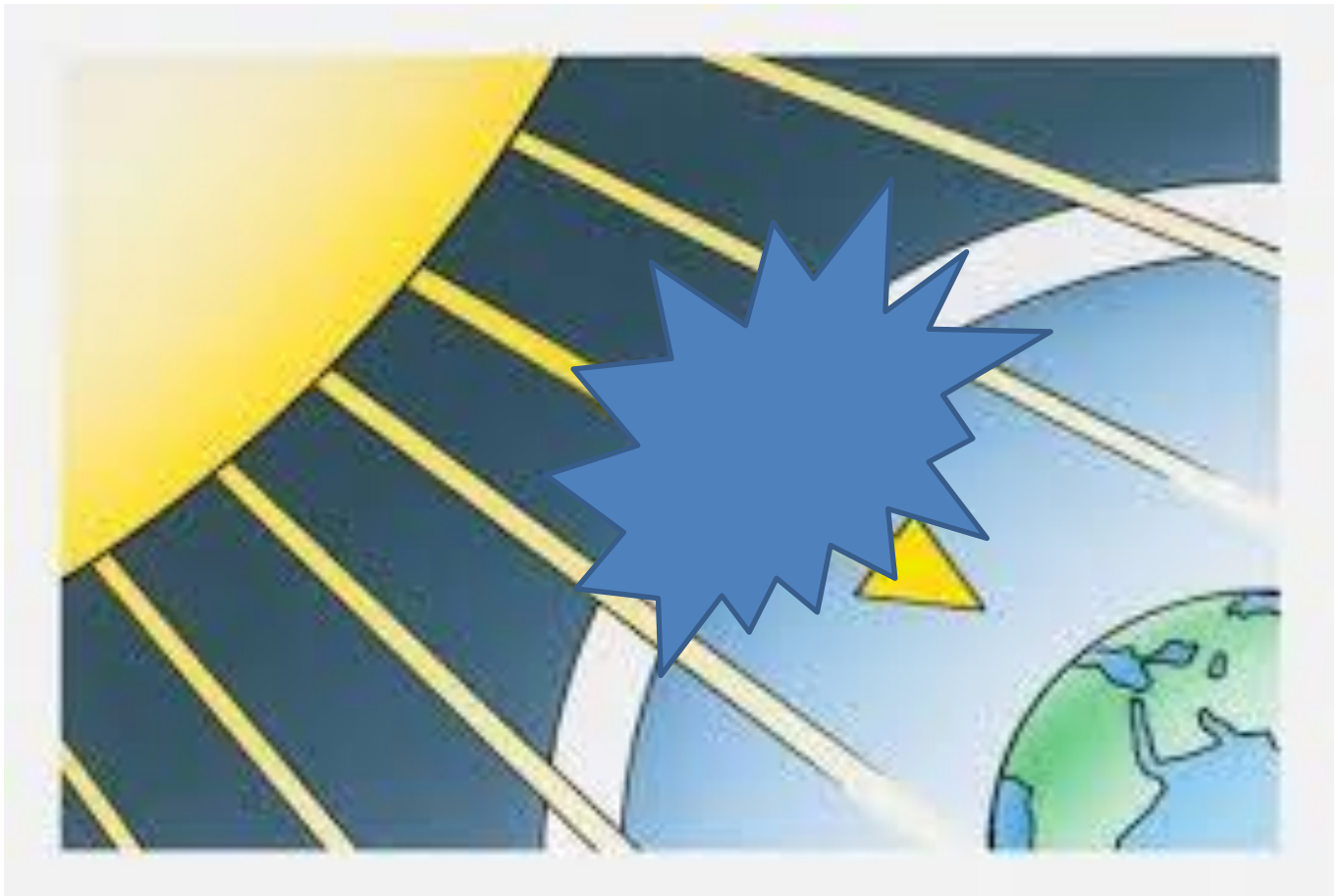




Annual Report 2013

National Ozone Unit



National Ozone Unit



Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy

No: 82, "Sampathpaya",

Battaramulla

Sri Lanka

Vision

Rebuilt the Ozone Layer to its full strength

Mission

To fulfill the commitment of the Montreal Protocol on substances that depletes the Ozone Layer by phasing out ozone depleting substances in Sri Lanka. To integrate Ozone Layer protection in the country's planning process, with minimum inconvenience to industry and the general public taking into consideration of Global environment, legal requirement & economic aspects of the country. Instigate activities to maintain and strengthen the institutional framework in protection of the Ozone Layer in Sri Lanka.

Introduction

Ozone is a naturally occurring gas present in trace quantities in the atmosphere. About 90% Ozone resides in the stratosphere about 50 km altitude and about 10% of atmospheric ozone is in the troposphere (10-16km altitude). Ozone layer acts as a shield for life on Earth. Ozone is quite the double-edged sword. When found at ground level atmosphere, this gas serves as a dangerous, harmful pollutant. But in Earth's stratosphere, it protects us by absorbing harmful UV radiation from the sun that causes a variety of health problems in humans, plants, and other animals, as well as damages ecosystems. In trapping ultraviolet radiation(UV light) which can penetrate organisms' protective layers, like skin, damaging DNA molecules in plants and animals. There are two major types of UV light: UVB and UVA. UVB is the cause of skin conditions like sunburns, and cancers like basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma. UVA light is even more harmful than UVB, penetrating more deeply and causing a deadly skin cancer, melanoma, and premature aging. Ozone layer, our Earth's sunscreen, absorbs about 98 percent of this devastating UV light.

It took many decades for several dedicated scientists, such as Rowland and Molina, to describe the harmful effects of certain industrial chemicals are ozone depleting substances with a considerable ozone depleting potential (ODP) and cause a thinning of ozone layer. Such ODSs include a wide range of chemicals and are CFCS, Halons, HCFCs, HFCS, CCl₄, CHCL₃, CH₃Br. These ODSs have high global warming potential(GWP) and contribute adversely on climate change too.

Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone layer was originally signed by 24 different countries in 1987, and at present with a global ratification by almost 197 nations in which they have vowed to curb this environment problem. Because of the global efforts and other legislation that followed, the production and use of ozone-depleting chemicals has been reduced and as of the end of 2009, the Parties to the Protocol had phased out the consumption of 98% of all of the chemicals controlled by the Protocol;

Over the past decade, global Ozone and Ozone in the Arctic and Antarctic regions is no longer decreasing but is not yet increasing. As a result of the phase-out of ozone depleting substances under the Montreal Protocol, the ozone layer outside the Polar regions is projected to recover to its pre-1980 levels some time before the middle of this century.

Global observations have verified that atmospheric levels of key ozone depleting substances are going down and it is believed that with implementation of the Protocol's provisions the ozone layer should return to pre-1980 levels by the middle of this century;

Sri Lanka is obliged to phasing out ozone depleting substances by implementing and monitoring activities in complying with the targets set under the Montreal Protocol in which Sri Lanka has been a member country since 15th December 1989. In 1994 Montreal Protocol Unit within the Ministry of Environment was established and it was renamed as the National Ozone Unit(NOU) in 2003, which is the central national responsible unit for designing and implementing national level activities to fulfill the country requirements in conserving the Ozone Layer. NOU facilitate close co-operation with one or more implementing agencies of the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol, with other member countries and with different national stakeholder institutions

The important landmarks in conserving the Ozone Layer in 2013 is

As per the decision made at the 19th meeting of Parties to the Montreal Protocol (MOP) in 2007, the adoption of an accelerated phaseout schedule for HCFCs for gradual phaseout of the substances thereafter and eventually to complete the total phaseout of HCFCs by 2030 was taken place. To impose import restrictions on HCFCs a Cabinet paper has been submitted and the Cabinet decision was granted to control the importation of virgin HCFCs and HCFC blends with effect from 1st January 2013. This has strengthened the import control licensing scheme which already been imposed for HCFCs and the importation quota system that has been introduced for the control of importation of HCFCs imports from year 2013.

