



One planet
inform with care

The One Planet Network is the network of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production

The One Planet Programme on Consumer Information

<http://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/consumer-information-scp>

The One Planet Networks' Consumer Information Programme for Sustainable Consumption and Production (CI-SCP) serves as a global platform to support the provision of quality information on goods and services, and the identification and implementation of the most effective strategies to engage consumers in sustainable consumption. It empowers and raises the profile of relevant policies, strategies, projects, initiatives and partnerships, building synergies and cooperation between different stakeholders to leverage resources towards achieving mutual goals.

Objectives of the Programme

- 1) **Improving availability, accessibility and quality of consumer information** to create a basis for the provision of credible information.
- 2) **Driving change in business and government** to ensure that the framework conditions are provided to support best practices in relation to consumer information.
- 3) **Enhancing communication to drive behavioural change** and ensure the transition from being informed to taking action.



What is Consumer Information for Sustainable Consumption?

Consumer information encompasses tools such as ecolabels, voluntary standards, marketing claims and life cycle approaches which provide information on the impacts of goods and services over their lifetime, including the end-of-life. These tools aim to guide consumers in their daily purchasing decisions so that they can make informed choices for sustainable goods and services.

What is the One Planet Network?

The 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP) is a commitment made in 2012 at Rio+20 to accelerate the shift to SCP. Its implementation is target 12.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals. The One Planet network is the multi-stakeholder network that formed to support the implementation of this commitment, providing unified directions, tools and solutions. The One Planet Network has six programmes, the CI-SCP being one of them. UN Environment serves as the Secretariat of the One Planet Network.

The One Planet Network is an open partnership, which countries and organizations are invited to join.

Need more info? Visit www.oneplanetnetwork.org

Why a Programme on Consumer Information?

Research indicates that the demand for sustainable goods and services is high and growing, but consumers often remain unable to make informed choices. The main reasons for this include the lack of transparency, complete information, and the proliferation of labels and standards, which complicate the comparison of information when purchasing goods and services*.

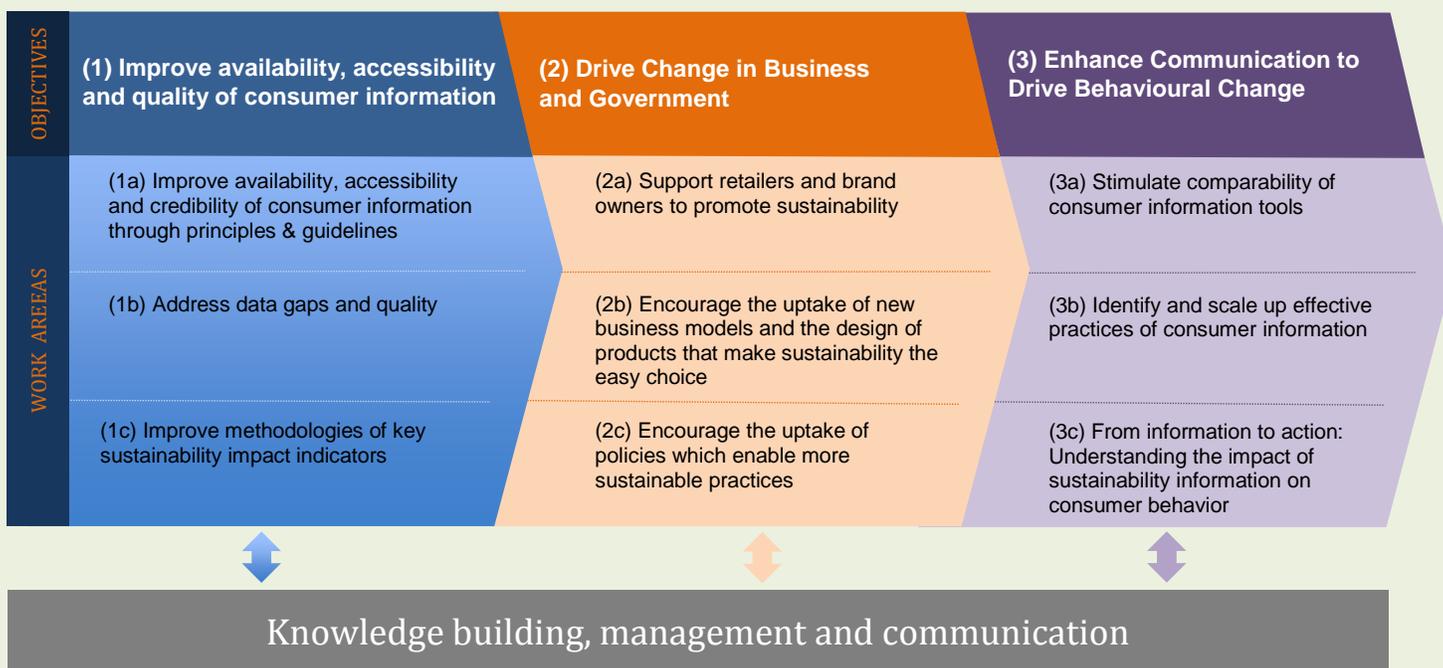
*Big Room, 2012, Sustainability Product Information Tools: Landscape and Strategic Analysis, Prepared for the United Nations Environment Programme, DTIE.

