



# Marrakech Process on Sustainable Consumption and Production

United Nations



DESA/DSD



Division of Technology, Industry and Economics • Sustainable Consumption and Production Branch • [www.unep.fr/pc](http://www.unep.fr/pc)  
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs • Division for Sustainable Development

## What is the Marrakech Process?

It is a global process to support the implementation of projects on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and the elaboration of a 10-Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP). The process responds to the call of the WSSD Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to develop a 10YFP to support regional and national initiatives to promote the shift towards SCP patterns. UNEP and UN DESA are the leading agencies of this global process, with an active participation of national governments, development agencies, private sector, civil society and other stakeholders. The proposal of the 10YFP will be reviewed by the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) during the 2010/11 two-year cycle.

## Phases of the Marrakech Process

The development of the 10YFP consists of the following phases:

- Organising regional consultations to promote awareness and identify priorities and needs for SCP;
- Building regional strategies and implementation mechanisms with regional and national ownership, to be endorsed by the relevant regional institutions;
- Implementing concrete projects and programmes on the regional, national and local levels to develop and/or improve SCP tools and methodologies, with the Marrakech Task Forces and the Cooperation Dialogue as the main implementation mechanisms;
- Evaluating progress, exchanging information and encouraging international cooperation and coordination.

The Marrakech Process is a global effort to support the implementation of SCP and the elaboration of a 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP to support regional and national initiatives.

## Regional Consultations and Strategies

Nine regional consultations were held between 2003 and 2005 in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean, during which each region identified its needs and priorities in terms of SCP. The development of regional strategies is the main outcome of these regional consultations. The "African 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP" was launched in May 2006 with the institutional support of AMGEN, NEPAD, the African Union, UN ECA and UNEP. Latin America has also developed its regional Strategy on SCP and has officially set up a Regional Council of Government Experts on SCP supported by the regional Forum of Ministers of Environment. Europe is currently in the process of developing its Action Plan on SCP as a response to the EU Sustainable

Development Strategy. Asia is setting up a regional information centre on SCP.

>><http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/sdissues/consumption/Marrakech/conprod10Yregmeet.htm>

The Marrakech Process is also supporting key emerging economies in promoting SCP. National roundtables on SCP have been organised in China (May 2006), India (September 2006) and Brazil (April 2007). One more will be held early next year, in South Africa.

>><http://www.unep.fr/sustain/10year/national.htm>

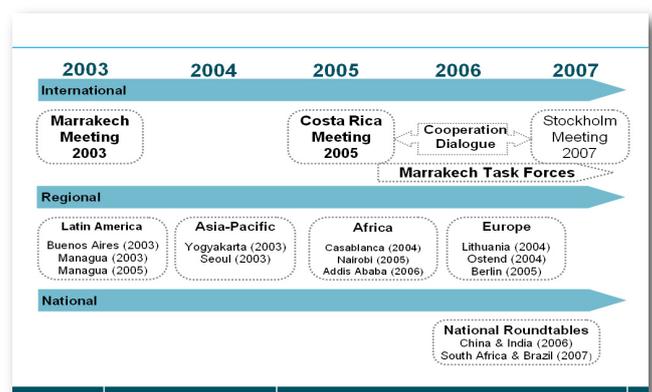
## International Review Meetings

International review meetings are organised every two years under the Marrakech Process in order to report on progress, share experiences and coordinate international cooperation to develop the 10YFP. With the Costa Rica meeting (September 2005), the emphasis has shifted from consultation and priority setting to implementing concrete SCP projects; launching new mechanisms for implementation such as the Marrakech Task Forces and the Cooperation Dialogue with Development Agencies.

The Third International Expert Meeting on the 10YFP was held in Stockholm, Sweden, on 26-29 June 2007. The meeting launched two new mechanisms of the Marrakech Process: the Business and Industry Forum (facilitated by the WBCSD and ICC) and the NGO Forum. A new "Advisory Board" for the Marrakech Process will be established; another round of regional consultations will be held to strengthen regional strategies/initiatives and to obtain feedback on the draft proposal on the 10YFP. The next International Meeting will be held in 2009.

