project to establish the minimum energy performance standards for RAC equipment, as well as preparation of stage I of the KIP; training of new and existing customs officers to support the implementation and enforcement of revised regulations for controlled substances; compilation of CP and Article 7 data; participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings, as well as regional border dialogues. The NOU will endeavour to ensure gender inclusion in the implementation of all IS activities.

Sustainability and risk assessment

36. High-level government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, and timely signing of agreements and disbursement of funds were factors that contributed to the achievement of IS objectives in Liberia. In addition to the role of the steering committee (Committee for the Management of Montreal Protocol), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a project monitoring committee tasked with reporting on any issues that may affect the operation of the IS project. Furthermore, the IS project is subject to periodic internal and external audits.

Mali: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
	Phase I: Mar-98	70,000
	Phase II: Dec-01	46,667
	Phase III: Dec-04	60,677
	Phase IV: Nov-06	60,677
	Phase V: Nov-08	60,677
	Phase VI: Apr-11	60,677
	Phase VII: Apr-13	60,677
	Phase VIII: May-15	60,677
	Phase IX: Jun-18	85,000
	Total:	565,729
Amount requested for renewal (phase X) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase X (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase X to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		180,000
Date of approval of country programme:		1998
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
(a) Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
(b) Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		15.0
(c) Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2022) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
(a) Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.00
(b) Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		6.05
(c) Annex E, (methyl bromide)		0.00
	Total:	6.05
Year of reported country programme implementation data:		2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):		2,657,368
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):		2,495,247
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):		132.79

Summary of the project and country profile	
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):	131.00

37. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	725,000
(b) Institutional strengthening:	565,729
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	1,366,639
Total:	2,657,368
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	150,000

Progress report

38. The NOU of Mali has implemented phase IX of the IS project, despite the delays caused by the unstable political situation and COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. There are five staff in the NOU, two of whom were recruited during the current phase. The NOU carried out the following activities: collected ODS import data from the Customs department and subsequently submitted CP and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively; coordinated the work plan with stakeholders including the refrigeration association, major importers, and the consumer's association; held annual meetings with the National Ozone Committee; supervised training of RAC technicians, including female technicians; and training of customs officers, including females; awareness activities including the dissemination of information to consumers and importers on the availability of HCFC alternatives, information on relevant MOP decisions; celebrated International Ozone Day; and, participated in regional meetings. The NOU is preparing a licensing and quota system for HFCs. Despite the extraordinary challenges facing the country, Mali achieved objective six and partially achieved the other six IS objectives.

Plan of action

39. In phase X of the IS project, the NOU is planning the following activities: finalize the decree for the licensing and quota system for HFCs; promote the licensing and quota system and its enforcement and provide annual quotas to importers including on HFCs from 2024; set up the inter-ministerial coordination mechanism to harmonize Montreal Protocol/Kigali Amendment national policy decisions; continue information dissemination and awareness raising based on a formal action plan; coordinate the implementation of the final tranche of stage I of the HPMP and submit the project proposal for stage II of the HPMP; establish the technician certification programme; continue monitoring and evaluation; organize annual stakeholder workshops to raise awareness on low-GWP HCFC alternatives; and collect and report CP and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively.

Sustainability and risk assessment

40. The NOU reported efforts to achieve IS objectives had been supported by high-level government support and efficient and timely support from UNEP. The integration of the NOU in the Direction Nationale de l'Assainissement et du Contrôle des Pollutions et des Nuisances (DNACPN), and the performance of the National Ozone Committee has ensured sustainability of the IS project. Mali still faces some political and security risks and also negatives impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the case of security risks, the only option is the suspension of activities. The NOU managed to conduct some in-person meetings in Bamako with participants from other regions.

Mongolia: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
	Phase I: Jul-99	66,000
	Phase II: Mar-02	57,200
	Phase III: Jul-04	57,200
	Phase IV: Nov-06	60,000
	Phase V: Jul-08	60,000
	Phase VI: Apr-10	42,500
	Phase VII: Jul-11	60,000
	Phase VIII: Jul-13	60,000
	Phase IX: May-15	60,000
	Phase X: Jul-17	85,000
	Phase XI: May-19	85,000
	Phase XII: Jul-21	85,000
	Total	777,900
Amount requested for renewal (phase XIII) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase XIII (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase XIII to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		180,000
Date of approval of country programme:		1999
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		1.4
Annex E, (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2022) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.00
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		0.06
Annex E, (methyl bromide)		0.00
Total:		0.06
Year of reported country programme implementation data:		2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):		2,445,570
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):		1,892,004
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):		13.3
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):		12.9

41. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	445,000
(b) Institutional strengthening:	777,900
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	1,222,670
Total:	2,445,570
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	95,000

Progress report

42. The Government of Mongolia ratified the Kigali Amendment on 27 July 2022. During phase XII of the IS project, Mongolia implemented the licensing and quota system for HCFCs, and the licensing of HFCs, through the revised regulation and enforcement of control measures to sustain HCFC phase-out and measures undertaken to monitor illegal trade in ODS and HFCs, and equipment containing them. The National Ozone Authority (NOA), in cooperation with customs and border control, has implemented a ban

on the import of HCFC-based RAC equipment since 1 January 2022, and a formal ban will be presented to Parliament in 2023. Other activities included: submission of CP and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively; support to the PMU to close stage I and initiate stage II of the HPMP; translation and distribution of information materials including OzonAction publications and factsheets on matters regarding the Kigali Amendment and the introduction of low-GWP technologies; organization of several meetings and awareness raising activities including celebration of the International Ozone Day. Of the seven IS objectives, six were achieved and one was partially achieved because gender mainstreaming had not been fully implemented (objective 7).

Plan of action

43. Under phase XIII, the IS action plan will focus on maintaining coordination between national agencies and stakeholders including additional stakeholders relevant to the Kigali Amendment; improving coordination with the packaging and foam sectors; formalization of the ban on the import of HCFC-based equipment; finalization of the online licensing system (including HCFCs and HFCs); fostering cooperation with the customs particularly on risk profiling, and with the Field Inspection Department of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism on local market controls; participating in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings; awareness raising activities including a communication strategy; continued implementation activities under stage II of the HPMP; and, finalizing the preparation of the KIP and submission of a project proposal for funding. The NOA will steer the country towards zero-ODP and low-GWP alternatives through the enforcement of the licensing and quota system and other enforcement activities and engagement with the private sector. The NOA will promote gender equality and women's empowerment through the planned activities.

Sustainability and risk assessment

44. The Government of Mongolia reported that the IS project had been implemented successfully and that government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, timely disbursement of funds and signature of agreements, stakeholder collaboration, the oversight of the National Steering Committee, public awareness, and stable funding from the Multilateral Fund were all factors contributing to the achievement of IS objectives. As there have been some challenges in obtaining data about HFC use in the foam sector, in the next phase of the IS project, Mongolia will increase efforts to engage with stakeholders in the foam manufacturing sector to inform them about new technologies and regulatory changes in order to understand the level of HFC consumption in the sector and to ensure appropriate customs controls and inspections.

Nicaragua: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
Phase I:	May-97	66,000
Phase II:	Jul-00	44,000
Phase III:	Apr-03	57,200
Phase IV:	Jul-06	60,000
Phase V:	Nov-09	60,000
Phase VI:	Apr-12	60,000
Phase VII:	Dec-13	60,000
Phase VIII:	Nov-15	85,000
Phase IX:	Jun-18	85,000
Phase X:	Dec-20	85,000
	Total:	662,200
Amount requested for renewal (phase XI) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase XI (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0

Summary of the project and country profile	
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase XI to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):	180,000
Date of approval of country programme:	1997
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:	2012
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):	
(a) Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)	0.0
(b) Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)	6.8
(c) Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)	0.4
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:	
(a) Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)	0.00
(b) Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)	2.47
(c) Annex E (methyl bromide)	0.00
Total:	2.47
Year of reported country programme implementation data:	2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):	3,018,907
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):	2,399,666
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):	101.7
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):	81.6

45. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	772,119
(b) Institutional strengthening:	662,200
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	1,584,588
Total:	3,018,907
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	150,000

Progress report

46. During phase X of the IS project for Nicaragua, the updated regulation for the “Control of substances that deplete the ozone layer” was approved by resolution 09/2022 to include measures to control HFCs in accordance with the Kigali Amendment that was ratified by Nicaragua in September 2020. An operational import/export licensing and HCFC quota system is in place, and the licensing system includes HFCs. The NOU carried out the following activities: submitted CP and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, in a timely manner; completed the project for enabling activities for HFC phase-down; coordinated activities under stage I and II of the HPMP; organized training sessions and coordination meetings with the Green Customs Directorate and the National Commission and Toxic Substance Control Registry to evaluate applications for import permits and verify compliance with the HCFC import quotas; promoted the application of the refrigerant recovery plan in public institutions and held a meeting with the Directorate of State Assets in order to verify the measures adopted for the final disposal of deregistered RAC equipment; encouraged the participation of stakeholders in the implementation of activities; awareness-raising including International Ozone Day celebrations; and participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. Of the seven IS objectives, five were achieved and two were partially achieved because the inter-ministerial coordination mechanism was not fully in place (objective 3) and gender mainstreaming was not fully implemented (objective 7).

