



African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production

.What is ARSCP

ARSCP takes its roots from the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI 2002), which called upon the world to adopt sustainable development. 39 sustainable consumption and production (SCP) practitioners from the region of Africa who met in Casablanca, Morocco, in 2004 for the third regional meeting on cleaner production, decided to form an apex organization to convene and network them. They formed the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP) as a platform for promoting SCP in Africa. It is a non-governmental organization with individual, institutional and corporate members. Ten out of the 15 existing National Cleaner Production Centres in Africa were among the first members. Today, ARSCP is the largest public SCP platform in Africa, with 284 members scattered in 41 countries. Patrons of ARSCP are AMCEN, UNIDO, UNEP, while partners include EU and UN agencies such as UNICEF, UNDP, ILO, and others.

ARSCP Vision and Mission

The ARSCP vision is to achieve sustainable development of the African region with effective reduction of poverty and protection of the regional ecosystem.

Its mission is to promote the development of national and regional capacities for the effective promotion and implementation of sustainable production and consumption principles and serve as a regional clearing house for SCP.

Thematic Areas

The African 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP, developed under the Marrakech Process, provides the blueprint for the work and activities of the ARSCP. The first African 10-YFP focused on linking SCP with challenges of meeting basic needs, with water, energy, habitat and industry as key themes. Due to encouraging results the 2012/22 Framework adds sustainability in public procurement, agribusiness, tourism, buildings and construction, waste management and resource efficiency as additional focal areas. Thematic areas will keep changing with time as more work is done. The region's sustainable and poverty alleviation developments depend on implementation of activities in the key focal areas.

.SCP Management and Secretariat

A secretariat based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, supports the activities of ARSCP. The secretariat works under a board. The board comprises 10 members, one drawn from each of the subregions of Africa as well as from academia, women/children and business groups. Members are organized in technical committees, each working in a committee of interest and coordinated by a technical committee chairman and secretariat. There is one technical committee for each current thematic area of SCP.

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What is Sustainable Development

It is development that meets present needs without jeopardizing the ability of future generation to meet their needs.

What is Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)

Sustainable production and consumption is the use of goods and services that respond to basic needs and bring a better quality of life while minimizing the use of natural resources, toxic materials and emissions of waste and pollutants over the product life cycle. It is an overarching condition for sustainable development

Main Objective of SCP

The main objective of SCP is to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems and the decoupling of economic growth from environmental degradation.

Challenge for Africa

The challenge of a shift towards SCP patterns in Africa is to provide more people with a better quality of life without undermining the natural resource base and destroying the ecosystems on which everybody depends. Thus Africa needs SCP to address:

- Inadequate food, water scarcity, inadequate energy, low technology, education and skills;
- Good management of wastes, toxicity, resources, environment and health of its people;

Some Activities on SCP in Africa

ARSCP came about through the Marrakech Process. Today it enjoys a warm relationship with key SCP promoting institutions in the world. These include AMCEN, which has a flagship programme on SCP, UNIDO and UNEP, EU, UNDP, ILO UNESCO. Ongoing SCP Activities include:

- UNEP, UNDP and UN DESA are implementing a joint programme, Supporting a Green Economy Transition in Developing Countries and LDCs: Building towards Rio+20 and Beyond.
- ILO, UNCTAD, UNEP, FAO and ITC are promoting green jobs in the building and construction sector.
- The AfDB is developing African Green Growth Strategy to unleash the potentials for sustainable growth and prosperity on the continent.
- The UN is implementing the Sustainable Energy for All initiative.
- UNIDO-UNEP are implementing a joint programme on Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP).
- The European Commission is set to implement the SWITCH-Africa Green project whose launch is to provide effective approach in promoting SCP in the region by mobilizing the private and public sectors through three strategic components

Selected ARSCP Programmes, Initiatives and Events which Aid Africa's Development

ARSCP actively implements programmes aimed at enhancing SCP development through policy formulation and uptake by the public and business sectors. These include:



Establishment of National Cleaner Production Centres (NCPCs)

ARSCP has pioneered the establishment of National Cleaner Production Centres in several countries in the region. Already 15 NCPCs have been established and several African are in the process of establishing their respective NCPCs. These centres are important for dissemination of eco-innovative technologies. The objective is to have a centre in each country in the region.



