

This annual magazine is based on the progress report submitted through the Economic and Social Council for the consideration of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in 2020.

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All organisations in the
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report their contribution to Sustainable
Consumption and Production
(Sustainable Development Goal 12)
through annual reporting. All countries
are invited to report their sustainable
consumption and production national
action plans or national policies
containing SCP as part
of the reporting against SDG indicator
12.1.1.





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The 10YFP Secretariat and the 10YFP Board (Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Colombia, Hungary, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Nigeria, Switzerland)

#### **Financial Support:**









European Union

Germany

Sweden

Switzerland

Federal Office for the Environment FOEN

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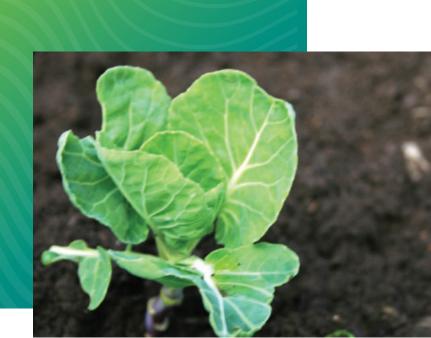


Photo by Dharmi Bradley

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#### **CHAPTER SIX**

THE WAY FORWARD

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed an unprecedented challenge to humankind, but can also be seen as a window of opportunity to explore new development models based on sustainable consumption and production (SCP). The vision of moving towards an integral sustainable development in a context of fair transition must be the cornerstone for all post COVID-19 recovery plans.

Sustainable consumption and production is one of the most cost-efficient and effective ways to achieve economic development, reduce impacts on the environment and advance in human well-being. The objective of securing sustainable consumption and production patterns is also transversal in nature, in the context of both economic sectors and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). SDG 12 could be seen as a vehicle for integrating -in a balanced manner- other goals and their targets.

Since 2012 and the Rio+20 Conference, the 10YFP has served as the anchor of the SCP agenda within the UN and a catalyser for multi-stakeholder cooperation through its One Planet Network. Its implementation is the first target of SDG 12 and should serve as an enabler of the entire Agenda 2030.

A lot has been achieved and we will continue working strongly until the end of the mandate in 2022. Though, it is time to build a common vision post 2022 in order to strengthen our cooperation efforts, keep on innovating and demonstrating political will to trigger the required transformation.

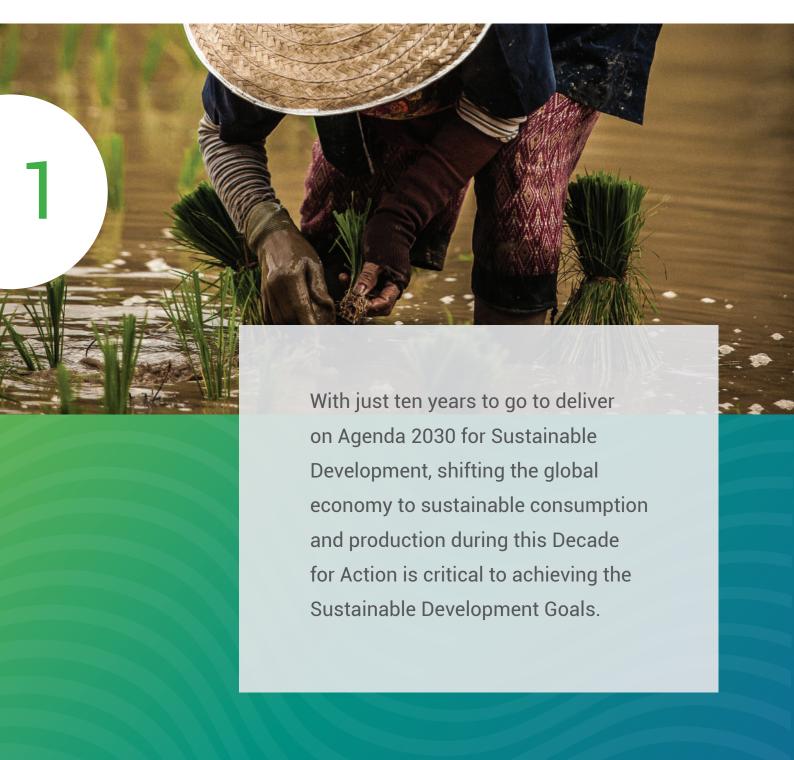
We invite all governments and communities to become a part of this framework and design together the pathway towards the future we want.

Rodrigo Rodriguez Tornquist Chair, 10YFP Board

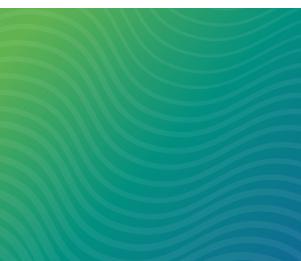
Secretary of Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Innovation, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Argentina



# SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION AND THE DECADE OF ACTION







Photos: Far left: Photo by Eduardo Prim on Unsplash; Above: Dharmi Bradlev

As a global health crisis grips the planet, it is becoming ever more clear that humanity is placing too many pressures on the natural world, with accelerating consequences. The Secretary-General has launched a coronavirus disease (COVID-19) plan<sup>1</sup>, highlighting that "now is the time to redouble our efforts to build more inclusive and sustainable economies and societies that are more resilient in

the face of pandemics, climate change and other global challenges<sup>2</sup>.

The unsustainable practices of consumption and production that prevail throughout much of the world today are a key driver of the three major environmental crises we are currently facing:







climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

These three environmental crises pose a serious threat to the wellbeing and prosperity of all people, and put at risk the food we eat, the air we breathe, the water we drink and the materials and resources upon which our societies, economies and nations are built, and upon which our livelihoods, families and communities depend.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) cannot be achieved if we continue with policies and practices that drive unsustainable consumption and production.

## **WHO WE ARE**

The One Planet network implements the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP) and is a formally designated implementation mechanism for Sustainable Development Goal 12: ensuring sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns.





As a global, multi-stakeholder partnership comprising national and local governments, civil society, businesses, scientific and technical organisations and international organisations, the One Planet network leads the shift to sustainable consumption and production by setting the agenda and raising awareness on sustainable consumption and production, and providing tools, knowledge and solutions to deliver on Goal 12.

The One Planet network provides a platform for collaboration and amplification among the global sustainable consumption and production community with more than 700 partners.

Through the ongoing implementation of the One Plan for One Planet strategy 2018-2021, launched

at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in 2018, the One Planet network supports countries to deliver on Goal 12 through four strategic objectives, summarised in Figure I. The strategy provides a clear way forward to implement Goal 12 and enables the collaborative and cohesive use of the diverse strengths of the network.

#### Objectives of the One Plan for One Planet strategy



Figure I. Leading the shift to SCP. 2018-2022 'One Plan for One Planet' strategy objectives.



#### Strategy Objective 2: Catalyse ambitious action by providing tools and solutions that support the shift to sustainable consumption and production.



Strategy Objective 3: Lead the systemic and cohesive implementation of sustainable consumption and production.



#### Strategy Objective 4: Demonstrate the impacts of sustainable consumption and production and its role in addressing key environmental and social challenges.

There are six accelerator programmes of the One Planet network, which are co-led by governments and organisations from across the world, and include hundreds of partners from across government, business and civil society. The Lead/Co-lead organisations

support the overall coordination, implementation, fundraising activities and monitoring of the programme, and provide the resources needed to create and sustain Coordination Desks for each of the programmes.

#### SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT







I.C·L·E·I



**UN** 

UNEP-United Nations Environment Programme

#### SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS







Costa Rica

Ministry for Livestock

and Agriculture

Federal Office

For Agriculture



WWF-World Wide Fund For Nature

Environmental Development Center, Ministry of

Environmental Protection

ICLEI -Local Governments for Sustainability

Netherlands-Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment

#### SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS & CONSTRUCTION







Ministry of



RMIT

University



UNEP-United Nations Programme

#### CONSUMER INFORMATION











Germany Federal Ministry for for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

International

Indonesia Ministry of Environment and Forestry

#### SUSTAINABLE TOURISM









Spain Secretariat of State for Tourism, Ministry of Industry, Trade and



Ministry of Ecological Transition



World Tourism Organization

#### SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES & EDUCATION3









Japan Ministry of Environment & Institute for Global Environmental Strategies





Ministry of Environment & Stockholm Environment Institute

Through these six programmes and the active participation of its stakeholders, the One Planet network fosters integrated and systemic approaches to support the mainstreaming and implementation of sustainable consumption and production, securing the active participation of governments, UN agencies, private sector and civil society, providing a platform to work together on key emerging issues.

The One Planet network also comprises the 10YFP National Focal Points, officially designated government representatives in 140 countries that anchor sustainable consumption and production into national frameworks, and undertake the reporting for SDG target 12.1 by mapping policies and country priorities that advance sustainable consumption and production.

#### CASE STUDY:

International Centre for Responsible Tourism-Australia (ICRT-Australia)



# CONSERVING RESOURCES THROUGH INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

The ICRT-Australia worked with WISE Sustainability to launch the 'My Green Butler' persuasive technology platform to encourage 'conserving' behaviours that reduce emissions and waste in tourism. Conserving means the deliberate action to avoid resource use (e.g. choosing to not shower twice a day), or reduce wastage while consuming (e.g. collecting shower water) or reduce consumption (e.g. taking a shorter 2-minute shower). It is consciously choosing a conserving action.

which records consumption, provides eco feedback and audits results, is introduced into the daily operations of a tourist accommodation business (big and small) and works to shine a spotlight on wastage, to self-motivate quests and to stimulate learning.

The project is measuring conserving resources including electricity, solar power, gas, biomass, water, and food waste.



Picture courtesy from Disneyland Paris where a test was carried out showing encouraging results.

#### Conserving opportunities have been found to include:

- Guest direct energy use saving by 12-33% electricity and 18-20% gas
- 18% housekeeping energy use between check-out and check-in
- Up to 4°C public space overnight heating
- Natural ventilation and advice to guests can save
   1°C average hourly heating/cooling
- · Increase guest stay satisfaction

The ICRT-Australia approached different sized businesses and types of hospitality firms - from very large organisations and 5-star properties, to small and micro-enterprises, across three countries and four climate zones. There was a broad level of guest participation across all accommodation types indicating that conserving resources whilst on holiday is scalable across the hospitality sector.

Findings show once management can see the previously invisible areas of waste, they become significantly more motivated to take innovative steps to save resources that can become part of their competitive point of difference and appeal to guests.

The ICRT-Australia is a partner of the Sustainable Tourism Programme.

Applying conserving resources to tourist accommodation may appear to be contradictory to the modern idea of offering hospitality, which revolves around providing facilities in unrestricted amounts. But a shared future, living within the global resource limitations and changing climate, questions this premise, particularly as hotels are one of the most energy and water intense building types, and where many tourist accommodations are located in communities that suffer water scarcity and poverty.

'My Green Butler' focuses on persuasive communication (technology and interpersonal) to encourage management, staff and guests to adapt their behaviour and conserve. The online system,





#### **CASE STUDY:**





## REDUCING EMISSIONS AND IMPROVING EFFICIENCY IN RWANDA'S BUILDING SECTOR

The Global Green Growth Institute supports and promotes green growth, targetting key aspects of economic performance such as poverty reduction, job creation, social inclusion and environmental sustainability, with country operations in over 30 countries, including Rwanda.

The Rwanda country program is carried out by a team of technical experts that are embedded within partner government institutions and secondary cities to provide technical assistance in line with Rwanda's national priorities and sustainable development goals. Rwanda has set an urbanization target of 35% by 2024 from 18.4% in 2016/17 and by 2050 aspires to achieve a high quality and high standard of living. Increased energy consumption by the building sector in Rwanda will rise, due to increased use of electrical lighting and air conditioning, growth in the number and types of domestic electric appliances and also due to the increase in the number of buildings.

The building sector required urgent interventions to ensure GHG emissions from buildings did not keep rising while the country developed and urbanized.

The Government of Rwanda recognised the importance of regulating buildings in support of sustainable development and embarked on the development of the Green Building Minimum Compliance System through the Rwanda Housing Authority with the support from partners Global Green Growth Institute, Building Construction Authority Singapore and Rwanda Green Building Organisation. The Rwanda Green Building Minimum Compliance System aims to reduce energy-related GHG emissions, promote water efficiency, environmental protection, indoor environmental quality and green innovation in Rwanda's building and construction sector starting with new large-scale buildings.

The Global Green Growth Institute is working with the Rwandan Housing Authority on capacity building



programs, awareness programs, green building week, webinars, developing proposals for international donors to capacitate stakeholders on the Green Building Minimum Compliance System, and working with private real estate developers to demonstrate that green buildings are feasible and affordable in the Rwandan context.

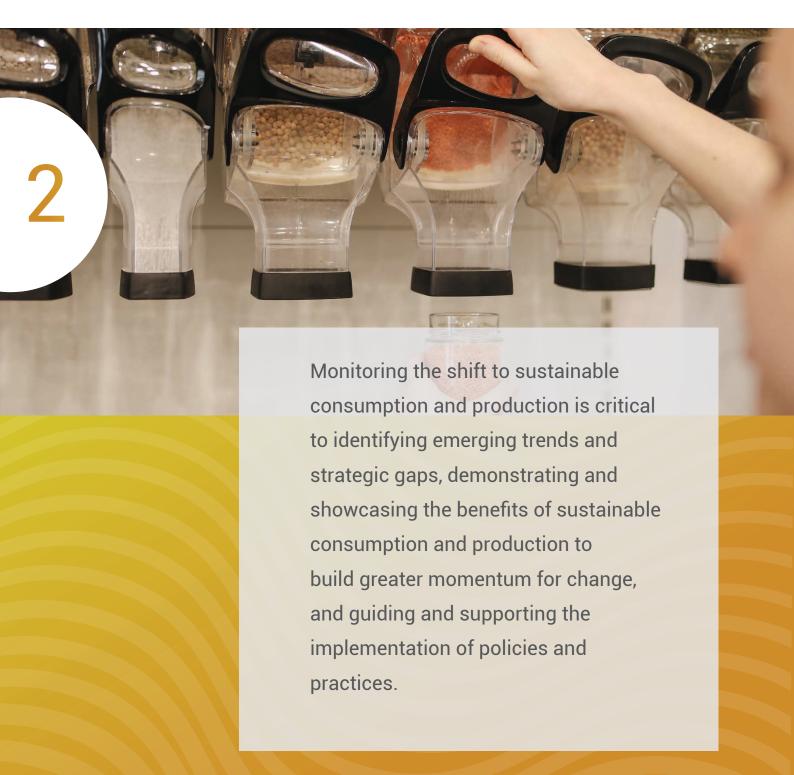
Based on the benefits achieved through the implementation of the Green Building Minimum Compliance System, the work can be scaled up to target residential developments and existing buildings to introduce green building elements to the entire building stock in the country.

The Global Green Growth Institute is a Multi-stakeholder Advisory Committee member of the Sustainable Buildings and Construction programme.





