

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

Governments at the Johannesburg Summit in 2002 called for the development of a 10-year framework of programmes (10-YFP) in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) patterns that will promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems. The 10-YFP is a topic in the clusters of issues that will be discussed during the CSD-18 and CSD-19 cycles in 2010 and 2011. The United Nations General Assembly Resolution 58/218 mandated the Regional Commissions in collaboration with the Secretariat of CSD, regional institutions as well as United Nations organizations to organize multi-stakeholder Regional Implementation Meetings (RIMs) to provide regional input to the work of the CSD. The Secretariat of the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP), with the guidance from UNEP and UNECA, has taken the leading role in the preparation of the Africa Regional Review Report on Sustainable Consumption and Production to be discussed at the Africa Regional Implementation Meeting for CSD-18 scheduled to be held in October 2009. This report aims to undertake an in-depth review of concrete actions taken and achievements made, identify and document implementation challenges and constraints, and propose the way forward to accelerate implementation progress in the area of SCP in Africa.

WHAT IS SCP?

SCP is broadly defined as a holistic approach to minimizing negative environmental impacts from production and consumption in society and it can be considered as a practical implementation strategy to achieve sustainable development. The main objective of SCP is to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems and the de-coupling of economic growth from environmental degradation. In Africa, the overall aim of reducing poverty while attaining sustainability can be accomplished through actions that are directly relevant to SCP. The challenge is to provide more people with a better quality of life without undermining the natural resource base and destroying the ecosystems on which everybody depends. The implementation of SCP as an integrated approach helps to

achieve overall development plans, reduce future economic, environmental and social costs, strengthen economic competitiveness and reduce poverty. As governments and other actors consider how to manage energy, food and water crises and build a Green Economy, promoting and implementing holistic and integrated policies and actions towards SCP will help to address these crises.

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

The preparation of the report has kept into focus the current regional institutional setting and arrangements for SCP and the on-going key processes and initiatives in the region such as : the NEPAD's Environment Action Plan; the Marrakech Process, the African 10-YFP and the Marrakech Task Force on Cooperation with Africa; the African Roundtables on Sustainable Consumption and Production ; the UNIDO-UNEP National Cleaner Production Center (NCPC) Programme and the CSD-Africa process.

The following strategies were pursued to achieve the objectives of this assignment:

- (i). Review of A21, PFIA21 and the JPOI, which outline a broad array of strategies and actions to foster SCP.
- (ii). Production and consumption patterns overviews from secondary statistical data sets and provision of an overall picture of the current state and recent trends in consumption and production patterns in Africa.
- (iii). Review of implementation progress and achievements made
- (iv). Identification of implementation challenges and constraints and lessons learned
- (v). Recommend priority policy measures and actions to accelerate implementation taking into account institutional and policy mechanisms, supporting tools and instruments, education and means of implementation.

A focus-group e-mail survey was also carried out to identify barriers to SCP in Africa and discuss the way forward. The participants were chosen from the list of participants who attended the Fifth African Roundtable on SCP in Johannesburg in June 2008 and from the ARSCP network. The results of this survey helped in the identifications of challenges and constraints and in the recommendations for the way ahead.

BROAD TRENDS IN PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION IN AFRICA

The African region encompasses a vast area of widely differing economic, demographic and social situations and development trends. Africa covers 20.4 per cent of the global land area, contain about 13 per cent of the world's population, but generates only 1.7 per cent of the global GDP. Differences among the countries are considerable. Population ranges from 0.2 million in Sao Tome and Principe to 148 million in Nigeria while GDP per capita from 282 US\$ in the Congo Dem. Rep. to 28,923 US\$ in Equatorial Guinea. The greatest differences among countries are in their size, ranging from 460 km² in Seychelles to 2,376,000 km² in Sudan. The region is thus large and diverse and the recommended approach for promoting SCP will vary from country to country.

Reversing previous trends, African economies have performed well in the new millennium. Per capita GDP grew by almost 2% per year from 2000 to 2005, whereas it had actually declined slightly during the 1990s. Africa's recent growth performance has been underpinned by improvement in macroeconomic management in many countries and strong global demand for key African export commodities, sustaining high export prices, especially for crude oil, metals and minerals. Value added as a % of GDP in 2005 for agriculture, industry and services were 14%, 29% and 57% respectively.

Structural change in African economies has been limited. African economies remain insufficiently diversified. Agriculture remains an important sector in much of the sub-Saharan Africa. It provides 57% of all employment, though only about 17% of the GDP. The agro-industrial sector is still at a low level of development that it is yet unable to act as a driver for the agricultural sector. Despite the importance of industry in the context of sustainable development and poverty reduction, the continent lags behind other developing regions in industrial performance. Structural changes in national economies have also been significantly influenced by growth in international trade, particularly exports of fossil fuels and metals and increasingly the import of manufactured goods from other parts of the world. Most countries in the region remain essentially primary commodity exporters, with only a handful of countries drawing a significant part of their export revenues from manufactured products.