Main Projects under National Ozone Unit

Several activities under the following 3 projects are carried out by NOU

- Institutional Strengthening for Phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances (Phase IX)
- Hydrochlorofluorocarbon phase out Management Plan (HPMP) /UNDP
- Hydrochlorofluorocarbon phase out Management Plan (HPMP)/ UNEP

The Projects have been approved by the External Resources Department and The Department of National Planning and is under the supervision of the Secretary/ Ministry of Environment and Director/ NOU. Regular monitoring of activities have been reported to the planning Division of the Ministry and to fulfill the national requirements by reporting to the Department of

UNDP and UNEP the project implementing agencies too regularly monitor the performance. They do financial verification in accordance with the Project Agreement and with their specific internal procedures.

Institutional Strengthening Project(IS) Phase IX

At present IXth phase of the IS Project which has been commenced from year 2013 is in operation It is due to complete in 2014. Continuous financial support from the Multilateral Fund (MLF) is granted for Sri Lanka at renewals upon the successful completion of the earlier phase. Since 1994 and up to date 9 Phases of the IS project were completed with bi annual renewals.

Phase	Duration (mm/yy)
IS Phase I	July 94 - June 97
IS Phase II	Jan 98 - Dec 99
IS Phase III	Jan 00 - Dec 01
IS Phase IV	Aug 02 – July 04
IS Phase V	Aug 04 - Sep 06
IS Phase VI	Jan 07 – Dec 08
IS Phase VII	Jan 09 - Dec 10
IS Phase VIII	Jan 10 – Dec 12
IS Phase IX	Jan 13 – Dec 14

Apart from strengthening the project management unit, different types of awareness programmes targeting various groups of individuals the government sector, private sector, NGOs and school children and the general public are conducted and producing different types of educational and awareness tools and materials to promote education and awareness under this project.

HCFC Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP)

19th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, in September 2007, agreed to accelerate the phase-out schedule of Annex C Group I substances: HCFCs and also agreed that to provide funding for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol to enable Article 5 Parties to comply with the accelerated phase-out schedule both for production and consumption sectors. The HPMP included a strategic stepwise implementation approach, which would enable them to take early action on HCFC phase-out and at the same time retain their flexibility to take advantage of new technologies as they evolve for greater climate benefit.

Implementation of the HCFC Phaseout Management Plan(HPMP)

Accordingly in the year 2010, SL prepared the HCFC Phaseout Management Plan(HPMP) and was submitted to Executive Committee of the Montreal Protocol in 2011. It has been approved and Sri Lanka commenced the implementation of HPMP from later part of 2011.The project has successfully been implemented through financial assistance from Multi Lateral Fund(MLF) channeled through UNEP and UNDP

Accordingly the Executive Committee at its 62nd Meeting approved the stage I of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) for Sri Lanka at the funding amount of US\$ 647,866 and to disburse funds through 4 tranches for the activities designated to implement through the UNDP and UNEP. In this context for the first tranche of stage 1 activities (2012-2013) US\$ 180,000 and US\$125,000 have been allocated for the projects under UNDP and UNEP respectively.

Controlling of the import of HCFCs under HPMP has been initiated in Sri Lanka from 1st January 2013 and implementation activities are in progress in order to meet the HCFC phase-out targets under the Montreal protocol. Raising awareness among different stakeholders, adopting legislative measures to control HCFC imports, introducing appropriate alternatives and ozone friendly technologies will be continued, monitored and assessed regularly to achieve the HCFC phase-out target of Sri Lanka.

Projects implement by NOU through UNDP funding

These projects facilitate the implementation of the HPMP activities through UNDP and to achieve rapid HCFC phase-out schedules in Sri Lanka

- Cooperate with the Government of Sri Lanka with implementing HPMP.
- Technical Capacity building of technical colleges/ vocational training authorities
- Providing technical assistance to Refrigerant and Air Conditioning and foam sector
- Facilitate establishing Recovery/Reclaim centres and provide technical equipment
- Organizing workshops targeting Industrialists, installers of Refrigeration & Air Conditioning sector technical personnel

Projects implement by the NOU through UNEP funding

These projects facilitate the implementation of the HPMP activities through UNEP and to achieve rapid HCFC phase-out schedules in Sri Lanka

- Capacity building of enforcement officers
- Ensuring the presence of an operating mechanism to allow effective and transparent implementation of the Tranche Implementation Plan and accurate data reporting
- Organize and participate in trade and industry events and in workshops for Industrial Associations
- Producing awareness materials such as print and videos in local language on HCFCs phaseout for primary target groups
- Organizing the International ozone Day celebration on 16th September each year

This annual report of the National Ozone Unit of Sri Lanka highlights how Sri Lanka has successfully been join hand with the international community and global effort in protecting the Ozone Layer which silently play an in compensable role. This report compiles the national level collaborative efforts during the year 2013.

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Workshop on the preparation of the Corporate Plan (2013- 2016)

Green Walk for the celebration of Earth Day 2013

Stakeholder workshop on formulation of consumption guidelines for day

today life towards to achieve Sustainable Development

List Of Abbreviations

CFCs	Chlorofluorocarbons
GHG	Green House Gases
GWP	Global Warming Potential
HCFC	Hydrochlorofluorocarbons
HPMP	HCFC Phase-out Management Plan
IOD	International Ozone Day
IS	Institutional Strengthening Project
ODS	Ozone Depleting Substances
ODP	Ozone Depleting Potential
UV	Ultra Violet
RAC	Refrigeration and Air Conditioning
MeBr	Methyl Bromide
WCO	World Customs Organization

Record of Achievements of the National Ozone Unit, Sri Lanka

Policy, Legal, Legislative and Regulatory Approaches

Data Reporting of Ozone Depleting Substances(ODSs)

Island wide data gathering on imports and the use of ODSs during the year 2013 was carried out with the assistance from the major stakeholders; Sri Lanka Customs Department, Department of Import and Export Control and Board of Investment(BOI) in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka was the first South Asian country to submit the ODS data to the relevant authorities; the Ozone Secretariat and the Multi Lateral Fund(MLF).

Table 1: Annual ODS Data Reporting 2013

Substance	Quantity(ODS Mt)	Quantity(ODP Mt)
HCFC-22 (R-22)	227.37	12.505
HCFC-123 (R-123)	0.40	0.008
HCFC-141b (R-141b) (virgin foam)	7.74	0.851
HCFC-141b (R-141b) (blended foam)	11.33	NA
HCFC- 225 (R-225)	0.016	0.00032
Total	246.856	13.36

National Coordinating Committee Meeting for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol

Obtaining timely policy decisions on ODS phase-out, technical capacity building and awareness creation among stakeholders and adoption of legislative measures and other important implementation decisions for conserving the ozone layer are obtained through the Coordinating Committee and the CC comprises of officials from Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy, Ministry of Science & Technology, Sri Lanka Customs, Department of Import & Export, Board of Investment, Sri Lanka Standards Institute, National Plant Quarantine Service, Department of Meteorology, UNDP officials.

Mr. B.M.U.D. Basnayake, Secretary of the Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy, chaired the meeting. The objective of the meeting was to brief the progress of NOU activities during 2013, discuss the issues of implementation, discuss the activities immediately scheduled for the next two months, and to plan activity schedules for year 2014.



Fig1: At the Coordinating Committee Meeting

Both financial, physical Progress of 2013 NOU and the scheduled program of activities for the year 2014 under the three main projects; IS, HPMP(UNDP), HPMP(UNEP) were discussed. The important concerns on budget line allocations/ revisions, re phasing of unutilized funds, issuing of HCFC quotas and quota distribution in 2014 were the main agenda items. The main concerns of NOU activities on future such as regulating the use of MeBr, making preparatory plans for phasing out of HCFCs in 2030, establishment of island wide recovery and reclaim centers, and the establishment of automated monitoring database on ODS imports/ exports to and from Sri Lanka were the important considerations in the meeting.

