The latest news, resources, events and webinars from the One Planet network.

The One Planet network implements the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP).

Monthly update - November 2020

Latest News

One Planet network 2019 Annual Magazine is available now

The One Planet network 2019 Annual magazine is available now, highlighting the achievements of the One Planet network, its six programmes and more than 700 partners throughout the year of 2019.

The 2019 Annual Magazine is based on the progress report submitted to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in 2020, which analysed both the One Planet network Annual Reporting results and the results of the first official 12.1.1 national SCP policy reporting.

This year's magazine showcases more than forty case studies and examples of SCP in practice from across programmes and partners, including eight case studies of national policies from across Asia, Latin America, Europe and Africa.

Download the 2019 Annual Magazine here

Sustainable Food Systems programme Global Conference, programme news, and more

The latest newsletter from the Sustainable Food Systems programme features information about the upcoming 3rd Global Conference of the programme.

The conference will provide substantial input to the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit, building on the achievements of the SFS Programme's multi-stakeholder membership during its first five years of dialogue and implementation.

The conference title "Achieving the SDGs through food systems transformation - On the road to the Food Systems Summit" highlights how a shift to sustainable food systems can be catalytic to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The conference will also be hosting the very first of the Food Systems Summit Global Dialogues, which are a core component of the Food Systems Summit engagement process.

Find out more about how to participate in this conference, along with other updates from the SFS programme.
Initiative on Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond

The Secretary General’s Strategy and Roadmap for financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development underscores the UN’s critical role in supporting and accelerating the mobilisation of finance for sustainable development.

With the devastating socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to take its toll, Member States have started an initiative to enable open and inclusive debate and proffer solutions for Heads of State and Government to consider and support. This process has highlighted a number of possible avenues for high-impact actions that leaders can take.

Find out more about the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 and what steps this Initiative is taking

One Planet Multi-Partner Trust Fund highlights strength of an interagency approach to supporting implementation SDG 12

In his report on repositioning the UN development system to deliver on Agenda 2030, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres cites interagency funding mechanisms as one means to strengthen coherence and coordination and provide better incentives for collaboration within the UN development system.

The One Planet network responded to this call by bringing together six UN agencies – UNDP, UNWTO, FAO, UN-HABITAT, UNEP, and UNOPS – to form the One Planet Multi-Partner Trust Fund in order to overcome fragmented approaches to delivering support for SDG 12 implementation.

This example of interagency coordination will now begin the concrete delivery of services in countries, as two projects have been approved to move forward – each focusing on a resource-intensive sector and related value chain: Food and Buildings/Construction.

Learn more about the Fund and its projects here

Daring cities use their public procurement power to tackle the climate crisis

Cities around the world have committed to leveraging their purchasing power to reduce carbon emissions at Daring Cities, the global virtual forum for urban leaders boldly tackling the climate emergency.

In three action-oriented sessions organised by ICLEI’s Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement, supported by the One Planet Network Sustainable Procurement Programme, participants from over 45 countries engaged online to explore how public buyers can navigate the race to zero-emissions in an environment where ‘lowest-price’ still is the deciding factor.

Take a look at the key outcomes and concrete actions that cities around the world are taking
Cement industry aims to become carbon-neutral by 2050

The production of cement, one of the key ingredients of concrete, contributes to about 8% of the world’s carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. In a major development, the Global Cement and Concrete Association (GCCA), representing about 35% of the world’s cement production capacity, announced “2050 Climate Ambition” on 1st September 2020 with the aim to deliver carbon neutral concrete by 2050. The statement identifies the essential strategy that will be deployed to achieve carbon neutral concrete.

Find out more about this ground-breaking initiative and its upcoming roadmap for action.

How can providing the right information nudge consumers towards more sustainable living option? Watch the latest webinar for the Consumer Information programme to find out

The webinar “Tell me more and (maybe) I’ll do it: consumer information for sustainable decisions” brought together a panel of experts to discuss the empowering role of consumer information tools and how we can encourage behaviour change for more sustainable decisions.

Many people in the sustainability field strongly believe that if consumers have the right information, they would do the right thing and opt for sustainable choices. But governments and businesses also play an important role to enable and provide more default sustainable living options.

The full recording is available in case you missed it, as well as information about each of the interventions.

Are reusable materials still better than single use plastics during a pandemic? New webinar series explores this question and more

The Life Cycle Initiative led a webinar series which shared information on lifecycle environmental impacts of plastic products in comparison with alternative reusable materials, providing examples from scientific research and case studies showing that reusable options out-perform single-use options on a variety of metrics.

With the ongoing global pandemic, there were interesting discussions around the safety and health concerns that some have regarding reusable materials, and the importance of raising awareness on the proper use of these materials so as to discourage any large-scale rejection of them.

Find out more about this debate as well as other points for consideration around single-use plastics.

New Publications
From Linear to Circular - First Global Mapping of Circularity in the Built Environment

The One Planet Network Sustainable Buildings and Construction programme initiated a study to understand the current state of play with regard to circularity in the built environment in the seven different geographic regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), North America and Oceania. This is the first in-depth study ever conducted on the subject. In addition to the seven regional outlooks, a global report has been produced to summarise and compare the state of play regarding circularity in different regions.

Ten recommendations to boost a transition from linear practices to a more circular built environment are presented based on the study.

Read more about these new reports on circularity in the built environment.

