

Advancing Energy Efficient Low-GWP Technologies in Mobile Air-Conditioning and Heat Pump Systems in Article 5 Developing Parties

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Bangkok
13-17 July 2026



THE KIGALI
AMENDMENT
2016–2026

India's Transition Towards Sustainable Mobility Cooling

“Advancing Low-GWP Technologies and Workforce Readiness in the MAC Sector”

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TATA MOTORS
PASSENGER VEHICLES



SIAM
Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers

India's Automotive Industry – Scale, Growth and Innovation Opportunity

THE INDIAN ECOSYSTEM: WHERE WE ARE					
					
Parameter	US	China	Germany	India	Japan
GDP (2025) (\$Tn)	30.5	19.2	4.7	4.2	4.2
Manufacturing Units (Mn) (2024) (PV+CV)	10.56	31.28	4.07	6.01	4.4
Cars per 1000 people (2024)	779	251	590	38	670
R&D as a share of GDP	3.59%	2.56%	3.13%	0.65%	3.41%
Auto Industry as % of GDP	4.9%	10%	6%	7.1%	10%
~Auto Sector Size (2024)	\$1200 Bn	\$1400 Bn	\$580 Bn	\$240 Bn	\$410 Bn
Global Innovation Index Rank (2025)	#3	#10	#11	#38	#12
Patent Applications (Mn) (2024)	0.5	1.8	0.06	0.1	0.3
Startup Ecosystem Index (2025)	#1	#13	#7	#22	#18

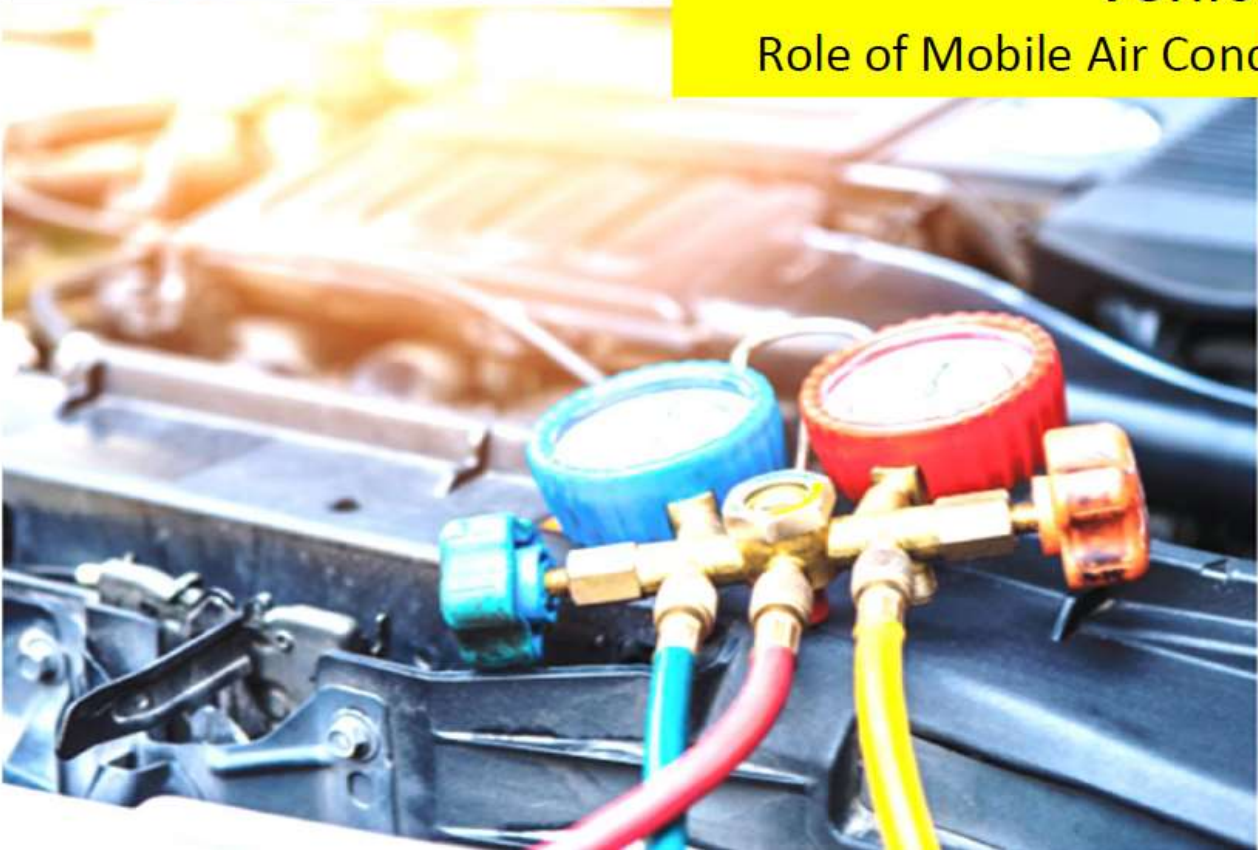


- World's 3rd largest automobile market (by unit volume)
- Fastest growing passenger vehicle market (~7.3% CAGR from 2025 to 2030)
- Rapid EV adoption (~7.8% in FY 2025)
- Strong engineering capability
- Manufacturing hub



