



Exhibition of Children's Paintings Opens in Paris to Mark International Ozone Day

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Not an Official record

Paris, 6 September 2001 - An exhibition of children's paintings opens in Paris today, the first in a series of events around the world to celebrate International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer on 16 September.

International Ozone Day, celebrated each year on 16 September, is an opportunity to promote awareness and action on the ozone issue. This year's theme is "Save Our Sky: Protect yourself, Protect the Ozone Layer".

The exhibition, held with the co-operation of UNESCO, is made up of the winning entries from a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) competition, where children from around the world were asked to think about the ozone layer and to express their ideas in a painting.

Opening the exhibition, Ms. Jacqueline Aloisi de Larderel, Assistant UNEP Executive Director and Director of the Division for Technology, Industry and Economics said, "Despite the successful implementation of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, the problem of ozone depletion is far from over."

Developing countries started their phase-out of consumption of ozone-depleting substances two years ago. There is a need to maintain this momentum and build on it in order to ensure the full recovery of the ozone layer. Other remaining challenges include tackling the illegal trade in ozone-depleting substances.

"The paintings on show here were created by children who care very much about what happens to the ozone layer and who want to encourage its health and protection," said Ms de Larderel. "The results are sometimes comic, sometimes tragic, yet all clearly illustrate the importance of preserving the ozone layer for future generations to come."

The children's painting exhibition is at UNESCO headquarters. It will run until the 16 September. A [booklet of the children's paintings](#) is also available.

For more information about UNEP's work on ozone contact:

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About the UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics

The mission of the UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics is to help decision-makers in government, local authorities and industry develop and adopt policies and practices that:

- are cleaner and safer;
- make efficient use of natural resources;
- ensure adequate management of chemicals;

- incorporate environmental costs;
- reduce pollution and risks for humans and the environment.

The UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (UNEP DTIE), with its head office in Paris, is composed of one centre and four units:

- The International Environmental Technology Centre (Osaka), which promotes the adoption and use of environmentally sound technologies with a focus on the environmental management of cities and freshwater basins, in developing countries and countries in transition.
- Production and Consumption (Paris), which fosters the development of cleaner and safer production and consumption patterns that lead to increased efficiency in the use of natural resources and reductions in pollution.
- Chemicals (Geneva), which promotes sustainable development by catalyzing global actions and building national capacities for the sound management of chemicals and the improvement of chemical safety worldwide, with a priority on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and Prior Informed Consent (PIC, jointly with FAO).
- Energy and OzonAction (Paris), which supports the phase-out of ozone depleting substances in developing countries and countries with economies in transition and promotes good management practices and use of energy, with a focus on atmospheric impacts. The UNEP/RISØ Collaborating Centre on Energy and Environment supports the work of the Unit.
- Economics and Trade (Geneva), which promotes the use and application of assessment and incentive tools for environmental policy and helps improve the understanding of linkages between trade and environment and the role of financial institutions in promoting sustainable development.

UNEP DTIE activities focus on raising awareness, improving the transfer of information, building capacity, fostering technology co-operation, partnerships and transfer, improving understanding of environmental impacts of trade issues, promoting integration of environmental considerations into economic policies and catalyzing global chemical safety.

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