

## One Planet Network Executive Committee 2021

*Online sessions – 14-15 June 2021*

### MEETING REPORT

The One Planet network<sup>1</sup> online Executive Meeting 2021 gathered members of the 10YFP Board and Group of Friends for SCP, Programme leads and coordination desks, UN agencies, the SCP science-policy task group, and the secretariat ([participant list here](#)).

The Executive Meeting took place back-to-back with Coordination Desks' review of experience workshop (10 June 2021) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> virtual workshop of the 10YFP Board and Group of Friends for SCP (18 June 2021).

The meeting was co-chaired by Ms. Martine Rohn-Brossard, Vice-Chair of the 10YFP Board, Head of Europe, Trade and Development Cooperation Section and Deputy Head of International Affairs Division, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland, Mr. Ulf Jaeckel, Lead of the Consumer Information programme, Head of Division, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany and Ms. Sheila Aggarwal-Khan, Director, Economy Division, United Nations Environment Programme.

The objectives of the meeting were to:

1. Share experience and lessons learned from the One Planet network and agree on a way forward to further connect communities and agendas promoting the shift to sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns by 2022 and beyond, with the aim of broadening this global movement;
2. Reaffirm the role of science and share insights, including through the application of value chain analysis and engagement, on prioritization (sectors, value chain consultations, intervention areas) as a fundamental principle for the development of a post-2022 strategy on SCP;
3. Explore options to secure commitments on SCP, as a means to support and accelerate implementation.

The meeting consisted of four online sessions over two days (Agenda [here](#)):

1. Introductory session (day 1)
2. A common ambition: building and mobilizing the global movement for SCP (day 1)
3. Prioritization for high-impact actions and systemic change (day 2)
4. Commitments on SCP to achieve sustainable development (day 2)

This report summarises key messages and recommendations made throughout the Executive Meeting. All meeting documents are available at the dedicated space on the One Planet network website ([here](#)).

The complete set of presentations for both days can be accessed [here](#).

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<sup>1</sup> The One Planet network implements the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production



## A common ambition: Building and mobilising the global movement for SCP

This session focused on sharing experiences and lessons learned from implementation of the 10YFP as a foundation for building a global movement on SCP. The session was chaired by Martine Rohn-Brossard, Vice-Chair of the 10YFP Board, Head of Europe, Trade and Development Cooperation Section and Deputy Head of International Affairs Division, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland.

### Key Messages

**There is momentum and a window of opportunity to accelerate and reinforce multilateral cooperation on SCP in the context of the 2030 Agenda. Unsustainable consumption and production patterns are now broadly recognized as one of the main drivers of the global crises we are facing - climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution – as well as of the Covid-19 pandemic:**

- Countries around the world are taking more active and ambitious engagements (e.g. new climate targets, increased attention to biodiversity), and have started adopting a consumption-based approach to reach their objectives (e.g. adoption of consumption-based targets in Germany, France’s strategy to combat imported deforestation);
- More efforts are needed to promote and implement a systematic approach to ensure public policies effectiveness, as integration remains a challenge at both international and national levels.
- The year 2021 is particularly important, with key conferences and summits taking place on biodiversity, climate and food systems. Awareness raising efforts are also needed to help people understand the multiple benefits brought by SCP, over the past years and in the future.

**The One Planet network and its champions have demonstrated their capacity to mainstream transformative approaches, set the agenda and bring multiple communities on board to support the shift to SCP. Several examples, among many others well reflected in the annual report to HLPF, were shared during the meeting, including:**

- The Sustainable Food Systems programme’s efforts to pave the way to the UN Food Systems Summit, engaging in multiple international fora, including HLPF, UNEA and FAO conferences. Those efforts have:
  - Helped broaden the range of actors who understand what SCP means, and bring this to an even larger range of constituencies working on sustainable food systems.
  - Created an opportunity for the One Planet network to influence the outcomes of the Summit, including the action statement from the UN Secretary-General, Member States’ commitments to take action with policies and investments, and the multi-stakeholder coalitions that will drive its action tracks.
- The Sustainable Lifestyles and Education programme’s efforts to reach out to local actors and communities, for instance through their Search for Sustainable Schools programme and a number of Trust Fund projects taking place at the community level which are integrating and promoting the use of specific tools to measure carbon reductions from sustainable lifestyles.