# THE ONE PLANET NETWORK: AN IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM FOR SDG 12







Photos: Far left: Photo by Polina Tankilevitch on Pexels; Above: Photo by Nathália Rosa on Unsplash

The One Planet network tracks the progress on the shift to sustainable consumption and production through annual reporting on the Indicators of Success, the network's monitoring and reporting framework. The framework is fully aligned to relevant SDG indicators and includes the official reporting of Member States on the implementation of the 10YFP at national level, SDG target 12.1.

The results presented in this report stem from activities implemented in 2019 by partners of the network and from the policies and implementation activities officially reported by Member States under SDG 12.1.1. Data results are contextualised using the latest science available as a basis to identify key points of intervention and inform action.

In 2019,



945 activities were reported across the network



were policy instruments and related implementation activities reported by countries under SDG 12.1.1



66% were implementation activities of partners of the network

This amount of activities, higher than in any previous year, constitutes a stable trend in the growth of reporting, and demonstrates the ongoing commitment by National Focal Points, programmes and their partners to provide data on the implementation of sustainable consumption and production and SDG 12.

#### **CASE STUDY:**



#### The German Development Institute (DIE)

## d.i.e



Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik

German Development

#### ENHANCING DIALOGUE FOR SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC **PROCUREMENT**

The DIE addresses the general research gap in sustainable public procurement through different projects. The project analyses the reasons for missing implementation on all political levels, despite legal changes in favour of integrating social and environmental aspects into public procurement. It supports practitioners and political decision makers with more in-depth information and opportunities for international exchange of municipal actors especially.

"We need a transition towards more sustainable societies to preserve our planet and to reach a more just distribution of wealth and opportunities at a national as well as at a global level. Sustainable production is at the core of these challenges and an important building block for a sustainable future. We try to promote and enable sustainable public procurement to contribute to our common future."

While there are already successful platforms for networking and some research on social responsible public procurement, the need for knowledge production and exchange on the topic is far bigger than what is available. Especially among the many municipalities (worldwide) that could benefit from support in terms of events and transformative research on the topic.

The projects organise dialogue for athat bring together practitioners and experts from the Global North and the Global South to exchange on the topic of sustainable public procurement. Apart from establishing good direct connections with municipal practitioners, it was also found to be helpful to connect with international, national and local networks and organisations that work on the same topic. A mix of practitioners, policy makers,

experts, and researchers as well as of different political levels contributed to exchanges that provide ideas and concepts for successful and effective implementation. The potential is significant: if municipalities around the globe implement sustainable procurement practices, demand-pull is created. Municipalities in Europe have also been acting as initial actors in a policy cycle, which profited from municipal frontrunners. After more and more municipalities joined in, regulatory changes were necessary. Practitioners and policy makers on other political levels can also benefit from the research and policy advice of the projects.

With the focus on municipal actors, the project directly contributes to making municipalities and cities more sustainable, by realising their responsibility and potential to contribute to more sustainable production patterns through their consumption. Strengthening sustainable public procurement creates a demand-pull by incentivising responsible businesses conduct, which directly influences production patterns around the globe.

Social benefits are occurring along international value chains, when social standards are included in public tenders, for example leading to contracts that involved certifications. By promoting socially responsible business conduct, sustainable public procurement not only leads to decent work but also aims at upholding global value chains under better conditions and therefore also contributes to economic growth. By promoting labour and human rights, sustainable public procurement contributes to reducing global inequalities, that are deeply embedded in the global division of labour along supply chains.

The German Development Institute (DIE) is a Multistakeholder Advisory Committee member of the Sustainable Public Procurement Programme.





#### **CASE STUDY:**



#### **Seeds of Opportunity**



#### TURNING CLIMATE CHALLENGES INTO OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN MALAWI

Africa's urban population is projected to increase from about 409 million in 2010 to approximately 1,364 million in 2050, and with such population increases it is projected that the global annual amount of natural resources used by urban areas will increase from 40 billion tonnes in 2010 to 90 billion tonnes in 2050. an increase of 125%. While natural resource use is increasing in Africa, so too are the threats from environmental impacts also expected to increase. Seeds of Opportunity seeks to achieve climate resilient inclusive growth in Africa, by innovatively transforming climate challenges into opportunities.

In Malawi, one of the least developed countries in the world, climate change is posing enormous threats. The country has a vulnerable economy and weak enforcement frameworks for environmental management. Given that the country's economy is considerably based on agriculture, climate risks such as failed harvests make the Malawian population increasingly poorer. Additionally, more people are being exposed to climate hazards in the cities, as Malawian cities have poor infrastructure and urbanisation is expected to increase.

It is with this consideration in mind that Seeds of Opportunity developed the Polycentric Infrastructure and Community Development Paradigm for Sustainable Urban Transitions (PICD-SUT) project. The project created a framework where social houses are built using sustainable materials and part of the rent from the houses is used to finance local environmental initiatives. This means that (i) the environmental impacts of buildings will be reduced, (ii) homeowners will be contributing towards environmental initiatives passively and (iii) rural communities will be receiving a steady stream of income for environmental initiatives.

The initiative aimed to showcase how urbanisation and urban development in Malawi could be achieved sustainably and how private finance for supporting local environmental programmes could be achieved



"Different types of of innovation and novelty are needed to address the current and future development problems. SCP, SDG 12 and the One planet network provide a good platform to innovate and pilot new concepts, as opposed to other platforms that prefer only tried and tested approaches."

through social innovation and bottom-up approaches. The intervention would enable people and institutions to adopt lifestyles based on a reduced consumption of energy, water and materials in order to have lower carbon footprints and reduce the over-exploitation of resources. Creating sustainable cities through the development of decent housing is very important not only from an environmental perspective, but can also have positive impacts on human security and human health.

Seeds of Opportunity is a partner of the Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme.





#### IDENTIFYING EMERGING TRENDS ON SCP

Reviewing progress on SDG 12 and its indicators makes for dire reading. SDG 12.2 on Sustainable Resource Management is on a long-term trend in the wrong direction. Globally, we continue to use everincreasing amounts of natural resources to support our economic activity and the efficiency with which resources are used remains unchanged, therefore we have not yet seen decoupling of economic growth from environmental degradation<sup>4</sup>.

Indicators under SDG targets 12.2 and 8.4 on material footprint (materials extracted throughout global supply

chains to meet the importing country's demand) and domestic material consumption (materials being used within a country) continue to rise at the global level and are projected to increase significantly in the long term.

In addition, the use of natural resources and the related benefits and environmental impacts are unevenly distributed across countries and regions. Perpetuating current modes of production and consumption, and the current levels of inequality associated with them, threatens the achievement of the entire 2030 Agenda<sup>5</sup>.

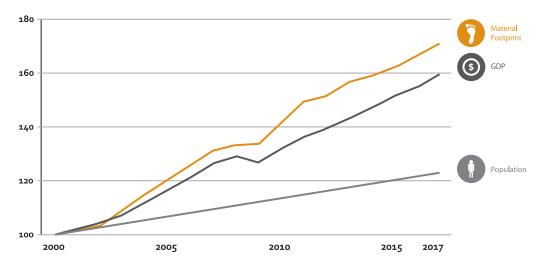


Figure II: Population, material footprint and GDP growth index, 2000-2017 (baseline 2000= 100)

Source: The Sustainable Development Goals Report, 2019

Reversing the negative trend on Sustainable Resource Management requires transforming how we use and manage natural resources in our socio-economic systems by both addressing the drivers of unsustainable consumption and production, while also putting in place the building blocks for new alternatives to take root.

#### NATIONAL POLICIES ON SCP - SDG 12.1.1

Most of these drivers and new alternatives are of socioeconomic nature, demonstrating the need to address the use of natural resources, and the full cost of their related impacts and negative externalities, through national fiscal and economic policy instruments.

Data on sustainable consumption and production policies reported by countries in 2019 under SDG 12.1.1 indicates the acknowledgment of the socioeconomic nature of SDG 12. Seventy per cent of the total number of reported policy instruments are considered relevant to other SDGs with socioeconomic objectives,

#### 70%

of reported SCP policy instruments are relevant to socioeconomic SDGs, including

- SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure
- SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth.
- only 10% of reported SCP policy instruments are led by:
  - the Ministry of Economic Development, Financing, Planning; the Ministry of Trade and Industry or by a high-level political body.
- only 3/25

reported SCP policies on sustainable public procurement are led by ministries with economic and financial portfolios. including SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure and SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth. Despite the relevance of policy instruments to SDGs with socioeconomic objectives, only 10% of reported policies are led by the Ministry of Economic Development, Financing, Planning or Trade and Industry or by a high-level political body. This is illustrated both by macro-policies and by sectoral policies, whereby for instance only three out of twenty-five policies on sustainable public procurement are led by ministries with economic and financial portfolios.

> The analysis of the policy instruments reported under SDG 12.1.1 signals a siloed approach mostly driven within environmental portfolios through standalone sustainable consumption and production action plans and sectoral policies.

Similarly, the economic and social dimensions are not reflected in the targets and impacts of the reported policies under SDG 12.1.1. This suggests a disconnect between the goals of policies, and their means of implementation and measurement.



Photo by Gustavo Quepón on Unsplash

#### POLICY: BULGARIA

#### **BULGARIA SUPPORTS** SMES TO DRIVE **GREEN ITS ECONOMY** AND BOOST COMPETITIVENESS



Bulgaria aspires to increase the share of Bulgarian SMEs that have implemented resource efficiency measures and to reduce the energy intensity of the Bulgarian economy. Additionally, the country wants to accelerate its shift towards a knowledge-based economy and invest in innovation and entrepreneurship. To achieve this objective, the government of Bulgaria, with the support of the European Regional Development Fund, has invested an amount of 1.27 billion EUR in its Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020.

Resource efficiency is expected to result into reduced production costs for companies, which in turn can boost their competitiveness and the economy.

Financial support is provided to SMEs for measures that improve resource efficiency and energy efficiency, like ICT solutions which optimise production processes and energy use. Specialised services for better management practices can also receive financial support.

#### In 2019:

- 517 companies from all sectors except agriculture, forestry and fishing - received financial support to implement efficiency measures;
- 381 of these enterprises executed their projects successfully; and
- 224 SMEs received funding for specialised services.

One of the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" targets is to achieve an increase from 85% in 2012 to 93% in 2023 in the share of SMEs that are implementing resource efficiency measures. Based on energy savings estimations, the expected reduction of GHG emissions amounts to 745,378.58 tonnes of CO2

equivalents per year, down from the estimated 57 769 000 tonnes of CO2 equivalents emitted in 2018.

In further promotion of the greening of its economy, Bulgaria (co-funded by the European Structural and Investment Funds) is also supporting SMEs that are trying to reduce negative impacts on the environment by investing in the development of their employees. More specifically, through the Operational Programme called "Human Resources Development 2014-2020", support will be provided for human-resource development practices that adapt the knowledge and skills of employees to labour-market changes (for example through the introduction of green and resource efficient technologies), but also practices which introduce more green work organisation models within companies.

For example, in order to boost employment in the green economy, for each new employed hired in a 'green job' who was previously unemployed, employers will receive a subsidy from the government. The subsidy is subject to certain terms and conditions, with a 'green job' being defined as "jobs created in the economic activities, associated with production of goods and provision of services supporting environmental protection." With these measures, Bulgaria wants to anticipate the changes that a transition towards a green economy would bring about and ensure that the demand is balanced with skills in the labour market.

#### **POLICY: COLOMBIA**

#### COLOMBIA TAKES THE LEAD: FIRST COUNTRY IN LATIN AMERICA TO INTRODUCE CIRCULAR **ECONOMY PUBLIC POLICY**



Colombia has committed to several ambitious goals to make its future more sustainable, including to:

- Increase its recycling rate from 8.7% to 17.9% by 2030.
- Grow the generation capacity of renewable and clean energy to 1500 MW by 2022.
- Increase the percentage of treated urban wastewater to 54.3% by 2022.
- Grow the number of authorised projects for the reuse of treated wastewater by 50%.
- Reach a recycling rate of 70% for construction and demolition waste in main cities by 2030.
- Reach a recycling rate of 10% by 2021, and 30% by 2030, for packaging waste.

With the development of a National Circular Economy Strategy (ENEC, Estrategia Nacional de Economía Circular), Colombia transforms these targets into policy and sets the course of action for the next coming years.

Colombia is the first country in Latin America to have a circular economy public policy and aims at becoming one of the three most competitive economies in Latin America by 2030.

The policy focuses on encouraging producers, suppliers and all other actors in value chains to shift to new business models that incorporate waste management and resource efficiency. Consumers are encouraged to change their lifestyles as well. Producers are made responsible for the environmental impacts of their products throughout the product life-cycle and have to organize (financially and physically) the treatment of their post-consumer products. Regulations and incentives will be developed to support implementation. Adopting waste management and resource efficiency measures is expected to stimulate innovation and reduce costs, which in turn will make businesses more productive and generate employment.

The policy focuses on advancing resource efficiency through circularity in six prioritised flows:

- industrial material flows and mass consumption products,
- 2. packaging materials,
- biomass flows,
- sources and energy flows,
- 5. water flows, and
- building materials.

As part of the policy implementation, fifty strategic public and private actors have signed a national pact to pledge their commitment to the circular economy transition. These actors should develop regulations, incentives and new business models, drive innovation and strengthen capacity for the shift towards circularity. Eighteen additional regional pacts were signed by more than 250 strategic actors (among which: unions, NGOs, mayors, governments) to further facilitate the implementation. These regions have included resources on their public budgets and have set up specific agendas through regional boards to identify circular projects and to boost investments and collaborations.

Several regulatory instruments have been adopted to implement the strategy, such as a resolution that prohibits bringing single-use plastics in National Natural Parks. Sector sessions were organised with the oil and gas, agricultural and domestic public services sectors, sector of Higher Education Institutions and Centers Research, Development and Innovation, as well as ecoindustrial parks, to help align these three key sectors of the country with the National Circular Economy Strategy and to develop commitments and work agendas.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO ACCELERATE ACTION AND ACHIEVE TRANSFORMATIVE PATHWAYS

The sectors of Agriculture, Food & Beverage, and Construction accounted for nearly 70% of the world's total material footprint in 2015 and therefore can be potential game-changers in reducing material footprint. These sectors are being addressed both through sustainable consumption and production policies under SDG 12.1.1 and through the implementation activities by programmes and partners across the One Planet network. Almost one in five (19%) of both policy instruments and network activities reported in 2019 were associated with these high-material footprint sectors, signalling that the network is well placed to leverage and support these sectoral policy priorities.

#### 1 in 5

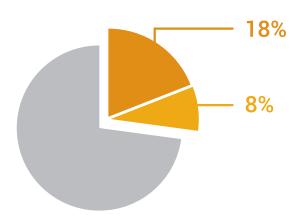
of both policy instruments and network activities are associated with the high-material footprint sectors of Agriculture, Food & Beverage, and Construction, which accounted for 70% of the world's total material footprint in 2015.

It is fundamental that in addressing SDG targets 12.2 and 8.4 countries consider not only their production footprint, but also their consumption levels and their related consumption footprints along global value chains.

This central role of addressing consumption practices is increasingly being recognised as a sectoral priority of sustainable consumption and production policies. Consumer goods were the most frequently cited sector of policies reported in 2019 (9% of the total of sectoral associations). Correspondingly, consumer goods is also

among the predominant sectors linked to programme implementation activities in 2019.

