UNITED NATIONS

NATIONS

EP

**UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

12 May 2021
Original: English

19th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

Videoconference, 7–9 June 2021

Agenda item 4: Implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD)

Mid-Term Evaluation of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean – Draft Final Report

---

Note by the Secretariat

The Mid-Term Evaluation of the SCP Regional Action Plan has been mandated by Decision IG.24/3 adopted at COP 21 in December 2019.

This document corresponds to the draft final report of the Mid-Term Evaluation of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean (SCP Regional Action Plan), as summitted to the SCP/RAC Focal Points in view of their meeting to be held on 1–3 June 2021.

Based on the comments and advice from the SCP/RAC Focal Points and MCSD Members, the report of the mid-term evaluation will be finalized in view of its submission and consideration by the Meeting of UNEP/MAP Focal Points (September 2021) and COP 22 (December 2021).

13th Meeting of SCP/RAC National Focal Points

Online, 1-3 June 2021

Mid-term evaluation of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean – Draft Final Report

For environmental and economic reasons, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

Introductory note

As mandated by COP21 Decision IG.24/3, SCP/RAC mobilized consultancy services to conduct the indicator-based evaluation of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable consumption and Production in the Mediterranean (SCP Regional Action Plan). The draft final report of the mid-term evaluation ensures that Contracting Parties, including SCP/RAC Focal Points, as well as the MCSD and its Steering Committee, are informed with key findings on the status of the SCP Regional Action Plan implementation, including recommendations and opportunities to overcome gaps for the remaining period (2022-2027).

This document corresponds to the draft final report of the SCP Regional Action Plan mid-term evaluation. It is submitted for review and comments by the SCP/RAC National Focal Points at their 13th Meeting (1-3 June 2021). The present draft final report will be also submitted for review and comments by the MCSD during its meeting on the 7-9 June 2021. The mid-term evaluation will be then finalized in view of its submission and consideration by the Meeting of UNEP/MAP Focal Points (September 2021) and COP 22 (December 2021).

Table of content

Regional Activity Centre
for Sustainable Consumption
and Production

1. EVALUATION BACKGROUND

The **Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean** (SCP Regional Action Plan) was adopted at COP 19 (Decision IG.22/5), as a forward-looking framework, to complement and work in full synergy with existing national and regional policy frameworks, and to support the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The SCP Action Plan is an integral part of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) Objective 5 "Transition towards a Green and Blue Economy", which identifies the promotion of and support to green businesses as key in the transition towards a more circular economy.
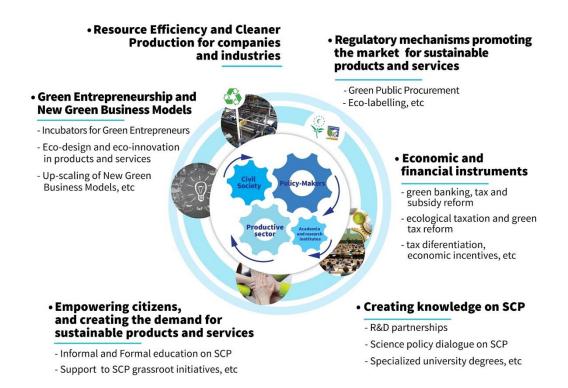
The SCP Regional Action Plan aims at supporting the implementation of SCP actions at the regional level. It addresses key **human activities which have a particular impact on the marine and coastal environment and related transversal and cross-cutting issues.** It also defines common objectives and identifies actions guiding the implementation of SCP at the national level.

The SCP Regional Action Plan focuses on four key economic sectors (Areas):
- Food, Fisheries and Agriculture;
- Goods Manufacturing;
- Tourism;
- Housing and Construction.

Each area is organized around strategic objectives and suggested actions. Likewise, the SCP Regional Action Plan includes a number of actions (5) applicable to all priority areas.

The main mechanisms and stakeholders considered for the implementation of the SCP RAP are summarized in the figure below:

Mandate for the evaluation

During the COP 21 of the Barcelona Convention, celebrated in December 2019, Contracting Parties adopted Decision IG.24/3 on the *Implementation, Monitoring and Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) of the MSSD 2016–2025 and of the SCP RAP* and requested the Secretariat to undertake those evaluations in 2020-2021 for submission of the results to COP 22. Annex III of the Decision IG. 24/3 included the "*Roadmap of the Mid-Term Evaluation of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean* (Hereinafter SCP RAP) (2020- 2021)" that has been followed to conduct the evaluation.

COP21 Decision IG. 24/3 was also motivated by COP19 Decision IG. 22/5 on the SCP Regional Action Plan that *requested MAP CU in Coordination with SCP/RAC to undertake in 2020 an indicator-based midterm evaluation of the Action Plan implementation for submission at the COP*. The adopted Plan specified that the evaluation should be done on the basis of the accomplishment of the objectives of the Plan, using appropriated indicators measuring progress on SCP mainstreaming and streamlining at the regional level.

Process for the evaluation

The Mid-Term Evaluation of the SCP Regional Action Plan has been conducted by an independent consultant, hired by SCP/RAC, under the overall responsibility and guidance of SCP/RAC and UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit (CU) and, following common and recognized methodologies to properly conduct the assessment given the circumstances and resources offered and exposed in the TORs of the evaluation.

Likewise, the Mid-Term Evaluation of the SCP Regional Action Plan has been conducted in full synergy with the Mid-Term Evaluation of the MSSD. Both evaluations were conducted following a converging approach, with a common starting point (joint concept note) and the final report of each evaluation will lead to the preparation of a joint synthesis report. A strong coordination took place during the whole process (between MAP CU and SCP/RAC respective representatives and selected consultants).

A detailed evaluation of SCP RAP implementation has been done following the specific methodology developed by the consultant and validated by SCP/RAC, available in the Information Document UNEP/MED WG. 507/Inf. 4. It mainly considered: (1) the list of SCP indicators, presented at COP20, and updated and populated during this biennium, (2) the official reporting of the Contracting Parties on the SCP Regional Action Plan (as part of the reporting on the LBS Protocol) and (3) an inventory of SCP-related initiatives in the Region. The Evaluation is providing quantitative and qualitative information on the level of implementation of the SCP RAP while identifying potential gaps and opportunities. The evaluation also included an open process and participatory approach through a consultation with key stakeholders (joint consultation process with the Mid-Term Evaluation of the MSSD).

2. SCP REGIONAL ACTION PLAN PERFORMANCE

Chapter 2 of this report is organized around 3 sections representing the 3 main blocks of the evaluation process, namely:

1. **Indicators (Section 2.1):** an **SCP indicator-based evaluation** has been implemented by assessing the available information on the SCP Indicators (the updated list of SCP Indicators is available in the working document UNEP/MED WG. 507/5 and a sample of factsheets on the SCP Indicators is available in the Information Document UNEP/MED WG. 507/Inf. 5);

2. **National reporting (Section 2.2):** a **SCP reporting-based evaluation** has been executed by appraising the official reporting of the Contracting Parties on the SCP Regional Action Plan (COP 20 Decision IG.23/1 on the Revised reporting format) included under Part III. Implementation of Regional Actions Plans (RAPs) and their effectiveness (section II.2.) as part of the reporting on the LBS Protocol; and

3. **Initiatives (Section 2.3):** an **SCP initiatives-based evaluation** was implemented by eyeing projects and initiatives at global, regional and transnational level that support the attainment of the operational objectives and actions of the SCP RAP in the four key sectors.

In addition, the results of **an online consultation with SCP stakeholders,** conducted through open process and participatory approach, are also detailed in section 2.4. Finally, an evaluation based on additional sources of information is also proposed in section 2.5 to complement previous findings.

2.1 SCP indicator-based evaluation

Progress on the SCP RAP is measured with a set of 25 SCP indicators that was welcomed by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention at COP20 (December 2017). Those indicators[1] – which encompass six thematic areas and a set of macro-indicators – were selected among existing international indicators or new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicators. During 2020, SCP/RAC worked with an international expert to revise the list SCP indicators and provide updated data for the Mid-Term Evaluation.

Data availability

The recently updated SCP indicators' list (available in the working document UNEP/MED WG. 507/5) provides acceptable and effective information towards the implementation of SCP in the Mediterranean. First, the number of **SCP indicators has been increased** from 25 to 30. Second, the SCP indicators are more or less **well distributed** between the different thematic areas, varying slightly from 3-5 indicators for certain thematic areas (land use, water, resource, energy pollution, macro-indicators) to 7 indicators for the thematic area of "behavior". In addition, the **level of population** and update status is **acceptable**. The recent update of the SCP indicators can be evaluated as **satisfactory (S)**.