Gazette Notification to Control Imports and Use of HCFCs in Sri Lanka and Issuing Quota for Importation of HCFCs

With the guidance of NOU of the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy, Department of Import and Export Control published an extraordinary gazette notification(No 1821/40) under the Import and Export Control Act No 1 of 1969 to control the imports of HCFCs in Sri Lanka. This gazette notification regulates the issuing of importation quota for HCFCs from 1st of January 2013.

The companies that had been allocated quota for 2013 were reviewed of their performances 2013 up to 31st July 2013 on 13th August 2013. As a result, 8 importers were deleted from the eligible list of importers because of their failure to utilize at least 60% of quota issued for the year 2013.

According to the performances shown in 2013 imports, 16 importers for 2014 were selected from 24 importers who were eligible in 2013 to import HCFCs. Ceremony on distribution of Quota was held on 30th December 2013 at the State Timber Corporation Conference Room, “Sampathpaya”. Mr. B.M.U.D. Basnayake, Secretary of the Ministry chaired the meeting.



Fig.2: 2014 HCFC Quota Distribution Ceremony

Steering Committee Meeting on Import and Export of Environmentally Sensitive Materials 04th September 2013 at Conference Room Ministry of Environment & RE

The officials from Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy (consists of Policy planning, air resources & international relationships, and legal divisions) , CEA, Department of Import and Export Control, BOI, Department of Customs discussed on the major environmental concerns that should be paid immediate attention of the officials and decision makers on 4th September 2013 at “Sapatha Parisara Mandapaya”, Conference room. Identification of different items that should be regulated and their controlling mechanisms and clarification of the designated authorities that should be responsible as the focal points and as the implementation authorities for the environment conventions and treaties were 2 major items subjected to discussion. NOU has been defined as the only responsible authority to obtain recommendations regarding the Montreal protocol controlled items. It was decided to forward the particular gazette notifications pertaining to 54 banned chemicals and the regulatory 42 chemicals to all the stakeholder organizations. A policy decision was obtained not to issue recommendations to import used or second hand AC/ Refrigeration equipment from 01st of January 2013. It was decided to make regulations and implement policy decisions to make the importers to re-export from their own expenses instead of taking into state custody.

Training and Capacity Building Workshops

Train-the-Trainer Workshop (TOT) on Good Practices in Refrigeration & Air-Conditioning Service Sector

10th June - 12th June 2013, Ceylon German Technical Training Institute (CGTTI) Moratuwa

The ability to train technicians to engage promptly and effectively to apply new technologies is vital in fulfilling the obligations of the Montreal Protocol. Therefore, UNEP assists Sri Lanka to train Refrigeration & Air Conditioning (RAC) Instructors attached to Technical

Colleges, Training and Vocational Training Institutes (VTA) and other allied institutes in Sri Lanka periodically.

The main objectives of the workshop were, building the capacity of Refrigeration & Air Conditioning sector Instructors to undertake HPMP activities, and also inform them on the national regulations concerning regulatory activities of HCFCs. Targeting instructors and enforcement officers and making them aware about regulations, monitoring and control systems of ODS control is of prime importance in the successful implementation of HPMP activities. Therefore NOU proposed to undertake this workshop to create a pool of Trainers at national level and who can further train technicians by improving the delivery of training to maximize its impact. 27 instructors from technical colleges, Vocational Training Institutes island wide were trained.

The Inauguration Session was held under the patronage of Hon. Susil Premajayantha, Minister of Environment & Renewable Energy. After the traditional lighting of oil lamp, followed up the Agenda with playing the Ozone Song and the documentary on ' Ozone Depletion & Climate change'. The Technical Sessions were commenced on day 1 afternoon and proceeded until the end of program on day 3 evening. Dr. Anshu Kumar, Senior Training Consultant of UNEP provided his expertise service for this TOT programme and training manuals in "Good Practices in Refrigeration & Air-conditioning" developed by UNEP and other UNEP training guidelines were used as instructing and guidance materials. Each Trainer was provided a copy along with soft copy in the storage devices provided by the National Ozone Unit. During day 2 & day 3 of the workshop a hands on session was included along with the practical demonstrations for recovery, recycling, refrigerant identification and tools & instruments. The demonstrations were done by dividing the participants in to 4 groups. Mr M.M.M. Senevirathne, Coordinating Officer / Technical, NOU, Mr S.P.K. Amarasinghe, Senior Training Engineer, CGTTI, Mr H. De Saram, Consultant, Refrigeration and A/C sector also contributed as resource personnel for the workshop.



Fig. 3: Hon. Minister inaugurating the TOT Programme



Fig.4: Dr. Anshu Kumar, UNEP, Presenting at the workshop



Fig. 5: Technical Demonstrations



Fig. 6: Lab practical



Fig.: 7: Certificate awarding



Fig. 8: The Group of National Train of Trainers

Technician Training Workshop on good Practices in the Refrigeration & Air-conditioning Servicing Sector

Ceylon German Technical Training Institute (CGTTI), Moratuwa on 13th June to 14th June 2013.

Technician Training Workshop on Good Practices in Refrigeration & Air-conditioning Servicing Sector has been organized after the completion of national level TOT Programme

Training the service technicians on a host of alternatives and enhancing the capacity of technicians in good practices were the important elements of the training programme. NOU used a set of training materials provided by UNEP on the best practices of controlling trade in HCFCs, HCFC Containing products, HCFC based equipment and alternatives to ODS.

13th June the first day morning was allocated to the Inauguration Session under the patronage of Mr. Janaka Gunawardana, Director, National Ozone Unit, Ministry of Environment &

Renewable Energy. The Technical Sessions were commenced on day 1 afternoon and proceeded until the end of program on day 2 evening. The training curriculum developed by UNEP on the best practices of controlling emissions of HCFCs in servicing and maintenance of HCFC containing products and HCFC based equipment along with the practical demonstrations and opportunities for group on hand training were some of the major coping areas in the workshop .

In day two of the workshop participants were divided into 4 groups for practical demonstrations of recovery, re cycling techniques, refrigerant identification methodologies and to safe handling of tools & instruments.

The key Resource Persons included Dr. Anshu Kumar, Training Consultant, United Nations Environment Programme and Mr S.P.K. Amarasinghe, Senior Training Engineer, CGTTI. Apart the successful instructor trainers who performed well at the National Train of Trainers Programme (TOT) were utilized as resource persons to conduct selected sessions during the workshop. The selected trainers were Mr. S. M. C Srilal Kumara, instructor, CGTTI, Mr. B.C. Udaya Kumara, instructor, CGTTI, Mr. N.P. Gunathilaka, instructor, CGTTI and Mr. Bernard, instructor, CGTTI

Out of the selected 26 participants in Technicians program; 2 participants were from hotel industry, 2 were introduced as self-employed, 17 were nominated by owner/employee of service industries and 4 were from government organizations.



Fig.9: *Inaugurating the Workshop*



Fig.10: *Dr. Anshu Kumar's Speech*



Fig.11: *Theoretical presentation*



Fig.12: *Interactive Sessions*



Fig.13: *At the Certificates Distribution ceremony*



Fig.14: *Group of Trained Technicians*

Island-wide Technician Training Programmes Training workshop on Good Practices in Refrigeration and A/C (RAC) Sector

Awareness and Traing Workshop in Jaffna District

A technician traing programme was organized by NOU in Jaffna district in coordination with the Nothern Provincial Council and the Provincial Department of Education and was held at Weerasinghe Hall, Jaffna . About 85technical persons and technicians in the Refrigeration and AC sector in the Jaffna district participated in the technical training workshop held from 21st to 23rd February 2013. Hands-on training is an importatnt career development opportunity for technicians to gain knowledge on how to adopt ozone and environment

friendly practices in servicing, recycling and recovery of refrigerents. The hands-on experiences on the best practices is important in providing their service as responsible individuals concerned about protecting the ozone layer, minimizing environment pollution and conserving the environment.

The programmes were conducted both in English and with full tamil translations. Training was conducted by Mr Dharmawardana, Technical Officer, NOUas per the UNEP training schdules and guidelines.

