



Environmental
Investigation Agency
62-63 Upper Street, London, N1 0NY

TEL +44 (0) 20 7354 7960
www.eia-international.org

Twitter @EIAinvestigator
Facebook /environmental
investigationagency

BACKGROUND ON EIA

The Environmental Investigation Agency works at the leading edge of some of the world's most pressing environmental problems. Our HFC and forest campaigns tackle climate change from two systemic angles.

By pioneering the use of undercover investigations, EIA has successfully exposed environmental crime around the world. Intelligence reports, documentary evidence, campaigning expertise and an international advocacy network enable EIA to achieve far-reaching environmental protection by spurring changes in market demand, government policy and enforcement.

For press inquiries, please
contact Paul Newman at
+44 (0) 20 7354 7960 or
paulnewman@eia-international.org

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and the UN Climate Summit: Eliminating Super Greenhouse Gases

"This weekend's Climate March signified our massive shared determination to tackle climate change. Citizens, consumer, and major industries stand ready to embrace a new era and want governments to take the lead. EIA calls on countries to seize the historic opportunity offered by today's Climate Summit to mandate an immediate phase-out of the consumption and production of hydrofluorocarbons under the Montreal Protocol."

- Alexander von Bismarck, Executive Director, EIA US

Thousands of times more powerful than CO₂ and the fastest growing contributor to climate change

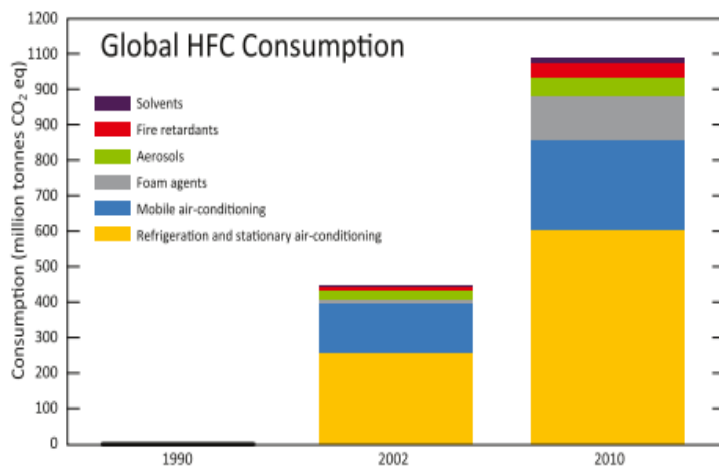
Today's Climate Summit is an opportunity to bring the world's attention to one of the least talked about but most potent classes of greenhouse gases: HFCs.

The Montreal Protocol, often hailed as the most successful international environmental treaty, has reduced the use of ozone depleting substances (ODS) by a staggering 98 per cent compared to historic levels; however, the most commonly used replacements for ODS are a family of chemicals called **HFCs, super greenhouse gases which are hundreds to thousands of times more harmful to the climate than carbon dioxide.**

HFC consumption is increasing rapidly

Consumption of these man-made gases, used mainly in refrigeration and air-conditioning, is growing exponentially and could represent up to 19 per cent of CO₂ emissions in 2050 under business-as-usual scenarios.

If HFCs are phased out as proposed under the Montreal Protocol, it would **prevent up to 0.5°C of warming by the end of the century.**



Estimated global HFC consumption in million tonnes CO₂ equivalent for 1990, 2002 and 2010 (Source: UNEP)

EIA calls on leaders to mandate a global agreement to eliminate HFCs under the Montreal Protocol

EIA has been campaigning at regional, national, and global levels for an end to ozone-depleting and climate-damaging chemicals for nearly a decade. A global phase out of the production and consumption of HFCs, together with the elimination of the installed base of these gases, is projected to **eliminate up to 200 billion tonnes of CO₂ equivalent emissions between now and 2050.**