Industrialization and the Montreal Protocol: How Environmental Compliance Promotes Sustainable Industrial Development

Tuesday, 3 November, 2026
Convention Centre | 13:00 p.m. – 15:00 p.m.
Room: MH2-A

ORGANIZERS: UNIDO

BACKGROUND:

Industrialization remains a key engine of economic development. Under its mandate for inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID), UNIDO supports its Member States in building competitive, resource-efficient and low-emission industries. Since 1992, UNIDO has also served as an implementing agency of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, assisting developing countries to phase out ozone-depleting substances and, since the adoption of the Kigali Amendment in 2016, to phase down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

Policies promoted for compliance with the Protocol are environmental by design, but they also act as sectoral industrial policies: they send long-term market signals, stimulate investment in new technologies, build skills and help local manufacturers compete. This is particularly relevant for the cooling sector. Demand for air conditioning, refrigeration and cold chains is rising rapidly, especially in hot and fast-growing economies. Well-designed transitions to low-GWP, energy-efficient cooling can deliver compliance, climate and industrial benefits together.

OBJECTIVE:

The event aims to:

- Frame the link between UNIDO's ISID mandate and its Montreal Protocol work, with a focus on the cooling sector;
- Discuss how Montreal Protocol policies can serve as industrial policies that strengthen local industries; and
- Share country and industry examples of compliance driving industrial upgrading, investment and jobs.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

Participants will see how Montreal Protocol implementation contributes to industrial development beyond its environmental benefits. The event will identify practical ways to integrate ozone and climate commitments into national industrial and cooling strategies, highlight replicable practices and strengthen partnerships among governments, industry, academia and UNIDO for the next phase of Kigali Amendment implementation and the 2027–2029 replenishment of the Multilateral Fund.

AGENDA – TUESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION DETAILS
13:00 – 13:30	**Lunch**
13:30 - 13:35	**Welcome Remarks** Welcome to participants and introduction of the event's objectives and format. • **Jude Sentogo, UNIDO**
13:35 - 13:45	**Opening Remarks** Contribution of the Montreal Protocol to sustainable industrial development, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Kigali Amendment. • **Alessandro Peru, Italy**
13:45 - 14:00	**Industrialization, the Montreal Protocol and the Cooling Sector** Presentations on UNIDO's mandate for inclusive and sustainable industrial development, its role as an implementing agency of the Montreal Protocol, and how compliance with the Protocol can drive the growth and competitiveness of local industries, with a focus on the cooling sector. • **Liazzat Rabbiosi, UNIDO**
14:00 – 14:50	**Panel Discussion** Moderated panel bringing together governments, the private sector and academia to share concrete examples of how Montreal Protocol policies – licensing and quotas, standards, energy performance standards, technician certification and incentives – have driven industrial upgrading, investment, job creation and export competitiveness, followed by questions from participants. Moderator: **Alois Mhlanga, UNIDO** • **Ms. Anastasia O'Rourke, CCL and Yale University** • **Ms. Berenice Rojas, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Mexico** • **Mr. Kevin Basoa, Ministry of the Environment, Chile** • **Mr. Lin TENG, Moon Tech, China** • **Mr. Valerio Forconi, Trane Technologies** • **Mr. Radim Çermak, International Institute of Refrigeration** • **Mr. Baolong Wang, Tsinghua University**
14:55 - 15:00	**Closing** Key takeaways and the way forward for integrating Montreal Protocol implementation into national industrial development strategies. • **Idris Abdullahi, Federal Ministry of Environment, Nigeria**