Plan of action

47. Under phase XI, Nicaragua will continue implementing HCFC phase-out and submit the Kigali HFC implementation plan to meet the HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down targets. The NOU will continue activities including: strict monitoring and control of the imports and use of HCFCs and HFCs;

facilitating access to and use of new alternative substances and technologies; continued coordination with customs to monitor trade in all controlled substances; facilitating the involvement of stakeholders (importers, exporters, suppliers, technicians, and end-users) in the implementation of the stage II of the HPMP; continue strengthening links with RAC institutions and associations to coordinate efforts to improve the technical level of RAC technicians; continue to promote the zero leaks programme and low-GWP alternatives to facilities with large HCFC-based equipment; public awareness activities especially with the education sector during World Refrigeration Day and International Ozone Day celebrations. All planned activities will integrate gender mainstreaming.

Sustainability and risk assessment

48. The NOU reported that the achievement of IS objectives had been maintained by high-level government support, efficient and timely support from UNEP, and timely signature of agreements and disbursement of funds. Efforts should be focused on strengthening environmental management noting the HFC control measure in 2024, strengthening the Nicaragua's capacity to combat illegal trade through customs training to implement the updated regulation, using new customs codes, and automating import checks, and also to raising awareness of decision makers to the obligations under the Kigali Amendment.

Niue: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
	Phase I: Dec-04 & Nov-06	30,000
	Phase II: Nov-07	60,000
	Phase III: Nov-09	60,000
	Phase IV: Jul-11	60,000
	Phase V: Jul-13	60,000
	Phase VI: Nov-15	85,000
	Phase VII: Dec-18	85,000
	Phase VIII: Jul-21	85,000
	Total:	525,000
Amount requested for renewal (phase IX) (US \$):		100,000*
Amount recommended for approval for phase IX (US \$):		100,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase IX to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		100,000
Date of approval of country programme:		2004
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		0.0
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		0.0
Annex E (methyl bromide)		0.0
Total:		0.0
Year of reported country programme implementation data:		2021
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):		781,200
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):		532,054
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):		0**
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):		0

* The Government of Niue has requested US \$100,000 for phase IX while noting that this is less than the US \$180,000 available to LVC countries.

**Very low ODS to be phased out; rounding of figures to two digits shows zero ODP tonnes.

49. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	0
(b) Institutional strengthening:	525,000
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	256,200
Total:	781,200
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	50,000

Progress report

50. During phase VIII of the IS project, the Government of Niue enforced the Ozone Layer Protection (OLP) Regulation, which was amended in 2020 including *inter alia* the mandatory control of HFCs through the licensing system, the HFC quota system, import permit forms, license for technicians, the levy for the import of high GWP HFC-based systems, and the ban of HCFCs and HCFC-based equipment from 1 January 2021. The NOU reported CP and Article 7 data indicating that the country had maintained zero consumption of HCFC and other ODS through a combination of legislative, capacity building and awareness raising measures. The NOU, customs authority and port control authority inspected all RAC technologies and refrigerants coming to the country. Other activities included: celebration of the 2022 International Ozone Day with the assistance of the Steering Committee; promotion of gender mainstreaming including equal opportunities for males and females to benefit from taking part in Montreal Protocol activities including awareness programmes, membership of the Steering Committee, and contributing to the planning and implementation of Montreal Protocol projects. Of the seven IS objectives, five were achieved and two were partially achieved because the country was not able to participate in Montreal Protocol meetings due to Government COVID restrictions (objective 6), and gender mainstreaming was not yet fully implemented (objective 7).

Plan of action

51. Under phase IX, the activities will include: ongoing enforcement of the HFC licensing system and development of the HFC quota system under the amended regulation; not issuing any import licenses for HCFCs in accordance with the stage II HPMP agreement; conducting joint inspections with the Customs Department and importers for physical verification of imports and quarterly data reconciliation of trade statistics of controlled substances, and implementing the PACHS22, which assigns the individual HS code for HFCs and blends; engaging the National Steering Committee in planning and implementation of activities; coordinating activities under stage II of the regional HPMP and preparation of the regional KIP for PICs; targeted awareness on Montreal Protocol obligations and celebration of International Ozone Day; participating in regional and Montreal Protocol meetings; and preparing and submitting CP and Article 7 reports. Gender mainstreaming will continue to be integrated into implementation of the IS and other Multilateral Fund projects.

Sustainability and risk assessment

52. The achievement of IS objectives in Niue had been assured through high-level government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, timely signing of agreements and disbursement of funds, guidance from the Steering Committee, stakeholder collaboration and stable funding from the Multilateral Fund. No risks were identified. Lessons learned from the delays in phase VI and VII of the IS project caused by the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions included: the importance of a work plan to keep activities on track and communication between the NOU and implementing agency to determine how to resolve delays. The Government of Niue has not yet adopted PACHS2022 so there is a risk that HFC imports will not be accurately identified and recorded in the Customs System due to inaccurate customs declarations. The NOU of Niue plans to strengthen cooperation with Customs and raise the awareness of importers and customs brokers to the importance of identifying HFCs and using the correct HS code. The NOU of Niue plans to

prepare a communication strategy under Phase IX that will set out the awareness activities required under the IS project, the HPMP, and the future KIP to ensure they meet the individual projects' objectives.

Palau: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
Phase I:	Mar-02	34,000
Phase II:	Jul-06 and Nov-07	41,333
Phase III:	Nov-09 and Apr-10	60,000
Phase IV:	Jul-11	60,000
Phase V:	Jul-13	60,000
Phase VI:	Jul-13	60,000
Phase VII:	Nov-17	85,000
Phase VIII:	May-19	85,000
Phase IX:	Jul-21	85,000
	Total:	570,333
Amount requested for renewal (phase X) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase X (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase X to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		180,000
Date of approval of country programme:		2002
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan (stage I):		2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		0.2
Annex E, (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.00
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		0.01
Annex E, (methyl bromide)		0.00
	Total:	0.01
Year of reported country programme implementation data:		2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):		1,031,333
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):		674,476
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):		1.48
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):		0.00

53. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	0
(b) Institutional strengthening:	570,333
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	461,000
	Total:
	1,031,333
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	50,000

Progress report

54. During phase XI of the IS project, the Government of Palau sustained effective functioning of the NOU. The NOU maintained the enforcement of HCFC licensing and quota system, banning the import of HCFC-based equipment, as well as enforcing the HFC licensing system. The Government of Palau continued to implement the Single Window System, which further strengthened the enforcement of the licensing system and effective monitoring of HCFC and HFC trade. The NOU engaged the National

Steering Committee and public and private stakeholders in the implementation of Montreal Protocol activities. Based on the 2021 Article 7 report, Palau has reduced HCFC consumption by 100 per cent from the baseline level, therefore, advancing the HCFC phase-out schedule. The Government of Palau promoted gender friendly working environments with equal opportunities to benefit from activities, for example, participating in the awareness programmes, being members of the Steering Committee and contributing to the planning and implementation of Montreal Protocol projects. All seven of the IS objectives were achieved.