**There is an opportunity to promote the centrality of SCP to addressing the climate, nature and pollution crises, but challenges remain to demonstrate and understand this key role and reflect its centrality in decision-making, planning and action:**

- o Bringing the SCP perspective into the national delivery of international commitments and MEAs remains a challenge: for instance, the potential SCP policies and actions to support these commitments, such as Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement, are far from being fully realized.

- There is a need to improve communication and collaboration between the different focal points (10YFP NFPs, MEA focal points, etc) at the national level to trigger the up-take of the integrated approach to implement SCP. Multiple opportunities to engage these focal points collectively can be explored, such as the regional briefings organized by the 10YFP Secretariat and Board members, side events, ministerial meetings, webinars, etc.

**The 10YFP can play a coordination role and provide a common umbrella to connect the dots, strengthen outreach and bring together other agendas and communities. This would notably require:**

- Use the guidance provided by science on the interdependent impacts of unsustainable consumption and production patterns, referring to the work of the IRP and other scientific bodies, such as the recent [joint IPCC-IPBES workshop report](#) on the trade-offs between climate actions and biodiversity.
- Monitor and communicate more systematically on the different policies and instruments reported across the One Planet network related to the climate, nature and pollution crises. The One Planet network could reach out to MEAs' constituencies and governing bodies to promote SCP policies, tools and solutions that work and which have a positive impact on their respective agendas. This could be through the participation of SCP experts in MEAs' related consultations and initiatives.
- The One Planet network could also be involved in MEAs' implementation activities and existing campaigns, such as revision of Nationally Determined Contributions and the NetZero campaign of the UNFCCC.

**The post-2022 strategy for SCP must build on the experience and capacity of the One Planet network, which provides a strong foundation for a global movement for SCP, but acceleration and scaling-up, inclusiveness and coordination are essential:**

- The One Planet network has grown over the last eight years into a broad and unique community of practice at a global level, and one that is recognized in the 2030 Agenda. The programmes have become more strategic and focused, developing the capacity to deliver together on key issues, systemic trends and most recently on high-impact value chains.
- More partnerships and initiatives, engaging with other alliances must be engaged so that SCP tools and solutions can be adjust and marketed to key target groups in order to apply in a wider range of contexts, addressing outstanding needs such as that of finance for the transition to SCP. In the meantime, reinforcing collaboration across the programmes and developing more integrated, transversal activities is required to harness the power of the network.

**The One Planet network, with the legitimacy provided by the original UNGA mandate that establishes the 10YFP and its referencing in the 2030 Agenda, have strong value added and are assets to be further developed:**

- The One planet network is now consolidated and established, with a broad range of stakeholders engaged and the capacity to generate a multiplier effect through its actions. Efforts are needed however to give more visibility to the champions that have been engaged.
- The capacity of the One Planet network to partner with private sector entities and companies is a strong asset which should be further developed. The network can also play a crucial role with consumers, helping to disseminate and reinforce sustainable behaviours.
- The One Planet network provides access to expertise, effective tools, methodologies and concrete experiences to advance SCP in multiple sectors. Further developments are needed to implement those outputs with a wider range of public and private actors, in a pragmatic way, and to provide technical support to countries for policy implementation.
- The network has also developed and implemented a strong monitoring and reporting mechanism, which is a unique instrument to track progress on SCP on many fronts, linked to the 2030 Agenda. This can be used beyond the network, by many more partnerships and initiatives supporting the shift to SCP.

**The One Planet network provides a strong foundation for a global movement on SCP, yet it does not own all of the efforts and activities needed to operate the shift to SCP: other key platforms and initiatives, including**

those dedicated to circular economy, should be invited to participate in the design and implementation of a post-2022 global strategy on SCP. The global movement on SCP should be seen as an outcome of such implementation, and must engage role models and opinion leaders to secure participation of citizens around the world.



