

SWITCH AFRICA GREEN QUARTERLY REPORT

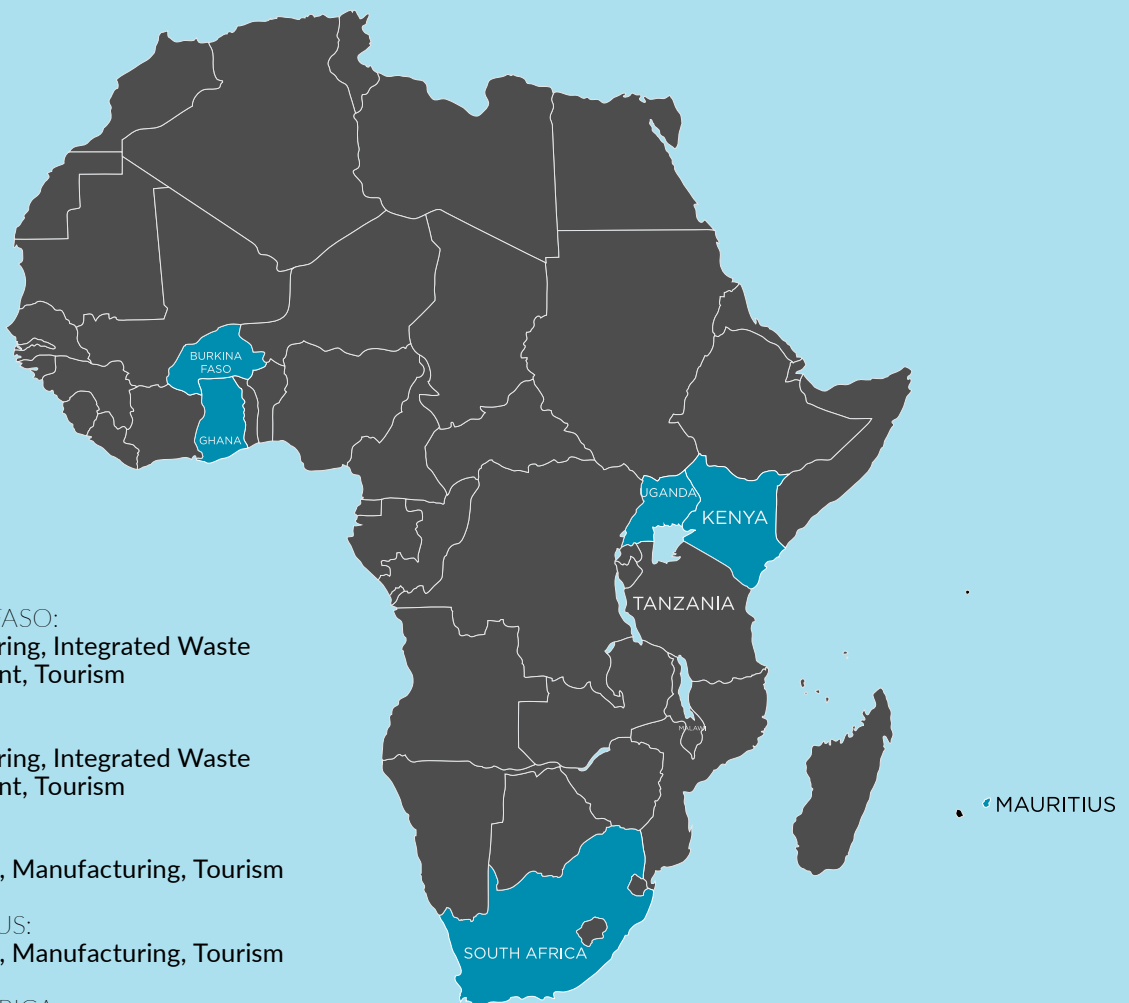
April- June 2016



SWITCH Africa Green is funded by the European Union

WHERE WE ARE IN AFRICA

The overall objective of SWITCH Africa Green is to support 6 countries in Africa to achieve sustainable development by engaging in transition towards an inclusive green economy.