2 awareness programmes were followed by the technical training sessions coordinated by NOU, Nothern Provincial Council, Provincial Department of Education on 21.02.2013 at Weerasinghe Hall, Jaffna and on 22nd February 2013 at Vembadiy Girl's School auditorium, Jaffna. The sessions were conducted by Mr Gunawardana, Director, NOU and Mr Sarath Gunarathne, Environment Management Officer. The target groups of the programmes were the technical personnel, acedemics, school teachers, school childeren , non academics and other RAC sector stakehoders. About 90 persons participated in the programme.The objectives of this programme were not only to spread the message of the protection of ozone layer but also to broaden their thinking patterns for caring for the enviornmnet. The programmes were conducted in English with full tamil translations



Fig. 15: At Jaffna Awareness Programme

Awareness and Training workshop in Batticaloa and Ampara Districts

On 19th June 2013 in Technical college , Batticaloa

The inaugural and the general awareness sessions of the workshop were conducted with the participation of about 250 individuals. The awareness forum was important to enlighten the participants about ozone layer protection and environment conservation.

Thereafter technical sessions were followed for 2 days on 20th and 21st June 2013. Among the 80 participants technicians from RAC Service sectors, trainee technicians attached to public institutes such as technical colleges of Sammanthurai and Batticaloa districts, VTA, NAITA, and private sector personel in the two districts were present. Group practical sessions were conducted with the use of training equipments provided under HPMP and in accordance with UNEP training curriculum. The trainers trained at the national level training programme at CGTTI were utilized for the training sessions as resource persons.

Zonal education office , VTA, NAITA of Amapara and Batticaloa disticts assisted NOU in organizing and coordinating the programme. Mr Gunawardana, director NOU, Mr Dharmawardana, Technical officer, Mr sarth Gunarathne , EMO were present on behalf of NOU.



Fig.16: At the Batticaloa / Ampara Districts Training & Awareness Programme



Fig.17: Awareness Programme in Batticaloa & Ampara Districts

NOU conducted the rest of the scheduled workshops as per the action plan 2013 in collaboration with Ministry of Youth Services & Skills Development, Vocational Training Authority(VTA), and the Departments of Technical Training & Education in Badulla, Bandarawela, Kegalle Vocational Training Authority on 03rd to 5th December 2013 (60 technicians were trained), VTA, Habaraduwa, Koggala Galle on 24th to 26th July 2013. (60 technician from AC/ Refrigeration sector were participated).



Fig.18: Kegalle Technician Training Workshop



Fig.19:Practical Demonstartions

Fig.20.:

Customs Officer Capacity Building Workshop and Presenting ODS Identifying Equipment to Sri Lanka Customs

15th August 2013, Grand Oriental Hotel, Colombo

Certain substances and commodities that cross borders are considered to be “environmentally sensitive” for human health or ecosystems because of their inherent hazardous qualities, their potential for misuse, or their impact on biodiversity or species. Such items include banned or restricted chemicals, hazardous and toxic waste, rare and endangered species and living modified organisms. Many of these items are controlled under multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) or other treaties, such as the Chemical Weapons Convention. Effective monitoring and control of the transboundary movement of such substances and commodities is a key component of environmental protection and, in many some cases, national security.

Most environmental problems encountered in the world today have a trans- boundary nature and a global impact, and they can only be addressed effectively through the kind of international co-operation and shared responsibility made possible through a multilateral environmental agreement (MEA). Several MEAs regulate the cross- border movement of items, substances and products, mainly in the form of imports, exports and re-exports. This gives the front-line Customs and border-protection officers responsible for controlling trade across borders a very important role in protecting the national and global environment.

One of such MEAs with trade-related obligations is The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, whose objective is to phase out both the production and consumption of ozone depleting substances (ODS). It is a Protocol to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. Each Party to the Montreal Protocol has to comply with the phase out schedule set out for each ODS based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

Sri Lanka too has started implementation of its national HCFCs Phase-out Management Plans (HPMPs), to meet the first phase-out target - i.e. consumption and production freeze by 01 January 2013 in line with the accelerated phase-out as agreed at the 19th Meeting of the Parties (MOP) in 2007.Regulatory interventions and their enforcement will be critical during the initial period of the HPMPs. The ability of enforcement agencies including customs to engage promptly and effectively in the above mentioned national effort is a vital determining factor in meeting the obligations to the Montreal Protocol

Overall Objective of the Training of Customs Officers

- Building the capacity of enforcement agencies to undertake HPMP activities
- Introduce HCFC HS 2012 Codes
- Inform enforcement officers about national regulations concerning HCFCs and the roles of enforcement officers in their application
- Make enforcement officers aware about customs regulations and monitoring and control systems for ODS control in neighboring countries and in major trade partner countries.
- Familiarize enforcement officers with: international and domestic flows of HCFCs production and consumption; types of HCFCs and HCFC blends, HCFC-containing products and HCFC-dependent equipment used in the country; domestic sectors with demands for those products and equipment, and alternatives to HCFCs.
- Equip enforcement officers with information and skills needed to identify, register, and handle HCFCs, HCFC blends, HCFC-containing products and HCFC-dependent equipment in accurate and safe manner in line with national laws and regulations.
- Identify ways to detect and prevent, whenever possible, illegal entry of prohibited ODSs in coordination with the national authority for ODS control.
- Develop a national scheme for long-term and self-sustaining training to maintain a high proportion of trained personnel among the enforcement workforce during the entire period of the HCFC phase-out.
- Establish a network of ODS focal points in the country among enforcement agencies that are well linked with the national authority for ODS control

The series of enforcement officers oriented programmes were concluded with the Customs officer capacity building workshop on 15th August 2013 at Grand Oriental Hotel, Colombo. Young officers from the SL Customs Department who have assigned responsibilities at and operating at the controlling points to track / check the imports were targeted. Mr Jagath P Wijeweera, DG Department of Customs was present at the programme and extended his fullest cooperation towards NOU activities.

With the view of capacity building of Customs Officers to undertake HPMP activities which has been prioritized under Montreal Protocol obligations, and enhance knowledge about national regulations concerning HCFCs and there by obtain their assistance for monitoring and enforcing control systems of ODS

40 customs officers were targeted as participants at the workshop. ODS identifying equipment was donated to DG, Department of Customs Mr Jagath P Wijeweera to mark the occasion.



Fig.21.: Donation of ODS identifier building Workshop



Fig. 22: Custom Officers at the Capacity

Awareness programme and Technical Workshop for technicians and Sub Contractors of Dockyard Plc in collaboration with Marine Environment Pollution Authority (MEPA)

20th December 2013, Colombo Dockyard Plc

Pollution in the ocean is a major problem that is affecting the ocean and the rest of the earth, too. Pollution in the ocean directly affects ocean organisms and affects human health and resources. Oil spills, toxic wastes, and dumping of other harmful materials are all major sources of pollution in the ocean.

Since, ships and ship building industry have been identified as one of the major consuming sector of ozone depleting substances such as Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), there may be a risk of releasing HCFCs to the atmosphere when service and maintenance of Refrigeration & Air Conditioning systems in Ships is not carried out environment friendly manner. Such emissions are considered as environment pollution.

Relevant technical and administrative personnel of Dockyard who are handling Service and maintenance of RAC systems in ships and sub-contractors for ship repairs were the target group in the workshop

Mr. M.P.B. Yapa, MD/CEO, Colombo Dockyard Plc made the welcome address, while G.M.J.K. Gunawardana, Director, NOU briefed the objectives of the programme. Mr B.M.U.D. Basnayake, Secretary, ME&RE inaugurated the presentation session and discussed on the facts on implementing Multilateral Agreements (MEA). Director General, MEPA and Mr A J M Gunasekara , Manager Operations explained the role of Marine Environment Protection Authority in safeguarding the environment and implementation of MARPOL Convention. Over view of Ozone layer protection, introduction to Montreal Protocol, Sri Lanka's Success story in phasing out of ODSs, implementing of HCFC Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) were discussed at the workshop.

