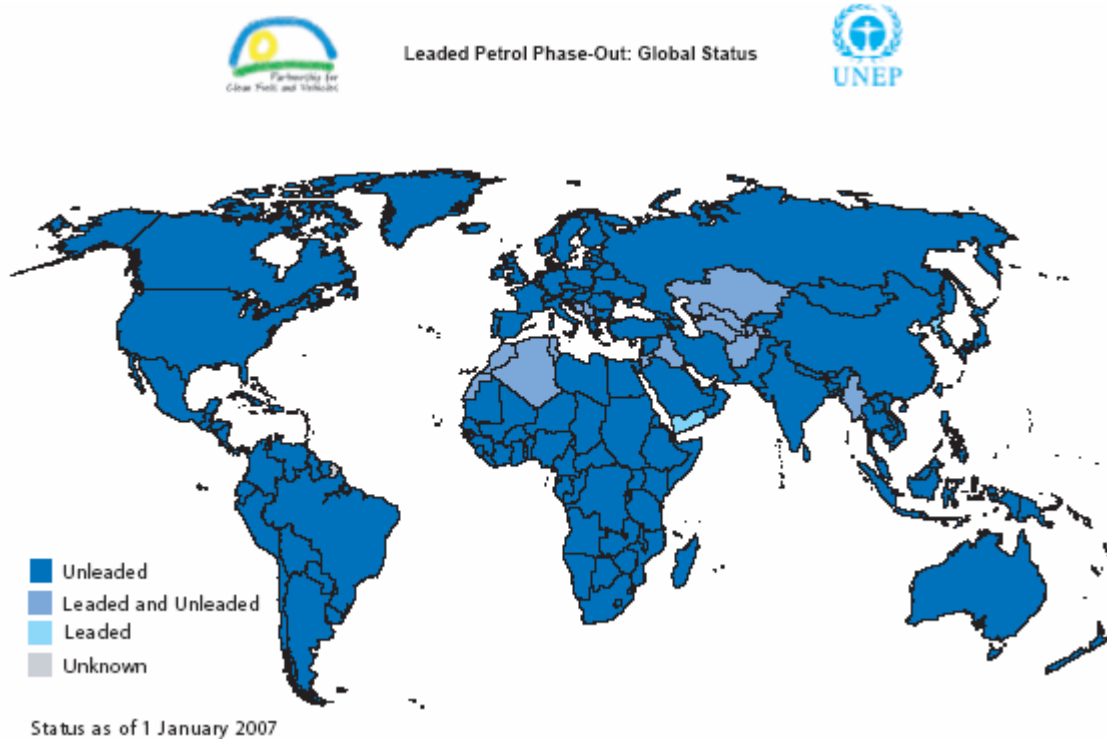




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THE GLOBAL CAMPAIGN TO ELIMINATE LEADED GASOLINE: PROGRESS AS OF JANUARY 2007



At the 4th Global Partnership Meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya in December 2005, partners agreed to launch a global campaign to eliminate leaded gasoline worldwide by end of 2008. There are at least 21 countries worldwide that are known to still be using leaded gasoline. The following is the status of each of these countries in phasing out leaded gasoline, and activities that have been carried out thus far by the PCFV Clearing-House to assist them to phase-out by end of 2008. As of 1 January 2007, there are at least 21 countries still using leaded gasoline.

Middle East, North Africa, West Asia

Algeria – phase-out date unknown

Algeria participated at a PCFV regional workshop for the Middle East and North Africa on Clean Fuels and Vehicles held in Cairo, Egypt in May 2006. The workshop - jointly organized by the PCFV Clearing-House and the Asian Clean Fuels Association - discussed among other issues the phase-out of leaded gasoline in the two regions. One of the recommendations of the workshop was to include the phase-out of leaded gasoline by



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2008 in the Ministerial agenda of the League of Arab Nations meeting that took place in Algeria in December 2006. At this meeting, the following Ministerial resolution (translated) was passed -

Appreciating the efforts exerted by Arab States that have been using Unleaded Gasoline; and inviting other Arab states to achieve this (goal) by Year 2008, utilizing the support provided by UNEP vis-à-vis the PCFV Initiative; as well as inviting all Arab States to reduce sulfur contents in Diesel.

The Clearing-House is planning follow up activities at national level in 2007 and will coordinate with IPIECA who are already working with the National Oil Corporation.

Iraq - phase-out date unknown

Iraq did not attend the Cairo regional workshop. Efforts by the US EPA through Department of State to contact Iraqi refineries are ongoing. Iraq will be invited to a Jordanian workshop on leaded gasoline phase-out in 2007-2008.

Jordan - plans to phase-out in 2008

Jordan attended the Cairo regional workshop and has committed to an action plan to phase-out leaded gasoline by end of 2008. Since the Cairo meeting, production of unleaded gasoline has gone up from 5% to 40%. The PCFV is planning follow up activities with the Ministry of Environment in 2007 that will also involve Palestine and Iraq. The Clearing-House will be working closely with the USEPA.

Morocco - phase-out date unknown

Although plans to phase-out of leaded gasoline began in 2003, Morocco is yet to phase out. The current plans are to go unleaded in 2010. As follow up to the Cairo regional workshop which was also attended by Morocco, the Clearing-House is planning national sensitisation activities on leaded gasoline phase-out in 2007.