---

[1] The full set of indicators are available at the SwitchMed website: https://switchmed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/scp-indicatons-mediterranean.pdf.

Regional Activity Centre
for Sustainable Consumption
and Production

Out of 30 recently updated indicators, 20 (67%) are providing useful information (showing at least 2 years of data or more and a feel of trend and progress overtime), and 6 (20%) indicators show 1 year of data only, thus not providing a trend and progress over time. This is acceptable when comparing to other SDGs data monitoring platforms such as the UN[2] and SDSN[3] ones that provide yearly data, however information is missing for some countries.

Looking at the statistics of the 30 updated SCP indicators and its availability per country, the overall evaluation is the following[4]:

% Indicators Available & Evaluation	>90%: Satisfactory	80-90%: Moderately Satisfactory	70-80%: Moderately Unsatisfactory	<70%: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	0	3 (13%)	15 (65%)	5 (22%)	0

The rating regarding data availability of Mediterranean countries is evaluated as **moderately unsatisfactory.** The average indicators availability per country is of 21 indicators, out of 30 (70%).

Data analysis

The results and evaluation of the recently updated SCP indicators database[5] are shown below. Some SCP indicators are not yet available in the UN SDG Global Indicator Framework[6] or other international sources, therefore an alternative indicator is used, while waiting for the publication of data for the preferred indicator.

Indicators under Thematic Area 1: Land Use

The land use **SCP indicator 1** "Productive and sustainable agriculture: Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture" is not available. The alternative indicator "**Agricultural area organic**, total" is used instead, and it measures the share (%) of a country's total agricultural area that is organic. The evaluation is as follows:

% of a country's total agricultural area that is organic & Evaluation	>10: Satisfactory	5-10: Moderately Satisfactory	1-5: Moderately Unsatisfactory	<1: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	1 (4%)	5 (22%)	5 (22%)	9 (39%)	3 (13%)

The rating of this indicator is evaluated as **moderately unsatisfactory,** considering that the average for all countries is low (3,06% of organic agricultural area in 2018).

The land use **SCP indicator 2** "**Global food loss index** (and food waste index)" is not available yet from international databases and no alternative indicator has been proposed. Its evaluated as **unable to assess**.

---

[2] https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/
[3] http://sdgstoday.org/
[4] The evaluation also considered data for Jordan and Palestine that were included in the initial SCP indicators database (21 Contracting Parties + Jordan and Palestine) and were part of the development process of the SCP Regional Action Plan
[5] The updated database of SCP Indicators can be consulted here:
https://www.dropbox.com/sh/oivj8260c3giptk/AAAktPxUJsTYVdFKr9nB8bQZa?dl=0
[6] https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/

UN environment programme | Mediterranean Action Plan Barcelona Convention | GOBIERNO DE ESPAÑA VICEPRESIDENCIA CUARTA DEL GOBIERNO MINISTERIO PARA LA TRANSICIÓN ECOLÓGICA Y EL RETO DEMOGRÁFICO | Generalitat de Catalunya Departament de Territori i Sostenibilitat

The land use **SCP indicator 3a** "Index of sustainable forest management" is not available. The alternative indicator 3b "**area of certified forest**" is used instead, and it measures the forest area under an independently verified forest management certification scheme (thousands of hectares). The evaluation is the following:

Area Certified Forest (x1000 ha) 2019 & Evaluation	>5000: Satisfactory	2500 - 5000: Moderately Satisfactory	1500 - 2500: Moderately Unsatisfactory	<1500: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	1 (4%)	1 (4%)	3 (13%)	2 (9%)	16 (70%)

The Mediterranean average was 2.644,44 (x1000 ha.) in 2019. Since there is a lack of data of most countries (16) and years, the rating is evaluated as **unable to assess**.

Indicators under Thematic Area 2: Water Efficiency

The water **SCP indicator 1** "**Water withdrawal intensity**" means the freshwater withdrawal as a proportion (%) of available freshwater resources. The evaluation is as follows:

Water withdrawal intensity (%) 2017 & Evaluation	0 - 25: Satisfactory	25 - 50: Moderately Satisfactory	50 - 75: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>75: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	6 (26%)	5 (22%)	2 (9%)	7 (30%)	3 (13%)

The rating is **moderately unsatisfactory** since, excluding the "outlier" of Libya, countries average water withdrawal pressure was 53,98% in 2017.

The water **SCP indicator 2** "**Water productivity** (use efficiency)" measures the efficiency a country's economy has (US$ per m3) in using water for production activities. The evaluation was as follows:

Water productivity (US$ per m3) 2017 & Evaluation	>100: Satisfactory	50 - 100: Moderately Satisfactory	10 - 50: Moderately Unsatisfactory	<10: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	2 (9%)	3 (13%)	10 (43%)	5 (22%)	3 (13%)

The rating is evaluated as **moderately unsatisfactory,** in view that the average of countries is low (40,12 US$ per m3 in 2017).

The water **SCP indicator 3** "**Water resources management**" measures (via surveys) the extent (%) to which integrated water resources management (IWRM) is implemented. The evaluation was as follows:

IWRM implementation (%) 2018 & Evaluation	90 - 100: Satisfactory	75 - 90: Moderately Satisfactory	50 - 75: Moderately Unsatisfactory	<50: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	4 (17%)	4 (17%)	7 (30%)	6 (26%)	2 (9%)

The rating is **moderately unsatisfactory,** being the average in the Mediterranean region as of 65,05% in 2018.

Indicators under Thematic Area 3: Energy Efficiency

The energy **SCP indicator 1** "**Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption**" measures the share (%) of final consumption of energy in a country that is derived from renewable (re)sources. The evaluation is as follow:

Renewable energy share (%) 2017 & Evaluation	>25: Satisfactory	15 - 25: Moderately Satisfactory	5 -- 15: Moderately Unsatisfactory	<5: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	3 (13%)	5 (22%)	9 (39%)	5 (22%)	1 (4%)

The rating is **moderately unsatisfactory,** being countries average as of 13,26% in 2018.

The energy **SCP indicator 2 "Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP"** measures energy intensity measured as primary energy supply divided by GDP, usually measured at purchasing power parity (MJ or Toe/$ PPP GDP). The evaluation is as follows:

Energy intensity (%) 2017 & Evaluation	0 - 3,5: Satisfactory	3,5 - 4: Moderately Satisfactory	4 - 4,5: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>4,5: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	8 (35%)	6 (26%)	4 (17%)	4 (17%)	1 (4%)

The rating is evaluated as **moderately satisfactory.** The average of all countries in 2017 was 3,86 MJ or Toe/$ PPP GDP.

The energy **SCP indicator 3** "Amount of fossil-fuel subsidies (production and consumption) per unit of GDP" is not available. The sub-indicator SDG 12.c.1 "**Fossil-fuel pre-tax subsidies as a proportion of total GDP (%)**" is used instead. The evaluation is as follows:

Fossil-fuel pre-tax subsidies as a proportion of total GDP (%) 2017 & Evaluation	0 - 0,04: Satisfactory	0,04 - 0,6: Moderately Satisfactory	0,6 - 1: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>1: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	8 (35%)	0	0	6 (26%)	9 (39%)

The rating is **unsatisfactory.** The countries average still remains quite high (2,69% in 2017).

The energy **SCP indicator 4 "Installed Renewable electricity-generating capacity"**, recently added, is defined as the installed capacity of power plants that generate electricity from renewable energy sources divided by the total population of a country (in watts per capita). Due to a lack of data, it is evaluated as **unable to assess**.

Indicators under Thematic Area 4: Pollution

The pollution **SCP indicator 1 "CO2 emission per unit of value added"** measures the amount of carbon dioxide emitted per unit of Manufacturing Value Added (kg CO_2 per 2010 US$ of GDP). The evaluation is as follows:

CO2 emissions 2017 & Evaluation	0 - 0,2: Satisfactory	0,2 - 0,6: Moderately Satisfactory	0,6 - 1: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>1: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	6 (26%)	8 (35%)	3 (13%)	4 (17%)	2 (9%)

Regional Activity Centre
for Sustainable Consumption
and Production

The rating of this indicator is **moderately unsatisfactory,** being the countries average as of 0,66 kg CO2 per 2010 US$ of GDP in 2017.

The pollution **SCP indicator 2 "Countries signatory of 1 to 5 international multilateral environmental agreements"** indicates whether the country has signed the main conventions on hazardous wastes and other chemicals (Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm, Minamata Conventions and Montreal Protocol). The evaluation is:

Countries signatory of 1 to 5 international multilateral environmental agreements 2020 & Evaluation	5: Satisfactory	4: Moderately Satisfactory	3: Moderately Unsatisfactory	1 or 2: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	7 (30%)	14 (61%)	2 (9%)	0	0

The rating is **moderately satisfactory.** A relevant number (21) of countries (91%) have signed already 4 or 5 international agreements, and only 2 countries (9%) have signed 3 out 5, being the Mediterranean average high (4,22 in 2020).