## Prioritization for high-impact actions and systemic change

The Session focused on the need for a post-2022 global strategy on SCP with clear and concrete priorities and objectives, that are defined based on scientific evidence and build on the experience and knowledge of the One Planet network and its programmes. It was chaired by Sheila Aggarwal-Khan Directory, Economy Division, United Nations Environment Programme.

### Key Messages

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**The 2022 horizon provides us with an opportunity to build a new global strategy on SCP that pushes the boundaries and breaks silos among the many communities supporting the transition to a more sustainable economy. Natural resources are the foundation of our global economy, which relies on the consumption and production of goods and services, and the major cause of the three planetary environmental crises: the extraction and processing of natural resource materials causes 50% of climate change, 80% of water stress and 1/3 of global air pollution. 80% of global land-related biodiversity loss is caused by resource extraction and the production and processing of biomass.**

**Without drastic changes in the way we produce and consume global consumption of natural resources is predicted to double by 2060 (IRP), which will have catastrophic consequences on biodiversity, our climate and the environment at large, as well as on inequalities globally.** Shifting towards sustainable economic models which operate within planetary boundaries means absolute decoupling for high-income countries, while still providing low-income countries the opportunity to grow and meet their consumption needs.

**Through the International Resource Panel, the scientific community calls for a paradigm shift which redefines consumption and production models, from “owning” to “using”, from quantity (“mass sales”) to quality (“efficient functionalities”).** New signals must be sent to the markets, including through economic incentives such as taxes and subsidies, as well as affordability of sustainable goods and services. There is a need to capitalise on public and private finance, in a way that builds opportunities for people and communities. Signals should also emphasize producers’ accountability for destroying natural capital as opposed to shifting the to the responsibility onto consumers.

**Designing and implementing an ambitious and transformative post-2022 strategy on SCP requires close cooperation with the International Resource Panel (IRP):** multilateral and multi-stakeholder cooperation on SCP must rely on science (natural as well as social sciences) to inform strategic choices and actions. On the other hand, the Network could contribute to making the analysis more powerful by sharing the knowledge and experience of SCP practitioners who are actively supporting this transition.

**The up-take of the existing scientific knowledge made available by the IRP (e.g. on natural resources, climate change and biodiversity) as well as of future research (e.g. on resource management for economic and social transformation) should guide prioritization.** This will identify the sectors, value chains and/or policy interventions where the largest benefits from SCP can be secured. A cooperation mechanism between the IRP and those implementing the 10YFP could be embedded in the post-2022 strategy, to ensure the network’s scientific relevance and its capacity to integrate and apply new knowledge as it becomes available.

**Guiding principles and criteria for prioritization of high-impact sectors and/or intervention areas should be established.** Priorities are too often set in an opportunistic rather than in a science-based and strategic way (e.g. on the basis of available funding). An initial list of guiding principles and criteria includes:

- A strong scientific foundation and expected large-scale responses to the three planetary crises – climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution –, taking into account interlinkages and relationships with natural resource use;
- Potential to trigger transformative change within systems and along value chains, focusing on drivers and influential actors at all levels;
- Alignment with engagements / commitments made under MEAs and other key international processes, including the UN Food Systems Summit, and with the priorities set through related initiatives, especially at sectoral level (e.g. Climate Action Pathways, outcomes of the UNFSS);
- Availability of support systems, expertise, resources and tools to accompany countries in their efforts to implement SCP policies and fulfil their commitments (e.g. Nationally Determined Contributions)
- Potential to enable and encourage cooperation across programmes/initiatives.

**The global SCP strategy could identify clear priorities and objectives at two levels: 1) on the one hand, tackling deep socio-economic and environmental transformations; 2) on the other hand, focusing on high-impact systems, sectors and hotspots within those sectors.** More specifically, the following were discussed during the meeting:

- **Deep socio-economic and environmental transformations:** circularity; consumption-based approaches; digitalization (inc. e-commerce); fiscal policies & national budgeting; lifestyles & job markets.
- **High-impact systems/sectors, including those already addressed by the One Planet network:** food systems; Infrastructure, buildings & construction; Transports/mobility; Textiles/fashion; ICT/electronics; Tourism; Health; Plastics.

