

## **Securing a common strategy for SCP and commitments for action**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> virtual workshop of the 10YFP Board and the Group of Friends for SCP**

**18 June 2021**

#### **Summary report**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> virtual workshop of the 10YFP Board and Group of Friends for SCP was held on 18 June 2021, at the initiative of Argentina and Switzerland (Chair and Vice-chair) with the support of the 10YFP Secretariat. This workshop was organized back-to-back with the annual Executive Meeting of the One Planet network, which took place on 14-15 June 2021.

The workshop was opened by Mr. Rodrigo Rodriguez Tornquist of Argentina, Chair of the 10YFP Board, Secretary of Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Innovation, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Argentina, who chaired the discussions with 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.

The objective and expected outcomes of the workshop were as follows:

- Provide an update on progress made since the 2nd workshop of the Group of Friends, including on: securing extension of the mandate establishing the Framework, Member States' engagement, the One Planet network Executive Committee Meeting and preparations for key international events.
- A common understanding of what a new global strategy on SCP should entail and its main components (priority areas, goals, objectives and/or targets, inclusiveness and ownership) and recommendations for the inclusive drafting, validation and launching of the strategy.
- Recommendations on securing commitments to implement the new strategy as a means to accelerate and monitor implementation, among other factors contributing to the operationalization of the strategy.

The 10YFP Secretariat shared updates and information with the participants to introduce the discussions on the following items:

- Progress update on the road to 2022 (key messages from the 2021 Executive Meeting of the One Planet network, post-2022 regional briefings for National Focal Points, value chain consultations in the food and construction sectors and key milestones ahead);
- Scenarios for building a new global strategy for SCP (value added, possible structure, next steps and proposed process for the drafting of the strategy).
- Overview of criteria for effective voluntary commitment mechanisms and examples of sustainable development commitment models.

Ms. Izabella Teixeira, Co-Chair of the International Resource Panel, gave a presentation on the "2021 Strategic Planning Exercise of the IRP" and high-impact areas identified.

All presentations of the meeting are available here ([link available soon](#)).



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## INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

**Mr. Rodrigo Rodriguez Tornquist of Argentina, Chair of the 10YFP Board**, opened the workshop and conveyed the following messages in his opening remarks:

- The vision and the messages developed by the Group of Friends for SCP since it first met in November 2020 have inspired many discussions and have mobilized key actors. There is a strong momentum among Member States, across the One Planet network and beyond, and eagerness to engage in the “post-2022 process”.
- We need to build on this momentum, continue raising the profile of SCP and mobilize key international fora, such as the G20, the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, COP 26 on Climate Change, COP 15 on Biodiversity.
- At our second workshop, many supported the idea of extending the 10YFP mandate beyond 2022 and aligning it with the 2030 Agenda. However, it was highlighted that there remains a need for an ambitious and transformative strategy on SCP to implement that mandate, together with commitments for action, as a means to support and accelerate implementation.
- Discussions have started on what and how such a strategy should deliver. The key principles that should guide the development of the strategy have been established, but a lot remains to be done for this strategy to emerge and to be owned by those who can make the change happen. Within the next 12 to 18 months, concrete steps will need to be taken for this strategy to be built in a way that:
  - ensures our collective action is focused on high-impact sectors, actions and systemic transformations, considering the need to respond to the three planetary crises;
  - the strategy is informed by science, which requires a close relationship with the scientific community and in particular the IRP; and
  - the strategy is practical and actionable and delivered in a way that ensures ownership, inclusiveness and broad engagement.

