



INFORMATIVE NOTE

15th Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP) WEBISODE II:

NATIONAL ACTION PLANS ON SCP, DRIVERS FOR GREEN RECOVERY

Collaborations and synergies for a more impactful #WeSwitch



27 April 2021 • 16:00-18:30 (Manila Time) • WEBEX

CONTEXT

Since 1997, the Asia Pacific Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP), has played an important role in fostering multi-stakeholder dialogue and partnerships to enhance and strengthen cooperation on sustainable consumption and production (SCP). In the past 23 years, 14 Regional Roundtables on SCP have been convened, and the 15th APRSCP: “Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia Pacific through SCP,” hosted by the Philippines, will be held on April 20 – May 11, 2021 through a series of webisode roundtable discussions.

Launched in 2007, the SWITCH-Asia Programme funded by the European Union has been supporting the development and implementation of SCP strategies and the promotion of SCP best practices together with multi-stakeholders in Asia, including the APRSCP. The EU SWITCH-Asia Programme provides the platform for partnerships and networks in between Europe and Asia for the implementation of national strategies and action plans and implementation of SCP practices. With the assistance of the European Union, Asian countries are supported to transition towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient and a more circular economy while contributing to poverty reduction through national support provided by the SCP Facility and the Regional Policy Advocacy Component (RPAC) and through the Grants Programme.

The SWITCH-Asia Programme through the SCP Facility continues to support the APRSCP as it leads the 15th APRSCP Webisode 2 focusing on “**National Action Plans on SCP, Drivers for Green Recovery**” to be held on 27 April 2021.

Mainstreaming of SCP in regional and national policies has gained momentum in the Asian Region in the past years as countries reaffirmed their commitment to sustainable development in line with the global frameworks for cooperation, particularly their contribution to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), in particular SDG12 and other related SDGs.

A number of countries in the region have already elaborated their national action plans on SCP that identified needs and priorities of government and stakeholders, and formulated recommendations towards a shared agenda in terms of delivering on SDG12 and the SCP related targets under other SDGs and other SCP mandates. For implementation and monitoring of these national action plans, much support is still needed in advancing data availability, science, technology and innovation, financing, and capacity development.

The SWITCH-Asia Programme has supported countries such as Malaysia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, and Philippines in the development of their National Action Plans (NAP)/Roadmaps on SCP or in mainstreaming SCP in their long-term development planning and in sectoral policies. Currently, the SWITCH-Asia Programme is supporting Cambodia, Lao PDR, Maldives, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan in developing NAP/Roadmaps on SCP.

These initiatives in the region are now being undermined due to the major impacts of COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has, unfortunately, further demonstrated that it is urgently

necessary to prioritise SCP. Our current consumption and production patterns remain unsustainable, being among the root causes of ecosystems destructions and climate change, resulting in disruptive consequences for health, economies and societies. Given the enormous funding currently mobilized to tackle economic recovery, it is required to use this window of opportunity for a more effective transformative change along the value chain with long term impacts.

The EU is at the forefront of international efforts to build greener and more sustainable societies and economies that are socially just. This requires a great transition in how we live and work, consume and produce. The EU Green Deal, adopted by the European Commission in December 2019, is becoming increasingly relevant not just for domestic strategies, but also for international partnerships to achieve common and shared

goals. The EU is committed to support partners in the region through the SWITCH-Asia programme to strengthen SCP policy and practice in various sectors and to provide the platform for dialogue, collaborations, and partnerships to move forward together to ensure that this important issue is raised in the forefront and addressed towards green recovery.

Implementing SCP policies can steer post-COVID investments towards green recovery that will be critical to ensure an environmentally resilient future in the region. It is important to build on what has been done through these SWITCH-Asia initiatives and others by various partners, and to provide the platform for dialogue on how to build and strengthen partnerships to move forward together and emerge stronger towards green recovery post-COVID-19 pandemic.

