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for a sustainable future

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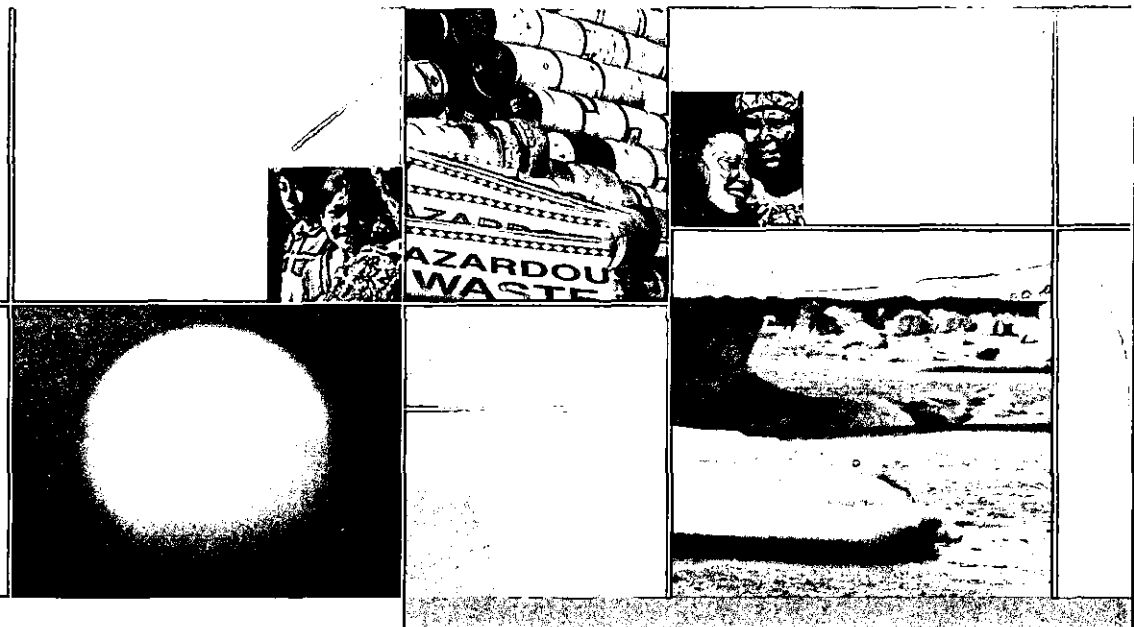
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**Assisting
the developing countries
to comply with the requirements
of multilateral environmental
conventions and protocols**

The Multilateral Environmental Agreements
(MEA) branch of UNIDO



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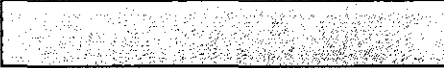
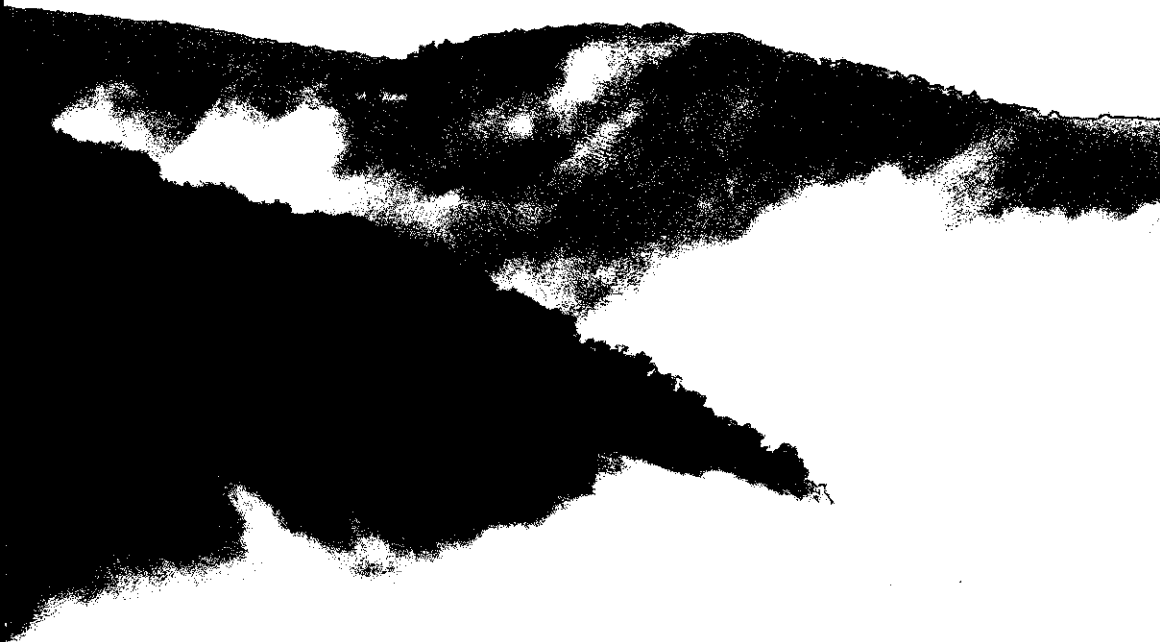
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UNIDO established the Multilateral Environmental Agreements branch (MEA) in October 2003 to respond to the needs of its Member States.

