

# Transformation pathways for safe and sustainable refrigeration.

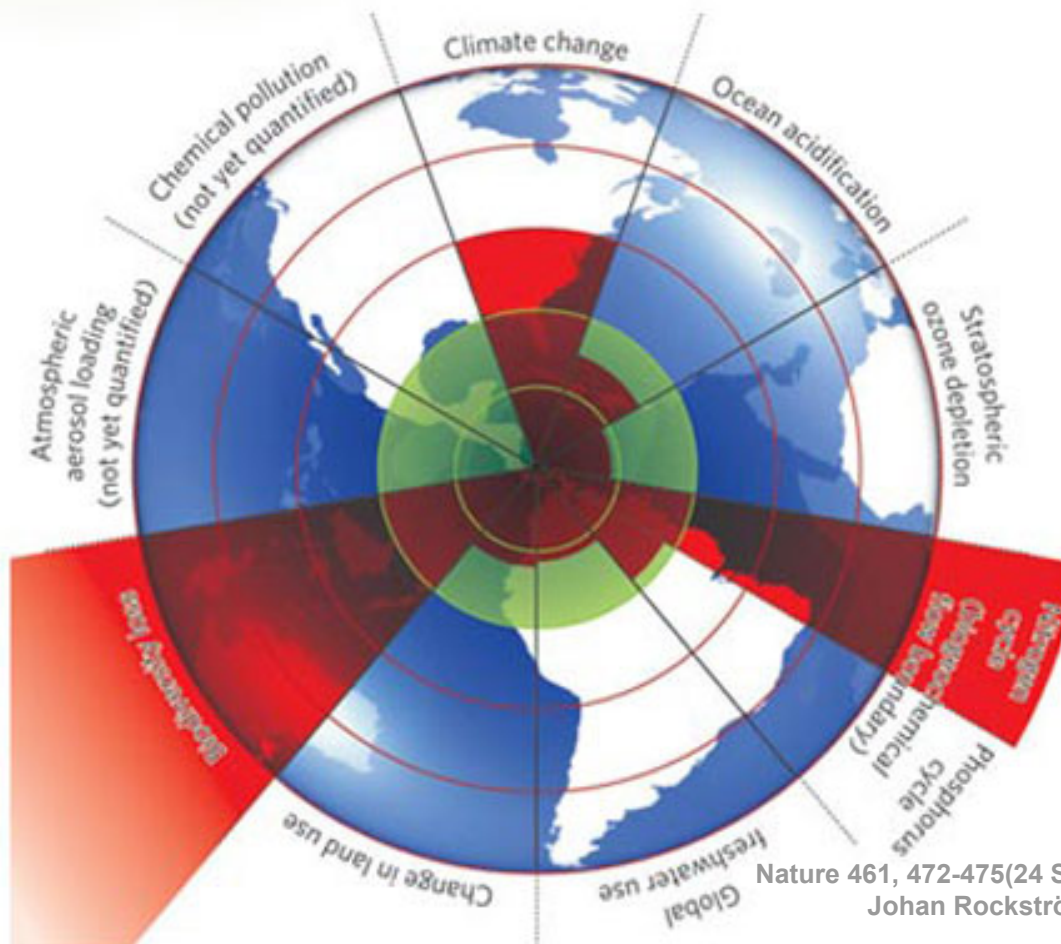
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Germany*



**3-4<sup>th</sup> June, Vienna**

# Mankind is the dominating geological force in the earth system (Paul Crutzen)

- Three of nine interlinked planetary boundaries already overstepped
- Crossing biophysical thresholds could have disastrous consequences



Nature 461, 472-475(24 September 2009)  
Johan Rockström et al

## RAC Sector impact on

- Ozone and Climate --
- Chemical Pollution (persistent wastes) -
- Basic biochemical cycles (fluor) -
- Biodiversity (food chains) +

*MP applied precautionary approach in 1982-1987 when ozone depletion was still not scientifically proven*

