United Nations E/2021/56

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 April 2021

Original: English

2021 session
23 July 2020–22 July 2021
Agenda item 6
High-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council

Progress report on the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns

Note by the Secretary-General

Summary

The Secretary-General transmits herewith the progress report on the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 67/203, 68/210, 69/214 and 70/201. The report builds on the annual reports submitted since 2014, the most recent of which is E/2020/56 and shares progress on the implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, taking stock of lessons learned. Results comprise policies reported by Member States under target 12.1 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and activities implemented across the One Planet network. The report also explores emerging opportunities and requirements to accelerate action and take multilateral and multi-stakeholder cooperation on sustainable consumption and production to the next level, which is essential to the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The report is hereby submitted through the Economic and Social Council for the consideration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2021.

21-05467 (E) 100521

I. The imperative of sustainable consumption and production

1. The science is crystal clear: human activities are putting extreme pressure on the planet. Our societies and economies are driving the three planetary crises the world is now facing: climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. The common thread that runs through these global crises, which are jeopardizing every country's prospects for sustainable development, is unsustainable production and consumption patterns. Reversing these crises, together with their unbearable social and economic costs, requires a paradigm shift and a profound and equitable transformation of our development models.

2. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has posed an unprecedented challenge to humankind, revealing the weaknesses of our current economic and development models. The pandemic has clearly highlighted the need to reshape policies, business practices and consumer choices that are driving production and consumption patterns around the world. Implementing sustainable, integrated, fair and inclusive policies for recovery and redirecting investments, has become a priority in order to create more resilient economies which ensure human well-being and preserve the natural environment upon which we all depend. Science-based solutions and policy instruments are required at all levels to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, to build back better, while ensuring a just transition to sustainable and resilient economies.

3. Urgent action is required on sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources, as set out in target 12.2 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which are on a long-term trend in the wrong direction.[1] The indicators under targets 12.2 and 8.4 on material footprint (materials extracted throughout global supply chains to meet the importing country's demand) and domestic material consumption (materials being used within a country) continue to rise at the global level, showing that the rate at which materials are being extracted globally is outpacing both population and economic growth.[2]

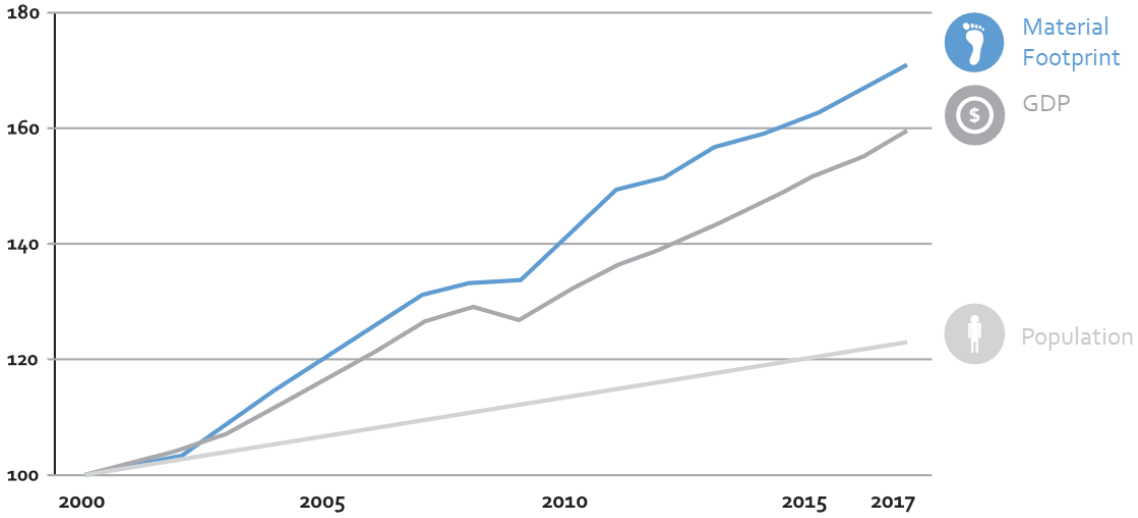
4. While specific actions have been taken to improve resource efficiency in certain industries or sectors, there has not been widespread adoption of those measures. Combined with increased demand for goods and services, this means that there has been no decoupling of economic growth from environmental degradation and the unsustainable use of natural resources. If business as usual continues, and global gross domestic product (GDP) continues to grow at an average rate of 2.2 per cent a year, this will require a 110 per cent increase in global resource extraction to 190 billion tonnes by 2060.[3] In addition, the use of natural resources, related benefits and environmental impacts are unevenly distributed across countries and regions, perpetuating the current levels of inequality associated with them, and threatening the achievement of the entire 2030 Agenda.

[1] United Nations, *Global Sustainable Development Report 2019: The Future is Now – Science for Achieving Sustainable Development* (2019).

[2] Ibid.

[3] International Resource Panel, *Global Resources Outlook 2019: Natural Resources for the Future We Want* (Nairobi, UNEP, 2019).

Figure I
Population, material footprint and gross domestic product growth index, 2000–2017



Source: United Nations, *The Sustainable Development Goals Report*, 2019.
Note: baseline, 2000 = 100.
Abbreviations: GDP, gross domestic product.

II. United Nations framework for multilateral and multi-stakeholder cooperation on sustainable consumption and production

5. The 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, adopted by the General Assembly in 2012,[4] was recognized at the high-level political forum in 2018 as a key implementation mechanism for Sustainable Development Goal 12. The Framework engages both developed and developing countries, while catalysing multi-stakeholder cooperation through its One Planet network. To date, 140 Member States have nominated a national focal point to the Framework to connect international cooperation with national action for sustainable consumption and production. Member States have reported national policy instruments as their contribution to the implementation of the Goal 12, including the 10-Year Framework. The extension of the mandate that establishes the Framework is under consideration as a means to accelerate action and maintain the integrity of the 2030 Agenda beyond 2022.

6. Taking stock of progress, lessons learned and challenges, as well as of emerging developments and opportunities, is essential to inform an ambitious vision, that builds on the main achievements of the 10-Year Framework and its One Planet network. The network has provided a broad platform for more than 700 partners to mainstream and implement integrated and systemic polices and approaches to sustainable consumption and production in high-impact sectors and themes. The themes focus on sustainable food systems (led by Costa Rica, Switzerland and the World Wide Fund for Nature), sustainable buildings and construction (led by Finland, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University and the United Nations Environmental Programme

[4] A 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns (see A/CONF.216/5, annex).

(UNEP)), sustainable tourism (led by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), France and Spain), sustainable public procurement (led by China, the Netherlands, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability and UNEP), consumer information (led by Consumers International, Germany and Indonesia), and sustainable lifestyles and education (led by Japan and Sweden) (see annex I). These six accelerator programmes raise awareness and provide tools, knowledge and solutions to deliver on Goal 12, serving as platforms for collaboration and implementation.

7. Through the 10-Year Framework and its One Planet network, the foundations have been laid for extending, broadening and strengthening the action of the international community on sustainable consumption and production in a truly transformational way. In 2020, members of the 10-Year Framework Board and other countries with a leading role within the One Planet network have formed an informal Group of Friends for sustainable consumption and production, at the initiative of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board (Argentina and Switzerland, respectively), to explore the establishment of this broader global movement.[5]

8. The objective of the 10-Year Framework is to promote an ambitious vision for multilateral cooperation on sustainable consumption and production, considering the progress achieved and the urgent challenges of current times. The following elements have been highlighted as strategic in strengthening global action on sustainable consumption and production:

(a) Mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production solutions to reverse climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, leveraging and helping to connect existing multilateral environmental agreements, to enhance the achievement of their targets and bring communities of practice together to scale up action;

(b) Strengthening the science-policy interface through the value-chain approach and prioritizing action in high-impact sectors, including through circular economy solutions, mobilizing the scientific community and bodies such as the International Resource Panel, and addressing key drivers of consumption and production;

(c) Facilitating the uptake and mainstreaming of sustainable consumption and production knowledge, policies, tools and solutions at the national level, mobilizing the United Nations to support national implementation, including through regional mechanisms and platforms, leveraging the United Nations development system reform;

(d) Inspiring a global action-oriented movement for sustainable consumption and production, promoting distributed action and inclusive implementation, engaging the One Planet network and all relevant alliances, platforms and partnerships willing to join;

(e) Supporting action through advocacy and outreach activities at key international events, including those directly related to the 2030 Agenda and multilateral environmental agreements.