**The global SCP strategy should be designed in a way that allows programmes, initiatives and partners to operate through a systems approach. Within that context, the methodology developed by the One Planet / IRP Task Group (established by UNEA 4) to identify and address the key drivers of environmental impacts along value chains in high-impact sectors is key. For many sectors, the value chain methodology provides:**

- An opportunity to take into account the complex feedback loops that influence operations and behaviours along the value chain, which drive resource use and environmental impacts, and thereby enhance transparency;
- A tool to create a common global narrative that goes beyond national borders, to take into account the consumption footprint of high-income countries as well as impacts embedded in imported goods and services (e.g. up to 80% of textiles consumed in Sweden imported from outside the EU).
- Practical ways to shift from linear to circular models, engage key stakeholders and actors, including the private sector, and identify technology development and transfer needs;
- An opportunity to enable cross-programme cooperation and for individual programmes to work at the intersection of several sectors: for instance, the food value chain consultations organized as a follow-up to the report released by the One Planet / IRP Task Group, helped the Sustainable Tourism programme understand the key role of the tourism sector in influencing practices within food systems - this led to the collaborative development of a Global Roadmap on Food Waste and Loss in the Tourism Sector.

**UN Stockholm + 50 conference to take place in June 2022 presents an opportunity to launch the global strategy on multilateral cooperation for SCP post-2022. The conference offers a platform to promote transformative change in our consumption and production systems with the focus on accelerating the implementation of sustainable recovery.**

- Other high impact meetings have paved the way to this opportunity by increasing the profile of SCP on the international stage. For example the G20 Tourism Ministers recognizing the need for a green transformation.



## Commitments

This session focused on defining and developing commitments as a means to support and accelerate SCP implementation, based on existing models within the One Planet network and beyond, as well as options to be explored for the future. The [new SDG 12 Hub](#) was presented as a key instrument to monitor progress on commitments made under SDG 12 and the implementation of its targets. The session was chaired by Mr. Ulf Jaeckel, Lead of the Consumer Information programme, Head of Division, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany.

### Key Messages

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**Defining clear objectives, priorities and targets is a condition for a new strategy to be successful, as well as to trigger meaningful commitments from Member States and other stakeholders, including the private sector, ensuring the level of ambition translates into action.** Commitments can also help mobilize financial resources for concrete activities.

**Commitments have already been made on various issues, such as climate change, biodiversity and natural resources, and are being formulated through key international processes such as the UN Food Systems Summit.** Those existing and forthcoming commitments directly contribute to achieving SDG 12, and some explicitly cite the objective of SCP. The One Planet network programmes have already started working on those commitments but more emphasis should be put on supporting their implementation (e.g. zero carbon by 2050; forthcoming outcomes of the UNFSS). Identifying such commitments and linking them to the post-2022 global strategy on SCP would help identify gaps and encourage new commitments at various levels.

**Existing or new commitments to be linked to the post-2022 strategy should focus on action (as opposed to pledges).** These could be based on: partnering with existing initiatives to avoid replication, providing stakeholders with the knowledge and tools they need to accelerate implementation, and acknowledging and highlighting those stakeholders who act on their commitments. The Global Tourism Plastic Initiative (GTPI) provides an inspiring example for the future, as a commitment mechanism established within the One Planet network. This shows stakeholder engagement and accountability, strategic prioritization and multiple positive outcomes (on climate, biodiversity and pollution). Signatories benefit from taking part in the initiative in various ways and report annually on the implementation of their commitments.

**The commitments linked to the post-2022 strategy should also come with a follow-up and monitoring mechanism. The SDG 12 Hub is an example of such a mechanism,** which supports governments in the monitoring and reporting on progress against all SDG 12 targets and indicators, and more broadly contributes to raising awareness about SCP. The new One Planet network website that will be launched shortly, will offer new ways of sharing knowledge and information while tracking progress on SCP more broadly, including through its monitoring and reporting tool.



