



# **Sustainable Consumption and Production in Africa 2002-2012**

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# Preface

Africa has been the region in the lead for implementing SCP and the launch of the African 10-Year Framework Programme (10-YFP) on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) demonstrated the commitment to implement SCP activities in Africa. The development of national and local SCP programmes in several African countries has laid the ground for emphasising the importance of SCP in achieving sustainable development in Africa. The support provided by the Marrakech Task Force on Cooperation with Africa in promoting SCP in the region shows that partnership is very important in achieving sustainable development and alleviation of poverty in Africa.

The Rio+20 Conference concluded its deliberations in June 2012 with the adoption of the outcome document 'The Future We Want'. The Africa common position was defined prior to Rio+20 through the Africa Consensus Statement for Rio+20. The conference provided a forum for reflection and it has opened new windows for action. It is important to take good note, not only of the outcome document, but also of the various initiatives that have been launched and the numerous commitments taken. It is gratifying to note the expression of support to UNEP coming from the majority of countries around the world. A month after Rio+20 the African Union Summit discussed the follow-up of the outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference and agreed on recommendations to support sustainable development efforts in Africa. In September 2012, the 14th Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the

Environment will take place in Arusha, Tanzania to discuss the implications of Rio+20 for the region.

This publication provides a timely overview of activities on sustainable consumption and production in Africa that have been on-going during the past ten years. The majority of these activities were implemented under the African 10-YFP on SCP. With the adoption of the global 10-YFP on SCP at Rio+20 there will be a platform to enhance cooperation and scale up support for the implementation of SCP patterns through existing regional initiatives including the African framework programme.

UNEP is ready to build on the various projects, initiatives and programmes that are described in this publication and those to come in collaboration with existing and new partners. The establishment of a Partnership for SCP in Africa is vital to bring together stakeholders and to support and implement activities at regional, sub-regional and national levels as well as to contribute to the global 10-YFP. In partnership, we can create operational conditions for cleaner, resource efficient, economically competitive and responsible consumption and production patterns and hence promote the effective transition towards green economies and sustainable development in the region.

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# Executive Summary

Transitioning to more sustainable patterns of consumption and production is at the heart of sustainable development, and international co-operation is essential to effect that transition. The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002 recognised that Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) is an overarching objective of, and an essential requirement for sustainable development and called upon all stakeholders to ‘encourage and promote the development of a 10-Year Framework of Programmes (10-YFP) in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards SCP patterns that promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems’.

The Marrakech Process, a bottom-up multi-stakeholder process, was launched in 2003 in order to respond to this call. It identified regional SCP needs and priorities and supported the development of regional strategies as well as the implementation of demonstration projects worldwide. These included national and local SCP action plans, capacity building and SCP toolkits in the areas of sustainable procurement, tourism, buildings and construction, products, education and lifestyles as well as various communication tools and awareness raising activities. The Marrakech Process informed the elaboration of the global 10-YFP on SCP, which was one of the five themes at the 18th and 19th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). The global 10-YFP on SCP was adopted at the Rio+20 Conference in June 2012.

This publication describes activities, projects and programmes that have been implemented in the African region in response to the JPOI call and contributed to the Marrakech Process under the African 10-YFP on SCP in areas such as water and waste management, eco-labelling, sustainable tourism and public procurement. The implementation of the African 10-YFP on SCP has mostly been implemented through UNEP Regional Office for Africa in partnership with the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP) and financial support from the German Ministry of Environment through the Marrakech Task Force on Cooperation with Africa.

The publication also provides information on regional processes on SCP including regional status reports, and on partners such as the ARSCP as well as on the new Partnership for SCP in Africa. With the adoption of the global 10-YFP on SCP and the implementation of the African 10-YFP on SCP, the regional initiatives, programmes and projects described in this publication will continue to be implemented and, through enhanced support from partners, will be up-scaled. Additional activities will be developed in line with the programmes of the global and the regional 10-YFP on SCP.

It should be noted that there are many more SCP activities that have been implemented in Africa that are not covered in this publication.

# SCP and the call from the World Summit on Sustainable Development



The implementation of sustainable consumption and production (SCP) as an integrated approach helps to achieve overall development goals, reduce future economic, environmental and social costs, strengthen economic competitiveness and reduce poverty. SCP is about

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in 2002 in its Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) called for the development of a global Ten-Year Framework of Programmes (10-YFP) on SCP to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production and to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of the ecosystems. This led to the launching of the Marrakech Process on SCP launched in Marrakech, Morocco in 2003.

The Marrakech Process was a bottom-up and multi-stakeholder process which supported the implementation of SCP policies and initiatives and contributed to the development of a global 10-YFP on SCP. The process acted as a forum for dialogue and cooperation on SCP among governments and relevant stakeholders at international, regional and national levels. In order to accomplish its core mission of accelerating the shift towards SCP patterns and elaborating a global framework for action on SCP, seven thematic Marrakech Task Forces were established during 2005 to support implementation on SCP key areas and North-South cooperation.

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