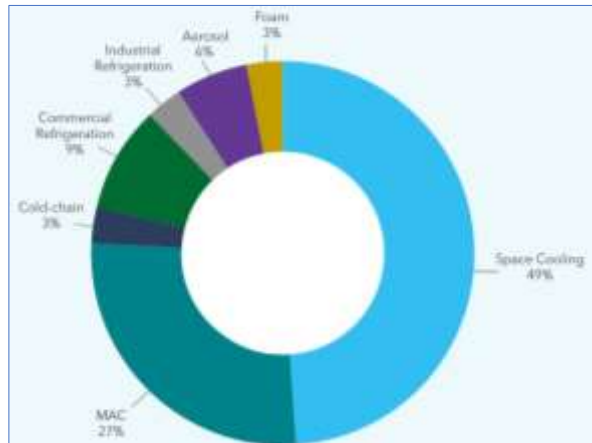
Vehicle Sector

Role of Mobile Air Conditioning in Global Warming

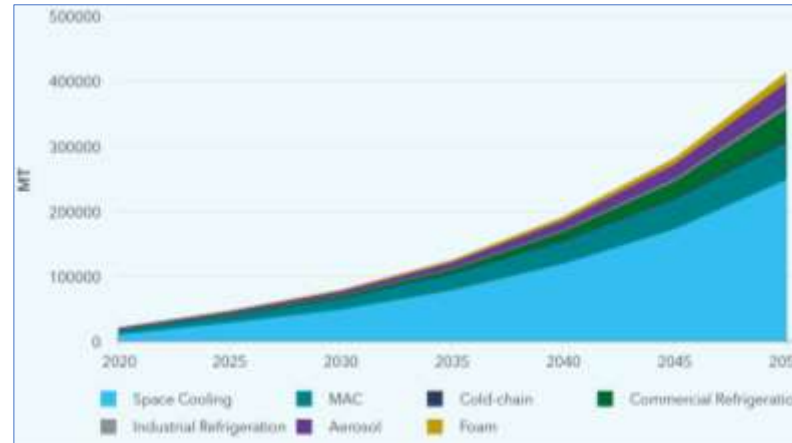


Why Sustainable Cooling Matters for India's MAC Sector

- **By 2050, the MAC sector will be the 2nd largest contributor to HFC emissions across all sectors (~ 15.5% to 20% estimated) following the stationary air conditioning sector (~63%)**
- **Rapid urbanization** and rising income levels will increase sales of passenger vehicles by **~9% annually**
- Rising ambient temperatures are driving increased cooling demand – AC penetration is approaching 100%, The overwhelming majority of vehicles currently **use HFC-134a as the refrigerant in their MAC systems, which has high GWP**
- Ownership of passenger vehicles has grown from ~25 vehicles per 1000 people (in 2019) to **~35 vehicles per 1000 people** (in 2025); the transition to low GWP refrigerants is crucial for containing HFC emissions