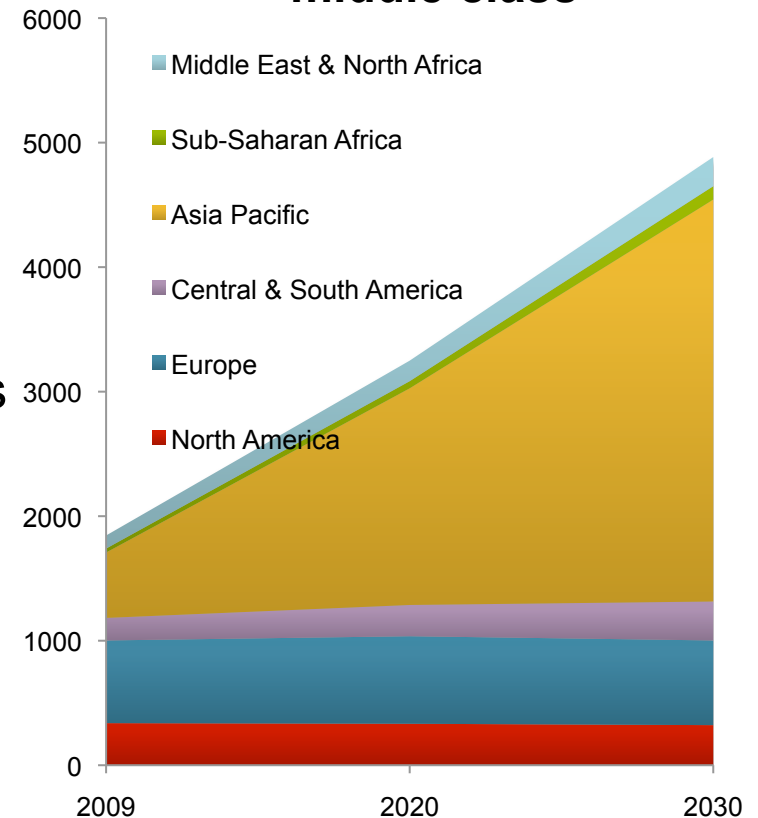


# Is it possible to scale up existing growth patterns?

- > 9 bio people in 2050, GDP triple until 2030
- 80% of consumers are in DC and emerging economies, OECD share drops from 55 to 20% (2030)
- RAC market today ~ 200 bio. US \$, AC demand growths by factor 14 until 2050 (IEA)
- Pressing time constraint to avoid tipping points
- Need to secure valuable planetary resources for future generations
- Developing countries are in the process to replace HCFCs, HFCs are not sustainable

**→ Choosing sustainable alternatives is essential to reach the common goals**

## Development of worlds middle class





# Scaling up depends on the sustainable systems and behaviour

## Strategies

- Decarbonisation of energy supply
- Reduce, reuse, recycle materials
- Use of renewable materials
- Establish environmental safe systems and behaviours
- Accelerate innovation cycles
- Eliminate use of environmentally critical substances

**→ Choosing natural alternatives is a precautionary approach for transformation, in terms resource efficiency and environment**



# Transforming to a knowledge based economy

- Resolving complexities is a typical starting point of sustainable technologies
- Safety & best practice is not refrigerant specific, it is a general requirement when competently managing RAC systems
- Continued education and knowledge sharing is essential for transformation, e.g. engineers, technicians, mechanics require to update their knowledge and need to learn to think systems.



## ***Lessons learned:***

- HC refrigerators just one example for global acceptance, incl. know-how & infrastructure, RefNat example in commercial refrigeration
- **Establishing qualification and controls for safe behaviour is essential for public safety when introducing sustainable alternatives**



