



# Reviewing the F-Gas Regulation

**Further action at EU level**

**Stakeholder Meeting, 13 February 2012, Brussels**

**Climate  
Action**



## The need for further EU action

- *EU 2050 climate targets (reduce GHG emissions by 80-95% by 2050), EU Low Carbon Roadmap and F-gas Review Report (F-gas policy not adequate ⇒ further action is needed!)*
- *European Parliament Resolution of 14/09/2011 urge the "Commission to come forward with a revision of F-gas regulations and make proposals for a rapid phase-down of the production and consumption of HFCs"*
- *International HFC phase down proposals under the Montreal Protocol*



## EU objectives and level of ambition

- *Contribute consistently and cost-effectively to the EU 2050 reduction targets by reducing emissions of F-gases*
- *Stimulate innovation/improve market opportunities for alternative technologies/gases with lower GWP*
- *Consistency with international agreements*
- *Efficient and proportionate mechanisms*



## Two track approach to reduce emissions

- *Containment/end of life treatment of F-gases in products and equipment*
- *Avoid the use of F-gases with higher global warming potential where alternatives result in lower life cycle greenhouse gas emissions without compromising safety and functionality*



## The reduction potential - recent studies

*Some potential related to containment/end of life treatment and a significant scope to cost effectively avoid/reduce use of F-gases (alternatives exist in many areas of application)*

- *Preparatory study for the F-gas Review, Schwarz et al. (2011)*
- *"Avoiding Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases – Prospects for Phasing Out", Umweltbundesamt (2010)*
- *"1990 to 2010 Refrigerant inventories for Europe - Previsions on banks and emissions from 2006 to 2030 for the European Union", ERIE / ARMINES (2011)*
- *"Further Assessment of Policy Options for the Management and Destruction of Banks of ODS and F-gases in the EU", SKM ENVIROS (upcoming 2012)*



## **Main policy options** screening/consultation

- *Voluntary environmental agreements*
- *Improve containment (scope, standards, ...)*
- *Progressively limiting supply of F-gases ("phase-down")*
- *Certain use & marketing prohibitions for new equipment ("bans")*

*... in addition to full application of the existing Regulation and measures at Member State level*



## Policy options – no silver bullet

- *Different F-gases*
- *Different sectors*
- *New and old equipment/products*
- *Bulk and pre-charged substances*

⇒ *consider mix of options*



## Impacts: Main points to consider

- ⇒ **Environment:** *Emission reductions, energy efficiency, ecotoxicity*
- ⇒ **Economic:** *Abatement costs, direct net costs to sectors, direct costs per operators, administrative burden*
- ⇒ **Social:** *Employment, safety/occupational/health risks*





## Assessment and legislative proposal

- *Complete assessment of environmental, economic and social impacts of policy options taking into account stakeholder input*
- *Legislative proposal 2nd half of 2012*



## **Welcome your views on future action!**

- *Package of options best achieving EU objectives?*
- *Cases where voluntary agreements suffice?*
- *HFC bans or “phase-down” or both?*
- *Tackling substances in equipment under a phase-down?*
- *Tackling barriers to alternatives at EU level?*

***Who are you and whom do you represent?***