HFC consumption (MTCO2eq) by sector for 2025, NRDC



HFC consumption (MT) by sector in the BAU Scenario, NRDC

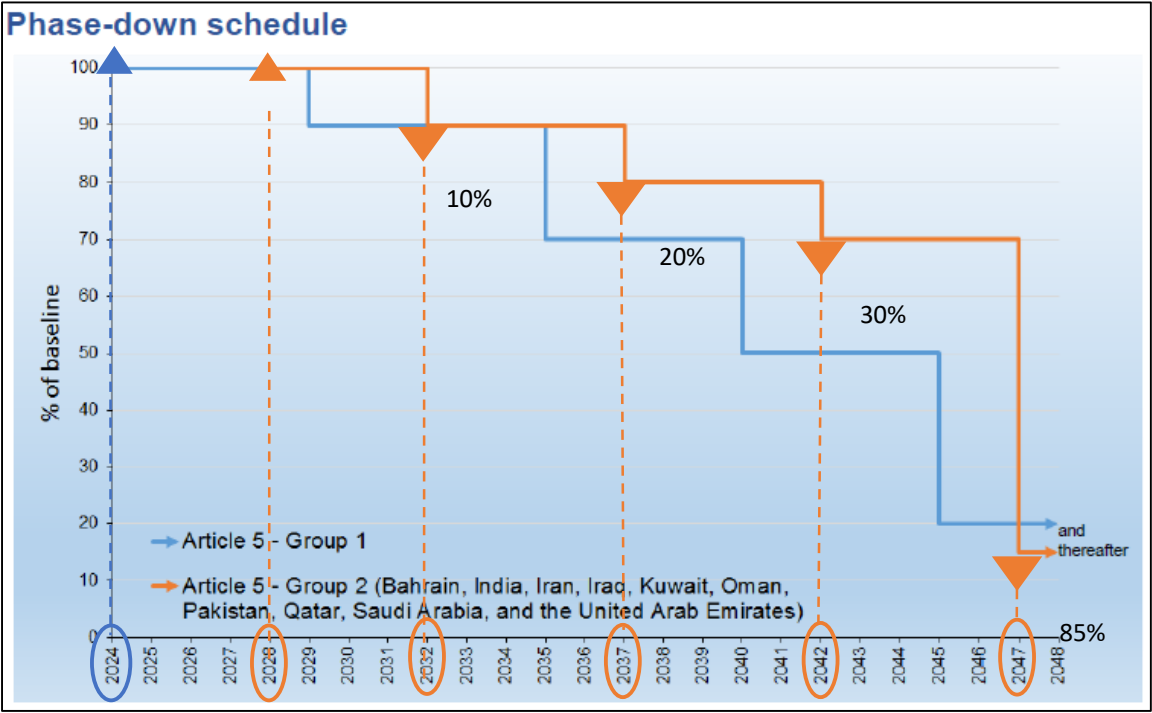
- Automotive sector growth will have a **huge impact on fuel use and refrigerant demand**, which is estimated to **grow 4 times** (~6000 MT in 2017 to ~25000 MT by 2038)
- The Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways has announced that for road safety, **air-conditioned cabins are mandatory for all trucks from June, 2025** (refrigerant demand for new trucks will surge by ~500 MT in 2025 and increase to ~1500 MT in 2037)



India's HFC Phase-Down Commitment under Kigali Amendment

Kigali amendment of Montreal Protocol: Reduction based on Average Refrigerant Consumption for Article 5 parties

	Article 5 Parties: Group 1	 Article 5 Parties: Group 2
Baseline Years	2020, 2021 & 2022	2024, 2025 & 2026
Baseline Calculation	Average production/consumption of HFCs in 2020, 2021, and 2022 plus 65% of HCFC baseline production/consumption	Average production/consumption of HFCs in 2024, 2025, and 2026 plus 65% of HCFC baseline production/consumption
Reduction steps		
Freeze	2024	2028
Step 1	2029 10%	2032 10%
Step 2	2035 30%	2037 20%
Step 3	2040 50%	2042 30%
Step 4	2045 80%	2047 85%