# Key factors of safety management

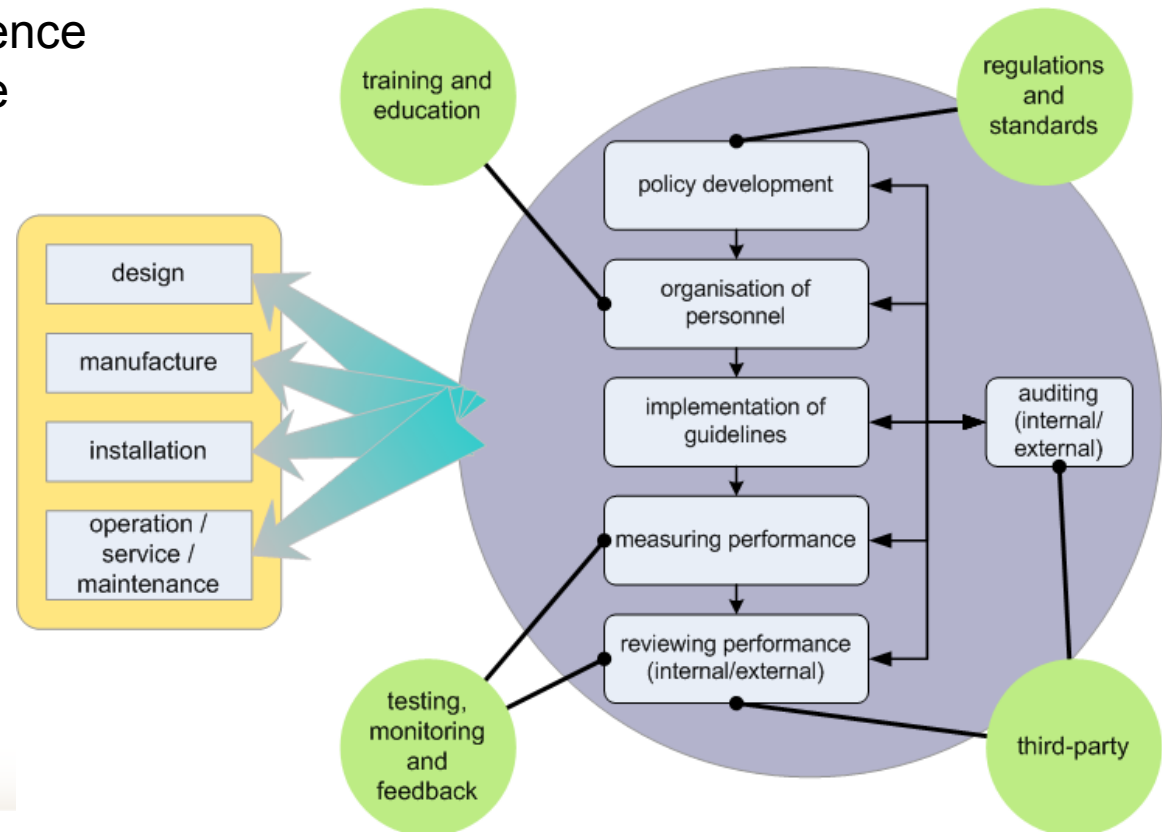
## Required changes and instruments :

- Innovative technology/know how → demonstrate application
- Awareness → provide information
- Education → build competence
- Skills → practical guidance



## - Behavioral aspects

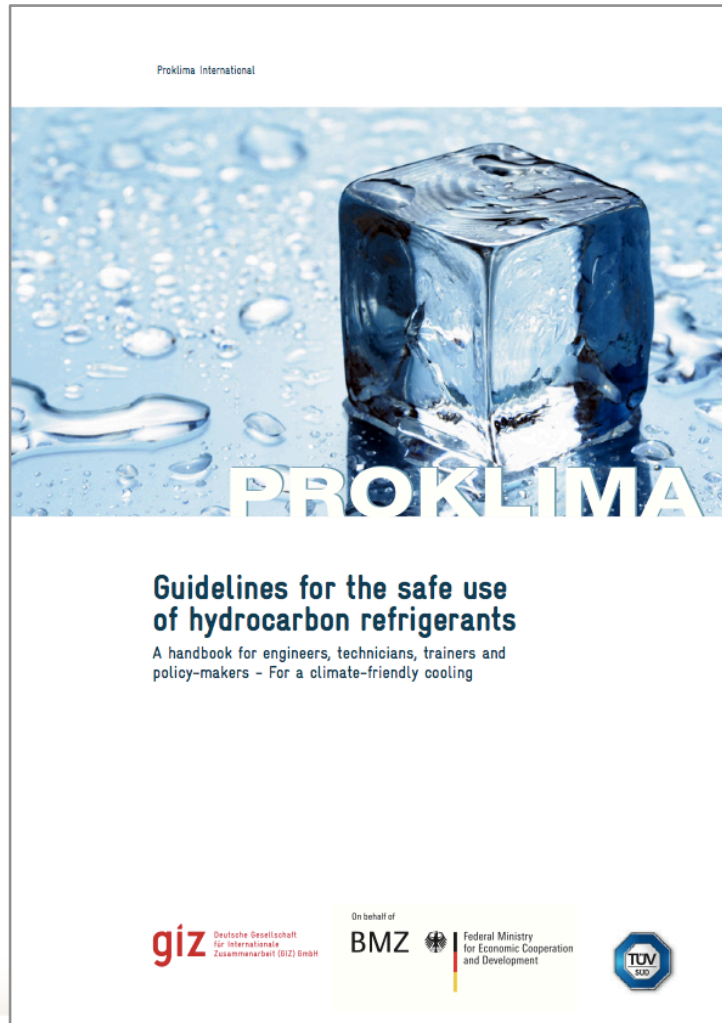
- Normative action
- certification/registries
- regulation/standards
- quality assurance
- monitoring
- enforce controls





