FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
THE MARRAKECH PROCESS

Towards a 10-Year Framework
of Programmes on Sustainable
Consumption and Production
Frequently Asked Questions

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Towards a 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production
Acknowledgements

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Foreword

The successes in international environmental policy inspire and oblige us. The challenge is big; in addition to climate change and rapid environmental degradation we face the effects of globalization and the financial crisis, poor governance, gender inequality, unsustainable consumption and production patterns. Besides this, we still struggle to eradicate poverty. But the challenge is not insurmountable. We have the means – now we must use them!

One of these means is the Marrakech Process, which is developing a 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP on SCP). The Marrakech Process has revealed an increasing demand for tools and capacity building at all levels. It has contributed to the development of regional programmes on SCP in Africa, Asia Pacific, Latin America, and the European Union as well as coordinated concrete implementation projects though the Marrakech Task Forces - voluntary initiatives led by governments.

Obtaining a higher level of international commitment has become vital and requires further efforts to raise awareness and build trust on SCP.

We must change our unsustainable consumption and productions patterns and contribute to low carbon and resource efficient economies. The 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP will be discussed by the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development during the 2010/11 two-year cycle. We must make use of this unique opportunity to present feasible and innovative solutions on how to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation.

This publication aims at explaining this dynamic multi-stakeholder Process that involves governments, the private sector, civil society as well as UN and development agencies. It defines the concept of SCP and provides brief answers and overviews of each of the Marrakech Process activities highlighting the outcomes as well as progress achieved.

Ms. Viveka Bohn, former Swedish Ambassador for Environment

Viveka Bohn chaired major international and regional meetings under the Marrakech Process between 2003 and 2006, and has always been strongly committed, providing support, inspiring collaborators and building cooperation. It was stated that Viveka Bohn has been “the heart and brains” of the Marrakech Process. For this and other outstanding leadership work, she received the UNEP “Champion of the Earth 2007” award.
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Q1. What is Sustainable Consumption & Production (SCP)?

Today more than ever, in a context of climate change and financial crisis, it has become clear that our global community urgently needs to adopt more sustainable consumption and production patterns to reduce both the use of natural resources and CO2 emissions and move towards low-carbon lifestyles and green economies. This is crucial in order to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in both developing and developed countries; as well as to create the ‘space’ for the poor to meet their basic needs.

SCP is about “the use of services and related products, which respond to basic needs and bring a better quality of life while minimizing the use of natural resources and toxic materials as well as the emissions of waste and pollutants over the life cycle of the service or product so as not to jeopardize the needs of further generations”, (Oslo symposium, 1994)

Sustainable consumption and production (SCP) is about promoting resource and energy efficiency, sustainable infrastructure, green jobs and better quality of life. The implementation of sustainable consumption and production as an integrated approach helps to achieve overall development plans, reduce future economic, environmental and social costs, strengthen economic competitiveness and reduce poverty.

SCP’s main goal is to ‘decouple’ economic growth and environmental degradation by increasing the efficiency of resource use in the production process and use phase, maintaining the energy, material and pollution intensity of all production and consumption functions within the carrying and assimilating capacities of natural ecosystems.

SCP is also understood as ‘more with less’ or eco-efficiency – a concept widely applied in some countries but which needs to be accelerated globally by better integrating the demand side.

SCP is a cross-cutting issue which requires active involvement of all stakeholders and a mix of policy tools, as well as actions and investments from the public and private sectors, development agencies, among others.

Global recognition

It was in 1992 at the UN Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro when SCP was perceived as an overarching theme to link environmental and development challenges. The conference’s final report, Agenda 21, states that “the major cause of the continued deterioration of the global environment is the unsustainable pattern of consumption and production, particularly in industrialised countries which is a matter of grave concern aggravating poverty and imbalances”. The debate was continued in 1994 at the Oslo Symposium on Sustainable Consumption analyzing different areas of consumption as well as the role of stakeholders.

In 1999, the UN Guidelines for Consumer Protection1 were extended to include a chapter on “Promotion of Sustainable Consumption”.

Ten years after the Rio Conference, the world leaders signed the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI)2 at the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). Chapter 3 of the plan was devoted to Changing Unsustainable Patterns of Consumption and Production and declared that “fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development. All countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns”. It also called for the development of a 10–year framework of programmes (10YFP) to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production, and to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems by de-linking economic growth from environmental degradation. The Marrakech Process is following this call of the JPOI and supporting the implementation of SCP programmes and projects.

SCP and Poverty alleviation

SCP can also contribute to the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals. For developing countries, SCP offers new opportunities such as the creation of new markets, job generation (e.g. markets for organic food, fair trade, sustainable housing, renewable energy) and the improvement of natural resources. It is also an opportunity to leapfrog (►Q9) to more resource efficient, environmentally-sound and competitive technologies.
Q2. What is the Marrakech Process?

The Marrakech Process is a dynamic multi-stakeholder platform to support: 1) the implementation of projects and strategies on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and 2) the elaboration of a Global Framework for Action on SCP – the so-called “10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP” (10YFP). The process responds to the call of the WSSD Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to develop a 10YFP to support regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards SCP patterns, thus de-linking economic growth from environmental degradation.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) are the leading agencies of this global process, with an active participation of national governments, development agencies, major groups and other stakeholders. The first meeting devoted to developing the 10 YFP took place in Marrakech, Morocco in June 2003, hence its name.

The Marrakech Process is developing inputs to the 10YFP in a participatory and bottom up approach through the following phases:

- a) Organising regional consultations to promote awareness and identify priorities and needs for SCP;
- b) Building regional programmes and implementation mechanisms with regional and national ownership, to be endorsed by the relevant regional institutions;
- c) Implementing concrete projects and programmes at the regional, national and local levels to develop and/or improve SCP tools and methodologies, with the Task Forces as the main implementation mechanisms;
- d) Evaluating progress, exchanging information and encouraging international cooperation and coordination, through the international review meetings;
- e) Securing and incorporating multi-stakeholder inputs on the elaboration of a 10YFP to be submitted as input to the CSD18 and CSD19.

Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee (AC) of the Marrakech Process was established with the main objectives of providing advice on the elaboration of the 10YFP and bringing more political commitment and financial support for the Marrakech Process/10YFP. UNDESA and UNEP are the Secretariat of the AC. Members of the AC include government representatives from different regions (Africa, Asia Pacific, European Union, Latin America, and North America), and representatives of the Marrakech Task Forces, and of the Major Groups (Business and Industry, NGOs and Workers and Trade Unions).

For more information on the Marrakech Process, please visit the websites: [http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/](http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/)
Q3. What is the 10-Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP) on SCP?

One of the main objectives of the Marrakech Process is to develop a proposal for a 10 Year Framework of Programmes on SCP (10YFP). The proposal for a 10YFP developed by the Marrakech Process will be an important input to be reviewed by the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) during the 2010/11 two-year cycle.

The Marrakech Process Advisory Committee, it was suggested that these inputs could be comprised of:

- A declaration on SCP: outlining a vision, global objectives, main functions, partnerships, implementation mechanisms and evaluation and tracking progress; and

- A Template Framework of Programmes: developed from the outcomes of national, regional and global consultations and a mapping of existing activities on needs and priorities for achieving SCP patterns (provided by all stakeholders).

The 10YFP has to provide general programmes to support the implementation of SCP at the regional and national levels. As regional priorities differ, the 10YFP needs to be flexible and include region-specific activities.

The development for a 10YFP builds upon the regional and national needs and priorities identified under the Marrakech Process consultations and the work of the Marrakech Task Forces and other relevant stakeholders. Common priorities have been identified across regions. For instance, most regions have identified some key sectoral priorities such as energy, waste management, water, mobility, housing, agriculture and tourism. Most regions also identified key policies and tools to promote SCP, such as developing national SCP programmes/action plans, utilizing economic instruments, promoting sustainable procurement, and integrating SCP into formal and informal education. Poverty reduction is a cross-cutting issue for most regions.

Draft of the 10YFP available online

The first public draft of the proposal for a 10YFP was available in September 2008 and subsequently benefited from valuable comments from the Advisory Committee, NGOs, businesses and UN Agencies. The Secretariat is working on the second draft. All public drafts are available at http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/10yfp.htm and http://esa.un.org/marrakechprocess/.

1 The life cycle approach is about going beyond the traditional focus on production sites and manufacturing processes so that the environmental, social and economic impacts of a product over its entire life cycle, are taken into account.
Q4. Why are regional consultations organised?

Sustainable consumption and production has different understandings and presents different challenges in each region of the world, and even within regions. Therefore, regional consultations were set up as one of the key mechanisms under the Marrakech Process with the main objectives to:

- raise awareness on SCP and identify regional SCP needs and priorities;
- support the development of regional and national SCP programmes with regional ownership and institutional/political support; 
- enhance the capacity of countries to implement SCP and develop cooperation and financial mechanisms;
- obtain feedback and inputs from regional experts for the elaboration and future implementation of the 10YFP.

Various regional consultations were held during 2003 and 2008 in the different regions (Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America and Arab region). These consultations have been organised ensuring the participation of all stakeholders (governments, major groups, regional institutions, cooperation agencies, researchers, etc.).

Regional SCP strategies and mechanisms is one of the main outcomes of regional consultations.

Africa: the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP) was established as a formal institution, with the aim of facilitating the development of national and regional capacities for SCP and promoting effective implementation of SCP policies and activities. The “African 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP” which was developed through a series of technical consultations and approved by the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) in March 2005 and formally launched in June 2006 with an official support from the African Union Commission.

Latin America has also developed its Regional SCP Strategy and has set up the Regional Council of Government Experts on SCP. Institutional support has been received from the Regional Forum of Ministries of Environment. MERCOSUR has joined this regional effort and launched its SCP Action Plan.

The European Union has launched its Action Plan on SCP focusing on improving the energy and environmental performance of products; setting standards throughout the internal market, green procurement, and reinforcing information to consumers through eco-labelling.

In the Asia-Pacific region, UNEP and United Nations Economic and Social
Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) established a regional “SCP Help Desk” hosted by the China Standard Certification Centre (CSC) in Beijing. The Asia Pacific region has as well launched the “Green Growth Initiative”, which follows a “five track approach”: eco tax reform, development on sustainable infrastructure, demand side management, greening the market and business, and eco efficiency indicators.

The Arab region is currently developing its SCP strategy and building capacity on sustainable public procurement as follow up of its regional meeting in March 2008.

North America hosted its first workshop on SCP in November 2008 where needs and priorities for achieving SCP were discussed.

**Regional SCP Priorities**
Common priorities have been identified across regions. For instance, most regions have identified some key sectoral priorities such as energy, waste management, water, mobility, housing, agriculture and tourism. Most regions also identified key policies and tools to promote SCP, such as developing national SCP programmes or action plans, utilizing economic instruments, promoting sustainable procurement, and integrating SCP into formal and informal education. Poverty reduction is a cross-cutting issue for most regions. (see table below).

For more information on the regional processes see: [www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/consultations/regional](http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/consultations/regional)

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### Priorities Identified under the Regional Marrakech Process Consultations

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<tr>
<th>PRIORITIES</th>
<th>AFRICA</th>
<th>ASIA &amp; THE PACIFIC</th>
<th>EUROPE</th>
<th>LATIN AMERICA &amp; THE CARIBBEAN</th>
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© Priority action at international meeting  ⊘ Some discussion under UNEP Development  ⊗ USA members participating in Marrakech Task Forces

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Q5. How is the Marrakech Process supporting national-level SCP activities?

