



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS THE MARRAKECH PROCESS



*Towards a 10-Year Framework
of Programmes on Sustainable
Consumption and Production*

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME





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on Sustainable Consumption and Production***



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Foreword



Ms. Viveka Bohn,
former Swedish
Ambassador for
Environment

Viveka Bohn chaired major international and regional meetings under the Marrakech Process between 2003 and 2006, and has always been strongly committed, providing support, inspiring collaborators and building cooperation. It was stated that Viveka Bohn has been 'the heart and brains' of the Marrakech Process. For this and other outstanding leadership work, she received the UNEP 'Champion of the Earth 2007' award.

The successes in international environmental policy inspire and oblige us. The challenge is big; in addition to climate change and rapid environmental degradation we face the effects of globalization and the financial crisis, poor governance, gender inequality, unsustainable consumption and production patterns. Besides this, we still struggle to eradicate poverty. But the challenge is not insurmountable. We have the means – now we must use them!

One of these means is the Marrakech Process, which is developing a 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP on SCP). The Marrakech Process has revealed an increasing demand for tools and capacity building at all levels. It has contributed to the development of regional programmes on SCP in Africa, Asia Pacific, Latin America, and the European Union as well as coordinated concrete implementation projects through the Marrakech Task Forces - voluntary initiatives led by governments.

Obtaining a higher level of international commitment has become vital and requires further efforts to raise awareness and build trust on SCP.

We must change our unsustainable consumption and production patterns and contribute to low carbon and resource efficient economies. The 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP will be discussed by the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development during the 2010/11 two-year cycle. We must make use of this unique opportunity to present feasible and innovative solutions on how to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation.

This publication aims at explaining this dynamic multi-stakeholder Process that involves governments, the private sector, civil society as well as UN and development agencies. It defines the concept of SCP and provides brief answers and overviews of each of the Marrakech Process activities highlighting the outcomes as well as progress achieved.

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Q1. What is Sustainable Consumption & Production (SCP)?

Today more than ever, in a context of climate change and financial crisis, it has become clear that our global community urgently needs to adopt more sustainable consumption and production patterns to reduce both the use of natural resources and CO2 emissions and move towards low-carbon lifestyles and green economies. This is crucial in order to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in both developing and developed countries; as well as to create the 'space' for the poor to meet their basic needs.

SCP is about “the use of services and related products, which respond to basic needs and bring a better quality of life while minimizing the use of natural resources and toxic materials as well as the emissions of waste and pollutants over the life cycle of the service or product so as not to jeopardize the needs of further generations”. (Oslo symposium, 1994)

Sustainable consumption and production (SCP) is about promoting resource and energy efficiency, sustainable infrastructure, green jobs and better quality of life. The implementation of sustainable consumption and production as an integrated approach helps to achieve overall development plans, reduce future economic, environmental and social costs, strengthen economic competitiveness and reduce poverty.

SCP's main goal is to 'decouple' economic growth and environmental degradation

by increasing the efficiency of resource use in the production process and use phase, maintaining the energy, material and pollution intensity of all production and consumption functions within the carrying and assimilating capacities of natural ecosystems.

SCP is also understood as 'more with less' or eco-efficiency – a concept widely applied in some countries but which needs to be accelerated globally by better integrating the demand side.

SCP is a cross-cutting issue which requires active involvement of all stakeholders and a mix of policy tools, as well as actions and investments from the public and private sectors, development agencies, among others.

Global recognition

It was in 1992 at the UN Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro when SCP was perceived as an overarching theme to link environmental and development challenges. The conference's final report, Agenda 21, states that “the major cause of the continued deterioration of the global environment is the unsustainable pattern of consumption and production, particularly in industrialised countries which is a matter of grave concern aggravating poverty and imbalances”. The debate was continued in 1994 at the Oslo Symposium on Sustainable Consumption analyzing different areas of consumption as well as the role of stakeholders.

In 1999, the UN Guidelines for Consumer Protection¹ were extended to include a chapter on “Promotion of Sustainable Consumption”.

Ten years after the Rio Conference, the world leaders signed the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI)² at the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). Chapter 3 of the plan was devoted to *Changing Unsustainable Patterns of Consumption and Production* and declared that “fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development. All countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns”³. It also called for the development of a 10-year framework of programmes (10YFP) to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production, and to promote social and economic

development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems by de-linking economic growth from environmental degradation. The Marrakech Process is following this call of the JPOI and supporting the implementation of SCP programmes and projects.

SCP and Poverty alleviation

SCP can also contribute to the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals. For developing countries, SCP offers new opportunities such as the creation of new markets, job generation (e.g. markets for organic food, fair trade, sustainable housing, renewable energy) and the improvement of natural resources. It is also an opportunity to leapfrog (►Q9) to more resource efficient, environmentally-sound and competitive technologies.