Plan of action

55. During phase X, Palau plans the following activities: continuing to implement the licensing system for HCFCs and HFCs and import ban on HCFC-based equipment; implementing PACHS22, which assigns the individual HS code for HFCs and blends; actively engaging the Steering Committee and RAC Association in the planning and implementation of Montreal Protocol obligations; coordinating activities for stage II of the regional HPMP and preparation of the regional KIP for PICs; amendment of the regulations to include controls of HFC-based equipment; conducting public awareness on the HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down, including dissemination of relevant information to stakeholders and coordinating the International Ozone Day; participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings; preparation and submission of CP and Article 7 reports. Gender mainstreaming will be integrated into the implementation of phase X and other Multilateral Fund projects.

Sustainability and risk assessment

56. The achievement of IS objectives in Palau was maintained by high-level government support, efficient and timely support from UNEP, timely signature of agreements and disbursement of funds, the participation of stakeholders, and guidance from the Steering Committee. There is a possibility of double counting activities because there is overlap between the preparation of the IS project, HPMP and future KIP in terms of the awareness activity and allocated budgets. The NOU will keep accurate records to distinguish the awareness costs associated with each project and avoid overlaps and will develop a communication and outreach strategy.

Philippines (the): Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
Phase I:	Mar-93	209,000
Phase II:	Jul-99	139,333
Phase III:	Mar-02	181,133
Phase IV:	Apr-04 and Apr-05	181,133
Phase V:	Apr-06	181,133
Phase VI:	Apr-08	181,133
Phase VII:	Apr-10 and Nov-11	222,962
Phase VIII:	Jul-11	181,133
Phase IX:	Jul-13	181,133
Phase X:	May-15	181,133
Phase XI:	Jul-17	231,850
Phase XII:	May-19	231,850
Phase XIII:	Jul-21	231,850
	Total:	2,534,776
Amount requested for renewal (phase XIV) (US \$):		479,930
Amount recommended for approval for phase XIV (US \$):		479,930
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase XIV to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		479,930
Date of approval of country programme:		1993

Summary of the project and country profile	
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:	2012
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):	
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)	0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)	162.0
Annex E, (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)	10.3
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:	
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)	0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)	60.4
Annex E, (methyl bromide)	0.0
Total:	60.4
Year of reported country programme implementation data:	2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):	44,071,109
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):	34,211,393
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):	3,772.7
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):	3,765.7

57. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	32,835,789
(b) Institutional strengthening:	2,534,776
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	8,700,544
Total:	44,071,109
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	250,000

Progress report

58. During phase XIII of the IS project, the Philippines maintained compliance with its HCFC phase-out obligations. Furthermore, the country ratified the Kigali Amendment on 3 November 2022, put in place the HFC licensing system, and has consulted registered importers on the Kigali Amendment's HFC phase-down schedule. The NOU, in collaboration with Customs, continued to enforce HCFC and HFC licensing system and the HCFC quota system through the established electronic licensing system. The electronic licensing system strengthened data gathering and monitoring and as a result, the NOU can report CP and Article 7 data in a timely manner. Furthermore, the NOU collaborated with relevant stakeholders to coordinate stage II of the HPMP and the preparation of the KIP; organized public awareness activities through different platforms to raise awareness among the public and stakeholders on implementation of the Montreal Protocol; and participated in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. The NOU gathered gender-disaggregated data for all our meetings, capacity building and other activities. Of the seven IS objectives, five were achieved and two were partially achieved because the HPMP project had been delayed due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic (objective 4), and gender mainstreaming had not been fully implemented (objective 7).

Plan of action

59. Phase XIII activities will focus on: enforcing the HCF licensing system and, from 1 January 2024 also the HFC quota and licensing system; working with customs to monitor the legal trade of ODS and HFCs; conducting regular data collection and reconciliation for HCFC/HFC import and export statistics to ensure timely and accurate submission of CP and Article 7 data reports; reviewing regulations in respect of the Kigali Amendment including the guideline on banning high-GWP HFCs depending on the outcome of the KIP survey; strengthening coordination with stakeholders for the implementation of stage II of the HPMP and submission of the project proposal of stage I of the KIP; information dissemination to target

groups; and participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. The project will integrate gender mainstreaming into all Multilateral Fund projects.

Sustainability and risk assessment

60. The objectives of the IS project for the Philippines had been achieved through high-level government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, timely signing of agreements and disbursement of funds, and stakeholder collaboration. were all factors contributing to the achievement of IS objectives. Actions that should be implemented differently were related to project audits and the time and resources to carry them out. The support of the NOU management played an important role not only in successful implementation at the national level, but also in regional network-building through knowledge sharing and international cooperation. Actions that should be implemented differently were related to the financial project audits required by UNEP due to the complexity of hiring the auditing team and the specific scope of the audit.

Republic of Moldova: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
	Phase I: Jul-98	80,000
	Phase II: Mar-02	69,334
	Phase III: Jul-04	69,334
	Phase IV: Apr-06	69,334
	Phase V: Apr-08	69,334
	Phase VI: Jul-10	69,334
	Phase VII: Jul-12	69,334
	Phase VIII: May-14	69,334
	Phase IX: Dec-16	88,748
	Phase X: Dec-18	88,748
	Phase XI: Jul-21	88,748
	Total:	831,582
Amount requested for renewal (phase XII) (US \$):		183,707
Amount recommended for approval for phase XII (US \$):		183,707
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase XII to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		183,707
Date of approval of country programme:		1998
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		1.0
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		7.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.00
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		0.54
Annex E (methyl bromide)		0.00
Total:		0.54
Year of reported country programme implementation data:		2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):		2,791,162
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):		2,382,796
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):		94.7
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):		94.4

61. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	590,800
(b) Institutional strengthening:	831,582
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	1,368,780
Total:	2,791,162
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	0

Progress report

62. During phase XI of the IS project for the Republic of Moldova, the national legislation was updated to strengthen the HCFC import /export licensing and quota systems and adopted by Parliament in March 2023. The draft law for accession to the Kigali Amendment was transmitted to the Parliament to be examined by the parliamentary commissions. The Montreal Protocol Unit (MPU) implemented activities as follows: organized regular Steering Committee meetings to evaluate progress of the HPMP projects and allocation of annual HCFC import quotas; organized consultations between the Ministry of Environment, the Refrigeration Association, importers, and the Technical University of Moldova to discuss the draft law on fluorinated greenhouse gases; coordinated activities under stage II and the first tranche of stage III of the HPMP including gender related gap assessments; preparation of CP and Article 7 data reports; training of customs officers on the control of the import/export of ODS, equipment containing ODS, import quotas, and illegal trade; training of environmental inspectors on the trade regime and use of ODS; awareness-raising related to the protection of the ozone layer and climate change, including several activities to mark International Ozone Day; participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings; and, updated the MPU website. A study was conducted to map gender roles and opportunities in the RAC sector and was to improve gender balance in the sector and a workshop was organized with stakeholders to present and raise awareness of the results of the study. Of the seven IS objectives, six were achieved and one was partially achieved as the Republic of Moldova has not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment (objective 1).

Plan of action

63. Under phase XII, the MPU will continue its work to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Montreal Protocol and the HPMP agreement with the Executive Committee and further develop legislative measures to control HCFC and HFC consumption. The country will focus on the ratification of the Kigali Amendment and the subsequent preparation of the KIP. The MPU will: continue implementing activities under stage III of the HPMP; update training materials for refrigeration technicians and customs officers; continue public awareness raising related to the protection of the ozone layer and climate, including activities to mark World Refrigeration Day and International Ozone Day; continue and further strengthen cooperation with the national RAC Association, Technical University of Moldova and Technological College. Gender mainstreaming will be integrated into the implementation of all Multilateral Fund projects.

Sustainability and risk assessment

64. The achievement of IS objectives in the Republic of Moldova was maintained by high-level government support, efficient and timely support from UNEP, and timely signature of agreements and disbursement of funds. There are no risks if there is no Government restructuring, elections, civil unrest, or implications of ongoing conflicts in the region. The Republic of Moldova will use the funding under phase XII of the project to strengthen the capacity of the Montreal Protocol Unit to handle the more complex activities related to the ratification of the Kigali Amendment including the preparation of the KIP.