Concrete actions at the country level are essential to find and implement specific solutions that will improve the quality of life of all citizens while improving the sustainability of the countries’ production. The Second International Meeting of the Marrakech Process in Costa Rica (2005) shifted therefore the emphasis from consultation and priority setting to implementation. The meeting expressed the importance of supporting the development of national SCP programmes and action plans. Furthermore, one of the key recommendations coming out of the regional and international meetings of the Marrakech Process is the need to develop non-prescriptive guidelines to support the implementation of national SCP programmes and action plans. Some of the key activities under the Marrakech process at the national level are described below.

Guidelines for National SCP Programmes

As a follow-up of the Costa Rica meeting, UNEP with the support from the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), has developed Guidelines for National SCP Programmes.

Implementing demonstration projects

As part of the project on Guidelines for national SCP Programmes, UNEP together with DEFRA are working with national and local governments supporting the development and implementation of National SCP Programmes in various countries, including Bhutan, Mauritius, Senegal, Indonesia, Tanzania, Egypt, Mozambique, Colombia, Brazil and Ecuador, and cities like Maputo and Cairo.

Training sessions are also taking place at the regional and national level. Two regional workshops for capacity building on SCP Programmes (based on Planning for Change) were conducted in Latin America with the Andean Community (Peru, April 2008) and with South Asian Countries (Nepal, June 2008). At country level, such workshops were held in Bhutan in January 2009 and in Kazakhstan in April 2009.

National Roundtables on SCP

UNEP together with the European Commission and Governments are organizing National Roundtables on SCP in countries with emerging economies: Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa. The main objectives are:

i) to raise awareness on the need and benefits to promote and adopt SCP patterns; ii) identify country-specific SCP priority areas and define policies and means to promote their effective implementation; and iii) engage more actively these countries in the Marrakech Process.

As main outcomes: China is developing policies and actions on sustainable public procurement; Brazil has developed its National SCP Strategy and established a national council on SCP. India and South Africa have identified their priority economic sectors and tools to promote SCP (See table below).

During 2009, new roundtables will take place in India, China, and Mexico.

Key SCP Areas

- Brazil
  - Economic instruments
  - Sustainable Public Procurement
  - Sustainable building and construction
  - Renewable energy
  - Waste Management and Life cycle thinking

- China
  - Sustainable Public Procurement
  - Sustainable building and construction
  - Renewable energy
  - Waste Management and Life cycle thinking

- India
  - Education on SCP
  - Energy
  - Life cycle approach
  - Sustainable Procurement
  - Waste and Agriculture

- South Africa
  - Energy and Climate Change
  - Sustainable Procurement
  - Sustainable building and construction
  - Waste Management

Guidelines for National SCP Programmes

The Guidelines provide advice to governments and other stakeholders on how to plan, develop, implement, and monitor a national SCP programme. They are also useful to countries that already have an SCP programme but are keen to improve and sustain progress. The Guidelines have a flexible approach to SCP programme development that can be adapted to local circumstances and provide 10 practical and easy to follow steps for the development, implementation and monitoring of national programmes on SCP. They stress the importance of obtaining high-level commitment, establishing multi-stakeholder processes, and setting objectives and indicators, preferably integrated in existing national strategies (Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP), sustainable development strategies, etc).

An online clearing house3 on existing national SCP programmes, national initiatives has also been developed. It gathers the experiences of over 30 countries from both North and South.

4 http://www.unep.fr/scp/nap/clearinghouse/
Q6. What are the Marrakech Task Forces?

The Marrakech Task Forces are voluntary initiatives led by governments which – in cooperation with other partners both developing and developed countries – commit themselves to carrying out a set of concrete activities at the national and/or regional level that promote SCP patterns. The Task Forces focus on one specific theme of SCP.

The Task Forces are the most dynamic mechanisms of the Marrakech Process. They are building North-South cooperation, developing SCP tools, and supporting the implementation of concrete demonstration projects to accelerate the shift towards SCP. The Task Forces are as well key actors in providing inputs and tools in the elaboration of the 10YFP.

Main activities and outcomes of the Task Forces

Seven Marrakech Task Forces have been created to support the development of SCP tools, building and the implementation of SCP projects on specific SCP-related issues:

Sustainable Products, led by the UK, is answering the call of governments worldwide for more international cooperation on policy to encourage more sustainable and energy efficient products. This Task Force has developed projects and networks to increase product performance in terms of energy, waste and other aspects of eco-design and awareness-raising of product policy.

Sustainable Public Procurement, led by Switzerland, aims at promoting and supporting the implementation of sustainable public procurement (SPP) by developing tools and supporting capacity building. The Task Force has developed an approach to SPP comprising a web-based status assessment, a methodology to review legal and market readiness that an interested country – developed or developing – could undertake before drafting its SPP action plan/policy. The Task Force on SPP also provides building training for procurement experts and assists pilot countries during the first year of implementation. The Task Force’s approach to SPP is flexible and adaptable to the national context. The aim of the Task Force is that 14 countries test the approach before 2010/2011.

Sustainable Tourism Development, led by France, aims at developing and promoting actions that encourage sustainable tourism with special focuses on climate change, biodiversity, cultural and natural heritage and local development. This Task Force launched an internet-based campaign – Green Passport – to raise tourists’ awareness of responsible holiday choices. It also developed tools such as guidelines on Sustainable Coastal Tourism: The Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and Promoting Natural and Cultural Heritage as Assets for Sustainable Tourism Development among others.

