



## **INFORMATION NOTE**

### **Nepal leads LVCs in destruction of ozone-damaging chemicals**

*Bali, Indonesia, 25 November 2011* – Nepal takes the limelight as a leader of low-volume consuming (LVC) countries in destroying ozone-depleting substances (ODS) in a side event on the Nepal ODS Destruction Project held today during the 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer from 21 to 25 November 2011, Nepal experiences with their pilot project was highlighted. Nepal's project is expected to be the first project supported under the Multilateral Fund to actually destroy ozone and climate-damaging ozone depleting chemicals from small consuming countries.

Dr. Sitaram Joshi, Director General of the Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology and National Ozone Officer, shared the progress made, lessons learned and challenges being faced by their country in the destruction of ODS. *“Our project is almost going to be completed and the delays are due to the administrative reasons. Due to our country’s laboratory testing facility, we have made progress in this project,”* stated Dr. Joshi.

*“The Nepal project was approved at the 59<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund as the first pilot project for LVCs to handle the remaining 7 MT of ODS, which were seized in 2004 by the government of Nepal as illegally traded ODS,”* said Mr. James Curlin, Interim Head of the OzonAction Programme of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). *“As the implementing agency for this project, our objectives are to demonstrate the viability of economically destructing ODS stockpile in LVCs, to share information on good practices and lessons from the project, and to explore the possibility of deriving climate benefit co-funding, through carbon market mechanisms,”* he added.

Other presenters included Mr. Ankan Datta of Emergent Ventures India, which is working with UNEP on this project, and Mr. Vincent Aloysius of Holcim Cement in Indonesia who talked about the experience of Indonesia in ODS destruction using the retrofitted cement kiln. The presentations were followed by a discussion on the regional approach to tackle ODS destruction in LVCs, facilitated by Mr. Wataru Ono of PREC Institute, Japan.

Results from the destruction demonstration project in Nepal indicate that destruction of ODSs using carbon finance is the most feasible option for LVC countries in Asia and the Pacific. Implementation of this project is underway and about 8 MT of CFCs will be transported to USA as the currently most viable source of carbon financing is found to be the standards for ODS destruction established under the Climate Action Reserve (CAR), specifically the protocol for ODS destruction of CFCs from Article 5 countries.





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ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

## For more information, please contact:

Ms. Anne Fenner, Information Manager, UNEP OzonAction Branch, Tel: +33 1 4437 1454; [anne.fenner@unep.org](mailto:anne.fenner@unep.org)

Mr. Atul Bagai, Senior Regional Network Coordinator, OzonAction Branch, UNEP Regional Office for Asia and Pacific. Tel: +66 2 288 1662; Fax: +66 2 288 3041; [atul.bagai@unep.org](mailto:atul.bagai@unep.org).

Dr. Sitaram Joshi, Director General, Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology, Tel: +977 1 4356810, 4356672; Fax: +977 1 4350689; [ozone@ntc.net.np](mailto:ozone@ntc.net.np)

OzonAction Programme: [www.unep.org/ozonaction](http://www.unep.org/ozonaction)

## Notes to Editors

**United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** is the United Nations system's designated entity for addressing environmental issues at the global and regional level. Its mandate is to coordinate the development of environmental policy consensus by keeping the global environment under review and bringing emerging issues to the attention of governments and the international community for action.

**Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer** is an international treaty designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production and consumption of a number of substances believed to be responsible for ozone depletion. The treaty was opened for signature on September 16, 1987 and entered into force on January 1, 1989. Since then, it has undergone five revisions, in 1990 (London), 1992 (Copenhagen), 1995 (Vienna), 1997 (Montreal), and 1999 (Beijing). Due to its widespread adoption and implementation it has been hailed as an example of exceptional international cooperation "Perhaps the single most successful international agreement to date..."

**The Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol** is managed by an Executive Committee which is responsible for overseeing the operation of the Fund. The Committee comprises seven members from developed and seven members from developing countries. In 2011 the Committee membership includes Australia, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Japan, Switzerland, United States of America (developed countries) and Argentina, China, Cuba, Grenada, Kenya, Kuwait, Morocco (developing country members) and is chaired by Mr. Patrick McInerney of Australia. The Committee is assisted by the Fund Secretariat which is based in Montreal, Canada.

Activities are implemented by four international agencies (UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, World Bank) and a number of bilateral government agencies. Since 1991, the Multilateral Fund has approved activities including industrial conversion, technical assistance, training and capacity building worth over US \$2.6 billion that will result in the phase out of almost 460,000 ODP tonnes of consumption and production of ozone-depleting substances in developing countries.

In September 2007 the Parties to the Montreal Protocol decided to accelerate the freeze and phase-out of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs). The Multilateral Fund intends to finance HCFC phase-out in all 144 developing countries eligible for its financial and technical assistance.