The pollution **SCP indicator 3 "Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter"** measures national-average concentration levels of particulate matter of 2.5 microns in diameter or smaller (PM2.5) in urban areas (ug/m3), weighted by cities' population size. The evaluation is as follows:

Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5) 2016 & Evaluation	0 - 10: Satisfactory	10 - 17,5: Moderately Satisfactory	17,5 - 25: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>25: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	1 (4%)	7 (30%)	4 (17%)	10 (43%)	1 (4%)

The rating is **unsatisfactory.** All countries exceed the maximum value set by the WHO for PM2.5 of 10 µg/m3, except Spain, being the average 26,44 ug/m3 in 2016.

The pollution **SCP indicators 4a "Index of coastal eutrophication" and 4b "plastic debris density (plastic waste littered)"** measures respectively the eutrophication (%) quantified by satellite as well as the plastic waste littered (kg/day). The evaluation for the eutrophication is:

Index of coastal eutrophication (Chlorophyll-a deviations, remote sensing (%)) 2019 & Evaluation	<0,5: Satisfactory	0,5-1: Moderately Satisfactory	1-5: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>5: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	7 (30%)	2 (9%)	6 (26%)	2 (9%)	6 (26%)

The rating is **moderately unsatisfactory.** The average in the Mediterranean was 1,85 % in 2019.

The evaluation of the plastic waste littered is:

Plastic waste littered (kg/day) 2015 & Evaluation	<10.000: Satisfactory	10.000-50.000: Moderately Satisfactory	50.000-100.000: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>100.000: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	1 (4%)	2 (9%)	2 (9%)	17 (74%)	1 (4%)

The rating is **unsatisfactory.** The countries average was 1.661.445 Kg/day in 2015.

The pollution **SCP indicator 5 "Wastewater safely treated"**, recently added, it measures the share (%) of the total wastewater generated by households (sewage and fecal sludge), and economic activities that is safely treated. The evaluation is as follows:

Wastewater safely treated (%) 2018 & Evaluation	>90: Satisfactory	75-90: Moderately Satisfactory	50-75: Moderately Unsatisfactory	<50: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	4 (17%)	3 (13%)	7 (30%)	7 (30%)	2 (9%)

The rating of this indicator is **moderately unsatisfactory.** The average was 59,87 % in 2018.

Indicators under Thematic Area 5: Resource efficiency

The resource **SCP indicator 1a "Material footprint (MF) per GDP"** is not available from international databases. The alternative resource SCP indicator 1b identified **"Material footprint (MF) per capita"** is not available neither. Therefore, it is evaluated as **unable to assess**.

The resource **SCP indicator 2a/2b "Domestic material consumption (DMC) per GDP** (Kg/2010 US$) and **per capita** (tonnes)" measures the total amount of materials used by an economy. The evaluation of indicator **DMC per GDP (2a)** is:

Domestic material consumption (DMC) per GDP (Kg/2010 US$) 2017 & Evaluation	0-0,5: Satisfactory	0,5-1: Moderately Satisfactory	1-2,5: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>2,5: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	5 (22%)	4 (17%)	7 (30%)	5 (22%)	2 (9%)

The rating is **moderately unsatisfactory.** The countries average was 1,79 Kg/2010 US (2017).

For the indicator **DMC per capita (2b)**, the evaluation is:

Domestic material consumption (DMC) per capita (tonnes) 2017 & Evaluation	0-10: Satisfactory	10-12: Moderately Satisfactory	12-15: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>15: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	5 (22%)	9 (39%)	4 (17%)	3 (13%)	2 (9%)

The rating is **moderately satisfactory.** The average of countries was 11,7 tonnes per capita in 2017.

The resource **SCP indicator 3a "Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels"** is not available from international databases (only global and regional estimations). The **resource SCP Indicator 3b "Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP"** is used instead. It measures the percentage (%) of global fish stocks that are at or above the abundance level that can produce the maximum sustainable yield. But due to a lack of data, it is evaluated as **unable to assess as well**.

Indicators under Thematic Area 6: Behavior (Producers & Consumers)

The behavior **SCP indicator 1 "Number of countries developing, adopting or implementing policy instruments aimed at supporting the shift to sustainable consumption and production"** measures the number of countries developing, adopting or implementing policy instruments aimed at supporting the shift to SCP. The evaluation is as follows:

Number of countries developing, adopting or implementing policy instruments aimed at supporting the shift to SCP - 2020 & Evaluation	>10: Satisfactory	<6: Unsatisfactory
# countries (%)	11 (48%)	12 (52%)

The rating is **satisfactory**. The average in the Mediterranean was 11 countries with policy instruments supporting the shift to SCP by 2020.

The behavior **SCP indicator 2** "**Sustainable public procurement**" measures the share of a country's total national public procurement spending that is governed by Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) and/or Green Public Procurement (GPP) policies (measured by monetary value). The lack of national datasets impedes this indicator to be elaborated at present. Its evaluated as **unable to assess**.

The behavior **SCP indicator 3** "**Green patents**", measures the share (%) of environment-related technology patents over the total technology patents developed by a country. The evaluation is as follows:

Green patents (% of all technologies) 2016 & Evaluation	>20: Satisfactory	15-20: Moderately Satisfactory	5-15: Moderately Unsatisfactory	<5: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	3 (10%)	2 (6%)	11 (35%)	6 (19%)	9 (29%)

The rating is **moderately unsatisfactory.** The average in the Mediterranean was of 9,52% in 2016.

The behavior **SCP indicator 4 "Generation of Waste"** measures the amount of waste (hazardous and non-hazardous) generated by a country (in kg per capita per year). This indicator has been divided in 3 sub-indicators: **4a. Generation of waste (kg per capita per year)**; **4b. Electronic waste generated (per capita)**; and **4c. Electronic waste recycling (per capita)**. The indicator 4a is not available and its evaluated as **unable to assess**. The evaluation of 4b is as follows:

Electronic waste generated, per capita 2019 & Evaluation	<7: Satisfactory	7-11: Moderately Satisfactory	11-15: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>15: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	5 (22%)	6 (26%)	4 (17%)	6 (26%)	2 (9%)

The rating of 4b is **moderately unsatisfactory,** with an average in the Mediterranean as of 11,32 Kg/capita in 2019.

In order to evaluate 4c, the indicator has been transformed by the evaluator into % of electronic waste recycled with the following results:

Regional Activity Centre
for Sustainable Consumption
and Production

Electronic waste recycling (%) 2019 & Evaluation	>75: Satisfactory	62,5-75: Moderately Satisfactory	50-62,5: Moderately Unsatisfactory	<50: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	2 (9%)	0	1 (4%)	8 (35%)	12 (52%)

The rating of the 4c indicator is **unsatisfactory,** with an average of 34% of electronic waste recycled in 2019 in the Mediterranean.

The behavior **SCP indicator 5 "Organic agriculture businesses"** measures sales (millions of €) of organic agricultural products through domestic retail channels. Due to the lack of data, it is evaluated as **unable to assess**.

The behavior **SCP indicator 6 "Plastic waste generation"** measures the amount of plastic waste generated (tonnes/day) by the country. The evaluation is as follows:

Plastic waste generation (t/day) 2015 & Evaluation	<500: Satisfactory	500-1000: Moderately Satisfactory	1000-2000: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>2000: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	10 (43%)	2 (9%)	4 (17%)	6 (26%)	1 (4%)

The rating of this indicator is **moderately unsatisfactory.** The average of plastic waste generation was 1.661 tonnes/ day in 2015.

The behavior **SCP indicator 7** "**Social health. Prevalence of overweight and obesity**", measures the share (%) of a country's population with a body mass index (BMI) of 25 kg/m2 or higher, in females and males. The evaluation for females is as follows:

Social health. Prevalence of overweight and obesity - Females (%) 2016 & Evaluation	<50: Satisfactory	50-60: Moderately Satisfactory	60-70: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>70: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	2 (9%)	10 (43%)	6 (26%)	2 (9%)	3 (13%)

The rating is **moderately satisfactory,** since the average for females was 59,5% in 2016.

On the other hand, the evaluation for males is:

Social health. Prevalence of overweight and obesity - Males (%) 2016 & Evaluation	<50: Satisfactory	50-60: Moderately Satisfactory	60-70: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>70: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	0	5 (22%)	12 (52%)	4 (17%)	2 (9%)

The rating is **moderately unsatisfactory,** since the average for males was 64% in 2016.