Rwanda: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
Phase I:	Mar-02 & Dec-03	86,600
Phase II:	Nov-06	60,000
Phase III:	Apr-09	60,000
Phase IV:	Jul-11	60,000
Phase V:	Jul-13	60,000
Phase VI:	Nov-15	85,000
Phase VII:	Nov-17	85,000
Phase VIII:	Dec-19	85,000
Phase IX:	Jul-21	85,000
	Total:	666,600
Amount requested for renewal (phase X) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase X (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase X to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		180,000
Date of approval of country programme:		2003
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		4.1
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.00
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		1.53
Annex E (methyl bromide)		0.00
	Total:	1.53
Year of reported country programme implementation data:		2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):		2,230,358
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):		1,731,235
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):		32.3
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):		28.7

65. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	348,000
(b) Institutional strengthening:	666,600
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	1,215,758
	Total:
	2,230,358
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	95,000

Progress report

66. During phase IX of the IS project, the NOU of Rwanda: enforced the HCFC licensing and quota system; implemented the HFC enabling activities project and revised regulations to include HFCs in the licensing and quota system; trained customs and enforcement officers, including females, on the licensing and quota system and combatting illegal trade; coordinated the completion of stage I of the HPMP and commenced activities under stage II; trained RAC technicians, including females, to encourage the use of low-GWP refrigerants including safe-handling of hydrocarbons and an introduction to energy efficiency; compiled and reported CP and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively; celebrated

International Ozone Day in 2021 and in 2022; and participated in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. All seven IS objectives were achieved.

Plan of action

67. Under phase X, Rwanda will focus on activities on promoting HCFC phase-out and the Kigali Amendment. Strategic public awareness activities through stakeholders' workshop, promotional materials, celebration of international ozone day will be carried out. The NOU will continue: to monitor activities under stage II of the HPMP; the enforcement of the regulations on controlled substances under Montreal Protocol; training of newly recruited customs officer and other enforcement agency staff on the regulation for controlled substances; training of RAC technicians to encourage the adoption of low-GWP alternatives; public awareness activities through workshops, promotional materials, and celebration of International Ozone Day. Gender mainstreaming will be integrated into the implementation of all Multilateral Fund projects.

Sustainability and risk assessment

68. The IS project had been implemented successfully through high-level government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, timely disbursement of funds, and support from public and private stakeholders. In addition to the National Ozone Steering Committee, the Rwanda Environmental Management Authority (REMA) has a project monitoring committee which monitors the IS project reports on any issues that may affect the continued operation of the project. Furthermore, the Government of Rwanda implements periodic internal and external audits to mitigate any risk and ensure sustainability of the project.

Samoa: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		UNEP
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
Phase I:	May-97	30,000
Phase II:	Apr-03	26,000
Phase III:	Nov-05	60,000
Phase IV:	Nov-07	60,000
Phase V:	Jul-09 and Jul-10	60,000
Phase VI:	Jul-11	60,000
Phase VII:	Jul-13	60,000
Phase VIII:	May-15	60,000
Phase IX:	Nov-17	85,000
Phase X:	May-19	85,000
Phase XI:	Jul-21	85,000
Total:		671,000
Amount requested for renewal (phase XII) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase XII (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase XII to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		180,000
Date of approval of country programme:		1997
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		0.3
Annex E, (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.00
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		0.01
Annex E, (methyl bromide)		0.00

Summary of the project and country profile	
Total:	0.01
Year of reported country programme implementation data:	2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):	1,452,750
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):	1,142,510
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):	4.1
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):	3.8

69. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	75,000
(b) Institutional strengthening:	671,000
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	706,750
Total:	1,452,750
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	50,000

Progress report

70. During phase XI, the NOU established working mechanisms with the public and private sector stakeholders and developed a more institutional approach rather than a project-to-project approach for the implementation of Montreal Protocol activities. Regular meetings at the National Ozone Steering Committee and Stakeholder Committee took place to share knowledge of project activities and enhance linkages with the NOU's activities. The country fulfilled its data reporting obligations to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats in a timely manner. Compliance was sustained through a holistic approach comprising of legislative measures, the HCFC licensing and quota system, monitoring of ODS imports, capacity building, involvement of the National Ozone Committee and the national RAC Association as well as awareness raising activities. Samoa successfully completed the third tranche of stage I of the HPMP. All seven IS objectives were achieved.

Plan of action

71. Phase XII will include: implementing the new licensing system for HCFC, HFC and all other refrigerants under the new Refrigerant Management Regulations; adoption of the Pacific Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System 2022 (PACHS22) to have an individual HS code for HFCs and blends; submission of Article 7 and Country Programme reports; engagement of National Ozone Committee and RAC Association in the implementation of Montreal Protocol activities; coordination with stakeholders for the implementation of stage II of the HPMP and preparation of the KIP; organization of International Ozone Day and development of awareness materials; and participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. Gender mainstreaming will be integrated into the implementation of all Multilateral Fund projects.

Sustainability and risk assessment

72. High-level government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, timely signing of agreements and disbursement of funds, participation of stakeholders, guidance from the National Ozone Ministry, and stable funding from the Multilateral Fund were all factors contributing to the achievement of IS objectives. Samoa has not yet adopted the PACHS2022 thus there is a risk that HFC imports may not be accurately identified and recorded in the Customs System. To mitigate this risk Samoa plans to strengthen NOU

cooperation with Customs to monitor and identify HFCs and to raise awareness of importers and customs brokers to the HC codes.

Tonga: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
Phase I:	Mar-02	19,700
Phase II:	Jul-06 and Nov-07	36,566
Phase III:	Nov-09 and Apr-10	60,000
Phase IV:	Jul-11	60,000
Phase V:	Jul-13	60,000
Phase VI:	May-15	60,000
Phase VII:	Nov-17	85,000
Phase VIII:	May-19	85,000
Phase IX:	Ju-21	85,000
	Total:	466,266
Amount requested for renewal (phase X) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase X (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase X to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		180,000
Date of approval of country programme:		2002
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		0.1
Annex E, (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.2
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.00
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		0.01
Annex E, (methyl bromide)		0.00
	Total:	0.01
Year of reported country programme implementation data:		2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):		1,033,316
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):		677,555
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):		1.2
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):		0.0

73. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	0
(b) Institutional strengthening:	551,266
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	482,050
	Total
	1,033,316
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	50,000

Progress report

74. During phase IX of the IS project the Government of Tonga implemented activities under the IS project with tangible outputs despite the volcanic eruption and tsunami in Tonga in January 2022 which delayed the implementation of some activities. Phase IX supported the Government of Tonga to maintain compliance with the HCFC phase-out obligations and the initial obligations of the Kigali Amendment for an HFC licensing system. The country fulfilled its data reporting obligations to the Ozone Secretariat and

Multilateral Fund Secretariats; implemented activities under stage II of the HPMP; sustained compliance with the HCFC phase-out targets through legislative measures, the HCFC licensing and quota system, monitoring of HCFC and HFC imports, capacity building, the involvement of the National Ozone Advisory Committee and the RAC Association, and awareness raising activities. Of the seven IS objectives, six were fully achieved and one was partially achieved because the NOO was not able to participate in Montreal Protocol meetings due to COVID-19 travel restrictions (objective 6).

Plan of action

75. Under phase X the Government of Tonga plans to build on the achievements gained to date and implement the following activities: enforcement of the licensing and quota systems for HCFCs, licensing system for HFCs and the development of a quota system for HFC; adoption of PACHS22; working with the customs to strengthen data monitoring and tracking of controlled substances complimented by the field inspection to ensure timely submission of Article 7 and CP data; coordination with stakeholders on the implementation of stage II of the HPMP; continue collaboration to prepare the regional KIP for PICs; information dissemination to target groups; participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. Gender mainstreaming will be integrated into implementation of IS activities.

Sustainability and risk assessment

76. The achievement of IS objectives in Tonga was maintained by high-level government support, efficient and timely support from UNEP, timely signature of agreements and disbursement of funds, the participation of stakeholders, guidance from the National Ozone Advisory Committee, and stable funding from the Multilateral Fund. Tonga has not yet adopted PACHS2022 so there is a risk that HFC imports will not be accurately identified and recorded in the Customs System due to inaccurate customs declarations. The NOU of Tonga plans to strengthen cooperation with Customs and raise the awareness of importers and customs brokers to the importance of identifying HFCs and using the correct HS code. Tonga also plans to prepare a communication strategy under Phase X that will set out the awareness activities required under the IS project, stage II of the HPMP, and the future KIP to ensure they meets the individual projects' objectives.

