

Ref: Oz-Sec/VCTF/Research and Monitoring

23 November 2023

Sir/Madam,

Subject: General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention: Call for project proposals

I have the honour to refer to decisions XII(II)/1 on the recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at their eleventh meeting and XII(II)/2 on the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer at its twelfth meeting, part II (COP12(II)), held online in October 2021.

In [decision XII\(II\)/1](#), parties were encouraged to adopt and implement, as appropriate, the recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers under the topics of research, systematic observations, gaps in the global coverage of atmospheric monitoring of controlled substances and options to enhance such monitoring, data archiving and stewardship, and capacity building. These recommendations are set out in the [report of part II of the eleventh meeting of the Ozone Research Managers](#) and in document [UNEP/OzL.Conv.12\(II\)/7](#).

In [decision XII\(II\)/2](#), the Advisory Committee of the Trust Fund was requested, with the assistance of the World Meteorological Organization and the Secretariat, to implement its [long-term strategy and short-term plan of action for the Trust Fund](#). The Advisory Committee continues working on implementing its strategy and will report on the progress made at the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers, which is scheduled to take place from 24 to 26 April 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland.

I would also like to refer to my correspondence to all parties, dated 16 October 2023, which included a brief update on the status of the Trust Fund and its activities, and on the work of the Advisory Committee. As the Advisory Committee has evaluated all the project proposals submitted to the Secretariat in response to our call on 8 December 2020, it is now time to renew our invitation for submission of project proposals to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

We hereby kindly solicit your proposals for possible support under the Trust Fund.

Requests for support of proposed activities should not exceed \$50,000. In line with the long-term strategy and short-term plan of action for the Trust Fund, and taking into consideration the availability of funds, priority will be given to short-term activities (approximate duration of one year) which initiate programmes that can be supported by the host institution/country over a more extended period, and relate to monitoring of column ozone, ozone profiles and ultraviolet radiation in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

Priority will also be accorded to proposals involving the participation of developing countries or countries with economies in transition along with developed countries, such as training and calibration activities, whereby scientists from developing countries participate along experts from developed countries.

Each proposal should:

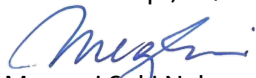
- Provide detailed information about the proposed activity and its link to the recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers at their eleventh meeting;
- Address the expected returns on the investment (in terms of both scientific achievements and capacity-building) and its long-term sustainability;

- Include sufficient details on project relevance, implementation requirements (financial and infrastructure) and timelines, and capacity-building expectations so as to allow in-depth review and prioritization by the Advisory Committee;
- Include the name and a description of the institution where the project will be carried out and the names and curricula vitae of the persons who will be responsible for the proposed project. Information on any in-kind contributions from parties participating in the project is also desirable.

We kindly request that such proposals be submitted to the Secretariat no later than **15 March 2024**. Although we currently have only limited resources, additional funds will be solicited from the parties, as appropriate, for implementing the proposed projects that would be recommended by the Advisory Committee as having the highest priority.

We look forward to continuing strengthening the work under the Vienna Convention and supporting your country in the area of research and systematic observations.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Megumi Seki Nakamura
Executive Secretary