

Sustainable Consumption and Production Expos in Palestine

After having successfully developed and validated a Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plan as part of their response to Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals, Palestine was looking for opportunities to disseminate/communicate the concept of Sustainable Consumption and Production. The Environment Quality Authority of Palestine promoted the concept of Sustainable Consumption and Production through expos, where diverse participants and visitors could meet, exchange, discover and discuss a range of SCP-related projects and initiatives, products and services.



A Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plan (SDG12.1) was developed in Palestine through nationally owned multi-stakeholder processes. The implementation of the plan's priorities - tourism, housing and construction, agriculture, and food - is on-going through selected projects and initiatives.

The first SCP expo was officially launched by H.E. the Prime Minister on 5 October 2016 in Ramallah as part of the official validation ceremony of the SCP National Action Plan. In the opening speech, the Prime Minister called upon all national ministries and entities, as well as the international community and Palestinian society to switch to more sustainable consumption and production patterns. During the two-days expo labs where innovative ideas are presented and discussed and mentoring collaborations are fostered.

The Ramallah SCP expo was followed by exhibitions in Jenin City (28 November 2017), Hebron (19 December 2017) and Gaza (15 January 2018). Each exhibition was attended by more than 500 visitors from all geographical areas, including women's associations, NGOs, private sector, academia, municipalities and government institutions. The expos were widely covered by national media.



"Highlighting the importance of Sustainable Consumption and Production as a tool to achieve sustainable development, Palestine is aiming to protect the environment through formulation of policies, strategies and national plans in order to implement related programs and projects to improve the environmental situation," says Her Excellency Eng. Adalah Atteereh, EQA Chairperson.



SwitchMed Programme is funded by the European Union

Key Features:



4
Expos



4
Governorates



2000
Visitors



150
Initiatives

SwitchMed in Palestine

At each exhibition up to 40 different initiatives were presented and discussed, ranging from recycling of used tires, upcycling of textiles and agriculture waste products, organic agriculture production, drought-tolerant domestic seeds, renewable energy, hydroponics, water desalination using green algae, computer programs and phone applications to control crop irrigation according to crop needs and soil moisture rates, production of nanoparticles to remove pollutants and heavy metals, fuel production through plastic waste conversion, methane gas production using organic waste, eco-tourism initiatives, water magnetization, university students graduation projects, natural reserves protection initiatives.

Parallel to the exhibitions, conferences were organized to allow the participants to pitch SCP initiatives and share updates and developments in agriculture and food production, tourism, industrial development, waste management, environmental education, green entrepreneurship, and upcycling, as well as creative ideas to enhance community awareness among researchers, the private sector, civil society and policy makers.



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UN Environment Programme

UNEP is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.



The EU-funded SwitchMed programme assists eight countries in the southern Mediterranean to switch to sustainable patterns of consumption and production and supports national and regional stakeholders in achieving productive, circular, and sharing economies in the Mediterranean. www.switchmed.eu