Group 1 Compliance Start: 2024
Group 2 Compliance Start: 2028

20% Tail : 2045
15% Tail : 2047

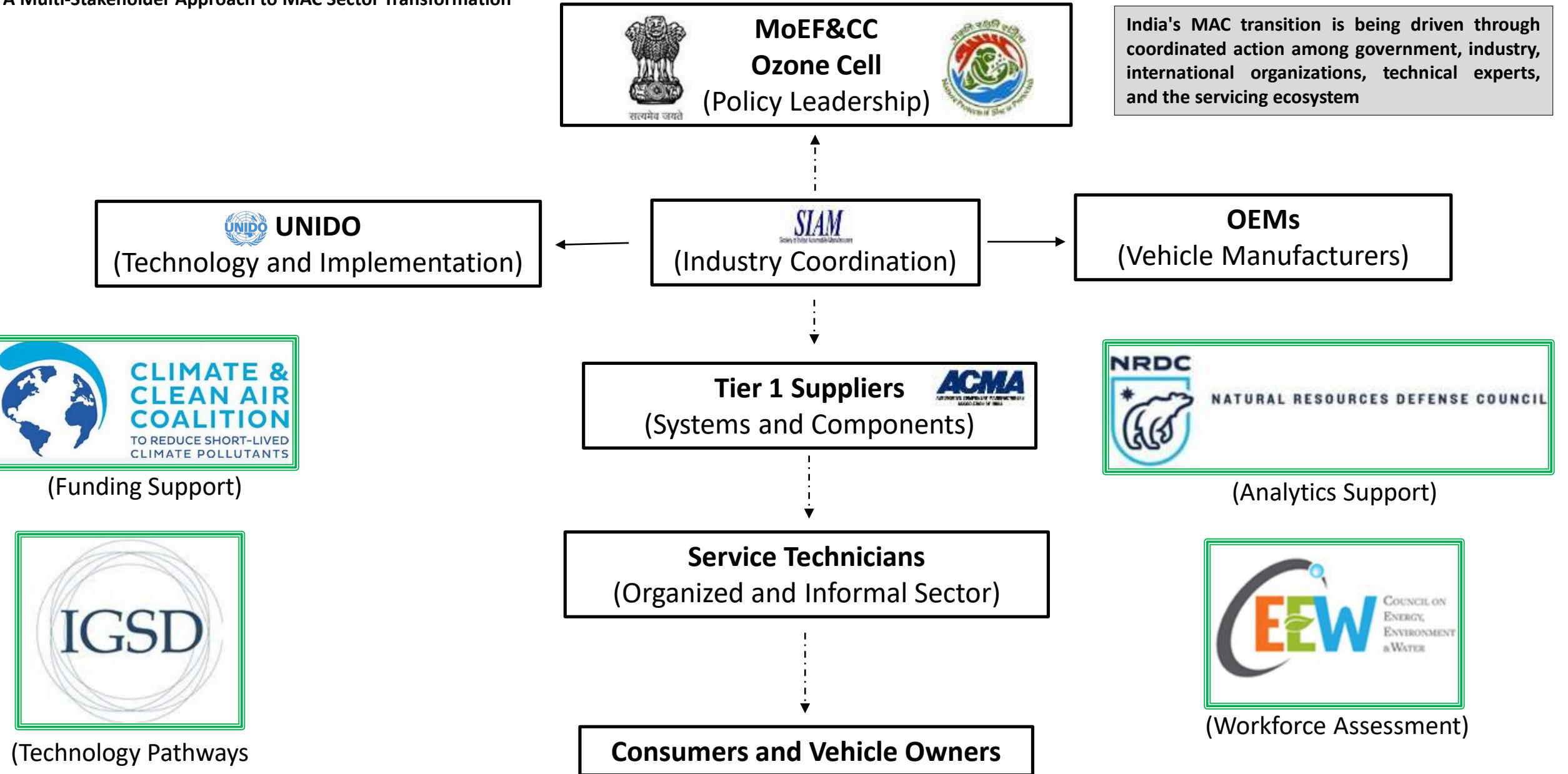
▲ Freeze year for group 1 parties
▲ Freeze year for group 2 parties 