Macro-indicators

The macro **SCP indicator 1 "Carbon Footprint (GHG emissions)"** measures the impact on the environment (in terms of GHGs emissions) of both production (industrial) and consumption (at household level) activities. The evaluation is as follows:

Carbon Footprint (GHG emissions) (Mt CO2 emissions) 2016 & Evaluation	<50: Satisfactory	50-100: Moderately Satisfactory	100-200: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>200: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	11 (48%)	4 (17%)	0	6 (26%)	2 (9%)

The rating is **moderately unsatisfactory.** The average of all countries was 118,25 Mt CO2 emissions € in 2016.

The macro **SCP indicator 2 "Water Footprint"** measures the overall freshwater used (directly and indirectly throughout the whole supply chain) in both production and consumption activities. Since there is a lack of data from international databases, it is evaluated as **unable to assess.**

The macro **SCP indicator 3 "Ecological Fooprint"** measures (in global hectares per person) how much of the regenerative capacity of the biosphere is occupied by human demand for resources and services (at country or individual level). The evaluation is as follows:

Ecological Footprint (Global hectares/ person) 2016 & Evaluation	<1: Satisfactory	1-2: Moderately Satisfactory	2-3: Moderately Unsatisfactory	>3: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	0	3 (13%)	4 (17%)	14 (61%)	2 (9%)

The rating is **unsatisfactory.** The average in the Mediterranean was 3,43 global hectares per person in 2016.

The macro **SCP indicator 4a "Green Growth Index"** measures country performance in achieving sustainability targets including SDGs, Paris Climate Agreements and Aichi Biodiversity Targets for four green growth dimensions (efficient and sustainable resource use, natural capital protection, green economic opportunities and social inclusion). The evaluation is as follows:

Green Growth Index 2019 & Evaluation	>80: Satisfactory	60-80: Moderately Satisfactory	40-60: Moderately Unsatisfactory	<40: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	0	5 (23%)	6 (27%)	8 (36%)	3 (14%)

The rating is **moderately unsatisfactory**, since the average was 45,87 in 2019.

The macro **SCP indicator 5 "Business dynamism"** measures the business dynamism pillar of the Global Competitiveness Index 4.0 which assesses the private sector's capacity to generate and adopt new technologies and new ways to organize work, change, risk, new business models, etc. and administrative rules that allow firms to enter and exit the market easily. The evaluation of this indicator is as follows:

Business dynamism (0-100) 2019 & Evaluation	>75: Satisfactory	65-75: Moderately Satisfactory	55-65: Moderately Unsatisfactory	<55: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	1 (4%)	5 (22%)	10 (43%)	3 (13%)	4 (17%)

The average of this indicator in the Mediterranean was 61,55 in 2019. As a benchmarking exercise, the top "business dynamism" country scores per geographic region were the following: Mauritius (64,3) (Africa); United States (83,7) (America); Singapore (84,8) (Asia);

Netherlands (82,4) (Europe); Australia (78,7) (Oceania). The rating is **moderately unsatisfactory.**

2.2. SCP RAP reporting-based evaluation

Contracting parties are obliged to report on the implementation of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols. This includes the reporting on the SCP RAP (COP 20 Decision IG.23/1 on the Revised Reporting Format) under Part III. of the reporting on the LBS Protocol: implementation of regional actions plans (RAPs) and their effectiveness. In view of the mid-term evaluation, UNEP/MAP CU and SCP/RAC kindly reminded Contracting Parties to fulfil their obligation for the reporting under the Barcelona Convention and in particular to complete the reporting on the SCP RAP for the 2016-2017 and 2018-2019 biennium but with limited success. SCP/RAC also invited SCP/RAC Focal Points to inform on challenges faced to complete the reporting in order to consider the feedback received in the evaluation, but with very limited success as well.

To date, for the reporting 2016-2017 biennium, 7 countries' reporting are in a draft status and 15 are completed. For the 2018-2019 biennium, 6 countries did not report at all, 7 countries' reporting are in draft status and 9 are completed. In this section, the reporting period of 2018-2019 is evaluated since it is the most recent report having very similar performance as the 2016-2017 reporting. The rating is evaluated as **unsatisfactory**, since most countries (15 (71%) on average) have not answered to the SCP RAP reporting requirements.

Evaluation of the National Reporting for the Food, Fisheries and Agriculture (FFA) sector

The 1st SCP RAP requirement under the FFA sector is the **"adoption and implementation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)"**. The evaluation is as follows:

Adoption and implementation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) & Evaluation	Yes: Satisfactory	No: Unsatisfactory	No answer: Unable to Assess	Not available: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	5 (24%)	2 (10%)	13 (62%)	0

The action plan target is of 10 countries taking this measure by 2021. The rating is evaluated as **unable to assess**, since there is no information available from 13 countries.

The 2nd SCP RAP requirement under this sector is the **"adoption and implementation of Sustainable Fishing Practices"**. The evaluation is as follows:

Adoption and implementation of Sustainable Fishing Practices & Evaluation	Yes: Satisfactory	No: Unsatisfactory	No answer: Unable to Assess	Not available: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	4 (19%)	0	15 (71%)	2 (10%)

The action plan target is of 10 countries by 2021. Since no information is available from 15 countries, the rating is evaluated as **unable to assess.**

The 3rd SCP RAP requirement under this sector is the **"establishment of certification schemes (eco-labels)** that confirm the sustainable production of food and fisheries products"**.

Establishment of certification schemes (eco-labels) in food and fisheries products & Evaluation	Yes: Satisfactory	No: Unsatisfactory	No answer: Unable to Assess	Not available: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	4 (19%)	1 (5%)	14 (67%)	2 (10%)

The SCP RAP target is of 15 countries by 2021. The rating is evaluated as **unable to assess,** since there is no information from 14 countries.

The 4th SCP RAP requirement is the **"adoption of Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) schemes for food and fisheries products."** The evaluation is the following:

Adoption of Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) for food and fisheries products & Evaluation	Yes: Satisfactory	No: Unsatisfactory	No answer: Unable to Assess	Not available: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	2 (10%)	3 (14%)	15 (71%)	1 (5%)

The plan target is of 10 countries taking this action by 2021. Since 13 countries did not report, the rating is as **unable to assess.**

The 5th SCP RAP requirement is the **"adoption of measures in the field of communication and education** to promote the consumption of sustainable, healthy and local food". The evaluation is the following:

Adoption of measures of communication and education to promote sustainable, healthy and local food & Evaluation	Yes: Satisfactory	No: Unsatisfactory	No answer: Unable to Assess	Not available: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	5 (24%)	0	16 (76%)	0

The plan targets are quite diverse and distributed in several actions. Since no information is available from 16 countries, the evaluation is as **unable to assess.**

Evaluation of the National Reporting for the Goods Manufacturing sector

The 6th SCP RAP requisite under the "Goods manufacturing" sector is the "adoption of measures to implement the **waste management hierarchy**, develop **extended produced responsibility** schemes, and encourage circular economy". The evaluation is the following:

Adoption of measures to implement the waste management hierarchy, develop EPR and circular economy & Evaluation	Yes: Satisfactory	No: Unsatisfactory	No answer: Unable to Assess	Not available: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	4 (19%)	3 (14%)	15 (71%)	1 (5%)

The action plan targets by 2021 are diversified among different actions. The rating is evaluated as **unable to assess,** since no information is available from 13 countries.

The 7th SCP RAP requirement is the "development of policy instruments to support the private sector in the **sustainable design, production and use of manufactured goods**". The evaluation is the following:

Development of policy instruments for the sustainable design, production and use of manufactured goods & Evaluation	Yes: Satisfactory	No: Unsatisfactory	No answer: Unable to Assess	Not available: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	3 (14%)	2 (10%)	16 (76%)	0

The action plan target was to "develop a draft proposal for a policy and regulatory framework on waste management hierarchy" by all countries by December 2017. The assessment is evaluated as **unable to assess**, since no information is available from 16 countries.

The 8th SCP RAP requirement is the "adoption and implementation of **sustainable public procurement** (SPP) in the goods manufacturing". The evaluation is the following:

Adoption and implementation of Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) in the Goods Manufacturing & Evaluation	**Yes: Satisfactory**	**No: Unsatisfactory**	**No answer: Unable to Assess**	**Not available: Unable to Assess**
# countries (%)	3 (14%)	2 (10%)	15 (71%)	1 (5%)

The 2021 action plan target is "at least 3 pilot projects on sustainable/green public procurement in this sector". The rating is **satisfactory,** since 3 countries reported positively by 2019.