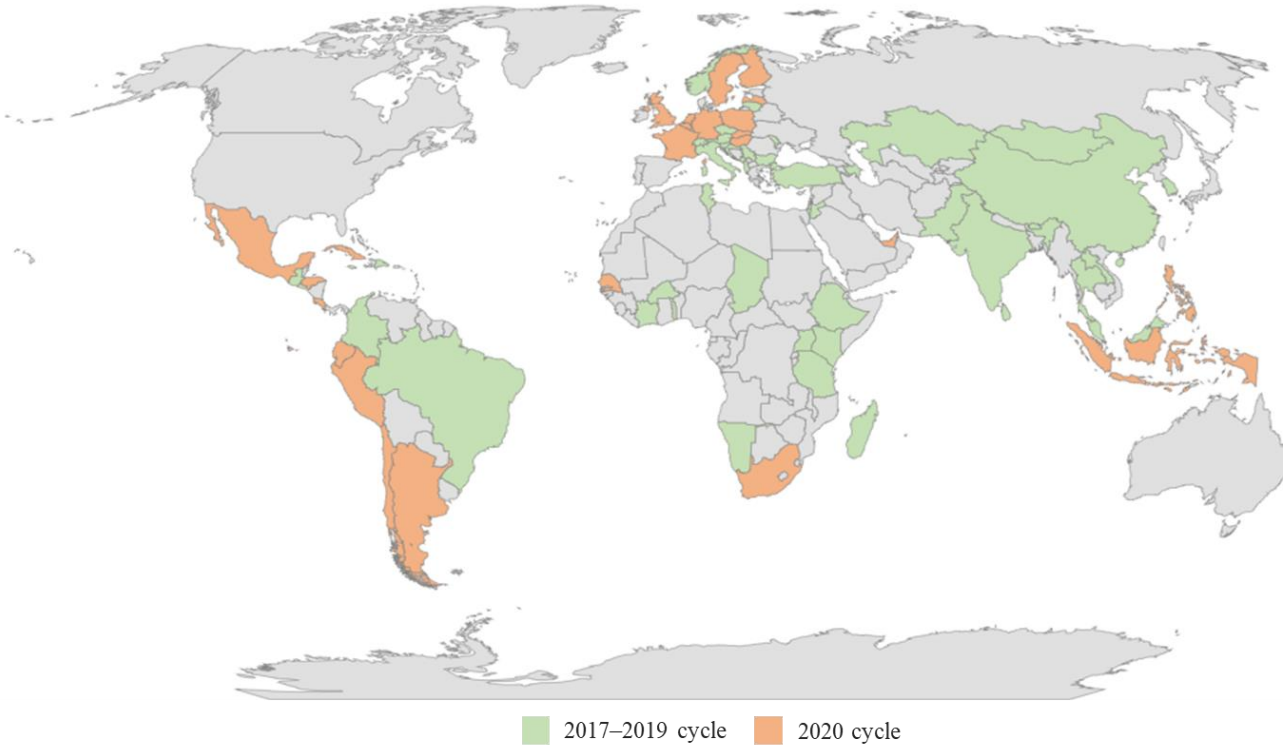
9. The above is in line with the spirit of the 10-Year Framework agreement (see A/CONF.216/5, annex), in which it is stated that:(a) the Framework should serve as

[5] Members of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns Board and Group of Friends for Sustainable Consumption and Production, countries participating in the discussions, 2nd virtual workshop, 17 and 18 March 2021): Argentina (Chair of the 10-Year Framework Board), Bhutan (10-Year Framework Board), Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary (10-Year Framework Board), Indonesia, Italy, Japan (10-Year Framework Board), Mauritius (10-Year Framework Board), the Netherlands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland (Vice-Chair of the 10-Year Framework Board), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the European Commission.

"a tool to support the implementation of global sustainable development commitments […] and the implementation of targets and goals agreed under relevant multilateral environmental agreements" (para. 1 (c) (x); and (b) the Framework should "reduce fragmentation and support synergies between the responses to various economic, environmental and social challenges in activities related to sustainable consumption and production […] while avoiding duplication of existing international and regional initiatives, keeping in mind the progress made and challenges remaining" (para. 2 (h)).

10. A review of experience and progress on the current implementation of the 10-Year Framework through its One Planet network is essential. Since 2017, the annual reporting of the One Planet network has collected more than 4,000 policies and implementation activities showing the evolution of efforts on sustainable consumption and production across regions, sectors, stakeholder groups and value chain stages. Some 3,255 activities have been reported by programmes and partners of the network, 21 per cent of these activities were in 2020 alone. In addition to this, since 2017 over 700 policies in 83 countries and the European Union have been reported by Member States under Sustainable Development Goal indicator 12.1.1.

Figure II
Countries reporting on Sustainable Development Goal 12.1.1, 2017–2019 and 2020

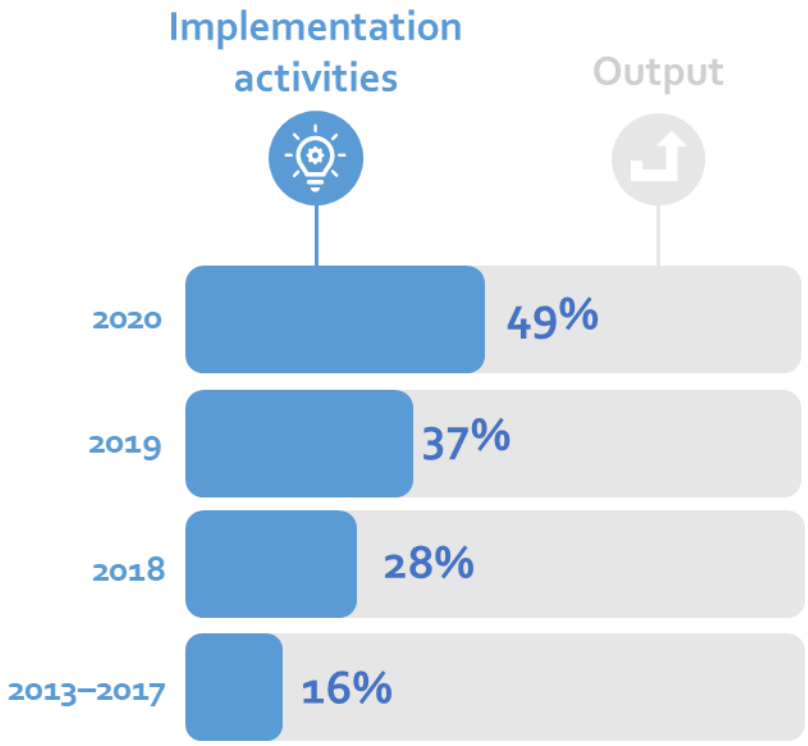


11. In 2020, Member States were also invited to report on sustainable public procurement policies and action plans for the first time (target 12.7). Forty national governments and 39 subnational governments participated in this reporting exercise. The Sustainable Public Procurement Programme leveraged its expertise through its interest group on monitoring, led by UNEP, to develop what has become the internationally agreed methodology to measure progress on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 12.7.1.

12. Member States, partners and programmes of the One Planet network are increasingly reporting on actions that directly contribute to reshaping consumption and production patterns. In 2020, the use of knowledge resources and technical tools, changes in consumption and production practices, the design and implementation of policy instruments, and other implementation activities, constituted 49 per cent of reported actions by members of the network. Those actions previously represented 37 per cent of reported actions in 2019, 28 per cent in 2018, and 16 per cent for the period 2013–2017. This trend is reinforced by the indication that 78 per cent of the policy instruments (indicator 12.1.1) were reported by Member States as under implementation.