The branch is responsible for assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition (CEITs) to comply with the requirements of multilateral environmental protocols and conventions.

The branch's activities are related to the Montreal Protocol and the Stockholm Convention. These rely on external sources for funding, such as the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol and the Global Environment Facility for the Stockholm Convention. For both of these agreements, UNIDO acts as an implementing agency.

The MEA branch also provides support for recipient countries through bilateral environmental funds provided by donors cooperating with UNIDO in this field.

MEA staff, constantly facing the challenges of new environmental issues, ensure the necessary synergy among the branch's programmes.



❖ Multilateral environmental conventions and protocols

Starting with the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm in 1972 many international conventions and protocols related to the environment have been negotiated, covering the areas of bio-diversity, atmosphere, land, chemicals, hazardous wastes and regional seas.

Even if the environmental responsibilities fall on all developed and developing countries, it is commonly recognized that a larger responsibility, the so-called "differentiated responsibility", lies with the developed countries. Besides, these countries have a better economic and technical capacity to solve the problems.

Developing countries require targeted assistance to comply with the requirements of the environmental Conventions and Protocols while pursuing their development objectives.

In developing countries, the secretaries of the multilateral environmental conventions work to different degrees with international organizations that support the implementation of these conventions. When the conventions relate to the environment and the industrial sector, UNIDO is in an optimal position to provide assistance. This is particularly the case in the following conventions and protocols: the Vienna Convention and its Montreal Protocol, the Stockholm Convention, and the Climate Change Convention/Kyoto Protocol.*

* The Multilateral Environmental Agreements Branch (MEA) deals with the Montreal Protocol and the Stockholm Convention. The Energy and Cleaner Production Branch (ECB) deals with the Climate Change Convention and Kyoto Protocol.

UNIDO and the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA) branch

UNIDO is well placed to support industry in implementing international environmental agreements and protocols:

- It provides a broad range of industrial development services
- It has a history of direct involvement in industries of developing countries and economies in transition
- It has the experience of adaptation to local conditions
- It has a tradition of cooperation with local partners
- It offers expertise, neutrality and integrity

The MEA branch of UNIDO was established to act within the framework of the Montreal Protocol and the Stockholm Convention.

- It addresses industrial development needs through technical assistance programmes
- It generates and disseminates knowledge, through research, publications and expert group meetings



Based on its past performance, UNIDO is uniquely positioned to gain the confidence of key stakeholders.

The expertise available to the MEA branch enables it to respond quickly and directly to the industrial challenges faced by the international environmental conventions and protocols.



The Multilateral Environmental Agreements branch



Two Programmes

The Montreal Protocol Programme

The Stockholm Convention Programme

United Nations mandate and its Millennium Development Goals

The eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) form a blueprint agreed to by all the world's countries and all the world's leading development institutions. They have galvanized unprecedented efforts to meet the needs of the world's poorest.

MDG7 calls for the principles of sustainable development to be integrated into country policies and programmes; and for the loss of environmental resources to be reversed.



The MEA Branch

Recognized technical expertise

The technical staff of the MEA branch is promoting and applying innovative approaches and technologies, which are disseminated worldwide.

Field experience

The projects are implemented in the field by the professional staff of the branch in direct cooperation with counterparts, with a deep knowledge of their concerns.