 Consumer goods was the most predominant sector for both policies and programme activities in 2019









5%
Agriculture

Food & Beverage

**b%**Buildings &
Construction



Consumo

Figure III: Sectors associated to SCP policies and implementation activities, 2019. Highlight: Agriculture, Food and Beverage, Construction, and Consumer goods. In 2019, programme outcome-level activities, as opposed to output-focused activities, increased to 37% of total activities, up from 28% in 2018, and from 16% for the 2013-2017 period. This growth trend continues to be driven by the Sustainable Tourism programme with an increasing participation this year of the Consumer Information, Public Procurement, and Sustainable Lifestyles and Education programmes.

This continued growth trend in outcome level activities reported by the programmes and their partners was reinforced by the 226 policy instruments reported by Member States under SDG 12.1.1, contributing to the overall increase at the outcome level during 2019. A marked increase in the number of policy instruments and in the use of knowledge resources and technical tools are driving this trend toward more outcome-level activities.

The amount of changes in practice also continues to increase but is still a small percentage (6%) of the total number of reported activities.

There is an opportunity for improvement in identifying tangible solutions that result in concrete and measurable sustainability impacts.

Reporting trends in 2019 indicate a shift to outcome-oriented activities, signalling progress towards the implementation of policies, tools, and solutions which result in concrete changes in practices.

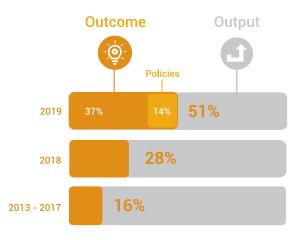
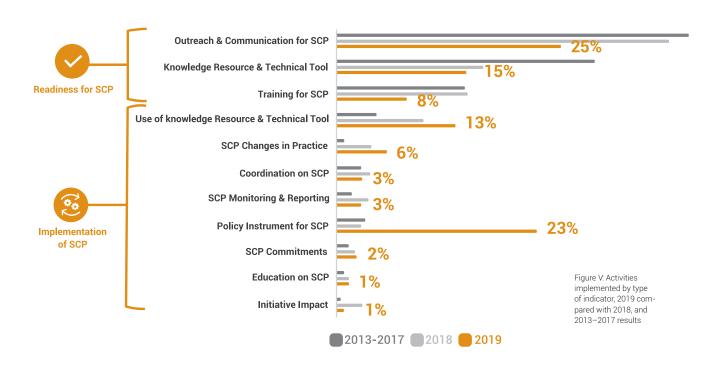


Figure IV: Annual volume of reported outcome level



#### **POLICY: EUROPEAN UNION**

# THE ROADMAP TO A GREENER AND FAIRER EUROPE



The European Green Deal is the top priority of the European Commission. The European Green Deal aims at "transforming the EU into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy where there are no net emissions of greenhouse gases in 2050 and where economic growth is decoupled from resource use. It also aims to protect, conserve and enhance the EU's natural capital, and protect the health and well-being of citizens from environment-related risks and impacts".

The European Green Deal is an ambitious strategy to address the current existential environmental problems in a systemic way: climate change, biodiversity loss, resources depletion and pollution. It also announces a "green oath to do no harm" in the design and implementation of policies.

Different initiatives have been already adopted: a proposal for a Climate Law to make Europe climate neutral by 2030, a new Circular Economy Action Plan, a Biodiversity Strategy and a Farm to Fork Strategy. The European Green Deal has also presented an impact assessed plan to increase the GHG emissions reduction target to at least 55% by 2030 (now, at least 40%), and announces a Zero Pollution ambition in 2021.

To achieve this goal, the Commission has proposed a new funding instrument, the Sustainable Investment Plan/European Green Deal Investment Plan, to support the transition. It includes a Just Transition Fund to ensure that the transition will be fair and inclusive.

The European Green Deal, forms an integral part of the European Commission's strategy to achieve the United Nation's 2030 sustainable development goals. The EU hopes, with this leading position on climate ambition, to influence and mobilise partner countries to adopt sustainable strategies as well.

# The EU wants to achieve a socially just and inclusive transition, a key message of the strategy is "to leave no person and no place behind."

Even before the adoption of the European Green Deal, the European Union published a plastics strategy, aiming at tackling plastic waste in the framework of the Circular Economy Action Plan. As a measure to tackle marine litter, the 'Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment' was issued. It targets the ten single-use plastic products most often found polluting European beaches. Where alternatives are readily available and affordable, single-use plastic products are to be banned from the market. Products without alternatives are to be reduced through softer measures.

#### **POLICY: GERMANY**

#### **GERMANY IS LEADING** BY EXAMPLE AND INFLUENCING THE MARKET THROUGH SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT



With an annual expenditure of approximately 400 billion euros, the public sector in Germany has a large impact on the potential demand for sustainable products and services.

By applying sustainability criteria to public procurement practices, the German federal government is able to both lead by example on sustainability action as well as exert a significant influence on the market thereby encouraging suppliers to produce more sustainably. There is a set of several measures (from mandatory to informatory) on the federal level as well as a large number of policies on state and community level to promote sustainable public procurement.

In 2015, Germany relaunched the "Programme of Measures Promoting Sustainable Administrative Action", one of the most important measures on the federal level.

As part of the programme, the German government committed to avoid, reduce and offset its trafficrelated and site-related CO2 emissions, with a focus on targeting CO2 emissions from staff travel:

- For air travel, this is achieved through the purchase of carbon offset credits. In 2017, the Federal **Environment Agency acquired and cancelled** emission credits equal to 300,000 tonnes of CO2, for a compensation amount of 1.7 million euros. The carbon credits purchased are used to fund projects that contribute to environmental causes, like clean drinking water, the construction of biogas plants that generate energy from waste or the development and expansion of energy supply with renewable energy.
- For car travel, this is achieved through the use of low-emissions vehicles. By 2020, sustainable

procurement of the government car fleet will achieve an average emission value of 95g CO2/km. By 2020, 20% of total cars newly purchased or rented will have an emission value lower than 50 g CO2/km.

Furthermore there are targets for the procurement of sustainable paper (95% by 2020) and textiles (50% by 2020) included in the programme.

The implementation of Germany's sustainable public procurement criteria is ensured by the Competence Centre for Sustainable Procurement. The centre serves as an expert advisor to purchasers at federal, state and local level regarding environmental, economic and social criteria, but also as an information platform where procurers will find legal bases, guidelines and other useful documents for sustainable procurement. In addition, free training courses are organised for organisations which carry out public procurement, in order to initiate or continue concrete implementation of sustainable procurement.

A set of guidelines has also been set up to assist organisers in making German events (like conferences or summits) more sustainable. Possible areas of action defined in the guidelines are, among others:

- travel,
- resource consumption,
- accommodation,
- catering,
- waste management.

Worksheets that accompany the guidelines provide supplementary help to time-constrained workers. Practice has shown that implementing these sustainability measures in public procurement often results in greater cost-efficiency, for example through energy-savings or greater durability of products.

#### SUPPORTING NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF SDG 12.

SDG indicators are classified in three tiers, based on whether the indicators that have been established for measuring the achievement of the goals are conceptually clear, have internationally established methodologies or standards, and have data being reported on them regularly.

While 50% of all SDG indicators are now classified as Tier I, SDG 12 is falling behind.

As of December 2019:

- 25% of SDG 12 indicators are Tier I.
- 42% of SDG 12 indicators are Tier II.
- 33% of SDG 12 indicators are Tier III.

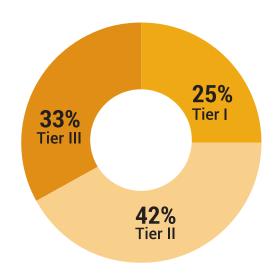




Photo by Dharmi Bradley

Only 25% of the indicators under SDG 12 are classified as Tier I, with 75% remaining Tier II or III. This means that either their methodology is still under development or that the indicators are yet to be consistently tracked by countries. Together with SDG 13, SDG 12 is among the Goals with the highest percentage of indicators still classified as Tier III, namely 33% as of December 2019.

There is a clear information gap to comprehensively assess the challenges, measure the progress, and identify the most appropriate solutions to achieve SDG 12.

The One Planet network is supporting countries to bridge the SDG data gap and implement SDG 12 by collaborating with custodian UN agencies on the development of the SDG 12 Hub.

Reporting against SDG indicator 12.1.1 on the number of countries with SCP national action plans or sustainable consumption and production mainstreamed as a priority or a target into national policies took place in accordance with the approved methodology and in line with the approved cycle in 2019.





Photo by Leon Ephraïm on Unsplash

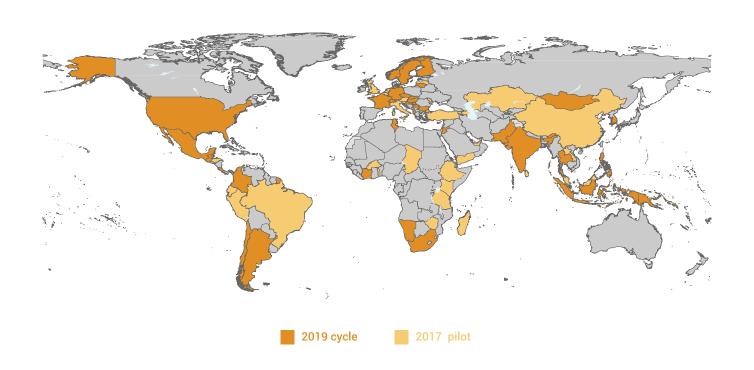


Figure VI: Countries reporting on SDG 12.1.1, 2017 and 2019

#### **POLICY: THE MALDIVES**

# THE MALDIVES POLLUTION POLICY IMPROVES AIR QUALITY AND TACKLES CLIMATE CHANGE



The Maldives has committed to taking concrete climate and SCP action, with particular aspirations to significantly reduce air pollution. Target reductions are equal to:

- · 680.60 Metric Tonnes of methane (CH4),
- 2.83 Kilo Metric Tonnes of Nitrogen Oxides (NOx),
- · 2,918.17 Mt of PM 2.5, and
- 3,453.67 Mt of PM 10.

To achieve these goals through policy, The Maldives has issued "The National Action Plan on Air Pollutants" in 2019, an action plan that integrates measures to tackle both climate change and air pollution. Given that several air pollutants and greenhouse gases have the same source, the actions can result in better air quality and limit GHG emissions at the same time.

The plan evaluates current measures to improve air quality, but also identifies additional efforts to lower pollutants and GHG emissions, with a focus on the transport, electricity and waste sector. Financing mechanisms for household solar panels and awareness campaigns on the financial and environmental benefits of solar power are examples of actions. Another action included in the plan is the phasing out of conventional lighting in the public sector and switching to LED tubes. Implementation and monitoring strategies are included in the plan as well.

The measures will not only have an important impact on air quality, they will also improve the health of citizens and enables the shift towards a low-carbon economy.

With all measures combined, the National Action Plan on Air Pollutants has a target reduction of 29% of Carbon Dioxide, which amounts to 777.22 Kilo Metric Tonnes of CO2 by 2030. Other air pollutants have similar target reductions by 2030:

- 45% for Methane,
- · 27% for Nitrogen Oxides,
- -59.89% for Particulate Matters PM 2.5, and
- -62.98% for Particulate Matters PM 10.

Additionally, a National Action Plan on SCP was developed in 2020, which aims to identify key priority areas and concrete actions on SCP to implement in the next years, while also monitoring and reporting on the progress of these actions. The objectives of the plan are to encourage renewable energy, adopt resource efficient practices and use environmentally friendly products. By doing so, the plan also contributes to a shift towards low-waste and low-carbon sustainable lifestyles.

The Maldives has identified empowering and assisting young people to adopt sustainable lifestyles as one of its priorities, emphasising the importance of youth as the next generation and key agents of change for the future.

In 2015 the Maldives introduced the Green Tax, which is levied upon goods and services that cause environmental damage, such as tourist resorts and vessels. The tax incorporates the cost of repairing this environmental damage and is also used to raise funds for measures which improve the environmental quality of the country. The Green Tax raised 29.7 million dollars in the year 2019.

#### **POLICY: MEXICO**

#### MEXICO SUPPORTS ITS **COMPANIES IN GREENING** THEIR OPERATIONS



The Mexican government is aiming to improve the environmental performance and competitiveness of SMEs established in Mexico.

During 2015-2017, through the 'Environmental Leadership for Competitiveness Program (PLAC)', Mexican enterprises realised significant positive impacts:

- reduction of 1.8 million tons in CO2 emissions,
- reduction of 1 million tons in the generation of total solid waste, and
- reduction of 1.4 million tons of hazardous waste.
- Additionally, 24.5 million cubic meters of water and 1478 million kWh of electrical energy were saved.

The Environmental Leadership for Competitiveness Program gives companies the freedom to develop their own sustainable management and capacity building. Accordingly, the training method allows enterprises to identify by themselves, alternative solutions to unsustainable practices that have a negative impact on the environment, due to the excessive use of water, energy and materials that result in the generation of pollutants form inefficient operation.

The program is intended to be sufficiently general to be applied by any company, but in combination with company-specific knowledge, result in unique, firm-appropriate projects. The program relies on a "learning-by-doing" approach. It takes participants step-by-step through the Environmental Leadership for Competitiveness Program methodology. With the program, SMEs are confronted with what they do and with the way they do it. And they are not only convinced of their environmental responsibility but of their potential to generate savings and improve their profit margins, without the need for great efforts, but simply by improving their daily operations.

The companies themselves define projects which could generate economic savings by reducing resource use. The outcome of the programme is that companies reduce the impact of their whole value chain.

The Federal Attorney for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA) provides training to operating agencies and transfers the methodology of environmental management to them. The agencies, which can be higher education institutions, NGOs or scientific institutions, receive a subsidy to transfer the methodology further on to companies. Receiving the subsidy is subject to conditions, such as having at least three years of experience in training of environmental matters for economic activity. The subsidy allows companies to receive the training for free, which promotes the links of SMEs with other organizations that are specialized in environmental issues.

When companies wish to participate, they must submit at least one improvement project. Over the course of ten years (2008-2018), the program has achieved the following results:

- 13,143 people participated in the program,
- Capacity developed in 7,280 companies,
- 12,774 eco-efficiency projects presented by companies.

Practices in companies are monitored six months after the conclusion of the program implementation in order to measure what learning has occurred and what impacts have been generated. An analysis of the period 2015-2017 shows that 77% of participating companies implemented their projects and 46 % of these, performed more than one eco-efficiency project. The projects with the greatest benefits were the ones with efficient use of electrical energy and water and the ones with a significant decrease in generation of solid waste. These benefits where created through technological replacements, good practices and redesign of processes.

#### SDG 12.1.1 REPORTING HIGHLIGHTS



43

countries and the
European Union reported on at least
1 SCP national policy in 2019



35

reported one policy instrument



8

reported multiple
policies and implementation
activities



80

countries have shared information since pilot reporting in 2017



226

policy instruments reported in 2019



94

activities contributing to policy implementation reported in 2019



Most policies adopted between 2012 and 2019, with 2016 and 2019 being the peak adoption years.