At the midway point between their adoption in 2000 and the 2015 target date for achieving the Millennium Development Goals, sub-Saharan Africa is not on track to achieve any of the

goals. More than 41% of the people in sub-Saharan Africa (or roughly 300 million people) still live on less than \$1/day. Many Africans remain trapped in dire poverty, heavily dependent on a fragile natural resource base and vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks. Of the 162 million “ultra poor” people in the world who subsist on less than \$0.50 a day, 121 million live in Sub-Saharan Africa. With a Gini coefficient of 51%, Africa has the worst income distribution in the world. African populations are heavily burdened by poverty-related diseases. While much of the world is on track to meet the MDGs on water and sanitation, most of Africa is not.

Population growth is still strong. High fertility rates will translate into rapid population growth well into the century. From 520 million in 1990, population is expected to reach 1.3 billion by 2030. Compared to other developing countries Sub-Saharan Africa’s population is very young. Currently half of the population is less than 18 years old. This young population structure represents a particular challenge for African countries for education and employment. Available statistics indicate a current rate of urbanization in Africa of around 3.5 percent per year. This rate is the highest in the world, and is resulting in the rapid growth of urban agglomerations throughout the region. By 2030, the proportion of Africa’s urbanized population is expected to reach 53.5 percent, compared to 39 percent in 2005. This fast rate of urbanization places strain on infrastructure and other services. The level of urbanization has a strong impact on the patterns and impacts of consumption. In large cities there is evidence of a growing middle class and their adoption of western consumption patterns such as private car ownership, increase in meat consumption and emergence of low-density detached housing developments in sub-urban areas.

In the whole of Africa, household final consumption expenditure was 68% of the GDP in 2007, compared to 13% for the general government’s final consumption expenditure. Food still dominate household expenditures across the African region, ranging from 50 to 75% of the mean monthly expenditure. Household consumption patterns will vary according to the socio economic factors, with lower income countries having greater proportions of household expenditures on food while for upper income countries, more is spent on transport and communication and recreation and healthcare. Economy wide analysis of environmental pressures is yet to be carried out in Africa.

Production and consumption trends in key sectors in Africa can be summarized as follows:

- Agriculture is still largely oriented towards subsistence agriculture. Low soil fertility, scarce irrigation, poor rural infrastructure, insufficient finance and recurrent droughts are among the major challenges facing sub-Saharan African agriculture. And as a result of economic and environmental constraints, fishing and livestock raising have failed to keep up with the growing African population. As a result food insecurity remains a major concern, with 24 sub-Saharan African countries requiring external food assistance at the beginning of 2007. It is unlikely that the MDG of halving the number of poor and hunger by 2015 would be achieved. The current pattern of agricultural development in Africa is therefore unsustainable. A large share of the population remains undernourished, and the degradation of land and ecosystems worsens food insecurity.
- Africa is relatively well endowed with energy resources and produces about 10% of the world's energy supply. However, with a population of 13% of the world's total, Africa consumes only 5.5% of the world energy, and it generates only 3.1% of the world's electricity . The per capita energy consumption of 0.5 tonnes of oil equivalent(TOE), far lower than the world average of 1.2 TOE per capita, makes the continent lag behind all others in energy use. Energy production tends to be costly, relying heavily on fossil fuels (about 80% of electricity generation), despite significant untapped hydro electricity and other renewable energy potential. Energy consumption in Africa is still largely dominated by combustible renewable resources (biomass, animal wastes etc) with 59% of the total . In some countries, biomass accounts for more than 80% of the total energy use. Lack of access to modern energy results in air pollution, acute health problems and environmental problems linked to over-consumption or inadequate management of wood resources. Many countries have relatively high energy intensities, showing the potential for energy efficiency. Only about 7% of Africa's enormous hydro potential has been harnessed and based on the limited initiatives that have been undertaken to date, renewable energy technologies could contribute significantly to the development of the energy sector in Africa. The continent contributes only about 4% of total greenhouse gases and most countries have very low CO₂ emissions per capita due to low energy intensities, low GDPs and high levels of biomass energy use.

- Africa is endowed with abundant water resources, which account for about 10% of global freshwater endowments . Freshwater resources across Africa are however unevenly distributed. Although some African countries have high annual averages water per capita, many others already or soon will face water stress (1700 m³ or less per person annually) or scarcity conditions (1000 m³ or less per person annually). Currently 14 countries in Africa, mostly located in the Sahel region and the Horn of Africa, are subject to water stress or water scarcity. A further 11 countries will join them in the next 25 years. As a result of climate change and variability, population growth, environmental degradation and resource mismanagement, access to freshwater is worsening in the region. Increased water scarcity in the future in many countries of the region implies a need for efficient management of shared water resources. In Africa, access to Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS) is very low. Only about 58% of the sub-Saharan population has access to piped water supply and 37% has access to improved sanitation.
- Africa lags behind other regions in almost all its industry-related indices. The contribution of manufacturing output to total national income is generally low, with the share of manufacturing value added(MVA) in GDP being at an average value of only about 9% . Positive performance in industrial growth in a few countries and an increase in foreign direct investment in African industry indicates a potential for industrial take-off. The challenge is to ensure that environmental best practices are incorporated at these early stages of industrialization whenever manufacturing investments are being considered. It is to be noted that, while the overall level of industrial pollution is still low because of Africa's low level of industrialization, the environmental impact intensity in relation to the level of industrialization is among the highest in the world.
- Africa is the fastest urbanizing region in the world. Rural population is growing at a rate of 2.5% per year, while the urban population is experiencing 5 to 10% growth rate per year . Africa's urban population was 373 million in 2007 and will reach 760 million in 2030. Increasing numbers of the poor will be city dwellers and SSA follows South and East Asia in having the third largest number of slum dwellers. The urban population growth is not absorbed by the largest cities but by the intermediate cities (towns less than 500,000 inhabitants) where two thirds of all African urban growth is occurring. This swift urban growth means that governments should strengthen the governance capacities of

