

# Women in the Refrigeration and Air-conditioning Sector

## Call for stories



## Please share your experiences of working in the RAC sector

From female service technicians to installers, from designers to trainers, from manufactures to RAC associations, UN Environment OzonAction are looking to highlight **your** experience.

OzonAction, in cooperation with UN Women, is seeking short 'stories' about women working in the refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) sector, explaining their motivations, training and education, the challenges they may have faced, their experience and day to day details of their working lives.

Being aware of the experiences of women working in the RAC sector and the opportunities available can encourage and inspire other women to consider careers in the sector and support girls to seek to follow a career path in this fast growing and important sector.

OzonAction, therefore is launching a global initiative to raise awareness of the opportunities available to women and to highlight the particular experiences and examples of women working in the sector and to recognise their successes.

*Please see overleaf for details*

All the accepted submissions will be compiled into an official publication and outreach to a broad range of stakeholders in the Montreal Protocol and RAC community.

The authors of the two most relevant and interesting submissions will be invited to attend an award ceremony and side event organised by UN Environment OzonAction at an international Montreal Protocol meeting.

Completed entry forms with descriptions and photos should be received by **31<sup>st</sup> July 2018**.

## Background

Refrigeration and air-conditioning is crucial for our health, nutrition, comfort and well-being. From prevention of food wastage to preservation of vaccines, from air-conditioning in hospitals to our homes we increasingly rely on the advances that refrigeration has brought us.

Appropriate implementation of refrigeration and air-conditioning technologies can assist countries in contributing to achieving the 2015 *United Nations Sustainable Development Goals*. In particular, this can contribute to achieving food security and improved nutrition (Goal 2), in ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being (Goal 3), and promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth (Goal 8). The transition away from ozone depleting substances and chemicals with high global warming potentials has already made a significant impact on combatting climate change (Goal 13). By encouraging and facilitating women to pursue careers in the refrigeration and air-conditioning sector can also contribute to achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls (Goal 5).

The refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) sector is crucial to all countries in the successful phase-out of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and forthcoming phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) under the *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer*. The fast-growing RAC sector can offer a wide variety of interesting and fulfilling careers for women as well as men. However, all around the world the sector has always been a largely male-dominated work environment.

Seeing the RAC sector from a different gender perspective and becoming aware of women's experiences and the opportunities available can encourage and inspire other women to consider careers in the sector and support girls to aspire to follow a career path in this fast growing and important sector.

OzonAction is requesting you to share your experiences and impressions of working in the RAC sector to raise awareness of the opportunities available to inspire women and girls to follow in your footsteps

**UN Women** is the UN organisation dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide.  
[www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org)

## How to apply

If you are a woman working in any part of the RAC sector, we encourage you to submit an entry. Please use the standard template provided. We very much welcome that you provide pictures showing you at work to accompany the submission.

Nominations will be reviewed, verified and edited, as required, by an expert panel established by UN Environment. All the accepted submissions will be compiled into an official UN Environment publication, which will outreach to a broad range of stakeholders in the Montreal Protocol and RAC community.

The authors of the two most relevant and interesting submissions (as decided by the expert panel) will be invited to attend an award ceremony and side event organised by UN Environment OzonAction at an international Montreal Protocol meeting.

Completed submissions, sent by email, based on the standard template (with photos) should be received by the UN Environment regional focal points (see list below) as soon as possible but at the latest **by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018**.

Africa (English-speaking):

[patrick.salifu@unenvironment.org](mailto:patrick.salifu@unenvironment.org)

Africa (French-speaking):

[yamar.guisse@unenvironment.org](mailto:yamar.guisse@unenvironment.org)

Caribbean:

[marco.pinzon@pnuma.org](mailto:marco.pinzon@pnuma.org)

Europe and Central Asia:

[halvart.kopen@unenvironment.org](mailto:halvart.kopen@unenvironment.org)

Latin America:

[mirian.vega@pnuma.org](mailto:mirian.vega@pnuma.org)

West Asia:

[ayman.eltalouny@un.org](mailto:ayman.eltalouny@un.org)

South Asia, South-East Asia, Pacific Island Countries:

[hus@un.org](mailto:hus@un.org)

Nominations should preferably be submitted in English but other UN languages will be accepted (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish).

## Contact

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