HCFC baseline for A5 parties is equal to average of 2009-2010

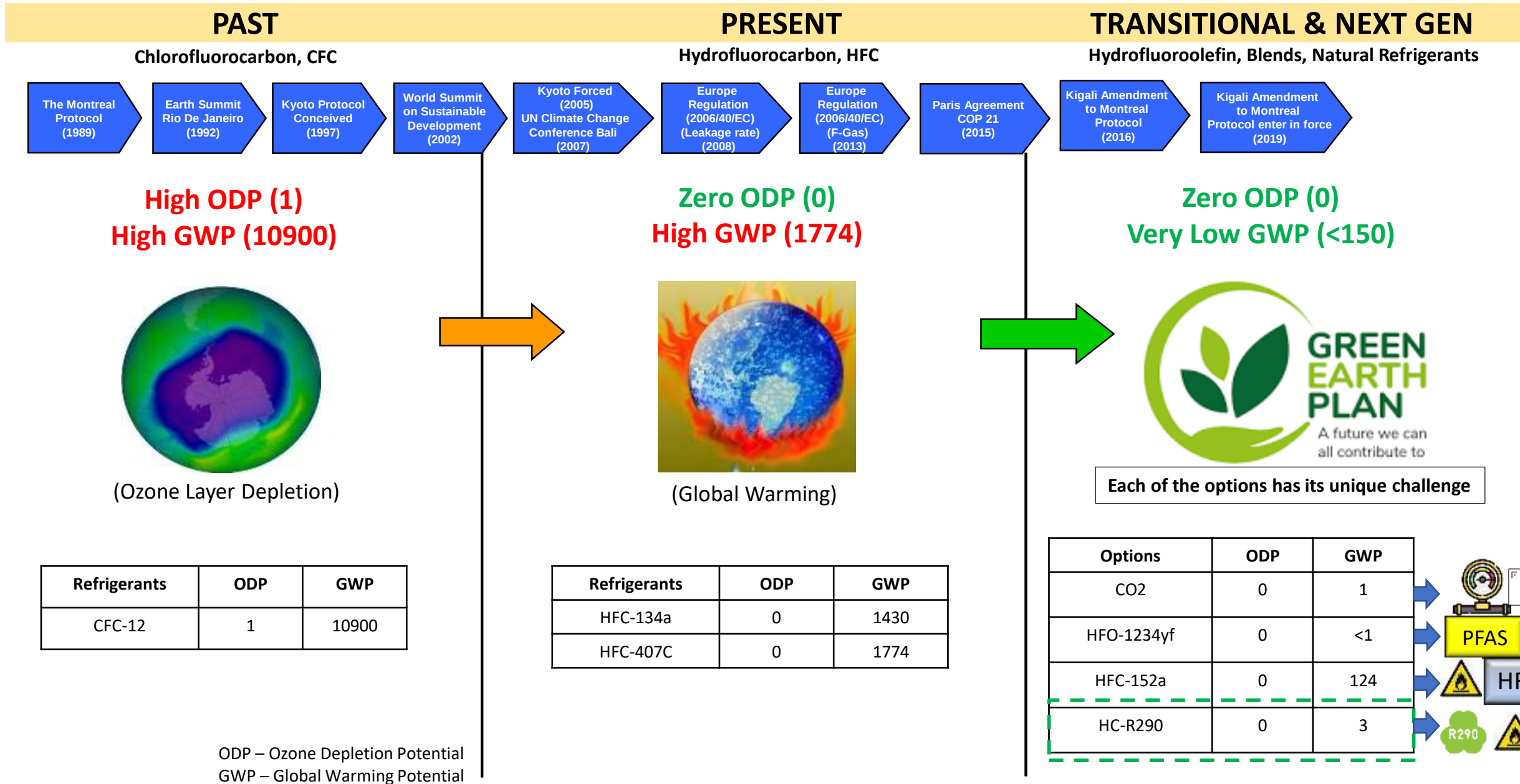


Building the Ecosystem for Sustainable Mobility Cooling in India

A Multi-Stakeholder Approach to MAC Sector Transformation



Technology Pathways for India's MAC Sector



Why R – 290 (Propane)



- It is **safe for the ozone layer** or climate (ODP $\approx$ 0), aligning with the goals of the Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment
- It has one of the **lowest GWPs ($\approx$ 3)** of any refrigerant currently in use. It significantly reduces the environmental footprint compared to high GWP refrigerants like R-134a ($\approx$ 1430) or even R-152a ($\approx$ 124)
- It has **excellent thermodynamic performance**, energy efficient in both heating and cooling (SAE-TMR CRP results) 
- Unlike HFO 1234yf, it **does not degrade into trifluoroacetic acid (TFA)**, considered in some definitions as a per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) commonly known as “everywhere and forever” chemical, that is eco-toxic and polluting
- It is **inexpensive, naturally occurring** (a hydrocarbon), and **widely available at competitive price** making it ideal for mass production- lower refrigerant charge needed → **smaller system sizes** and reduced material costs
- Making it Safe - A small refrigerant charge is **safely used in a Monoblock secondary loop heat pump** and a nonflammable fluid to transfer hot and cold to occupied spaces, inverters, and batteries



Pilot Project of R-290 Refrigerant Substitution Technology for Electric Vehicles



Project Overview

Technology Demonstrations



- Pilot project of **HC-290 refrigerant substitution technology for Electric Vehicles** operating under typical Indian climatic conditions
- Development of guidelines for **standard operating procedures on safe use of HC-290 in Mobile AC systems**
- The learnings from this pilot project can **benefit other sectors such as room and building air conditioning**

Capacity Building and Knowledge Dissemination



- Conduct a **Train-the-Trainers workshop** and build a robust and future-ready capacity within India's organized automotive servicing ecosystem → transition to **low-GWP refrigerants**
- Support safe and efficient adoption of **next-gen, low-GWP refrigerants e.g. HC-290 (propane)**
- Disseminate the achievements and outcomes of the pilot project domestically and internationally

