

Side event for Twenty-fifth session of the Governing Council, UN-Habitat
Launching of the 10YFP Programme on Sustainable Buildings and Construction (SBC)

Monday, 20 April 2015 from 02:00 to 02:45 PM, Conference Room 10

Refreshments will be served after the event by the Finnish Embassy

Speakers

Ms. Sofie From-Emmesberger

Finnish Ambassador and Permanent Representative to UNEP & UN-Habitat

Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw

Deputy Executive Director and Assistant Secretary-General, UNEP

Dr. Aisa Kirabo Kacyira

Deputy Executive Director and Assistant Secretary-General, UN-Habitat

Mr. Pekka Huovila

Coordinator for the Ministry of the Environment, Finland

The event launches the Sustainable Buildings and Construction Programme (SBC) that contributes to the implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP on SCP). SBC is one of the five initial 10YFP programmes that were adopted in Rio+20 outcome document the Future We Want in 2012.

Buildings and construction have major impacts on our environment in its resource use (land, materials, energy, water); emissions (GHG, particulates, waste) and on biodiversity. These sectors can also play an important role in improving the environment by cleaning polluted areas and recycling not only their own waste streams but those of other sectors in their own production and consumption. In addition, buildings contribute to human health, safety and comfort. Construction activities provide employment and innovation opportunities for both genders and to the youth. The built environment represents an important share of national wealth.

The overall aim of the SBC programme is to achieve a situation, by 2030, where all stakeholders involved in the planning, commissioning, design, construction, use, management and deconstruction of buildings have a common understanding of sustainable buildings and the knowledge, resources and incentives required to create, maintain and use them; structures that are healthy to live and work in, that responsibly utilise energy, water, land and other key resources, respecting environmental limits, and ultimately have a minimally adverse impact on the natural world, supporting social and economic development.