The 9th SCP RAP requirement is the "establishment of certification schemes (**eco-labels**) for manufactured goods and awareness raising among the population …". The evaluation is as follows:

Establishment of certification (eco-labels) for manufactured goods and awareness of population on eco-labelled goods & Evaluation	**Yes: Satisfactory**	**No: Unsatisfactory**	**No answer: Unable to Assess**	**Not available: Unable to Assess**
# countries (%)	5 (24%)	1 (5%)	14 (67%)	1 (5%)

For this measure, the action plan targets are distributed among different actions. The rating is evaluated as **unable to assess** since there is no information from 14 countries.

Evaluation of the National Reporting for the Tourism sector

The 10th SCP RAP requirement under the tourism sector is the "creation of **eco-taxes**, **eco-charges or fees** to internalize externalities of tourism activities". The evaluation is as follows:

Creation of eco-taxes, eco-charges or fees to internalize externalities of tourism & Evaluation	**Yes: Satisfactory**	**No: Unsatisfactory**	**No answer: Unable to Assess**	**Not available: Unable to Assess**
# countries (%)	2 (10%)	1 (5%)	17 (81%)	1 (5%)

The 2021 plan target is of 9 countries taking actions. The rating is evaluated as **unable to assess,** since 17 countries provided no information.

The 11th SCP RAP requirement is the "**revision** of the current national tourism **legislation to integrate sustainable principles** and measures". The evaluation is the following:

Revision of the current national tourism legislation to integrate sustainable principle and measures & Evaluation	**Yes: Satisfactory**	**No: Unsatisfactory**	**No answer: Unable to Assess**	**Not available: Unable to Assess**
# countries (%)	2 (10%)	3 (14%)	16 (76%)	0

In view that the SCP RAP target is of 8 countries taking this measure by 2017, the overall rating is **unable to assess,** since 16 countries did not report.

The 12th SCP RAP condition is the "adoption of measures to promote the **diversification of the tourism offer** from mass tourism to alternative forms of tourism". The evaluation is as follows:

Regional Activity Centre
for Sustainable Consumption
and Production

Adoption of measures to promote the diversification of the tourism offer and alternative forms of tourism & Evaluation	**Yes: Satisfactory**	**No: Unsatisfactory**	**No answer: Unable to Assess**	**Not available: Unable to Assess**
# countries (%)	4 (19%)	1 (5%)	16 (76%)	0

The plan targets are diverse among actions. The rating is **unable to assess,** since no information is available from 16 countries.

The 13th SCP RAP requirement is the "adoption of measures to promote **tourism eco-labels** and facilitate their award by tourist facilities." The evaluation is as follows:

Adoption of measures to promote tourism eco-labels and facilitate their award by tourist facilities & Evaluation	**Yes: Satisfactory**	**No: Unsatisfactory**	**No answer: Unable to Assess**	**Not available: Unable to Assess**
# countries (%)	2 (10%)	3 (14%)	16 (76%)	0

The action plan targets are distributed among different actions. The rating is evaluated as **unable to assess** since 16 countries did not report.

Evaluation of the National Reporting for the Housing and construction sector

The 14th SCP RAP requirement under the housing and construction sector is to "develop measures to support **sustainable coastal urban development and green construction**, taking into account the entire life cycle of buildings". The evaluation is as follows:

Develop measures to support sustainable coastal urban development and green construction & Evaluation	**Yes: Satisfactory**	**No: Unsatisfactory**	**No answer: Unable to Assess**	**Not available: Unable to Assess**
# countries (%)	3 (14%)	1 (5%)	17 (81%)	0

The SCP RAP targets for this measure are distributed among different actions. The rating is evaluated as **unable to assess** since 17 countries did not report.

The 15th SCP RAP requisite is to "promote **sustainable public procurement** in the public housing and construction". The evaluation is as follows:

Promote sustainable public procurement in the public housing and construction sector & Evaluation	**Yes: Satisfactory**	**No: Unsatisfactory**	**No answer: Unable to Assess**	**Not available: Unable to Assess**
# countries (%)	3 (14%)	1 (5%)	17 (81%)	0

The action plan target is a "25% increase of the number of countries that have adopted SPP practices" by 2021. The rating is evaluated as **unable to assess,** since there is no information from 17 countries.

Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production

2.3. SCP inventory of initiatives-based evaluation

In order to complement the analysis of the SCP indicators and National Reporting, an inventory of SCP initiatives was performed by eyeing projects and initiatives[7] at global, regional and transnational level supporting the attainment of the operational objectives and actions of the SCP RAP in the four key sectors (Food, Fisheries and Agriculture (FFA); Goods Manufacturing; Tourism and Housing and Construction). This list was complemented by an additional stocktaking of SCP initiatives coming from the stakeholder's consultation process in order to develop a comprehensive list that can be consulted in detail in the Annex 1. SCP flagship initiatives have been organized by SCP sector, operational objectives and geographical coverage (global, regional or transnational).

The inventory resulted in a total of 129 flagship projects and initiatives identified supporting the SCP RAP operational objectives in the four key sectors. Some of the initiatives supported more than 1 operational objective per sector. Of all SCP initiatives inventoried, about 20% are global and 80% regional. In addition, about 20% of SCP initiatives are financed by the EU-funded ENI CBC MED Program and 40% by the EU-Funded Interreg Med Program, particularly on the FFA, tourism and housing and construction sectors, as they are target sectors for both programs. The initial inventory was complemented by an additional stocktaking of SCP-related initiatives coming from the stakeholder's consultation process of the Mid-Term Evaluation.

The number of initiatives inventoried per operational objective (OO) and sector are as follows. For the **FFA** sector, a total of **37** initiatives were identified with the following distribution:

OO 1.1. Promoting Innovation and Knowledge in the implementation of BEP and Technologies in the growing, harvesting, processing and consumption phases…	3 (Global)	17 (Regional)	**20 (Total)**
OO 1.2. Develop the policy and legal framework to promote sustainable agriculture, fisheries and food production and consumption…	5 (Global)	1 (Regional)	**6 (Total)**
OO 1.3. "Sensitize and educate food producers, retailers and consumers to promote sustainability throughout value chains…",	2 (Global)	9 (Regional)	**11 (Total)**

For the **goods manufacturing** sector, a total of **26** initiatives were identified with the following distribution:

OO 2.1. Promote sustainability-driven innovation and knowledge and the integration of Best Available Techniques (BATs) and Best Environmental Practices (BEPs)…	5 (Global)	6 (Regional)	**11 (Total)**
OO 2.2. Develop integrated policy making and the legal framework to promote sustainable consumption, production and recovery…	4 (Global)	4 (Regional)	**8 (Total)**
OO 2.3. Educate and raise awareness of consumers and other stakeholders and support the development of market structures…	4 (Global)	3 (Regional)	**7 (Total)**

For the **tourism** sector, a total of **42** initiatives were identified with the following distribution:

OO 3.1. Develop and promote practices and solutions to ensure efficient use of natural resources and reduce environmental impacts of tourism…	0 (Global)	21 (Regional)	**21 (Total)**
OO 3.2. Promote regulatory, legislative and financial measures to mainstream SCP in the tourism CP area…	0 (Global)	6 (Regional)	**6 (Total)**

---

[7] Inventoried flagship initiatives include global, regional and transnational (which includes bilateral actions) SCP projects of minimum 1 year of project length, active on 2015 and later, implemented in the Mediterranean region or countries and related to the four key SCP Regional Action Plan sectors (Food, Fisheries and Agriculture (FFA); Goods Manufacturing; Tourism and Housing and Construction).

Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production

OO 3.3. Raise awareness, capacities and technical skills to support sustainable destinations and green tourism services…	1 (Global)	14 (Regional)	**15 (Total)**

For the **housing and construction** sector, a total of **24** initiatives were acknowledged with the following distribution:

OO 4.1. Promote innovation and knowledge and the integration of BATs and BEPs…	0 (Global)	11 (Regional)	**11 (Total)**
OO 4.2. Develop and strengthen the regulatory and legal framework to enhance the contribution of the housing and construction sector to sustainable economic development…	2 (Global)	3 (Regional)	**5 (Total)**
OO 4.3. Sensitize and raise awareness of all stakeholders involved in urban planning, housing and construction…	0 (Global)	8 (Regional)	**8 (Total)**

Given the number, quality, diversification, scale and geographic coverage of inventoried SCP flagships initiatives in the Mediterranean region, the rating is evaluated as **satisfactory**.