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL SUPPORT TO COUNTRIES

The EU SWITCH-Asia Programme provides the platform for partnerships and networks in between Europe and Asia for the implementation of national strategies and action plans and implementation of SCP practices. With the assistance of the European Commission, Asian countries are supported

to transition towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient and a more circular economy while contributing to poverty reduction through national support provided by the SCP Facility, the Regional Policy Advocacy Component (RPAC) and through the Grants Programme.

The SWITCH-Asia Programme through the RPAC and the SCP Facility has provided national support to the following countries on mainstreaming SCP in regional and national policies:

COUNTRY / INSTITUTION	SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE
ASEAN Through the ASEAN Secretariat supported by RPAC and APRSCP	Development of the ASEAN Framework on SCP At the request of the ASEAN, the SCP Framework and its means of implementation are being developed. The objective is to contribute to the up scaling of SCP practices in a regionalized/ integrated approach in line with the ASEAN Vision 2025, through the preparation of scoping/mapping exercise and the development of the SCP Framework and its means of implementation. The final products will contribute to overall ASEAN community goals that leave no one behind and the attainment of the SDGs, particularly SDG 12.
MALDIVES Through the Ministry of Environment supported by RPAC	Development of a National Action Plan on SCP This activity aims at strengthening Maldives’s national SCP policy frameworks through the development of a National Action Plan (NAP) on SCP. This National Action Plan will allow the Maldives to identify priority actions to be implemented in the next few years in the country to support SCP and to monitor their progress.
CAMBODIA Through the National Council on Sustainable Development (NCSDD) supported by RPAC	Formulation of the SCP National Roadmap To strengthen national policy frameworks related to SCP, National SCP Roadmap will be developed. Cambodia’s SCP Roadmap will identify priorities sectors, institutional arrangements to cohesively and effectively implement policies and interventions, and targets to achieve the Strategic Framework (2018-2023). Formulating the National SCP Roadmap for Cambodia will engage and connect multi-stakeholders for better understanding of roles and responsibilities and raise their overall awareness and knowledge on SCP.
LAO PDR Through the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) supported by RPAC	Development of the National Roadmap on SCP The overall objective of this support is to mainstream SCP into the 9th National Socio-economic Development Plan (NSEDPP) in Lao PDR and through process of formulation of the Lao PDR’s SCP roadmap. A scoping report will be conducted and multi-stakeholder consultations to initiate the policy dialogue and stakeholders’ engagement, contributing to the formulation of the Lao PDR’s SCP Roadmap.

COUNTRY / INSTITUTION	SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE
VIETNAM Through the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT) supported by the SCP Facility	Formulation of the National Action Plan on SCP 2021-2030 On 20 June 2020, the Vietnam National Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) for the period 2021-2030 was signed and approved by the Prime Minister. The Plan was presented and officially launched on 20 November 2020 in Danang City . The National Action Plan on SCP (2021-2030) identifies key priority activities and tasks to implement and promote sustainable consumption and production in Vietnam, enhancing sustainable lifestyles and improving the quality of people's lives through a circular economy.
KAZAKHSTAN Through the Ministry of ecology, geology, and natural resources (MEGNR) supported by the SCP Facility	Formulation of the National Action Plan on SCP At the request of the Government, a national Action Plan on SCP is being elaborated, in support to the transition to a Green Economy in the country and the implementation of the Green Economy Action Plan for 2021-2030; Delivery of the six key sectors identified within the Green Economy will be enhanced through the incorporation of SCP, and the identification of gaps for possible improvements of GE implementation through an SCP approach and its tools; a thematic focus will be on waste management.
UZBEKISTAN Through the Ministry for economic development and poverty reduction (MEDPR) supported by the SCP Facility	Formulation of the National Action Plan At the request of the Government, a national Action Plan on SCP is being elaborated, in support to the transition to Green Economy in Uzbekistan, identifying priority thematic policies and actions, aiming also at strengthening the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, especially in achieving Goal 12; a thematic focus will be on enhancing SCP tools and support the integration of a Circular Economy approach in the textile and garment sector

WEBISODE II: NATIONAL ACTION PLANS ON SCP, DRIVERS FOR GREEN RECOVERY, COLLABORATIONS AND SYNERGIES FOR A MORE IMPACTFUL #WESWITCH

The SWITCH-Asia Programme is co-hosting with the APRSCP the 15th APRSCP Webisode II focused on the “National Action Plans on SCP, Drivers for Green Recovery, Collaborations and synergies for a more impactful #WeSwitch on 27 April 2021 at 16:00 (Manila Time)”.