G.M.J.K. Gunawardana, Director, National Ozone Unit discussed the provisions that could be made of reception facility for ODS, Recovery & Recycling of Refrigerant, and identification of HCFCs using Refrigerant Identifier were illustrated by Mr. S.P.K. Amarasinghe, Senior Training Engineer, CGTTI and Mr. R.W. Dharmawardana, Technical Officer, NOU.

75 participants included electronic and electrical engineers, technical superintendents, A/C Technicians, officers from fire unit, firemen, safety supervisors, icemen, foremen TRCs.



Fig. 23: At Colombo Dockyard

Database development and management system for Ozone Depleting Substances(ODSs)
25th November 2013, Secretary's Office, Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy

NOU has taken initiatives to establish an automated ODSs Database monitoring system in collaboration with the major stakeholder authorities in the chain of import/ export process of ODSs. SL Customs Department, Import and Export Control Department, BOI, ROP will serve as the major parties catered. IECD who is the responsible organization for establishing the government database networks will serve as the service provider to this activity.

The main objective of this system is to make the controlling mechanism efficient and thereby to benefit the importers of ODSs in the country. The system will facilitate a fast recommendation process, tract the illegal imports, efficient messaging/ alarming system among the authorized parties. Apart from this it will be helpful to further analyze detailed information about ODSs; amounts/ quantities in the country at a given/ specified period of time, importers progress in the country. The reports generated through the system could be directly forwarded for international data tracking and monitoring systems.



Fig. 24: Development of Database

Organizing Commemorative Events

National Celebration of International Ozone Day 2013

16th September 2013 at National Youth Council, Maharagama, Sri Lanka.

16th of September of each year has been declared as ‘International Ozone Day’ from 1995 according to the unanimous decision taken by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1995. In 2013 the member communities of the Montreal Protocol joined to in celebration the International Ozone Day under the theme “A Healthy Atmosphere, The Future We Want”. Sri Lanka too has proudly celebrated this important event as one of the most successful nations in the global effort of preserving Ozone layer during 26 years of the journey of Montreal Protocol (1987-2013).



At the IOD Celebration event

Hon. Susil Premajyantha, Minister of Environment & Renewable Energy was the chief guest while Hon Alhaj Abdhul Carder Deputy Minister of Environment, Mr B.M.U.D. Basnayake, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy and many other distinguished guests including officials from UN agencies and officials from government and non-government institutes graced the occasion. Participation of approximately eight hundred 800 school children made audience more attractive.



Distinguished Gathering at IOD



School Children Participating

Reemphasizing the importance of the collective effort and the need for immediate action for conserving the most precious Ozone layer which is being threatened by adverse activities of human was the prime goals of declaring of this special day. National Ozone Unit of the Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy, pioneered in organizing many events parallel to this event



Secretary addressing the gathering at IOD



Special Cultural Performances at the Celebration

All Island Poster Competition and the Poster exhibition

An Exhibition of Winning Posters and another 100 specially commended posters selected from the competition was held and it was declared open by Hon. Susil Premajayantha, Minister of Environment & Renewable Energy. The main objectives of the competition were to enlighten the general public and school children on the vital role that they could play in conserving the ozone layer and to enhance collaborative efforts towards this noble effort.



Selecting the best performances



Hon. Minister & guests inspecting the poster competition

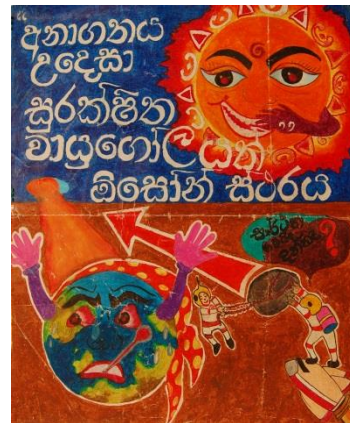


School children at the poster exhibition

Award Winning posters

Category

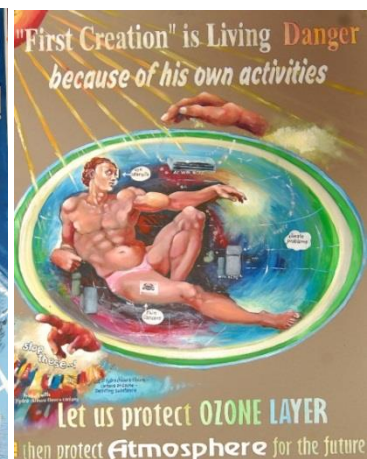
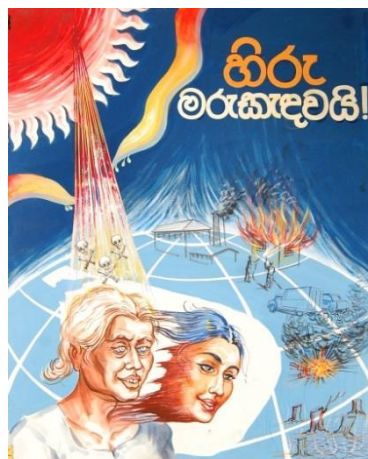
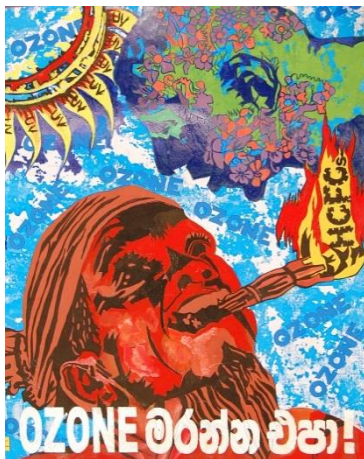
Group



Category
Group



Category
Open Group





Winners of the poster competition

Other Activities

- Donation of refrigerant recovery equipment among the government technical colleges (Jaffna, Badulla, Galle, Colombo)
- Fabricated T-shirts printed with messages related to conserving the ozone layer were distributed among all participants as a promotional material.
- Produced a TV documentary
- Broad media coverage.
- Printing of 30,000 Ozone Booklets
- Production of 3000 Dockets and distribution of educative and awareness materials and leaflets.



“Ozone Layer Protection”, Stage Drama by SLBC Artists



- Folk & cultural dances by the dancing troops of Sri Lanka Youth Council, Maharagama.

Dayata Kirula National Exhibition 2013



Preliminary site inspections of Dayta Kirula Exhibition

The Annual Exhibition of Deyata Kirula National Exhibition was commenced from the year 2007. The objective of the exhibition was to expand the national development agendas to the most remote areas of the country. Deyata Kirula 2013 National Development Programme focused on to the concept of “ Eastern Phenomen on”. The guidance of His Excellency the President Mahinda Rajapakshe and his concept ‘*MahindaChinthana*’ the vision for future has contributed to the utmost success to this magnificent event.

Ampara District where Dayata Kirula exhibition was held in 2013, is located in the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka, about 300 km from the capital city of Colombo, isolated from the main cities. It is 4,415 km² (1,705 sq mile) in area, and is divided into 20 Divisional Secretary's Divisions (DS Divisions) and 507 Grama Niladahari Divisions (GN Divisions). The population of Ampara District is about 648,057 according to the 2012 statistics.

Ampara district is known as one of the most diverse districts in Sri Lanka, both ethnically and religiously. With the objective of reawakening the glory of the Eastern Province, all the government Ministries, Departments, Authorities, private sector organizations, other government and non-government organizations and large number of individuals have participated in this glorious exhibition which was held from 20 to 31 March 2013. Plenty of stalls and areas were allocated to educational, health, industrial, agricultural, transport, infrastructure development, environment and economic sectors to demonstrate their

contributions in the development process of the country. The modern innovations as well as contribution towards a greener environment, green economic concepts and green development had been focused throughout the exhibition.

About 2 million participants from all walks of life gathered within the exhibition premises during 11 days. Vast knowledge on all sectors(industrial, economic, environment, social) were shared among the visitors to the exhibition. The students were enthusiastic to acquire the knowledge and upgrade their skills in modern information.