Outlook for 2026

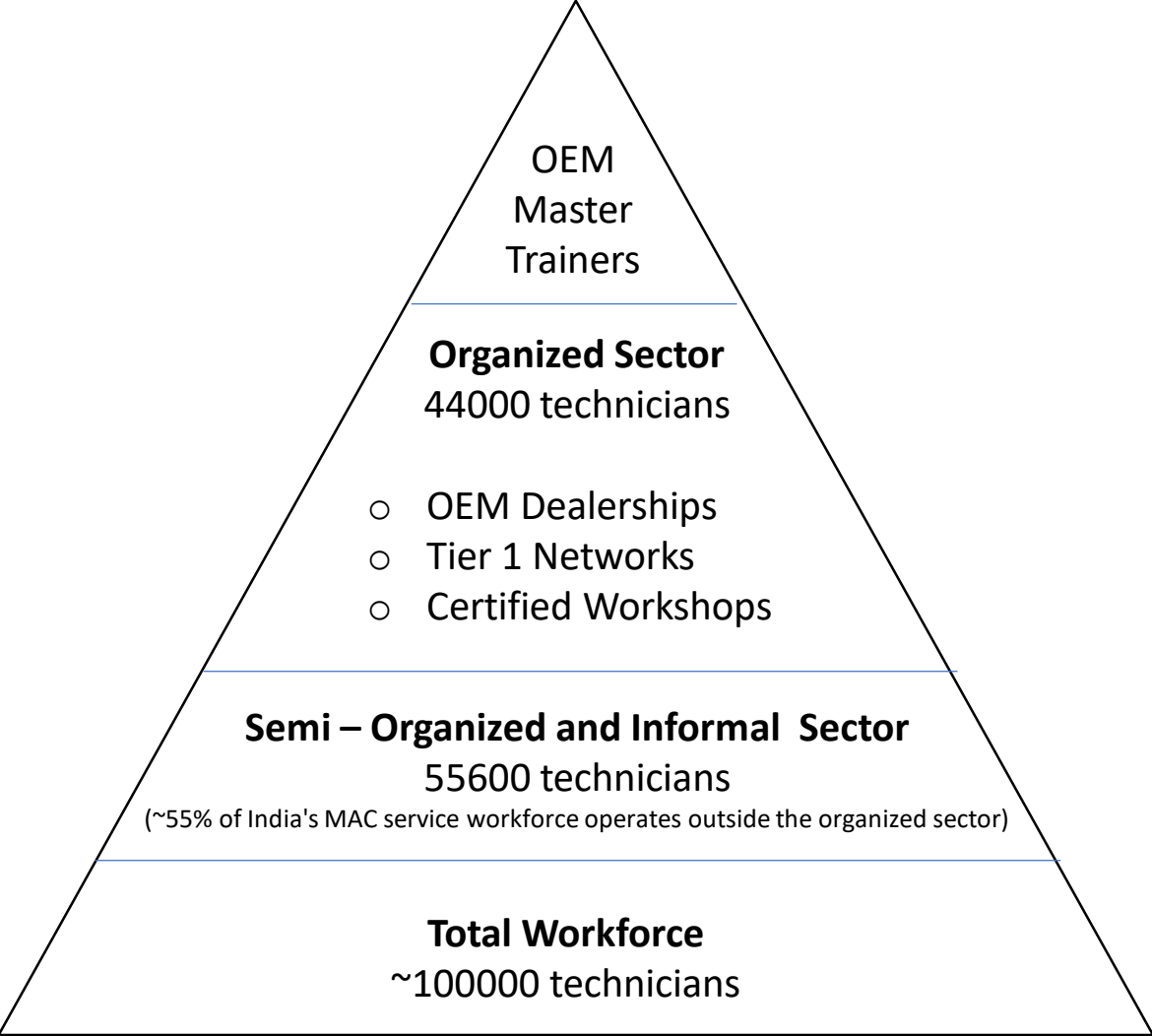
- Organize an 'Inception Workshop' on 'Demonstration of R-290 Refrigerant Substitution Technology for Electric Vehicles in India', with participation from, Ozone Cell, MoEF&CC, auto OEM's, Tier 1 vendors, SIAM and discuss case studies by international experts from China, USA and Europe
- Build a certified pool of master trainers within OEMs and Tier 1 ecosystem to organize the Train the Trainer Workshop with National and International trainers
- Identify a suitable Nodal Agency and develop a plan for pursuing further activities linked to Service Training in the Informal MAC Sector; with inputs and direction from Ozone Cell, MoEF&CC

Technology Demonstration Alone is Not Enough

Successful transition requires

- ✓ Technology
- ✓ Standards
- ✓ Safety
- ✓ Skilled technicians
- ✓ Industry readiness

Skills Development: India's MAC Sector, Scale of the Opportunity



Source: CEEW
MAC Sector Estimates and Projections, 2025

Challenge	Opportunity
Refrigerant leakage	Technician training
Safety risks	Certification
Informal servicing	Capacity building
End-of-life emissions	Recovery & recycling

Successful refrigerant transition requires capacity building across the entire servicing ecosystem



"Technology transition alone is insufficient. A successful HFC phase-down requires a trained, certified and future-ready servicing workforce across both organized and informal sectors"

Barriers To Large Scale Adoption of Hydrocarbon Refrigerants



Main Characteristics of Refrigerants

Refrigerant	GWP	TFA	Flammable	Toxic	Comparative costs	
					Refrigerant	Installation
HFCs	High	Some are and a few form TFA	No GWP < 750 Moderate	Low, but toxic fumes when burning	Moderate	Low
HFOs	Low	Some are and several form TFA	Moderate	Not acute, but toxic fumes when burning	High	Low Drop In
Hydrocarbons	Low	No	Yes	Low	Low	Moderate System Engineering
Carbon Dioxide	Low	No	No	Above 10%	Low	Moderate System Engineering

- Technology:** Need for system redesign
- Safety:** Flammability concerns
- Standards:** On going Development
- Servicing:** Technician readiness
- Economics:** Cost of alternatives
- Policy:** Regulatory clarity

The Central Question
How do we enable safe commercialization?

