



Marrakech Process on Sustainable Consumption and Production

UNEP - Division of Technology, Industry and Economics • Sustainable Consumption and Production Branch • www.unep.fr/scp
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs • Division for Sustainable Development

What is the Marrakech Process?

The Marrakech Process is a global multi-stakeholder process to support the implementation of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and the elaboration of a 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP (10YFP). The proposal for the 10YFP will be reviewed by the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) during the 2010/11 two-year cycle. The Process responds to the call of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to support regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards SCP patterns, thus de-linking economic growth from environmental degradation.

UNEP and UN DESA are the leading agencies of this global process, with an active participation of national governments, development agencies, business and industry, civil society and other stakeholders. The first meeting devoted to developing the 10 YFP took place in Marrakech, Morocco in June 2003, hence the name.

Phases of the Marrakech Process

The development of the 10YFP consists of the following phases:

- Organising regional consultations to promote awareness and identify priorities and needs for SCP;
- Building regional programmes and implementation mechanisms with regional and national ownership, to be endorsed by the relevant regional institutions;
- Implementing concrete projects and programmes on the regional, national and local levels to develop and/or improve SCP tools and methodologies, with seven "Marrakech Task Forces" as the main implementation mechanisms;
- Evaluating progress, exchanging information and encouraging international cooperation and coordination, through international review meetings;
- Securing and incorporating multistakeholder inputs on the elaboration of the 10YFP which will be reviewed at the CSD18 and CSD19.

>><http://esa.un.org/marrakechprocess/index.shtml>

Regional Consultations and SCP Programmes

Various regional consultations have been held in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America and the Arab States, during which each region identified its needs and priorities for achieving SCP. These consultations are contributing to the development of regional programmes on SCP. Africa has launched its 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP with the institutional support of AMCEN, NEPAD, the African Union, the UN Economic Commission for Africa and UNEP. Latin

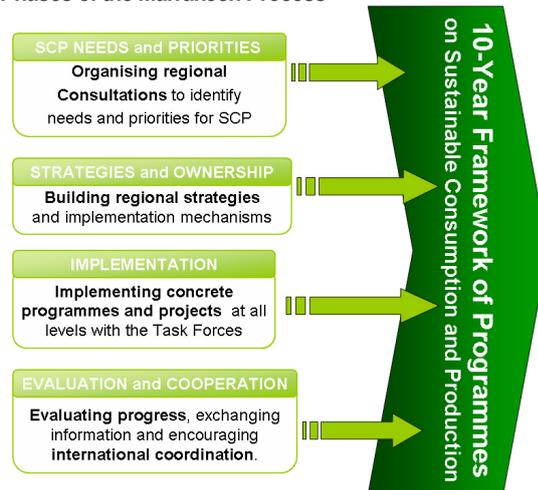
America has also developed its regional Strategy on SCP and set up a Regional Council of Government Experts on SCP supported by the regional Forum of Ministers of Environment. The European Union has launched its Action Plan on SCP. Asia Pacific has set up a Regional SCP Help Desk and is implementing a regional Green Growth Initiative. An Arab Strategy on Sustainable Consumption and Production was approved by the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE) in late 2009.

As part of the CSD process, Regional Implementation Meetings (RIMs) were held between October and December 2009 in Western Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, and Europe and North America. The RIMs provided substantive inputs on SCP best practices and constraints for the elaboration of the 10YFP. Discussions highlighted a number of priorities for SCP, some of them shared by more than one region. These include support for economic instruments to facilitate SCP, sustainable public procurement, education for sustainable living, innovation for sustainable products and the integration of sustainable consumption and production objectives into national development strategies. Key economic sectors that should be prioritized for the shift to SCP include energy, agriculture, building and construction, waste management, and tourism.

>><http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech>

The Marrakech Process is a dynamic multi-stakeholder platform for the implementation of SCP and the elaboration of a 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP to support regional and national

Phases of the Marrakech Process



National Programmes and Indicators on SCP

A manual has been published providing practical steps for the development, implementation and monitoring of national SCP programmes. The manual also explores the possibilities of including SCP in existing national policies and strategies, such as those on Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Strategies. The manual includes SCP indicators and best practices. It is complemented by an online clearinghouse. Training workshops and demonstration projects have been implemented in over 15 countries.