BURKINA FASO:
Manufacturing, Integrated Waste Management, Tourism

GHANA:
Manufacturing, Integrated Waste Management, Tourism

KENYA:
Agriculture, Manufacturing, Tourism

MAURITIUS:
Agriculture, Manufacturing, Tourism

SOUTH AFRICA:
Agriculture, Integrated Waste Management, Manufacturing

UGANDA:
Agriculture, Manufacturing, Tourism

In addition to the selected priority sectors for each country, the country-specific projects will have to address the following cross-cutting themes that were identified as critical: Energy-efficiency, Labelling and standards, Water efficiency, Eco-innovation, Sustainable trade.



(Left to Right) Hon. Ephraim Kamuntu, Minister of Water and Environment (Uganda), Almaz Gebru, UNDP Country Director and Patrick Mwesigye (UNEP) at the SAG Expo
 Image | SWITCH Africa Green Project

CONTENT

SWITCH Africa Green Networking Forum, Kampala Uganda	1
Ninth Africa Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP-9)	5
SAG Joint Steering Committee Meeting	7

Switch Africa Green is implemented by UNEP with the assistance of the European Union. This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part and in any form for educational or non-profit purposes without special permission from the copyright holder, provided acknowledgement of the source is made. UNEP would appreciate receiving a copy of any publication that uses this publication as a source. No use of this publication may be made for resale or for any other commercial purpose whatsoever without prior permission in writing from UNEP.

SWITCH AFRICA GREEN NETWORKING FORUM, KAMPALA, UGANDA 28-29 MAY 2016.

Theme: ***“Supporting African Countries in the Transition towards an Inclusive Green Economy Based on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns”***

The SWITCH Africa Green regional networking forum was held on 28-29 May 2016, back to back with the 9th Africa Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP 9) in Kampala on 30 May - 2 June 2016. Selected enterprises had the opportunity to show case what they have been doing under the project in the SAG exhibition.

The main objectives of the forum were:

- Discuss the opportunities, challenges and barriers faced by the private sector in scaling up and replicating green business, transition to an inclusive green economy and promotion of SCP practices and patterns in Africa.
- Foster networking between different project entities with other stakeholders involved in green business development and SCP activities.

The forum attracted about one hundred and seventy participants drawn from the six SWITCH Africa Green pilot countries and other stakeholders involved in SCP activities including government representatives, financial institutions, international development organisations, civil society and private sector including MSMEs. In addition the members of the SAG Joint Steering committee: European Commission, UNEP, UNDP and UNOPS also participated in the forum.

The forum was jointly organised by Uganda National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), Uganda National Cleaner Production

Center (UCPC), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and funded by the European Union.

The forum was officially opened by the Head of the European Union Delegation HE. Kristian Schmidt. Speaking at the forum, UNEP regional office for Africa deputy director Dr. Desta Mebratu, reiterated UNEP's support in the establishment and implementation of coherent SCP policies at the national level that aim to promote green business development. He noted that significant progress has been made from the most comprehensive national policy and strategy up to sector specific measures happening in Africa and the most encouraging development is that SCP is not stopping at the policy level; it is influencing national planning processes. A majority of African countries are now having SCP and green economy principles.

Since its inception in 2014, the SWITCH Africa Green Project funded by the European Union with a budget of EURO 19 million is supporting over 3,000 Micro Small and Medium Enterprises in six pilot countries (Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa and Uganda), to develop and create green business development models that are sustainable.

During the forum, the EU ambassador to Uganda, Kristian Schmidt echoed that the EU is keen to help Africa seize that opportunity not just for the sake of helping the environment but also to create jobs that are sustainable and good for the economy.

The networking forum provided a platform to discuss the opportunities, challenges and barriers faced by the private sector in scaling up and replicating green business, transition to an inclusive

green economy and promotion of SCP practices and patterns in Africa. It also paved way for networking between different project entities with other stakeholders involved in green business development and SCP activities in the region.