Empowering consumers, businesses, retailers and governments

The Consumer Information Programme for Sustainable Consumption and Production (CI-SCP) provides and facilitates access to practical and comprehensive information to guide and support consumers' choices for sustainable products and services. This means the provision of accessible, reliable and verifiable information based on a life cycle approach, and the tools to communicate and share such information. To achieve this, the CI-SCP is engaging a wide range of stakeholders including consumer associations, businesses, retailers, NGOs and governments in a collaborative process for joint action. This includes:

- **Consumers:** to ensure that relevant, transparent and reliable information on the sustainability of goods and services is available to facilitate purchasing decisions and product use and disposal.
- **Businesses:** to use consumer demand and wider evidence to identify and reduce the negative impacts of their goods and services on the environment and workers over their entire supply chain, and to provide relevant consumer information tools.
- **Retailers:** to voluntarily commit themselves to promoting more sustainable products, providing better information to consumers and reducing environmental and social impacts over their supply chains.
- **Governments:** to stimulate the development of operating markets for sustainable products, and the use of information tools including labels and other incentives that can foster sustainable consumption.

By exchanging and learning from each other, all of these actors can scale up effective practices to address today's environmental, social and economic challenges.



Life Cycle Approach to Enhance the Quality of Information

A life cycle approach is crucial to developing reliable information which considers environmental, social and economic impacts along the life goods and services. It implies the understanding that materials are extracted from the earth, converted into process materials, combined with other materials to make parts, assembled into a finished product, shipped to customers who use the products and finally, the products are disposed of in some fashion. Along that value chain, energy and other natural, social and economic resources are used, waste generated, and the related impacts, both positive and negative, are distributed across societies to varying degrees around the globe. A life cycle approach will help to reduce the negative impacts and accentuate the positive.



Structure of the Consumer Information Programme for Sustainable Consumption and Production

The CI-SCP is co-led by **Germany** through the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety; **Indonesia**, through the Ministry of Environment and Forestry; and **Consumers International**.

A **Multi-stakeholder Advisory Committee (MAC)** – comprising governments and institutions - oversees the programme's coordination and implementation. **Governments:** Brazil, Chile, France, and the United Kingdom; **Inter-governmental organisations:** European Commission; **International organisations:** International Trade Centre (ITC), UN Environment, and the Life Cycle Initiative; **NGOs, Networks and Private Sector:** 3kell LLP, AKATU Institute, Centre for Responsible Business, Global Ecolabelling Network, International POP Elimination Network, Microsoft, Organización de Consumidores y Usuarios, The Consumer Goods Forum, The Sustainability Consortium, WRAP, and WWF International.

In addition to the MAC members, partners across the globe are welcome to join the Programme. They contribute, participate and benefit from various activities of the programme, including workshops, trainings, policy tools, information sharing on best practices and lessons learned.



Guidelines for Providing Product Sustainability Information

A key outcome of the CI-SCP, the Guidelines aim to benefit both the consumer and the producer by outlining how companies can provide quality information to empower sustainable consumption decisions, and also serving as a reference for governments, standard and labelling bodies and NGOs. The Guidelines were developed through a working group of the CI-SCP led by UN Environment and the International Trade Centre and aim to strengthen good practices and build international understanding and consensus in this field. They received high level consideration at the United Nations Environment Assembly 3, being noted in the Environment and Health Resolution.

Download the Guidelines here: <http://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/resource/guidelines-providing-product-sustainability-information>

Why should I join?

- Access a broad network of organisations and individuals working together on providing quality and effective consumer information.
- Share your experiences and/or resources and learn from others.
- Scale up and replicate best practices in your country and region.
- Apply for financial support for consumer information activities in developing countries through the Trust Fund.



How can I get involved?

The CI-SCP is open to organisations and individual experts interested in joining a collaborative platform to support activities that relate to consumer information and the objectives of the CI-SCP. Download the application form today at <http://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/consumer-information-scp/how-get-involved>



Contact us: CI-SCP Coordinating Desk
CISCP@un.org



Register your consumer information activities and get the latest news on our activities at our website: www.oneplanetnetwork.org

Scan and find out more!



 @GlobalISCP
@10yfp



Eco-labels as a tool to communicate the sustainability performance of products

Ecolabels are known as an effective marketing tool to communicate environmental friendliness of products to consumers and are a key tool to support implementation of green (public) procurement in many developed and developing countries worldwide. Many governments and industry groups recognize that eco-labelling could provide sought-after economic incentives for better long-term stewardship and availability of natural resources important for national economic welfare. To further drive progress in this area, a CI-SCP working group, led by the Global Ecolabelling Network, GIZ Thailand and UN Environment, supports emerging eco-labelling initiatives around the world. Learn more at: <http://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/initiative/working-group-2-type-i-ecolabels>



Extending the lifetime of products

Through product lifetime extension, the rate at which we use up (natural) resources and produce waste can be radically reduced, while the economic value embedded in our products is preserved as much as possible. However, especially in developed countries, rapid replacement cycles have become the norm and consumers express feeling "locked-in" to wasteful consumption patterns. The CI-SCP is providing policy recommendations and identifying best practices in this area, especially on strategies of how to enable consumers to tackle this issue.

Learn more in the report 'The Long View': <http://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/resource/long-view-exploring-product-lifetime-extension>



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety



Ministry of Environment and Forestry
Republic of Indonesia



**CONSUMERS
INTERNATIONAL**