



## REPORT



### 1. INTRODUCTION

The year 2017 is a milestone to be celebrated not only for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Montreal Protocol but it is also Samoa's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in ratifying the Vienna Convention and the Protocol. Samoa commemorated these anniversaries of the Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the ozone layer through various events throughout the week with the main celebrations taken place on the Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

The theme 'Caring for all life under the sun' led Samoa to emphasize and focus this year on promoting collaboration within Government Ministries and other stakeholders to highlight the importance of ozone protection as well as preventing global warming. In addition, the program aimed to provide the most effective awareness by covering a wider range of audience by television programs and activities for College students.

### 2. PRECEEDING ACTIVITIES

#### 2.1 Television Program

The filming of the 15minutes documentary took place from the 28<sup>th</sup> August – 7<sup>th</sup> September 2017. This documentary was for a program called 'E te Silafia?' (Do you know?) on Samoa's Broadcasting Corporation (TV1). The program aimed to inform the Public of the collaboration carried out by the Government Ministries and the project's stakeholders to not only protect the ozone layer but also prevent greenhouse gas emissions to be in line with this years' theme for International Ozone day.

The Minister for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment highlighted the importance of the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol on the program while the Ministry's Chief Executive Officer stressed the Ministry's role in protecting the Ozone layer. The main stakeholders, namely, Customs Department, Samoa Refrigeration Engineer's Association, Ministry of Commerce Industry of Labour, Legal Division and Quarantine were all involved in compiling the documentary.

The program was aired on national television on the 13<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> September.

#### 2.2 Blue Ribbons distribution



To promote awareness for the main event on Friday 15<sup>th</sup>, blue ribbons were distributed from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September around the country. Boxes of blue ribbons were distributed in Government Offices and schools.

These blue ribbons represent ozone protection and all efforts to use low GWP alternatives. They were also distributed during the promotional events and worn by all participants of the main ceremony and celebrations on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

### 2.3 Private Sector Consultation

A consultation was also held for the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Sector on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September at the Meteorology Conference House. This aimed at collecting views of the sector in how the Ministry can work with them to achieve the best strategy in phasing out HFCs. Presentations were delivered by the Ozone Section to stress the importance of compliance with the Ozone Layer Protection Regulations and the licensing system. The Sector was also reminded of the implications that comes with the Kigali Amendment and update on new technologies.



The main concern raised by the RAC Sector was in terms of transition costs and the timeframe that they will have to work with. However it was clarified that there is ample time for the transition into environmental safe technologies and collaboration is required between the Sector and the Ministry to enable this transition to be successful.



The issue of training on flammable refrigerants was raised due to lack of capacity in the country to handle the incoming flammable alternatives to HFCs and HCFCs. The RAC Industry was informed that the Government is prepared to provide necessary training to facilitate the phase down of HFCs.

### 3. International Ozone Day Celebration



Government Ministries representatives, major stakeholders, members of the Private Sector and College students attended the event at the Meteorology compound. The Opening blessing of the Ceremony was given by Rev. Talalelei Tuafafo Taau, EFKS - Sogi. The Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) was the host for the opening ceremony. The official opening statement was delivered by Hon. Deputy Prime Minister also Minister of MNRE, Hon. Fiaame Naomi Mataafa.

The official opening was followed by the launching of the Meteorology Glossary, What Gas Mobile App and Online e-learning course on refrigerants produced by UNEP to assist Samoa in achieving its goals. In addition to promote joined initiatives to protect the ozone layer and prevent climate change the HimawariCast equipment was also officially handed over to the Government of Samoa by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) to reflect Samoa's goal to promote research and establish stratospheric ozone monitoring. The satellite imagery receiver was donated by the Government of Japan through the World Meteorological Organization's Voluntary Cooperation Program to assist countries of the Pacific including Samoa with weather forecast, and an opportunity for ozone research.

Five Government, Private and Church Colleges around the country participated in educational and competitive activities during the day. These activities include a poster competition that will be used for the Ozone 2018 calendar compilation, pop quiz, translations, and word games. The main activity was the talent contest which was divided into two categories, college students and the Samoa Refrigeration Engineers Association members. The colleges performed in groups while the later were done individually.