## MAIN MESSAGES

- 1. The momentum to connect the dots, bring communities of practice together and act collectively is growing: there is a unique opportunity for a paradigm shift in sustainable consumption and production patterns, which must become the main driver of sustainable development and our economies.**
  - Sustainable consumption and production is the key to addressing the three planetary crises and recovering from the Covid-19 pandemic, and to “building (back) better”. A new consciousness must emerge based on the lessons learned from the Covid-19 pandemic as we cannot go back to “business as usual”. An increasing number of countries are actively and ambitiously engaging on this journey.
  - In this context, there is now a large consensus on the need for an extension of the mandate that established the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP). There is a shared ambition for the Framework to become the global coordination mechanism to connect the dots between SCP and the climate, biodiversity and pollution agendas and their related instruments, as well as between international policy and national implementation.
- 2. A lot has been achieved since the adoption of the 10YFP and the value added of the One Planet network is unique.** We need to capitalize on the network’s assets including:

- deep and broad experience in multi-stakeholder cooperation and activating a network with a strong multiplier effect potential;
- a broad range of expertise, tools and solutions available to support countries in their efforts to deliver on their sustainability objectives, and an online platform that serves as a reference for information sharing and cooperation; and
- a strong monitoring and reporting system that can evolve to capture and measure the positive impacts of SCP policies and measures on sustainable natural resource use, GHG emissions, biodiversity conservation, environmental protection and human well-being.

- 3. There is need for an ambitious and transformative global strategy on SCP - a key message echoed by the 2021 Executive Meeting of the One Planet network.** The transition phase towards 2022 is an opportunity to design a strategy that provides a common aspiration and a direction. Such a strategy will also create the enabling environment needed to scale up and accelerate implementation of SCP, SDG 12 and the 2030 Agenda more broadly, and to secure commitments for action.

**The following general principles should be embedded in the approach adopted to develop the global strategy on SCP, which should be designed as an instrument to:**

- **Connect different issues in a strategic manner**, illustrate how SCP can support the implementation of MEAs and at the same time address economic development needs and social inequalities.
- **Both raise awareness and facilitate implementation** on SCP, bringing different approaches and analyses together (systems approach, circular economy, value chain analysis and engagement).
- **Facilitate collaboration between global programmes, initiatives and alliances** delivering on SCP, engage new stakeholders, especially from the business sector.
- **Mobilize science for the identification of priority sectors and of transformative actions** within those sectors (e.g. considering synergies between SCP, resource use and decarbonization). The International Resource Panel could serve as the scientific body that informs the strategy.
- **Identify specific types of knowledge, tools and solutions**, informed by science, that can support the implementation of commitments.

**The post-2022 global strategy on SCP should have a strong focus on consumption (public and private), a dimension not yet fully addressed**, building on the assets of the One Planet network. This can be done through various angles, including: product design, responsibility schemes, consumer information, advocacy for behavioral change, but also through innovative approaches based on consumption footprints and consumption-based targets.

- 4. Prioritization is an imperative to ensure the biggest impact possible through the implementation of the strategy and it should be conducted through a systems lens.** It should also allow for collaboration across programmes, as experienced by the One Planet network programmes with “cross-cutting themes”. The following initial priorities were discussed:
- priority sectors, areas and interventions with the biggest impacts, and interlinkages with, climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.
  - deep socio-economic and environmental transformations, including:
    - Circularity – as a fundamental and tangible dimension of SCP and a core element of the new strategy.
    - Finance and political economy measures.
    - Digitalization (including e-commerce).
  - High-impact sectors: food systems, infrastructure and construction, energy and transports, consumer goods including tourism, textiles and electronics tourism, health.

There will be a need to harmonize terminologies and to simplify for such approaches and priorities to be accessible to various types of stakeholders.

**Priorities to be addressed through the global SCP strategy should be based on existing knowledge and processes, such as the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) in the case of food systems. In addition, identifying hotspots and drivers along value chains, as per the methodology developed by the One Planet / IRP Task Group, is serving as a powerful tool to support science-based prioritization.** Based on the Task Group's report launched at UNEA 5, the Secretariat has organized, in partnership with the One Planet network programmes and other key initiatives and stakeholders, a series of expert consultations of which outcomes will serve as critical input in the development of the strategy.