intermediate and smaller cities so as to be prepared for the rapid increase in new and additional demand for urban spatial planning, urban housing, urban services and urban livelihoods. The larger African cities will absorb the remaining one-third of the continent-wide urban growth. Urbanization presents both a challenge and opportunity. It is a challenge in that providing additional millions of people with adequate housing, water and sanitation, transportation, waste management and other needs will require vast investment, skilled management and strong leadership. In addition the concentration of people increases the risk of diseases, pollution and disaster. On the other hand, the concentration of people will also facilitate the provision of education, health care, transportation and other social services. Urbanization also tends to conserve energy and natural resources.

- Transportation services contribute to development and their improvement will be essential for Africa to achieve SD and the MDGs. The poor state of transport infrastructure impedes Africa's development and obstructs poverty reduction. In many African countries transport access rates and network quality are low by any standard. Less than a third of Africa's 2 million km of roads are asphalted with a low density of 6.84 km per 100 square km, compared to 12 km in Latin America and 18 km in Asia. Urbanization and increasing motorization in sub-Saharan Africa have resulted in a high level of degradation of the air quality particularly in the large cities. Provision of good transportation services and infrastructure constitutes a necessary precondition for African economic growth. A transport system that supports sustainable development is one in which transport is used in a way that minimises demands on non-renewable resources, e.g. fossil fuels and metals. It also minimises adverse impacts on human health and the environment, e.g. pollution and contributions to climate change, or waste generation. Likewise, it provides for affordable mobility to allow access to services, jobs and education .
- The problem of solid waste management is a growing source of concern in African urban centres driven by population growth, urbanization, industrialization and rising living standards and is identified as one of the major challenges in the promotion of sustainable consumption and production in the region. Industrial, electronic and medical waste, some of which is hazardous, is also increasing rapidly in many countries. African cities have

not been able to set up adequate system for the collection of municipal and industrial waste due to their poor infrastructure base, limited resources and lack of proper urban management. The solid waste generation of selected cities in Africa ranges from 0.3 to 1.9 kg per person per day . The limited available data suggests that the MSW stream in the typical African city at point of disposal is high in putrescible organic matter. However it is low in % of commercially recyclable components and too low in heating value for energy recovery by incineration. There are few formal systems of materials recovery through the public and private sectors in Africa. Instead, in most parts of Africa, materials recovery including source separation and recycling takes place in the informal sector. With few official statistics on MSW generation and recycling, it is difficult to arrive at an overall rate of waste recycling in Africa. Obtaining these data is vital to the design of well integrated ISWM systems. Most major cities in Africa have an organized municipal waste collection system. Collection coverages across the continent range from 20% to 80% with a median range of 40% to 50%. Most disposal sites in Africa are simply open dumps-recently however some countries have moved towards improved landfill practice. Even though the organic content of the MSW in the typical African city may exceed 70% (wet basis), centralized composting, anaerobic digestion and gas recovery are not significant components of African MSW management practice. For the most part in Africa, services are not available for the separate handling of special wastes such as households hazardous wastes, construction and demolition wastes, medical and infectious wastes, tires, sewage sludge or chemical and pharmaceutical wastes.

- Africa has numerous tourist attractions ranging from wildlife to cultural heritage. Many African governments have identified the potential of international tourism, which involved 37.3 million tourists and brought about \$21.7 billion in revenue to African countries in 2005. Roughly 60% of international tourists who visit Africa are leisure tourists, 15% are business tourists and 25% come for other purposes. Eco-tourism is the fastest growing tourism product in the world and Africa, for its natural endowments constitutes an obvious destination as in countries like Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania and Kenya. The ecological footprint of tourism activity is significant and the tourism industry and its associated infrastructure tend to be concentrated in biodiversity hotspots. On the other hand, tourism can foster environmental preservation, especially if it is eco-tourism. The tourism industry in Africa is characterized by a large number of small and medium-

sized tourism enterprises (SMEs) that in many cases lack the financial and human resources necessary to provide a qualitative product and integrate sustainable tourism principles. On the other hand, mainstream international hotel chains are increasingly making efforts to reduce their environmental impacts.

- Africa is undergoing a severe process of deforestation. From 1990 to 2005, deforestation took place at a rate of 0.7% per year versus 0.2% at the global level.
- The “Africa-Ecological Footprint and Human Well-being” report shows that compared to the rest of the world, the average African’s footprint is small (1.1 global hectares)-for many too small even to meet basic needs. In 2003 Africa had 13 per cent of the world’s population but contributed only 6% of the global footprint. But the report also reveals that a growing number of African countries are now depleting their natural resources faster than they can be replaced. Africa’s bio-capacity is 1.3 global hectares per person, slightly more than what Africans use, but 28% less than the world’s average of 1.8 global hectares available per person. While Africa still has more bio-capacity than it uses, this margin is shrinking, largely due to population growth. If current trends continue, Africa will soon be facing an ecological deficit, with demand exceeding the continent’s supply. Several African countries already have a footprint that is larger than their countries’ bio-capacity per capita meaning that a growing number of African countries are depleting their natural resources — or will shortly be doing so — faster than they can be replaced.