Sustainable Buildings and Construction, led by Finland, aims to support the development of innovative local and national policies that mainstream sustainability in the construction, use, maintenance and renovation of buildings. The Task Force has focused in particular on the great CO2 emission reduction potential of buildings. A collection of best policy practices for sustainable buildings and construction, Building for a Better Future has been published.

Education for Sustainable Consumption, led by Italy, focuses on formal learning processes to provide knowledge, awareness and competences to enable individuals and social groups to be actors of change towards more sustainable consumption behaviours.
Q7. What role is civil society playing in the Marrakech Process?

Cooperation with civil society - including nongovernmental organisations (NGOs), environmental groups, women and youth associations, consumer organisations and research institutes - is essential for awareness-raising, advocacy and the implementation of SCP.

Civil society has been very active in supporting the SCP agenda in the last 2 or 3 decades. Under the Marrakech Process, NGOs, youth, women and researchers have been participating in the international and regional consultations as well as in the national roundtables. They are also taking an active role working directly with some of the Marrakech Task Forces (such as the Task Forces on Education for Sustainable Consumption and the Task Force on Sustainable Lifestyles) and providing inputs for the elaboration of the 10YFP.

NGO Forum

At the third International Expert Meeting on the Marrakech Process in Stockholm (2007), the NGO Forum – together with the Business and Industry Forum – was launched. It was co-facilitated by two NGOs: ‘Safety Action Group’ (New Delhi, India) and One Earth Initiative (Vancouver, Canada). The main objectives of the NGO Forum are to further engage NGOs in the process and serve as a vehicle for NGOs to discuss and provide input into the Marrakech Process. The NGO Forum at Stockholm provided outstanding work in coordinating the preparation of the NGO position paper which was presented at the meeting. The main conclusions of the NGO Forum at the Stockholm meeting are the following:

1. NGOs will continue to play an important role in the Marrakech Process, inter alia, by:
   - Engaging closely in the development of the 10YFP including through task forces and facilitating informal NGO dialogue
   - Participating in research, programme design, planning and implementation
   - Advocating with governments in their own regions and countries
   - Ensuring that stakeholders’ voices are heard.
2. Organise an NGO Forum at the 4th International Expert Meeting of the Marrakech Process to be held in 2010/11

NGOs also called for a comprehensive multistakeholder review of efforts undertaken since the Earth Summit in 1992 to implement the Agenda 21 objectives and action commitments on production and consumption agreed to by governments.

As a follow up of the Stockholm meeting, NGOs were invited by the Marrakech Process Secretariat (UNEP and UNDESA) to participate in the Marrakech Process Advisory Committee and Consumers International was elected as the representative of the NGO Major Group.

Civil society (as well as other major groups) is providing important feedback recommendations to the Advisory Committee and in particular to the draft documents of the 10YFP.

Q8. How is business and industry involved in the Marrakech Process?

Governments and international organisations alone cannot achieve the shift towards sustainable consumption and production (SCP) – the engagement of a wide range of stakeholders is essential. The business, industry and trade unions can play a crucial role in making SCP a reality.

Business and industry are key actors in the SCP agenda, as they are at the core of production and large consumers as well. Decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation requires technological innovation and rethinking of existing business models. For business and industry the challenge is innovating existing business models. For business and technological innovation and rethinking of practices and consumption.

Business Contributions to the SCP Agenda

The private sector has a number of possible entry points into the SCP agenda:

- Introducing new technologies and strategies, such as eco-design, life-cycle assessment and closed-loop production;
- Shifting to the use of renewable energies;
- Improving resource management;
- Reducing their carbon footprints;
- Managing and reducing their impacts on the environment;
- Managing their activities and their supply chains according to the principles of social and environmental responsibility as well as accountability and life-cycle management;
- Adopting voluntary environmental and social codes and standards;
- Developing ‘green’ and ‘ethical’ products and services as well as information on the same in order to promote sustainable consumption;
- Using marketing and communications to influence consumer choice, behavior and lifestyles to promote sustainable consumption;
- Working with stakeholders (such as policy-makers, retail distributors, NGOs, consumer groups and marketers) to formulate principles for progressively move towards more sustainable products and consumption.

Business participation in the Marrakech Process

Business and industry have been participating in the Marrakech Process at the international and regional meetings. However, more active participation is needed.

The Marrakech Process Business and Industry Forum is a key mechanism to serve as a platform to broaden business engagement in the SCP agenda at the international and regional levels. The forum was established at the 3rd International Expert Meeting on the Marrakech Process held in Stockholm in June 2007, with the support and facilitation of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD).

At the Stockholm meeting participants from the business and industry sector expressed their interest to participate and get engaged in the Process by:

- Supporting the regions and countries in the implementation of SCP projects;
- Establishing public-private partnerships;
- Getting involved in the Marrakech Task Forces;
- Providing input and feedback in the elaboration of the 10YFP;
- Sharing best practices on business and SCP, and by hosting a “Business Day” at the 4th International Expert Meeting to be held in 201012.

As a follow up to the Business Forum, the UNEP Annual Meeting on Business and Industry held in October 2008 focused on SCP and Resource Efficiency as one of the main themes together with climate change. During this meeting, business representatives assessed business perspectives and mutual expectations on the form of engagement and content of the Marrakech Process and its Task Forces (e.g. on sustainable products and lifestyles).

During discussion, participants highlighted the importance of regulatory instruments and standards adapted to business to improve resource efficiency such as long term goals, voluntary agreement and clear standards for innovation. They also expressed their need to develop new business models, using created financial capital and investment as levers for change.

