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Summary Reports of

Policy Dialogue on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in Tertiary Curriculum

20 October 2016, Chilaw, Sri Lanka

Training on Mainstreaming SCP in Policies

21 October 2016, Chilaw, Sri Lanka

And

First meeting of the South Asia Forum on SCP

22 October 2016, Chilaw, Sri Lanka





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**SACEP Forum on Sustainable Consumption and Production
and two-day SCP Training: Adapting Sustainable Consumption and Production in South Asia**

20-22 October 2016

Anantaya Resorts & Spa, Chilaw, Sri Lanka

Introduction

In 2012, a SWITCH-Asia PSC Training of Trainers, organised by South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the Ministry of Environment, Sri Lanka brought together 25 policy makers from SACEP member countries. The main objective of the training was to build the capacity of policy makers across the South Asia region, in designing and implementing policies that support SCP and a Green Economy. The training covered the fundamentals of SCP policy, identified key sectors for policy reform, while highlighting case studies and best practices across the Asia-Pacific region. At the end of the training, participants strongly recommended SACEP to undertake similar activities related to SCP in regular basis and requested UNEP to assist in implementing those activities. Based on these recommendations, SACEP submitted a proposal to the 13th meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP for the inclusion of SCP to SACEP work programme and the Governing Council adopted a decision to promote SCP within policymaking mechanisms of South Asian countries.

In 2015, a 'Preparatory Meeting for the Establishment of the South Asia Forum on SCP' was held on 26-27 February 2015 in Negombo, Sri Lanka with the participation of members of SACEP. Further, a consultation of the South Asia Forum on SCP was held on 3 November 2015 in Delhi, India, to provide an update of global SCP policy frameworks and processes and to provide feedback on a draft work plan for the Forum in 2015-2017, focusing on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Based on this, SACEP has submitted a proposal on the establishment of the South Asia Forum on SCP to the Consultative Committee of SACEP which was approved in 2015.

The South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), with the support of the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment), through the support of the EU SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Support Component, and co-hosted by the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment Sri Lanka, organized the following back to back events:

1. 20 October 2016: Policy Dialogue on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in Tertiary Curriculum
2. 21 October 2016: Training on Mainstreaming SCP in Policies
3. 22 October 2016: First meeting of the South Asia Forum on SCP

Objective:

The establishment of the South Asia Forum on SCP aims to contribute to SDG 17.16, to enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources to accelerate the shift to SCP. The objective of the two-day training is to develop knowledge and capacities among stakeholders to design and implement policies and activities that can accelerate the shift to SCP in South Asia.



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Output:

- Inputs in preparation for the sub-regional (South Asia) roadmap on - SCP education, SCP mainstreaming in policies, and South Asia Forum on SCP.
- The development of a high level SCP statement that can be presented to the Governing Council for adoption of the South Asia Forum on SCP.

Meeting Report

DAY 1 – Policy dialogue on SCP in tertiary curriculum (20 October 2016)

The Objectives of the SCP Policy Dialogue in tertiary curriculum are the following:

- To assist in developing SCP materials to be introduced into academic syllabus at tertiary and possibly also for civil servants and secondary level with South Asian Education institution to be identified by countries
- To share experiences on best practices and knowledge exchange among Ministries to strengthen capacities to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production

Highlights of the First day: Policy dialogue on SCP in tertiary curriculum

Dr. Muhammad Khurshid, Director General of SACEP, Mr. M. G. W. M. W. T. B. Dissanayake Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment of Sri Lanka, and Dr. Subrata Singha, Regional Environmental Affairs Officer of UN Environment, Asia Pacific Office gave their opening remarks.