In brief, the African region faces very different SCP challenges than those faced by developed countries. In the latter, the focus of current and future SCP action is on the environment pillar of sustainability-improving efficiency of production and using economic incentives to orient consumption towards less pressure intensive goods and services. In contrast, in much of Africa there is a clear need to address the social pillar of sustainability. A large segment of the population lives in poverty and do not have access to basic needs, such as clean water, energy etc and adequate nutrition levels. The main challenge will have to satisfy the basic needs of the population. But at the same time, the environmental pillar of sustainability must be addressed. There are many opportunities to “leapfrog” towards more SCP patterns before consumption-driven impacts reach the levels observed in developed countries.

PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Ten-Year Framework of Programmes: The African 10 Year Framework Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production has been launched. The African 10-YFP has a strategic focus of linking SCP with the challenges of meeting basic needs in more sustainable manners and has four thematic areas of focus: *energy, water and sanitation, habitat and sustainable urban development, and industrial development*. A regional institutional focal mechanism -the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP)- and the Marrakech Taskforce on Cooperation with Africa supported by the Federal Ministry of Environment of Germany have been established. Sustainable consumption and production activities in the region have been strengthened through a number of pilot projects such as the development of an eco-labelling scheme for Africa, the development of national and local SCP action plans in four countries, sustainable consumption and production of plastics, developing capacities for SCP in the Lake Victoria region, sustainable procurement and life cycle assessment workshops, collection of best practices on SCP projects by development agencies and a research study on leapfrogging possibilities for SCP in Africa.

Sustainable energy development: A multi-donor NEPAD Infrastructure Project Preparation Facility has been established at the African Development Bank. The facility has provided funding for the preparation of several regional projects, including oil and gas pipelines, hydro-electric power and power interconnection. Several UN Agencies are supporting energy projects, including energy access and efficiency and renewable energy. In recognition of the fact that the problem of access to energy in rural Africa requires much more attention, means and renewed commitments by all stakeholders, increased country-to-country and city-to-city dialogue and cooperation are taking place on the issue of clean energy access for the urban poor. Rural energy access scale-up initiatives led to the design of new energy supply schemes integrating energy services to the development of productive and income generating activities, entrepreneurship, and the promotion of indigenous energy resources. Regarding changing patterns of energy consumption and production, in many countries, national capabilities on forestry services and energy agencies for wood energy planning and policy development have been enhanced. There are big hopes in many African countries for the development of bio-fuels and many projects have been launched. Estimates show that up to 16 sub Saharan African countries can meet significant proportions of their current electricity consumption from bagasse-based cogeneration in the sugar industry. Efforts to improve and

modernize small-scale biomass energy constitute an important component of national energy strategies in many sub Saharan African countries. The diffusion of solar water heaters has in general been slower than anticipated and the bulk of solar water heaters in use are bought by high-income households, institutions and large commercial establishments such as hotels. Solar photovoltaics has been promoted in the region but it is still unaffordable to the majority of the population in sub Saharan Africa , given the high levels of poverty.

Water and Sanitation: The development of water infrastructure has been a priority of most African countries over recent decades. Many multilateral organizations have been involved in working towards the achievement of the MDGs on water and sanitation access. Some countries have achieved good progress in expanding access to services and improving operating performance. The African Ministerial Council on Water and the Africa Water Task Force have been established to enhance cooperation and coordination to promote the development and implementation of coherent policies and strategies for water resources management. The water resources management component of the NEPAD short-term action plan has been developed The AfDB is providing assistance to NEPAD to implement its water and sanitation infrastructure development programme with a view to enhancing regional integration. Under the auspices of UN-Habitat, the Water for African Cities program is being implemented with the aim of reducing the urban water crisis in African cities. An increasing number of countries are undertaking policy, legal and institutional reforms and developing strategies for water resources development and management, on the basis of IWRM. Improving water efficiency and reducing water pollution from industry is one of the functions of NCPCs. Water and sanitation projects provide an ideal opportunity for promoting and applying SCP principles in Africa. More demand side management approaches are needed. The development and promotion of innovative ways of providing water and sanitation services to the large segment of the population is another key challenge with respect to meeting basic needs in the region. Although unregulated irrigation with wastewater does persist in some countries of this region, especially nearer smaller urban centres, the trend is towards regulated reuse of treated wastewater – as far as available capital resources allow.

Habitat and urban development: UN-Habitat has launched the Global Campaign for Sustainable Urbanization to operationalize at country level, the Habitat Agenda, through various programmes such as Water for African cities, Urban Observatories, Safer Cities,