# GLZ series on safe use of natural refrigerants

## More than 30 national training programmes under MLF since 1996



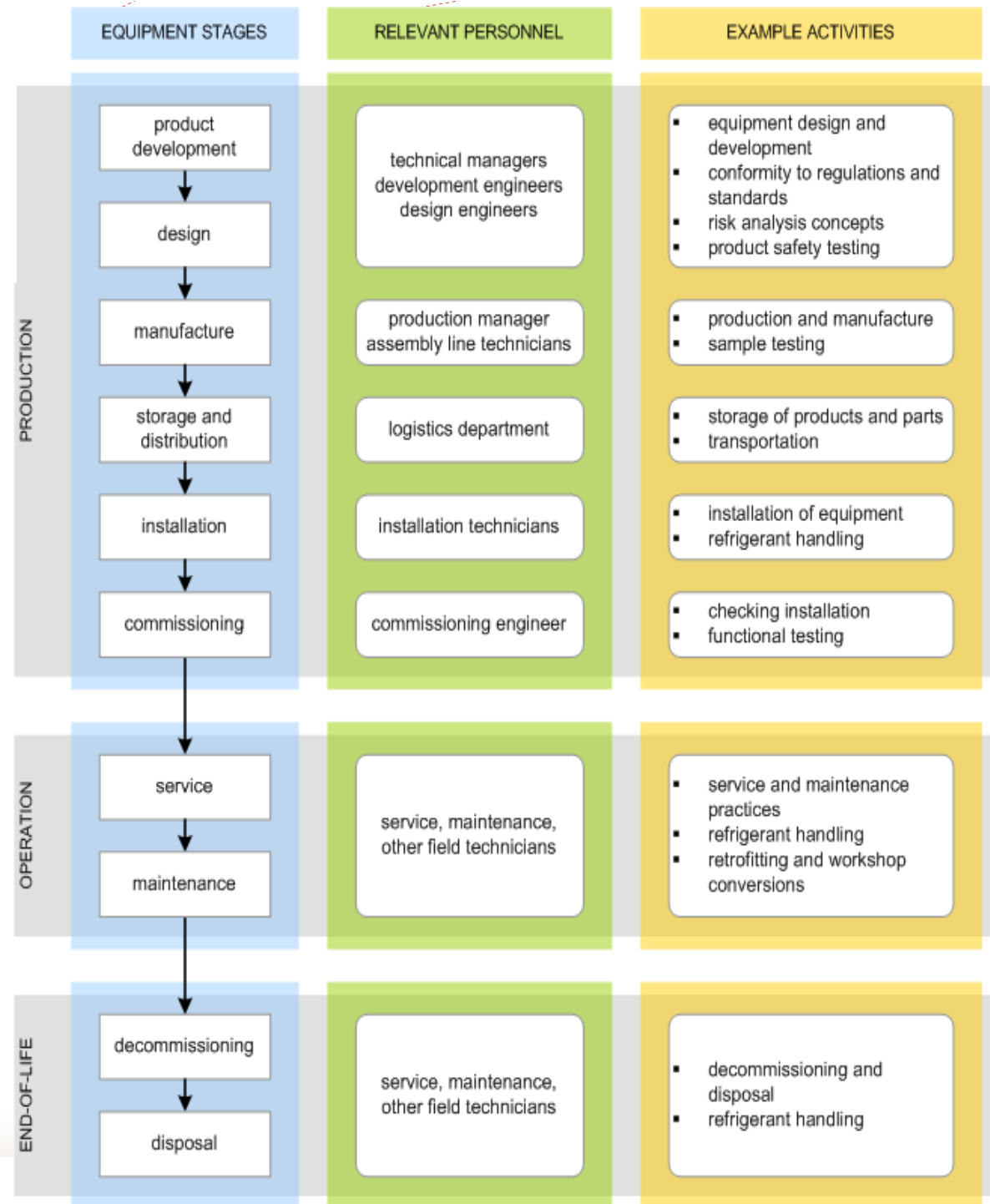
# Building capacity throughout the value chain