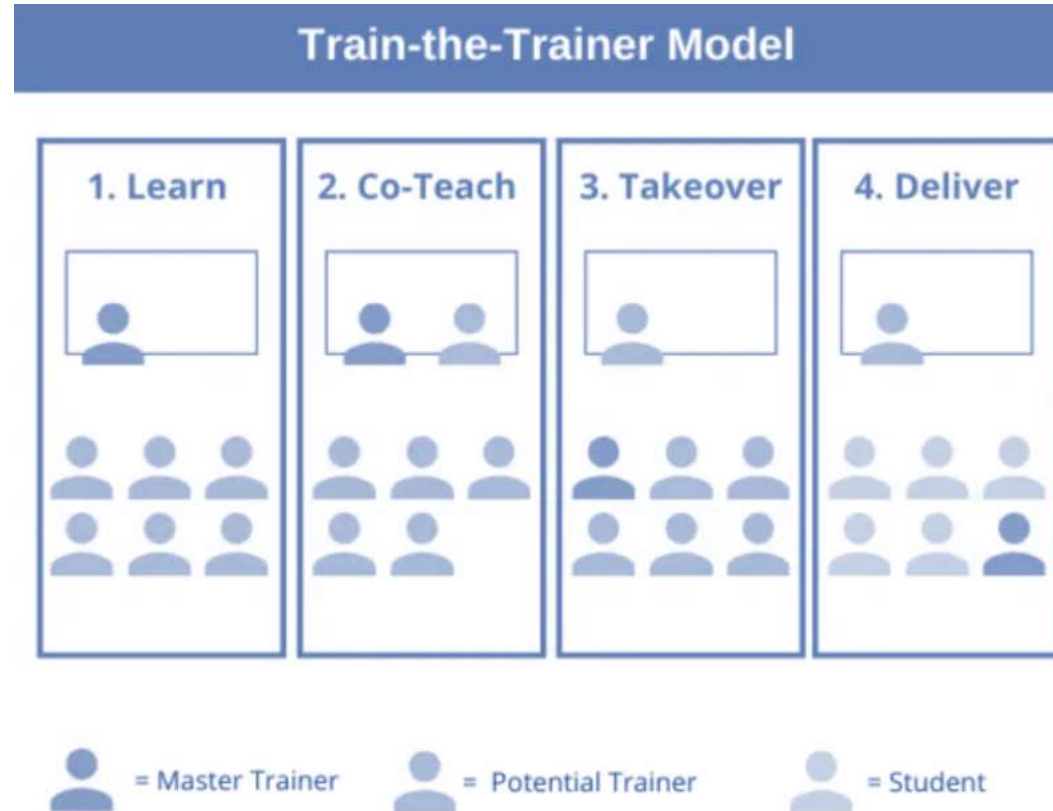
UNIDO–SIAM Train-the-Trainer Programme for Service Personnel in the Organized MAC Sector



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Way Forward



- India's MAC sector is entering a **critical transition phase** as the country prepares for its **HFC freeze in 2028** and phased **reductions beginning in 2032**
- Technology innovation and demonstration projects such as the **UNIDO-CCAC-Tata Motors R-290 initiative** are helping **de-risk future low-GWP refrigerant pathways** and generate knowledge for industry-wide adoption
- In the interim, **HFO 1234yf based MAC Systems at a competitive price will gain traction on ICE vehicles** in A5 markets as compared to other low GWP refrigerants, as HFO 1234yf is already accepted in Asian, European, and North American non-Article 5 markets
- The **availability and patent related high price of HFO 1234yf is the primary barrier to early adoption among Indian OEMs** and it is being reconsidered in Europe due to PFAS concerns
- Workforce readiness is equally important. A successful transition will require **structured training, certification, and capacity building across both, the organized sector** (like the UNIDO – SIAM Train the Trainer Project) **and informal servicing sectors**
- The transition cannot be delivered by any single stakeholder. Success will depend on **continued collaboration** among governments, industry, international organizations, technical institutions, and the servicing community

Acknowledgements

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14. Additional technical inputs and project data courtesy of Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd., UNIDO Project Team, SIAM, IGSD, and participating project partners.