Success stories by various MSMEs on green business development were shared; showing the achievements made under the project so far. (See presentations in <http://www.switchafricagreen.org/Kampala/>). In efforts to establish learning and exchange of knowledge, experiences in implementing SWITCH projects were shared from SWITCH Med and SWITCH Asia. Over twenty achievements under the SWITCH Africa Green project were exhibited from the six pilot countries; demonstrating practical uptake of SCP patterns in the pilot countries.

In addition, a session on financing MSMEs for green business development looked at the financial challenges faced by MSMEs in advancing green business development in Africa. Both private and public sources of financing for green business development were discussed. Presentations by Africa Agriculture and Trade Investment Fund (AATIF), African Development Bank (AFDB), ACUMEN East Africa and South Africa's Green Fund were discussed. It was agreed that various financing mechanisms to support green business development would be looked at through Switch Africa Green policy support component. Support in development of bankable proposals, linkages with various funds e.g. AATIF, as well as fiscal measures and incentives were among the proposed methods.

On the way forward it was noted that this was the first SAG networking forum and it was only the beginning of the networking expected in SAG to take green business development to the next level in Africa. It was reiterated that the governments in

Africa are committed to green business development and in providing jobs for the growing population in Africa. Participants were encouraged to use the lessons learnt in the forum in strengthening green business development in their respective countries. In her closing remarks, Dr. Florence Adogo, Director, Directorate of Water Resources Management, Ministry of Water and Environment, Government of Uganda; thanked everyone for participating and on behalf of the pilot countries commended the partners in their support of green business development in the region.

WORKSHOP AT A GLANCE





(Left to Right) Dr. Tom Okurut (Executive Director, NEMA, Uganda), H. E Ambassador Kristian Schmidt (E.U Ambassador, Uganda), Desta Mebratu (Deputy Regional Director, UNEP ROA) during the SAG Expo.
Image | SWITCH Africa Green Project



SWITCH Africa Green participants during the ARSCP meeting
Image | SWITCH Africa Green Project

LIST OF EXHIBITORS



HIGHLIGHTS



E-Learning Course: Introduction to Sustainable Consumption and Production in Africa

5th September - 28th October, 2016

About the Course

The ability of national actors in Africa to incorporate Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) into national policies is key for sustainable development. With the goal of scaling up learning on SCP in the region, UNEP and UNITAR are partnering, under the SWITCH Africa Green Project, to deliver for the first time this interactive e-learning course especially tailored to the regional context of Africa.

[Read more](#)



SEED AFRICA SYMPOSIUM

28 – 29 September 2016 Nairobi, Kenya

From Innovation to Imitation - Replicating Successful Business Models for Green Growth and Sustainable Development

The SEED Africa Symposium is an annual international forum for sharing knowledge and experience, establishing partnerships, and developing solutions to stimulate the growth of social and eco-entrepreneurship across the African continent.

[Read more](#)

SWITCH Voices



Thibaut Portevin,
European Commission



Burkina Faso



Ecotourism Kenya



Industrial Symbiosis
Ghana

NINTH AFRICA ROUNDTABLE ON SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION (ARSCP-9)

Theme: ***Sustainable Consumption And Production (Scp) As A Vehicle For Achieving The Sustainable Development Goals.***

The Ninth African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP-9) was held from 29 May to 01 June, with more than two hundred participants consisting of SCP practitioners, 10 YFP National Focal Points, SWITCH Africa Green implementing partners and development partners.

The Roundtable was opened by Honorable Professor Ephraim Kamuntu, Ugandan Minister of Water and Environment. In his opening address, the Minister highlighted that African countries need to give particular attention to the conservation and efficient utilization of their natural resources. He further reiterated the critical importance of the work being done under the ARSCP Network and appreciated the support that has been provided by UNEP and other development partners in facilitating Africa's transition towards a more sustainable society.

