

**SAINT LUCIA National Report
To the 9th Ozone Research Managers' Meeting
14 – 16 May 2014, Geneva, Switzerland**

1. Monitoring Activities

Saint Lucia does not currently have an institute or body that undertakes monitoring in ozone or ozone depleting gases. Saint Lucia depends on monitoring conducted by other countries and as a result, these results may not necessarily be applicable for Saint Lucia, as the focus may be national/regional rather than a broader international, and more specifically, conditions in the Eastern Caribbean.

2. Research on stratospheric ozone

Saint Lucia does not have the capacity to undertake research on stratospheric ozone levels. Owing to this, Saint Lucia depends on research conducted by other countries such as Canada through its Canadian Brewer Ozone Spectrophotometer Network and the United States SA through its National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/Environment Protection Agency (NOAA/EPA) Brewer spectrophotometer network. It should be noted that this research may not cover the Easter Caribbean area.

3. Research on stratospheric ozone depletion processes

Saint Lucia does not have the capacity to conduct research on the stratospheric ozone depletion process.

4. Services of relevance to the ozone depletion problem

The Government of Saint Lucia, through the National Ozone Unit (NOU), hosts a web site which provides information on Saint Lucia's ODS phase out programme. This includes background on the Montreal Protocol, the national compliance strategy and plan, policies and legislation, projects and activities, and public awareness and education activities. The website, <http://www.estis.net/sites/nou-lc/>, also contains information on the ozone layer, ozone layer depletion, brief information on ozone measurements and the ozone hole.

Owing to the constraints noted in 1, 2 and 3 above, the website links to other research and monitoring institutes such as the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Ozone Resource Page, to allow visitors to the page to easily access current data on ozone layer depletion, status of the ozone hole and other research activities.

As part of the HCFC Phase out Management Plan (HPMP) and the Institutional Strengthening Project (ISP) for Saint Lucia, the NOU constantly provides information on ozone layer depletion to the general public through various mediums such as newspaper articles, press releases, workshops, seminars and televised programmes produced by agencies such as UNEP.

5. Future Plans and Recommendations

Saint Lucia is part of the English-Speaking Caribbean Region and Haiti, which comprises of 14 Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The unique challenges facing SIDS within the context of sustainable development were first recognized by the international community at the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), also known as the Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992. The special case of small islands and coastal areas was highlighted in Agenda 21 – the programme of action for sustainable development adopted as an essential outcome of the conference. The peculiar challenges that SIDS face include, among others: difficulties in benefitting from trade liberalization and globalization; heavy dependence on coastal and marine resources for their livelihood including food security; heavy dependence on tourism which can be easily impacted by climate change and natural disasters; energy dependence and access issue; the limited freshwater resources; limited land resulting in land degradation, which affects waste management, and vulnerable biodiversity resources.

Central and Satellite Monitoring and Research Stations for the Caribbean

The ability of SIDS of the English Caribbean and Haiti, to develop and access country-specific data on the status of the ozone layer, ODSs in the atmosphere and levels of UV is of critical importance to its tourism and fisheries sectors, as well as the health of its citizens and visitors. Considering the small size and dispersed nature of the countries, an approach would be to build capacity within a central institute in one of the Caribbean Islands, to allow for ozone and ODS monitoring and research. Satellite monitoring and research stations could then be established by building capacity within existing national meteorological or other suitable stations, to allow for the sharing of and access to this data. National satellite monitoring and research stations would also have the ability to upload country-specific data that perhaps the regional central institute may not have covered or may not have been able to detect.

This network for the Caribbean will not only strengthen regional and global ozone monitoring and research, but will also create and foster a culture of research and monitoring specific to ozone layer protection and environmental management.

Enhancing National Cooperation

The NOU will engage national meteorological office, with the view of discussing the possibility of including UV readings in its monitoring and reporting system. This should be done in consultation with other interested parties.