

11 October 2011

EU F-gas policy review towards a competitive and climate-friendly economy



EU F-gas policy: two instruments

Directive 2006/40/EC (MAC)

- Air conditioning of passenger cars

Regulation (EC) No 842/2006 (F-gas)

- Stationary refrigeration, air conditioning & heat pumps
- Fire protection
- Switchgear
- ...



EU F-gas policy: two-track approach

Avoid use

- Use and marketing restrictions (e.g. MACs, magnesium, novelty aerosols, windows, ...)

Prevent leakage

- Leakage check schedules, detection systems, labelling, training & certification



The Review of the F-gas Regulation

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Report* assessing the

- state of application
- current and projected maximum effect
- mid/long-term adequacy of the F-gas policy in the EU

*COM(2011) 581 of 26.9.2011



Application of the F-gas Regulation

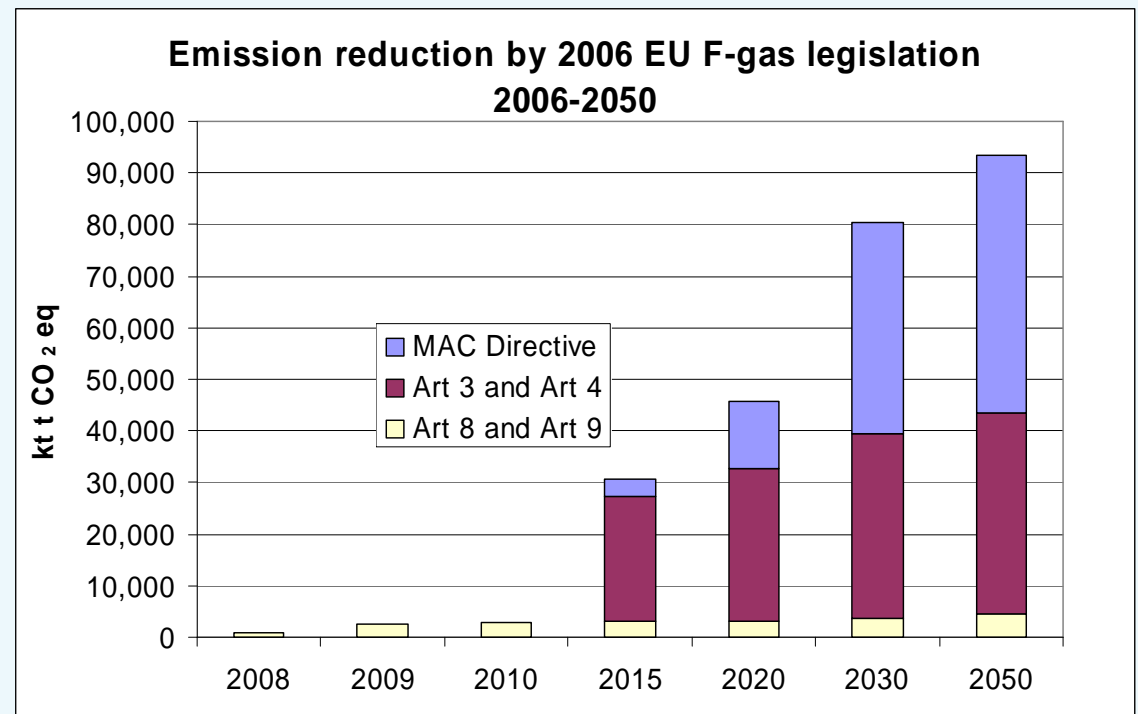
Experience after 4 years

- Successfully applied use/marketing restrictions
- Satisfactory labelling
- Delayed training & certification
- Inconsistent compliance with containment measures
- Growing potential for recovery
- Reporting requirements well applied
- Delays in penalty rules

Effect of the F-gas Regulation

Measuring effectiveness & efficiency

- Regulation's bans already delivering but potential almost exhausted
 - 2010: 3 Mtonnes CO₂-eq
 - 2050: 4 Mtonnes CO₂-eq
- Regulation's containment measures yet to deliver but high potential in the mid-term, if fully applied
 - 2020: 29 Mtonnes CO₂-eq
 - 2050: 38 Mtonnes CO₂-eq
- MAC Directive's ban the most effective measure in the long term
 - 2020: 13 Mtonnes CO₂-eq
 - 2050: 50 Mtonnes CO₂-eq