Good Urban Governance and Local Agenda 21. Furthermore the UN Habitat Regional Office for Africa and the Arab states (ROAAS) supported the Global campaign launched in various countries. UN Habitat provided technical assistance in collaboration with Cities Alliance to implement the Plan of Action on slum prevention and upgrading, and Cities Development Strategies (CSD). Furthermore, UN-Habitat and other partners have launched the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), which tries to document best land practices and in which Africa will be an important beneficiary. In collaboration with the European Union, UN-Habitat has implemented the Regional Urban Sector Profile for Sustainability (RUSPS), in over 23 countries in Africa, to develop medium to long term policies. Many African countries have mainstreamed sustainable urbanization into their PRSPs, and have introduced programmes and projects for the provision of basic urban services such as water and sanitation, and for slum upgrading and prevention policies, as well as social housing schemes. With support from ROAAS and the Habitat Programme Managers, several countries in the region have undertaken initiatives to review and reform national housing and urban development, and policies and legislation for adequate access to land, water and sanitation, slum prevention and upgrading and shelter. Sustainable Buildings criteria and rating systems still need to be developed while transport concerns are still not integrated as well as they might be into spatial planning policies. The Clean Air Initiative in sub-Saharan African cities launched by the World Bank in 1998 aims to improve air quality through the reduction of air pollution originating particularly from motorized transport. Cities across Africa need to push harder to access a growing range of global environment funds to help them finance sustainable public transport systems. The problem of solid waste management is a growing source of concern in African urban centres driven by population growth, urbanization, industrialization and rising living standards and is identified as one of the major challenges in the promotion of sustainable consumption and production in the region. Industrial, electronic and medical waste, some of which is hazardous, is also increasing rapidly in many countries. African cities have not been able to set up adequate system for the collection of municipal and industrial waste due to their poor infrastructure base, limited resources and lack of proper urban management.

Sustainable industrial development and corporate social responsibility: In 2004, the AU endorsed the Africa Productive capacity Initiative (APCI) as the NEPAD sustainable Industrial Development Strategy. The African Productive Capacity Facility has been

established as a financial mechanism to support the APCI. UNIDO has assisted many countries in Africa in developing and implementing programmes aimed at improving the competitiveness of selected industries, and wherever possible, identify new market opportunities. UNIDO and UNEP, supported by UNDP and other bilateral donors, are the agencies most actively promoting cleaner production in Africa. Projects to strengthen metrology, standards and testing institutions are underway in many countries. Countries have also established agro-processing ventures and medium Sized and Micro Enterprises (MSMEs), and are gradually accessing finance, technology transfer and capacity building for growth-oriented and competitive MSMEs, with increased focus on women. NEPAD also sets the tone for corporate sustainability (CSR) in Africa. It highlights the need to create conditions for private-sector growth in order to generate social development benefits. The APRM is an important instrument that can effectively promote CSR. The African Institute of Corporate Citizenship is promoting the role of business in building sustainable communities. Given its developmental context, the application of CSR in Africa mainly contributes to addressing those issues affecting the daily lives of Africans, including health, education, agriculture and food security. African business organisations and several stakeholders from civil society and academia are participating in global initiatives, including the Global Compact and the UNEP Financial Initiative. Several companies in Africa are members of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development.

Food Production and consumption: The performance of agriculture in Africa has slightly improved, with annual agricultural growths averaging about 3.9% during recent years. However, while growth did take place, it did not really lead to improved food security and reduced poverty. It is unlikely that the MDG of halving the number of poor and hunger by 2015 would be achieved. The current pattern of agricultural development in Africa is therefore unsustainable. A large share of the population remains undernourished, and the degradation of land and ecosystems worsens food insecurity. Measures taken by African countries to boost the development of the agriculture and rural sector include: the Maputo Summit Declaration that endorsed the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) plan of Action, and the commitment by African leaders to allocate at least 10 per cent of their national budget to agricultural development; the Sirte Declaration on Agriculture and Water that adopted the development of strategic agricultural commodities; the Fertilizer Summit that adopted the resolution to increase fertilizer use in Africa; and the

Abuja Food Security Summit that recommended the establishment of the African common market for basic food products. Food supply chain members share the responsibility to produce and supply food in the most environmentally sustainable way. Consumers on the other hand indirectly affect upstream environmental impacts through their purchasing decisions. Scientifically reliable and understandable environmental information can help consumers in cities consider the wider sustainability implications of their purchasing decisions and behaviour. There is great potential for organic food production in African countries but the development of certified organic farming in African countries lags significantly behind.

Chemicals and hazardous waste management: Many African countries have ratified major chemicals and wastes related Conventions. African countries have completed and endorsed a regional action plan for the implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management(SAICM). Countries are benefiting from training and capacity building projects to support the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System for the classification and labeling of chemicals. Countries are adopting policies and legislation on chemicals and wastes, including hazardous wastes management and are implementing activities on environmentally sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes. The African obsolete pesticide stockpile project has been established to clean up stockpiled obsolete pesticides, catalyze development of prevention measures and build capacity for chemicals-related issues. African governments have committed themselves to promoting synergies and coordination among chemicals and wastes regulatory instruments and agencies.

Sustainable Tourism Development: NEPAD has identified tourism as an important vehicle to addressing the current development challenges facing Africa. In 2004, its Tourism Action Plan was approved. A main objective of the Plan is to provide an engine for growth and integration, and to contribute to poverty eradication. Most African governments have now included tourism in their national development strategies. Countries have also started adopting policies that unlock the opportunities for the poor within tourism. Additionally, countries have adopted the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism and are reporting on implementation progress.