The space allocated to the Environment Ministry was utilized to its maximum and was able to attract large number of visitors. Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy has won the 2nd best performances award among all the exhibition stalls present at Dayata Kirula exhibition 2013 for its performances.



*Hon. Minister of Environment & Renewable Energy paying homage to Triple Gem
Inaugurating the Ministry Exhibition Premises*

The National Ozone Unit (NOU) and the other divisions of the Ministry of Environment have immensely contributed and dedicated to spread the messages of environment protection and conservation during these 11 days. Visitors had remarkably gathered at the demonstrations carried out by the NOU on recovery, recycle process of used refrigerants, identification of refrigerants and refrigerant gases, and onto the education video documentary on the protection of ozone layer . Educating people in phasing out of HCFCs and targets setout for HCFC Phase out were mainly focused. Screening of the video documentary, the UN educative packages such as ozzy ozone cartoon and ozone song had been very effective tools used at the exhibition to increase awareness of the large number of public gathered at the exhibition premises the large number of public gathering.

Number of banners carrying out messages of ozone layer conservation such as limiting or phasing out of harmful chemicals, country's accelerated phase out targets, the alternative uses of ozone depleting substances in industrial sectors, the health and other harmful effects of ozone layer depletion and environmental protection were displayed through out the exhibition premises.



Iconic Exhibition Area of the Environment Ministry



Environment Information Center and the Entrance to the Environment Exhibition Area



Inspecting the NOU Exhibition Stall

Other Exhibition stalls of the allied sections of the Ministry





Promote Environment Friendly Technologies as alternative for HCFCs

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy & Regnis (Lanka) Plc

Regnis (Lanka) Plc., is a member of SINGER Group Sri Lanka engage in manufacture & assembly of refrigerators & split type air conditioners and produces foams (used as thermal insulation in refrigerators) and plastic components for refrigerators. At present REGNIS uses a chemical called Polyol and HCFC 141 b to manufacture foams. A grant of 2.4 million was given to REGNIS (Lanka) Plc as incentive payment for converting their existing foam manufacturing facilities using HCFCs to non-HCFC technologies and in order to assist the phase-out of HCFCs, in accordance with the agreement that is signed on 20.11.2013.

Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, at its 62nd meeting through Decision 62/54, approved that REGNIS shall permanently discontinue the use of HCFCs as of 31 March 2014, it has already completed converting to ozone friendly technology (changing into Cyclopentane – a type of hydrocarbon) eliminating use of HCFC 141 b completely.



Signing the MOU at the M/ Environment & RE

Implementation of National Compliance Action Plan (NCAP) and Refrigerant Management Plan (RMP) and establishment of Mini Reclamation Centers

The National Planning Division of the Ministry of Finance granted approval to use unutilized funds of NCAP and RMP projects to procure 8 units of Refrigerant Mini Reclaim equipment to be used at 8 reclaim centers throughout the island. These centers would serve to purify recovered refrigerant from service and maintenance in order to minimize the impact of shortage of HCFC in future. Furthermore 5 units of recovery equipment are also to be procured in order to facilitate recovery facility parallel to the establishment of reclaim centres.

To reclaim refrigerant is to reprocess refrigerant to meet the purity levels specified in ARI Standard 700–2000. Reclaiming of recovered refrigerant prevent damages to air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment from the use of contaminated refrigerant. Recovery of refrigerant from existing systems at service & maintenance is essential and the reclamation is required to make up any supply shortage in future as the phaeout of HCFC continues.

Ministry of Finance granted approval to use the funds of NCAP and RMP projects to procure 8 units of Refrigerant Mini Reclaim equipment at 8 reclaim centers that are to be established in main cities Colombo, Gampaha, Galle, Kurunegala, Kandy, Anuradhapura or Vauniya, Badulla and Trincomalee. Other than that 35 units of recovery equipment will be provided to workshops engage in the servicing of domestic, commercial and industrial refrigeration equipment and mobile air conditioning equipment servicing sector.

Attempts on Methyl Bromide Phase-out

Methyl Bromide should only be used for QPS applications and the need to adhere to the application standards and prevent unauthorized use of MeBr for other purposes. At present the QPS use of MeBr is closely monitored by NPQS and ROP is the responsible organization for making recommendations for importing MeBr. ROP stressed that ROP is strictly regulating the use of Methyl bromide which is allowed only for QPS applications and it has been already been legalized. ROP emphasize that it could assist to verify the uses and quantities of available MeBr consumption data records. NPQS states that requests per day

have been processed daily and NPQS is thoroughly assessing the suitability of the applicants before issuing the recommendations and they are quite specific on the standards and the methodology on MeBr applications. The need to carry out a detailed survey to obtain the exact users and quantities of consumption of MeBr for QPS applications in Sri Lanka which could ultimately be used for close monitoring of Methyl Bromide in future were among the priority requirements in the country concerning MeBr usage.

Participation in Education & Awareness Workshops

Outstation Teacher Training and Capacity Building Workshop, *Kanneliya Forest Reserve 21st to 22nd November 2013*

Kanneliya Forest Reserve, which is being managed by the Forest Department which comes under the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy maintains an ideal conferencing facility and served as the venue for the Teacher Training and Capacity Building Workshop organized by NOU.



The target group was teachers and teacher trainers from Embilipitiya zonal education division. The teachers who are responsible for the subject areas in geography, science were quite interested on the contents of the programme. The main aim of conducting outstation training sessions was to outreach the most updated ozone related information to a wider group of people in the country.



Introductory Lecture



Participating in different activities in Kannelya Forest Reserve



Obtaining Field Experiences

Southern Province School Awareness Programme
3rd October 2013, at Richmond College , Galle

750 school children from 8 schools and instructors from Galle education zone and teachers were keen on learning the facts and gaining knowledge on the subject of ozone science, the depletion of ozone layer and how they could join hands to protect it . Targeting at the provincial level was important to activate and strengthen the conservation effort



At the awareness workshop

Awareness Workshop at Viharamaha Devi Vidyalaya, Kiribathgoda on 30th June 2013

Viharamahadevi Vidyalaya is one of the most popular girls school in Kiribathgoda, in the suburbs of Colombo. It has about 6000 students population. The students are encouraged to engage in environment related activities and are focused in their school activity schedules it self.

The environment workshop organized by the National Ozone Unit , Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy has given an opportunity for 25 teachers and about 300 students , including students from 9th and 10th grades and 70 advanced level class students to gain knowledge on ozone related information such as ozone layer depletion and environment issues. A “ Nelli” tree was planted at the school garden by Director, NOU was accompanied by the principal Ms Abeyrathne to symbolize/ mark the event in future. Mr Gunawardana, Director, NOU, Sarath Gunarathne, EMO enlightened the audience on the ozone related matters while Manoj Prasanna , Programme Assistant made them aware on biodiversity conservation, Ms Sepali Siva EMO coordinated the activity.

Significant Moments..... at Viharamahadevi Awareness Programme



In Viharamahadevi Balika Vidyalaya awareness programme



Workshop events



Seminar Programme in Horana Zonal Education Division

Divisional Secretariat Office, Horana, On 7th June 2013

300 students from 10 schools in the Zonal Education Division Horana, gathered at the Divisional Secretariat Office, Horana, for a seminar on Ozone layer protection and environment issues.

The seminar was organized by the NOU, M/ Environment and RE and Vidatha Centre of the Ministry of Science and Technology. Four lectures were delivered on the scientific information of the Ozone layer, the ozone layer depletion process, the relationship of Climate Change and the protection of Ozone layer, Ozone friendly technology, Multilateral environment Agreements and Montreal Protocol. Teachers responsible for environment activities also participated at the seminar. Number of environmental books, informative materials, informative CDs and other literature were distributed among the students.



At Horana Zonal Education Division Programme

Science Exhibition “Scizone 2013”

The science society of Ladies College has organized a science exhibition “Scizon- An effort to discover” on 4th and 5th April 2013 at Ladies College Colombo. The aim of the “Scizone” exhibition was to provide valuable knowledge on various environmental sectors.