At average cost around 40 € per tonne CO₂-eq reduced

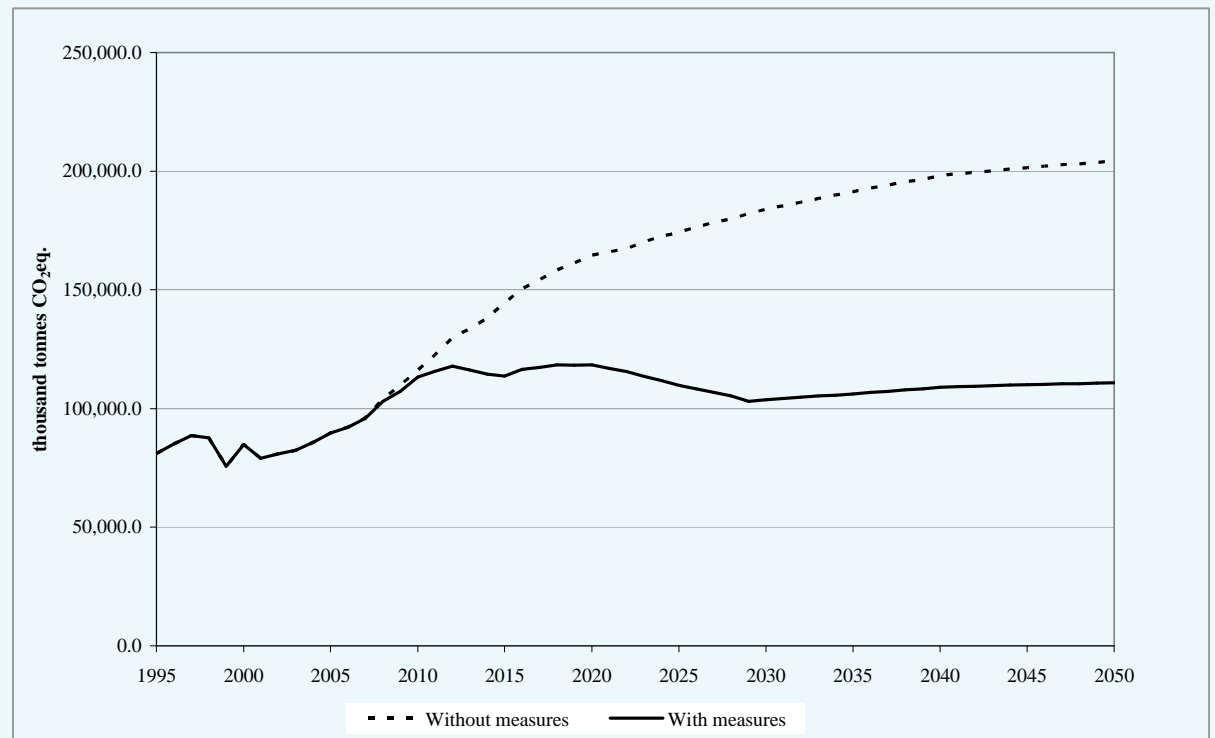


Effect of the F-gas Regulation Measuring effectiveness & efficiency

F-gas Regulation & MAC Directive may avoid almost half of projected F-gas emissions by 2050

BUT

without further action EU-27 F-gas emissions will not decrease from today's level





Adequacy of the F-gas Regulation

The need and scope for further EU action

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- EU committed to reduce its GHG emissions by 80-95% by 2050
- EU 2050 Roadmap*: Cost-effective pathway requires reductions of non-CO2 emissions (outside agriculture) by 72-73% by 2030 and by 70-79% by 2050;
- Growing feasibility of replacing F-gases in several sectors with alternatives with less or no climate change impact
- Potentially up to 2/3 of today's F-gas emissions could be eliminated by 2030 in the EU

* COM (2011) 112

Adequacy at international level

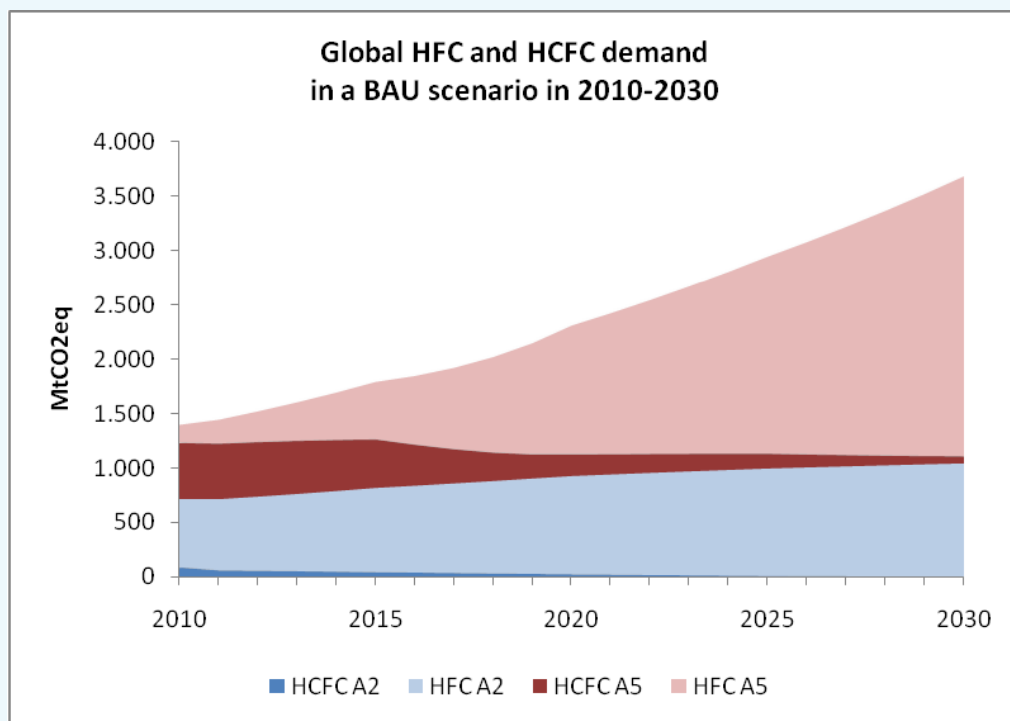
The need for further global action

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HFC demand set to grow rapidly globally and in particular in developing countries