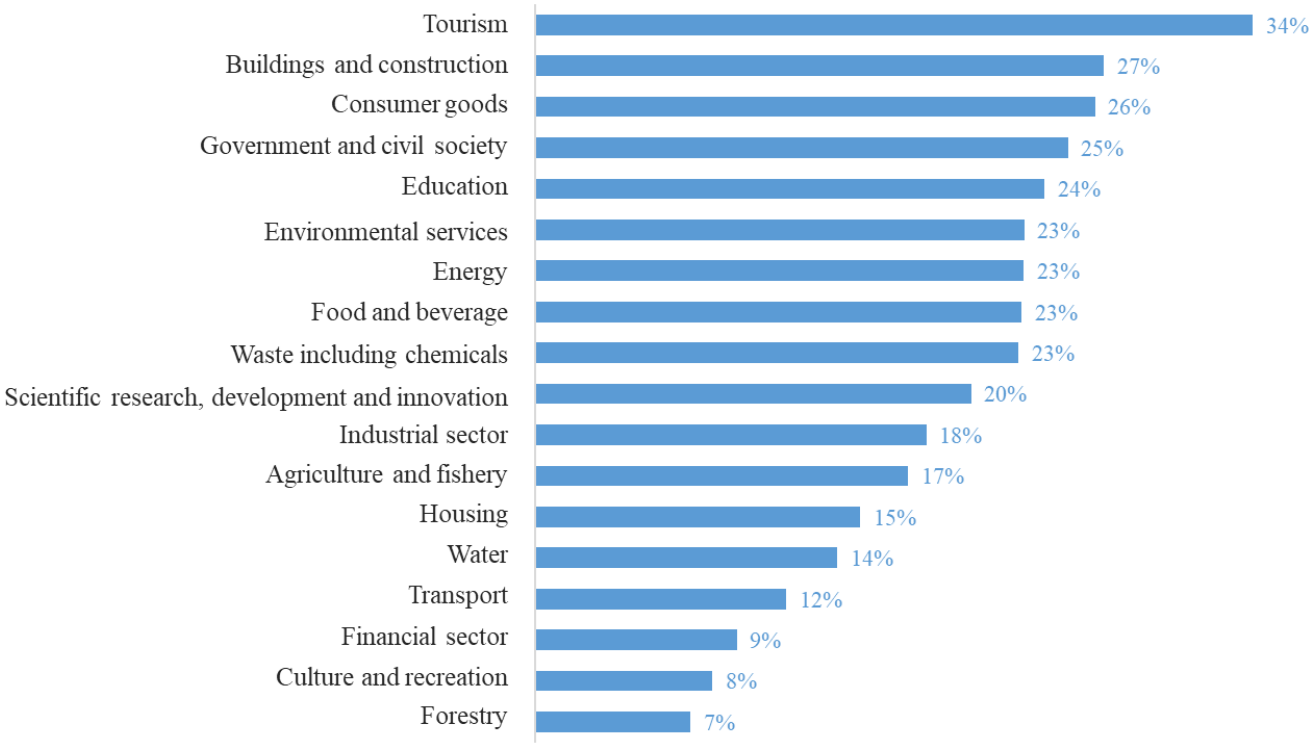
Figure III

Annual percentage of implementation activities by partners and programmes of the One Planet network



13. Policy instruments and network activities reported since 2013 address a wide range of sectors, including tourism (relevant to 34 per cent of reported activities and policy instruments), buildings and construction (27 per cent), consumer goods (26 per cent), environmental services (23 per cent), energy (23 per cent), food and beverage (23 per cent) and waste (23 per cent). Of the total number of identified impacts, 45 per cent relate to the reduction of environmental impacts (greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity loss and unsustainable land-use, air, soil and water pollutants), forty-two per cent to increases in resource efficiency and thirteen per cent to improvement of human well-being.

Figure IV
Sectors addressed by sustainable consumption and production policies and implementation activities, frequency of association, 2013–2019



14. The activities reported for the period 2013–2020 took place in 194 different countries. The regional distribution of activities was: Europe and Central Asia (17 per cent), Asia-Pacific (16 per cent), Latin America and the Caribbean (11 per cent) and Africa (6 per cent). A significant amount of activities (34 per cent) took place at global level.

III. Changing our consumption and production patterns: a condition to reverse the climate, biodiversity and pollution crises

15. Unsustainable consumption and production patterns are a major underlying cause of the planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution that are being addressed by multilateral environmental agreements. A transformational shift is required to achieve sustainable development driven by resource efficient, low carbon, non-polluting consumption and production patterns. This imperative is reflected explicitly in numerous multilateral environmental agreements, including the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity Strategic Plan for 20112020. Others, such as the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, recognize this connection in specific objectives such as the reduction and/or elimination of the generation of hazardous wastes and other wastes (Basel Convention, revised in 2019).

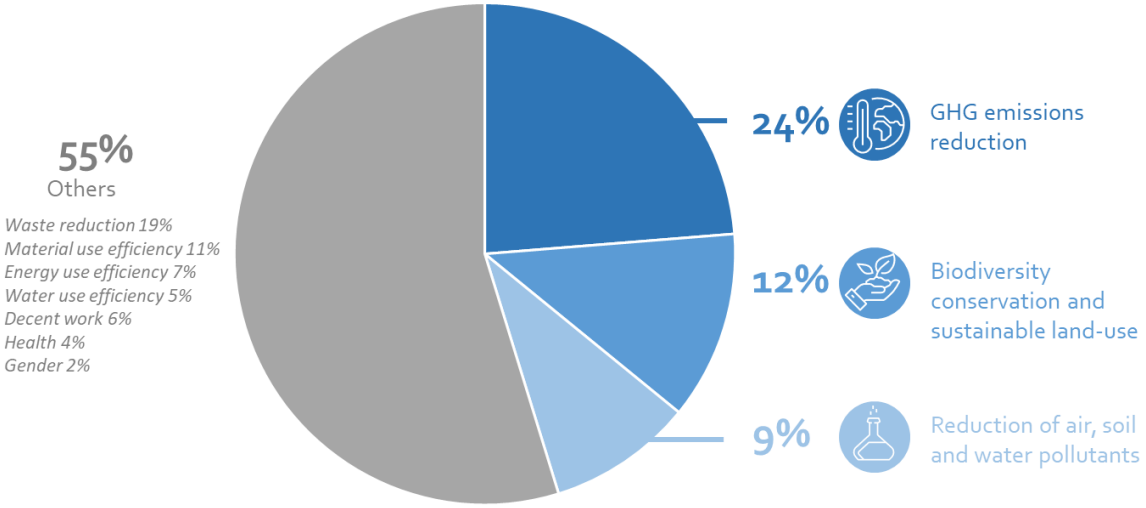
16. Furthermore, environmental impacts and pressures generated by consumption and production practices are also physically related to one another. The extraction and

processing of materials, fuels and food account for 50 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions and more than 90 per cent of biodiversity loss and water stress.[6]

17. Much more needs to be done to mainstream sustainable consumption and production policies, approaches and solutions for more coordinated and scaled-up implementation of multilateral environmental agreements, but countries continue to face challenges in this regard.

18. The One Planet network programmes have a broad range of tools and knowledge that can contribute to reinforcing and better integrating multilateral environmental agreement implementation at the national level. In 2020, 24 per cent of the reported activities of the network were identified as contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, 12 per cent to biodiversity conservation and sustainable land-use, and 9 per cent to the reduction of air, soil and water pollution.

Figure V
Activities implemented by type of impact, 2020 results



Abbreviations: GHG, greenhouse gas.

19. Countries are also reporting on policy instruments that are contributing to the achievement of internationally agreed targets under multilateral environmental agreements. In 2020, the proportion of reported instruments contributing to achieving Goal 13 on climate was more than 50 per cent, with several instruments focusing specifically on energy and greenhouse gas emissions reduction. Over 30 per cent of the policy instruments were reported to be relevant to Sustainable Development Goal 15 on terrestrial ecosystems and land degradation and 23 per cent to Sustainable Development Goal 14 on oceans, seas and marine resources. Circular economy and waste reduction approaches, especially in the context of plastic pollution, were relevant to 30 per cent of reported policies and implementation activities under indicator 12.1.1.

Mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production to address the pollution and plastic crises

20. Plastic pollution is one of the major environmental challenges of our time, with the flow of plastic into the ocean projected to nearly triple by 2040.[7] Plastic in the

[6] International Resource Panel, *Global Resources Outlook 2019: Natural Resources for the Future We Want* (Nairobi, UNEP, 2019).

[7] The Pew Charitable Trusts and SYSTEMIQ, Breaking the Plastic Wave: a Comprehensive Assessment of Pathways towards Stopping Ocean Plastic Pollution (2020).

natural environment alters habitats, harms wildlife and can damage ecosystem function and services. Fossil fuel feedstock inputs for virgin plastics add to global emissions, plastic waste can block drainage systems and amplify the risk of flooding, contamination and diseases, while open burning emits dioxins and other toxic pollutants that transfer pollution burden to air and water. Plastic pollution is a transboundary and multi-faceted issue, requiring a collaborative response in which stakeholders join forces to intervene at various levels.

21. The COVID-19 pandemic has only increased the complexity of plastic pollution management. Plastic has been critical in the COVID-19 emergency response through its use in the manufacture of personal protective equipment and its role in supporting public health and hygiene measures. Generally speaking, no sustainability nor environmental lens has been applied to those measures. The COVID-19 pandemic shows the need to better understand the system in which the plastics value chain operates, including how different drivers shape operations and interact along the value chain and the environmental outcomes.

22. In 2020, 32 per cent of the reported activities were related to plastics. This high percentage links to the implementation of the One Planet Network-Wide Plastics Initiative, established in response to the United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/6 on marine litter and microplastics. A total of 41 policy instruments reported by Member States under indicator 12.1.1 included extensive provisions on single-use plastic.