Cleaner Production and Eco-efficiency: National Cleaner Production Centers (NCPCs) have been established in 10 countries in Africa: Ethiopia, Egypt, Kenya, Morocco, Mozambique, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe. NCPCs have their work programs focus on three key activities: awareness raising and training, demonstrations and assessments, and CP-related technical support. Other activities would include CP policy advice, product related work and consumer awareness initiatives. There is an increase in the demand of cleaner production in energy and water. UNIDO and the NCPCs have launched the initiatives of the Green Industry Strategy and the Energy Efficiency Strategy. The Green Industry Strategy involves existing and new industries and is expected to advise and support governments to establish green industrial sectors.

Development of Policies and Plans in Support of SCP in Africa: Governments across Africa have made efforts to establish a national regulatory framework, to create an environmental administration, to provide funding for strategic programmes and to ensure more effective enforcement. Many countries have now built up institutions responsible for environmental protection, established environmental laws and regulations, and streamlined environmental responsibilities. Most countries have developed basic laws and national strategies or plans for sustainable development or environmental protection. Strategies and policies specifically targeting SCP have not yet been developed in African countries. Development of pilot national SCP programmes has either been completed or is ongoing in Ethiopia, Tanzania, Egypt, Mozambique, Mauritius, Senegal and Ghana. There are, however, in most countries a number of laws and overarching policies that are aimed at sustainable development and sound environmental management, and which are relevant and consistent with CP requirements. Few economic instruments are in use in African countries which provide financial incentives for SCP. The African eco-labeling initiative was launched in 2007. The overall objective of the project is to expand the market access of African Products in regional and international markets by improving the environmental profiles of African Products and establishing a mechanism that promotes their marketability, thereby contributing to the NEPAD objective of promoting African exports. There has been little progress yet with implementing SPP in African countries, despite the large volume of public procurement. Pilot countries have been earmarked in the African region for the development of Sustainable Public Procurement Programmes.

Research and Education for SCP: Some universities in Africa have embarked upon introducing environment into their education and training programmes. UNEP has interacted with about 300 universities in 54 African countries in formulating the Mainstreaming Environment and Sustainability in African education (MESA) with the main objective of building capacity to promote good governance and educational policy in the region. The UNEP/Wuppertal collaborating centre on SCP is currently undertaking a project aimed at introducing the issues and concepts of sustainable lifestyles and sustainable entrepreneurship into African universities by integrating informal educational activities with formal education. African nations need to produce a larger pool of good quality tertiary graduates and postgraduates and to produce them particularly in the disciplinary and interdisciplinary fields relevant to a country's chosen strategy for economic development. Enhancing national, regional and global capacities for carrying out scientific research and applying scientific and technological information to SCP is needed.

STATUS OF SCP IN AFRICA

Despite the achievements, the impact and penetration of SCP activities is still very limited in most countries. Few key activities have been conducted in most countries as part of the implementation of the African 10 YFP. SCP is a relatively new concept in the region and there are only very few examples of integrated SCP activities. There are several examples of activities and efforts targeting particularly Sustainable Production and to a much lesser extent Sustainable Consumption. Sustainable Production activities are focused on cleaner production (CP), on environmental management systems (particularly ISO 14000) and on Corporate Management Practices. More advanced Sustainable Production concepts and instruments, which take a systems view- such as LCA, Product Service Systems and product design -are still in their infancy in the region. The state of Sustainable Production in Africa may be described as being in progress but yet having a long way to go before becoming widely adopted and fully integrated as an everyday practice. Francophone African countries in West and Central Africa show virtually little institutional capacity in CP due to the absence of NCPCs.

The regional capacity for promoting Sustainable Consumption is far less developed than for Sustainable Production. There are no strategy or policy frameworks for promoting Sustainable Consumption at the national level. Compared to sustainable production,

sustainable consumption is a far less developed and less recognized concept. The region is still dominated by people living in poverty. Another important explanation for the little attention paid by government to sustainable consumption is that consumption is often perceived as necessary for economic growth. More sustainable consumption is perceived by authorities in the lowering of economic growth though the benefits resulting in reduced costs to society and sustainability achievement are being missed. Also, since Sustainable Consumption is a relatively new concept, consumer activism, when it exists, is still focused on prices, quality and consumer safety. Sustainable consumption still remains to be mainstreamed in the consumer movement. There is also a general lack of capacity on sustainable consumption tools.

CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS IN IMPLEMENTING SCP ACTIVITIES

Priority areas for SCP will differ from one country to another, but the following challenges and constraints seem to be commonplace in most countries:

- (i) Poor Education and lack of awareness on the benefits of SCP among all stakeholders
- (ii) Government failures (lack of legislation and/or enforcement; weak recognition of SCP in most policies; weak institutional capacity for monitoring and use of economic instruments; absence of enforceable pollution standards; lack of decentralization to local authorities; lack of appropriate consumer rights, policies and legal instruments for promotion of sustainable consumption; incoherent policies)
- (iii) Lack of human and technical capacity (lack of capacity for product development and formulating bankable CP projects in industry; lack of capacity on SCP tools in government; wide scale reliance on obsolete technologies; lack of information on emerging clean technologies)
- (iv) Economic (Financial instability of NCPCs; under-pricing of natural resources; lack of appropriate financing mechanisms for SCP investments; lack of financial incentives; widespread poverty)
- (v) Systemic (lack of monitoring ;lack of systematic training of employees and lack of R&D in Industry; lack of reliable data on pollution and resources use; inadequate research on SCP; consumer traditions)

- (vi) Organizational (poor institutional setting; absence of collaborative projects and exchange programmes in the region to facilitate knowledge sharing)

A key opportunity for addressing the above challenges lies in regional cooperation due to the fact that countries often face similar problems. Many successful initiatives have been implemented at local level, in such areas as energy efficiency, waste management, buildings, transport and quite a few of the lessons learned are applicable and replicable throughout the region.