The first session consisted of presentations that provided an overview of initiatives on mainstreaming SCP in Education. Dr. Shaleen Singhal, Head, Department of Policy Studies in TERI University, India gave an introduction on the various initiatives on integrating SCP for Higher Education through Public Policy and Sustainable Development and the BLISS (Building Learning in Sustainability Science) Programme, supported by the UN Environment through the SWITCH Asia RPSC. Prof. C. Visvanathan, Dean of Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand then presented an overview of the UN Winter School on SCP. Ms. Tshewang Zhangmo, Programme Officer, National Environment Commission of Bhutan then presented SCP education in Bhutan – mainstreaming SCP into civil service, continuing, high school education.

The second session focused on the challenges and opportunities towards SCP Education and Sustainable Lifestyles. Prof. C. Visvanathan, Dean, SERD/Asian Institute of Technology gave a presentation on the importance of mainstreaming SCP in Education. He later presented an overview of the UN – AIT Winter School on SCP held twice in Bangkok, Thailand previously. Dr. Shaleen Singhal, Head, Department of Policy Studies, TERI University presented the BLISS School on SCP in partnership with UN Environment. The University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka represented by Prof. Sarath Nissanka provided his views on what the university is doing focusing on SCP in their courses. Ms. Mei Ling Park from the UN Environment Asia Pacific Office provided an overview on sustainable lifestyles and its importance and presented videos on the 4 Billion Dreams Campaign and a video presentation by Ms. Uthpala Sankalpani, National Cleaner Production Centre, Sri Lanka on SCP Education.

In the afternoon sessions, three groups were formed to discuss on setting policy options for education and learning for SCP systems. There were discussions on identification of ongoing knowledge processes, understanding ways and initiating productive engagement with various ‘knowledge holders’ in education. There were also discussions on proposed sub-regional priority activities that can be presented to the Governing Council for adoption of the South Asia Forum on SCP.



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The policy dialogue on SCP in tertiary curriculum ended with a summary and closing of the day by SACEP.

DAY 2 – Training on mainstreaming SCP in policies (21 October 2016)

The Objectives of the SCP Training are the following:

- To share experiences on SCP best practices and knowledge exchange on SCP mainstreaming in policies and implementation among Ministries
- To build and strengthen capacity on the use of SCP Tools and Methodologies
- To provide support on the development of National SCP Action Plan

Learning Objectives:

- Define Sustainable Consumption and Production, and describe the connection with sustainable development, poverty eradication, efficient use of resources, and environmental sustainability (SCP as a concept).
- Describe how SCP can add value to sustainable development plans, and cite specific examples of how SCP can be integrated within the context of the sub-region.
- Review the governance and institutional roles that different stakeholders will be able to play to switch to Sustainable Consumption and Production.
- Explore and develop a sub-regional strategy to make the switch to Sustainable Consumption and Production in the sub-region and in key sectors through the South Asia Forum on SCP (Scenarios for Implementing SCP)

Highlights of the Second day: Training on mainstreaming SCP in policies

Welcome remarks were given by Mr. M. G. W. M. W. T. B. Dissanayake Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment of Sri Lanka; Dr. Muhammad Khurshid, Director General, SACEP and Ms. Isabelle Louis, Acting Regional Director and Representative for Asia and the Pacific of UN Environment Asia Pacific Office.

Session 1: Introducing Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) as a key element for sustainable development

Dr. Subrata Sinha, Regional Environmental Affairs Officer of UN Environment, Asia Pacific Office presented on 'SCP in the SDGs and the status of South Asian countries.' He discussed the international context from the SDGs and the current trends and opportunities transitioning towards SCP as a key element for sustainable development, particularly on the policy, economic, social and environmental context in South Asian Countries. Discussions were held afterwards focusing on experiences of South Asian Countries on the challenges and opportunities they faced on implementing the SDGs.

Session 2: SCP policies underpinning the future competitiveness in South Asia

Mr. Sena Peiris, Past President, APRSCP Board of Trustees; Former Chair of the National Cleaner Production Centre, Sri Lanka chaired the Session stating the importance of the session to understand the SCP policy cycle, policy tools, and frameworks for policy analysis and to learn from country led initiatives as examples of policy development and implementation.