Discussion among working groups focused on sustainable products, responsible value chains, and sustainable lifestyles. The following suggestions were made to integrate business and industry needs and priorities into the 10YFP13:

- Engage more companies on an industry sector basis, and make clear how business & industry will be engaged in the negotiation process under the CSD;
- Make the business case for the Marrakech Process;
- Ensure that the 10YFP should promote convergence and consolidation of the multitude of codes and standards to simplify uptake by value chain partners;
- Initiate value chain dialogues and initiatives that work with related industry sector clusters;
- Create tools to build capacity and better integrate small and medium enterprises (SME) sectors into sustainable production initiatives;
- Consider preparation and link with sectoral sustainability reviews for Rio+20;
- Promote sustainable lifestyles as well as education, awareness-raising and communications, including principles for socially responsible approaches.

The Business and Industry, as a Major Group, was invited to participate in the Marrakech Process Advisory Committee; ICC has been chosen as business representative. They have provided valuable comments and inputs in the elaboration of the 10YFP.

12 http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/business.htm
Q9. How can the Marrakech Process contribute to poverty alleviation?

Poverty alleviation is an integral part of SCP’s core mission to meet basic needs in a sustainable manner. Indeed, the policies and actions supporting SCP can serve to bolster poverty reduction efforts by creating new sustainable markets and jobs, saving future environmental costs as well as increasing resource efficiency in the various areas such as energy, water and agriculture. Furthermore, it has become clear that environmental degradation has a more direct and immediate impact on poor communities.

An example of SCP-poverty linkage: Promoting local entrepreneurship
In Burkina Faso, many fruit farmers face poor economic prospects as many fruits are left to rot because of inadequate processing and preservation. Preservation by sun-drying is a sustainable solution as it uses the sun’s heat more efficiently so that its higher temperatures result in a shorter drying time and the ability to dry to a lower final moisture content (thus limiting the risk of rotting); it offers protection from contamination by dust and from rain showers. Sun-dryers are low-cost and can be constructed in local workshops, thereby creating jobs and new markets. This project was awarded by the Equator Initiative.

Q4 & Q5: Related information
http://www.unep.fr/scp/poverty/

An opportunity for leapfrogging
SCP represents an opportunity to “leapfrog” – A term used to describe the possibility for developing countries to bypass inefficient, polluting, and ultimately costly phases of development by jumping straight towards sustainable human development and a better quality of life. (In other words, leapfrogging is an opportunity to avoid repeating the same “mistakes” or inefficient/polluting phases that industrialized countries have gone through).

For example, “leapfrogging” is already seen in the use of solar energy in rural areas where unreliable or limited sources of energy previously existed. Providing mobile phones to farmers is another type of “leapfrogging”. This form of communication technology enables farmers to have access to relevant information concerning the costs of their crops and therefore create better trade opportunities.

Opportunity to Leapfrog

Integrating SCP into development planning
The linkages between SCP and poverty reduction were highlighted in both international and regional meetings of the Marrakech Process. The 2nd International Expert Meeting held in Costa Rica in 2005 recommended the development of national guidelines to integrate SCP policies in the national development plans, such as Poverty Reduction Strategies, as well as international sustainable development strategies (Q4 & Q5).

With the support of the Norwegian government, UNEP is implementing a project focusing on SCP in developing countries to demonstrate the potential benefits of SCP for poverty alleviation and to develop capacity for integrating SCP objectives in national development plans. As follow-up, the UNDP-UNEP Handbook Mainstreaming poverty-environment linkages into development planning, zooming in on mainstreaming of SCP and resource efficiency, has been developed.

SCP Indicators for Developing Countries - A Guidance Framework
Indicators on SCP are necessary to set priorities and targets as well as to monitor progress. They also contribute to accountability and public transparency in programme implementation. To support the development of SCP indicators, UNEP has published a guidance framework for policymakers in developing countries entitled SCP Indicators for Developing Countries. This publication integrates existing relevant indicators used in twenty developing countries.

Sustainable Ventures in Developing Countries
Sustainable ventures can make a significant contribution to poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability. These business initiatives and activities improve human well-being and the environment on a profitable basis (people, planet, profit), contributing to decoupling economic growth and improvements in well-being from natural resource use.

The publication Towards Triple Impact - Toolbox for Analysing Sustainable Ventures in Developing Countries targets initiatives that support sustainable ventures including donor programmes, award schemes, private and public investors, professional education programs and policy makers. It introduces a toolbox to help them systematically identify, evaluate, advise and promote sustainable ventures.

14 http://www.unep.fr/scp/poverty/
Dialogue with development agencies

Development agencies and development banks can provide strong leverages for utilising SCP as a pathway for poverty reduction as they are able to mobilise large financial resources. They can contribute to a better integration of SCP at national and local levels by promoting new public-private partnerships, demonstrating the benefit of SCP for poverty reduction, and encouraging better coherence among governmental departments.

To engage development actors in the consultations and activities for the development of the 10YFP, “Cooperation Dialogue” was initiated in 2005 under the Marrakech Process.

As a result of this dialogue, a review entitled Sustainable Consumption and Production: How development agencies make a difference was conducted among 25 agencies with the main objective to identify their SCP-related projects, find mechanisms for cooperation and better integrate SCP in their programmes. The results revealed the following:

- Most of the agencies believe SCP could contribute to better access to basic services and enable more cost-effective practices, as well as provide new market opportunities and enable developing countries to leapfrog into sustainability.
- 11% of the agencies think that SCP could help reduce the cost of public management.
- Half of the agencies believe SCP could contribute to better access to basic services and enable more cost-effective practices, as well as provide new market opportunities and enable developing countries to leapfrog into sustainability.
- 11% of the agencies think that SCP could help reduce the cost of public management.

Based on the results, the review proposed some recommendations for better cooperation and integration of SCP into the development plans:

1. Provide information and training on SCP, its benefits for development plans and the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and design trainings on SCP for development agency staff.
2. Strengthen cooperation between development agencies and SCP experts.
3. Integrate SCP objectives in the development agency’s agendas, if possible in the operational guidelines for relevant sectors and issues.
4. Raise awareness and political will of senior managers in both recipient and donor countries, probably by including the SCP concept in the debate on aid effectiveness.
5. Initiate new types of projects in developing countries such as credit lines dedicated to SCP.