## Action points and next steps

The Executive Meeting 2021 online session was closed by Mr. Ulf Jaeckel, Lead of the Consumer Information programme, Head of Division, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany and Ms. Sheila Aggarwal-Khan, Director, Economy Division, United Nations Environment Programme.

### The sessions of the Executive Meeting 2021 have clearly emphasised:

- The importance of the transition phase to beyond 2022 and the opportunity it offers to review and build on what has been achieved through the One Planet network to support the implementation of the 10YFP, SDG 12 and SCP more broadly. The network and its programmes have grown and become stronger, and offer a strong foundation for an ambitious and broader global movement for SCP.
- The transition is also an opportunity to jointly define, through a global SCP strategy, what is most needed to deliver on the 2030 Agenda and to prioritize action, while being more inclusive, scaling up and accelerating implementation. One key guiding principle in the development of such strategy is that it will allow for systematic collaboration across programmes and enable the engagement of other relevant initiatives and alliances.
- A clear strategy implemented through effective support networks and monitoring mechanisms, such as those established through the One Planet network, could lead to commitments for action from various stakeholders, including governments and the business sector.

### Action points for follow up and next steps include:

- **Build on the current global momentum for SCP and use every opportunity to communicate on SCP as the transition needed to address effectively climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.** This means connecting the dots between policies, actions and communities of practice, engaging with the MEAs and related initiatives, as well as with the UNFSS, through:
  - o Raising awareness on SCP at key conferences and summits taking place in 2021 and 2022 (e.g. UNFSS, COP 26 of UNFCCC, COP 15 of CBD) and coordinating engagement across the network. This can be through the establishment of a joint advocacy group, development of joint briefing packages to promote consistent messaging and speak with one voice, engagement of SCP experts in MEAs and other conferences such as UNFSS related consultations and initiatives to inform and support event outcomes .
  - o Facilitating participation of MEAs secretariats and/or constituencies in the consultations and development of the post-2022 global strategy on SCP. This includes multiple outreach activities (e.g. regional briefings organized by the Secretariat, ministerial meetings, side events, webinars) and facilitating communication and collaboration across various networks of focal points (10YFP, MEAs, other frameworks such as SAICM) at the national level.
- **Support the inclusive development of the post-2022 strategy on SCP. The Secretariat will share a proposal for the strategy development methodology and process,** as well as for an initial outline, based on the outcomes of the Executive meeting. This will be consulted with the Group of Friends on SCP and the members of the Executive Committee of the One Planet network. The proposal will include elements on:
  - o Guiding principles and criteria for prioritization, and potential priority areas for further discussion and elaboration.
    - One of the core principles for the development of the strategy should be the application of the systems approach, including, where relevant, value chain analysis and engagement.

- The strategy should also be designed in a way that ensures systematic collaboration between the programmes of the One Planet network, including through the definition of common objectives.
  - Scientific and objective identification of strategic drivers, hotspots and/or types of intervention areas the strategy should focus on, as well as of relevant targets established under MEAs or other relevant international frameworks on climate change, biodiversity and pollution (including those on chemicals and waste).
  - Other platforms, initiatives or alliances, including those dedicated to circular economy, to be invited to take part in the development and subsequent implementation of the global SCP strategy.
  - **Options to establish a cooperation mechanism to engage the International Resource Panel**, to be embedded in the global SCP strategy, in order to ensure its scientific relevance and enhance the capacity of implementation partners to integrate new knowledge as it becomes available.
- **Broaden the network and give more visibility to its champions. This could be done through:**
- Engaging ambassadors for SCP, who would help shed light on the activities of the network and promote cooperation with other institutions and networks.
  - Further engage with the business sector and innovators using a language they understand and making the case for the benefits of SCP. More specifically, the possibility of initiating a call for start-ups to join the network and contribute to initiatives designed by the public sector should be explored.