23. The Government of Antigua and Barbuda, through the External Trade Order of 2017, banned the importation, distribution, sale and use of plastic shopping bags, aiming to reduce their negative environmental and marine impacts, and foster sustainable choices. Reusable bags were distributed to every citizen, all community shops, grocery stores and supermarkets in 2018. In 2020 the Government of Hungary adopted a law banning certain single-use plastic products, replacing them with reusable products/alternatives. The law will also contribute to the development of innovative technologies, increasing recycling and the using of secondary raw materials.

24. The One Planet Network-Wide Plastics Initiative, developed in 2020 has built on existing knowledge produced by UNEP on this value chain, identifying entry points offering the greatest opportunity for improvement. Plastic packaging at the use stage was identified as the key entry point to frame the network's collective response. Plastic packaging accounts for 30 per cent of all plastics used, and the use stage of the plastics value chain is a main point of plastic loss into the marine environment.

25. One Planet network programmes have used their complementary expertise and partners to formulate guidance on priority actions under three areas of intervention to drive change across the entire plastics value chain. These are: (a) improving communication on plastic packaging through labels, claims and standards; (b) developing effective campaigns for influencing individual choice and behaviour; and (c) changing public procurement practices. The network is also addressing plastics pollution in the tourism sector, a key source of marine litter and plastic pollution.

26. The Consumer Information Programme published the report entitled "Can I Recycle This?" A Global Mapping and Assessment of Standards, Labels and Claims on Plastic Packaging. The report identifies the communications on plastic packaging to inform consumers about the recyclability, materials used, or disposal of plastic packaging, and assesses them on the five fundamental principles of the *Guidelines for Providing Product Sustainability Information*. The report identifies existing labels, claims and standards, evaluates whether they can be misleading or confusing to

consumers, and provides five key recommendations to improve the quality and credibility of consumer information on plastic packaging.

27. The Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme developed Reducing Plastic Pollution: Campaigns That Work, a global mapping and assessment of plastic pollution campaigns targeted at individual consumers. The assessment revealed a set of common mistakes, effective strategies and recommendations that campaign designers should consider. Changing individuals' consumption of plastic requires the provision of tangible guidance to align campaign development with behavioural psychology. The Programme also published the report entitled "Next Steps: Tackling Plastic Litter – A Nudging Strategy for Reducing Consumption of Single-Use Disposable Cups". The report examines whether nudging can be used as a complement to traditional policy tools to influence behaviours.

28. Within the framework of the Sustainable Tourism Programme, UNEP and UNWTO, in collaboration with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, implemented the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative[8] to address the root causes of plastic pollution in the sector. The aim of the Initiative is to enable businesses, governments and other tourism stakeholders to take concerted action, commit to specific actions (including eliminating unnecessary plastic and swapping single-use plastic items with reusable alternatives by 2025) and to report annually on their outcomes and impacts. The Initiative provides clarity, alignment and transparency around how tourism organizations are moving to circularity in the use of plastics and an opportunity for front-running organizations to showcase their efforts and results. In 2020, 46 organizations across the tourism value chain became signatories, showing the potential of the initiative to scale up solutions at an industry level. Signatories include the Accor Group, Iberostar Group, Club Med, Six Senses, Booking.com, deSter, and the TUI Care Foundation.

29. The Global Tourism Plastics Initiative provides direct support to signatories by developing tools and methodologies and sharing information about existing tools. In 2020 the Programme developed the Recommendations for the Tourism Sector to Continue Taking Action on Plastic Pollution during COVID-19 Recovery. The recommendations build on the latest guidance from the World Health Organization, UNEP, UNWTO and national health authorities on safe and environmentally sound processes to ensure hygiene standards of reusable schemes. The recommendations were made available in six languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

30. Other partners of the One Planet network are implementing their own activities to address plastic pollution. Through its *Wave of Change* movement, Iberostar Group, a partner of the Sustainable Tourism Programme, is committed to embody a circular economy in all its operations. In 2020, the Group removed single-use plastics from all rooms in 120 hotels in 19 countries around the world. The Group also presented a plan aligned with the 2030 Agenda to eliminate waste, source responsible seafood, achieve carbon neutrality and improve the health of the ecosystems surrounding its hotels. Iberostar plans to reach carbon neutrality in its operations by 2030 and aims to offset at least 75 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions from its operations by implementing policies aimed at protecting nature at its destinations.

31. The Waste and Resources Action Programme, a partner of the Consumer Information and the Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programmes continued to implement the UK Plastics Pact. In 2020, members of the Pact reduced the amount of

[8] The Initiative is jointly developed by the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Tourism Organization and the Government of France, in collaboration with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, and is one of the core activities of the Sustainable Tourism Programme.

plastic packaging being used and made progress on plastic recycling at home. In the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 50 per cent of plastic packaging is now being recycled, up from 44 per cent in 2018, and the average recycled plastics content in the Pact's members packaging increased to 13 per cent in 2020 from 9 per cent in 2018.

32. The Plastic Waste Coalition of Action, founded in 2020, aims to develop a more circular approach to the design and processing of plastic packaging in the consumer goods industry. In 2020, members of the coalition published Golden Design Rules for the Design of Plastic Packaging, a guidance document for the use of fewer and better plastic products, to reduce the complexity of plastic packaging and increase its recyclability. Coalition members also developed an aligned industry position on the optimal design of extended producer responsibility to facilitate governments' design of such programmes. The initiative is led by the Consumer Goods Forum, a partner of the Consumer Information Programme.

Mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production to address the climate crisis

33. The way in which natural resources are extracted, processed, used and disposed of in our economies determines the greenhouse gas emissions that directly impact the Earth's climate.[9] More focus on material and resource efficiency in economic sectors generating impacts along their respective value chains is critical to meet climate targets in the Paris Agreement. There is, for example, massive potential for greenhouse gas emission reduction through integrating sustainable consumption and production approaches in high-impact sectors such as buildings and construction and food and agriculture. In G7 countries more specifically, material efficiency strategies, including the use of recycled materials, could reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the material cycle of residential buildings by 80 to 100 per cent by 2050. Potential reductions in China could also amount to 80 to 100 per cent; and 50 to 70 per cent in India by 2050.[10]

34. Countries are taking action that can be replicated and scaled-up. In Singapore, a low-lying island State, the Zero Waste Masterplan maps out the country's key strategies to build a sustainable, resource-efficient and climate-resilient nation and economy. In Spain, the Ministry of Environment has set ambitious goals through its strategy entitled "España Circular 2030", including: the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to under 10 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, the improvement of water use efficiency by 10 per cent and the reduction of food waste along the entire value chain. In Senegal, the Dakar Local Energy and Climate Plan is a pilot initiative for the entire country, the objective of which is to improve urban governance to foster an energy transition which reinforces climate change resilience. The policy provides decision makers with an action plan for climate change mitigation and adaptation in line with the country's nationally determined contribution.

35. Efforts are ongoing to integrate resource efficiency measures more systematically into climate strategies. In this context, the hotspots analysis tool for sustainable consumption and production,[11] developed by UNEP, through the 10-Year Framework, the International Resource Panel and the Life Cycle Initiative secretariats, has been applied in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme to identify opportunities for Member States to enhance their nationally determined contributions to the Paris Agreement. The tool, which is publicly accessible online, provides data on the environmental and socioeconomic performance of 171 countries over the past 25

[9] International Resource Panel, Resource Efficiency and Climate Change: Material Efficiency Strategies for a Low-Carbon Future (2020).

[10] Ibid.

[11] Available at http://scp-hat.lifecycleinitiative.org/.

years, offering empirical evidence of “hotspots” of unsustainable consumption and production. The tool is potentially applicable in other national policy-making processes, such as the United Nations common country analyses which support the establishment of Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.

36. Across the One Planet network, partners and programmes have developed tools and have led projects to support the shift to low carbon consumption and production patterns. This includes the report entitled *Consumer Information Tools and Climate Change: Facilitating Low-Carbon Choices in Tourism, Buildings and Food Systems*, which provides guidance for policymakers and business leaders on using consumer information tools to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the three sectors. The report was developed by the Consumer Information Programme with the support of the Sustainable Buildings and Construction, Sustainable Food Systems, and Sustainable Tourism Programmes. The complexities and challenges in the value chains of the three sectors are set out, providing insights on the kind of consumer information that will be most effective in each sector.

37. Following the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism sector, tourism stakeholders have demonstrated a growing consensus on the importance to embrace a resource efficient, low-carbon pathway to ensure resilience. Supported by the Tourism Declares organization, a total of 193 tourism organizations, including members of the Sustainable Tourism Programme such as The Long Run, the Asian Ecotourism Network, the Global Sustainable Tourism Council and the Travel Foundation, have agreed to develop climate action plans within 12 months. These organizations will share their commitments and progress publicly, cutting carbon emissions and working together to advocate for change.