81%

of policies reported in 2019 are already under implementation



**Only 14%** 

are overarching policy frameworks such as national sustainable development strategies



11%

of policies are related to sustainable public procurement reported by 16 countries across all regions<sup>6</sup>



**Only 26%** 

of reported policies have quantifiable targets or measured impacts In 2019, reporting countries shared information on 226 policy instruments, and 94 activities contributing to their implementation (a total of 320 items reported). Out of the 43 reporting Member States, 35 reported on one policy instrument, while others reported multiple policies and implementation activities7. This new data can help guide and support the implementation of new and current policies.

Most of the reported policies under SDG 12.1.1 have been recently adopted, with current political will and momentum behind sustainable consumption and production evidenced by their high implementation rate.

The majority of the policies have been adopted between 2012 and 2019, with 2016 and 2019 being the peak adoption years. Most of these policies, 81% of the total, are already under implementation.

Overarching policy frameworks such as national sustainable development strategies represent only 14% of all policies reported. The majority of policy interventions are either sectoral or standalone plans for sustainable consumption and production, hindering the potential to integrate sustainable resource use into national economic and development planning.

More needs to be done to prioritise policy coherence, overcome sectoral silos and align existing policies and regulations towards achieving SDG 12, which is systemic in nature and therefore highly interlinked across sectors.

A growing number of policies are related to sustainable public procurement (11% of the 2019 total), reported by 16 countries across all regions8. This indicates that public procurement is understood by governments as a powerful instrument to trigger market transformation and achieve sustainable consumption and production. The instruments, criteria, and tools used in procurement practices, however, are oftentimes complex, and lacking a standard methodology which can be tailored to different contexts. Given that public procurement is regulated and strictly applied by public administrations, evaluating these different measures and their impacts could greatly contribute to identifying effective sustainable consumption and production solutions and adapting them to different contexts.



Photo by V2osk on Unsplash

Waste is becoming increasingly relevant in sustainable consumption and production policies, accounting for 8% of the total of the sectoral associations of policies reported in 2019. Data indicates that this rise is linked to the increase of circular economy approaches, which even if going beyond waste management, are bringing attention to this issue.

Only a minority of reported policies have quantifiable targets or measured impacts (26% of the total). Science-based evidence and empirical data on policy impacts are both crucial to ensure effective action on sustainable consumption and production. The limited data availability on the rates at which implementation progress is being made impedes the identification of successful practices and of the scale and scope of action required.

In addition, the sustainable consumption and production policy data collected on SDG 12.1.1 also helped to identify and prioritise the type of support that Member States need and that the One Planet network is positioned to provide.



Photo by Dharmi Bradley

# The relevant types of support highlighted by governments include:







Illustrating the benefits of implementing policies and activities through inspiring and replicable examples

Developing, organising and disseminating expertise and tools that have been used to inform implementation Providing guidance on policy coherence and how to overcome standard institutional and technical barriers

Through the ongoing implementation of the **One Plan for One Planet** strategy, the programmes and their partners are supporting countries on these three fronts.

#### STRENGTHENING COORDINATION ACROSS THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

The UN development system has a key role in supporting countries in delivering on the 2030 Agenda, in particular in supporting those Goals that are lagging behind and on negative trends such as SDG 12.

The magnitude of the task that has been set in Goal 12 requires strong partnership across the UN development system. Each agency brings complementary expertise and skills to the various facets of sustainable consumption and production and SDG 12.

The UN development reform presents opportunities to strengthen the coherence of the UN support on SDG 12, in particular concerning:

- the development of a strategic UN system-wide approach;
- the common country analyses and the ii) development of the UN Sustainable Development cooperation frameworks, the main strategic instrument to respond to national needs and priorities; and
- iii) the reinvigorated resident coordinator system that ensures a strengthened coherence and coordination of the UN system in support of the SDGs.



Photo by Nicholas Doherty on Unsplash

In 2019 the UN Agencies active in the One Planet network pursued the implementation of the five recommendations made in the 'One UN for One Planet' report, namely:

- mainstream SDG 12 in the UN Development System;
- ii) strengthen in-country support and coordination;
- iii) facilitate the streamlining of efforts to monitor progress on SDG 12 targets and indicators;
- iv) place SDG 12 on the agenda of UN agencies at the highest levels; and
- v) establish a One Planet multi-partner trust fund for SDG 12.

In Paris in May 2019, a High-Level UN Inter-agency meeting was held with Assistant Secretary Generals of UNEP, FAO, UNDP, UNWTO, together with representatives of UN-Habitat, UNOPS, Sustainable UN Facility and the UN multi-partner trust fund office. Building on the existing inter-agency work for SDG 12, the participants agreed on a number of key action points to jointly mobilise political and financial support for SDG 12. While the High-Level Meetings were promising, the changes in leadership in many of the partner agencies has limited the follow-up through the rest of the year.

The methodology and data gap on SDG 12 presents an opportunity for UN agencies to engage in a coordinated and streamlined approach for the related indicators and reporting processes.



Photo by Headway on Unsplash

In 2019 extensive work was undertaken to develop a concept for coordinating and streamlining the global reporting processes on SDG 12 indicators. With the objective of improving the accessibility and understanding of the Goal by reporting entities in national governments, the SDG 12 Hub concept note was developed. The process is a collaboration between responsible offices in the custodian agencies of SDG 12 indicators (UNEP, FAO, UNWTO and UNESCO) and One Planet network partners. The SDG 12 Hub is conceptualised as a one-stop-shop, offering access to all official reporting, meta data, guidance material, information and solutions for SDG 12 in one place.

Following the establishment of the multi-partner trust fund for SDG 12 in 2018, the fund received its first pledges in late 2019. This enables the activation of the fund to be envisaged for 2020. However, despite the magnitude and urgency of the task on SDG 12, funding for this Goal continues to be very limited.



Photo by ThisisEngineering RAEng on Unsplash

SDG 12 is consistently recognised as under-resourced, significantly hindering its progress and implementation. This calls for a strengthened and concerted role of the private sector, the public sector and financial institutions in unlocking the required financial flows.

Whilst efforts in pursuing strengthened UN system support are ongoing, it is also clear that reversing current negative trends on SDG 12 will require the UN development system to dramatically step up its support.

The establishment of a dedicated UN interagency coordination mechanism on SDG 12 at UN Executive Heads level would strengthen the coherence of the UN support to 'deliver as one' on SDG 12.

#### **POLICY: MONGOLIA**

#### MONGOLIA INVESTS IN **GREEN DEVELOPMENT** TO DRIVE ECONOMY FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW



Mongolia has implemented an extensive National Green Development Policy, adopted in 2014, which aims to achieve environmentally sustainable growth benefitting both current and future generations.

#### The plan consists of six main objectives, all of which are linked to sustainable development and are monitored by specific indicators and targets to be achieved by 2020 or 2030:

- 1. Promote sustainable production and consumption, with a focus on natural resource efficiency, low greenhouse-gas emissions and reduced waste generation. This can be achieved by promoting resource-efficient and low-waste technologies in the mineral resource sectors. Additionally, ecotourism products can be developed that comply with environmental requirements.
- 2. Better protect ecosystems by improving restoration activities and reducing environmental pollution and degradation.
- 3. Increase investment and create financial incentives to support a green economy. Targets include allocating 2% of annual GDP to green development and 20% of public procurement to sustainable services. Additionally, a green taxation system will be put in place to reduce the production and import of environmentally harmful goods.
- 4. Foster a green lifestyle, by reducing poverty and promoting green jobs.

Encourage education, science and technology as the catalyst for green development by increasing the share of GDP expenditure for research by 2% by 2020 and by 3% by 2030. An additional target includes the increase of green product manufacturing. The "National Programme on Education for Sustainable Development", a policy adopted in 2018, is in line with these objectives. The programme aims to disseminate education and knowledge on sustainable development to Mongolian citizens. This will be achieved by integrating environmental and sustainable education into the curriculum of all education levels (from pre-school to higher education).

#### The programme's target is to increase the percentage of workers in green employment by 9.9% in 2017, by 15% in 2020 and by 20% in 2030.

Plan population settlement in accordance with climate change, the availability of natural resources and the resilience of the regions. As part of this objective, the National Green Development Policy has the target to reduce solid waste in landfills by 20% by 2020 and 40% by 2030 through increased recycling, customer education and better technologies.

#### **POLICY: TUNISIA**

#### TUNISIA INVESTS IN A **GREENER ECONOMY FOR** A MORE SUSTAINABLE **FUTURE**



The Tunisian government is increasingly investing in a sustainable and green future for its people and supporting the growing number of Tunisian companies willing to reduce their negative impacts on the environment. To achieve this sustainable future, Tunisia developed the National Green Economy Strategy and calculated the cost to execute it at 12 million USD.

The National Green Economy Strategy aims to ensure faster growth than in the brown economy over the long term and to create jobs especially in the fields of renewable energy and waste management.

The National Green Economy Strategy focuses on sustainable production and consumption practices to achieve an increased investment in clean energy and reduce poverty without having a negative impact on natural resources. The strategy aims to develop efficient buildings and improve energy management. The Tunisian Government also intends to develop alternative tourism practices, increase resource efficiency and improve waste management. Identified targets by 2030 include:

- Composting of 65% of biodegradable waste which has been diverted from landfills.
- 30% saving of irrigation water by 2030,
- Reaching a reuse rate of treated wastewater of 60%.
- Achieving an integration rate of 30% of renewable energies.
- By 2030, have a 1% annual increase in forest cover with respect to the current situation.
- · Attain an area of 1.5 Million hectares (dedicated to organic agriculture) by 2030.
- By 2030, reduce the burnt area to 2 hectares per fire, down from the current 15.6 hectares per fire.

In an answer to the call for new skills, the Ministry of Environment has developed a training program which supports the creation of green job opportunities and the integration of young graduates into professional life.

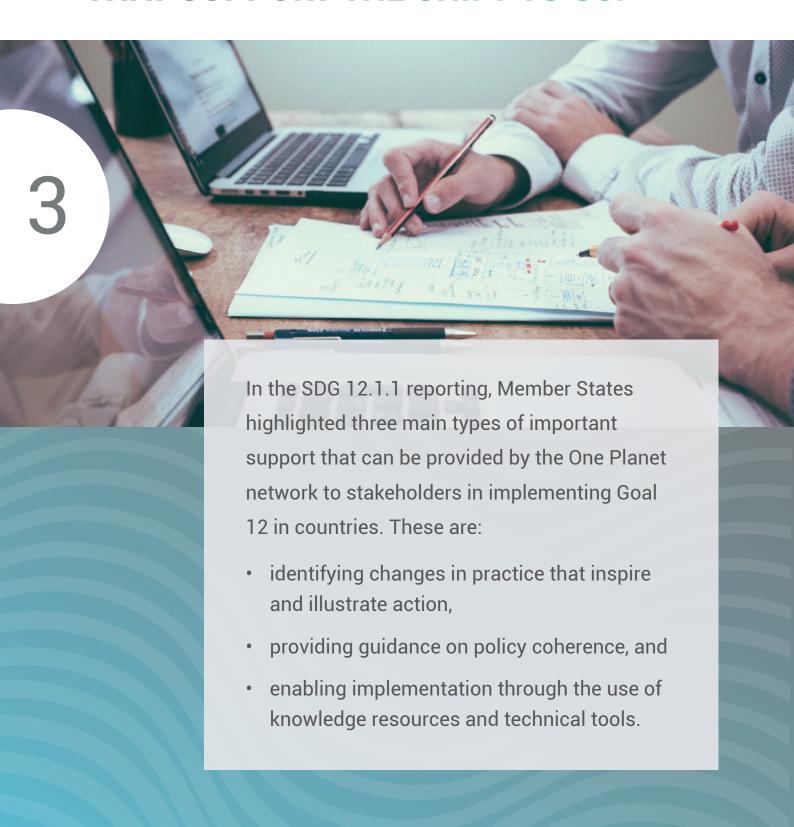
In addition to the National Green Economy Strategy, Tunisia has developed the "Ten-Year Agri-Food Action Plan" to address the sustainability of the entire Tunisian food chain," in an attempt to tackle overexploitation of resources and reduce negative externalities on the environment. The plan aims for the agri-food sector to take the entire life cycle of food products into account, from raw materials until final disposal.

Objectives of the plan are to:

- Create a fair-trade label.
- Improve the existing financial incentives for organic certification.
- Rationalise the use of natural resources and reduce pollutant sources (pesticides and waste).
- Develop sustainable products using environmentally sounds processes.
- Promote distribution channels which highlight sustainable products.
- Promote sustainable agricultural practices and local knowledge.
- Increase the measures for water and energy saving, among others.

A budget of 18 million USD is estimated by this strategy, and must be sought through active cooperation with partners and international donors to execute the plan, which contributes to SCP practices in several ways; by creating sustainable agricultural production, developing sustainable products, and encouraging sustainable consumption. Audits to obtain ecological certification are conducted for companies, and opportunities for impact are identified in water saving, energy saving, waste management and pollution reduction.

# PROVIDING AND FACILITATING THE APPLICATION OF TOOLS AND SOLUTIONS THAT SUPPORT THE SHIFT TO SCP





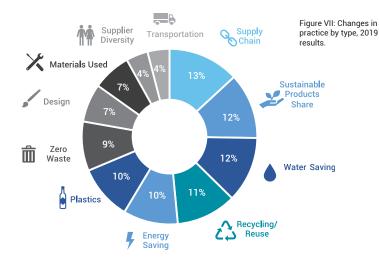


Photos: Far left: Photo by Scott Graham on Unsplash: Above: Photo by Stefano Alemani on Unsplash

#### **CHANGES IN PRACTICES:** "INSPIRE AND ILLUSTRATE ACTION"

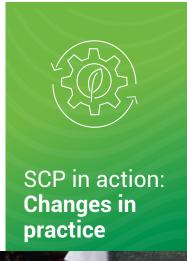
The adoption of new or improved practices offers tangible solutions for the shift to sustainable consumption and production. As highlighted by Member States through their SDG 12.1.1 reporting, identifying and promoting successful changes in practice for sustainable consumption and production is key to supporting policy implementation and offers entry points to measure impact and advocate for replicating and scaling-up such changes.

During 2019, a total of 302 changes in practice were implemented by 257 organisations and governments, with some organisations implementing different changes simultaneously. This represents a significant increase compared to both 2018 and the 2013-2017 period.



The largest number of new or improved practices adopted came from the tourism sector, both by civil society organisations and business. Across all activities, there is no one predominant type of change in practice being implemented, but the most common types are changes in the supply chain (13%), the share of sustainable products (12%) and water savings (12%).

#### SCP IN ACTION: CHANGES IN PRACTICES



#### War on Waste

The War on Waste is an initiative of Pick n Pay Stores in South Africa, which is committed to significantly reducing its waste by 2020. The strategy focuses on preventing waste creation, supporting communities in need with food donations and reducing waste going to landfills.

#### **Results:**



recycled 4,800 tonnes of waste



achieved an 11.4% reduction in the amount of food waste sent to landfill



energy-efficiency measures have resulted in a 36.9% decrease in energy use per square metre and a 6.4% reduction of CO2 emissions per square metre.

Pick n Pay Stores in South Africa is a partner of the Consumer Information Programme.