2.4. Joint consultation with stakeholders on the MSSD and SCP Regional Action Plan implementation

The **consultation phase** aimed at collecting comments, opinions and ideas from key Mediterranean stakeholders involved in the implementation and follow-up of the MSSD and the SCP RAP. Through inclusive, participatory and open discussions, the outcomes of this process contributed to shape the final reports of both Mid-Term Evaluations of those forward-looking policy documents. The detailed outputs from the consultation can be review in the Annex II (results of the stakeholders' consultation).

Results from the online survey

Sixty-nine (69) responses were received through the online survey opened during November-December 2020. Respondents came from most of the **Mediterranean countries:** Italy (16%), Spain (14%), France (10%), Tunisia (9%), Lebanon (7%), Greece (6%), Egypt (4%), Bosnia & Herzegovina; (4%), Turkey (3%), Israel (1%), Algeria (1%), Croatia (1%), Malta (1%), Montenegro (1%), Morocco (1%), Monaco (1%). 16% were from non-Mediterranean countries. Regarding the gender, **55% were female** and 42% were male (3% preferred not to say). Related to the age, **48% were between 41-50 years old;** 26% between 31-40; 12% between 51-60; 6% between 21-30 and 6% between 61-70. Regarding the **sector of origin,** 27% were from international or regional organizations (IGOs); 27% from NGOs; 26% from the public administration/local authority; 12% from the scientific community; and 7% from the private sector.

To the question, if the Mediterranean was on track to implement SCP RAP by 2027, most of the respondents (58%) **did not know if the SCP RAP is on track** to meet its objectives, followed by 30% of respondents that answered in a positive manner.

When checking responses on the SCP RAP transversal actions applicable to the 4 priority areas/sectors taken by countries, respondents highlighted the **"enabling of policy and regulatory conditions to promote SCP"** as the main positive response (31% answered "Yes" and 29% responded "No"). The rest of responses on transversal actions to be taken were predominantly negative or respondents lacked information (Establish financial mechanisms,

Ensure the exchange of knowledge and information, create and develop new business models and Promote the generation and upscaling of civil society led initiatives).

When analyzing responses on the progress on SCP RAP operational objectives by countries, respondents highlighted the "**slow progress**" made in all key sectors as the main response (73% (FFA), 67% (Goods Manufacturing), 63% (Tourism) and 66% (Housing and Construction) of respondents).

According to participants, the **main obstacles towards the implementation of the SCP RAP** were[8]: Investment gaps (66% of respondents); lack of political commitment (60%); low awareness of stakeholders (55%); weak technical capacity (40%).

When checking responses on proposed actions, 63% of respondents stated that **"increase substantially efforts to accelerate the transition towards circular economy as an effective approach to move towards SCP"** as the main response. 24% of participants also stated "**a review of some priorities of the SCP Action Plan is necessary to *build back better"*.**

According to participants, the following **additional sectors** could be added to the SCP RAP: Energy (23% of respondents); transport - logistics (23%); waste management (17%); and water (10%).

Results from online workshops

Several workshops were organized to ensure diverse and representative participation from key stakeholders related to the MSSD and SCP RAP: (5) individual and collective online interviews/ workshops with UNEP/MAP Components (Plan Bleu, SCP/RAC, SPA/RAC & PAP/RAC, REMPEC, MED POL & INFO/RAC); and (2) collective online workshops with MCSD Members and UNEP/MAP Partners. The **Agenda of discussion** (see Annex II) was divided into different phases to cover the main issues identified in the preliminary assessment of the MSSD and SCP Regional Action Plan.

The main comments received around the **state of progress and implementation** of the MSSD and SCP RAP were: 1. **Main obstacles** identified by participants: Lack of political commitment (65% and 88% of RACs and Partners respondents respectively); poor coordination mechanisms (30%, 56%); and investment gaps (45%, 81%); and 2. **Main drivers** identified by participants: High political commitment (65% and 88% of RACs and Partners respondents respectively); efficient coordination mechanisms (40%, 81%); private sector & Citizens engagement (35%, 56%), and communication & Outreaching strategy (30%, 44%).

Regarding the relevance, accuracy and efficiency of mechanisms to supervise and **monitor the implementation** of the MSSD and SCP RAP, participants identified the following: 1. **Main obstacles**: Lack of technical resources (20% and 50% of UNEP RACs and Partners respondents respectively); difficulties to track MSSD/SCP activities at local/national level (75%, 88%); and complexity of current reporting mechanism (30%, 38%); 2. **Main drivers**: UNEP/MAP reporting platform (45% and 75% of RACs and Partners respondents respectively); UN Voluntary National Reviews (30%, 50%); UN-related assessments and reports (45%, 44%); and external studies and papers (such as SDSN, OECD, academia) (25%, 50%).

---

[8] Multiple answers were possible.

The main comments made by the participants around impacts of **COVID-19 crisis** towards the implementation of the SCP RAP, MSSD and SDGs in the Mediterranean were: 1. **Main impacts**: Change in political priorities (55% and 63% of RACs and Partners respondents respectively); disruption of policy / decision making schemes (30%, 56%); rise in (socio-economic) inequalities (40%, 25%); and reduction of investment (15%, 56%); and 2. **Main opportunities**: Investment in Green and Sustainable economy (60% of RACs and 88% of Partners respondents); sound Public policies - Build Back Better (25%, 44%); nature-based solutions (45%, 63%); and digitalization (25%, 56%).

2.5. Evaluation from other sources of information

An effort has been done to review the SCP-related activities implemented by SCP/RAC in the framework of the MAP Mid-term Strategy 2016-2021 and to identify and review key reliable and useful SCP sources of data from recognized intergovernmental and national institutions, academia and think-tanks. The key findings are summarized below:

UNEP/MAP activities supporting the implementation of the SCP regional Action Plan

SCP, together with ICZM and climate change, have been identified as main crosscutting themes to address the main environmental challenges defined in the UNEP/MAP Mid-Term Strategy covering the period 2016-2021. This resulted in the identification of specific activities contributing to SCP in the UNEP/MAP Programmes of Work for the biennium 2016-2017, 2018-2019, 2020-2021 developed by UNEP/MAP and adopted by the Contracting Parties to support the implementation of the UNEP/MAP Mid-Term Strategy. All activities under the SCP Cross-cutting theme were implemented by SCP/RAC. Additional activities under the MTS Core Theme: Land-based Pollution, implemented by SCP/RAC as well, were also SCP-oriented.

In the framework of this evaluation, the activity reports prepared by SCP/RAC on the implementation of its Programmes of Work for the bienniums 2016-2017, 2018-2019, 2020-2021 were reviewed. In those reports, for each of the reported activity, SCP/RAC provided information on the Operational objectives and transversal actions of the SCP Regional Action Plan supported. SCP/RAC supported most of the Operational Objectives with more intensity for the Goods Manufacturing Sector and less intensity for Housing and Construction, FFA and Tourism being intermediate. Significant efforts were also directed towards activities contributing to the transversal actions, applicable to all priority areas.

However, from the reporting provided, it was not possible to measure precisely the exact level of contribution to each operational objective. The contribution of SCP/RAC to the implementation of the SCP Regional Action Plan could be better measured, evaluated if the SCP/RAC Programme of Work would be organized along the structure of the SCP Regional Action Plan. But, in order to do so, this should also be considered within the UNEP/MAP Mid-Term Strategy. The rating of this dimension is **unable to assess.**

Green Growth Index (GGI)[9] ranking for Mediterranean countries

The Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) has developed a composite index that provides policymakers with a metric on which to base their decisions. In this section, we evaluate the "efficient and sustainable resource use (ESRU)" dimension of the GGI Index, which is the most relevant in the context of the SCP RAP. It focuses only on physical resources, such as water, energy, land, and materials. Therefore, it's a useful and an updated tool to measure SCP-related performance. The GGI (SCP macro-indicator 4a) was evaluated in a previous section. The evaluation of the GGI ESRU is as follows:

GGI - Efficient and Sustainable Resource Use (ESRU) 2019 & Evaluation	>80: Satisfactory	60-80: Moderately Satisfactory	40-60: Moderately Unsatisfactory	<40: Unsatisfactory	No data: Unable to Assess
# countries (%)	0	2 (9%)	10 (43%)	11 (43%)	1 (4%)

On average, Mediterranean countries performance is moderate to low when compared to global standards. The rating of this dimension is **unsatisfactory**, since countries average was 37,98 in 2019, showing diverse performance to meet economic, social and environmental sustainability among Mediterranean countries towards a green future. This is clearly shown when looking at the top country scores per geographical region of the ESRU such as: Congo Republic (83,52) (Africa); Uruguay (63,50) (Americas); Sri Lanka (60,97) (Asia); Sweden (75,79) (Europe); Samoa (78,98) (Oceania).