Providing post implementation services

At the end of projects, follow-up activities and advice are provided.

Close cooperation with various partners

The MEA branch is linked to an efficient global network which includes UNEP, UNDP, World Bank, GEF, specialized NGO's, industrial institutions, bilateral agencies and the private sector

Involvement at major international meetings

Such meetings constitute important occasions to provide advice on policy through consultations with government officials, the policy-making bodies of the protocols, and the other implementing agencies



The MEA branch assists developing countries and countries with economies in transition to comply with the requirements of the multilateral environmental conventions and protocols through:

- Cost-effective actions to help reach protocol targets
- Well-tailored services to improve competitiveness, enhance export potential (ISO, eco labels), generate employment, transfer up-to-date technologies and promote new ones

Facts and Figures:

- **The technical team:**
13 programme managers
- **On-going projects:**
193
- **Total amount approved:**
US\$457M
- **Total number of projects completed since 1992:** **943**

Date valid up to August 2007

The Montreal Protocol Programme

Assisting developing countries in phasing out their production and consumption of ozone depleting substances

Our strengths

Plant-level interventions in 11 main areas:

- Refrigeration
- Halons
- Fumigants
- ODS production closure
- Plastic foams
- Solvents
- Chillers Replacement
- National phase-out plans (NPPs) and
- Tobacco Fluffing
- Aerosols
- Metered - Dose Inhalers
- Terminal phase-out management plans (TPMPs)

- To replace ozone depleting chemicals and technologies
- To adjust production processes to changing market requirements

Achievements since 1992:

- 50 000 ozone depleting potential tonnes of ODSs phased out so far by UNIDO
- 1090 projects implemented since 1992
- 81 developing countries assisted

Technological leadership:

UNIDO leads in promoting:

- Liquid carbon dioxide blowing technology as the most advanced alternative solution for flexible polyurethane foam
- Hydrocarbon technologies in refrigeration
- Methyl Bromide (pesticide) alternatives: bio-fumigation, steam pasteurization, floating tray system, grafting, soil solarization combined with low dose of non ODS fumigants.



THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL

This protocol is intended to protect the ozone layer by eliminating the production and consumption of various man-made chemicals according to a schedule contained in the Protocol.

Main chemicals sources addressed: chlorine and bromine compounds

Financial mechanism for the developing countries: the Multilateral Fund (MLF)

OUR TASK

To assist developing countries and CEITs in complying with their international obligations, mainly through the phase-out of their production and consumption of ODSs.

sumption of ODSs (ozone-depleting substances)



Proposed Services

Policy, strategy and programme design

Formulation of National Phase-out Plans (NPPs), Sectoral Phase-out Plans (SPPs), Refrigerant Management Plans (RMPs), legislation on the use, trade and phase-out of ODSs

Institutional strengthening

Establishment and management of national ozone units

Technology transfer and assistance to industry

Assisting industry in implementing the NPPs and the SPPs: transfer of latest technologies including technology know-how, training, quality control services, production and market cost analysis

A project example: Libya national CFC phase-out Plan

- Support to the establishment and operation of National Ozone Units (NOUs)
- Development and implementation of a policy action programme for the phase-out of ozone depleting substances in 3 sectors (Foams, Refrigeration, Halons)
 - Updated environment legislation and import/export quotas
 - Sustaining business of small and medium enterprises
 - Phase-out of ODSs at enterprise level
 - Certification of refrigeration technicians
 - Provision of tools and training to prevent illegal trade with ODSs
 - Verification audits



WHAT ARE ODSs?

- Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)
- Halons
- Carbon tetrachloride (CTC)
- Methyl chloroform (TCA)
- Methyl bromide
- Hydro chlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and their bromide equivalents (HBFCs)
- Bromochloromethane (BCM)

They are man-made chemicals, mainly used as aerosol propellants, refrigerants, fire retardants, solvents, process agents, foaming agents and agricultural fumigant.

National Ozone Units managed by UNIDO

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mexico, Montenegro, Oman, Qatar, Romania, Serbia, Syrian Arab Republic and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.