LESSONS LEARNED

The following are some of the lessons learned about the generic vital components needed for SCP strategies, drawn from the analysis during this review:

- Political will and commitment is essential to the effective implementation of the African 10-YFP. The organizational support that has been provided by UNEP together with the political leadership and support provided by AMCEN and the financial support provided by the Marrakech Taskforce on Cooperation with Africa have been highly instrumental for the achievements that have been registered so far and for the significant level of interest amongst development partners to work with the region. The leadership and guidance being provided by the AU Commission, ECA and UNEP in the further development and implementation of the Program should be maintained, if not enhanced. In addition to regional cooperation, international cooperation is important in ensuring program implementation and the leapfrog towards SCP. In this regard, the region's cooperation with development agencies, such as the Government of Germany and the Marrakech Task Forces should be fostered.
- The ARSCP must be better able to use the opportunity provided by the political commitment through AMCEN, Marrakech Task Force on Cooperation with Africa and the other Marrakech Task Forces to strengthen its strategies and programmes. The Marrakech Process has not only contributed to the development of the regional 10-YFP, but is also a substantive dialogue and forum for cooperation on SCP issues. The Marrakech Task Forces are important mechanisms that have built North-South cooperation and there are potential areas for Inter-Task Force cooperation in Africa.

- A basic condition for SCP is to achieve general awareness and understanding of the concept among all people. The meaning of SCP as applied to the local context need to be developed and explained through education and communication and SCP has to be perceived as a relevant priority by all stakeholders. Long-term education programs and short term aggressive public awareness campaigns, targeting businesses, civil societies, financing institutions etc need to be part of any SCP strategy.
- Individual initiatives will not bring about wholesale changes in SCP patterns unless there is a national integrated strategy to promote SCP using a range of policies. Governments should develop appropriate national policy frameworks to effectively support integration and development of Sustainable Consumption and Production, and the coordination between different government departments. SCP should be integrated into PRSPs, National Strategies for Sustainable Development (NSSDs) or National Environment Action Plans (NEAPs). Once integrated, a second step would be to develop concrete sectoral action plans or frameworks (e.g. on energy, water, agriculture, transport) that aim to promote sustainable patterns of consumption and production, with concrete targets and indicators. In the light of the variety of situations in all the countries, it is necessary for Governments to develop, in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders, national SCP strategies or action plans reflecting a country's specific priorities, and with concrete actions to carry them out. Besides its direct contribution towards promoting resource-efficiency at all levels of production and consumption, the development and implementation of an SCP program could also be instrumental in promoting synergies amongst the key development sectors outside the Ministry of Environment. In this context, it is recommended for African Ministries to designate a focal point unit for SCP that facilitates the inter-sectoral cooperation in the context of SCP program development and implementation.
- The effective development and implementation of sustainable consumption and production in African countries could be significantly facilitated through the mainstreaming of SCP in the priorities and decision making criteria of bilateral and multilateral development financing agencies. Hence development partners need to mainstream SCP in their bilateral financing procedures.
- Governments should include SCP indicators in national statistics. These indicators are an essential tool for policy making and give the opportunity for capturing the concept of

sustainable production and consumption in statistics. Development of SCP indicators should become a component of any country-level activities to develop SCP programmes.

- A mix of policies and instruments is desirable for implementation of SCP, with financial and economic instruments, information tools, and voluntary approaches complementing regulation. Enforcement capacity of regulations and institutional capacity for economic instruments need to be strengthened in all African countries.
- All African countries and local governments require assistance in starting sustainable procurement, including guidance on specific products.
- Visible implementation of SCP activities at an early stage is important to demonstrate the concept and to show that it can have a significant impact on the production-consumption system. Examples of such activities include government green procurement programs, waste recycling schemes, SMEs support programs for Cleaner Production, Introduction of CFL lamps, Incentives for Solar Water Heaters and Solar Panels, plastic bags, packaging, etc.
- Capacity building and skills development is important in the context of the promotion of SCP. Tools to support or promote sustainable consumption need to be strengthened and integrated with production activities. Systemic approaches such as Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) and green procurement are either nonexistent or still at infancy stage and need to be further developed.
- There is need for broader adoption and implementation by industry, of values consistent with corporate social and environmental responsibility, such as those embodied in the Global Compact. Companies investing in Africa need to root their CSR practice in African realities.
- Despite much effort and resources spent by the NCPCs, only a small part of industry has nationally adopted SP. It will be impossible to assist individually each company to realize the benefits of sustainable production. It therefore seems necessary to focus on the demand side, creating demand for SCP, rather than focusing on the supply side. Such demand is created when enforcement of legislation is practiced, suitable economic incentives are established and efficiency improvements offered by SCP provide a

competitive edge. NCPC's areas of focus need to expand beyond industries into other economic sectors. The Centers, now more mature, still need external support in training and advice in structuring more efficient and innovative services to their clients, especially in the area of technology transfer.