Palestine - plans to phase-out in 2008

Palestine imports all of its gasoline from Jordan and Israel; it has no refinery of its own. Authorities will be invited to Jordan to attend the workshop on the phase-out of leaded gasoline. Once Jordan is fully unleaded, Palestine will follow.

Tunisia - phase-out date unknown

Leaded gasoline is yet to be phased out in Tunisia even though phase-out plans also started in 2003. Unleaded gasoline was introduced for the first time in 2006. Tunisia was represented at the Cairo regional workshop and the Clearing-House is planning follow up national level activities in 2007.

Yemen – phase-out date end of 2008

Yemen has committed to phase-out leaded gasoline by end of 2008. The Clearing-House is working with the Yemen Environment Protection Authority to carry out various phase-out activities including lead blood levels testing that took place late last year in Sana'a. The results of the tests (which also covered school children) will be presented at a national stakeholder workshop planned in the first half of 2007. The workshop is expected to come up with a phase-out strategy by end 2008. Yemen is one of the remaining countries that is exclusively using leaded gasoline.



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Central and Eastern Europe & Caucasus/Central Asia

Bosnia and Herzegovina – phase-out date 1 January 2010

A national roundtable on the phase-out of leaded gasoline was held on 6 November 2006 in Sarajevo together with the REC country office. Leaded gasoline is still produced by the Bosanski Brod refinery and also imported from Serbia. Sarajevo has already adopted guidelines on unleaded gasoline. National legislation sets the phase-out date as 1 January 2010. Follow up activities are ongoing and include working with the National Committee on Fuel Quality and developing a public awareness campaign.

FYR Macedonia – no new phase-out date set

Macedonia had earlier planned to phase-out in 2006 but the date was postponed; no new phase-out date has been set. Macedonia attended a regional workshop held for Central and Eastern Europe in October 2006 in Hungary where the phase-out of leaded gasoline was discussed. The workshop was organized by the PCFV Clearing-House together with the Regional Environmental Center (REC). As of 2005 over 70 % of the market was unleaded. As of December 2004, lead specification in leaded gasoline was reduced from 0.6g/l to 0.15 g/l and for unleaded gasoline from 0.02g/l to 0.013g/l. At the moment, the country is in the process of adopting EU environmental directives, among them 98/70 on quality of fuels. The PCFV Clearing-House and the REC are looking for opportunities to ensure phase-out by end 2008.

Kazakhstan – phase-out date unknown

Despite an earlier plan to phase-out by 2005, Kazakhstan still uses both leaded and unleaded fuel. The Clearing-House plans to hold a Caucasus/Central Asia workshop in mid-2007 that will discuss the phase-out of leaded gasoline in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Follow up activities will then be developed from the outcomes of the workshop.

Serbia – deadline of 2015 - 2020

The Clearing-House together with the REC country office supported a one-day national round table discussion 8 May 2006 that included the phase-out of leaded gasoline. The Clearing-House plans to carry out an awareness campaign that will include blood lead level testing, in cooperation with REC and the Institute of Public Health of Belgrade. A ban for phase-out is not clearly defined; according to the National Environmental Action Program, an optimistic forecast is given as 2015, whereas a 'business as usual' deadline would be 2020. As of 2006, 58% of fuel used was leaded, with no price difference between leaded and unleaded. Serbia is in the process of privatizing its refineries, and there is currently no political interest in improving fuel quality in the country. The PCFV Clearing-House, together with the US EPA and the REC, plans to participate in the upcoming UNECE Environment for Europe ministerial conference, Belgrade October 2007 to bring more attention to the issue.

Tajikistan– phase-out date unknown

Tajikistan will be invited to participate at the mid-2007 Caucasus/Central Asia workshop.

Turkmenistan– phase-out date unknown



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Turkmenistan will be invited to participate at the mid-2007 Caucasus/Central Asia workshop.

Uzbekistan– plans to phase-out in 2008

Uzbekistan will be invited to participate at the mid-2007 Caucasus/Central Asia workshop.

Asia

Afghanistan – phase-out date unknown

A meeting between the Clearing-House and officials of the Ministry of Environment took place in Thailand in 2005 where the phase-out of leaded gasoline was discussed. Follow up activities with the help of UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, UNDP and USEPA are planned.

Fiji – phase-out date unknown

The Clearing-House plans to have regional consultations with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) to promote phase-out of leaded gasoline at regional and national levels in the Pacific Islands.

Micronesia (Federated States of) – phase-out date unknown

The Clearing-House to arrange for national consultations through SPREP (see Fiji).

Myanmar - phase-out date unknown

Officials from Myanmar were contact during the 2006 BAQ Asia meeting by the PCFV Clearing-House. No national activities are planned at the moment.

North Korea – phase-out date unknown

There are no known plans to phase out. No national activities are planned at the moment.

Solomon Islands – phase-out date unknown

The Clearing-House to arrange for national consultations through SPREP (see Fiji).

Tonga – phase-out date unknown

The Clearing-House to arrange for national consultations through SPREP (see Fiji).