



Sustainable Consumption & Production

in the Food & Beverage Industry in Sri Lanka

The Challenges:

The Food & Beverage industry is a very important sector of Sri Lankan economy that contributes around 10% of the GDP. Small and medium enterprises in the Food & Beverage industry in Sri Lanka are becoming less competitive. Cost of productions are increasing due to escalating cost of materials, energy and water. In addition the industry is not fully complying with international standards and food safety regulations.

The Path to Improvements

The main objective of the project is to improve the performance of the Food and Beverage sector in Sri Lanka through promotion of cost effective production techniques and best practices of sustainable production among Small and Medium Enterprises. The activities:

- Integrate Environmental Sustainability with Economic Growth and Welfare by promoting best practices of SCP among SMEs.
- Assist SMEs to comply with International Food Safety Standards and Regulations
- Improve the Enabling Conditions for successful implementation of Sustainable Policies in Sri Lanka
- Conduct environmental assessments for collection of base line information for optimisation of resource utilisation and benchmarking
- Networking among businesses through formation of Green Business Clubs

In a Nutshell

The SWITCH-Asia Programme on "Sustainable Consumption and Production for SMEs in the Food & Beverage Sector" seeks to address the optimum usage of natural resources (raw materials, energy and water) and to comply with international food safety standards. It seeks to maximise the business' potential to transform environmental challenges into economic opportunities and provides a better deal for consumers.

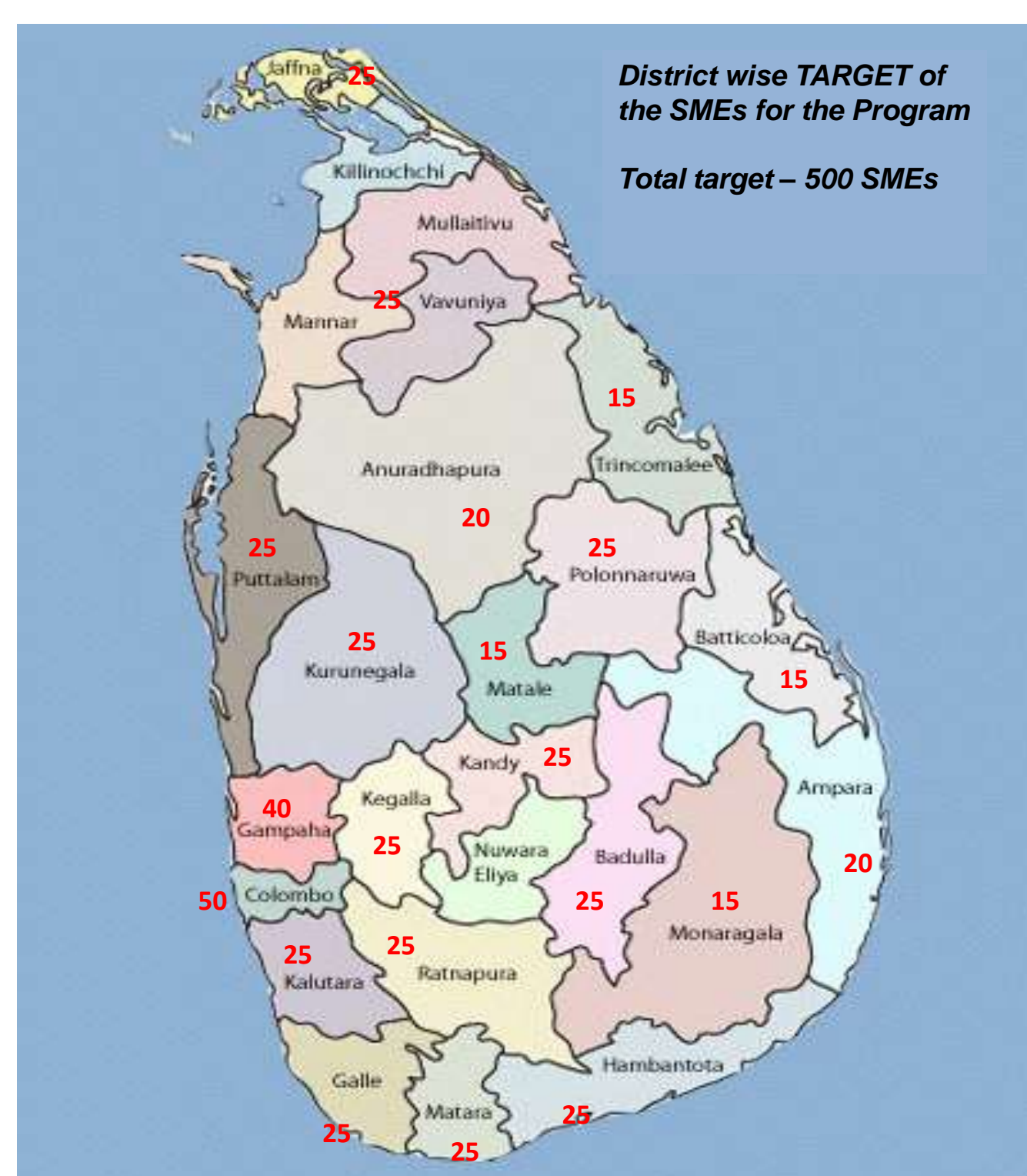
This project supports to work towards Global Markets for sustainable F&B products which would strengthen the SCP policies and helps EU-Asia partnerships for environmental development in Asia.



The Project and its Impact

The project aims to have an impact on the environment by producing more with less natural resources. This will reduce the consumption of energy, water and raw materials and also will result in reduction of solid waste, pollutants and gas emissions. The goals:

- To achieve success stories on SCP from 500 SMEs within 4 years
- To make 150 SMEs comply with international food safety standards
- To build local capacity for effective delivery of services on SCP
- To improve the enabling environment for effective enforcement of national policies and regulations including food safety standards



ACHIEVEMENTS	
District	No. of Industries
Colombo	31
Kaluthara	12
Gampaha	44
Kandy	02
Jaffna	27
Kegalle	07
Hambanthota	03
Rathnapura	02
Kurunagala	09
Puttlum	11
Badulla	03
Monaragala	01
Anuradhapura	06
Matara	01
Mathale	04
Total	163

The Outreach Strategy

In order to achieve an outreach to a large number of SME's in a cost-effective manner the project will establish Green Business Clubs in close association with already existing business networks in Sri Lanka, amongst others the well-established Lions Club network. Furthermore links will be made with large local F & B purchasers, e.g. large hotels, to create a market pull for greener F&B-products.

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