Sustainability and Circularity in the Textile Value Chain

The impact of the textile industry on climate change is notable, with one source finding that the global apparel and footwear industries accounted for an estimated 8% of the world’s greenhouse gas emissions in 2016.

As less than 1% of the material used to produce clothing is recycled into new clothing, the textile industry uses large amounts of resources, leading to negative impacts on the environment.

This report maps the textile value chain to identify key environmental and socio-economic impacts ('hotspots') along the value chain stages and takes stock of existing initiatives working to address them. It furthermore identifies priority actions needed to move towards a more sustainable and circular textile value chain.

Download the report to discover other impacts of the textile industry, and the innovative approaches being taken make the entire value chain more circular.

Collaboration Opportunities

The Coordination Desk of the Consumer Information Programme is hiring

Naomi Scott-Mearns will be leaving Consumers International and her role as Coordination Desk of the Consumer Information Programme at the end of November to join the British government. CI-SCP and the One Planet network want to express their thanks for Naomi’s great contributions over the years and wish her all the best in her new role.

Consumers International and CI-SCP the Consumer Information Programme are now looking for a new Sustainable Consumption Specialist to fill this role. The deadline for applications is 23 November, 9am GMT.

Visit Consumers International’s website for more information on the UK-based position and how to apply.
EU Green Deal Call for proposals: 1 billion euros for research and innovation to boost the EU’s green recovery

The European Green Deal is an ambitious action plan for a systemic transformation towards a climate-neutral continent by 2050. Responding to the urgency of the challenges at hand, the Horizon 2020 Green Deal Call aims for tangible results in the short to medium term. Funding opportunities are available in several areas.

Among the calls are:

- Building and renovating in an energy and resource efficient way
- Testing and demonstrating systemic innovations in support of the Farm-to-Fork Strategy
- Towards Climate Neutral and Socially innovative cities
- Accelerating the green transition and energy access Partnership with Africa
- Behavioural, social and cultural change for the Green Deal
- Closing the industrial carbon cycle to combat climate change - Industrial feasibility of catalytic routes for sustainable alternatives to fossil resources
- Demonstration of systemic solutions for the territorial deployment of the circular economy

Access all calls through the funding and tenders portal.

Call for Proposals: Technical assistance for the GO4SDGs “SME Assessment” work stream in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Global Opportunities for Sustainable Development Goals (GO4SDGs) launched in 2019 by the United Nations Environment Programme and the German Ministry for the Environment, supports stakeholders in integrating sustainable consumption and production and inclusive green economy approaches in their policies and decisions to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The UN Environment Programme is inviting universities, research centres, think-tanks, business associations, National Cleaner Production Centres, NGOs and other civil society organisations to submit their proposals to provide technical assistance for the GO4SDGs “SME Assessment” work stream in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Find out more about the ‘SME Assessment’ workstream and how your organisation can contribute.
Public consultation on primary production criteria of the Consumer Goods Forum's Sustainable Supply Chain Initiative

The Consumer Goods Forum's (CGF) Sustainable Supply Chain Initiative (SSCI) has launched a public consultation on the criteria for its Primary Production scope of its benchmark.

The SSCI welcomes comments from the public as part of its commitment to engaging multiple stakeholders, upholding transparency and building trust in social sustainability standards. All stakeholders are invited to partake in the consultation until 1st December 2020 at consultation.tcgfssci.com, where they can view benchmarking documents and leave comments. Feedback can also be emailed to ssci@theconsumergoodsforum.com.

Interested stakeholders are also welcome to join an SSCI Stakeholder Consultation call, which will take place on the 24th November 2020. Please register your interest here.

Discover more about the ongoing public consultations at SSCI and next steps.

Events & E-Courses

Food Systems Approach to Climate Change - The NDCs we want

12 November 2020, 16h CEST

The UN Environment Programme, WWF, The Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT, and IPES-FOOD are organizing this webinar to present the recommendations from the report Enhancing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Food Systems and discuss the Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration and explain the interlinkages between food systems approaches and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

This webinar is part of a series of webinars on Food Systems Approach in Practice promoted by the One Planet Sustainable Food Systems Programme.

Find out more about the agenda and speakers at this webinar, and how to register.
Several e-learning courses on Life Cycle Thinking available

The Life Cycle Initiative and UNEP have developed a set of free online training courses on Life Cycle Thinking for students, government officials, and business people, that address life cycle thinking and approaches from different perspectives and in various levels of depth.

So far there are three online courses available: Introduction to Life Cycle Thinking, Life Cycle Thinking in business and decision making, and Life Cycle Thinking in policy making. With its modular structure, it is easy to choose courses suited to your interest area (policy, business or academic) and take each course at your own pace.

Find out more about all of these online courses and start today.

SEA of Solutions 2020 - Wasting less plastic and keeping it out of the ocean

24 – 26 November 2020

SEA of Solutions is an annually occurring partnership event towards solving plastic pollution at source. SOS2020 unites seekers and providers of market-transforming policy, business, and technology solutions, enabling networking among plastic value-chain stakeholders to facilitate information exchange, collaboration, and partnerships that result in reduced single-use plastic production, use of alternative packaging, and increased collection for recycling.

Find out more about everything going on at SOS2020 and how you can take part.

Do you have a story or event you would like included in our Monthly Update? To be considered, simply share a thumbnail picture, any relevant links and a brief description of 80 words or less in an e-mail to oneplanet@un.org.

Come say hello!