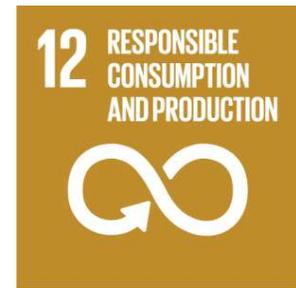


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Virtual

Report of Roundtable on SDG 12: Sustainable Consumption and Production



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2. **Moderator for breakout groups:** Mushtaq Memon (UNEP), Janet Salem (UNESCAP), Sooksiri Chamsuk (UNIDO), Beno Boer (UNESCO)
3. **Rapporteur:** Mr Noer Adi Wardoyo, Director, Center for Standards, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Government of Indonesia

1. Feedback received on the content of the goal profile during the Q&A sessions

It was noted that Governments need to make the case for SCP

- The Prosperous Indonesia 2045 vision (#Indonesiamaju) includes SCP action. Indonesia has adopted 'SCP connect' a unifying framework covering Indonesia's Framework for SCP 2020-2023, in line with the five-year national development plan. Indonesia's framework for SCP includes a set of action that all stakeholders can engage in: pollution prevention; resource efficiency; low carbon development strategy; circular economy; sustainable lifestyles; green economy; well-being; sustainable growth, sustainable investment. A digital platform for SCP communities of practice from government, private sector, and other stakeholders is also being put in place as well as a proposal for SCP tagging of national action to raise awareness of SCP

and engage stakeholders. Guidelines for SCP action have also been developed for government offices, businesses, and community groups.

- Issues identified by civil society included: the need to transition to cleaner production and less material intensive lifestyles; need for government and private sector action to align with the 21030 agenda; more effective waste management systems; need for circular economy models that scale up traditional practices including recycling farm waste, solar cooking, solar drying, urban farming, waste . It was noted that waste pickers (often women and children) should be supported through skill development to make them entrepreneurs. The need for action to redress the imbalance in production and consumption was highlighted. Communities should also be engaged in SCP planning. The gender and sustainability nexus is important as women play a central role in communities to support resilience and conservation. Women need equal access to land and technology, as well as leadership in parliament, industry and governments. Other actions highlighted included natural resource management; food systems and resource efficiency; energy efficiency; addressing plastic pollution a upstream through reduced production; promoting the 5rs of reduce, reuse, recycle, refuse, repurpose. The need to promote more sustainable groundwater use and sustainable tourism was also noted.
 - In terms of private sector, it was noted that SCP must be positioned as a growth agenda and to link SCP to climate since climate action is a key driving agenda. SCP can be a means for private sector to contribute to the climate agenda. There is a need for public private incentivization. For example, private sector SCP action and can save waste management costs for government through reduced packaging and support to promoting better waste management by consumers and these savings could be passed back to private sector by governments to further incentivize SCP action. There is also scope for private companies to add surcharges to their products for consumers willing to pay extra to contribute to sustainable production processes.
 - The importance of looking at the whole lifecycle of products was highlighted to ensure SCP. For example, electric cars transfer pollution from cars to powerplants while disposing of electric car batteries can also impact the environment. Another example was the use of carbon intensive building materials that may result in significant energy savings in buildings and food waste generated from 'farm to fork'. There is therefore a need to look upstream and downstream through the lifecycle of a product to identify all the environmental impacts. Life Cycle Assessments are a tool for this. Ecolabels and energy labels were also highlighted as good practices e.g. the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand introduced energy labeling that is popular with consumers in Thailand.
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2. Policy recommendations on priority for action to make further progress on SDG 12 in Asia and the Pacific

The round table on Sustainable Development Goal 12 (Sustainable Consumption and Production) made several recommendations on the Goal for Asia and the Pacific.