SDSN Sustainable Development Reports

According to the **Sustainable Development Report 2019**, **Mediterranean countries edition**[10], from the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), consistent efforts are required in terms of investments for innovation, particularly concerning sustainable production value chains on the SDG 12 (Sustainable Consumption and Production). The report calls for "more effective strategies to design and implement transformative policies to decouple economic growth from negative environmental impacts and to make the transition towards more circular and green economies".

Regarding the Mediterranean countries scores and trends on the SDG 12 by 2019, the assessment is as follows: No countries achieved the SDG 12; 8 (35%) (80-90) where "challenges remain"; 3 (13%) (70-80) with "significant challenges"; 9 (39%) (<70) with "major challenges"; and 3 (13%) with "no information available". There is no information on SDG 12 trends. As a benchmarking exercise, the top SDG 12 country scores per geographic region are the following: Liberia (99,3) (Africa); Haiti (91,8) (Americas); Afghanistan & Nepal (98,2) (Asia); Moldova (97,0) (Europe); Papua New Guinea (97,6) (Oceania). The rating of this dimension is **unsatisfactory,** since the average index of Mediterranean countries is of 67,8[11] with 12 countries with significant and major challenges ahead.

According to the global **Sustainable Development Report 2020**[12] from the SDSN and related to SCP and the SDG Goal 12, the impact is still unclear. As stated in the report, "in 2020, it

[9] http://greengrowthindex.gggi.org
[10] https://www.sdgindex.org/reports/sustainable-development-report-2019-mediterranean-countries-edition/
[11] The score signifies a country's position between the worst (0) and the best or target (100) outcomes.
[12] https://s3.amazonaws.com/sustainabledevelopment.report/2020/2020_sustainable_development_report.pdf

Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production

seems there is a short-term reduction in natural resource use due to reduced economic activity and consumption as well as pressure to loosen up regulations on circular economy and postpone the adoption of new measures". In addition, it was stated that there is an increased plastic pollution (e.g., used to produce personal protective equipment). Regarding the Med countries scores and trends on the SDG 12, the assessment is as follows: One country achieved the SDG 12; 5 (22%) where "challenges remain"; 8 (35%) had "significant challenges"; 8 (35%) had "major challenges"; and 1 (4%) had "no information available". There is no specific information available on the SDG 12 trends and scores. The rating was evaluated as **unable to assess**, since no information is available on trends and scores.

The UNEP Sustainable Consumption and Production Hotspots Analysis Tool (SCP-HAT)[13]

The SCP-HAT aims at identifying the hot spot areas of unsustainable production and consumption in order to support setting priorities in national SCP and climate policies and providing key information regarding the country's environmental performance in the context of the most relevant policy questions including raw materials use, GHG emissions, air pollution and land use. The SCP HAT is a joint initiative of the UN Environment Life Cycle Initiative, One Planet Network and the UN Environment International Resource Panel. To date, SCP-HAT data goes up to 2015 but it shows interesting long-term trends on decoupling of material footprint, GHG emissions, air pollution and land use. Data beyond 2015 will be updated by mid (Q2) 2021. SCP-HAT can be a useful tool to measure progress of the second implementation period of the SCP Regional Action Plan. No evaluation was implemented due to lack of data from the year of adoption of the SCP Regional Action Plan (2016).

The ratings in Table 1 reflect consideration of the full set of issues affecting or characterizing the SCP RAP performance and impact that are discussed in Chapter 2 of this report. **The overall rating for the Mid-Term Evaluation of the SCP RAP based on the evaluation findings is moderately unsatisfactory.**

Table 1. Summary of Ratings based on Performance Criteria described in Chapter 2 of the Report

Criterion	Rating
II.1. SCP Indicators *(See section 2.1)*	
SCP indicators list update	S
SCP indicators data availability per country	MU
Land Use SCP Indicator 1b "Agricultural area organic"	MU
Land Use SCP Indicator 2 "Global food loss index"	UA
Land Use SCP Indicator 3b "Area of Certified forest"	UA
Water SCP Indicator 1 "Water withdrawal intensity"	MU
Water SCP Indicator 2 "Water Productivity"	MU
Water SCP Indicator 3 "Water resources management"	MU
Energy SCP Indicator 1 "Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption"	MU
Energy SCP Indicator 2 "Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP"	MS
Energy SCP Indicator 3 "Fossil-fuel pre-tax subsidies as a proportion of total GDP (%)"	U
Energy SCP indicator 4 "Renewable electricity-generating capacity"	UA
Pollution SCP Indicator 1 "CO2 emission per unit of value added"	MU
Pollution SCP Indicator 2 "Countries signatory of 1 to 5 international multilateral environmental agreements"	MS
Pollution SCP Indicator 3 "Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter"	U
Pollution SCP Indicator 4a "Index of coastal eutrophication"	MU
Pollution SCP Indicator 4b "Plastic waste littered"	U

---

[13] http://scp-hat.lifecycleinitiative.org

Criterion	Rating
Pollution SCP Indicator 5 "Proportion of wastewater safely treated"	MU
Resource SCP Indicator 1b "Material footprint (MF) per capita"	UA
Resource SCP Indicator 2a "Domestic material consumption (DMC) per GDP"	MU
Resource SCP Indicator 2b "Domestic material consumption (DMC) per capita"	MS
Resource SCP Indicator 3b "Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP"	UA
Behavior SCP Indicator 1 "Number of countries developing, adopting or implementing policy instruments aimed at supporting the shift to sustainable consumption and production"	S
Behavior SCP Indicator 2 "Sustainable public procurement"	UA
Behavior SCP Indicator 3 "Green patents"	MU
Behavior SCP Indicator 4a "Generation of Waste"	UA
Behavior SCP Indicator 4b "Generation of Waste. Electronic waste generated"	MU
Behavior SCP Indicator 4c "Generation of Waste. Electronic waste recycling"	U
Behavior SCP Indicator 5 "Organic agriculture sales"	UA
Behavior SCP indicator 6 "Plastic waste generation"	MU
Behavior SCP Indicator 7 "Social health. Prevalence of overweight and obesity. Females"	MS
Behavior SCP Indicator 7 "Social health. Prevalence of overweight and obesity. Males"	MU
Macro SCP indicator 1 "Carbon Footprint (GHG emissions)"	MU
Macro SCP indicator 2 "Water Footprint"	UA
Macro SCP indicator 3 "Ecological Footprint"	U
Macro SCP indicator 4a "Green Growth Index"	MU
Macro SCP Indicator 5 "Business dynamism"	MU
II.2. SCP RAP National Reporting *(See section 2.2)*	
Overall evaluation SCP RAP National Reporting	U
FFA sector. "Adoption and implementation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)"	UA
FFA sector. "Adoption and implementation of Sustainable Fishing Practices"	UA
FFA sector. "Establishment of certification schemes (eco-labels)"	UA
FFA sector. "Adoption of Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) schemes"	UA
FFA sector. "Adoption of measures in the field of communication and education…"	UA
Goods manufacturing. "Adoption of measures to implement the waste management hierarchy…"	UA
Goods manufacturing. "Development of policy instruments to support the private sector in the sustainable design, production and use of manufactured goods".	UA
Goods manufacturing. "Adoption and implementation of sustainable public procurement (SPP)	S
Goods manufacturing. "Establishment of certification schemes (eco-labels)	UA
Tourism. "Creation of eco-taxes, eco-charges or fees…"	UA
Tourism. "Revision of the current national tourism legislation to integrate sustainable principles and measures"	UA
Tourism. "Adoption of measures to promote the diversification of the tourism offer…"	UA
Tourism. "Adoption of measures to promote tourism eco-labels…"	UA
Housing and construction. "Develop measures to support sustainable coastal urban development and green construction"	UA
Housing and construction. "Promote sustainable public procurement in the public housing and construction sector"	UA
II.3. SCP inventory of initiatives-based evaluation *(See section 2.3)*	S
II.5. Evaluation from other sources of information *(See section 2.5)*	
UNEP/MAP activities supporting the implementation of the SCP RAP	UA
Green Growth Index. "Efficient and sustainable resource use (ESRU)" dimension	U
Sustainable Development Report 2019 (SDG 12)	U
Sustainable Development Report 2020 (SDG 12)	UA
SCP RAP Overall Performance	MU

General Ratings

S   - Satisfactory

MS   - Moderately Satisfactory

MU   - Moderately Unsatisfactory

U   - Unsatisfactory

UA   - Unable to Assess

3. MAIN GAPS, OPPORTUNITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ASSESSMENT

3.1. Main gaps in the SCP RAP implementation

Strategy. UNEP/MAP, through SCP/RAC Programmes of Work associated to the implementation of the MAP Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021 contributed to the implementation of SCP RAP Operational Objectives and transversal Actions, mostly through external funding sources. However, it is difficult to qualify the contribution given that the reporting of SCP-related activities is done through a complex format not following the SCP RAP structure. Efforts should be done to better align the different strategic documents of UNEP/MAP.