Tuvalu: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
Phase I:	Mar-02	17,500
Phase II:	Nov-06 & Nov-08	37,583
Phase III:	Dec-10	60,000
Phase IV:	Jul-12	60,000
Phase V:	May-14	60,000
Phase VI:	May-16	85,000
Phase VII:	Dec-18	85,000
Phase VIII:	Jul-21	85,000
	Total:	490,083
Amount requested for renewal (phase IX) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase IX (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase IX to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		180,000
Date of approval of country programme:		2002
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		0.1
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		0.0

Summary of the project and country profile	
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:	
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)	0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)	0.0
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)	0.0
Total:	0.0
Year of reported country programme implementation data:	2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):	844,533
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):	591,778
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022 (ODP tonnes):	0.3
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):	0.0

77. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	0
(b) Institutional strengthening:	490,083
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	354,450
Total:	844,533
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	50,000

Progress report

78. During phase VIII of the IS project for Tuvalu, the HCFC licensing and quota system and HFC licensing systems were in place and fully operational. The NOO cooperated with the Customs Department to monitor the import/export of controlled substances as per the Memorandum of Understanding with the Customs Department, and also to assist Customs to adopt PACHS22. There was no illegal ODS trade during phase VIII. The NOO coordinated implementation of stage II of the HPMP; worked closely with the RAC Association and the National Steering Committee to implement Montreal Protocol activities including the planning for International Ozone Day; submitted CP and Article 7 data; and participated in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. Tuvalu has sustained zero HCFC consumption in advance of the Montreal Protocol schedule. During the implementation of phase VIII and stage II of the HPMP, the Government of Tuvalu promoted gender friendly working environments and provided women and men with equal opportunities to participate in activities. Of the seven IS objectives, five were achieved and two were partially achieved because CP and Article 7 data reports were not submitted on time (objective 2), and consultations on gender mainstreaming were ongoing (objective 7).

Plan of action

79. Phase IX will include the following activities: enforcement of the HCFC licensing and quota system, the HFC licensing system, and establishment of the HFC quota system; complete the adoption of the PACHS22 to have individual HS code for HFCs and blends; timely submission of Article 7 and CP reports; engagement of the National Steering Committee and RAC Association in the implementation of activities under stage II of the HPMP; coordination with stakeholders for the implementation of stage II of the HPMP and preparation of the regional KIP for PICs; celebration of International Ozone Day and development of awareness materials; and, participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. Gender mainstreaming will be integrated into implementation of phase IX.

Sustainability and risk assessment

80. The NOU reported that the achievement of IS objectives had been maintained by high-level government support, efficient and timely support from UNEP, timely signature of agreements and disbursement of funds, the participation of stakeholders, and stable funding from the Multilateral Fund. The

NOU is continuously guided by the IS project steering committee including members from relevant government ministries, the RAC sector and other relevant agencies. Tuvalu plans to adopt PACHS2022 in June 2023 thus the NOU will target importers and customs brokers to raise their awareness of the need to ensure the correct identification of HFCs.

Zambia: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile		
Implementing agency:		UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):		
	Phase I: May-93	75,600
	Phase II: Mar-00	50,400
	Phase III: Dec-04	65,520
	Phase IV: Apr-09	65,520
	Phase V: Dec-13	65,520
	Phase VI: Dec-16	85,000
	Phase VII: May-19	85,000
	Phase VIII: Jul-21	85,000
	Total:	577,560
Amount requested for renewal (phase IX) (US \$):		180,000
Amount recommended for approval for phase IX (US \$):		180,000
Agency support costs (US \$):		0
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase IX to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):		180,000
Date of approval of country programme:		1992
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:		2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)		0.1
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)		5.0
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)		29.4
Latest reported ODS consumption (2021) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:		
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)		0.00
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)		2.19
Annex E (methyl bromide)		0.00
Total:		2.19
Year of reported country programme implementation data:		2021
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):		2,641,528
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):		2,061,706
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):		44.4
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):		60.1

81. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	588,548
(b) Institutional strengthening:	577,560
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	1,475,420
Total:	2,641,528
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	95,000

Progress report

82. During phase VIII of the IS project, the NOU of Zambia successfully implemented activities under the IS project and stage II of the HPMP despite the Covid-19 outbreak. Working in collaboration with the Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA), the NOU ensured the implementation of ODS regulations through enforcement of the HCFC licensing and quota system. The ODS regulations were

revised to include an HFC licensing and quota system and the revised regulations, including the provisions required by the Kigali Amendment, were approved by the Cabinet with Parliamentary approval expected in May 2023. Other activities undertaken included: submission of CP and Article 7 data reports; training RAC technicians and customs officers to support the enforcement of ODS regulations and control measures of HCFC; awareness and information dissemination including celebration of International Ozone Day in 2021 and 2022; and participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. Of the seven IS objectives, six were achieved and one was partially achieved because the revised regulations required by the Kigali Amendment were not in place due to a change in Government. The Government of Zambia expects to approve the revised regulations by the end of May 2023.

Plan of action

83. Under phase IX, the country will enforce the import quota and licensing system for controlled substances to meet 67.5 per cent reduction target of HCFCs in 2025, as well as meet the HFC control measure in 2024, and endeavour to maintain compliance with the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment. NOU activities will include: training of newly recruited and existing customs officers to support the implementation and enforcement of revised regulations measures of the controlled substances; training of RAC technicians in safety use of hydrocarbons; issuing of quota allocations for HFCs and HFC blends starting from 2024; continued awareness programmes; policy enforcement and strengthening, collaboration with the RAC servicing industry; and active participation in the regional and global meetings and gender mainstreaming activities. The NOU will prepare project proposals for stage I of the KIP and the next tranche of stage II of the HPMP and engage a gender expert to carry out an assessment of the integration of gender mainstreaming into Montreal Protocol projects.

Sustainability and risk assessment

84. The NOU reported that the achievement of IS objectives had been maintained by high-level government support, efficient and timely support from UNEP, timely signature of agreements and disbursement of funds, and support from stakeholders. Reliance on physical meetings or interactions during project implementation had been an issue but was mitigated by the adoption of online platforms and providing stakeholders with data bundles. The project steering committee provides oversight of IS project activities, and the project is audited by the Office of the Auditor including a financial audit. At the end of every Financial Year, the project is subjected to auditing by the Office of the Auditor General. There are no major risks that are likely to hinder the implementation of the IS activities.

Zimbabwe: Renewal of institutional strengthening

Summary of the project and country profile			
Implementing agency:			UNEP
Amounts previously approved for institutional strengthening (US \$):			
	Phase I:	Jul-94	171,050
	Phase II:	Jul-99	114,033
	Phase III:	Jul-01	114,033
	Phase IV:	Jul-04	148,242
	Phase V:	Nov-06	148,242
	Phase VI:	Nov-09 and Apr-10	148,241
	Phase VII:	Apr-13	148,242
	Phase VIII:	May-15	148,242
	Phase IX:	Jul-17	189,750
	Phase X:	May-19	189,750
	Phase XI:	Jul-21	189,750
		Total:	1,709,575
Amount requested for renewal (phase XII) (US \$):			392,782
Amount recommended for approval for phase XII (US \$):			392,782
Agency support costs (US \$):			0

Summary of the project and country profile	
Total cost of institutional strengthening phase XII to the Multilateral Fund (US \$):	392,782
Date of approval of country programme:	1994
Date of approval of HCFC phase-out management plan:	2011
Baseline consumption of controlled substances (ODP tonnes):	
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform) (average 1998-2000)	0.0
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs) (average 2009-2010)	17.8
Annex E (methyl bromide) (average 1995-1998)	557.0
Latest reported ODS consumption (2022) (ODP tonnes) as per Article 7:	
Annex B, Group III (methyl chloroform)	0.00
Annex C, Group I (HCFCs)	3.79
Annex E, (methyl bromide)	0.00
Total:	3.79
Year of reported country programme implementation data:	2022
Amount approved for projects (as at December 2022) (US \$):	11,895,881
Amount disbursed (as at December 2021) (US \$):	10,509,098
ODS to be phased out (as at December 2022) (ODP tonnes):	502.74
ODS phased out (as at December 2021) (ODP tonnes):	475.59