A2: developed countries

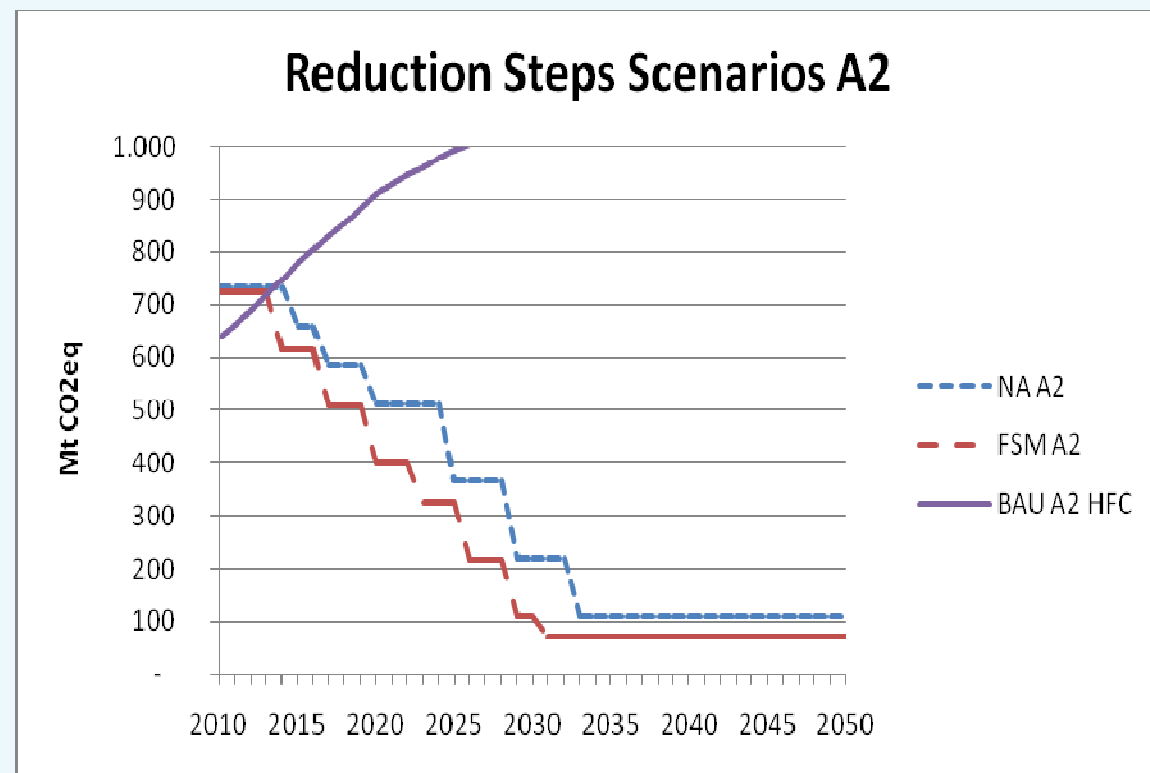
A5: developing countries



Adequacy at international level

proposals to phase down HFCs under Montreal Protocol

EU supports a global HFC phase down under the Montreal Protocol complementing UNFCCC mitigation efforts





Review of the F-gas Regulation

Objective and main options for further EU action

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Objective to contribute cost-effectively to EU 2050 reduction target by reducing F-gas emissions

Options avoiding use and driving transition to greener technologies

- Progressively limiting the supply of F-gases
- Certain use & marketing prohibitions
- Voluntary environmental agreements
- ...

Options preventing leakage by improving containment/recovery

- extend scope of current provisions



The Review of the F-gas Regulation

Next steps

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- Assess environmental, economic and social impacts of options for further EU action - with and without global action under the Montreal Protocol
- Stakeholder consultation to feed into impact assessment: your voice, experience, knowledge, costs and benefits
(26 September 2011 - 19 December 2011)
- Expect impact assessment to lead to a legislative proposal in 2012



Conclusions

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- Application: Some shortcomings
- Effect: EU policy can avoid half of projected F-gas emissions by 2050. Without further action F-gas emissions will not decrease
- Adequacy: A competitive low-carbon EU economy by 2050 requires ambitious action. There is wide scope for further cost-effective F-gas emission reductions, in particular, by avoiding use
- Next step: Stakeholders consultation feed into impact assessment on options and a potential legislative proposal in 2012

For more information:

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/f-gas/index_en.htm

Thank you for your attention!

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