#### Costa Cruises

Costa Cruises has reported significant results on changes in practices across impact areas including circularity, waste management, plastics, water use efficiency and energy-use efficiency.

#### Results:



reduced water consumption (per person per day vs 2018) by 1.3%



increased water production, with 76% of the water used onboard produced through desalination



decreased fuel consumption has through energy-use efficiency, reducing the carbon footprint by 8.6%



single-use plastic items replaced with biodegradable, compostable or wooden alternatives



all waste separated, with 44% of aluminium, 28% of plastic and 49% of glass recycled

Costa cruises is a partner of the Sustainable Tourism Programme







#### CASE STUDY:



#### **Iberostar**

#### IBEROSTAR IS RIDING THE "WAVE OF CHANGE" ON PLASTIC POLLUTION

Plastic pollution is one of the major contributors to the degradation of oceans and marine life. With its hotels located near beautiful nature, Iberostar group decided it was time to take on plastic pollution and preserve the environment surrounding its properties, by becoming a more sustainable hotel company. Initially, the company started by eliminating regularly used items like straws and plastic water bottles from its inventory, but quickly realised that was just the beginning.

Since 2017, Iberostar has shifted from a plastic elimination focused strategy, towards strategies for a circular economy and started the Wave of Change movement. As part of this initiative, the group has also committed to promoting responsible consumption of seafood and improving coastal health.

Iberostar has set five ambitious long-term targets for the Wave of Change:

- Iberostar's operations are single-use plastic free by 2020, waste free by 2025, and carbon neutral by 2030
- Iberostar's seafood consumption is 100% responsible by 2025
- All ecosystems that surround Iberostar properties are improving in ecological health alongside profitable tourism by 2030
- Wave of Change is recognised by 90% of clients in-stay by 2023 and is a major driver for 60% of clients to choose Iberostar by 2025
- Iberostar's own certification or verified partner certifications for responsible tourism are adopted by 2x the number of hotels Iberostar manages by 2030

In 2018, Iberostar was the first hotel chain to declare all its hotel rooms in Spain single-use plastics free and realised this goal for all of its hotels globally in 2019. This was partly achieved by installing over 400 water fountains - to





"Iberostar is committed to preserving our environment and protecting the oceans that surround ourproperties. Oceans are home to more than 80% of life on the planet. By conserving the oceans we are notjust ensuring the viability and sustainability of the business, but we are ensuring the next generations enjoy this planet. **Wave of Change is our pioneering movement built** on the core values of sustainability, authenticity and transparency. We take this movement very seriously."

replace plastic bottles with refillable ones and offering guests their own reusable water bottle upon arrival. Iberostar eliminated 836 plastic items from operations and replaced with 506 more sustainable alternatives. To reduce organic waste, the group also established new composting facilities. In total, 600 tonnes of single use plastics were avoided in 2019.

Iberostar Group is a partner of the Sustainable Tourism Programme.







SCP in action: Changes in practice

#### LC3

LC3 is a new type of cement that blends limestone and calcined clay, is cost effective and able to reduce CO2 emissions of cement production by up to 30%. With cement production responsible for 10% of global CO2 emissions, LC3 helps the buildings and construction sector combat climate change.

#### Results:



so far, five Latin American and African cement companies have changed their practices towards LC3 production



the expected reduction in CO2 emissions in 2020 is 100,000 tonnes.

The Latin American Technology Resource Centre (TRC), the LC3 Network and Ecosur, a partner of the Sustainable Buildings and Construction Programme, provide technology consultancy, support and customised services for the implementation of a low-carbon cement (LC3).













#### **Global Lead City Network**

The Global Lead City Network enabled Buenos Aires to achieve their ambitious goal of changing to 100% LED street lights, becoming in 2019 the first capital city in South America to achieve this goal.

The 100% LED target was a public commitment as part of the "2020 Action Plan". All lighting in public spaces was replaced, including under viaducts and motorways, underpasses and bridges, in green spaces and squares, as well as public buildings and monuments. The transition was enabled by leveraging public procurement processes that included environmental criteria such as energy efficiency standards in tenders.

#### Results:



reduction in annual emissions by 54,000 tonnes of CO2 equivalent



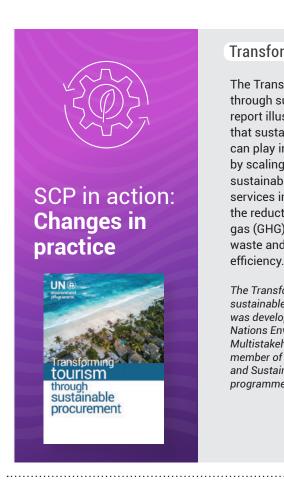
energy savings of more than 50%, implying a savings of 85,000 MW per year - the equivalent of energy used by 25,000 households per year.

The Global Lead City Network (GLCN) on Sustainable Procurement, is coordinated by ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, a co-lead of the Sustainable Procurement programme.









#### Transforming tourism

The Transforming tourism through sustainable procurement report illustrates the critical role that sustainable procurement can play in transforming tourism by scaling up the market of sustainable products and services in the sector, enabling the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, reducing waste and increasing resource efficiency.

The Transforming tourism through sustainable procurement report was developed by the United Nations Environment Programme, a Multistakeholder Advisory Committee member of the Sustainable Tourism and Sustainable Public Procurement programmes.

#### Results:

As an example, by composting food waste, repurposing glass bottles and turning used packaging into construction materials, Soneva Resorts in the Maldives has, as of 2017:



recycled 90% of its solid waste,



saved 12,500 bottles from going to landfills,



produced 100,000 USD worth of vegetables in on-site gardens, and



generated a total revenue of 340,000 USD in 2017 from cost savings in food procurement and construction.









#### The Florverde Sustainable Flowers

The Florverde Sustainable Flowers (FSF) certification is an independent standard for the floriculture industry that addresses the quality, labour conditions, and environmental management of the production of flowers in Latin American countries.

The scheme adapts the requirements from international social and environmental agreements to the reality of Latin American producers. The Florverde Sustainable Flowers certification includes a unique system of sustainability indicators that allows certified companies to report and compare their performance monthto-month against industry averages.

#### Results:



To date, more than 100 flower farms have been certified in Colombia and Ecuador.



In 2019, 39% of Colombia's flower exports, an equivalent of 94 thousand tonnes of flowers, were FSF certified, reducing energy and water consumption, carbon footprint and the use of polluting pesticides.



More than 32,000 workers, 64% of which are head-of-household women, have benefited from the scheme's focus on decent labour practices and conditions.

The Florverde Sustainable Flowers (FSF) certification, is led by Florverde, a partner of the Consumer Information Programme.







## PROVIDING GUIDANCE ON POLICY COHERENCE AND POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

In 2019 the One Planet network and its programmes developed and launched a series of strategic tools to support countries in the implementation of SDG 12.

#### **POLICY GUIDANCE**

## Sustainable Consumption and Production Hotspot Analysis Tool

In order to help policymakers and other stakeholders identify key sectors for policy interventions and resource management strategies, the One Planet network, the Life Cycle Initiative, and the International Resource Panel jointly launched the Sustainable Consumption and Production Hotspot Analysis Tool (SCP HAT)<sup>9</sup>.

The SCP HAT interactive website provides data on the environmental and socioeconomic performance of 171 countries over the past 25 years, offering empirical evidence of "hotspots" where unsustainable consumption and production practices exist. The prototype version of the tool integrates data on raw material use, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, air pollution and health, land use and biodiversity. The hotspot analysis tool also offers basic socioeconomic data at both the national level (gross domestic product, Human Development Index) and the sectoral level (added value, employment).

The tool enhances the understanding of national trends on the decoupling of natural resource use from economic activity and human well-being, facilitating the use of the latest available science to inform action. Throughout 2019 the tool was broadly promoted among Member States and partners of the network through both information and capacity-building sessions.

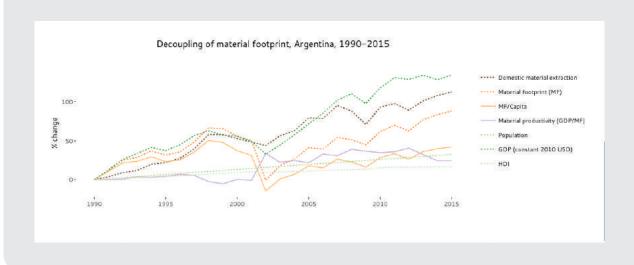






Photo by Dharmi Bradley









#### **POLICY GUIDANCE**



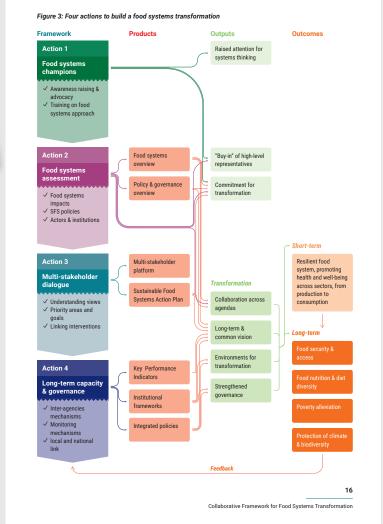
#### Collaborative Framework for Food Systems Transformation



It focuses on practical actions to implement food and agriculture policies through a holistic lens, connecting these sectors with others such as health, trade, education and finance, and includes eight case studies that provide insight into how the principles and actions discussed in the document have been implemented in practice.

The Collaborative Framework contributes to the Programme's objective to support countries to shift towards sustainable food systems and achieve the SDGs.

The Sustainable Food Systems programme launched the Collaborative Framework for Food Systems
Transformation. This framework provides guidance to policy makers in their institutional set up and policy making processes, while elaborating on the role of other stakeholders to support governments in managing food systems.







#### **POLICY GUIDANCE**

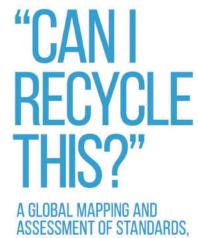


#### Can I Recycle This?

The Consumer Information programme developed "Can I Recycle This?" A Global Mapping and Assessment of Standards, Labels and Claims on Plastic Packaging. This report identifies the communication elements featured on plastic packaging to inform consumers about the recyclability, materials used, or disposal of plastic packaging, and assesses these elements against the five fundamental principles of the **Guidelines for Providing Product Sustainability** Information of the Consumer Information Programme.

The report, published in early 2020, identifies existing labels, claims and standards, and evaluates if these labels can be misleading or confusing to consumers, highlighting good and bad practices to identify areas where action needs to be taken.

The mapping also reveals that misconceptions do exist, and to address them provides five key recommendations to improve the quality and credibility of consumer information on plastic packaging. The report was produced by UNEP and Consumers International.



LABELS AND CLAIMS ON PLASTIC PACKAGING













#### **POLICY GUIDANCE**



#### Developing a methodology for SDG 12.7.1

The Sustainable Public Procurement programme leveraged its expertise to contribute to the United Nations Environment Programme-led development of the methodology for the indicator SDG 12.7.1 on the number of countries implementing sustainable public procurement policies and action plans.

Since 2018, 52 experts from 40 different organisations and 31 different countries have taken part in the development process of this methodology. In 2019, 18 partner countries tested the final version of the methodology which was reclassified in February 2020 into the Tier II category, opening the way for the data collection process.

This led to the submission of the final methodology to the SDG Inter-Agency Expert Group for the reclassification of the indicator, which will allow the collection of data on public procurement policies and action plans.







#### **POLICY GUIDANCE**



#### Global Search for Sustainable Schools



Photo by Bill Wegener on Unsplash

The Sustainable Lifestyles and Education programme established the Global Search for Sustainable Schools.

In each of the nine partner countries, Brazil, Suriname, Philippines, Cambodia, Vietnam, Kyrgyz Republic, Uganda, Namibia, South Africa, the initiative launched a search to identify schools with action plans to transition to sustainability in all spheres of the school environment.

The best plans will receive grants for their implementation and will participate in international exchanges and workshops.







#### FACILITATING THE APPLICATION AND USE OF KNOWLEDGE AND TOOLS

In 2019, a total of 149 new knowledge resources and technical tools were developed by partners of the One Planet network, representing 15% of the total number of activities in 2019 (Figure V). Compared to 2018, there has been a surge in the number of guidelines made available, while the number of reports and tools produced declined (Figure VII).

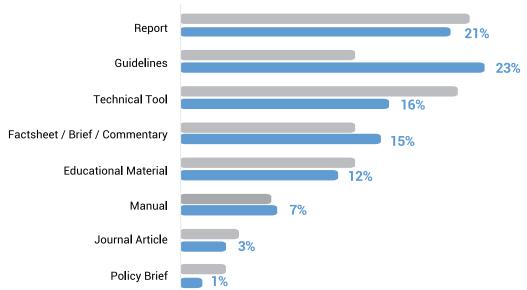


Figure VIII: Types of knowledge resources and technical tools implemented, 2019 vs. 2018 results.

Information on the use of technical resources has been provided for 93% of the reported knowledge resources and technical tools, a marked increase from the 60% reported in 2018 and the 12% reported at the mid-term. This new information enriches the network's understanding of how to foster the use of these tools, a need clearly identified in the One Plan for One Planet strategy.

The use of the tools and guidelines has been facilitated by developing associated training materials, undertaking online or live training sessions, and developing mobile applications

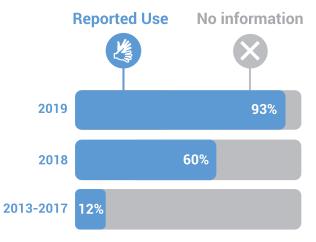
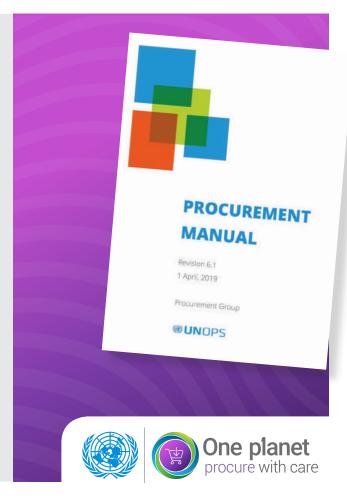
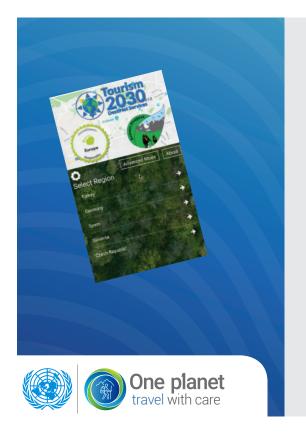


Figure IX: Percentage of knowledge resources and technical tools that reported an occasion of use, 2019 vs. 2018 results

## Sustainable Procurement Framework

In 2020, building on its previous leadership in sustainable procurement, UNOPS adopted the Sustainable Procurement Framework - a mandatory but flexible approach that requires sustainability criteria are included in the majority of its tenders while also accommodating for local market differences and maturity levels. In 2018, as part of the SP Framework, the organization launched the Delivering Responsibility in Vendor Engagement (DRiVE) programme. DRiVE is a supplier sustainability due diligence programme, developed and implemented by UNOPS, to ensure that vendors operate responsibly and in accordance with high standards of integrity in line with the United Nations Supplier Code of Conduct (UNSCC) and UNOPS General Conditions of Contract (GCC). UNOPS has approached this through the development of a vendor assessment, inspection and corrective action-planning programme, with a particular focus on associated areas related to human rights, labour rights, health and safety, ethical conduct, sexual exploitation and abuse, and environmental responsibility.