85. Summary of activities and funds approved by the Executive Committee:

Summary of activities	Funds approved (US \$)
(a) Investment projects:	7,910,696
(b) Institutional strengthening:	1,709,575
(c) Project preparation, technical assistance, training and other non-investment projects:	2,275,610
Total:	11,895,881
(d) HFC activities funded from additional voluntary contributions	180,000

Progress report

86. During phase XI of the IS project, the Government of Zimbabwe ratified the Kigali Amendment on 18 October 2022. The ODS regulations were revised to include HFCs (Statutory Instrument 49 of 2023) and entered into force on the 11 April 2023. The Customs Technical Division of the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority collaborated with the NOU to implement an electronic licensing system for controlled substances as there are plans to link the NOU system to the Customs database. There were no reported cases of illegal trade and the NOU continued to work smoothly with customs officers. The NOU finalized stage I of the HPMP and began implementing stage II; coordinated the training programme for technicians in the refrigeration sector including two workshops for female RAC practitioners; trained of customs officers to support the enforcement of regulations and control measures of HCFCs; continued awareness raising activities including symposia and 2021 and 2022 and targeted information materials for stakeholders; reported CP and Article 7 data; and participated regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. Zimbabwe was a member of the Executive Committee in 2021 and 2022. Gender mainstreaming was taken into consideration: a booklet on female RAC stories is awaiting publication and sex disaggregated data was captured during all workshops. The Government of Zimbabwe ratified the Kigali Amendment on 18 October 2022. All seven IS objectives were achieved.

Plan of action

87. Under phase XII, the Government of Zimbabwe will implement licensing and quota system to achieve and sustain the 67.5 per cent reduction of HCFC consumption by 2025 and the freeze in HFC consumption in 2024. The country intends to ban imports of HCFCs for use in appliances where effective alternatives have been adopted. The NOU will carry out the following activities: continue collaborating with all key stakeholders including the customs officers and other enforcement agencies on controlling

ODS and HFCs and combatting illegal trade; link the NOU licensing system to the Customs database; prepared CP and Article 7 data reports; continue coordination of stage II of the HPMP and the preparation of stage I of the KIP; continue with awareness programmes and put in place a communication and awareness strategy; training of RAC technicians; and participate in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. A gender expert will be recruited to carry out an assessment of the integration of gender mainstreaming into Montreal Protocol projects.

Sustainability and risk assessment

88. The Government of Zimbabwe reported that the IS project had been implemented successfully and that government support, timely and efficient UNEP support, timely signature of agreements and disbursement of funds, and support from stakeholders were all factors contributing to the achievement of IS objectives. Potential risks could be the reliance on physical meetings or interactions during project implementation which could be mitigated by adopting online platforms to conduct meetings or carry out awareness programmes and providing stakeholders with data bundles. In addition to the oversight role of the National Ozone Steering Committee, the Government of Zimbabwe periodically audits the IS project to ensure adequate risk avoidance and management.

Annex II

DRAFT VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON RENEWAL OF INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING PROJECTS SUBMITTED TO THE 92nd MEETING

Cambodia

1. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project for Cambodia (phase XII) and noted with appreciation that the Government of Cambodia had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee further noted with appreciation that the Government of Cambodia had put in place the HFC licensing system following the country's ratification of the Kigali Amendment on 8 April 2021 and was collaborating with the General Department of Customs and Excise to interface the existing electronic ODS/HFC licensing system with the National Single Window System to strengthen monitoring, reporting, verification, and enforcement activities. The Executive Committee acknowledged the country's efforts to promote gender equality and anticipated gender mainstreaming would be continued in phase XII of the IS project. The Committee is therefore confident that, in the next three years, the Government of Cambodia will continue activities both at the project and policy levels including submission of the Kigali HFC implementation plan to enable the country to meet the control measures of the Montreal Protocol.

Dominican Republic (the)

2. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the institutional strengthening project (IS) for the Dominican Republic (phase XII) and noted with appreciation that the Government of the Dominican Republic had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee acknowledged with appreciation that the country ratified the Kigali Amendment in April 2021. The Executive Committee further noted that the country has an operational HCFC/HFC import/export licensing and HCFC quota system in place, has updated its regulations for the sound management and final disposal of substances and equipment regulated under the Montreal Protocol, made substantial progress on the certification of RAC technicians and the installation of pilot centers for the collection and recovery of refrigerants as well as continuing with training technicians on good refrigeration practices and the safe handling of alternative substances. It has also carried out consultation meetings and raised public awareness. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that the Dominican Republic will continue implementing stage III of the HCFC phase-out management plan, the IS project, and progress with the Kigali HFC implementation plan in an effective manner to meet the HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down targets.

Eritrea

3. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase VI) for Eritrea and noted with appreciation that the Government of Eritrea reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee also acknowledged with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by Eritrea on 7 February 2023 and the steps undertaken to meet the initial obligations under the Amendment. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Eritrea has taken further steps to phase out HCFC consumption, including the enforcement of the quota and licensing system; training of customs and enforcement officers as well as refrigeration and air-conditioning technicians. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that, the Government of Eritrea, in the next three years, will continue the implementation of its HCFC phase-out management plan to achieve the next control target of the Montreal Protocol and will initiate activities for HFC phase-down.

Eswatini (the Kingdom of)

4. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase VIII) for Eswatini and noted with appreciation that the Government of Eswatini has reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee acknowledged that the Government of Eswatini is implementing the HCFC and HFC import and export licensing and quota system; has carried out training for refrigeration technicians and customs officers; and developed and organized public awareness activities. The Executive Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, during the next three years, the Government of Eswatini will continue implementing activities to enable the country to comply with the obligations under the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment.

Gambia (the)

5. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase XII) for the Gambia and noted with appreciation that the Government of Gambia had reported country programme implementation data and Article 7 data for 2021 to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation that the country has an HFC licensing system in place since January 2021. The Executive Committee encouraged the Government of the Gambia through the national ozone unit and inspectorate unit of the National Environment Agency to ensure the effectiveness of the licensing system, monitoring and reporting of controlled substances. The Executive Committee is therefore confident that, in the next three years, the Gambia will continue the gradual reduction of HCFC consumption and initiate activities for the HFC phase-down to achieve compliance with the next Montreal Protocol targets.

Kenya

6. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Kenya (phase XIII) and noted with appreciation that Kenya had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee acknowledged that the country had revised the national ODS regulations to include the HFC licensing system and that the revised regulations were awaiting approval by the Parliament of Kenya. The Committee further noted that the Government of Kenya has continued with the phase-out of ODS consumption through the enforcement of the HCFC licensing and quota system; training of technicians on the safe use of hydrocarbons; and embarking on public awareness programmes. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that the Government of Kenya will approve the revised regulations for controlled substances and implement activities, including HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down activities, and consideration of gender issues to enable the country to comply with the Montreal Protocol targets.

Kiribati

7. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project for Kiribati (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that the Government of Kiribati had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee appreciated the Government of Kiribati's effort in promoting gender equality in all Multilateral Fund projects and anticipates that the promotion of gender equality and gender friendly working environment will be continued in phase IX. The Executive Committee noted that the country continued to implement the HFC licensing system through the Ministerial Order and is implementing the HCFC phase-out management plan, conducting information outreach and awareness raising activities and participating in regional network meetings. The Executive Committee is hopeful that, the Government of

Kiribati will continue the implementation of the IS project with success to sustain the momentum of HCFC phase-out and meet the future control measures of the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment.

Kuwait

8. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Kuwait (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that the Government of Kuwait had reported country programme data and Article 7 data for 2021 to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee further noted with appreciation that Kuwait implemented an electronic licensing system and that there were no cases of illegal trade during phase VIII of the project. With the updated e-licensing system in place, the Executive Committee encourages the Government of Kuwait through its national ozone unit to work closely with stakeholders to ensure effectiveness of the licensing system and data monitoring and reporting of controlled substances. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts by the Government of Kuwait to pursue the implementation of the outcomes of the enabling activities and is confident that the country will continue its gradual reduction of HCFC consumption to achieve the next control target under the Montreal Protocol and will continue facilitating the ratification of the Kigali Amendment.