The Stockholm Convention Programme

To eliminate or reduce releases of 12 POPs (Persistent Organic Pollutants)



Our strengths

Access to the GEF funds: The recognition of valuable technical expertise

UNIDO's work on the environmentally sound management of hazardous chemicals began in the early 1980s. In the past 20 years UNIDO has gained vast experience in undertaking activities to reduce and/or to eliminate emissions of POPs and other hazardous chemicals from industry. This comparative advantage was recognized by the GEF in May 2000 by granting UNIDO the status of Executing Agency with Expanded Opportunities.

The leadership in technical areas

To eliminate obsolete stockpiles of POPs and wastes, UNIDO is promoting innovative and pioneering technologies, such as non-combustion technologies for the destruction of POPs waste (China - Philippines - Slovakia)

Programme actions

UNIDO has successfully assisted over 40 developing countries and CEITs in the preparation of their National Implementation Plans (NIPs) of the Stockholm Convention. Responding to the challenges and changing needs, UNIDO is focusing its actions on assisting developing countries and CEITs in the development and implementation of post-NIP activities, such as the elimination of PCBs and obsolete stockpiles of POPs pesticides, capacity building, the introduction of best available techniques (BAT) and best environmental practices (BEP) in industrial sectors, the cleaning of contaminated sites, medical waste disposal, etc.

OUR TASK

To assist developing countries and CEITs in complying with their obligations under the Stockholm Convention to reduce and/or eliminate POPs use, manufacture and emission releases from industry, with particular focus on:

- POPs produced and used intentionally - e.g. pesticides, insecticides, dielectric and hydraulic fluids in electrical equipment and industrial machinery, etc.
- POPs formed and released unintentionally from sources identified in Part II and III of Annex C of the Convention

THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION

The Stockholm Convention is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from the adverse impact of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).

The twelve POPs addressed by the Convention are: aldrin, chlordane, DDT, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, hexachlorobenzene, mirex, toxaphene, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), dioxins and furans.

The Convention is legally binding upon ratification by countries, global in its scope and covers environmental media, such as air, water, soil and sediments. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is the agreed financial mechanism for the implementation of the Convention.

s), the so-called "dirty dozen"



Proposed Services

Policy, strategy and programme design

- Awareness raising through Enabling Activities projects
- Preparing and updating NIPs
- Assessing chemical management infrastructure, policy and legal framework, monitoring systems and testing facilities
- Evaluating and updating information on the national and/or regional POPs situation
- Development of post-NIP projects

Capacity building and Institutional strengthening

- Enhancing information management
- Establishing institutional coordination mechanisms
- Building capacity in the public and private sector for the environmentally sound management of POPs

Technology transfer and assistance to industry

- Design and implementation of process technology demonstration projects
- Introduction of BAT/BEP with the encouragement of technology transfer
- Clean technologies supporting alternatives to POPs.

Project examples: Post-NIP projects to assist countries in the implementation of the Stockholm Convention

Capacity building: e.g. for the development of NIPs in large countries such as China and India; and for the participation of civil society in the development and implementation of NIPs.

Disposal of PCBs and obsolete POPs pesticides: e.g. in Morocco, Romania and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; and remediation of contaminated sites, e.g. in Ghana and Nigeria.

Promotion of innovative and pioneered technologies: introduction of non-combustion technologies for the destruction of POPs waste in China, Philippines and Slovakia.

Introduction of BAT/BEP strategies for technology transfer: e.g. in the industrial sector in Viet Nam; in the medical waste incineration sector in China; and in coastal zone industries of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSCA) in Egypt, Jordan, Sudan and Yemen.

WHAT ARE POPs?

They are organo-chlorine compounds of concern to the international community because they are:

- Highly toxic to humans and the environments
- Persistent in the environment, resisting biodegradation
- Taken up and bioaccumulated in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems
- Known for long-range transboundary atmospheric transport and deposition

Global Forums:

- Regional Forums on BAT/BEP for countries from East-South East Asia (ESEA), Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia (CEECCA)
- Global Research Network on BAT/BEP in cooperation with leading research institutes and universities, such as the Universities of Cardiff, Glamorgan, and Strathclyde, the Asian Institute of Technology, the United Nations University, ICS-UNIDO, the Korea Institute of Toxicology, etc.
- Regional Network on Pesticides for Asia and the Pacific (RENPAF)