1. It recommended accelerating efforts for **efficient plastic waste management**. Strong regulatory and legal frameworks are needed to address land and marine pollution issues and to control plastics movements. National roadmaps to address plastic waste can catalyze action including supporting investment in alternative material to plastics. Support to local governments to invest in capital and infrastructure is needed for a circular economy approach, and to harness effective policy instruments, such as Extended Producer Responsibility, fiscal policy, and regulatory instruments. Basel Convention Annex 2 has a list of materials that need to be tracked and plastic scraps could be added to this list. Involve all schools and universities and convert them into environmentally friendly practicing places.
2. It recommended accelerating efforts for strengthening **monitoring systems and indicators**. To measure progress and prioritize action, monitoring systems and indicators need to be developed that integrate natural resources, socio-economic development, and policies, from process to impact. The number of people from the general public and schools and universities' awareness should be raised – behavior should be measured. All monitoring data should be publicly available.
3. It recommended accelerating efforts for **awareness raising on SCP and SDG 12**. SCP policies and action plans are shaping up in countries at national and sub-national levels. However, the policymakers and stakeholders are not yet fully aware of the SCP implications cutting across all the sectors and all the SDGs. Therefore, further work on awareness-raising and capacity building on mainstreaming SCP across different sectors and national and sub-national policies and actions is required. Capacity building on implementation of SCP policies, action plans and reporting on SDG 12 can also to be included along with awareness-raising as one of the key priority areas for action. Awareness of the general public, schools and universities should be enhanced (science-education for the general public and educational institutes).
4. It recommended accelerating efforts for **mainstreaming of approaches** through SCP integration into core national strategies and more holistic approaches to SCP policies that address production as well as lifestyles and consumption in all sectors such as energy, agri-food and other agri-industries, mobility, construction, housing, tourism, public procurement, small scale industries, health, education.
5. It recommended accelerating efforts to **empower women entrepreneurs**. Women are in the position to provide sustainable products and services in any sector to every corner of communities. Financing women entrepreneurs in sustainable products and services as well as providing capacity building, ensuring their access to technology, designing supporting policies, and establishing financial frameworks are the keys to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. Shifting towards more sustainable habits in daily consumption in workplaces, homes, schools, and communities as well as ensuring a proportional representation and participation of women in all facets of decision making at all levels, such as in industries and policy planning can promote sustainable consumption and production processes.
6. It recommended accelerating efforts to **promote green recovery as the engine for COVID-19 recovery**. Countries should be encouraged to take the socio-ecological crisis more seriously given for example the state of plastic and air pollution in the region. Human health and environmental sustainability should be the new normal, and they should be high on the list of national priorities. Also, the removal of subsidies to energy products (petroleum products, electricity production, and electricity consumption) should be part of the overall framework of the country's tax reform. The revenue freed up from the rationalization of the energy products could be used to provide social welfare and social safety nets for those who are affected by COVID-19. Governments can create an enabling environment for SCP as a vehicle for green recovery.
7. It recommended accelerating efforts to **enhance stakeholder involvement**. For instance, we can encourage corporate change through policy tools. Business taxonomy to translate circular economy for SCP that makes business sense is needed. Clear roadmaps and targets for business transitions to a circular economy can enhance stakeholder involvement. Appropriate policy tools including regulations,

taxes and subsidies will trigger corporate decisions on green innovation investments as well as regenerative of economy by design and encourage green consumption. Extend producer responsibility to make the products durable. The informal sector is often overlooked but it is a key to drive a circular economy in the region. To achieve SDG 12 targets and given that Pacific Islands are vulnerable to the changing climate, a transition to a low carbon society is needed. Initiatives to reduce GHG emissions such as paperless society are recommended. New or existing platforms such as Partner for green growth and global goals 2030 and LEDS - Low Emission Development Strategy, can be used to strengthen stakeholder engagement.

8. It recommended accelerating efforts to **strengthen the regulatory frameworks for SCP**. Despite the economic benefits of resource efficiency, market forces alone are insufficient and too slow to overcome systemic barriers to sustainable consumption and production. All countries need a strong regulatory framework to make the transition to responsible consumption and production before planetary boundaries are crossed, and in time for major capital investments in the region. Three policies that can support this include strict industrial standards on environmental protection and pollution mitigation, the internalization of environmental externalities into the price of goods and services, and strict standards on air pollution and emissions from vehicles. Regulatory frameworks should also create an enabling environment for private sector to produce sustainability and for consumers to consume sustainably.
9. It recommended accelerating efforts to **implement the 10 Year Framework of Programmes**. With a rapidly urbanizing population and a growing middle-class, the 10YFP programmes on consumer information, sustainable tourism and sustainable lifestyles and education provide toolkits and lessons learned from other countries that can be rolled out in the region. Accelerated and active engagement of private sector and youth should be in focus to implement the 10 YFP project.
10. It recommended accelerating efforts for an **integrated circular economy approach**. The region must transition toward a more circular model that strengthens resource efficiency (SDG 12.2), improves waste management (SDG 12.3, 12.4, 12.5) and embeds environmental impacts in various sectoral and national development policies. A shift toward circular production and consumption pathways can reduce pollution on land and in water (SDG 14, 15), lead to innovation in industry and energy infrastructure, reduce greenhouse gas emissions (SDG 7, 9, 13), and provide decent jobs to reduce poverty and inequality (SDG 1, 8, 5, 10). Social engineering, citizen awareness, effective incentives and financing to make circularity feasible in local businesses is needed. Technological innovation — in technologies that make circular economies possible, and viable policy roadmaps and coordination can also support action.
11. It recommended accelerating efforts to **strengthen capacity building, technical and financial support**. SCP is significantly externally driven with many processes requiring technical assistance from, and funding of, external actors. Strengthening domestic support and the development of financial instruments at national levels is needed. Technology transfer and Capacity building on Hi-Tech are needed for Asian countries. Climate Finance initiatives should be collaborated on between private sectors and international agencies.