Q10. What are the outcomes of the Marrakech Process?

The Marrakech Process is not only developing the 10YFP, but is also a substantive dialogue and forum for cooperation on SCP issues among governments and other stakeholders at international and regional levels (Q2).

In its first five years, it has developed regional processes and strategies, created seven Marrakech Task Forces supporting the implementation of SCP projects, initiated a Development Cooperation Dialogue and is increasingly engaging businesses, NGOs and other major groups in the Process. Some concrete outcomes include:

- The Marrakech Process has a value in itself. It is a Process that, while leading towards a 10YFP, is much more than a steppingstone. It is a substantive dialogue and forum for cooperation on SCP issues among and between governments and other stakeholders at international and regional levels. (*Paul Hofseth, Ministry of Environment of Norway*)

SCP tools and trainings for Capacity Building

A number of SCP tools and campaigns to raising awareness have been developed as well as trainings and workshops on capacity building on SCP have been conducted. Some examples are:

- A toolkit for sustainable marketing and advertising courses;
- Guidelines for communicating sustainability and developing successful information campaigns, and national training workshops in Brazil and China;
- Toolkit/approach for Sustainable Public Procurement and regional/national training workshops on capacity building in developing countries;
- Guidelines for governments to develop National SCP Programmes Planning for Change and training workshops at the regional (e.g., in Africa, Latin America, and South Asia) and national levels (e.g., Bhutan, Kazakhstan);
- Eight training sessions on sustainable lifestyles and sustainable entrepreneurship in African universities in four African countries;
- Here and Now. Guidelines on Education for Sustainable Consumption*;

Regional SCP Programmes

- Africa has launched its 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP with the institutional support of AMCEN, NEPAD, the African Union, UN ECA 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 and Sustainable Industrial Policy;
- Asia Pacific has set up a Regional SCP Help Desk and is implementing a regional Green Growth Initiative;
- The Arab region is currently developing its SCP strategy.
Implementation of Pilot Projects on SCP

The Marrakech Process is building North South cooperation, supporting joint projects and the implementation of demonstration projects on SCP. These include:

- Demonstration projects in over 10 countries on the Guidelines National SCP Programmes;
- Development of an Eco-labeling scheme in Africa;
- Demonstration projects at the national level on Sustainable Public Procurement;
- Implementation of various projects on education for sustainable lifestyles (e.g. Creative Communities for sustainable lifestyles projects in Brazil, China, India, and Africa; “Intercultural Sister classrooms”, a pilot project between aiming to develop didactic materials focused on life-cycle and global citizenship).

Collection of Best Practices

Compilations of Best Practices on SCP include:

- Best practices in African countries: provides transferable examples of development projects in the region;
- Best policy practices on sustainable buildings: Buildings for a Better Future as well as Sustainable building and construction in Africa;
- Sustainable Tourism good practices from online over 20 countries;
- An online Clearinghouse for National SCP Programmes with best practices from over 30 countries;
- Making the business case towards low carbon and resource efficient lifestyles (booklet series from the CSCP);
- Creative Communities for Sustainable Lifestyles: a mapping of social innovation in emerging countries.

For more information on the publications and tools on SCP please see Annex 2 on the Marrakech Process Publications.

A summary of the Marrakech process outcomes is presented in the table below.
Q11. How does the Marrakesh Process contribute to tackling climate change?

Promoting more sustainable patterns of consumption and production contributes to the efforts to tackle climate change. As the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) stated: “Changes in production, lifestyles and consumption patterns that emphasize resource conservation can contribute to developing a low-carbon economy that is both equitable and sustainable”\(^\text{17}\). The IPCC particularly highlighted the needs for progress in sustainable buildings, in more climate-friendly modes of transportation, in helping companies deal with the climate challenge, and in education to help overcome barriers to market acceptance of energy-efficient products. The promotion of clean and renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, eco-design of products and sustainable mobility were also referenced as critical for mitigating climate change.

SCP contributes to tackling climate change in multiple ways at local, regional and global levels, since it is about promoting resource and energy efficiency, sustainable infrastructure, innovation and low carbon lifestyles.

Through the Marrakesh Process regional consultations, all regions identified energy efficiency and renewable energy among their key priorities. Others have also identified building and constructions, agriculture and mobility as main priorities. All these sectors are closely linked to Climate Change.

**Providing tools and capacity building**

The Marrakesh Process is contributing to the efforts for climate change mitigation mainly by providing tools and capacity building for energy efficient products, buildings and promotion of low-carbon lifestyles. For example the Task Forces are supporting practical steps in different sectors and areas:

- **Building and Construction**: worldwide, 30-40% of all primary energy is used in buildings and knowledge regarding the energy use of building stocks is still lagging behind. The Building and Construction Task Force is promoting policies to support energy-efficiency of buildings and an increase in the share of renewables. It also developed guidelines on Buildings and climate change: Status, Challenges and Opportunities in cooperation with UNEP SBCI\(^\text{18}\). The guidelines provide an overview of current knowledge about greenhouse gas emissions from buildings, and presents opportunities for their minimisation.

- **Sustainable Tourism**: carbon footprint of the international tourism industry contributes around 5% of global greenhouse gas emissions. The Task Force on Sustainable Tourism has launched a Global Survey on Sustainable Lifestyles to identify how young people perceive sustainable lifestyles and obtain input on low-carbon solutions. It has also developed the concept of ‘creative communities’ in which local residents collectively come up with and implement innovative solutions to environmental and social problems, including climate change. By promoting and encouraging examples of responsible lifestyles globally, this Task Force contributes to education and advocacy for climate change worldwide.