38. Action is also essential at a local level. ICLEI, as one of the leaders of the Sustainable Public Procurement Programme, coordinates the Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement. In recent online events, participants from over 45 countries explored how public buyers can navigate the race to zero-emissions in a context where lowest cost is still the deciding factor. The Network covers topics such as sustainable food procurement, zero-emission construction and total cost of ownership, while also setting out recent political commitments to and new strategies for sustainable public procurement.

39. The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, a leader of the Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme, with partners in four countries (Brazil, India, Thailand and South Africa), continued to work on the 1.5-Degree Lifestyles project. In 2020, this work included the development of methodologies to analyse the lifestyles carbon footprint, support to these countries to conduct analyses in their respective cities and the development of scenarios of low-carbon lifestyles in four cities in Japan and Thailand.

Mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production to address the biodiversity crisis

40. The importance of sustainable consumption and production to safeguarding biodiversity is recognized in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Target 4 of the Plan outlines the need to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable consumption and production and to keep the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits. More recently, the *Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*[12]

[12] Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, *Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services: Summary for Policy Makers* (2019, Bonn, Germany).

pointed to consumption patterns as one of the underlying causes of biodiversity loss. Land-use change – a direct driver of biodiversity loss – is primarily occurring from agriculture, forestry, infrastructure and resource extraction. Sustainable consumption and production, through a value chain approach, can help prioritize action in high-impact sectors to address drivers and consumption pressures which drive biodiversity loss.

41. Inspiring policies include those of Germany, where the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, has launched the initiative entitled "KonsumWende: Sustainable consumption for the preservation of ecosystem services and biodiversity worldwide". The initiative develops tools and policy recommendations to promote consumption patterns in Germany for the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services in other countries, with a focus on food, mobility and clothing. This initiative will inform campaigns and information materials on sufficiency-oriented lifestyles underpinned by clear narratives.

42. The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries in South Africa has adopted the revised National Biodiversity Framework for 2019–2024 to coordinate and align efforts of the key stakeholders in the conservation and management of its biodiversity. The Framework identifies priority areas for conservation action and the establishment of protected areas, and interventions to accelerate implementation of high-level priorities of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan.

43. At an international level, the Consumer Information Programme established a working group on biodiversity communication, led by UNEP and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, bringing together civil society, business, policymakers and scientists. The working group has three fields of action on information, communication and cooperation to raise awareness for the consequences of consumption on biodiversity and ecosystem services. The group will enhance and promote communication about consumption and biodiversity and integrate biodiversity aspects into international processes on sustainable consumption and production. An online toolkit for communication and cooperation on sustainable consumption for biodiversity will be created in 2021.

44. The *Forest Positive Coalition of Action* is led by 19 of the world's leading consumer goods retailers and manufacturers with a shared commitment to become forest positive businesses by removing deforestation, forest degradation and conversion from key commodity supply chains. In 2020, members of the coalition published commodity road maps to guide action against deforestation in their palm oil and soy supply chains. This initiative is led by the Consumer Goods Forum, a partner of the Consumer Information Programme.

45. The Lake Constance Foundation, a partner of the Sustainable Food Systems Programme, launched a Biodiversity Monitoring System for the food sector. Currently, food standards organizations, companies and farmers cooperatives are not monitoring biodiversity in a structured and continuous way, and do not have reliable data on the biodiversity performance of their certified standards, farms or producers. The Biodiversity Monitoring System fills this gap, providing individual monitoring reports to each user. A harmonized monitoring system allows comparable results and facilitates decision makers in public procurement to consider biodiversity performance in food and catering services.

Integration as a strong ambition for multilateral cooperation on sustainable consumption and production

46. Accelerating the implementation of the 10-Year Framework and extending its mandate to maintain the integrity of the 2030 Agenda offers a unique opportunity to reinforce its function as a key instrument to support the achievement of

internationally agreed targets under multilateral environmental agreements, foster more integrated policies and actions, as well as to bring key communities of practice together. The value chain approach enables the identification of systemic drivers and barriers that influence decisions and operations across value chains, and of "hotspots" where there is high potential to reduce impacts on climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

47. The 10-Year Framework provides a common space to enhance and effectively distribute knowledge for implementation (policies and tools), building on the work of the One Planet network programmes, and to engage with other key alliances, initiatives and platforms. It can also support national coordination and implementation by consolidating and empowering networks of national focal points (on sustainable consumption and production, and of multilateral environmental agreements) and leveraging the United Nations development reform. The monitoring mechanisms that have been established, including the official reporting on target 12.1, can also help to measure the contribution of sustainable consumption and production policies and practices to the achievement of internationally agreed targets on climate change, biodiversity and pollution.

48. The years 2021 and 2022 will be key to advance the climate, biodiversity and pollution control agendas, including through ongoing multilateral environmental agreement processes such as the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The increased focus of multilateral environmental agreements on implementation offers a valuable opportunity to explore how to practically mainstream sustainable consumption and production approaches and solutions to achieve internationally agreed objectives. This requires breaking silos and bringing sustainable consumption and production tools and approaches, including circular economy and resource efficiency, into multilateral environmental agreements and their communities of practice.

IV. Strengthening the science-policy interface and prioritizing action through the value-chain approach

49. The science is clear on the need to decouple economic growth from natural resource use in order to cut greenhouse gas emissions, protect biodiversity, reduce pollution and drive socioeconomic development. Yet this evidence does not always reach key decision makers in a way that is timely, relevant, actionable and in clear language that relates to their priorities and needs. Stakeholders, whether governments or businesses, need comprehensive, tailored and contextualized information to help to identify priorities, implement strategies and monitor impacts around the sustainable management of natural resources. This requires understanding of where resource use and environmental impacts occur along value chains and their scale, why this is happening and what the key points of intervention are for science-based policy action.

50. Member States participating in the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly requested the establishment of a time-limited task group bringing together key partners from the International Resource Panel and the One Planet network, to increase the uptake of science, and ensure its accessibility and relevance to the sustainable consumption and production community. This task group, coordinated by the 10-Year Framework and the International Resource Panel secretariats in UNEP, provided insight into the management of natural resources and raw materials in relation to the 2030 Agenda and explored different pathways towards

sustainable consumption and production (see United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/1).

51. Experts on natural resource use from the International Resource Panel and practitioners from across the One Planet network collaborated over 18 months. The Task Group translated the technical information found in International Resource Panel reports into actionable, science-based recommendations on sustainable consumption and production for governments and businesses and developed the value-chain approach. The Task Group applied the approach to three priority sectors: food, construction and textiles.[13]

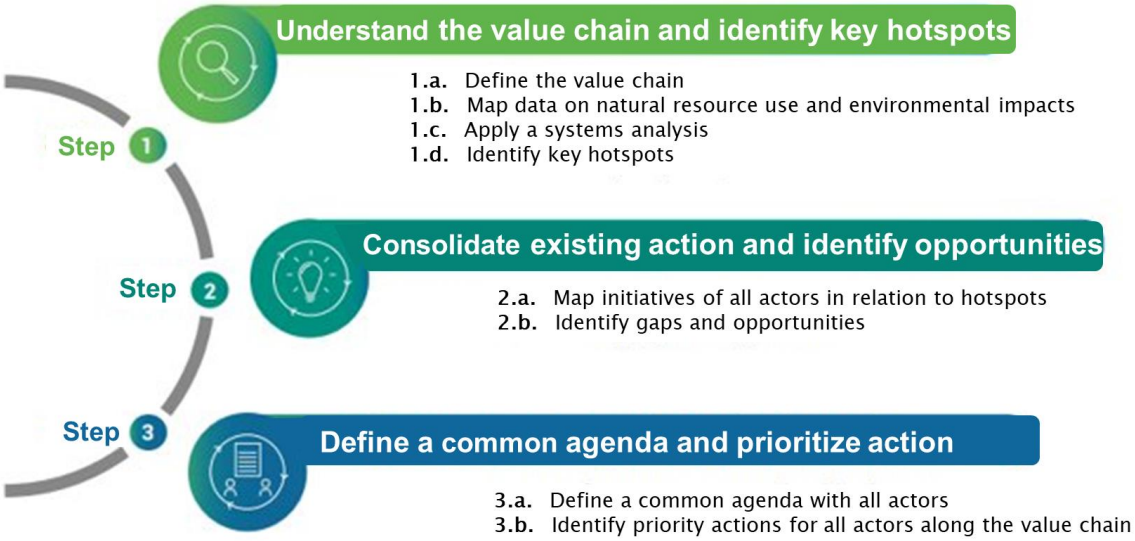
52. The value-chain approach is a methodology for catalysing science-based policy action on sustainable consumption and production which identifies key points of intervention within economic systems to reduce natural resource use and environmental impacts through a common agenda for action. The approach anchors natural resource use and environmental impacts within the socioeconomic reality of production and consumption by drawing on diverse bodies of knowledge, applying natural sciences to map resource use and environmental impacts along value chains. The approach further integrates a range of social sciences such as political economy, sociology and anthropology to understand the socioeconomic systems within which natural resource use and environmental impacts take place.