The exhibition stalls were equipped with attractive models and displaying materials and learning equipment. NOU had a demonstration stall which displayed the environment related information and the importance of using ozone friendly techniques, recycling and recovery and Ozone depleting substances identification equipment. The ozone information digital models, audio visuals, presentations, distribution of CDs on ozone related information, and distribution of environment related information have attracted a large number of visitors to the NOU display unit. The contribution from the NOU staff has greatly been appreciated by Ms Nirmali Wickramasinghe, the principal of the Ladies College and by the organizing committee.

Training Workshop for Ministry Staff

Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration on 13th December 2013

Newly recruited young graduates attached to Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy were identified as one of most important groups to carryout the Ministry's role in future with much responsibility.



Inaugurating the Workshop

Along with the information on ozone layer conservation topics such as leadership and team work, management techniques and the administrative and financial procedures that were discussed in the seminar were beneficial for this young group who has joined in the prestigious government sector

The workshop content was designed in order to utilize their capacities and to obtain their active participation in the ozone related research work specially in the field of investigations.



Resource Persons at the sessions



Ministry Staff at the capacity building workshop

Promotional Campaign at “Diyatha Uyana” 11th October from 04.30 pm to 11.00pm

“Diyatha Uyana”, Battaramulla, which has been declared as an open recreational space recently belongs to the Ministry of Defence. NOU has identified the premises as a venue for education and for promotional campaigns for the general public who are in relaxed mind. NOU staff spent more than 4 hours at the site distributing Booklets of Ozone information , leaflets, CDs, other environment related books free of charge to visitors and had constructive dialogues. NOU reached out to more than 5000 people who were present at the venue with the message of conservation of Ozone layer.



At Diyatha Uyana Premises

Special Media Workshop

At Kanneliya Forest Reserve on 22nd & 23rd of August 2013

NOU, Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy and Forest Department has jointly organized this special media workshop in Kanneliya Forest Reserve. Mr. R. A. R. R. Rupasinghe, Additional Secretary (Administration & Promotion) of the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy, Mr. G.M.J.K .Gunawardana, Director / NOU AND staff members of NOU and other divisions of Ministry of Environment were present. About 35 Media personel FROM several media institutes; different radio broadcasting channels, TV channels and print media publishers, Department of Government Mass Media and Information participated in this two days workshop, where the importance of conserving the ozone layer, the environmental laws and regulations and the role of the media were discussed.

Furthermore a documentary based on Kannelya reserve was screened followed by a field tour which gave an opportunity to gain knowledge on the bio diversity. A live demonstration of commonly found snakes, reptiles which were very informative has too been arranged.



Group of media personnel participated Demonstration on Sri Lanka's Bio Diversity

Lessons from International Forums

Technical Assistance for the Replication of Successful Projects

Mr M.M.M. Senevirathne, Coordinating Officer, Technical National Ozone Unit of the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy participated in a workshop on ODS destruction and a study tour of Holcim Cement Factory, Narogong, Indonesia from 18-20 February 2013.

This was an opportunity to exchange technical knowledge among regional countries on the subject. As the delegates from UN Agencies, Representative of Japanese government, Cement Industries and officers from National Ozone Units of the South Asia region were present at the forum it was a rare opportunity to build coordination among them.

On the of the discussions at Atel Century Park Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia, discussions focussed made on the destruction of unwanted or contaminated Ozone Depleting Substances (ODSs) in an environment friendly manner.

The discussions and the explanations made by Mr. Wataru on F – gas destruction facilities in the world and in Japan, Mr. Wataru Ono Application of cement Kiln for ODS destruction. Ms. Zulhashni ODS destruction in Indonesia, Mr. Saofeng Hu GHG Mitigation Opportunities by ODS Destruction, Mrs Aminah Ali. ODS consumption in Malaysia and current position, Holcim Indonesia Development of ODS destruction facility in Indonesia were very informative.

Second Day was allocated to visit ODS destruction facility at Holcim Cement Factory at Narogong, Indonesia.

The discussions on the 3rdDay , focused on a future project that EU is intends to initiate for providing financial support to selected developing countries in South –East Asian countries for the Environmentally sound collection, management and destruction of ODS banks in developing countries. As SL was praised on for the previous achievements and there was confidence that Sri Lanka could implement this project successfully.

The workshop has been helpful to contribute to the decrease in direct emission of ODS and GHG through the promotion and implementation of an environmentally sound collection, management and destruction of ODS banks in developing countries. A country proposal consisting of a work plan for preliminary activities, to set up a Technical Committee , prepare an inventory of unused or contaminated ODSs, find out the possibilities of negotiation with Holcim Sri Lanka for their active involvement and to prepare a budget for manufacturing ODS destruction system.

The study tour was successful as Sri Lanka has committed to prepare the ground works within next 90 days and report to UNEP for its review which would contribute to initiate new facilities for ODS destruction in future.



Group of Participants



Mr Senevirathne addressing the Conference



Field Inspection

Joint Network meeting of ozone officers off Asia and the Pacific

The conclusions and recommendations of the network meeting has highlighted the success of management and tracking system of QPS use in Sri Lanka, and recommended other countries to review such and follow the Sri Lankan model to develop national systems together with their national authorities. It has been decided to circulate Sri Lanka's documentation to the other network countries.

25th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol

21st - 25th October 2013 in Bangkok.

Mr. B.M. U. D. Basnayake, Secretary Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy, Director/ NOU & Coordinator (Technical) NOU represented Sri Lanka.

Noteworthy contribution made by the Montreal Protocol together with the huge contribution made by member countries including Sri Lanka in tackling a global environmental problem was acknowledged.

National Master Trainers Workshop on Good Practices in the Refrigeration & Air conditioning Servicing Sector

12th to 15th November 2013, Penang, Malaysia

Ozone Action Programme / UNEP with Malaysia's Department of Environment & Malaysia's Department of Human Resources has jointly organized this workshop. Mr. R.W. Dharmawardana, Technical Officer, NOU participated in this workshop the capacity building of the Master Trainers and exchanging the field experiences to improve the final targets of phasing out of ODSs were the prime objectives.

Join in Ipic

Sri Lanka has joined in Ipic as per MOP decision considering its importance as a tool for monitoring ODS imports and exports and in controlling illegal traffic.

Contribution in Welfare Activities

The sponsorship assistance were granted to SLAS 84 group for publishing an Ozone friendly message in the souvenir for "Miyesi Abiman", conducted at Mahinda Rajapakshe Theater, Colombo on 21st June 2013 organized by a team of members of the 1984 group of Sri Lanka Administrative Service to strengthen the Group's social welfare activities. The souvenir message in 'Vibavi 2013', the annual aesthetic performances/ festival on 09th June 2013 was provided by the NOU with the aim of promoting the importance ozone conservation.

New Office Space for NOU

NOU which was located at Ethul Kotte where some of the divisions of the Ministry were placed was relocated at the main Ministry premises "Sampathpaya", 82 Rajamalwatta Road, Battaramulla from September 2013 from where the Ministers office as well as the Ministry Secretary office are being operated. This long term effort to join the and the this shifting enable the NOU to carry out its functions more effectively and to collaborate with other main technical divisions of the Ministry.

Contribution in other related Activities

World Environment Day Celebrations 2013

The national level 2013 World Environment Day was celebrated at Temple Trees, the official residence of His Excellency the President on 5th June 2013. The Environment Ministry was responsible to organizing and coordinating this national level ceremony in a unique and in a symbolic manner.

The celebration was organized under the patronage of president of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka His Excellency Mahinda Rajapaksha. The arrival of the chief guest and the guest of Honour, the President was well received by the audience.

Senior Minister P. Dayarathne, Hon , Nimal Siripala De Siva, Minister of Health, Hon. Alwavi Mawlana, Governor of Western Province were among the distinguish guests.