ONLY ONE EARTH



EU Green Week 2008

¹ http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/publications/consumption_en.pdf

² See Annex 1

³ http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/POIToc.htm

Q2. What is the Marrakech Process?

The Marrakech Process is a dynamic multi-stakeholder platform to support: 1) **the implementation** of projects and strategies on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and 2) **the elaboration of a Global Framework for Action on SCP** – the so-called “10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP” (10YFP). The process responds to the call of the WSSD Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to develop a 10YFP to support regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards SCP patterns, thus de-linking economic growth from environmental degradation.

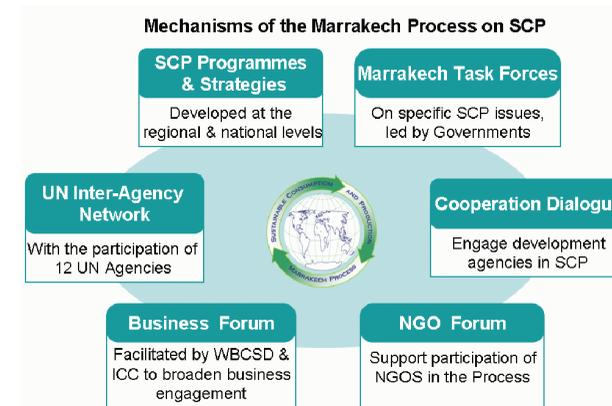
The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) are the leading agencies of this global process, with an active participation of national governments, development agencies, major groups⁴ and other stakeholders. The first meeting devoted to developing the 10 YFP took place in Marrakech, Morocco in June 2003, hence its name.

The Marrakech Process is developing inputs to the 10YFP in a participatory and bottom up approach through the following phases:

- a) Organising regional consultations to promote awareness and identify priorities and needs for SCP;
- b) Building regional programmes and implementation mechanisms with regional and national ownership, to be endorsed by the relevant regional institutions;
- c) Implementing concrete projects and programmes at the regional, national and local levels to develop and/or improve SCP tools and methodologies, with the Task Forces as the main implementation mechanisms;
- d) Evaluating progress, exchanging information and encouraging international cooperation and coordination, through the international review meetings;
- e) Securing and incorporating multi-stakeholder inputs on the elaboration of a 10YFP to be submitted as input to the CSD18 and CSD19.

⁴ Agenda 21 recognizes nine major groups of civil society. These are: Business & Industry; Children & Youth; Farmers; Indigenous Peoples; Local Authorities; NGOs; Scientific & Technological Community; Women; Workers & Trade Unions

Mechanisms of the Marrakech Process on SCP



Mechanisms of the Marrakech Process

In order to accomplish its core mission of accelerating the shift towards SCP patterns and elaborating a global framework for action on SCP, the Marrakech Process ensures an active participation of a wide range of actors at all levels, builds North-South cooperation and promotes partnerships. To do that, the Marrakech Process includes various mechanisms such as: SCP regional consultations to support the development of SCP programs and strategies. Task Forces focusing on specific SCP areas; and special dialogues with major groups (such as Business and Industry and NGOs), development agencies as well as with UN Agencies (see figure below).

To ensure coordination and unison of all these mechanisms, an Advisory Committee has been established and international expert meetings are organised every two years.

Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee (AC) of the Marrakech Process was established with the main objectives of providing advice on the elaboration of the 10YFP and bringing more political commitment and financial support for the Marrakech Process/10YFP. UNDESA and UNEP are the Secretariat of the AC. Members of the AC include government representatives from different regions (Africa, Asia Pacific, European Union, Latin America, and North America), and representatives of the Marrakech Task Forces, and of the Major Groups (Business and Industry, NGOs and Workers and Trade Unions).

For more information on the Marrakech Process, please visit the websites:

<http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/>

Q3. What is the 10-Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP) on SCP?

One of the main objectives of the Marrakech Process is to develop a proposal for a 10 Year Framework of Programmes on SCP (10YFP). The proposal for a 10YFP developed by the Marrakech Process will be an important input to be reviewed by the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) during the 2010/11 two-year cycle.

So far, the framework has been structured following the life cycle approach as this latter is useful to guide SCP work⁵. The framework includes indicative programmes that provide an **enabling policy framework** (e.g. mainstreaming SCP into national development strategies, fiscal and economic instruments for SCP, sustainable public procurement, land use planning, education and information for SCP) and programmes for indicative sectors. It takes into account **the market forces and signals** (e.g. consumer behaviour, pricing, corporate environment and social responsibility) and includes a series of components (policies/tools, means of implementation, lead actors and measures of success) that need to be described for each programme.