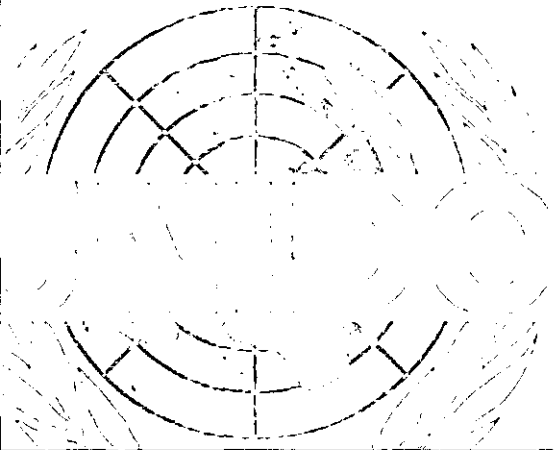
www.unido.org/pops

The Stockholm Convention Programme



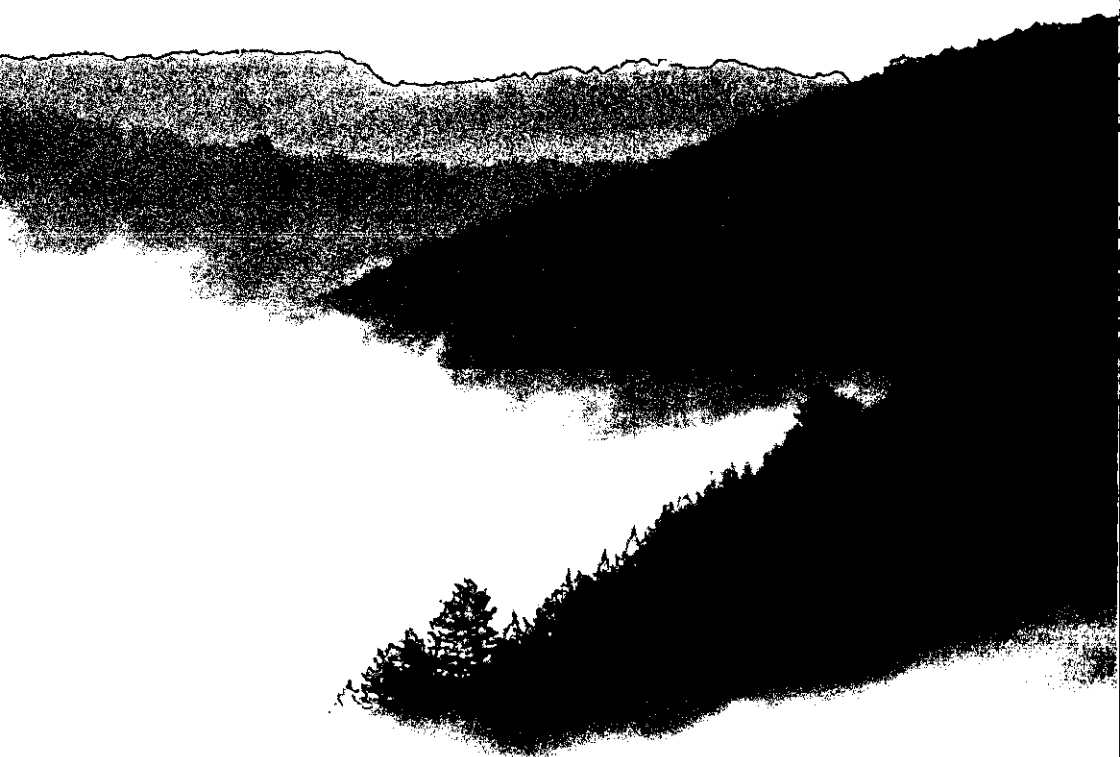
In the future

In accordance with the implementation schedules and milestones of each protocol and convention, the MEA branch will continue its assistance to developing countries and CEITs to enable them to comply with the requirements of environmental agreements. While programmes related to the Montreal Protocol are nearing their phase-out dates, new challenges and trends will appear in areas related to other agreements.



The main challenges will be:

- The increasing demand for funding
- The increasing complexity of environmental issues
 - Linking existing chemicals and related conventions:
Basel - Kyoto - Montreal - Rotterdam - Stockholm
 - Providing industrial perspectives with integrated methodologies
 - Developing new types of cooperation projects and financial mechanisms
- The lack of qualified environmental experts in the developing countries
- The still limited public awareness of the dangers of chemicals to human health and the environment





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