***Creating Synergies between Climate and Ozone Action in Rwanda***

*05 November 2026, 13:00 – 14:30*

## 1. Background and Rationale

The ozone layer and the climate system are closely linked. The Montreal Protocol has protected the ozone layer and, through the Kigali Amendment adopted in Kigali in 2016, now also drives the phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), potent greenhouse gases whose control could avoid up to roughly 0.5°C of warming by 2100. As Rwanda hosts MOP38 and the Kigali Amendment marks its tenth anniversary, it is the right moment to show how ozone action and climate action can reinforce each other rather than run in parallel.

In Rwanda, these links are practical. Sustainable cooling, improved refrigeration and air-conditioning practices, and the adoption of low-GWP and energy-efficient technologies deliver ozone, climate and development benefits at once. They also depend on the same foundations as Rwanda's wider climate agenda: reliable data and monitoring, clear institutional mandates, trained people, and financing that reaches communities. HFC and other refrigerant-related emissions are part of the national greenhouse gas inventory that supports Rwanda's reporting under the UNFCCC Enhanced Transparency Framework, so the same evidence informs both the Montreal Protocol and the Paris Agreement.

Rwanda is also advancing ecosystem restoration, climate resilience and biodiversity efforts as part of its wider climate action. These efforts share institutions, communities and sources of finance with its ozone and sustainable cooling work, which creates opportunities for common data and monitoring, joint planning in the same districts and communities, and financing that serves several objectives at once. This side event will bring those threads together.

By convening national institutions, technical partners and development partners during MOP38, the event will move beyond presenting separate projects towards identifying concrete synergies, strengthening coordination and mobilising support for integrated climate, ozone and nature action in Rwanda.

## 2. Overall Objective

To showcase how Rwanda is creating synergies between climate action, ozone-layer protection and nature-based and biodiversity efforts, and to strengthen collaboration among national institutions and development partners to deliver these benefits together.

## 3. Specific Objectives

The event aims to:

1. **Link ozone and climate action:** Show how Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment implementation, including sustainable cooling and HFC phase-down, contributes to Rwanda's climate commitments and development priorities.
2. **Showcase climate action beyond cooling:** Present Rwanda's restoration, resilience and biodiversity efforts and discuss where they connect with cooling, energy-efficiency and livelihood interventions.
3. **Strengthen coordination and mobilise partnerships:** Facilitate dialogue among REMA, the Ministry of Environment, implementing agencies, ACES, development partners and the private sector on shared priorities, gaps and joint financing opportunities.

## 4. Expected Outcomes

- A clearer shared understanding of where climate, ozone and biodiversity actions reinforce one another in Rwanda.
- A short list of practical entry points for collaboration, for example shared data, joint planning at district level, and combined financing proposals.
- Stronger visibility for Rwanda's integrated approach among Montreal Protocol parties during MOP38.
- Commitments or expressions of interest from partners to follow up, captured in the closing summary.

## 5. Expected Participants

The event will bring together representatives from the following institutions and stakeholder groups:

- **National institutions:** Ministry of Environment, REMA, Rwanda Water Resources Board, Rwanda Development Board, Rwanda Forestry Authority, Rwanda Meteorology Agency, and the Ministries of Health, Education, and Agriculture and Animal Resources, among others.
- **Technical and implementation partners:** ACES and organisations implementing projects on ozone protection, air conditioning, sustainable cooling, landscape restoration and biodiversity.
- **Development partners and donors:** Representatives of the UK Government, the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the World Bank, UNDP, UNEP, and other bilateral and multilateral partners supporting climate action, nature and sustainable cooling.
- **Secretariat:** The Ozone Secretariat.
- **Fellow parties to the Montreal Protocol:** Both Article 5 and non-Article 5 parties.
- **Private-sector stakeholders:** Refrigeration and air-conditioning companies, technicians, importers, service providers, and other relevant industry actors.
- **Other stakeholders:** Academic institutions, civil society organisations, technical experts, and friends of Rwanda, including representatives of relevant regional and international initiatives.

## 6. Proposed Format and Key Activities

The 90-minute side event will combine opening remarks, a presentation of Rwanda's integrated approach, a moderated panel discussion with audience questions, and closing remarks.

### 6.1 Moderated Panel Discussion: From Evidence to Joint Delivery

The panel will bring together a moderator and five speakers from government, implementing agencies and development partners. It will explore how evidence, institutional coordination,

technical capacity and financing can be combined so that restoration, biodiversity, climate and ozone actions deliver more together than apart. Indicative guiding questions:

1. Where do climate, ozone and nature agendas already meet on the ground in Rwanda, and where do they still run in parallel?
2. How can data from the greenhouse gas inventory, project monitoring and biodiversity indicators be shared so that each process strengthens the others?
3. How can restoration and resilience investments be connected with sustainable cooling and cold-chain interventions in the same landscapes and communities?
4. What do development partners need to see in order to finance integrated rather than separate programmes?

**7. Proposed Agenda**

**Total duration: 90 minutes**

| Time | Activity | Proposed lead |
|---|---|---|
| **12:45 – 13:00** | **Standing lunch** | |
| 13:00 – 13:05 | Welcome and introduction | Moderator |
| 13:05 – 13:15 | Opening remarks | Hon Minister of Environment |
| 13:15 – 13:30 | Presentation: Rwanda's integrated climate, ozone and nature agenda, from measurement to action | REMA |
| 13:30 – 14:00 | Panel: From Evidence to Joint Delivery<br><br>opening perspectives from each panellist<br><br>moderated discussion on shared data, joint delivery and financing<br><br>questions and comments from the floor | Panelists tbc |

| Time | Activity | Proposed lead |
|---|---|---|
| 14:00 – 14:20 | Reflections | [Ozone Secretariat] , representatives of development partners (tbc) |
| 14:20 – 14:30 | Closing Remarks | Hon Minister of Environment |