China, 17 April 2014 - After months of careful preparation, seven officers from the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPR Korea) - representing the National Coordinating Committee for Environment (NCCE), the Ministry of Chemical Industry, the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection, the Ministry of Electronics Industry, and the service sector – visited Beijing and cities within Guangdong Province (8-15 April) on a study tour, to learn about HCFC alternatives and phase-out approaches. The tour was made possible through the generous assistance of the Foreign Economic Cooperation Office (FECO) within the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) and was facilitated jointly by UNIDO, UNEP China, and UNEP ROAP Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) under the framework of south-south cooperation.

In Beijing the DPR Korea delegation met with FECO officials to learn about institutional set-up, policy formulation and the strategies for HCFC phase-out in China. Assisted by UNEP and the Chinese Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Industry Association (CRAA), the officers also took part in the Ozone2Climate Technology Road show and Industry Roundtable on 10 April 2014 to obtain the latest information on ozone and climate friendly alternative technologies.
In Guangdong province, one of the manufacturing and trade hub in the south of China, Guangdong Meizhi Compressor Ltd, warmly received the delegation and showed them their R-290 and R-410a compressor manufacturing lines. DPR Korea officers interacted with HCFC phase-out stakeholders who are in the forefront of China’s phase-out effort, thanks to the hospitality of the Human Settlements and Environment Commission of Shenzhen Municipality.
This activity was one of UNEP CAP’s special services provided to build some basic HCFC phase-out capacity in DPR Korea even in the absence of substantive resources and external support for national implementation of the HCFC Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP), following the plea made during the Ozone Officers Network Meeting in Yinchuan in 2013.

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