On behalf of the UN Resident Coordinator, UNICEF Country Representative, Mrs Almaz Gebru, noted the specific attention that was given to Sustainable Consumption and Production in Agenda 2030 on sustainable development goals which need to be implemented in an integrated manner. She appreciated the on-going collaboration within the UN system in Uganda and reiterated UN Country Teams continued support to the country.

Desta Mebratu, Deputy Regional Director, UNEP,

made opening remarks on behalf of UNEP. He acknowledged the growing appreciation by African Countries to the critical importance of the transition to low carbon and resource efficient economies. He noted that the work on the transition to sustainable consumption and production provides a useful opportunity to facilitate integrated implementation of the SDGs. He also noted the importance of SCP in supporting and strengthening institutions, including NCPCs, to re-scope and redefine their package of services in the context of SDGs.

ARSCP-9 addressed various elements toward promoting the uptake of sustainable consumption and production. Charles-Arden-Clarke (Head 10YFP secretariat) presented the 10YFP on SCP, with an emphasis on the importance of sustainable consumption and production in the sustainable development goals.

The SCP targets were highlighted and the proposed indicators to track progress towards their achievement. The revised Africa 10YFP on SCP was presented by the ARSCP secretariat, and priority activities identified in the 10YFP on SCP Roadmap for Africa highlighted, as well as the implementation and monitoring framework envisaged.

With regard to transitioning to green economy in Africa, national green economy strategies were discussed, with a focus on the Green Economy Strategy and Implementation Plan for Kenya. In addition, the transition to green economy the project on Operationalising Green Economy in Africa, which is being implemented at the sub-national level in Ethiopia, Rwanda, Mozambique, Kenya and Ghana was discussed.

In order to respond on the needs and priorities for Africa, the following issues were discussed: Affordable and Clean Energy; Decent Work



Participants from Mauritius during the ARSCP meeting
Image | SWITCH Africa Green Project

and Economic Growth; Responsible Consumption and Production; Industry Innovation and Infrastructure and Sustainable cities and communities.

The enabling policy framework for transition to a green economy and promotion of SCP practices and patterns in Africa was also discussed. This was followed by a policy dialogue on support for green business development in Africa. Tools for green business development in MSMEs were discussed and case studies presented.

Ongoing initiatives supporting up scaling of SCP in the Africa region were deliberated and case studies from countries presented. Notably were (1) Kenya's experience in developing Eco-Innovation Policies in Africa; (2) Experience from Zambia's implementation of the Green Jobs in construction and Building industry; and (3) use of SCP indicators - the case of Mauritius.

SAG JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

The Fourth meeting of the Steering Committee of Switch Africa Green Project was held on 29 May 2016. The meeting was attended by representatives of European Union, UNEP, UNDP, UNOPS, ARSCP and the Government of Uganda on behalf of the pilot countries.

The meeting reviewed the annual report of the Secretariat which highlighted the progress made against the goals under each of the three components together with the challenges faced. The JSC recognized the notable progress made on the implementation of the Green Business component as witnessed during the SAG Networking Forum. It also underlined the importance of further consolidating the work on

the policy support and networking component in order to ensure the effectiveness of the project. The committee further reviewed the work plan for 2016, which was prepared on the basis of the overall project work plan and approved it underlining the importance of ensuring maximum coherence and synergy between the three components of the project.

Thibaut Portevin, Policy Officer, Forests and Green Economy, European Commission informed the JSC members on possible extension of the Switch Africa Green Project. He noted that, the EC was considering allocating an additional Euro 20 million on Switch African Green project that could be available after the final approval, possibly January 2017.

Some members of the JSC (Joint Steering Committee) during the Networking Forum
Left to Right: Patrick Mwesigye (UNEP), Desta Mebratu (UNEP), Thibaut Portevin (European Commission), Florence Adongo (Director, Ministry of Water and Environment, Uganda), Tomes Sales (UNDP) and Rainer Fraunfeld (UNOPS)
Image | SWITCH Africa Green Project





www.switchafricagreen.org

 switchafricagreen

 @switchafrica