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The Marrakech Process is also supporting emerging economies in promoting SCP. National SCP roundtables have been held in China, India, Brazil and South Africa and one is planned for Mexico in the first half of 2010.

>><http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/consultations/national/>

International Review Meetings

International review meetings are organised every two years in order to report on progress, share experiences and coordinate international cooperation to develop the 10YFP. The first Meeting was held in Marrakech (2003) where the process was launched. The Second International Meeting in Costa Rica (2005) shifted the emphasis from consultation and priority setting to implementation, launching new implementation mechanisms: the Marrakech Task Forces and the Cooperation Dialogue with Development Agencies.

The Third International Meeting was held in Stockholm (2007). The meeting reviewed key elements of the 10YFP and launched two new mechanisms of the Marrakech Process: the Business and Industry Forum and the NGO Forum, and proposed to set up a Marrakech Process Advisory Committee. The Fourth International Meeting will be held in Autumn 2010 in China (tbc).

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Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee to the Marrakech Process was launched in May 2008. It includes regional government representatives as well as members of the Task Forces, businesses and NGOs. Its main responsibilities are to: i) assist in the development of the 10YFP providing feedback and inputs on draft proposals; ii) provide expert advice on other activities under the Marrakech Process; iii) support the dissemination and communication strategy of the Marrakech Process and iv) assist in securing financial support for the Marrakech Process.

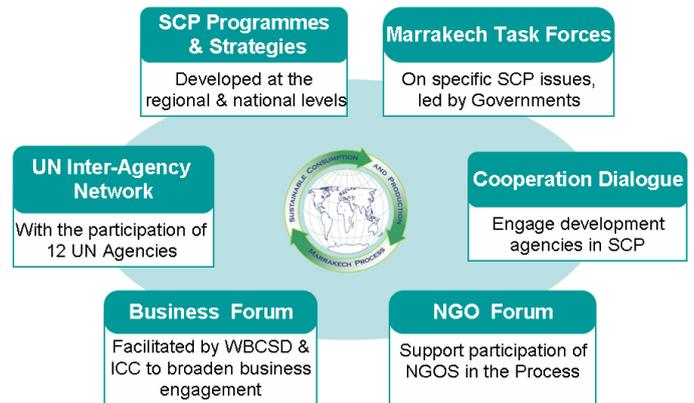
Marrakech Task Forces

In order to support the implementation of concrete projects, and to focus on specific themes of SCP, the Marrakech Task Forces have been created with the participation of experts from developing and developed countries. The Marrakech Task Forces are voluntary initiatives led by governments, which in co-operation with other partners, commit themselves to carrying out a set of concrete activities, conducted mainly at national or regional level, that promote a shift to SCP patterns. So far, seven Task Forces have been created:

- Cooperation with Africa (led by Germany)
- Sustainable Products (led by United Kingdom)
- Sustainable Lifestyles (led by Sweden)
- Sustainable Public Procurement (led by Switzerland)
- Sustainable Tourism (led by France)
- Sustainable Buildings and Construction (led by Finland)
- Education for Sustainable Consumption (led by Italy)

The Task Forces are carrying out a range of activities such as: an eco-label project in Africa; national action plans on SCP; capacity building to promote sustainable public procurement; projects and

Mechanisms of the Marrakech Process on SCP



networks to encourage more sustainable products; tools and strategies for sustainable tourism, policy recommendations on sustainable buildings focusing on energy efficiency; promotion of sustainable lifestyles, and development of guidelines on education for sustainable consumption. Some of these Task Forces are in the process of being transformed into broader international and UN Inter-Agency partnerships (e.g. on sustainable tourism and sustainable living).

>><http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/>

The Marrakech Task Forces are building North-South cooperation and implementation mechanisms, as well as developing and piloting SCP tools to support the shift towards SCP and the elaboration of the 10YFP.

Cooperation Dialogue with Development Agencies: Common agenda on SCP and poverty reduction

The Cooperation Dialogue aims at highlighting the contribution of SCP policies and tools to poverty reduction and sustainable development, and better integrating SCP objectives in development plans. SCP can contribute to the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals. For developing countries, SCP offers new opportunities to “do more and better, with less”, by enhancing resource efficiency, and helps create new markets and decent, green jobs. SCP also improves management of natural resources, and helps countries and businesses delink economic growth from environmental degradation. It is also an opportunity to leapfrog to more resource efficient, environmentally-sound and competitive technologies.

>><http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/dialogue/>

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