- Economical, environmental and lifestyle evidences of adopting SCP are key issues to convince the local community for active contribution. Small-scale projects, which could easily be replicated elsewhere upon successful implementation should be implemented. In order to make further progress on sustainable lifestyles there is a need for massive education and awareness campaigns utilizing TV and media to inspire actions for change to sustainable lifestyles and the active involvement of NGOs. Development and implementation of region-relevant education and awareness programs covering all levels of the society including youth groups constitute an important instrument to address the existing lack of awareness on the contribution of SCP and create the required capacity for promoting sustainable consumption and production in the region.

THE WAY FORWARD

Priority approaches and actions needed to enhance implementation of programs to effectively address SCP in the region can be grouped under the following four clusters:

1. Institutional and Policy Mechanisms

- Support governments to develop and implement target-oriented national and local action plans on SCP
- Coordinate SCP implementation across sectors through the designation of a focal line Ministry for SCP.
- Enable national statistical institutes and other producers of statistical information to monitor economic, social and environmental pressures of consumption and production.
- Promote/support the integration of SCP in the policies of major development organizations and agencies
- Promote the internalization of environmental costs and the use of economic instruments
- Enhance corporate environmental and social responsibility and accountability

- Strengthen Demand-side Management Programs with a focus on energy and water
- Support the scientific and technical community through public and private sector funded R&D for SCP
- Support the shift in focus on Life cycle thinking integrating the whole production and consumption process using the opportunity of the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative for its promotion in government and business.
- Ensure the Financial and Institutional Sustainability of NCPCs

2. Supporting tools and instruments

- Promote Sustainable Manufacturing and Value Chains targeting SMEs
- Support Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) by enhancing the ongoing work notably that of the Marrakech Task Force, to support governments at all levels working to implement sustainable procurement policies and procedures.
- Promote Sustainable Products by supporting the creation of databases and the provision of information on sustainable products (including both environmental and social criteria) and address ways to raise awareness among consumers. Countries could focus on organic food and energy labeling schemes . Develop and Implement the African Eco-labeling Mechanism.
- Support local governments to better integrate environmental, social and economic costs into urban planning and the integration of sustainable cities/communities plans in Local Agenda 21 action plans. Cities should develop Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) action plans.
- Support changes in key Production-Consumption chains such as food, mobility and buildings using the expertise of the Marrakech Task Forces and the NCPCs.

3. Education for SCP

- Develop and disseminate SCP modules for education curricula at all levels (schools, college, public service, on-the-job training)
- Support governments wanting to promote low-resource intensity societies/lifestyles

- Encourage and leverage forums on alternative ways of consuming (including NGOs, community groups, cooperatives, and consumer groups)
- Create a resource repository and translation facility which can include best practices databases.
- Create networks of excellence on SCP, particularly linking African universities and NCPCs with centers of excellence in developed countries and with each other.
- Experiments with local sustainable communities, stimulating grass roots sustainable action , with the . and the active involvement of NGOs which need to be trained .
- Conduct systematic SCP education and awareness campaigns-for example on energy and water use efficiency- using national TV channels and other media to inspire actions for change to sustainable lifestyles

4. Means of implementation

- Mobilisation of financial resources through the development of SCP action plans and using the whole array of funding opportunities for its implementation. Special funds can be created by Ministries of Finance to fund SCP projects by mobilizing resources from taxes, subsidies, development partners and carbon credits.
- Technology transfer and capacity building to develop a critical mass of professionals in any country for implementing SCP activities.
- Information and outreach by raising the visibility of SCP to international agencies and regional Ministerial conferences. Under the ARSCP, information tools and networks on SCP need to be built.
- Enhancing partnerships and collaboration with Development Agencies, Marrakech Task Forces , other SCP roundtables and research centers of excellence on SCP.

In conclusion, the on-going economic and social restructuring in Africa offers a unique opportunity to establish more resource efficient SCP patterns. There are many opportunities to “leapfrog” towards more SCP patterns before consumption-driven impacts reach the levels observed in developed countries. SCP strategies applied now will safeguard against unsustainable patterns of consumption and production in the future. Africa as a region is at

the forefront of the global Marrakech process on the 10-Year Framework of Programs as it has a regional 10-YFP that is supported by the Marrakech Taskforce on Cooperation with Africa as the only region-focused taskforce under the global support mechanism. Africa as a region has therefore established appropriate structures, political goodwill and mechanisms for sharing information and these need to be fostered by governments, AMCEN and development partners. The Marrakech Process has not only contributed to the development of the regional 10-YFP, but is also a substantive dialogue and forum for cooperation on SCP issues among governments and other stakeholders at the regional level.

Even with regional and international support, SCP is a concept that needs to be built from the national level. Change towards SCP is a systemic challenge. Businesses, consumers or policy makers usually cannot solve problems alone but must work together in a ‘triangle of change’. There is also a need for enhanced political will and commitment at all levels. SCP is a broad agenda, touching almost all economic activities. It will inevitably overlap with the activities of many agencies that do focus on energy, mobility, water, waste etc but who do not label their activities as SCP. The strategy described in this review report tries to push forward the SCP agenda through an integrative vehicle that covers most economic processes. Lessons learnt from niche experiments and pilot studies and their sharing and replication throughout the region will help in mainstreaming SCP in national policies & strategies and achieving the aim of changing the socio-economic landscape for more SCP patterns and Green Economies in Africa .