#### The Travel Green Europe App

The Travel Green Europe App is a mobile application that provides an overview of certified and awarded sustainable tourism services and destinations around the world. Developed by ECOTRANS, a partner of the Sustainable Tourism Programme, in collaboration with the European TRIANGLE Knowledge Alliance and European ECO-ACT project, the app aims to enable tourists to travel responsibly while allowing destinations to map out and give visibility to their offer of sustainable tourism services. So far, 15,000 businesses and destinations have been included in the knowledge base and 1,500 users have registered and the German National Tourism Board is using 'Green Travel Maps' to promote covel Green sustainable tourism activities in Germany.

#### **Guidelines for Providing Product** Sustainability Information

The Consumer Information programme focused on facilitating the application of their signature solution, the Guidelines for Providing Product Sustainability Information, which included the translation of the Guidelines into Spanish, Portuguese, French and Chinese, the development of a self-assessment tool, a training-the-trainer toolkit, as well as supporting twenty-eight organisations in applying the Guidelines. A self-assessment tool for the Guidelines was made available to allow companies and standard setters to self-assess potential or actual product sustainability claims against the Guidelines' principles. A 'Training-the-Trainers' Toolkit, which provides practical guidance and presentation materials for partners of the One Planet network who wish to deliver trainings on the Guidelines was also launched in 2019.

Twenty-eight organisations from across the world, covering more than 10 industry sectors, applied the Guidelines' ten principles to real-life product sustainability claims. The results are captured in the report Ready to Drive the Market: Experiences from Road Testing the Guidelines for Providing Product Sustainability Information. Finally, a dissemination campaign with the 10YFP National Focal Points to encourage national implementation of the Guidelines was also initiated. The Guidelines are the most downloaded resource of the One Planet network website, with over 800 downloads in 2019.



#### **CASE STUDY:**



## Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



## IMPROVING CHILDREN'S NUTRITION AND FARMER LIVELIHOODS THROUGH SCHOOL FEEDING

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) advocates for policies, programmes and legal frameworks that enable food security and quality nutrition. FAO supports governments and other development partners in designing these policies.



One of FAO's workstreams is to connect schools with local smallholder farmers for their feeding programmes. School feeding programmes are among the most important social protection programmes for children, as they reach millions of children in the world, improving their health and nutrition. FAO strives to ensure these feeding programmes benefit small-scale local farmers, processors and traders as well, through inclusive and sustainable procurement.

Governments have been increasingly investing in "homegrown school feeding programmes" or HGSF, to serve diversified quality nutrition to children and support local farmers. However, it has proven to be difficult to link schools with the production of small-scale farmers, as it requires the correct policies and legislation. FAO advocates for the adaptation of the public procurement regulatory frameworks to enable these partnerships and calls for global partners to support efforts of national governments with tools, technical assistance or financial support.

Through the project "Policy support on public food procurement for government-led home-grown school food initiatives", funded by the Italian agency of development cooperation, FAO is assisting the governments of Senegal and Ethiopia in enhancing their technical capacity for current HGSF initiatives and related public food procurement. The project aims to boost local agriculture, strengthen local food systems and lift people out of poverty. The project has so far been successful in raising awareness on the need for adapted regulatory frameworks for HGSF and diversifying the school menus.

School feeding programmes ensure children have healthier eating habits and enhanced dietary diversity. However, they do not only improve children's nutrition, they also facilitate better education, as feeding programmes increase the access of children to schools. HGSF programmes create additional benefits, like the improvement of livelihoods smallholder farmers, who are often poor in low-and middle-income countries. HGSF programmes give local farmers access to new (predictable) markets and generates income opportunities. Governments benefit from HGSF programmes as well, as it improves education outcomes, social protection systems and increases economic activity. The feeding programmes can also achieve environmental benefits, by promoting sustainable agricultural practices and ensuring biodiversity.

FAO is a Multistakeholder Advisory Committee member of the Sustainable Public Procurement programme.





In addition to these knowledge resources and technical tools, 77 trainings were offered by partners of the One Planet network in 2019, providing more than 1.2 million person-days of training on sustainable consumption and production. The majority of training programmes had a regional scope and engaged practitioners from

civil society (22%) and businesses (19%). These training programmes provided a space for knowledgesharing, enabling practitioners to effectively implement sustainable consumption and production within their respective fields across the globe, particularly in Europe and Central Asia and in Latin America.

In 2019,



trainings by One planet network partners



1.2 million person-days of training on SCP

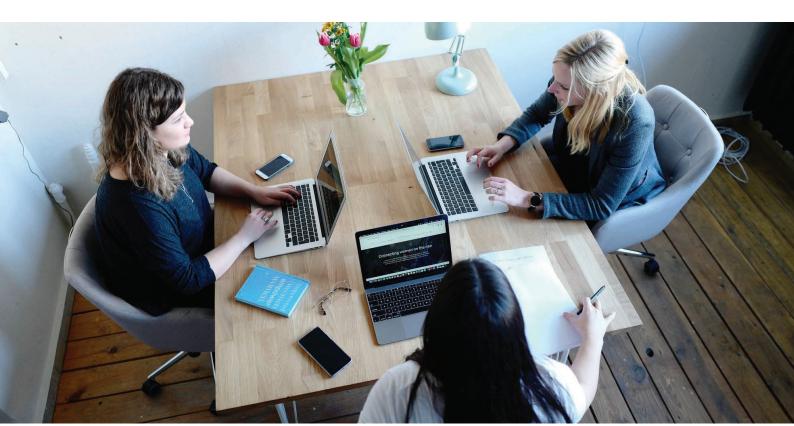
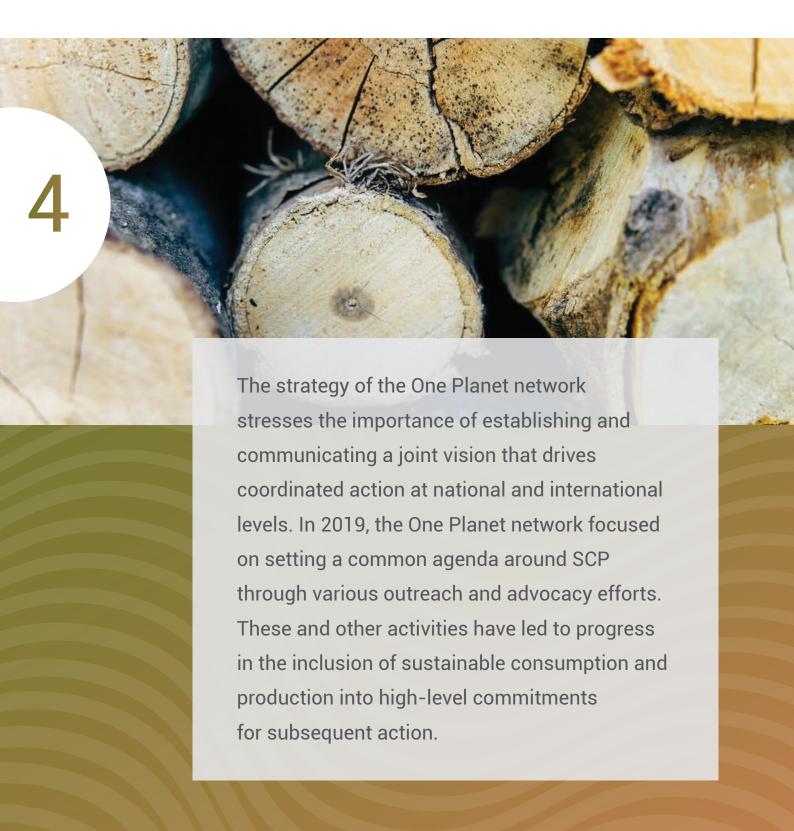


Photo by CoWomen on Unsplash

# SETTING THE AGENDA AND LEADING THE SHIFT TO SCP







Far left: photo by Markus Winkler on Unsplash Above: Photo by Quang Nguyen Vinh on Pexels

#### SETTING THE AGENDA

The role of the 10YFP and its One Planet network as an agenda-setter on sustainable consumption and production, and on substantive topics that can best be delivered through this approach, was broadly recognised by Member States during UNEA4. The Assembly focused on innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production.

The resolution on Innovative Pathways to Achieve Sustainable Consumption and Production (UNEP/EA.4/ RES.1) contained concepts and language that have been consistently promoted by the network and that were, for the first time, acknowledged in this type of setting,

including the transition to a circular economy. Further to this, the direct support of the programmes of the One Planet network in driving key topics that serve as entry points for transformation was directly requested by Member States.

The UNEA4 resolutions on Curbing Food Loss and Waste (UNEP/EA.4/RES.2), on Sustainable Infrastructure (UNEP/EA.4/RES.5) and on Innovative Pathways to Achieve Sustainable Consumption and Production (UNEP/EA.4/RES.1) recognised and promoted the value of the Sustainable Food Systems, the Sustainable Buildings and Construction,

In total, resolutions from the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly mentioned the 10YFP and its One Planet network twenty times across six resolutions, including in the ministerial declaration.

the Sustainable Public Procurement and Consumer Information programmes, highlighting the use of their existing guidelines, best practices, and partnerships to influence national and international action in these areas.

Further to setting the agenda on sustainable consumption and production and its key topics, the One Planet network - as a platform to build strategic partnerships and create a joint vision – ensures that the

agenda is set across communities and with stakeholders that have not traditionally worked on sustainable consumption and production. This is facilitated either by ensuring that priorities are reflected in different high-level agendas and commitments on the topic, by facilitating coordination mechanisms that bring together actors that do not usually work together, or by placing the expertise of the network at the service of a different thematic area.

#### SETTING THE AGENDA ON: SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS

Conveying priorities defined by the One Planet network in different high-level agendas and commitments has been one of the successes of the Sustainable Food Systems Programme, which has been instrumental in ensuring that the 'food systems approach' that the programme advocates for is taken up across various food and agriculture fora. This 'food systems approach' is central to the work of the Sustainable Food Systems

programme. It considers food systems in their totality, taking into account the interconnections and trade-offs among the different elements of food systems, as well as their diverse actors, activities, drivers and outcomes. It seeks to simultaneously maximise societal outcomes across environmental, social (including health) and economic dimensions.



Photo by Dharmi Bradley

At UNEA 4, the resolution on Curbing Food Loss and Waste (UNEP/EA.4/RES.2) recognises the Sustainable Food Systems programme as an inclusive initiative to accelerate the shift towards more sustainable food systems and requested UNEP to collaborate with FAO in assisting Member States to implement this resolution through the programme.



Photo by Dharmi Bradley

Following these same lines, the General Assembly resolution on Agriculture development, food security and nutrition (A/RES/74/242) highlights the need to transition towards sustainable food systems and references the Sustainable Food Systems programme as an inclusive initiative to accelerate this transition. The 'food systems approach' has also previously been endorsed by the FAO Conference, which recognised the urgent need to achieve the environmentally, socially and economically sustainable transformation of our food systems, mentioning the Sustainable Food Systems programme and a need for a multi-stakeholder approach.

The increased importance of the 'food systems approach' is further highlighted by the announcement from the UN Secretary General that a UN Food Systems Summit will be convened in 2021. The Summit had been jointly requested by FAO, IFAD, the World Economic Forum and the World Food Programme. The first three organisations are members of the Sustainable Food Systems programme advisory committee, demonstrating the benefits of multi-stakeholder collaboration and the

potential of the One Planet network to influence key global agendas.

Further to this, the Sustainable Food Systems programme hosted in Costa Rica its 2nd Global Conference - Good Food for People and the Planet, working together towards 2030. The purpose of the conference was to strengthen strategic multistakeholder partnerships with key food system actors and donors, provide recommendations, and stimulate higher levels of investment and political commitment for the transition to sustainable food systems. Convening over 200 actors, the conference resulted in a call to action for all stakeholders and 14 commitments on sustainable food systems which include: a call for evidence-based advocacy to promote context-specific and holistic policies; to leverage the potential of public procurement to accelerate the shift towards more sustainable food systems; to promote behavioural change and consumer awareness; and to encourage a shift towards healthier and more sustainable food environments together with the private sector.



Photo by Dharmi Bradley

In 2019, 21 high-level commitments were implemented by partners of the One Planet network, leveraging the network's multi-stakeholder nature and facilitating the engagement of non-traditional actors and stakeholders. These commitments predominantly reflect the efforts of local governments to solve sustainability challenges through public procurement and of different actors in the tourism sector in implementing resource efficiency measures.

## SETTING THE AGENDA ON: SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

The Sustainable Tourism Programme released the Sustainable Tourism Policy Talks which capture the high-level commitments and sustainable consumption and production instruments under implementation in Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Costa Rica, Kenya, Guatemala, Kenya and Portugal as presented by their respective Ministers of Tourism. The talks were developed by UNWTO building on the recommendations of the Baseline Report on the Integration of SCP in Tourism Policies also released in 2019.

In Spain, the Smart Destinations Network is coordinating 73 tourist destinations, 16 institutions and 16 businesses to develop tourist sites that provide cutting-edge technological infrastructure while promoting sustainability principles. The network - led by SEGITTUR and the Secretariat of State for Tourism of Spain, a colead of the Sustainable Tourism programme - supports this transformation process by offering evaluations, trainings and technical tools on ICT, innovation and environmental sustainability.

In addition, UNEP, with support from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, is leading the project on Transforming tourism value chains in developing countries and small island developing states (SIDS). Through the coordinated action of national governments, local partners, and local authorities, concrete roadmaps and target-oriented action plans have been developed for low carbon and resource efficient accommodation in the Dominican Republic, the Philippines, Mauritius, and St Lucia.

#### **CASE STUDY:**



#### The Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC)



#### USING STANDARDS TO SCALE SUSTAINABILITY IN TOURISM

There are countless standards and certification schemes for sustainable tourism in the world. This provides opportunity, but also confusion. For this reason, UNEP and UNWTO joined forces with industry leaders and the conservation community to create the GSTC as a Council and the GSTC Criteria (standards) as a means of alleviating this confusion.

The GSTC criteria comply with the codes of the ISEAL Alliance and were modelled after the example of WWF's Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), which created credible eco-labelling of sustainably produced wood and paper, and the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) that did the same for fish and seafood.

The GSTC Criteria are the most credible global standards for sustainable tourism based on a highly inclusive development process. They provide a holistic definition of sustainability in tourism that is applied to benchmark, measure, train and educate, and to certify. The criteria are used for eco-labelling for supply chain development based on impartiality and rigor and for guidance for effective destination stewardship.

The use of the GSTC Criteria is designed to operate at any scale. It is already applied by SMEs as well as the likes of TUI Group, Hilton Hotels, Transat; plus nationally by ministries of tourism in Indonesia, Japan, Chile, Norway, Botswana and others.

Those businesses and destinations that use the GSTC framework also influence their stakeholders: destinations encourage accommodations and tour operators to follow the GSTC Criteria; tour operators influence the hotels that they use to follow the GSTC Criteria; hotels influence their product procurement following sustainability practices.