## Transformational Education:

Know what? → Informal

Know how ! → Formal

Know why ... → Competent Person

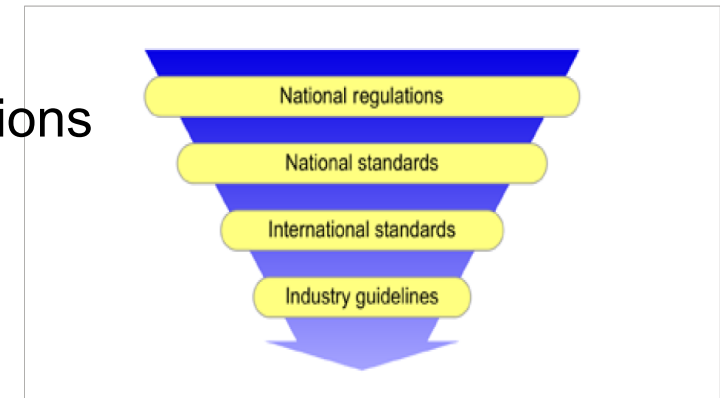




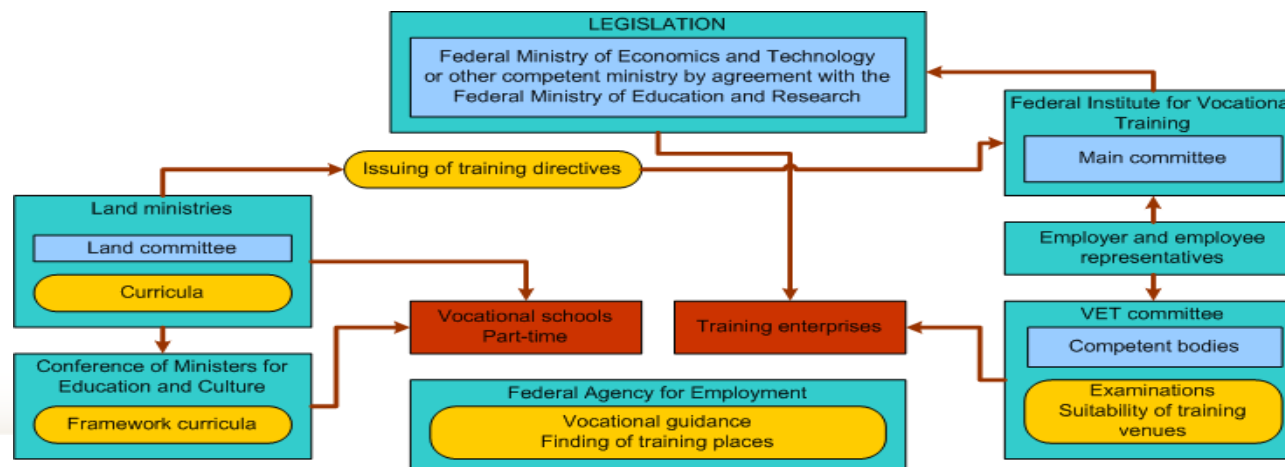


# Building capacity throughout organisations

- Industry associations
- Technical/vocational institutes and associations
- Development and funding agents
- National authorities
- Standardisation bodies
- Accreditation bodies /quality assurance
- Research institutions and others .....