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\(^{18}\) http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/bc.htm

Annex 1

Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Chapter III: Changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production (excerpt)

14. Fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development. All countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles, including, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as set out in principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. Governments, relevant international organizations, the private sector and all major groups should play an active role in changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns. This would include the actions at all levels set out below.

15. Encourage and promote the development of a 10-year framework of programmes in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems by addressing and, where appropriate, delinking economic growth and environmental degradation through improving efficiency and sustainability in the use of resources and production processes and reducing resource degradation, pollution and waste. All countries should take action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development needs and capabilities of developing countries, through mobilization, from all sources, of financial and technical assistance and building for developing countries. This would require actions at all levels to:

(a) Identify specific activities, tools, policies, measures and monitoring and assessment mechanisms, including, where appropriate, life-cycle analysis and national indicators for measuring progress, bearing in mind that standards applied by some countries may be inappropriate and of unwarranted economic and social costs to other countries, in particular developing countries;
(b) Adopt and implement policies and measures aimed at promoting sustainable patterns of production and consumption, applying, inter-alia, the polluter-pays principle described in principle 16 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;
(c) Develop production and consumption policies to improve the products and services provided, while reducing environmental and health impacts, using, where appropriate, science-based approaches, such as life-cycle analysis;
(d) Develop awareness-raising programmes on the importance of sustainable production and consumption patterns, particularly among youth and the relevant segments in all countries, especially in developed countries, through, inter alia, education, public and consumer information, advertising and other media, taking into account local, national and regional cultural values;
(e) Develop and adopt, where appropriate, on a voluntary basis, effective, transparent, verifiable, non-misleading and non-discriminatory consumer information tools to provide information relating to sustainable consumption and production, including human health and safety aspects. These tools should not be used as disguised trade barriers;
(f) Increase eco-efficiency, with financial support from all sources, where mutually agreed, for building, technology transfer and exchange of technology with developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in cooperation with relevant international organizations.

16. Increase investment in cleaner production and eco-efficiency in all countries through, inter alia, incentives and support schemes and policies directed at establishing appropriate regulatory, financial and legal frameworks. This would include actions at all levels to:

(a) Establish and support cleaner production programmes and centres and more efficient production methods by providing, inter alia, incentives and capacity - building to assist enterprises, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly in developing countries, in improving productivity and sustainable development;
(b) Provide incentives for investment in cleaner production and eco-efficiency in all countries, such as state-financed loans, venture
capital, technical assistance and training programmes for small and medium-sized companies while avoiding trade-distorting measures inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization;
(c) Collect and disseminate information on cost-effective examples in cleaner production, eco-efficiency and environmental management and promote the exchange of best practices and know-how on environmentally sound technologies between public and private institutions;
(d) Provide training programmes to small and medium-sized enterprises on the use of information and communication technologies.

17. Integrate the issue of production and consumption patterns into sustainable development policies, programmes and strategies, including, when applicable, into poverty reduction strategies.

Annex 2

Publications made under the Marrakech Process

Survey of International Activities on Consumption and Production Patterns
UN-DESA, 2003
The paper contains a list of activities of international organisations, intergovernmental bodies, major global partnerships and certain international NGOs in the area of sustainable consumption and production. It was presented as a background paper at the 1st International Expert Meeting held in Marrakech.

Sustainable Consumption and Production: How development agencies make a difference
UNEP, 2006
This document reports the results of a UNEP review on SCP-related projects that have been conducted by development agencies. The review also aimed to find mechanisms for cooperation and better integrate SCP in their programmes. The study revealed that development agencies carried out activities linked to SCP, even if they were not always labelled as such. The Annexes include fact sheets on 19 agencies and the questionnaire.

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/dialogue/review06.htm

SCP Indicators for Developing Countries - A Guidance Framework
UNEP, 2009
To support the development of SCP indicators, UNEP has published a guidance framework for policymakers in developing countries entitled SCP Indicators for Developing Countries. This publication integrates existing relevant indicators used in twenty developing countries.
http://www.unep.fr/scp/poverty/publications/

Towards Triple Impact - Toolbox for Analysing Sustainable Ventures in Developing Countries
UNEP, 2008
The publication gathers initiatives that support sustainable ventures including donor programmes, award schemes, private and public investors, professional education programs and policy makers. It also introduces a toolbox to help systematically identify, evaluate, advice and promote sustainable ventures.
http://www.unep.fr/scp/poverty/publications/

Planning for Change: Guidelines for National Programmes on
Frequently Asked Questions - The Marrakech Process

Sustainable Consumption and Production
UNEP 2008
The Guidelines provide practical and easy-to-follow steps for the development and monitoring of SCP programmes. The publication illustrates national case studies of existing programmes and an introduction to indicators to monitor progress towards SCP. The Guidelines target national governments as well as SCP experts and practitioners in both developed and developing countries.

www.unep.org/publications/search/pub_details_s.asp?ID=3976

All background papers and meeting reports of international expert meetings on 10YFP can be downloaded from:
http://esa.un.org/marrakechprocess/

Regional initiatives

The African 10 Year Framework of Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production
UNEP, 2005
The emphasis of this first regional 10YFP was given to the importance of linking sustainable consumption and production with the challenge of meeting basic needs and provision of sustainable livelihood, which are of high priority for the African region.