For example, Royal Caribbean Cruiselines and MSC Cruises have implemented preferred contracting of suppliers certified to the GSTC Criteria for working with land tour operators, and it is having dramatic impacts. To get or keep those contracts, the tour operators are altering their business practices to comply with the full GSTC Criteria. This means that they're not limiting their sustainability focus to just plastics or clean energy, but the full and comprehensive GSTC Criteria.

The Global Sustainable Tourism Council is a Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Committee member of the Sustainable Tourism Programme.



## SETTING THE AGENDA ON: SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

The Global Lead City Network (GLCN) on Sustainable Procurement is a global network of cities committed to drive a transition to sustainable consumption and production by implementing sustainable and innovative procurement. Member cities of the network have set targets related to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions across sectors such as public transport or construction.

NORWAY FINLAND Oslo has committed to zero emission construction machines NETHERLANDS and vehicles on all public Helsinki has committed to construction sites by 2025. established a binding target Rotterdam has committed to become carbon-neutral to gradually replace its by 2035, including through fleet by zero-emission leveraging procurement vehicles by 2030. to cut public transport emissions. SOUTH AFRICA The city of **Tshwane** has NEW ZEALAND committed to greening 40% of the city's fleet by Auckland has 2020. committed to achieve zero emission public ICLEI, a co-lead of the Sustainable Procurement transport by 2040. programme, acts as coordinator of the GLCN, and supports the cities in their target setting, implementation and monitoring of the adopted procurement measures.

•I.C.F.I

**Governments** for Sustainability

their specific sectors.

These coordination mechanisms serve as examples

of how programmes and their partners are targeting a range of audiences to align and advance the agenda of

#### CASE STUDY:



ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability - Southeast Asia



#### SUPPORTING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO REDUCE EMISSIONS

Cities are key to reducing consumption-based emissions. According to the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), cities are responsible for 70% of global GHG emissions and populations in cities are expected to grow. ICLEI Southeast Asia inspires and invites local governments from provinces, cities, municipalities, and urban regions to forge partnerships for sustainability concerns specifically in terms of addressing climate change vis-à-vis urbanization; and encourage them to make this an important consideration in local development planning.

Recognising that buildings are responsible for one-third of global energy demand and one-quarter of the global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, the Philippines enacted the Philippine Green Building Code in 2015 to improve the efficiency of building performance. According to the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Green Building Code could prevent 1.9 million tons of CO2 emissions if implemented properly. However, despite of its enactment, the uptake of green building practices in the Philippines remained slow. The high cost of getting assessments, certification process, and numerous requirements that only big developers can comply with, is one of the challenges in implementation.

ICLEI's ACCELERATE project, which stands for Active City-Community Engagement to Leverage Emission Reduction through Activities that Transform Energy-Use, aims to strengthen sustainable consumption of energy use patterns in Pasig City and Parañaque City through enhancing their implementation of the Green Building Code at the local level, and improving Energy Efficiency and Conservations across the board by inspiring action from private sector and local communities.

The project enhanced the awareness on sustainable energy consumption of the technical staff of Pasig and Paranague City. In 2019, ACCELERATE held an Inception Workshop, identifying the key departments and stakeholders for training that aims to enhance the capacity of the city to implement the Philippine Green

Building Code at the local level. ICLEA SEAS also developed a City Energy Profile for each city, allowing the cities to see its general energy consumption at a glance. It is a baseline data that can provide them assistance in identifying cost-effective energy reduction measures in the future.

Strengthening the sustainable consumption and production of energy, especially in a larger scale, can have positive impacts on the socio-economic development. The national economy can grow from reducing energy use, increasing energy security, and reducing future energy-related expenditures. Furthermore, individuals can experience improved quality of life and health and increased disposable income due to energy savings.

"Our actions, individually and collectively, play an important role in shaping the future. The project partnership with One Planet Network allows us to bridge the gap between SDG 12 and the actions of the local governments and communities. Equipping them with capacity and knowledge on SCP will transform their perspective and embeds a culture of sustainable behaviour and lifestyles that aligns with SDG 12."

ICLEI is a partner of the Sustainable Lifestyles and **Education Programme** 



#### **CASE STUDY:**





## PUTTING SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT INTO PRACTICE TO DELIVER ON SDG 12

The OECD is a strong supporter of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda, in particular regarding SDG 12 and public procurement. The organisation, through its executive management team, has implemented different initiatives on a variety of fronts to promote and achieve sustainable management. In the case of procurement, the Organisation sought to put in place the necessary incentives and indicators to move towards "green procurement". In this sense, two main challenges were identified:

- How to measure the internal "green procurement"; how to create a suitable indicator to monitor it
- How to promote and encourage green procurement practices in the internal procurement processes

"A solid green procurement framework, including clear rules and guidance, can be a powerful tool in advancing towards sustainable consumption and production. Green procurement has significant social and environmental impacts at different social levels. At the same time, it translates into financial savings for an. Organisation, when the full life-cycle costs of a contract is considered".

- María José Cuesta, OECD strategic analyst

The work started in 2016 under the umbrella of the "responsible procurement" objective, with the goal of designing and establishing an indicator to report on the status and progress of the internal green procurement. The initiative was part of a comprehensive strategy that sought to reduce the overall environmental impact of the Organisation by promoting sustainable consumption. In order to create a relevant and effective indicator on green procurement, the management team worked in closed coordination with the Central Purchasing Group (CPG), unit responsible for the OECD procurement system. The key steps in the process were:

- Categorise the existing OECD's "purchasing categories" based on their environmental impact

   "High", "Medium" and "Low" environmental impact.
- 2. Identify the Calls for Tenders that included "environmental, sustainable criteria" in their selection process.
- 3. Combine both variables environmental impact category and inclusion of sustainable criteria.

In 2016, 80% of "high" environmental impact processes included an environmental criteria in their selection process; in 2017, 100% of them included a criteria.

To strengthen understanding and commitment to the green procurement initiative, the management team organised training sessions on "sustainable public procurement", led by UNOPS, for buyers and for managers from the most relevant units.

An example of green procurement in practice is the 2019 Call for Tender for catering services, which included very strict terms of reference regarding the origin of products and waste management (more here). The selected company has a strict sustainable policy in place; purchases mainly fresh, local and organic products; and removed all single-use plastic products from the cafeterias (including water bottles).

The OECD is a Multi-stakeholder Advisory Committee Member of the Sustainable Public Procurement Programme







Photo by Lisa Fotios from Pexels

#### **Plastic**

Through its role as a platform to build strategic partnerships and create a joint vision around key topics, the One Planet network can further channel efforts and expertise towards new thematic priorities. As such. Member States have requested the One Planet network to provide "guidelines on plastic use and production in order to inform consumers, including on standards and labels; to incentivise businesses and retailers to commit to sustainable practices and products; and to support governments to promote the use of information tools and incentives to foster sustainable consumption and production" (UNEP/EA.4/RES.6).

By working on this request, the network will utilise its expertise on consumer choices and certain sectoral value chains, as well as its partnerships in tourism and food systems, to support the plastic pollution agenda which has been identified as a priority by many countries.

#### **Global Tourism Plastics** Initiative

As an example of such potential, the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative<sup>10</sup> is developed within the framework of the Sustainable Tourism Programme of the One Planet network, and is led by the UN Environment Programme and the World Tourism Organization, in collaboration with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. and unites the tourism sector behind a common vision to address the root causes of plastic pollution. The aim of the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative is to enable businesses, governments, and other tourism stakeholders to take concerted action, commit to several concrete action points (including eliminating unnecessary plastic and swapping single-use plastic items with reusable alternatives by 2025) and to report annually on the progress of their commitment.



Through bringing different tourism stakeholders together to make concerted commitments, the GTPI provides clarity, alignment and transparency around how tourism organisations are moving to circularity in the use of plastics, and provides an opportunity for front-running organisations to showcase their efforts and results.







#### ENHANCING RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND REDUCING MATERIAL FOOTPRINT TO MEET CLIMATE COMMITMENTS



Achim Steiner, Administrator of the UN Development Programme, and Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme at COP25 in Madrid, December 2019





In 2019 the One Planet network contributed to the dialogue on enhancing resource efficiency and reducing material footprint to meet climate commitments. During a panel discussion hosted by the One Planet network at COP25 for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the executive heads of UNEP and UNDP committed to help Member States incorporate emission reductions from more sustainable material production and use into Nationally Determined Contributions to global emissions reduction targets (NDCs).

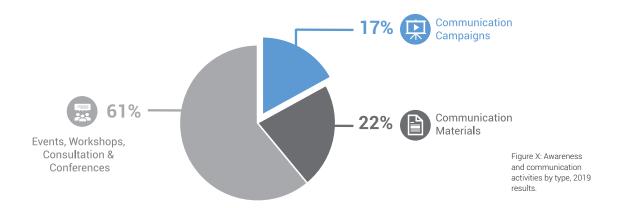
It is the first time that the network has achieved a tangible output towards influencing another important agenda at such a scale, establishing the need to directly address unsustainable practices of consumption and production as the key driver of our most pressing environmental challenges.



#### AWARENESS RAISING

The importance of communications and awareness raising efforts in positioning sustainable consumption and production as an integrated approach to sustainable development is understood by the network. This continues to be the most reported activity, 25% of the 2019 total, but with a decreasing trend of its relative weight over the total per year (Figure V).

The 242 communication and awareness activities implemented include events, workshops, consultations and conferences, followed by communication materials, and communication campaigns (Figure IX). These trends are similar in distribution to 2018 but denote a steady increase in the weight of communication campaigns from 9% in 2013-2017 and 14% in 2018, to 17% in 2019.



#### The Anatomy of Action

The Anatomy of Action (AoA), a social media toolkit developed by UNEP in collaboration with the Unschool of Disruptive Design, encourages sustainable lifestyles around core actions that can be taken in the domains of food, mobility, leisure (consumer goods and tourism) and housing.

The promoted actions, selected based on scientific evidence, can be broadly adopted by individuals to reduce their carbon footprint. The AoA was launched via a 15-day global social media 'Take Action Challenge' campaign in which global online influencers encouraged their communities to take sustainable lifestyle actions. The AoA was developed in the framework of the Sustainable Lifestyles and Education programme.



#### **Communication Campaigns**

Through these communication campaigns partners are reaching general audiences to promote changes in the way citizens choose, use and dispose of products. The Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP), a MAC member of both the Consumer Information and the Sustainable Lifestyles and Education programmes, led several campaigns fostering changes in practices to prevent food and textile waste, and to increase the recycling rate of consumers on the United Kingdom.







The Love Your Clothes campaign highlighted the benefit of washing clothes at 30°C, showing that this temperature uses 40% less energy and makes clothes last longer, therefore reducing textile waste.

The Recycle Now campaign involved local authorities, members of the UK Plastics Pact, and LADBible to reach an audience of almost 60 million people inspiring citizens to change their behaviours to recycle more and better.

The Spoiled Rotten campaign, part of the Love Food Hate Waste Initiative, used research to identify students as a target group that largely contributes to food waste, managing to reach almost 10 million people with best practices to store their food.











#### **CASE STUDY:**



#### **Cruelty Free International**



#### DRIVING ETHICAL CONSUMPTION THROUGH ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS

Cruelty Free International is a leading organisation in raising awareness on the worldwide issue of animal testing. Its mission is to fully eliminate animal testing for cosmetics products around the world. The organisation works closely with scientists and decision makers to provide non-animal alternatives to testing. In addition to this, Cruelty Free international also contributes to SDG 12, by certifying products who do not test on animals. This helps businesses in producing more sustainable products and informs consumers on ethical alternatives.

The NGO organises campaigns and petitions to raise awareness and initiate change in animal testing. This is accomplished through large public mobilisation campaigns and online tools. The organisation partners up with companies in the private sector to achieve the biggest impact.

Cruelty Free International works to engage decision makers into changing animal testing policies and laws. The organisation has played a key role in the European Union's ban on animal testing for cosmetic products and the prohibition of marketing and sales of products that have been tested on animals in 2013. The ban has influenced other countries, like Israel, Turkey, New Zealand, India, Ecuador, Guatemala and others, to adopt similar legislation.

Cruelty Free International calls for the UN to take action in banning animal testing and in developing a harmonised framework, which would allow businesses to trade freely and would provide a clearer picture on sustainable products to consumers. In October 2018, a petition to end animal testing in cosmetics initiated by Cruelty Free International in partnership with the Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations and the Body Shop, received the incredible amount of 8.3 million signatures, which makes it the largest animal related petition up until today.

**Cruelty Free** International does not only strive for the well-being of animals, its work encourages greater development of nonanimal alternatives - that are more humane, cheaper and safer - and boosts more socially-aware and ethically minded consumerism.



"Currently, our mass over use of the planet's resources is hugely destructive and unsustainable. It's the biggest challenge facing the future of the planet and yet, it's something that every individual and business can take meaningful action towards right now. Today, every one of us can take actions that will help directly protect the environment and the animals we share this planet with - from our shopping to eating, every activity we choose to do can be done in a sustainable manner."

Cruelty Free International is a Multi-stakeholder Advisory Committee member of the Consumer Information Programme.





## DEMONSTRATING THE IMPACTS OF SCP







Photos by Dharmi Bradley

SDG target 12.2 on sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources is on a long-term negative trend<sup>12</sup>. Indicators under SDG targets 12.2 and 8.4 on material footprint and domestic material consumption continue to rise at the global level, showing that the rate at which materials are being extracted globally is outpacing population and economic growth<sup>13</sup>.

This long-term negative trend on sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources has been categorised as one of the trends that 'make it harder to reach other Goals and targets, sometimes in ways that cascade across the entire 2030 Agenda'14.



In a business as usual scenario GDP will continue to grow at an average rate of 2.2% per year to reach 216 trillion USD by 2060.



This would require a 110% increase in global resource extraction (190 billion tonnes), and...



represent an increase in GHG emissions by 43% (70GT CO2e)<sup>15</sup>.

Moreover, the unsustainable use of natural resources and the related benefits and environmental impacts are unevenly distributed across countries and regions<sup>16</sup>.

The trend is clear: perpetuating current modes of production and consumption, and the current levels of inequality associated with them, threatens the achievement of the entire 2030 Agenda<sup>17</sup>.

However, the science and evidence is not always available to the relevant stakeholders in a language that speaks to them, or in a way that relates to their needs and is contextualised to their sectors and countries. The complex data on SDG targets 12.2 and 8.4, and the globalised framing of their dynamics, inhibits its use in relevant and actionable ways.

Furthermore, data trends on SDG 12.1.1 show that countries are having difficulties in quantifying the impacts of their current sustainable consumption and production policies; only 26 % of the total reported policies have quantifiable targets or measured impacts. Science-based evidence and empirical data on policy impacts are crucial to ensure effective action on sustainable consumption and production. The limited data availability on the rate of implementation impedes not only the identification of successful practices, but also the scale and scope of required follow-up actions.

Overall, in monitoring the progress of its implementation SDG 12 is falling behind, being one of the Goals with the highest percentage of indicators still classified as Tier III. This means that either their methodology is still under development or that they are yet to be consistently tracked by countries. This highlights a clear gap of information to comprehensively assess the challenges, measure the progress, and identify the most appropriate solutions to achieve this Goal.