India's Transition Towards Sustainable Mobility Cooling

Successful refrigerant transition is not simply about **selecting a refrigerant**
It requires **technology innovation, safety engineering, standards development, workforce capacity, and strong partnerships**

.... together, countries can accelerate the transition toward climate-friendly mobility cooling **through cooperation, knowledge sharing and innovation**



Thank You for your Time and Attention!
Happy to take Questions ...

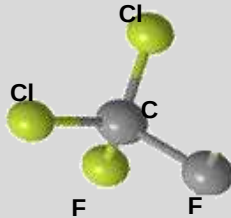
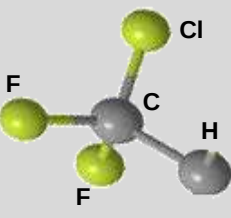
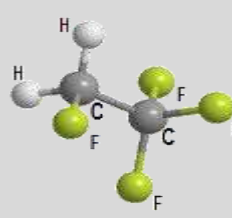
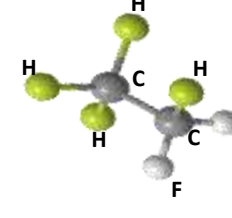
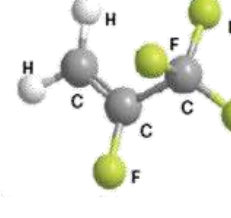
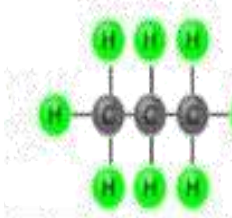
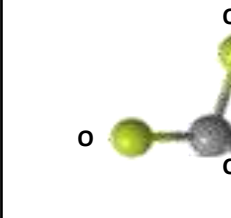


Back Up

Data Collection: Production and Consumption of HFCs

Parameter		Gas		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	
Mobile air conditioning										
Cars Buses, Trucks	Installed base at year starting	000 units								
	Newly installed units	000 units								
	Number of decommissioned units	000 units								
	Weighted average unit refrigeration capacity	kW								
	Weighted average refrigerant charge size per equipment	kg/unit								
	CFC - 12	%	The sum of all components should be 100%.							
	HFC - 134a	%								
	HFO - 1234yf	%								
	Other refrigerants (specify)	%								
	Total	%		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Leakage rate during initial charge	%								
	Annual operational leakage rate from banked gas	%								
	Equipment lifespan	years								
	Initial charge remaining in the equipment at End-of-life	%								
	End-of-life recovery rate	%								

Three Generations of MAC Refrigerant: Potential Alternatives

Status →	Phased Out		Current	Future: Potential Alternatives			
Category →	CFC	HCFC	HFC	HFC- Blends	HFO	HC	CO ₂
Parameter ↓	R12	R22 Building Air Conditioning	R134a	R152a	R1234yf	R290	R744
Bonding							
Molecular Formula	CF ₂ Cl ₂	CHF ₃ Cl	CH ₂ FCF ₃	CH ₃ CHF ₂	CH ₂ CFCF ₃	CH ₃ CH ₂ CH ₃	CO ₂
IUPAC Name	Dichloro Difluoro Methane	Chloro Difluoro Methane	1,1,1,2- Tetra Fluoro Ethane	1,1- Di-Fluoro Ethane	2,3,3,3- Tetra Fluoro Propane	Propane	Carbon Di-Oxide
ODP	1 (2 Chlorine Atoms)	0.05 (1 Chlorine Atom)	0	0	0	0	0
GWP (100 Years)	10900	1810	1430	124	<1	3 (20)	1
Atmospheric lifetime	100 years	12 years	14 Years	1.4 Years	4 Years (TFA generation)	0.041 Year (VOC)	>100 Years
Flammability (ASHRAE)	A1	A1	A1	A2 (Slightly)	A2L (Mildly)	A3 (Extremely Flammable)	A1
Critical Temperature (°C)	111.9	96.14	101.06	113.26	92.42	96.7	31.04
Critical Pressure (Bar)	41.36	49.9	40.6	45.16	33.82	42.5	73.85
Normal Boiling Point (°C)	-29.8	-40.7	-26.3	-25	-29.4	-42.1	-78

R-744 has some production in small, cold environments by some EU OEMs, but, given its low efficiency at high ambient temperatures and high pressures and complex controls, is not a good option for India

A1 : No flame propagation

A2 : Slightly flammable- Lower flammability limit @ 60°C: > 100 g/m³ or Heat of Combustion < 19 Mega J/kg

A2L : Mildly flammable-Lower flammability limit @ 60°C: > 100 g/m³ and Heat of Combustion < 19 Mega J/kg With Maximum Burning Velocity < 10 cm/s

A3 : Extremely flammable