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Ms. Loraine Gatlabayan from UN Environment, Asia Pacific Office provided an overview on the fundamentals of SCP and presented on the SCP policy cycle tools to assist development, implementation, monitoring & evaluation of SCP policies.

Mr. Gamini Senanayake, EU SWITCH-Asia National Policy Support Component for Sri Lanka presented the experience of Sri Lanka in developing their national overarching SCP policy and the standardization of the policy formulation process in Sri Lanka. He highlighted the importance of extensive consultation that was done in SCP policy making. The SWITCH Asia NPSC supported the Sri Lankan Government in promoting and strengthening the country's SCP policy framework.

The representative of the Ministry of Climate Change, Pakistan shared their experience on developing the National Action Plan on SCP in Pakistan. He highlighted the importance of the High level – multi-stakeholder technical committee where all stakeholders participated, the scoping paper conducted and the various consultations done before being presented by the high level technical committee on SCP for approval.

Mr. Samantha Kumarasena, CEO, National Cleaner Production Centre (NCPC), Sri Lanka presented on the NCPC experience on Public Private Partnerships towards resource efficient supply chain in South Asia.

He mentioned the importance of public private partnerships (PPP) as mechanisms of transparent and open procurement system. To achieve public policy outcomes with PPP, the following should be considered: avoid social exclusion, chance to reform local public services, can develop cost-efficiency delivery of activities, and more responsible and flexible public policy making. PPP would work through improved management and use of funds.

Session 3: Mainstreaming SCP in priority thematic issues and sectors

Session 3 focused on group work to identify how to mainstream SCP policy tools in priority thematic issues and sectors in the sub-region and to set priority activities to support mainstreaming of SCP in policies and implementation.

The second day ended with the summary of the day presented by SACEP.

DAY 3 – South Asia Forum on SCP (22 October 2016)

The First South Asia Forum on SCP was held with the objectives of:

- To share experience, and networking among Ministries to increase Public Awareness and for knowledge exchange – best practice sharing
- To increase awareness for government decision-makers
- To provide comprehensive guidelines on mainstreaming SCP in national policies.

Highlights of the South Asia Forum on SCP

SACEP provided a summary of the two-day training on adapting SCP in policies and implementation and the revised agenda for the South Asia Forum on SCP which was approved. The draft revised Statement was then discussed providing comments and further revisions. Comments and feedback were incorporated and the Statement was revisited in the afternoon to discuss and finalize.

Country presentations on SCP policy and plans were presented to provide updates on SCP activities in the countries. Suggestions were presented on how the South Asia Forum on SCP support or scale up



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their activities and their suggested priority activities to be included in the Forum's draft work plan 2017.

Countries	Support requested
Afghanistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public awareness and participatory mechanisms - Establish and support database (Cross sectoral analysis – contribute to data center)
Bangladesh	Support in the sectors (See ppt slide)
Bhutan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need for capacity building for incorporation and implementation of SCP. - Challenges: even if policy on SCP is present, capacity is limited to implement SCP policies. Bhutan is looking at incorporating SCP in key indicator in the national plans. (How to incorporate and how to implement and measure indicators) - SCP is an evolving concept – CB: refresher course to keep updated - From the past experience, having political will is not enough. It has to be supported by adequate resources. Strong coordination to implement effectively. Clear overall coordinating body for implementation. - Go beyond project – ensure sustainability and continuity – draw mandates - Private sector involvement is essential. Fiscal incentives are important. The country is revising economic development policy and FI rules and regulation 2010. - Concerted efforts in all levels are important for effective implementation.
India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SCP – better quality of life, responding to basic needs – one side of the coin, minimizing use of resources and toxic materials – go simultaneously if India wants its development process sustainable. - Information on National strategies and policies on SCP were provided. - Himalayan – reducing glaciers – PRIORITY ITEM
Maldives	SPP for tourism sector, developing standards for effluent discharge industries, zero waste in the fish processing industry, consumer awareness, green public procurement, encourage local agriculture, capacity building in RE
Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalize and enforce SCP policies - Capacity building - Ensure synergy among sectoral policies/programmes - Research and development - Review existing curricula - Technical support for provincial and local for integrating SCP in plans and programmes - Best practices for replication - Empowerment campaign youth mobilization - Private sector, CBO, media participation - Resources - Expand functional networking - See Policy framework responses.
Pakistan	Developing linkages with donor organizations for SCP work Benefit on sharing of experiences among countries
Sri Lanka	Review of policies to include eco-labeling and SPP Political mandate is strong.
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sri Lanka and Maldives – conduct of mainstreaming SCP - 1st draft National SCP Policy: share the draft and learn from each other in finalizing documents. <p>SACEP facilitating exchange</p>