>><http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/sdissues/consumption/Marrakech/conprod10Yglobmeet.htm>

## International, Regional and National Consultations





## Marrakech Task Forces

In order to support the implementation of concrete projects, and to focus on specific themes of SCP, the Marrakech Task Forces have been created with the participation of experts from developing and developed countries. The Marrakech Task Forces are voluntary initiatives led by governments which – in co-operation with other partners – commit themselves to carrying out a set of concrete activities at national or regional level that promote a shift to SCP patterns. So far, seven Task Forces have been created:

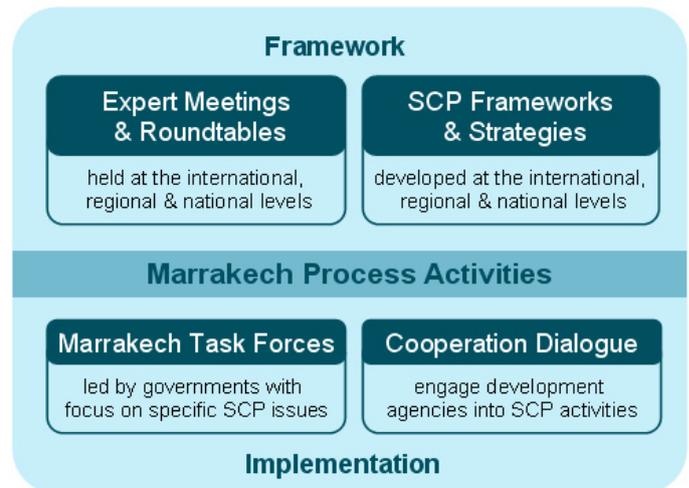
- Cooperation with Africa (led by Germany),
- Sustainable Products (led by United Kingdom),
- Sustainable Lifestyles (led by Sweden),
- Sustainable Public Procurement (led by Switzerland),
- Sustainable Tourism (led by France),
- Sustainable Buildings and Construction (led by Finland),
- Education for Sustainable Consumption (led by Italy).

The Marrakech Process is developing the implementation mechanism through its *Task Forces*, its *Cooperation Dialogue* with development agencies to support national and regional strategies on SCP.

The Task Forces are carrying out a range of activities such as: an eco-label project in Africa; national action plans on SCP; developing tools and supporting capacity building to promote sustainable public procurement; projects and networks on product policy to encourage more innovation on product eco-design and performance; projects on sustainable buildings focusing on energy efficiency; promotion of sustainable lifestyles and education by implementing several demonstration projects and developing policy tools and strategies for sustainable tourism.  
>><http://www.unep.fr/sustain/10year/taskforce.htm>

## Cooperation Dialogue with Development Agencies: Common agenda on SCP and poverty reduction

Another important mechanism for implementing SCP is to work together with development agencies and regional banks. The Cooperation Dialogue aims at highlighting the contribution of SCP policies and tools to poverty reduction and sustainable development, and better integrating SCP objectives in development plans. SCP can contribute to the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals. For developing countries, SCP offers new opportunities such as creation of new markets and job generation, improved management of natural resources, and delinking economic growth from environmental degradation. It is also an opportunity to leapfrog to modern environmentally-sound technologies.



The Cooperation Dialogue is setting up a steering committee with representatives from development agencies and SCP experts and its second Session was held at the Stockholm meeting (June 2007), where policy recommendations to strengthen cooperation for implementation of SCP were made.

>><http://www.unep.fr/sustain/10year/Cooperation%20Dialogue>

## National Action Plans and Indicators on SCP

One of the key recommendations coming out of the regional and international meetings of the Marrakech Process is the need to develop non-prescriptive guidelines to support the implementation of national SCP programmes and action plans. A Manual being drafted by UNEP will provide practical steps for the development and monitoring of national SCP action plans and indicators to monitor progress toward SCP. The manual will also explore the possibilities of including SCP in the existing national policy frameworks such as Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Strategies. It will be illustrated by case studies of some developed and developing countries that have already instituted national SCP programmes.

>><http://www.unep.fr/sustain/initiatives/action.htm>

## Sustainable Consumption and Production Database

This online database provides a basis for learning of international cooperation initiatives on SCP. It can be used by national and regional initiatives seeking international cooperation and support. It identifies the organizations active in each area and the nature of their activities, and indicates sources of further information.

>><http://webapps01.un.org/dsd/scp/public/Welcome.do>

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