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/consultations/regional/

Marrakech Task Forces

Best Practices in African Countries: A report for the Marrakech Task Force Cooperation with Africa
Konoten Weimar, 2007
This report compiles the projects undertaken by development agencies and other donors in the area of managing environmental problems in Africa. It was developed for the Cooperation with Africa Task Force on behalf of German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).

www.unep.org/roa/Projects_Programmes/10YFP/Activities/index.asp

Buildings for a Better Future: Best policy practices from all over the world
Finnish Ministry of the Environment, 2007
This paper provides case studies of best policy practices provided by the members of the Marrakech Task Force on Sustainable Building and Construction. The areas of case studies include: housing; refurbishing of existing buildings; energy savings and energy efficiency; renewable energy sources; national and federal policies, practices and programmes; local policies; public procurement; research and development; building certification systems.

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/bc.htm

Buildings and climate : status challenges and opportunities
UNEP, 2007
This publication is a baseline study covering existing data on the energy consumption in buildings and construction.

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/tourism.htm

Concept Paper for the Task Force on Sustainable Lifestyles
Swedish Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Integration and Gender Equality, 2007
This paper summarises the concept and concrete ideas of sustainable lifestyles, the drivers of existing consumption patterns and the roles of stakeholders towards sustainable lifestyles.

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/lifestyles.htm

Creative Communities for Sustainable Lifestyles
UNEP, 2008
Identification of bottom-up sustainable solutions and workshops on sustainable lifestyles in the urban environments of emerging countries: China, India, Brazil and Africa.

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/lifestyles.htm

Eco-labelling as a potential marketing tool for African products
UNEP, 2007
This publication is an overview of the eco-labelling opportunities and challenges in Africa. It particularly underlines the need to SMEs needs and provides a series of case studies.

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/africa.htm

Guidelines: Communicating Sustainability
UNEP, 2005
These guidelines provide an international guide with case studies
to inspire and help public institutions to develop communication campaigns on sustainable development. It provides best practices and trainings.

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/lifestyles.htm

Here and Now. Education for Sustainable Consumption
UNEP, 2008
This publication provides guidance on how to integrate ESC into existing educational and sustainable development strategies by providing core curriculum suggestions.

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/education.htm

Leapfrogging in Africa
UNEP, 2008
This publication is an overview of leapfrogging possibilities for SCP in African countries

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/africa.htm

Making the business case towards low carbon and resource efficient lifestyles
UNEP, 2009
This booklet series supplies information on why and how companies can transform their products and services as well as business models to encourage low carbon lifestyles and low impact consumption. It looks into sector specific issues, development country context as well as the required policy framework.

http://www.scp-centre.org/

Sowing the seeds of change
UNEP, 2007
This tool is an environmental and sustainable tourism teaching pack for the hospitality industry. It contains a CD-ROM teaching pack for the integration of sustainable tourism and environment in the educational curricula of hospitality schools.

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/tourism.htm

Sustainable tourism and Integrated Coastal Zone Management
UNEP, 2009
This operational manual for sustainable tourism planning and management in the coastal areas has been developed by the Marrakech Task Force on Sustainable Tourism Development. Special focus is given on ecosystem management and also on adaptation measures in coastal destinations.

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/tourism.htm

Sustainability Communications. A Toolkit for Marketing and Advertising Courses
UNEP, 2007
This toolkit in a CD-ROM format is available in English and French. It lists resources for the educators who train tomorrow’s marketing and communication professionals as well as for marketing and advertising trainers in the corporate field. In a flexible and interactive manner, it provides a synthesis of theoretical and methodological knowledge illustrated by numerous case studies. This was developed jointly with the Sustainable Lifestyles Task Force.

http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/lifestyles.htm

For more information on the Task Forces, please see:
http://www.unep.fr/scp/marrakech/taskforces/
About the UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics

The UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE) helps governments, local authorities and decision-makers in business and industry to develop and implement policies and practices focusing on sustainable development.

The Division works to promote:

> sustainable consumption and production,
> the efficient use of renewable energy,
> adequate management of chemicals,
> the integration of environmental costs in development policies.

The Office of the Director, located in Paris, coordinates activities through:

> The International Environmental Technology Centre - IETC (Osaka, Shiga), which implements integrated waste, water and disaster management programmes, focusing in particular on Asia.
> Sustainable Consumption and Production (Paris), which promotes sustainable consumption and production patterns as a contribution to human development through global markets.
> Chemicals (Geneva), which catalyzes global actions to bring about the sound management of chemicals and the improvement of chemical safety worldwide.
> Energy (Paris), which fosters energy and transport policies for sustainable development and encourages investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency.
> OzonAction (Paris), which supports the phase-out of ozone depleting substances in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to ensure implementation of the Montreal Protocol.
> Economics and Trade (Geneva), which helps countries to integrate environmental considerations into economic and trade policies, and works with the finance sector to incorporate sustainable development policies.
> Urban Environment (Nairobi), which supports the integration of the urban dimension, with a focus on environmental issues that have both a local and an international dimension.

UNEP DTIE activities focus on raising awareness, improving the transfer of knowledge and information, fostering technological cooperation and partnerships, and implementing international conventions and agreements.

For more information, see www.unep.org
Achieving Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) has become a global priority and challenge. It requires building cooperation among different stakeholders and sectors. SCP is about increasing resource efficiency and promoting sustainable lifestyles. It offers important contributions for poverty alleviation and the transition towards low-carbon and green economies.

The Marrakech Process is a dynamic multi-stakeholder platform that supports: 1) the implementation of projects and programmes on SCP at the regional and national levels, and 2) the elaboration of a Global Framework for Action on SCP.

The publication describes this vibrant and complex Process. It defines the concept of SCP and provides brief answers and overviews of each of the activities of the Marrakech Process (international and regional meetings, Task Forces, Forums with business and civil society, etc), and highlights the outcomes and progress achieved. It also explains SCP contributions to poverty alleviation and climate change mitigation.

Through a series of examples and collection of best practices, these FAQ highlight the global efforts to build capacity, implement SCP programmes and design enabling policy frameworks on SCP.