



COUNTRY PROFILE

PAKISTAN

Pakistan National Context for SCP and Connection to the Global Agenda

Pakistan has participated in global sustainable development processes and is set to present its first Voluntary National Review (VnR) at the 2019 High-level Political Forum (HLPF). Sustainable consumption and production (SCP) is recognized in the framework of “green” development which will be decoupling economic growth and social development from environmental degradation, thus strengthening the sustainability and resilience of a society. With the National Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production (NAP-SCP, 2017), Pakistan has given a high priority to SDG 12 and to mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production into other SDGs. The NAP-SCP aims to accelerate the shift towards SCP in all sectors. In addition, Pakistan’s Sustainable Building and Cities Action Plan recognizes the specific trend of rapid urbanization. Cooperation with the European Union has continued over

more than a decade to promote the shift to sustainable consumption and production through SWITCH-Asia utilising the Grants Programme, which since 2009 has made possible four projects aimed at energy efficiency, resources efficiency in the cotton supply chain and other industries. Currently, the programme supports the implementation of resource and energy efficient technologies in Pakistan’s sugar sector. The ‘Pakistan National Action Plan on SDG 12 SCP’ was developed and launched in 2017 with the support of the SWITCH-Asia Programme I and its Regional Policy Support Component.

CHALLENGES

- Pakistan is the fastest urbanizing country in South Asia. By 2030, Pakistan is going to be predominantly urbanized (50% of the population is projected to live in cities by 2030). This trend is likely to increase the already existing urban problems (urban flooding due to drainage problems, traffic congestion, unemployment, lack of adequate housing and basic services e.g. health, water, and sanitation). Emerging urban challenges include rapidly growing waste streams such as electronic waste, waste plastics. Used oils and chemicals require special attention and higher recovery rates.
- Capacity of the relevant institutions to effectively address the future emerging urban challenges.
- Accelerated industrial growth and urbanization caused environmental challenges, such as toxic air and water pollution, and hazardous solid waste.
- Energy scarcity in Pakistan is one of the most critical challenges for its sustainable socio-economic development. The electricity shortage causes an annual loss of 4-7% in GDP and 2% reduction in real GDP growth. The inefficient energy infrastructure, energy theft and transmission and distribution losses are major factors in contributing to the widening gap of energy supply and demand.
- Governance: overlapping institutional mandates, the lack of concrete targets, and the absence of effective enforcement results in the inadequate implementation of master plans and legislation.
- Difficulties in attracting the much-needed investment into “green” technologies and industries.
- Large parts of the population (60%) are food insecure, leading to decreased productivity.

integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, waste prevention and higher material recovery rates, as well as protection and maintenance of heritage sites and historical buildings.

- Green spaces: preventing encroachment of fertile agricultural and forest land, increasing green spaces and initiating projects for greening road network to enhance air quality.
- Enhancing the involvement of private sector in the delivery of SCP, attracting investment and blended finance solutions.
- Designing and enforcing a strategy for waste management (solid waste, liquid waste, industrial waste, hazardous waste).
- Explore opportunities implied by digitization and industry 4.0.

OPPORTUNITIES

- SWITCH Asia can help address Pakistan’s future emerging urban challenges by strengthening and equipping possible institutional drivers which can help deliver the NAP-SCP and the suggested policy enablers and actions that could translate SCP into projects on the ground.
- Continue strengthening the interdisciplinary, multi-stakeholder dialogue in support of NAP-SCP implementation.
- Provide capacity building and facilitate access to financial and technical assistance and dissemination of information and knowledge on SCP principles.
- Conclude studies in support of Pakistan’s SCP priorities, e.g., assessing quantities and characteristics of waste streams.
- Advocate for increasing the public spending on (agricultural) research and development (R&D) to seek attract investment from Pakistan’s with wealth abroad.
- Support the paradigm shift required to provide incentives from low value to high value products and internalization of environmental costs into pricing mechanisms with increased resource use efficiency in the value chain.

PRIORITIES

- The NAP-SCP defines 10 priorities as action areas for SCP and resources efficiency: Industry, Sustainable Cities, Marine Ecosystem, Land Ecosystem, Climate Change, Sustainable Transport, Energy, Water, Education, Sustainable Food System.
- Sustainable cities and upgrading human settlements: Enhancing the capacity of relevant institutions for sustainable, smart and green cities planning and management, adopting and implementing



Completed

IREET

Implementation of Resource and Energy Efficient Technologies in the sugar sector of Pakistan

Theme: Agri-food



Pakistan



Completed

WATER STEWARDSHIP PAKISTAN (WSP)

City-wide partnership for sustainable water use and water stewardship in SMEs in Lahore

Theme: Multi-industry



Pakistan



Completed

SCI-PAK

Modernising manufacturing industries in Pakistan

Theme: Textiles and Leather



Pakistan



Completed

SPRING

Sustainable cotton production in Pakistan's cotton ginning SMEs

Theme: Textiles and Leather



Pakistan



Completed

HP COGEN-PAK

An integrated approach to production, consumption and livelihood development

Theme: Agri-food



Pakistan