The representatives from a number of Ministries, local governments, authorities, heads of schools, teachers, officers from government and private sector institutes and Nongovernmental organizations also participated in the year's most significant day of the environment calendar. The Ambassadors of 14 countries, the High Commissioners, the Heads and Country Representatives of United Nation's organizations, national and international funding and donor agencies were among the other guests of hornour. NGO's who always make an effort on the welfare of the environment conservation agendas of the country were also eager to participate at the celebration activity.

As the care takers for the future of the environment of the country more than 5000 school children from North to South and from West to East were present at the occasion. The proud young gathering present at the celebration symbolized the responsibility as partners of protecting environment for the generations to come.

The NOU joined in the main organizing and coordinating activities. Mr JanakaGunawardana, the Director of the national Ozone Unit as well as the Director of promotion and the environment educationdivision of the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy was the coordinator at the event. The staff members actively participated in the event itself and cooperated for the successfulness of the occasion while gaining knowledge and experiencing the spirit of world environment day celebration at national level.

President in his remarks stressed that the natural resources are not belonging only to the present generation but for the future generations as well.



Welcoming His Excellency the President

President making his remarks

Hon Minister of Environment Susil Premajayantha addressed the gathering as the leader in the conservation activities of the country. ,Hon NimalSiripala de Silva, Mr UdayaGammanpila Provincial Minister of Environment also addressed the gathering.



Minister of Environment & RE addressing the gathering

Presidential medals were awarded to 93 environment pioneers who performed and reached the final national level assignments by completing all the necessities in the curriculum.

The environment week celebrations were declared from 5th to 12th June 2013 and the NOU has organized the special Technical training programme in line with the environment day activities.

Distribution of 5000 fruit plants were distributed aiming at promotion of home gardening concepts.

From Environment Day Celebrations 2013..... Distinguished Guests at the occasion





Environment song and performances by school children



Awarding Presidential Medals





Receiving Awards for their achievements



Symbolizing the distribution of 5000 fruit plants

Workshop on the preparation of the Corporate Plan (2013- 2016)

Mr Gunawardana, Director, NOU and Mr M. Senevratne, Technical Coordinator have contributed in the preparation of the Corporate Plan of the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy for the years 2013- 2016. The interactive sessions helped to formulate the plans and to submit the proposals incorporating the NOU's objectives, implementation targets to achieve Montreal Protocol targets and to conserve the Ozone layer

Provincial Environmental Conservation Workshop on 17th May 2013 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute

Provincial Environmental Conservation workshop was held on 17th May 2013 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute with the patronage of the Minister of Environment and renewable energy Honorable Susil Premajayantha and Mr .Udaya Gammanpila, Minister of Provincial Environment of the Western Province. The workshop has been convened by the Ministry of Environment and RE as a preparatory meeting for launching the 2013 world environment day

celebration activities island wide. Mr Gunawardana, Director NOU coordinated the programme activities and the staff of NOU extend their assistance for the successful completion of the programme. Ozone information materials, docket bearing HCFC phaseout schedules and other were distributed for about 300 participants at the workshop.

The conference started with the arrival of Minister of Environment and Renewable energy, The program started after lighting the oil lamp and signing the Environment song. Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Renewable energy, Mr. B. M. U. D. Basnayake, briefed the aim of the conference in his welcome speech. Mr. WimalRubasingha, Chairman Central Environmental Authority, explained the responsibilities of CEA on the role of the provincial institutes and the regional networks in environment conservation activities.

Honorable Susil Premajayantha, Minister of Environment and Renewable energy, also addressed the gathering. Mr. R. A. A. K. Ranawaka, Secretary, Ministry of Provincial Council explained the importance of this forum. There were presentations on the regional environment conservation attempts, and on the success stories as well. The implementation gaps in development agendas, the issues in this collective effort towards sustainable environment development were openly discussed.

Current environmental issues such as issuing of environmental license for sand, selling of soil, the impacts on drinking water consumption, deforestation issues, solid waste management at provincial level in Western Province, North and Eastern Provinces were some of the important topics covered at the sessions. The officials from stakeholder institutes connected to environment sector also participated in the round table and panel discussions. Minister of Environment and Renewable Energy mentioned that the environment matters should deal very sensitively and should be in harmony with the economic development agendas in the country.

Mr. N. S. Gamage, Director of "Pilisaru project", Central Environmental Authority, explained the role that should be played by the provincial institutes and regional authorities in managing the environment.

Finally, the discussions were made on the possible role that could be played by the regional partners in conserving the natural resources of the country and the importance of a national effort. Further the plans of island wide environment day celebrations, mechanism to provide

publicity and obtaining public and private sector partnerships in organizing national environment day activities were this was carried out.



Inaugurating the Workshop Minister of Environment



Distribution of information Materials

Provincial governors, district secretaries, provincial and local government secretaries, mayors, heads of authorities and departments and other government officers were among the honored participants



Interactive session at the workshop



Green Walk for the celebration of Earth Day 2013

The 43rd Earth's day for year 2013 was celebrated in a unique way; Over 1 billion people world-wide commemorate the earth day .The theme for this year was “The Face of Climate Change” . Around 4000 environment conservation enthusiasts from all over the country including school children, university students, government officers, and participants from NGOs, forces, the police, and the environment police gathered in an environment walk on 22nd April 2013. The walk was organized by the Environment Ministry with the active participation of NOU and other divisions of the Ministry. The parade was equipped with creative items such as banners, posters that displayed different environment aspects that need urgent attention and action of the whole community and individuals.

All the staff members of the NOU participated in the walk with great enthusiasm as this is an opportunity to transfer the messages in ozone layer conservation and issues related to ozone layer depletion. The interaction with the industrialists, and other parties interested on green approaches has helped to convey the Montreal protocol initiatives on promoting ozone friendly technologies.

The long parade proceeded from the Kimbulawala junction, Sri JayawardanapuraKotte towards the Folks arts centre, Battaramulla, which is one of the most attractive and scenic walking stretch of the capital city of Sri JayawardanapuraKotte. The Sri Lankaparliament is located at close vicinity of the other side Diyawanna oya. The main objectives of the walk were to encourage eco walk, to use green modes of transportation as well as to share common messages of earth day slogans with the spectators, passers by and public to share the noble messages of the earth day celebrations.

The walk was concluded at a ceremony organized at the Folks art centre at Bataramulla. Planting of endemic, traditional trees to Sri Lanka was taken place. A stage drama was played highlighting the earth day messages was one of the attractive event of the day.

The key note address and other guest speeches emphasizes the urgent need of practicing the energy saving methods and cleaner environment approaches for the well being of the present and the future generations.



Parading near the Parliament, Sri Jayawardanapura Kotte



Symbolizing Earth Day 2013.....



Stakeholder workshop on formulation of consumption guidelines for day today life towards to achieve Sustainable Development

Central Bank Conference Room, 18th June 2013.

The workshop on “ Proposed consumption guidelines for day today life towards to achieve Sustainable Development” was held at Center for Banking studies, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Rajagiriya.

Mr.Gamini Gamage, Additional Secretary(Environment Policies) of Ministry Environment and Renewable Energy, Dr. R. D. S. Jayatunga, Director (Sustainable Development) of Ministry Environment and Renewable Energy, Mr. A Kulatunga former Director(Natural Resources Management) and the Consultant were the key personnel for this programme

Dr. R.D.S. Jayatunga addressed the gathering on the importance of sustainable development for day today life. Presentation on “preparation of guidelines for sustainable production and consumption” was made. Participants were educated on the policy and regulations and on the institutional regime. In addition action plan on sustainable production and consumption was introduced. The barriers in sustainable consumption and how to overcome such, the necessity of the presence of guideline and the achievements were presented with activity plan.

Mr Dilan Kulandaarachchi development officer participated in the forum and presented at the group discussions. Four groups were formed on energy, water, food and nutrition, waste management thematic areas. Individual and group questionnaires were distributed among participants. Various ideas were presented and the discussions were elaborative and fruitful for the finalization activities.

The practicability of these guide lines and the target group of these guidelines and the action plans whether it has to be focused on to the middle class or the high class were put onto forum for discussion. Future analysis and studies to implement these guidelines were would



Group discussions at the workshop