10YFP: a living document

The draft of the 10 YFP is a continuously evolving document. It is being developed in a participatory and broad consultation process with key partners of the Marrakech Process and other stakeholders such

as: the Marrakech Process Advisory Committee, the regions, governments, Marrakech Task Forces, major group stakeholders – especially businesses, NGOs and Trade Unions – SCP experts, UN agencies, etc.

International Framework for Action

The 10YFP is meant to be an international framework of programmes and actions that support regions, countries and a range of stakeholders, to accelerate the shift towards SCP.

The proposed 10YFP needs to move the SCP agenda further, building on Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) It is thus of vital importance to define common principles and key priority areas. The 10YFP should also provide incentives for all stakeholders to engage in and support concrete SCP-related actions. The final structure and content of the 10YFP - undergoing discussions and negotiations during the UN Commission on Sustainable Development CSD 18 and 19th sessions will be decided by member states of the CSD.

The input provided by the Marrakech Process to the CSD should be structured to maximize its usefulness to member states. At the second meeting of the

Marrakech Process Advisory Committee, it was suggested that these inputs could be comprised of:

A declaration on SCP: outlining a vision, global objectives, main functions, partnerships, implementation mechanisms and evaluation and tracking progress; and

A Template Framework of Programmes: developed from the outcomes of national, regional and global consultations and a mapping of existing activities on needs and priorities for achieving SCP patterns (provided by all stakeholders).

The 10YFP has to provide general programmes to support the implementation of SCP at the regional and national levels. As regional priorities differ, the 10YFP needs to be flexible and include region-specific activities.

The development for a 10YFP builds upon the regional and national needs and priorities identified under the Marrakech Process consultations and the work of the Marrakech Task Forces and other

relevant stakeholders. Common priorities have been identified across regions. For instance, most regions have identified some key sectoral priorities such as energy, waste management, water, mobility, housing, agriculture and tourism. Most regions also identified key policies and tools to promote SCP, such as developing national SCP programmes/action plans, utilizing economic instruments, promoting sustainable procurement, and integrating SCP into formal and informal education. Poverty reduction is a cross-cutting issue for most regions.

Draft of the 10YFP available on line

The first public draft of the proposal for a 10YFP was available in September 2008 and subsequently benefited from valuable comments from the Advisory Committee, NGOs, businesses and UN Agencies.

The Secretariat is working on the second draft. All public drafts are available at <http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/10yfp.htm> and <http://esa.un.org/marrakechprocess/>



⁵ The life cycle approach is about going beyond the traditional focus on production sites and manufacturing processes so that the environmental, social and economic impacts of a product over its entire life cycle, are taken into account.

Marrakech Process Timeline

2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 **2010/11**

International Expert meetings



Marrakech Task Forces
Cooperation Dialogue

Business and NGOs Forums

UN Interagency Network

Regional Consultations



National Roundtables

China, India (2006&2007), Brazil (2007), South Africa (2008), Africa (2008), China (2008).

Review 10YFP at CSD

Q4. Why are regional consultations organised?

Sustainable consumption and production has different understandings and presents different challenges in each region of the world, and even within regions. Therefore, regional consultations were set up as one of the key mechanisms under the Marrakech Process with the main objectives to:

- raise awareness on SCP and identify regional SCP needs and priorities;
- support the development of regional and national SCP programmes with regional ownership and institutional/political support ;
- enhance the capacity of countries to implement SCP and develop cooperation and financial mechanisms;
- obtain feedback and inputs from regional experts for the elaboration and future implementation of the 10YFP.

Various regional consultations were held during 2003 and 2008 in the different regions (Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America and Arab region). These consultations have been organised ensuring the participation of all stakeholders (governments, major groups, regional institutions, cooperation agencies, researchers, etc.).

These consultations have been organised ensuring the participation of all stakeholders (governments, private sector; NGOs, regional institutions, cooperation agencies, researchers, etc.).

Regional SCP strategies and mechanisms

The development of regional SCP programmes and implementation

mechanisms is one of the main outcomes of regional consultations.

Africa: the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP) was established as a formal institution, with the aim of facilitating the development of national and regional capacities for SCP and promoting effective implementation of SCP policies and activities. The “African 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP” which was developed through a series of technical consultations and approved by the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) in March 2005 and formally launched in June 2006 with an official support from the African Union Commission.

Latin America has also developed its Regional SCP Strategy and has set up the Regional Council of Government Experts on SCP. Institutional support has been received from the Regional Forum of Ministries of Environment. MERCOSUR has joined this regional effort and launched its SCP Action Plan.

The **European Union** has launched its Action Plan on SCP focusing on improving the energy and environmental performance of products; setting standards throughout the internal market, green procurement, and reinforcing information to consumers through eco-labelling.

In the **Asia-Pacific** region, UNEP and United Nations Economic and Social

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_10459