53. By applying a systems lens, the socioeconomic drivers and barriers that influence value chain operations of different sectors are identified, taking into account the complex feedback loops influencing the operations and behaviours of actors along the value chain. This approach shows that the key points of intervention are often not the same as where natural resource use and environmental impacts take place, making systems analysis essential.

54. The value-chain approach identifies where the greatest opportunities for a shift to sustainable consumption and production exist, shapes corresponding actions by building on current knowledge and available data and engages the relevant actors. It implies three steps summarized in figure VI.

[13] United Nations Environment Programme. *Catalysing Science-based Policy action on Sustainable Consumption and Production: The value-chain approach and its application to food, construction and textiles* (Nairobi, 2021).

Figure VI
Overview of the key steps of the value-chain approach



Source: United Nations Environment Programme, *Catalysing Science-based Policy action on Sustainable Consumption and Production – The value-chain approach and its application to food, construction and textiles* (2021).

Supporting the shift to sustainable consumption and production in high-impact sectors

55. Data reported from the network shows diverse ongoing efforts by partners, programmes, and Member States in many sectors, including those prioritized by the One Planet network and the International Resource Panel task group. Eighteen per cent of the policy instruments and network activities reported in 2020 were associated with the food and agriculture and construction sectors. All programmes have activities that address these sectors, creating a real opportunity to leverage the expertise and knowledge of the entire network to develop a common agenda for action.

Food

56. The value-chain approach is a tool to support systems analysis, as part of the broader food systems approach. The food value chain analysis undertaken by the One Planet network and International Resource Panel task group showed the three key challenges to be addressed in this value chain. Those are: (a) what types of food we produce and consume: addressing the vast differences in resources and environmental impacts to produce different types of food; (b) how much food we produce and consume to define how to reduce food waste; and (c) how we produce food so as to change primary production practices, including with mid-stream and down-stream actors. Another key conclusion of the analysis reveals that, while the majority of natural resource use and environmental impacts takes place at the primary production stage, primary producers have a limited ability to shape food systems and change their production practices. The middle stages of the value chain – comprising food companies, retail and food services – are structurally powerful and to a large degree shape both what food farmers produce and sell and what food consumers buy and eat.

57. A high proportion of policies reported by Member States are identified as focused or relevant to food or agriculture (62 per cent). Innovative policies provide inspiring examples of how to address multiple stages of the food value chains and their interdependence. This is the case of the Farm to Fork Strategy of the European Union which stands at the heart of the European Green Deal, and which aims to

accelerate an European Union-wide transition to sustainable food systems. The way in which multiple stages of the food value chains and their interdependence are approached will mitigate climate change and adapt to its impacts, reverse the loss of biodiversity, ensure food security, nutrition and public health and preserve the affordability of food while generating fairer economic returns. A proposal for a legislative framework for sustainable food systems will be put forward to support implementation of the strategy and development of sustainable food policy.

58. Another example is the policy on Concessions for Biodegradable, Compostable and Plant-based Food Service Containers of Saint Lucia, targeting the central stage of the value chain to have a positive environmental impact further downstream. By removing import duties of biodegradable, compostable and plant-based food service containers, the policy reduces the end price for consumers. This provides them with environmentally friendly materials that will support sustainable lifestyle choices and contribute to the reduction of plastic waste in Saint Lucia.

59. Alongside reported policies, 17 per cent of the activities conducted by the One Planet network programmes and partners since 2013 address natural resource use and environmental impacts along the food value chain. These are predominantly related to outreach and communication activities (40 per cent), knowledge resources and technical tools (20 per cent), trainings (15 per cent) and the adoption of new practices (9 per cent). All six One Planet network programmes have reported activities related to food, including the Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme (20 per cent of all reported activities to date have been on food), the Consumer Information Programme (18 per cent) and the Sustainable Tourism Programme (14 per cent).

60. A significant proportion of reported activities address the food value chain holistically, mostly led by the Sustainable Food Systems Programme which launched, in 2020, two new tools to guide food systems transformation by applying a systemic and multi-stakeholder approach. The first one is a publication entitled *Towards a Common Understanding of Sustainable Food Systems*, which sets out key approaches, concepts and terms for a broad range of stakeholders. The publication is a living document that will be reviewed as the science, knowledge and implementation experience on food systems evolve. The second tool is a set of case studies[14] for food systems stakeholders, aiming to inform and inspire governments and decision makers on their pathways to food systems transformation.

61. A significant amount of reported activities across the network occur within the middle stages of the food value chain and at the food service stage. This is driven by a large number of activities of the tourism sector to address food sustainability. In 2020, the Sustainable Tourism Programme started the development of the *Global Road map on Food Loss and Waste reduction and prevention in the tourism sector*, which will set targets and annual milestones up to 2030 for the tourism sector, so as to achieve target 12.3 on food waste. This will include guidance on annual monitoring of progress for tourism organizations and also encompass recommendations on procurement, sustainable diets and the integration of sustainable food management in tourism policies.

62. Partners of other programmes are also taking action at these stages. For instance, IKEA, a member of the Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme advisory committee, adopted commitments to have 50 per cent of the meals offered at their restaurants to be plant-based, 80 per cent to be non-red meat, and to have 80 per cent of all packaged food sold at their stores to be plant-based by 2025. The company has already adapted its menus and added a plant-based option that has only 4 per cent of

[14] See https://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/sustainable-food-systems/sfs-programme-case-studies-food-systems-transformation.

the climate footprint of their traditional meatball. Rikolto, a partner of the Sustainable Food Systems Programme, launched the “I’m more than my receipt” initiative, a new civic consumer movement in Belgium to make sustainable food the new normal in supermarkets. Through dialogues between consumers and retailers, and through the implementation of communication campaigns, the initiative encourages retailers to take bolder sustainability actions.

63. Although the middle stages of the food value chain, including food processing and packaging, transport and logistics and retail and food service, are shown in the food value chain analysis to play a powerful role in shaping both production and consumption, most network activities take place at the stages of primary production (23 per cent) or individual consumption (19 per cent). These four stages combined represent only 25 per cent of the total of food related activities reported by programmes and partners of the network, which is an underrepresentation in comparison to the significance of these stages in terms of size, influence and structural power across the food value chain. Further efforts are needed to address the stages of the value chain that have the most decisive influence on operations and behaviours.

Construction

64. Construction is integral to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, but balance in the sector is required in its transition to resource efficiency, circularity and a smaller environmental footprint for sustainable development. The construction value chain analysis undertaken by the One Planet network and International Resource Panel task group showed that the majority of natural resource use and environmental impacts takes place at the material production, construction and operation stages of the value chain. However, there is limited scope at these stages to make the needed changes for several reasons, including informality, fragmentation, complexity and availability of options. The most influential actors along the construction value chain are governments, international organizations, financial institutions and major market players, who are primarily acting at the financing, planning and design stages.

65. Governments exert significant influence along the construction value chain as (a) regulators of financial markets; (b) investors in the construction sector; and (c) urban and territorial planners and regulators of the construction sector. They have a strong opportunity to ensure sustainability of the construction sector through these three key levers, while addressing three challenges: (a) what type of construction is built and used, and where – balancing their differing contribution to Sustainable Development Goals and their environmental footprint; (b) how much is being built – ensuring that the growth of the construction market better follows demand; (c) how they are built – addressing resource use in materials, operation, construction and demolition.

66. A high proportion of policies reported by Member States under indicator 12.1.1 are identified as focused or relevant to buildings and construction (38 per cent). In Costa Rica, for instance, the policy on Sustainable Construction in the Public Sector implemented by the Government aims to promote sustainable construction practices in all public buildings, including new construction and renovation, with a view to driving a more efficient use of resources and a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. In Sweden, where the construction and property sector represents 20 per cent of consumption-based emissions, the policy entitled “Circular Economy: Strategy for the Transition in Sweden”, provides a set of four focus areas and specific actions. These include reusing and recycling mixed waste and improving the management and disposal of hazardous waste, so as to facilitate the transition to a circular economy. Importantly, the policy cites measures that must be taken during the manufacturing of

construction materials in order to eliminate or reduce hazardous waste at this early stage.