**Integration with national stakeholder processes is essential for sustainability of activities**

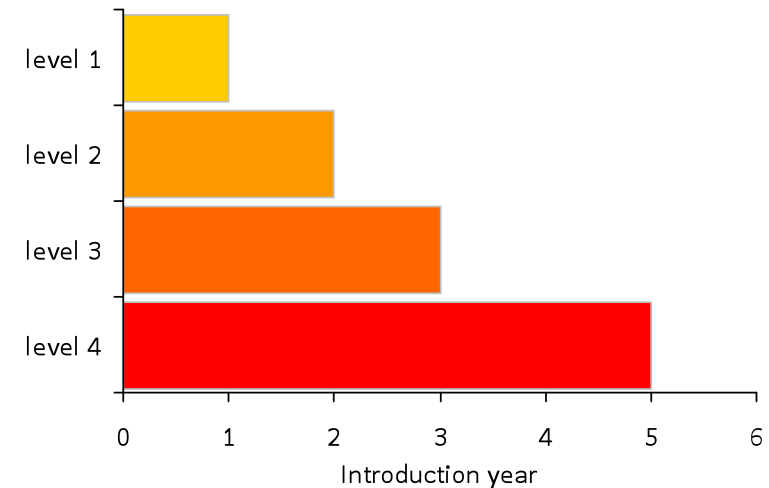




# Time frame needs to be adjusted

System categories	Risk rating (Low, Medium, High)					Overall risk level
	charge size	number of SOIs	Similarity	external	other items	
Domestic refrigeration	L	H	L	H	L	level 2
Retail refrigeration						
▪ Integral (stand-alone)	L	M	M	H	L	level 2
▪ Split (condensing unit)	M	M	H	M	H	level 4
▪ [Central direct expansion]	H	H	H	M	H	[level 4]
▪ Central indirect	M	L	L	L	M	level 2
Air conditioning						
▪ Integral (window/portable)	L	L	L	H	L	level 1
▪ Split	L	L	L	M	L	level 1
▪ Close control	M	H	M	M	M	level 3
▪ Rooftop unit	M	M	M	M	M	level 3
▪ [Ducted direct expansion]	H	H	H	M	H	[level 4]
▪ [Multi-split]	H	M	H	M	H	[level 4]
▪ Chiller	H	L	L	L	M	level 2
Transport						
▪ Car air conditioning	L	L	L	L	L	level 1
▪ Transport a/c	M	M	H	M	L	level 3
▪ Truck refrigeration	M	M	M	L	M	level 2
▪ Fishing vessels	M	M	H	M	M	level 3
Food processing, bespoke	H	M	H	M	H	level 4

Capacity building activities need to start as early as possible. Suggested timescale for the staged introduction of HC refrigerants according to risk level



# Example: Brazil best practice

## Challenges

- Target 30,000 - 26,000 officially certified during NPP
- 80% of workshops „informal“ or „selfemployed“
- huge geographical area, remote areas with low or no access to qualification
- culture of training on the job, formal education low
- RAC vocational training concentrated in large centres
- national standards not developed
- High leakage, low carbon intensity of electricity



## Approaches

- registration and certification system
- mobile training for decentral course system
- integrating with national training agents
- preference to practical training
- integrate contents in formal education
- adapted materials (visualized manuals)

# Contd.: Brazil HPMP phase out

- First step: emphasis on leak control before putting any new refrigerants in the market
- National standards and regulations for recycling and take back of equipment adopted
- More integration with the private sector, workshops on training and design
- Integration of national research institutions, vocational and industry associations
- Introduction of documentation systems for servicing
- Pilot introduction e-learning, online documentation and info systems
- Modular training on soldering & leak control and best practice
- End user consultation (commercial) for replacement
- Stakeholder consultations on national framework
- Focus on certification of best practices principals



## Conclusions

- Training has to be seen in the context of ongoing transformation of global economies; this takes time, better start early as possible
- Despite the “burning” issues of introducing new refrigerants, a culture of continued education and knowledge sharing in RAC sector is necessary
- In many countries formalization of education and certification to take place
- Capacity building not restricted to servicing personnel, integration with value chain and public stakeholders essential
- Public support insufficient, initiative and cooperation from private sector stakeholders required. Transnational technology cooperation specifically beneficial.



- Newly acquired competences develop multiple benefits:
  - higher energy efficiency from better practice (15 % +, EU)
  - less wastes and operational failure - better economy
  - customers understand value and pay for it
  - local supplies of natural refrigerants, no dependence on imports
  - enhances local know how and production options
  - longer term application of framework and know how
- High safety standards may generally improve services & performance
- Cash saved during operation could be used to pay qualified workers

**Sustainable practice provides sustainable income!**

# Thank you for your attention!

On behalf of

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