This Webisode is part of the series of “**Internal thematic cluster consultative and brainstorming meetings**” inscribed in the SWITCH-Asia programme as part of activities for 2021-mid-2022 and through joint partnerships with partner countries and key organisations in the region.

Objective

The objective of this Webisode is to strengthen cooperation and partnerships in support to countries in formulating and implementing their SCP policies and to initiate a dialogue platform for cross-border exchange of experiences and larger impact to move forward together and emerge stronger towards green recovery post-CoVID-19 pandemic.

Output

Results of the Webisode can be:

- Increased understanding of Asian countries’ diversity and shared priorities in the development and implementation of SCP policies;
- Exchanging experiences among Asian and European experts on how SCP policy-making efforts can support green recovery;
- Informing participants of countries’ learning experiences and achievements and challenges in developing and implementing NAP/Roadmaps on SCP;

- Analyse potential cooperation opportunities between SWITCH-Asia and other concerned institutions and participants.

Guideline for Discussion

1. How can the SWITCH-Asia programme, the APRSCP, and other partners contribute to advancing SCP policy and practice?
2. How can potential synergies/partnerships be formed to mutually support and provide greater impact on implementing SCP in Asia?
3. What are the main challenges and opportunities for replicating and scaling-up SCP policies and practices at national and regional levels?
4. What are the needs for ensuring that SCP supports implementation of Green and Circular Economy, hence contributing to green recovery?
5. How does the pandemic and resulting economic impacts contribute to the challenges? What can grant projects, EU Delegations or the SCP Facility contribute?
6. How to ensure a better greening of the value chain, and support to SMEs, innovation, technology, finance, for effective delivery of SCP and green recovery?

Identification of common issues and possible areas for cross-learning and eventual cooperation:

1. The challenges of developing NAPs/Roadmap on SCP and providing support to countries;
2. How to ensure SCP Policies are in the forefront in terms of Green Recovery plans;
3. Role of government in steering SCP policies as part of green

- recovery; importance of holistic strategies that integrate long-term social and environmental considerations;
4. Role of private sector and how market-based instruments and financing can support achievement of national social / environmental goals, and those set forth in SDGs and Paris Agreement;
 5. Ensuring that financing instruments are available that favour development and implementation of SCP policies and practice towards green recovery.

Challenges

1. The impact of COVID-19 on sectors affecting sustainable alternatives needed to face the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic;
2. Support to key stakeholders including small and medium enterprises to follow SCP policies and practices;

3. Lack of financial resources to develop and implement SCP policies as well as to gain access to technological innovations.

Opportunities for collaboration and shared experience to guide the discussions

1. The rising interest on the sector to switch towards more sustainable and fair models
2. Positive trends on promotion of technological innovation and eco-design to switch to renewable or sustainable materials
3. Continuous support to key actors on implementing SCP policy and practice and to governments creating the right policies to enable conditions and incentives and ensuring regulations are implemented.

AGENDA

PROGRAMME

16:00 (GMT+8)	Welcome Remarks
16:10	Opening Remarks
16:30	Keynote Presentation: <i>Importance of Implementing SCP policies towards Green Recovery</i>
16:40	Sharing of Experiences on SCP in Regional and National Level Open Discussion
17:30	Moderated Roundtable with Panelists Building on speakers' presentations, discussion topics as mentioned and participant's inputs.
18:30	Closing Remarks

ANNEX:

The SWITCH-Asia Programme and other international organisations have also supported the following regional/country initiatives:

INITIATIVES	SCOPE
Asia Pacific Roadmaps on SCP 2014 - 2015 and 2017 - 2018	<p>The Roadmap for the 10YFP implementation in Asia and Pacific 2014-2015 and the Asia Pacific Roadmap on SCP since 2017-2018 were developed through the support from SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Support Component (RPSC) implemented by UNEP Regional Office in Asia Pacific, supported by the 10YFP on SCP Board Members in Asia, the Governments of Japan, South Korea, and Indonesia, the APRSCP, and through the technical support from the Institute of Global Environmental Strategies.</p> <p>The Roadmaps set a shared agenda for delivering on SCP related SDGs at regional and national levels, including through the 10YFP on SCP and other SCP mandates in Asia Pacific. The Asia Pacific roadmap identified the interlinkages of the SDGs to SCP under key priority SCP sectors and activities. The roadmap created a platform to mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support SCP initiatives in countries of the region.</p>
Malaysia	<p>The SWITCH-Asia National Policy Support Component (NPSC) in Malaysia supported the Economic Planning Unit of the Prime Minister's Department in the development of Malaysia's SCP Blueprint and input on SCP for the 11th Malaysia Plan starting in 2016. The Blueprint includes policy recommendations and intervention options for green growth until 2030 through SCP, applying a macro-economic perspective with cross-sector focus looking at energy efficiency, waste management, transport, and other sectors.</p>
Thailand	<p>The "Sustainable Consumption and Production Roadmap 2017-2036" which was built on the pre-existing Thailand SCP Roadmap developed under the SWITCH-Asia Program of the Thailand-EU Policy Dialogues Support Facility. For next 20 years, this new Roadmap will become the basis for harmonizing SCP strategies, plans and projects of various government agencies as well as their implementation. The road map also identifies a set of national SCP indicators applicable to all sectors for monitoring and evaluating SCP implementation</p>
Philippines	<p>The Philippines Energy Efficiency and Conservation Roadmap 2017-2040 was developed by the Department of Energy, Philippines with the assistance of the European Union under the SWITCH Policy Support Component Philippines. The Philippines Energy Efficiency and Conservation Roadmap 2017 – 2040 provides a framework for building an energy-efficient nation and in making energy efficiency and conservation a way of life for all Filipinos.</p> <p>The Philippine Green Public Procurement Roadmap Advancing GPP until 2022 and beyond Responsible Procurement was developed by the Government Procurement Policy Board - Technical Support Office (GPPB-TSO) with the support of the European Union under the SWITCH National Policy Support Component (NPSC) Philippines. The roadmap defines GPP as an effective mechanism of a transparent, accountable, efficient, equitable, economical and effective procurement system</p> <p>The Philippines, led by the National Economic and Development Authority developed their National Framework and Action Plan on SCP published in 2020, which was supported by the Asian Development Bank.</p>
Vietnam	<p>The Vietnam National Action Plan on SCP up to 2020, with a vision to 2030 has been developed by MoIT supported by SWITCH-Asia Programme. Based on the assessment of Vietnam's progress on SCP implementation in 2016–2020, several lessons were drawn, leading to recommendations reflected in the NAP on SCP 2021-2030.</p>
Sri Lanka	<p>The SWITCH-Asia National Policy Support Component (NPSC) Sri Lanka supported the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment drafting of an SCP Institutional Coordination Mechanism, the introduction of an eco-labelling platform and the National SCP Action Plan.</p>
Pakistan	<p>The National Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production (NAP-SCP) is an outcome of extensive deliberations and inputs from National Roundtable and Provincial multi-stakeholder consultative workshops to pave the way for mainstreaming SCP related policies to achieve sustainable development in Pakistan. The Government of Pakistan, Ministry of Climate Change led the NAP-SCP formulation process in collaboration with UN Environment, the EU SWITCH-Asia Programme, and the 10YFP Secretariat.</p>
Indonesia	<p>SCP continued to be an important theme for Indonesia. Many key policies directly related to and facilitate integration of SCP principles, namely: the Long-term development vision 2005-2025; the 10-Years Frame Work of SCP (2013); and the Indonesian Roundtable on Greening the National Development Plan (2013). The SWITCH-Asia also supported Indonesia's shift to SCP through the previous National Policy Support Component that ran until 2015.</p>