The outlined information gaps evidence the following needs:



The stakeholders of the One Planet network, whether governments or businesses, need currently unavailable comprehensive and tailored information to help identify priorities, implement strategies, and monitor impacts around the sustainable management of natural resources.



Members States need support in improving data collection processes on the results and impacts of their sustainable consumption and production policy instruments in order to better target policies and resources.



Data on SDG 12 needs to be collected, shared, and analysed optimally, so that governments and partners have an accurate and timely picture of progress.

As reflected in the fourth pillar of the One Plan for One Planet strategy<sup>18</sup>, the network is continuously promoting the use of science and evidence to inform action, within and beyond the network.

Acknowledging the need to further increase the uptake of science including by ensuring that it is accessible and consumable by the sustainable consumption and production community, Member States at UNEA4 also requested the establishment of a time-limited task group. This group comprises the International Resource Panel and the One Planet Network, to provide sciencebased insights on the management of natural resources and raw materials in relation to Agenda 2030 and explore the potential offered by the different pathways towards sustainable consumption and production (UNEP/EA.4/RES.1). The focus is to identify key points of intervention on resource use across value-chains in the resource-intensive sectors of Construction, Agri-Food and Textiles.

While efforts to strengthen science-based action are ongoing, evidence of the contribution of sustainable consumption and production to climate change mitigation is increasingly available. For instance, the International Resource Panel estimated that materiel efficiency strategies could reduce GHG emission in the material cycle of residential building by 80-100% in G7 countries by 205019.

Consumer Information Tools and Climate Change

ance for Policy Makers and Business Lea

Facilitating low-carbon choices in Tourism, Buildings and

#### Consumer Information Tools and Climate Change

Providing guidance on the practical application of GHG emission reduction practices, the Consumer Information programme developed the report on Consumer Information Tools and Climate Change - Facilitating low-carbon choices in Tourism, Buildings, and Food Systems. This report is the result of a collaborative effort between four One Planet network programmes, and details how those three sectors affect global CO2 emissions; how the use of consumer information tools can support greenhouse gas emission reductions in the sectors of tourism, buildings, and food; and the kind of consumer information that will be most effective for each. The report, published in 2019 and led by UNEP, also provides insights on how to influence consumer behavior.

Efforts include scoping studies such as Climate Resilient Honiara in the Solomon Islands which aims at planning, designing and implementing resilience actions in Honiara's informal settlements, as well as developing best practice guidelines for climate resilient buildings and land administration.

The study is the scientific support component of a broader initiative by the same name, which is working at community, ward and city levels to integrate local knowledge and scientific best practice to derive the best housing outcomes for the urban

poor. Observations from the study will be used to support a participatory approach to community housing and climate resilient open spaces in 2020-22. The study is led by the Royal Institution of Technology Melbourne (RMIT), a lead of the Sustainable Buildings and Construction Programme, and was funded by UNFCCC.

















The Sustainable Lifestyles and Education programme estimated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for its demonstration projects (grants under phase 1 of the 10YFP Trust Fund). Whereas aggregate data is not available due to the diversity of

projects, three different entry points to CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction have been defined: production/delivery, consumption, and post-consumption phases of goods and services.

#### **10YFP TRUST FUND**

Since its establishment in 2012, the 10YFP Trust Fund has supported a variety of demonstration projects. The projects show how tools and solutions for SCP are applied to address: policy development, poverty

eradication, innovation and energy efficiency, food loss and waste, climate change, plastics pollution, sustainable lifestyle and consumer awareness, among others.

By the end of 2019, a total of 57 projects had been funded through the 10YFP Trust Fund with 36<sup>20</sup> completed and 21 continuing implementation



Photo by Science in HD on Unsplash

Geographical balance has been respected in the selection of the projects.

33% are implemented in Asia and the Pacific;

28% in Latin America and the Caribbean;

26% in Africa,

4% in Central Asia;

and 9% on a global level.

Trust Fund projects benefit from involvement and leadership of the civil society, with strong support of scientific community. This shows the ability of the projects to address the needs on the ground using scientific approaches as the basis for interventions. The involvement of national and local governments is a strong advantage underlining the potential of the projects to trigger change on national level, be scaled-up and replicated.

A diversity of impact areas targeted by the projects highlights the centrality of SCP to the sustainable development agenda and its key contribution to climate change, biodiversity conservation, resource efficiency, pollution and waste.

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019



#### SRI LANKA

#### **Eco-labelling**

The National Cleaner Production Centre in Sri Lanka with support from their national government and UNEP have developed a certification scheme with criteria for eco-labelling of dairy products. Two dairy companies applied for the eco-label. In addition, a Life-Cycle Inventory database has been developed for the agri-food sector based on the data collected from more than 150 companies of tea, rice and dairy.





#### VIET NAM

#### Green Office

The Asian Institute of Technology in Viet Nam has developed a Green Office Guideline comprised of a toolkit and green office criteria. Ten offices participated in the project and used the toolkit to become more sustainable and were certified as Green Offices at the end of the project.









#### PERU

#### Sustainable tourism

Grupo GEA in Peru has worked with 31 tourismrelated enterprises in Cusco, Puno and Arequipa. The enterprises received training and technical assistance on sustainable tourism and were awarded a sustainable tourism label "INCA Alliance". In addition, footprint of a 3-day cultural celebration was estimated. It was concluded that transport and logistical arrangements, as well as waste generation are the main factors of emissions and therefore provide strategic entry points for mitigation.



#### HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019

#### CHILE

Geothermal greenhouse and wood dryer projects

Energy Centre of the University of Chile has constructed a geothermal greenhouse and firewood dryer project in the city of Coyhaique in the south of Chile. The wood dryer has the capacity to produce 30 cubic meters per month (360 cubic meters per year) of stacked firewood, while the greenhouse produces 2,000 lettuces per 1-1,5 months (16,000-24,000 lettuces per year). The business model and sustainable strategy for the construction is focused on agricultural products as they have raised most interest in the community. The community will continue to run the facilities after the end of the project.



#### CHILE

## Quantifying loss of fruits and vegetables at production

FAO Chile together with Office for agricultural policies and studies (ODEPA) have tested and developed the methodology to quantify the loss of fruits and vegetables at production stage in

Chile. Following the methodology, a Technical Guideline on food loss prevention in the fruit and vegetable production chain in Chile was developed and shared with relevant stakeholders.



#### SOUTH AFRICA

#### Sustainable Seafood

WWF South Africa through South Africa Sustainable Seafood Initiative (SASSI) has undertaken a broad awareness raising campaign on sustainable seafood and has gained strong support from various stakeholders and consumers. The initiative has been profiled on various media platforms with a total Advertising Value Equivalent to around US\$ 2,119,642. The project has seen a shift in both seafood consumption patterns and production practices towards being more sustainable, with a national survey showing that over 79% of seafood consumers are aware and make use of the SASSI tools. Over 240 people working as chefs and restaurateurs were trained on sustainable seafood consumption. Top seafood chefs were taken on a "city to sea" journey to discover where the seafood comes from.



#### **CASE STUDY:**

**ASOCRETO** (The Colombian Concrete producers association)

#### CERTIFYING CONCRETE PRODUCTION TO REDUCE EMISSIONS AND WASTE

Concrete is the most widely used construction material, yet the way that concrete is produced can have a big impact on its natural resource use and environmental impacts. Which is why a sustainability certification for concrete is so important.

The sustainability of concrete as a construction material is closely connected to the informality of construction as a sector, and the additional social and economic issues that are related to this. In some parts of Latin America, 50% of the construction sector is informal. Where construction is informal, the production of concrete is also informal, often being mixed on-site, and not controlled by any authorities. This has a huge impact in the use of natural resources that go into concrete as well as the associated CO2 emissions. For example, informal or on-site concrete mixes in Costa Rica and Colombia can consume nearly 30-40% of more cement per cubic metre, producing more CO2 emissions in the same construction. An ASOCRETO study from 2010 found informal construction consumed nearly double the materials over the lifespan of a construction due to poor planning, bad construction practices and waste of construction materials, compared to a formal construction of similar size.

As the most-used construction material in the world, concrete production must be efficient and responsible. To meet this challenge, the Concrete Sustainability Council (CSC) Certification was created to help authorities and customers to recognise when they are using responsibly-sourced concrete in their projects. Encouraging the use of the CSC Certification helps ready-mixed concrete producers, authorities and the community to recognise that they can have traceability of raw materials, efficient use of cement, and prevention of child labor amongst other benefits.

It was important to work closely with concrete producers, association and stakeholders, and encourage them to join this global initiative. In Panama, Costa Rica and Colombia (our pilot countries) as well Guatemala, we engaged with





companies and stakeholders about the impact of informality in construction and how tools like certification can help minimise the impact. In general, all the certified concrete companies made adjustments in line with the CSC scheme to improve their own sustainability programs.

"Construction is one of the oldest human activities and is fundamental to current and future development. Concrete is the most used material, and informality in the use of the material in Latin America has been one of the bigger concerns for many years. Thanks to SCP, we had the opportunity to lead a project to mitigate this problem that can impact public and private construction at the root."

Using sustainably sourced concrete not only has positive impacts for the environment, it can also help drive the shift towards greater formality in the construction sector in Latin America, which will also have benefits for the safety of workers and citizens who will be living and working in more sound buildings.

> ASOCRETO is a partner of the Sustainable Buildings & Construction Programme.





### **THE WAY FORWARD**







Perpetuating current practices of production and consumption threatens the achievement of the entire 2030 Agenda<sup>21</sup>. The drivers of these current practices are of a socio-economic nature, a fact that is recognised by science and understood by practitioners, yet SDG 12 is not correspondingly addressed through economic policies and incentives.

Opportunities to achieve the needed transformations at the necessary speed lie in bringing the implementation of SDG 12 into national economic and development plans and in focusing on the resource intensive sectors of Agriculture, Food & Beverage, and Construction<sup>22</sup>, as levers for change.

To realise these opportunities the 10YFP, and its One Planet network, follows the strategies and calls to action summarised in the Global Sustainable Development report 2019, with a particular emphasis on the following three key messages to policy makers:

Governments need to accurately assess environmental externalities and change patterns of use through pricing, transfers, regulation and other mechanisms. SDG 12 is traditionally considered an "environmental goal", while production and consumption are central to our economies and natural resources underpin our

socio-economic system. A shift to addressing SDG 12 in national economic plans, financial policy instruments and national budgets rather than using a lifecycle approach. Further to its material footprint, the sector is key for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and national commitments made under the Paris Agreement. While major transformations are necessary in the buildings and construction sector, the projected doubling of the building stock presents a substantial opportunity to build more resource efficient and sustainable infrastructure.



It is necessary to strengthen the sciencepolicy-society interface on natural resources and material flows. Scientific knowledge on sustainable consumption and production allows for the identification of critical pathways which need to be made clear and more widely

available to all countries and actors for them to act. It is important that scientific and societal actors jointly define problems and co-produce knowledge and solutions, working together to mobilise, harness and disseminate existing knowledge on sustainable consumption and production.

Materialising these opportunities requires leadership at the highest levels. Member States have established sustainable consumption and production as a priority through the UNEA4 ministerial declaration and resolutions. This demand, and the magnitude of the task that has been set out through Goal 12, calls for a strengthened and concerted approach at the highest levels within the UN System through a dedicated high-level UN task force.

Availability of, and access to financial resources to support actions that are transformational and at scale is a key success factor in the implementation of any goal. SDG 12 is recognised as significantly underresourced. The lack of financial investment significantly limits the change the One Planet network, as an SDG 12 implementation mechanism, can catalyse. The private sector, the public sector and financial institutions play an important role in unlocking financial flows and are encouraged to support the implementation of Goal 12, including through contributions to its global multipartner trust fund.

The One Planet network, a multi-stakeholder partnership for sustainable development, has been recognised as an implementation mechanism for SDG 12. Data from the second year of adoption of the One Planet network's strategy indicates the potential of the network to effectively support countries in delivering on SDG 12. Through its six accelerator programmes, expert members, and 140 national focal points, the One Planet network fosters integrated and systemic approaches to support mainstreaming and implementation of sustainable consumption and production by governments, UN agencies, the private sector and civil society. The network provides a key platform to work together and deliver on the SDG Decade of Action.



Photo by Dharmi Bradley

A fundamental change in how we produce and consume is necessary if we are to overcome the challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution that threaten our collective well-being and prosperity.

We must both address the drivers of the prevailing patterns of unsustainable consumption and production, while also putting in place the building blocks for new alternatives to take root.

This transformation of our global economy towards sustainable consumption and production is urgently needed to ensure we can deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

#### **ENDNOTES**

#### Page 5

- United Nations, "Shared responsibility, global solidarity: responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19", March 2020.
- 2. See www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/articles/2020-04-02/recovery-the-coronavirus-crisis-must-leadbetter-world.

#### Page 7

3. See Annex I – Lead organisations of the One Planet network programmes

#### Page 14

- 4. The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2019
- 5. Global Sustainable Development Report 2019: The Future is Now Science for Achieving Sustainable Development

#### Page 26

 Belgium, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Latvia, Mexico, Norway, Philippines, Slovakia, Republic of Korea, Sweden and Tunisia.

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- Seven reporting countries, out of forty-four, represented 55% of all policies and 69% of implementing activities reported (Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary, Mexico, Philippines and Sweden).
- 8. Belgium, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Latvia, Mexico, Norway, Philippines, Slovakia, Republic of Korea, Sweden and Tunisia.

#### Page 41

 Sustainable consumption and production hotspot analysis tool, available at http://scp-hat.lifecycleinitiative.org/

#### Page 59

10. The initiative is jointly developed by UNEP, UNWTO and the government of France, in collaboration with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation (EMF), and is one of the core activities of the Sustainable Tourism Programme.

#### Page 64

11. International Resource Panel 2019. Global Resources Outlook : Natural Resources for the Future We Want

#### Page 65

- 12. Global Sustainable Development Report 2019: The Future is Now Science for Achieving Sustainable Development
- 13. The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2019
- 14. Global Sustainable Development Report 2019: The Future is Now

- Science for Achieving Sustainable Development
- 15. International Resource Panel 2019. Global Resources Outlook : Natural Resources for the Future We Want
- 16. International Resource Panel 2019. Global Resources Outlook:
  Natural Resources for the Future We Want

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- 17. Global Sustainable Development Report 2019: The Future is Now Science for Achieving Sustainable Development
- 18. Fourth pillar of the One Plan for One Planet strategy:

  Demonstrating the impacts of sustainable consumption and production and its role in addressing key environmental and social challenges by building on science-based evidence
- 19.International Resource Panel, 2020. Resource efficiency and climate change: Material efficiency strategies for a low carbon future

#### Page 68

20. Progress summary of each of the 36 projects is hereby provided

#### Page 73

- 21. Global Sustainable Development Report 2019: The Future is Now Science for Achieving Sustainable Development
- 22. At a global level, on average, the sectors of Agriculture, Food and Construction accounted for nearly 70% of the world's total material footprint in 2015 (Data Source: SCP HAT).

#### Thank you to all our donors for their generous financial contributions to the 10YFP.





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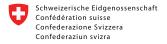
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