"Integrated approach to ensure resource efficiency and transformative impact, the case of SDG 11 and SDG 12"

Venue: Conference Room, 2, 2nd floor UNCC
Date: 28 March 2018
Time: 12:00-13:30
Organizers: SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility together with Thailand, Mongolia / UN 10YFP/One Planet Network, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) / APRSCP

Background

The overall objective of the SWITCH-Asia programme is to promote sustainable growth, contribute to economic prosperity and poverty reduction in Asia, support the development of a green economy and climate mitigation in the 19 target countries in Asia.

The SWITCH-Asia programme will strengthen the implementation of the Sustainable Consumption and Production/SCP policies at the national and sub-national levels by further raising awareness about the topic, scaling-up good practice examples, and through capacity building for stakeholders. The programme enhances networking to create an internal dialogue between components of the programme (the EU Grant Projects and the Regional Policy Advocacy Component/RPAC implemented by UN Environment) and an external dialogue by communicating results of the programme to relevant stakeholders.

Considering the work achieved so far under SWITCH-Asia, notably by the various projects in the countries with substantial grants from the EU as well as by the previous Network Facility and the Regional Policy Support Component, an enhanced Facility was established to deliver high level technical assistance to committed countries to further promote and implement SCP, resource efficiency and climate mitigation, as well as to achieve objectives of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, with a focus on SDG12 and other SCP related targets. Activities will be delivered in close collaboration with the two other components of the SWITCH-Asia programme, together with relevant global and regional partners such as the 10 YFP on SCP, the APRSCP, the SAARC/ SACEP and the ASEAN. This will improve synergy and better impact on delivering SCP and green economy.
Scope

Unsustainable consumption and production patterns are an obvious trend in Asia and Pacific Countries; a negative and an exponentially increasing trend will come with lot of damaging impacts on nature and resources, with increasing quantities of waste, as well as on human health. And with the increasing rate of urbanization, the cities are and will be the places where the attempts to counter these trends, and hopefully reverse them in the long term. Citizens, consumers, production factories and distribution systems as well as the flow, transformation, use and disposal of resources are progressively structuring the urbanization process with a series of lock-in effects. However, there are various encouraging signs of positive and innovative changes, mainly with regards to decoupling and recycling, that can drive a transformative evolution towards resource efficient and resilient cities, that would serve as foundation for healthy societies in a resilient environment. The EU SWITCH-Asia programme was launched to precisely contribute responding to these challenges.

To that end, approaching the understanding and implementation of the SDGs from an integrative and inclusive perspective can help in unlocking these transformative opportunities. If SDG12 and the various SCP related targets in various other SDGs further demonstrate the cross-cutting nature and power of SCP in general and in the SDGs in particular, in delivering sustainability in inclusive and resilient societies, an integrated approach to SDG 11 and SDG12 with the relevant SDG17 implementation means, provides a strong structural basis for leading such transformation. This will also connect to SDG13 since delivering of SDG11 and 12 will have strong repercussions on climate mitigation. With the increasing trend of population, economic activities, wealth, use of resources, GHG emissions and wastes being localized in urban areas, it would be essential for national authorities and other stakeholders to further focus their attention and actions at this junction point of the SDGs if effective transformational change is to occur, making best use of the concentration of knowledge and innovative capacity for a common public good aim.

Both SCP and cities require adequate governance systems, structured around appropriate driving partnerships between national and local entities, public and private stakeholders with a focus on the SMEs which constitute the engine of the Asia and Pacific economy.

However, despite these challenges, changes can be seen through the emergence of a strong regional approach for cooperation on SCP implementation. There has been significant progress in promoting and implementing SCP in the region through stakeholder involvement and through a continuous effort for knowledge sharing, private-public partnerships and the use of SCP tools and instruments. It is important to ensure that these efforts are in line with the global frameworks for cooperation, particularly its contribution to the achievement of the SDG 12 and related SDGs.

Key Questions

• Necessity of system approach for SDGs implementation;
• SCP as a “structuring framework” for the SDGs;
• Cities, a “recipient” for most of the SDGs in terms of implementation;
• Governance challenges and Partnerships opportunities;
• Opportunities for decoupling in cities, resource efficiency and recycling;
• Framing needs & means for contributing to resource efficient and resilient cities through SCP;
**Proposed Programme**

12.00 - 12.15   Snacks provided for participants in front of the meeting room

12.15 – 12.25   Welcome and opening

  Mrs. Luisa RAGHER, EU

  Mr. Stefanos Fotiou, UNESCAP

12.25 - 12.35   Systems and Integrated Approach, essential for SCP and SDGs delivery

  Dr. Arab Hoballah, SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility

12.35 - 13.00   Brief introduction of panel members on specific relevant issues (5min each max)

13.00 - 13.30   Moderated discussion with panelists and participants on opportunities for delivering transformative change towards sustainable and resilient societies in Asia structured around above questions and presentations

**Panelists/discussants**

Dr. Prasert Sirinapaporn, Director, Office of National Environment Board, ONEP, Thailand, “SDG11 and SDG12 in support to Climate Mitigation/SDG13”

Ms. S. Erdenetsetseg, Senior Officer, Green development policy and planning, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Mongolia, on “SDG11 and SDG12 in support to Green Economy”

Ms. Cecilia LopesyRoyo, Coordinator 10YFP Secretariat, “Interlinkages between SDG12 and other Goals, the SCP cross-cutting nature”

Dr. Mori Hideyuki, Executive Director, IGES, “SDG11 and SDG12 for Sustainable Lifestyles”

Ms. Loraine Gatlabayan, Executive Secretary, APRSCP, “Importance of a system approach for Asia Sustainability”

**Moderator**

Dr. Arab Hoballah, Team Leader, SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility

**For more details and information contact**

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*Since the event is organized during lunch time, SWITCH-Asia programme will provide light snacks with water for quick consumption before the session starts*