#### 4. On the day activities

##### 4.1 Launch of the Meteorology Glossary, What Gas App, Online-learning course & brochures

The Meteorology Glossary was also launched soon after the opening Ceremony by the Hon. Minister. This glossary contains the translation of meteorological terms including terms used in the ozone protection program into the Samoan language for easy public understanding. The 'What Gas Mobile App' and Online e-learning course on refrigerants produced by UNEP to assist Samoa in achieving its goals was also introduced for public awareness.

Two brochures were also produced by the Ozone Section with simplified information for students and the public to promote understanding on ozone science and what functions of the Ozone Section.

##### 4.2 Official Handover of the HimawariCast

This year's theme also encouraged collaborative efforts in

##### Equipment

caring for

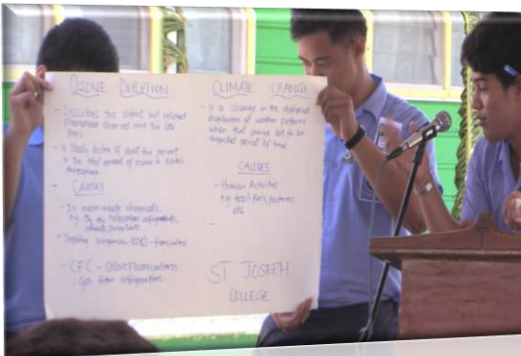
all life under the sun. This was reflected in the combined celebration of the International Ozone day with the handover of the HimawariCast satellite equipment donated by the Government of Japan through the World Meteorological Organization presenting an opportunity for research in ozone monitoring.



### 4.3 Knowledge mapping

Each of the five participating Colleges was given the opportunity to list what they knew about the Ozone Layer and Climate Change. Following this task, two students from each college were chosen to present the information in front of the audience.

It was noted with the presentations and information given by students that they knew the basic information however there was still confusion about which gases causes' ozone depletion and what causes climate change. Therefore the Ozone team offered clarification and distributed brochures for more understanding.



### 4.4 Poster Competition

The students also produced 10 posters in the Poster Competition which allowed creativity to express the theme of the day 'Caring for all life under the sun'. There was only one condition given to the students that the posters must have an umbrella. The posters were artistic, detailed and creative and it was hard for the judges to judge therefore consolation prizes were given to all the colleges present.

The Posters are intended to develop a 2018 Ozone Calendar promoting the protection of the ozone layer as well as



preventing climate change. The calendar will then be distributed to schools especially colleges that participated in the competition.

### 4.3. Word Games

Translation of words into the Samoan language was one word game played by the students. Terms such as stratosphere, hydrochlorofluorocarbons, chlorine and more were given to the students to translate. Samoa also has a unique language which requires the use of pronunciation symbols to reflect the correct articulation of the word therefore Samoan terms were also given to students to spell. The aim of this exercise is to encourage the students to use the Samoan language as well as getting them familiar with the terms used in the protection of the ozone.



### 4.5 Talent Contest – Ozone Songs

The talent contest was divided into two categories, i) College Students ii) Refrigeration technicians. Three groups of students from Samoa College, Leififi College and St. Mary’s College performed acapela songs about ozone and climate change. All three songs reflected a good understanding of the students on the two environmental phenomena with amusing sounds and delivery. All groups were remarkably entertaining therefore were all given consolation prizes.

The winner for the talent contest for the RAC technician category produced a song using a piano singing about how the people of Samoa should be more vigilant in using substances that are harmful to the environment. He also stressed the importance of working together to avoid emissions of these gases. The second place composed his original sounds and song.



## 5. Closing

The prize giving for winners was held during the closing ceremony. The closing formalities were conducted by the Assistance Chief Executive Officer of the Meteorology Division – Mulipola Tainau Ausetalia Titimaea who thanked all the participants that attended the celebration. He also encouraged continuous learning with the provided resources both for students and for the RAC Industry. The program was then officially closed.



*The event was broadcasted by the Media (TV stations, Radio Stations and Newspapers) For video clips please visit our Facebook page 'Samoa National Ozone Unit'*

# POSTERS BY STUDENTS