Liberia

9. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase X) for Liberia and noted with appreciation that the Government of Liberia had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that Liberia has taken steps towards finalizing the review of the national ODS Regulations to take into account the provisions of the Kigali Amendment. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Liberia and is, therefore, confident that the country will continue its gradual reduction of HCFC consumption to achieve the next control target under the Montreal Protocol and will initiate activities for HFC phase-down.

Mali

10. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (IS) for Mali (phase X) and noted with appreciation that the Government of Mali had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariat, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee commended the national ozone unit for its efforts to implement activities under phase IX of the IS despite the challenges that faced the country. The Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Mali to phase out HCFC consumption, through the implementation of a HCFC licensing and quota system and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians and is therefore hopeful that the Government of Mali will put into place a HFC licensing and continue implementation of activities with success to enable the country to achieve and sustain compliance with the Montreal Protocol.

Mongolia

11. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Mongolia (phase XIII) and noted with appreciation that the Government of Mongolia had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee also acknowledged with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by Mongolia on 27 July 2022 and the amendment of relevant national laws. The Executive Committee noted that Mongolia is developing a robust online licensing system platform for both HCFC and HFCs and noted its efforts to

enforce the HCFC licensing system, issue annual quotas, and timely submit country programme and Article 7 data reports. The Executive Committee is therefore confident that, in the next three years, Mongolia will continue activities both at the project and policy levels to meet the future targets of the Montreal Protocol.

Nicaragua

12. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project for Nicaragua (phase XI) and noted with appreciation that the Government of Nicaragua had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that the country has updated its regulation for the control of substances under the Montreal Protocol to comply with the requirements of the Kigali Amendment, made substantial progress in the training of refrigeration technicians on good refrigeration practices and the environmental sound storage of refrigerants, and is committed to the formulation of norms and standards for the safe handling of alternative refrigerants. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that Nicaragua will continue implementing the IS project, stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan, and prepare the Kigali HFC implementation plan in an effective manner to meet the HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down targets.

Niue

13. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project for Niue (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that the Government of Niue has complied with the initial obligations of the Kigali Amendment by establishing the HFC licensing system. The Executive Committee also noted that Niue reported country programme data and Article 7 data for 2021 to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee appreciated the efforts of the Government of Niue in maintaining zero consumption of HCFCs since 2011 and in promoting gender equality in all Multilateral Fund projects, anticipating that the promotion of gender equality and gender friendly working environment will be continued in phase IX. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation that the Government of Niue requested less than the minimum level of funding to implement phase IX of the project through covering the salaries of two staff members of the national ozone unit. The Executive Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next three years, the Government of Niue will finalize and launch the implementation of stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan and continue to implement the IS project activities with success to sustain zero HCFC consumption and maintain compliance with the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment.

Palau

14. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Palau (phase X) and noted with appreciation that the Government of Palau had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee appreciated the efforts of the Government of Palau to put in place the licensing system for HFCs and the continued enforcement of the ban on the import of HCFC-based equipment. The Executive Committee also acknowledged the Government of Palau's efforts to promote gender friendly working environments anticipating that gender mainstreaming will be continued in the next phase of the project. The Executive Committee further noted that Palau continued to implement the Single Window System, which has further strengthened the enforcement of the licensing. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that Palau will continue activities both at the project and policy levels to meet the future targets of the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment.

Philippines (the)

15. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for the Philippines (phase XIV) and noted with appreciation that the Government of the Philippines had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation that the Government of the Philippines ratified the Kigali Amendment on 3 November 2022 and put in place an HFC licensing system. The Committee noted that the country enforces its HCFC and HFC licensing and implements the HCFC quota system through the Online Permitting and Monitoring System (OPMS) Platform that has strengthened data monitoring and reporting of controlled substances. The Executive Committee also noted that the Philippines has integrated gender mainstreaming into the implementation of its Montreal Protocol activities. The Executive Committee is, therefore, hopeful that the Government of the Philippines will continue implementing activities both at the policy and project levels to enable the country to meet the Montreal Protocol targets.

Republic of Moldova (the)

16. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project of the Republic of Moldova (phase XII) and noted with appreciation that the Government of the Republic of Moldova had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that the Government of Moldova has established legislation to control the import of HCFCs through establishing an annual import quota for HCFCs and issuing import/export licenses for each shipment. The Committee is, therefore, confident that in the next three years, the Government of the Republic of Moldova will continue its activities both at the policy and project levels to enable the country to achieve the next control target under the Montreal Protocol and to finalize the process for ratification of the Kigali Amendment.

Rwanda

17. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase X) for Rwanda and noted with appreciation that the Government of Rwanda reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee further noted that Rwanda has been operating an HFC licensing system since 1 January 2021 and has taken further steps to phase out its consumption of HCFCs, including the enforcement of the licensing and quota system; training customs and enforcement officers as well as the refrigeration and air-conditioning technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Rwanda and is therefore hopeful that, within the next three years, the country will continue the implementation of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan and the IS project to achieve and sustain at the next control target under the Montreal Protocol and will initiate the HFC phase-down in accordance with the Kigali Amendment.

Samoa

18. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the institutional strengthening project for Samoa (phase XII) and noted with appreciation that the Government of Samoa had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee further noted that the country is taking the necessary steps to meet the Montreal Protocol control measures related to HCFCs and initial obligations of the Kigali Amendment. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Samoa in sustaining the phase-out of HCFC consumption, effectively implementing the HCFC licensing and quota system and the HFC licensing system and integrating gender mainstreaming and

coordinating activities with the relevant stakeholders. The Executive Committee further noted the level of public awareness to inform stakeholders and the public about the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) and the obligations under the Kigali Amendment. The Executive Committee is hopeful that, in the next three years, the Government of Samoa will continue implementing stage II of the HPMP and prepare stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan to enable the country to meet its Montreal Protocol obligations including those under the Kigali Amendment.

Tonga

19. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Tonga (phase X) and noted with appreciation that the Government of Tonga had effectively implemented the HCFC and HFC licensing system and reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee expressed its sympathy for the natural disaster that devastated the country in 2022 and appreciates the efforts made by the Government of Tonga to review its strategy and work plan to ensure continuity in the implementation of the country's Montreal Protocol commitments. The Executive Committee further noted that Tonga had continued the strict enforcement of licensing system for HCFCs and the ban on the import of HCFC-based equipment and has sustained the phase-out its HCFC consumption ahead of the upcoming control measures. The Executive Committee also appreciated the Government of Tonga's effort in promoting gender friendly working environments and female participation. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that the Government of Tonga will continue activities both at the project and policy levels to meet the future targets of the Montreal Protocol and its Kigali Amendment.

Tuvalu

20. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the institutional strengthening project renewal request for Tuvalu (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that the Government of Tuvalu had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee further noted with appreciation that the country is taking the necessary steps to meet the Montreal Protocol control measures related to HCFCs and initial obligations under the Kigali Amendment. The Executive Committee appreciated the Government of Tuvalu's effort in promoting gender friendly working environments and female participation in all Multilateral Fund supported projects. The Executive Committee also noted the country's active participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol meetings. The Executive Committee is hopeful that, in the next three years, the Government of Tuvalu will implement stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan and prepare stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan, to enable the country to comply with the consumption targets agreed with the Executive Committee and to meet its Montreal Protocol obligations.

Zambia

21. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase IX) for Zambia and noted with appreciation that the Government of Zambia reported country programme data and Article 7 data for 2021 to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted the steps taken by the country to review the ODS regulations to control HFCs. The Committee acknowledged that Zambia continued to implement the HCFC import and export licensing and quota system; carried out training for refrigeration technicians and customs officers; and developed and organized public awareness activities. The Committee is therefore confident that, in the next three years, Zambia will continue to reduce HCFC consumption to meet the next control target under the Montreal Protocol and prepare the Kigali HFC implementation plan.