The South Asia Forum previous activities in 2016 and the Forum's draft work plan of 2017 were also presented and discussed. The revised high level SCP statement was further discussed and approved



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for presentation at the SACEP Governing Council for adoption, led by the SACEP Secretariat (see the Annex). The Forum was closed with remarks from SACEP, UN Environment and the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, Sri Lanka.

See all PPT presentations and Summary Statement at the following link:

<http://www.switch-asia.eu/events/sacep-forum-on-sustainable-consumption-and-production-and-two-day-scp-training-adapting-sustainable/>



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Annex

Summary Statement

South Asia Sustainable Consumption and Production Forum 22 October 2016, Chilaw, Sri Lanka

We, the participants of the First Meeting of the South Asia Forum on Sustainable Consumption and Production Forum held on 22 October 2016 at Chilaw, Sri Lanka and belonging to South Asian Countries, namely, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka:

Conscious that the natural resource endowment and physical environment of South Asia have suffered from significant depletion over time affecting socio-economic development and accentuating poverty and that growth in population, greater economic prosperity and associated increase in production and consumption in future will further increase pressure on the environment and the countries' ability to realize their development aspirations;
Mindful that the sustainable consumption and production are fundamental to the countries' ability to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of September 2015, entitled, 'Transforming our world, the 2030 agenda for sustainable development' and acknowledging goal 12 on 'ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns' also considering that the objective of sustainable consumption and production is related to other goals and targets;
Recognizing the commitment of the Governing Council of the South Asia Cooperative Environment Program (SACEP) in considering to establish a South Asia Forum on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SAF SCP), as contained in the 13 Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP (Decision 10.2.2), to serve as a regional platform, hosted by the SACEP, to encourage and support SCP related policies, knowledge and networks in South Asia, and,

Acknowledging the technical and financial support provided by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) under the EU funded SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Support Component Programme in line with the implementation of the Asia-Pacific SCP Roadmap 2016-2018 as well as the importance of the continuity of this support for achieving the objectives of the SAF SCP;

Therefore, We

Welcome the initiative of establishing South Asia Forum on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SAF SCP) as was decided vide the 13th Meeting of the Governing Council of the SACEP (decision 10.2.2);

Recommend to the SACEP Governing Council to see the SAF SCP initiative reach fruition and, to this end, continue to provide its guidance, support and oversight for the SAF SCP to achieve its objectives;

Encourage relevant stakeholders, including governments, private sector and civil society in South Asia to support the SAF SCP and to participate actively in its activities;



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Invite dialogue partners to provide technical assistance and institutional support to the SAF SCP for the implementation of its SCP activities;

Encourage development organizations (international, regional, national and local) and private sector to provide technical and financial assistance for the SAF SCP activities in South Asia; and

Resolve to lend our best individual and collective support to SAF SCP in its work to foster sustainable consumption and production in South Asia in the interest of the peoples of the region and the world community at large.

Chilaw, Sri Lanka
22 October 2016