Progress and implementation: The progress and implementation of the SCP RAP and SDGs is too slow to match the 2027 (SCP RAP) and 2030 (SDGs) deadlines. The SCP targeted **operational objectives will not be reached** if no strategic action is taken and is efforts are not intensified.

Monitoring: The SCP RAP **monitoring mechanisms are not providing enough information to evaluate the current state of SCP in the Mediterranean.** Regarding reporting provided by the countries on the SCP RAP, for the 2016-2017 Biennium, 7 countries' reporting are still in a draft status and 15 are completed. For the 2018-2019 Biennium, 6 countries did not report, 7 countries' reporting are in a draft status and only 9 are completed. Despite of this, 13-17 (62-81%) countries did not answer on the implementation status of many SCP RAP measures (many lines are just ticked with a "-"), making difficult to conduct the evaluation of the implementation of the SCP RAP by the countries and plan for corrective management and strategic/ supportive actions.

Data gaps: Important **data gaps** exist in terms of geographic coverage, accuracy, timeliness and the level of disaggregation required regarding selected SCP indicators. Country-level data deficits are significant in areas related to SCP (SDG Goal 12 and others).

Visibility: The SCP RAP **has suffered from a lack of visibility, awareness and engagement** from non-UNEP/MAP related key stakeholders, particularly **Mediterranean policy makers** and the **private sector**.

Finance: The **level of financial investment** into SCP RAP actions is insufficient to ensure its effective implementation and reach the operational objectives and targets. Invested funds on SCP-related initiatives are not inventoried being unable to evaluate this dimension.

3.2 Main opportunities for the SCP RAP

Strategy: **The SCP RAP is a strategic instrument that identify very relevant action to accelerate the SDG 12 implementation and other SCP-related SDGs**. Likewise, it is to seize a historic opportunity and should be promoted as a strategic response to the need to build back better in a post COVID-19 context.

Implementation: **The SCP RAP can catalyze the active involvement of Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders**, if further efforts are directed towards establishing better coordination and financial mechanisms.

Upscaling and replication: **The current SCP global and regional flagship initiatives, identified in through this exercise of Mid-Term Evaluation (Annex I),** should be further analyzed. The most **successful ones should be promoted/disseminated in view of their upscaling or replication** at regional, national, subnational and local levels, through adequate financing as well as political and technical support.

Finance: **The enormous investment in post-COVID recovery plans can be directed towards SDGs implementation, and SCP RAP related transformative actions and policies**, providing a unique

Regional Activity Centre
for Sustainable Consumption
and Production

opportunity to accelerate circularity and decoupling, towards a "Mediterranean Green Deal". **Private sector** engagement, **partnership and finance** have a key role to play.

Frameworks: The diversity, complementary and inter-relations between the existing Mediterranean platforms, institutions, initiatives and actors can create major synergies and potential gains that can be harvested through innovative collaboration and multi-stakeholder partnerships such as the SwitchMed Community.

3.3 Main recommendations for the 2ⁿᵈ phase of the SCP RAP implementation

Strategy: The SCP RAP needs to be **better aligned with SDGs towards circular economy, including** social inclusion. In doing so, the key sectors, operational objectives and actions could be reviewed taking into account the big changes suffered from COVID-19 Pandemic. The need for a real green renaissance in the post COVID-19 era could constitute a momentum for the SCP RAP. During the stakeholders' consultations, suggestions were made to expand SCP RAP to key sectors such as energy, transport and logistics. Blue economy sectors could be also considered. UNEP/MAP Mid-Term strategy and associated Programs of Work (POW) should be better aligned with the SCP RAP Operational Objectives and Actions while striving for donor financing on SCP RAP priorities.

Progress and implementation: **UNEP/MAP, and in particular its SCP/RAC** should be **empowered, enhanced technically and financially**, to become the multi-stakeholder platform and a regional forum supporting the SCP and Circular Economy implementation in a timely and effective manner. The SCP RAP should be efficiently re-organized, managed and funded (from public and **private sources**) including transforming policies to advance faster on circularity and decoupling.

Monitoring: A technical assistance and capacity building activity led by UNEP/MAP should be established as soon as possible to **support countries in preparing the mandatory national reporting on the SCP RAP**, including comments and difficulties encountered per each SCP measure taken.

Data: SCP indicators should be further **updated, revised, automated, benchmarked and aligned** with SDGs to improve monitoring and redirected towards Circular Economy, including social inclusion.

Awareness/Visibility: A specific SCP RAP **communication & engagement plan** especially with non-UNEP/MAP related stakeholders (particularly **Mediterranean policy makers** and the **private sector)** should be designed and implemented.

Upscaling and replication: The SCP best flagship initiatives should be selected **in view of their upscaling and replication. New initiatives should be monitored to regularly update the list,** while key SCP RAP target sectors **revised and expanded** to redirect actions and policies towards Circular Economy.

Finance: A financial Circular Economy-SCP plan should be designed and implemented to **attract SCP investors and partners** (public but more importantly from the **private sector**). For example, "alternative" means of finance could be used such as the Sustainable Development Investment Partnership (SDIP)[14], a platform for public-private collaboration to mobilize capital for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In addition, **National and European Recovery Plans** should prioritize a sustainable economy.

---

[14] http://sdiponline.org/

4. CONCLUSIONS

Evaluation: The overall rating for the Mid-Term Evaluation of the SCP RAP, based on the evaluation findings, is **moderately unsatisfactory.**

Strategy: **The SCP RAP is the adequate strategic instrument** to fast-track the SDG 12 and other SCP-related SDGs implementation, but it needs to be appropriately re-oriented towards circular economy, including social inclusion.

Progress and implementation: The progress on SCP is deficient to reach the targeted objectives in 2027 (SCP RAP) or 2030 (SDGs) as shown by most SCP indicators performance and revised recent assessments.

Monitoring: **The SCP RAP monitoring mechanisms are not delivering the current state of implementation of SCP in the Mediterranean.** The status of implementation of SCP RAP measures by the Contracting Parties is unknown in 13-17 (62-71%) Mediterranean countries, depending on the measure.

Data: **SCP indicators were recently expanded providing an enhanced picture of the countries and region SCP performance** but with room for improvement. Relevant countries data gaps still exist. Alignment with SDGs and the Circular Economy dimension could be attained by for example adding SDG indicators on mobility, transport and logistics and social inclusion.

Visibility: **SCP RAP visibility, awareness, engagement and partnership** from non-UNEP/MAP related stakeholders **is low** (particularly from **Mediterranean policy makers** and the **private sector)** with limited investment in communication due to lack of human and financial resources.

Finance: **Investment into SCP RAP actions is not accurately monitored**, but it is limited to ensure its successful implementation and reach operational objectives and targets. Private sector financial mobilization and partnership, alternatives ways of financing as well national and European recovery plans are critical to attain SCP RAP objectives.

Upscaling and replication: **The current SCP global and regional flagship initiatives are numerous and diverse in the 4 key SCP RAP sectors** and might be contributing to the SCP RAP, but its performance, upscaling, dissemination and replication are not monitored in the Mediterranean and cannot be evaluated.

Coherence between information provided by the analysis of initiatives, national reporting and national indicators: The Mid-Term evaluation revealed that there is an impressive number of SCP-related initiatives currently being implemented in the Region, contributing to all the strategic objectives of the SCP RAP. This shows that a diversity of stakeholders is committed towards SCP implementation in the Region. However, these efforts are not reflected into the analysis of SCP indicators nor in the national reporting by the Countries. Results of these initiatives probably need time to be effectively reflected in positive trends for SCP indicators, but further analysis should be made to identify leverage points to increase the direct contribution of SCP RAP related-flagship initiatives to the improvement of the reporting and SCP indicators.

ANNEXES

Annex I: Database of the inventory of SCP-related initiatives

Annex I can be consulted through this link:
https://www.dropbox.com/s/o8ml8pze3aq0ku2/Annex%20I%20Database%20inventory%20of%20SCP%20related%20initiaves_F.pdf?dl=0

Annex II: Results from the Stakeholders' Consultation of the Mid-Term Evaluations of the MSSD and SCP Regional Action Plan

Annex II can be consulted through this link:
https://www.dropbox.com/s/whfhyrfxtty504q/Annex%20II%20Report_Outputs%20from%20Stakeholder%20Consultation_March%202021.pdf?dl=0