Zimbabwe

22. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase XII) for Zimbabwe and noted with appreciation that the Government of Zimbabwe had reported country programme data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation that Zimbabwe had ratified the Kigali Amendment on 18 October 2022 and had revised the national ODS regulations to include HFCs. The Committee further noted that the Government of Zimbabwe has continued to train customs officers on monitoring and controlling trade and refrigeration and air-conditioning technicians on safe use of hydrocarbon refrigerants. The Committee is, therefore, confident that in the next three years the Government of Zimbabwe will continue implementing HCFC phase-out activities in an effective manner to achieve the next control target under the Montreal Protocol and prepare the Kigali HFC implementation plan.



**AMENDMENT TO
UNEP'S WORK PROGRAMME
2023**

**Presented to the
92nd Meeting of the Executive Committee
of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation
of the Montreal Protocol**

April 2023

United Nations Environment Programme

A. INTRODUCTION

1. UNEP's Work Programme 2023 was approved at the 91st Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol.

2. This document, as submitted for consideration to the 92nd Meeting of the Executive Committee, represents an Amendment to that Work Programme.

B. SUMMARY OF THE WORK PROGRAMME AMENDMENT FOR 2023

3. Consistent with the Business Plan 2023-2025, this Amendment comprises funding requests for

- Support for the implementation of Institutional Strengthening projects in **22** countries.
- Support in preparation of Verification reports in **11** countries.
- Support in preparation of HCFC phase-out Management Plans (stages 2 and 3) in **1** country.
- Support in preparation of the Kigali HFC Implementation Plan (KIP) in **2** countries.

4. Details of the Work Programme Amendment and the total requested funding by project groups are presented in Table 1.

5. Summary of the Work Programme Amendment is presented in Table 2.

Table 1. Funding requests for annual tranches for ISP renewals and individual projects to be considered at the 92nd Meeting of the Executive Committee

Country	Project title	Amount, US\$	PSC, US\$	Total requested amount, US\$
INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING PROJECT RENEWALS (ISRs)				
Cambodia	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase XII)	298,522	0	298,522
Dominican Republic (the)	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase XII)	355,929	0	355,929
Eritrea	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase VI)	180,000	0	180,000
Eswatini (the Kingdom of)	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase VIII)	180,000	0	180,000
Gambia (the)	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase XII)	180,000	0	180,000
Kenya	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase XIII)	401,857	0	401,857
Kiribati	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase IX)	180,000	0	180,000
Kuwait	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase IX)	279,056	0	279,056
Liberia	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase X)	225,780	0	225,780
Mali	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase X)	180,000	0	180,000
Mongolia	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase XIII)	180,000	0	180,000
Nicaragua	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase XI)	180,000	0	180,000
Niue*	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase IX)	100,000	0	100,000
Palau	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase X)	180,000	0	180,000
Philippines (the)	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase XIV)	479,930	0	479,930
Republic of Moldova (the)	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase XII)	183,707	0	183,707
Rwanda	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase X)	180,000	0	180,000
Samoa	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase XII)	180,000	0	180,000
Tonga	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase X)	180,000	0	180,000
Tuvalu	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase IX)	180,000	0	180,000
Zambia	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase IX)	180,000	0	180,000
Zimbabwe	Renewal of institutional strengthening project (Phase XII)	392,782	0	392,782
<i>Sub-total for Institutional Strengthening Project Renewals</i>		<i>5,057,563</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>5,057,563</i>
VERIFICATION REPORTS				

Democratic Republic of the Congo (the)	Verification report on the implementation of the stage 2 of HPMP	30,000	3,900	33,900
Benin	Verification report on the implementation of the stage 2 of HPMP	30,000	3,900	33,900
Bhutan	Verification report on the implementation of the HPMP	30,000	3,900	33,900
Eritrea	Verification report on the implementation of the stage 2 of HPMP	30,000	3,900	33,900
Ethiopia	Verification report on the implementation of the stage 2 of HPMP	30,000	3,900	33,900
Liberia	Verification report on the implementation of the stage 2 of HPMP	30,000	3,900	33,900
Palau	Verification report on the implementation of the stage 2 of HPMP	30,000	3,900	33,900
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Verification report on the implementation of the HPMP	30,000	3,900	33,900
Samoa	Verification report on the implementation of the stage 2 of HPMP	30,000	3,900	33,900
Solomon Islands	Verification report on the implementation of the stage 2 of HPMP	30,000	3,900	33,900
Tonga	Verification report on the implementation of the stage 2 of HPMP	30,000	3,900	33,900
<i>Sub-total for Verification Reports</i>		<i>330,000</i>	<i>42,900</i>	<i>372,900</i>
PREPARATION OF HCFC PHASE-OUT MANAGEMENT PLANS (STAGES 2 AND 3)				
Albania	Preparation of HCFC Phase-out Management Plans (stage 3) – the cooperating agency. The project document is submitted by UNIDO as the lead agency	10,000	1,300	11,300
<i>Sub-total for preparation of HCFC phase-out Management Plans (stages 2 and 3)</i>		<i>10,000</i>	<i>1,300</i>	<i>11,300</i>
THE KIGALI HFC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (KIP) PREPARATION				
Burundi	Preparation of the Kigali HFC Implementation Plan (KIP) - the lead agency in cooperation with UNIDO	119,000	15,470	134,470
Guatemala	Preparation of the Kigali HFC Implementation Plan (KIP) - the cooperating agency. The lead agency is UNIDO	51,000	6,630	57,630
<i>Sub-total for preparation of the Kigali HFC Implementation Plan (KIP)</i>		<i>170,000</i>	<i>22,100</i>	<i>192,100</i>

*The Government of Niue has only requested 100,000 USD for phase IX due to specific circumstances of Niue

Table 2. Summary of items submitted for consideration by the 92nd Executive Committee meeting by group

<i>Type of projects</i>	<i>Value in US</i>	<i>Project support costs in US\$</i>	<i>Total in US\$</i>
Sub-total for Institutional Strengthening Projects	5,057,563	0	5,057,563
Sub-total for Verification Reports	330,000	42,900	372,900
Sub-total for preparation of HCFC phase-out Management Plans (stages 2 and 3)	10,000	1,300	11,300
Sub-total for Preparation of the Kigali HFC Implementation Plan (KIP)	170,000	22,100	192,100
Grand Total	5,567,563	66,300	5,633,863

C. PROJECT CONCEPTS for items to be submitted by UNEP

Title: *Requests for institutional strengthening renewals for (22 countries) Cambodia, Dominican Republic (the), Eritrea, Eswatini (the Kingdom of), Gambia (the), Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Liberia, Mali, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Niue**, Palau, Philippines (the), Republic of Moldova (the), Rwanda, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Zambia and Zimbabwe*

Background: Renewals of institutional strengthening projects (ISP) for the above-listed twenty-two countries are being requested in line with relevant decisions and guidelines of the Executive Committee.

These projects have been included in the UNEP's 2023-2025 Business Plan.

<i>Objectives:</i>	To assist the Governments of these Article 5 countries in building and strengthening their capacity for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol and its Amendments.
<i>Activities and description:</i>	Individual documents for these projects – the terminal reports and the action plans - have been submitted to the Multilateral Fund Secretariat separately.
<i>Time Frame:</i>	36 months

<i>Per country cost:</i>	Country	US\$
	Cambodia	298,522
	Dominican Republic (the)	355,929
	Eritrea	180,000
	Eswatini (the Kingdom of)	180,000
	Gambia (the)	180,000
	Kenya	401,857
	Kiribati	180,000
	Kuwait	279,056
	Liberia	225,780
	Mali	180,000
	Mongolia	180,000
	Nicaragua	180,000
	Niue**	100,000
	Palau	180,000
	Philippines (the)	479,930
	Republic of Moldova (the)	183,707
	Rwanda	180,000
	Samoa	180,000
	Tonga	180,000
	Tuvalu	180,000
	Zambia	180,000
	Zimbabwe	392,782
	Total:	USD 5,057,563

*Note: No project support costs are requested for institutional strengthening projects.

** The Government of Niue has only requested 100,000 USD for phase IX due to specific circumstances of Niue