Mainstreaming SCP in National and Subnational Development Policies

ARSCP carried out pilot projects in Mauritius and Tanzania, Cairo and Beira at the national and sub-national levels. These pilots showed the potentiality of addressing development issues through SCP. Today, more than 25% of countries have mainstreamed SCP into their development plans. A guideline for doing this has been prepared by UNEP. ARSCP helps countries to carry out this work.



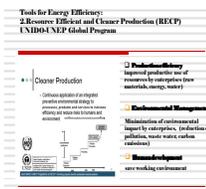
Water Saving Initiatives

ARSCP carried out for breweries in Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Ghana, and later for beverage industries, which showed that with SCP water consumption of these water-intensive industries could be reduced by 50%, resulting in millions of monetary savings. A water saving guideline has been prepared by UNEP and awaits adaptation by industries.



Energy Savings and Renewable Energy

Africa's key energy source is firewood. This has an obvious impact to the ecology and ecosystem. On the other hand, Africa's solutions to energy problems are numerous. ARSCP has campaigned for widespread renewable energy adoption as well as energy saving at homes, industry and transport.



Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production

Resource efficient and cleaner production fosters industrial development through application of SCP. Accordingly, it promotes excellence in resource utilization efficiency and cleaner production. Through UNIDO and UNEP, the regional NCPCs are building capacities for government, business and industry in resource efficient and cleaner production. There are lots of success stories for using RECP in the region including energy and water savings, increased workers safety and waste reduction, recycling or reuse increasing profits. Additionally, we are tackling the e-waste problem.



Enhanced Market Access for Agri-products

ARSCP pioneered the establishment of a regional eco-standard organization aimed at increasing market access of its agricultural produce. Thus, the African Eco-labelling Mechanizm (AEM) has been established in Nairobi, Kenya, which will issue the Eco-Mark Africa label. Look out for the Eco-standards for your adoption.



Announcement
Sixth ARSCP Meetig
" Sustainable consumption and Production as a Vehicle for Green Economy Development in Africa"
2nd June to 4th June
2010, Cairo, Egypt

Biennial Roundtable Meetings on SCP

ARSCP holds biennial roundtable meetings on SCP which discuss emerging issues and new development sharing with global SCP practitioners. Our meetings are the largest SCP meetings in the region. In 2012 it held its seventh meeting in Accra, Ghana, and proposed the African position for the Rio +20 Summit and in 2014. It also held its eighth meeting in Windhoek, Namibia, which dwelt on implementation of the Rio+20 resolutions. The ninth meeting is scheduled in Kampala, Uganda in 2016.

Lets Work Together to spread SCP

ARSCP stands for SCP. We are a network for those who believe that sustainability is an important ingredient for fast development, making more profits, using less to get more, and upkeeping of our planet Earth. It is a win-win strategy where negative climate change impacts are reduced, economies become greener, life quality and business outputs are increased. We work with others through partnerships, joint ventures, programmes and collaborations. Join hands with ARSCP to move the sustainable agenda forward.

Political Will for SCP

Through the Dakar Declaration of March 2006), Africa has shown political will to embrace SCP. It called for promotion of SCP in African countries.. The African Ministerial Council on Environment has repeatedly emphasized the need for governments to develop policies and actions to move towards SCP. The 10-YFP on SCP gives priority activities which can move the region fastest.

Our Key Message

We have only one planet (Earth) and in it Africa is our home. It is the right of everyone to live well in it. Sustainable consumption and production is the most potential means to achieve meaningful development for all. It must be owned by all mankind.

With a balanced ecosystem, crops will grow well, people's health will improve, products will be better and catastrophes will decrease and our planet will survive longer. Education, innovation, knowledge and resource sharing are key to achieving this.

Our key message is for governments to play their part by developing conducive policies and ensuring SCP growth.

Contact:

For your SCP needs in Africa; enquiries, partnerships, joint ventures, 10YFP programmes, and collaborations.



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