Fourth session of the AFRICA REGIONAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Responsible consumption and production in Africa

Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies

2 - 4 May 2018
Dakar, Senegal
OUTLINE

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Introduction

• WSSD 2002 promoted development of a 10YFP in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards SCP;

• The Marrakech Process (2003) supported elaboration of a 10YFP on SCP as called for by the Johannesburg Plan of Action;

• African countries have been implementing the global 10YFP on SCP within the context of the African 10YFP approved AMCEN in 2004;
Introduction/…

- Rio+20 (2012) declared the promotion of SCP as an essential requirement of SD;
- AMCEN (2012) adopted African flagship programmes, incl. partnerships for Sustainable Cities Programme
- Agenda 2063 (AU, 2015) priorities include sustainable natural resource management; climate resilience; renewable energy; and SCP;
- The 2030 Agenda for SD (UN SD Summit 2015) includes a specific goal on SCP- Goal 12;
- Mixed progress in implementing Goal 12 targets in Africa: **tracking progress with limited data is a challenge**
Status of implementation of Goal 12

• There are 12 targets and 13 indicators, but only 3 indicators have quality data;
• Most indicators (9) have no data and/or methodology is still under development;
Target 12.1: Implement 10YFP on SCP

Source: UNEP
Target 12.1: Implement 10YFP on SCP

- Requires a strong national framework for SCP integrated into national and sectoral plans;
- 71 countries globally have SCP in national action plans or have mainstreamed in priorities and targets of national development plans;
- Only a few African (9) countries have aligned their national development plans or green economy strategies with the African 10YFP;
- International support through the Marrakech Process Task Force on Cooperation with Africa; SWITCH Africa Green programme; and UNEP’s eco-innovation project.
Target 12.2: Sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources

Source: UN Chronicle
Target 12.2: Sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources

- Requires decoupling economic growth from natural resource use, reducing domestic material consumption/material footprints;
- Negative income when depletion and depreciation of natural assets and environmental damage from economic growth is accounted for;
- \((-\) Adjusted net savings \(\rightarrow\) economic growth patterns are unsustainable;
- Improving (2000–2015) as countries actively implemented measures to sustainably manage their natural resources
Domestic material consumption per capita (1970-2017)

Target 12.2:...Decoupling...

• Resource productivity = constant gross domestic product to domestic material consumption;
Target 12.3: Food waste at retail and consumer levels and food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses
Target 12.3: Food waste at retail and consumer levels and food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses

☐ A third of the food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted annually

- Volume: 1.3 billion tonnes of food lost or wasted/annum;
- Monetary: $990b of lost of wasted food globally; of which $310 billion is from developing countries;
- Consumers in rich countries waste almost as much food (222m tons) as the entire net food production of SSA (230m tons)
- Per capita waste: 95 - 115 kg/year in Europe and North America; Only 6 -11 kg/year in SSA and South and South-East Asia
Target 12.3: Food waste…

• Saving just 25% globally could feed 870m hungry people in the world (795m people were hungry worldwide: 2014–2016);
  ➢ The food lost in Africa (2014-2016) could have fed 300m people (233m people were hungry or malnourished in SSA);
  ➢ **Post-harvest handling and storage** dominates the loss incidences (40%) in SSA, while a similar proportion is lost at the retail and consumer levels in developed countries;

• **Interventions that alter behaviour** could be the best possible option to reduce food loss and waste at the retail and consumer levels.

• **Reduce inefficiencies** in food supply chains and post-harvest handling
Target 12.4: Management of hazardous chemicals and wastes

Source: UN Environment
Target 12.4: Management of hazardous chemicals and wastes

- Dumping hazardous chemicals and wastes pose a serious threat to coastal and inland countries.
- 1.9m tonnes of waste (min. estimate - serious data gap)
- Reducing generation and movement of hazardous waste require:
  - Strengthening regulatory systems and environmentally sound management of hazardous waste;
  - Transparency in the regulatory systems;
  - International cooperation: Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal
Target 12.4: Hazardous waste generation ....

• Rio Conventions; **Rotterdam Convention**; **Stockholm Convention** and the **Montreal Protocol**;

• Gaps in international conventions on the control of hazardous wastes;

• The **Bamako Convention** (1991/1998) was supposed to fill those gaps;
  - Inadequate preparedness of importing developing countries,
  - The general lack of protection from industrial and nuclear wastes offered by the other conventions;

• Strengthen scientific capacity to ascertain the hazardous potential of wastes and materials.

• Collaboration of all States, not only those adversely affected by hazardous
Target 12.5: Reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

Source: UN Environment
Target 12.5: Reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

• Massive pollution and the accumulation of waste are responsible for the loss or destruction of many ecosystems.

• Municipal waste generation currently at 1.3 billion tons annually and expected to increase to 2.2 billion tons by 2025;

• In Africa, 169,119 tons of waste are generated in urban areas daily; expected to reach 441,840 tons/day by 2025 (> East and Central Asia);

• Possible solutions:
  - Sustainable human settlements, and integrated waste management;
  - Interventions should include behavioural policy levers.
Target 12.6: Corporate sustainability information and reporting
Target 12.6: Corporate sustainability information and reporting

- The objective this target is to ensure that financial and capital markets are aligned with the SDGs.
- Sustainability reporting among listed companies in the region is very low, with only 13 companies reporting either through a sustainability report or integrated report;
- Glaring gap in regulating corporate sustainability information reporting in most jurisdictions except SA.
- Private sector-led initiatives are filling the glaring gap in regulating corporate sustainability information reporting.
Target 12.c: Rationalization of inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies

• The fossil-fuel subsidies offered by African countries are declining;
CONCLUSION

• SCP is central to enabling countries to achieve sustainable growth and poverty reduction;
• The imperative for SCP in Africa is to be consistent with the overarching objective of poverty reduction and improving the welfare and quality of life of people;
• The transition can be through changing patterns of consumption and production (keep level constant) or efficiency gains through better methods (reduce level);
• Scaling up of green investment in priority sectors, including agriculture and industry; greening industrialization, buildings and infrastructure;
Conclusion|…. 

• Human capital investment is necessary to reap demographic dividends and to prevent the continent from becoming both a “market” and “consumer”.

  ➢ Technology innovation in the value chain from the conception of ideas to commercialization and to “smart consumers”;
  ➢ Clear vision or programme for skills development at all levels of education and training, including on-the-job training, that meets the needs of the job market.

• SCP designed to respond to key development challenges and opportunities, e.g., infrastructure, transport, energy, technological and industrial upgrading, strengthening value chain linkages and structural transformation.
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THANK YOU!

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