67. Activities reported by programmes and partners of the network that address natural resource use and environmental impacts along the construction value chain amount to 19 per cent of all activities reported since 2013. These are predominantly related to outreach and communications (34 per cent), knowledge resources and technical tools (33 per cent), and trainings (14 per cent). Although all geographical regions are covered by activities addressing the construction value chain, the majority is focused in the Asia-Pacific region (36 per cent), Europe and Central Asia (19 per cent), and Latin America and the Caribbean (11 per cent). Most activities of the network take place at the planning, design and commissioning stage (28 per cent), financing stage (20 per cent) and operation, maintenance and renovation stage (20 per cent). There is also a significant portion of activities that address the construction value chain holistically.

68. In 2020, the Sustainable Buildings and Construction Programme launched the Circular Built Environment Knowledge Base, a toolkit showing how circularity relates to the 2030 Agenda. Seven regional state of play reports were produced with specific assessments for Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, North America and Oceania, together with a global report with 10 recommendations to boost a transition from linear practices to a more circular built environment. The recommendations include the need to revise procurement processes and implement new business models that encourage cross-sectoral collaborations and establish standards and criteria for the reuse of construction and deconstruction waste.

69. The Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management of the Netherlands and the Dutch Institute for Building Biology and Ecology, a partner of the Sustainable Buildings and Construction Programme, developed Platform CB’23 to support the transition to a circular construction economy. The Platform is committed to drafting agreements for the Dutch construction sector and has released several guides to measure its circularity.

V. Mobilizing the United Nations system to support national implementation

70. The application at the national level of sustainable consumption and production knowledge, tools and solutions is an essential element to achieve the objectives set out in the 2030 Agenda in all countries, and to build coherence across the sustainable development frameworks within countries. Expertise from relevant United Nations entities should be mobilized to inform and support all Member States’ decisions and strategies for sustainable consumption and production. Furthermore, the next generation of common country assessments and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks provides a clear opportunity to integrate sustainable consumption and production expertise, policies, tools and solutions into the United Nations support for these frameworks. This will leverage the United Nations Development System Reform and existing United Nations inter-agency mechanisms designed to deliver technical assistance and support for implementation at the national and regional levels.

71. United Nations inter-agency collaboration is indeed key to achieve this objective. In 2020, such collaboration has been strengthened through the One Planet Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Sustainable Development Goal 12, which gathers six United Nations agencies, namely UNEP, UNDP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

and UNWTO. Two inter-agency projects funded by the One Planet Multi-Partner Trust Fund have already started, with a focus on resource-intensive sectors: food and buildings and construction. UN-Habitat, UNEP and UNOPS are jointly implementing the project for multi-agency support to United Nations country teams in mainstreaming resource efficiency in the housing, buildings and construction sector. FAO, UNDP, UNEP and UNWTO are working together on the project for promoting sustainable food consumption and production patterns through integrated tools, advocacy and multi-stakeholder action. These joint efforts contribute to global processes such as the United Nations Development System Reform and initiatives such as the United Nations Food Systems Summit, which play a crucial role to accelerate implementation of sustainable solutions in the decade of action.

72. United Nations inter-agency coordination is a strategic undertaking which aims to go beyond jointly funded projects on sustainable consumption and production. Inter-agency cooperation is essential to support the mainstreaming of sustainable consumption and production objectives into decision-making processes in all key sectors and at multiple decision-making levels, including on the required policy reforms and investments in countries. Regional institutions, such as the United Nations regional economic commissions, together with other regional platforms have a key role to play. The identification of game-changing solutions jointly promoted and piloted by participating agencies at the country level with the support of United Nations country teams is also key to place sustainable consumption and production at the centre of developing countries' efforts to achieve sustainable development and, more specifically, to deliver on Goal 12.

73. Extensive work was undertaken to develop a concept for coordinating and streamlining the global reporting processes on the indicators for Goal 12. The process involves responsible offices in the custodian entities of Goal 12 indicators, including FAO, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, UNEP, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Statistics Division, United Nations University, UNWTO, and the Secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Montreal Protocol. The concept for the Sustainable Development Goal 12 hub was developed to increase the accessibility and understanding of this Goal by policy-making and reporting entities in national Governments. The Sustainable Development Goal 12 hub, which will be launched on the occasion of the high-level political forum on sustainable development to be held in 2021, is conceptualized as a one-stop shop, offering access to all official reporting, metadata, guidance material, information and solutions for Goal 12 in one place.

74. The Sustainable Food Systems Programme has conveyed priorities defined by the One Planet network at different high-level agendas and commitments, advocating for the adoption of the sustainable food systems approach across various food and agriculture forums. More specifically, the Programme has established itself as a reference platform in the process of preparation of the United Nations Food Systems Summit. The first dialogue of this Summit was hosted by the 3rd Global Conference of the One Planet network's Sustainable Food Systems Programme, convening over 700 actors and focusing on Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through food systems transformation: On the road to the Food Systems Summit 2021. The Special Envoy for the Food Systems Summit participated in the Conference, as did several leads of Summit support structures. The programme also supported the nomination of the World Wide Fund for Nature as Chair for one of the Summit's five action tracks.

75. As part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the network has mobilized to provide strategic direction on sustainable pathways to recovery. The Sustainable Tourism Programme, led by UNWTO and co-led by France and Spain, released the

publication entitled “One Planet Vision for a Responsible Recovery of the Tourism Sector from COVID-19”, calling for a recovery founded on sustainability to enhance the resilience of the tourism sector. The widespread travel restrictions and socioeconomic challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic caused the worst crisis in the history of the tourism sector, with international tourist arrivals dropping by 74 per cent in 2020. The publication called for the transformation of the sector to better balance the needs of people, planet and prosperity, and contributed to the preparation of the Secretary-General’s policy brief on tourism and COVID-19. The publication was also used as reference for the formulation of General Assembly resolution 75/229 on the promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environmental protection.

76. The One Planet network and its programmes have launched and disseminated a series of strategic tools to support countries in the implementation of Goal 12. In Senegal, the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority shared a comprehensive sustainable public procurement action plan and was supported by the One Planet network to develop Sustainable Purchasing Guides, training and information material for buyers to guide initial purchases. A dedicated working group was formed, led by UNEP, including experts from the Sustainable Public Procurement Programme – ICLEI, FAO, UNEP and the Environmental Development Centre of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China and partners in the Government of Senegal (Ministry of Environment, Public Markets Regulatory Authority) to support the implementation of the country’s action plan through capacity-building and pilot activities.

77. While support from the United Nations entities on sustainable consumption and production is ongoing, it is clear that reversing current negative trends and the magnitude of the task set in Goal 12 will require the United Nations development system as a whole to dramatically step up this support in a coordinated and coherent manner. Each entity brings complementary expertise and skills to the diverse sectors and decision-making levels that are critical to achieve sustainable consumption and production at global and national levels.

VI. A common space for building knowledge and cooperation on sustainable consumption and production

78. As a global, multi-stakeholder network, the One Planet network relies on its website for important communications, knowledge management and programme implementation activities. The website engages key stakeholders from around the world including governments, civil society, the private sector, business intermediaries, the general public and academia, providing a space for engagement and collaboration on sustainable consumption and production, through numerous hubs that programmes have developed on specific topics. These include the hubs for the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative and COVID-19 Sustainable Recovery, developed by the Sustainable Tourism Programme; the hubs for Good Life Goals and Anatomy of Actions, developed by the Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme; the hubs for Tools and Global Conferences, developed by the Sustainable Food Systems Programme; the hubs for Product Lifetime Extension, Product Sustainability Information, Consumer Information Tools and Climate Change, and Consumer Information and Plastic Packaging, developed by the Consumer Information Programme; and the hubs for the working groups on Health, Information and Communications Technology, Construction and Infrastructure, Circular Procurement and Monitoring and Measurement from the Sustainable Public Procurement Programme.