- 5. Bringing the perspective of the regions and countries in the design of the strategy is essential.** Regional briefings are being led by 10YFP Board members with the support of the Secretariat, bringing together multiple networks of national focal points (10YFP, MEAs and other frameworks such as SAICM). Through those meetings, a dialogue has started that provides a promising starting point for strengthening collaboration and mainstreaming SCP within the climate, biodiversity and pollution agendas and communities. **Initial feedback from the regional briefings held for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Western Europe and Others Group include the need to:**
  - Connect the post-2022 strategy to regional agendas and institutions (e.g. Forum of Ministers for the Environment), as well as to address regional priorities.
  - Build up economic, regulatory and research incentives for SCP, including through more effective coordination between the public and private sectors (e.g. on subsidies for sustainable practices).
  - Strengthen environmental information and monitoring systems for evidence-based knowledge that informs the development of public policy
  - Promote awareness and environmental education campaigns on the impacts of resource use and consumption.
  
- 6. A global SCP strategy with clear goals, priorities and targets, can translate into commitments for action. Such commitments should be linked to the recovery from the pandemic, and contribute to building back better.** The main conclusions of a recent report commissioned by the Swedish Chemicals Agency and presented by the 10YFP Secretariat during the meeting highlight the following conditions for effective commitments:
  - clear criteria to inspire stronger commitments and facilitate accountability, and a validation process to ensure commitments are credible and substantive;
  - announcements and visibility campaigns, as an incentive for leadership;
  - peer learning and support systems to enable implementation of commitments through sharing experience, cooperating, accessing tools and solutions; and
  - reporting and review mechanism for clarity and transparency to assess collective process.

Many examples of informal commitment mechanisms (e.g. Batumi commitments, Climate Action Pathway and action plans) can be explored, including those developed within the One Planet network such as the Global Tourism Plastics initiative.

For commitments to be linked to the implementation of the post-2022 global SCP strategy, the following should be considered:

- commitments for action (as opposed to pledges) of which implementation can benefit from concrete support systems, such as the One Planet network programmes / collaboration platform and other initiatives, access tools and solutions, and be subject to monitoring and reporting;



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- the One Planet network programmes should support the implementation of such commitments through partnering with existing initiatives, in order to avoid duplication; and
- the need to secure means of implementation and more resources, learning from the experience of the 10YFP Trust Fund and subsequent Multi-Partner Trust Fund for SDG 12, to respond to developing countries' need for assistance, including through capacity-building.

7. **An outreach strategy and awareness-raising campaigns are needed to inspire leadership, engage and empower society through inclusiveness and cooperation. Building a global movement requires ambassadors, champions at political, business and society levels.** Stockholm+50 will be a great opportunity to discuss SCP and serve as a platform for promoting transformative change, as well as to launch the strategy.

## NEXT STEPS

Based on the presentations and discussions that took place during the workshop, the following next steps should be considered to support the development of a post-2022 global strategy on SCP:

1. **Extension of the mandate establishing the 10YFP at the 76<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly, Sept-Dec. 2021 (SCP resolution):** the members of the Group of Friends could be encouraged to support the extension of the mandate, for instance through briefings to UN missions in New York.
2. **Development of a roadmap and methodology for the development of the strategy and prioritization, based on the recommendations of the Group of Friends for SCP and 2021 Executive Meeting of the One Planet network (by December 2021),** compilation and dissemination of the outcomes of key relevant processes including related MEAs and the UNFSS, as well as of the various consultations undertaken in the context of the post-2022 strategy to inform the discussions (e.g. regional briefings and surveys, value chain consultations).
3. **The Secretariat will produce a timeline for development of the roadmap and methodology, taking into account recommendations made during the workshop (by December 2021).** The strategy will be developed during 2022 and **options to organize a global high-level consultation during UNEA 5.2 (February 2022)** will be explored. Such an event would contribute to strengthening the political momentum for the strategy and to securing concrete voluntary commitments, and could serve as a milestone before launching the strategy and possibly announcing commitments at Stockholm +50.

Further consultations will be conducted by the Secretariat and a concrete proposal for a clear roadmap and inclusive process to develop the strategy will be shared with the 10YFP Board and Group of Friends at the next meeting of the Group of Friends (likely in November 2021).