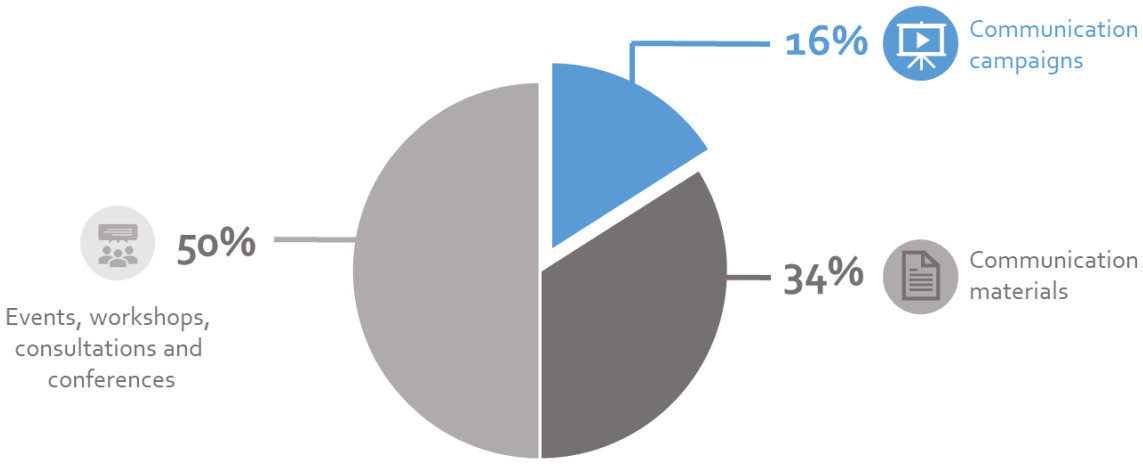
79. The One Planet network website has been enhanced to reach new audiences, reinforce implementation activities of the network and foster the continued reporting on activities and achievements. The number of unique visitors to the One Planet network website grew throughout 2020, reaching 30,000 monthly visitors, almost triple that of the previous year. Key actions contributing to this included around 450 articles published under the news and stories section of the website. The One Planet network has made information, tools and strategic entry points more accessible to its partners and programmes, enabling them to support their strategic priorities more effectively.

80. Alongside the online platform of the One Planet network, programmes have also created new spaces for interaction, exchange of knowledge and experience. The Dialogue Forum on Sustainable Public Procurement brings together decision-makers, procurement practitioners, researchers and members of civil society from Europe, Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa. The dialogues, organized by the German Development Institute, a partner of the Sustainable Public Procurement Programme, between public procurement practitioners and experts extend their know-how by conveying the latest research on public procurement. In 2020, participants were given examples on how to use e-procurement, communication with the market (for example, through bidder dialogues), and joint procurement to strengthen sustainable public procurement. Participants have reportedly used the information from the Forum to adapt sustainable procurement practices in their respective public entities, such as municipalities, and to extend their professional networks.

81. The Consumer Information Programme established a new working group on product lifetime extension to advance the circular economy. The working group aims to bring practitioners, policy makers and consumers together to make progress on product lifetime extension policies and practices worldwide. The group is currently developing a global mapping of product lifetime extension policies, of ecolabels with product lifetime extension criteria, and four case studies from companies and organizations that apply product lifetime extension strategies in their business models.

82. Communications and awareness-raising efforts in positioning sustainable consumption and production continue to be the most reported activity of the network, amounting to 23 per cent of 2020 activities, but with a decreasing relative weight compared to previous years. The 224 activities implemented included events, workshops, consultations and conferences, followed by communication materials, and communication campaigns (see figure VII).

Figure VII
Awareness and communication activities by type, 2020 results



83. Partners are reaching broad public audiences to promote changes in the way citizens choose, use and dispose of products. The Waste and Resources Action Programme, a partner of the Consumer Information Programme and the Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme, led several campaigns fostering changes in practices to prevent food and textile waste, and to increase the recycling rate of consumers in the United Kingdom. The "Keep Crushing It" campaign, part of the Love Food Hate Waste initiative, introduced the link between food waste and climate change with a focus on normalizing six good behaviours during the lockdown period: pre-shop planning, better in-home food storage, freezing, defrosting, using up lockdown larders and creative approaches to cooking. Seventy-nine per cent of citizens who saw the campaign reported a change in their behaviour. The Waste and Resources Action Programme also launched the "Wasting Food: It's Out Of Date" campaign to draw the link between food waste and climate change. This addressed the gap between people in the United Kingdom who say they are concerned about climate change (81 per cent) and those that see a clear link to the wasting of food (30 per cent), through dynamic videos, quizzes and infographics to drive these messages across social media platforms.

84. Akatu, a partner of the Consumer Information Programme and the Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programmes, launched the Edukatu programme which encourages cooperation with public education authorities to sensitise teachers and students from Brazilian municipalities to adopt conscious consumption practices, including plastic waste reduction, conscious water consumption, energy efficiency and preventive health measures. To date, around 14,000 educators and 40,000 students have registered on the platform. The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, continued the implementation of the Global Search for Sustainable Schools project granting 60 awards in nine countries to carry out curriculum development, school management, infrastructure development and community activities for sustainable lifestyles.

85. The Blue Fish Label from the Marine Stewardship Council, partner of the Consumer Information Programme, released teaching and learning resources for children and teenagers on how to keep the oceans healthy for current and future generations. These resources share knowledge on the importance of the ocean, the current threats and what ocean sustainability means. The Swechha We For Change foundation, a partner of the Sustainable Food Systems Programme, created the Swechha Farm School. This learning centre hub is designed to engage local communities on issues of resilience and finding long-term solutions to ecological degradation and health and poverty by integrating core school curriculum learning within the farm school activities.

VII. The Way Forward

86. The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the weaknesses of current development models, exacerbating existing challenges through an unprecedented disruption to societies, economies and essential value chains everywhere on the planet, hitting the poorest and most vulnerable amongst us. The same development models continue to feed three planetary crisis – climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution – of which the environmental, economic and social costs are unprecedented. The unsustainable consumption and production patterns that underpin these development models are now widely recognized as the root causes of these crises and of the poverty and inequality that are fuelled by them. A systemic vision for change and an unprecedented engagement of the international community, institutional and economic actors, scientists, civil society organizations and citizens is required to transform these patterns and to ensure a resilient, inclusive and equitable recovery

from the pandemic which ensures human well-being and preserves the natural environment.

87. The 10-Year Framework is a constituent element of the 2030 Agenda and key to maintaining its integrity, given the transversal nature of the objective of shifting to sustainable consumption and production patterns. Efforts to implement Goal 12 should intensify by 2022 and beyond, should build on the multilateral environmental agreements s and other sustainable development agreements, reduce fragmentation, promote policy coherence and create synergies among alliances and platforms to these ends. Results including specific outcomes and impacts delivered by the One Planet network, detailed in the current and previous annual reports to the high-level political forum, have contributed to the implementation of Goal 12 in recent years. These results combined with the active and engaged global network of partners collaborating in the implementation of Goal 12 has the potential to be substantially scaled up in the continuing context of the 2030 Agenda.

88. In the coming years, further efforts are required to strengthen the science-policy interface and prioritize action in high-impact sectors, including through further cooperation with scientific bodies such as the International Resource Panel. The national focal points for the 10-Year Framework and of multilateral environmental agreements will have a critical role in helping coordinate action at national level for more coherent and scaled up implementation, building on the legislative and voluntary frameworks that exist at global, regional and national levels. Actors, within both the public and private sectors, should be engaged to collectively and systematically address drivers of unsustainable consumption and production and the barriers to implementing Goal 12. The value-chain approach being adopted by the network offers a structured way to address those barriers and drivers, also promoting sustainable business practices and creating job opportunities.

89. Shifting sustainable consumption and production to the next level requires a global, multi-stakeholder and action-oriented movement inspired by the “networked and inclusive multilateralism” for which the Secretary-General of the United Nations has called. The foundation of this movement exists in the One Planet network and its six accelerator programmes, which have already contributed to the transition to sustainable consumption and production patterns. However, these efforts must be urgently scaled up and accelerated, engaging all the alliances, platforms and partnerships willing to join hands in this vital transformation for the 2030 Agenda.

Annex I

Lead organizations of the One Planet network programmes

The lead organizations support the overall coordination, implementation, fundraising activities and monitoring of the programme and provide the resources needed to create and sustain coordination desks for each of the programmes.

Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme

Japan – Ministry of the Environment and Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

Sweden – Ministry of the Environment and Stockholm Environment Institute

Sustainable Public Procurement Programme

China – Environmental Development Centre, Ministry of Ecology and Environment

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability

Netherlands – Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment

United Nations Environment Programme

Sustainable Food Systems Programme

Costa Rica – Ministry of Livestock and Agriculture

Switzerland – Federal Office for Agriculture

World Wide Fund for Nature

Consumer Information Programme

Germany – Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

Consumers International

Indonesia – Ministry of the Environment and Forestry

Sustainable Buildings and Construction Programme

Finland – Ministry of the Environment

RMIT University

United Nations Environment Programme

Sustainable Tourism Programme

World Tourism Organization

Spain – Secretariat of State for Tourism, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism

France – Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition of France

Annex II

Members of the Board of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns

Pursuant to United Nations General Assembly resolutions 67/203 and 69/214, and decision 72/416, the current composition of the Board of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns is:

– Argentina (Chair)

– Azerbaijan

– Bhutan

– Colombia

– Hungary

– Israel

– Japan

– Kenya

– Mauritius

– Nigeria

– Switzerland (Vice-Chair)