



Task Group on catalysing science-based-policy action on SCP Proposed way forward – revised April 2019

UNEA-4 Resolution No. UNEP/EA.4/Res.1

Innovative Pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production

On 12 March 2019, the United Nations Environment Assembly issued a resolution entitled “Innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production” (UNEP/EA.4/Res.1). In this resolution, UNEA asks the Executive Director to: *...establish, within existing resources and building on work already undertaken without duplication of efforts, a time-limited task group comprising the International Resource Panel and the One Planet Network, to provide insights on the management of natural resources and raw materials in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable consumption and production, as well as to identify, taking into account national circumstances, technical tools, best practices, policy options, sustainable technologies and innovative business models, and finance flows in this regard. Requests further that the task group completes its work in time to present the results to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its 5th session...*”

The following is a proposed action plan for the above-mentioned task group prepared in response to this request.

1. Background

The One Planet Network and the International Resource Panel have been collaborating since their inception to catalyse science-based policy action on sustainable consumption and production. The inclusion of the International Resource Panel as the provider of science-based evidence in the ‘One Plan for One Planet – strategy 2018-2022’ and the inclusion of the One Planet network in the International Resource Panel’s 2018-2021 work programme will further strengthen this collaboration.

Some of the main outputs of this strategic partnership in 2018 included:

- ✓ Informing and aligning policy priorities in the 2018-2022 Strategy of the 10YFP and the 2018-2021 Work Programme of the International Resource Panel.
- ✓ Development of a joint narrative on: i) sustainable consumption and production for the review of progress on SDG 12 at the 2018 High-Level Political Forum, ii) decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation for the review of SDG 8 at the 2019 Forum.
- ✓ The conceptualization of an SDG 12 Hub, together with other relevant partners, to streamline reporting, data collection and data visualization on SDG 12 indicators.
- ✓ Development of the Sustainable Consumption and Production Hotspot Analysis tool (SCP-HAT). This tool includes three technical modules to analyse hotspot areas of sustainable consumption and production per country and enable science-based prioritization.
- ✓ Joint capacity development training “Systems-Thinking and Policy Planning for sustainable consumption and production” at the 2018 High-Level Political Forum.
- ✓ Joint communications and dissemination activities at the 2018 High-Level Political Forum to raise awareness of the importance of SDG12 for the achievement of all 17 Goals.



- ✓ Cross-fertilisation of strategic documents from both initiatives to bring together the scientific knowledge of IRP reports and the policy knowledge of the One Planet Network members.

2. Objective and Scope

The Task group comprised of the International Resource Panel and One Planet network will aim at preparing a pathway for increased uptake by the One Planet Network (governments, business, and other stakeholders) and beyond of the scientific data in the International Resource Panel's reports and other available reliable sources, such as UNEP reports and data on material footprint, material consumption and related data accessible through tools such as the SCP-Hotspot Analysis Tool and the World Environment Situation Room, among others. This will be addressed by "translating" the information in these reports and other data sources (proposed list in Annex 1), to extract key data and messages and develop actionable science-based recommendations responding to the needs of different stakeholders' groups including policy makers and businesses.

The Task Group will provide strategic guidance to:

1. Identify data needs and information availability on resource use and hotspots in the 3 identified sectors and value-chains.

The aim is to identify where the problems and opportunities are (and therefore guide the solution); to make it relevant to things people can relate to: countries, sectors, materials
Within key sectors and value chains, support the identification of hotspots and where efforts will have the most impact on resource use, building on status and trends of natural resource use within a given sector, material category, or stage of the value chain.

Data and information from: IRP Reports, UNEP reports, SCP-HAT, Material Flows database, WESR and possibly other sources

Three entry points for the data: Resources / materials; Sectors / value chains; Countries

Three sectors/value-chains: food systems, construction, textiles

2. Define and undertake a consultative process that leads to actionable recommendations in the 3 sectors / value-chains.

The Task Group will define and oversee a 2-tier multi-stakeholder consultation. The first is a consultation with experts that will validate the data analysis and identify the hotspots along the value chain. The second is a consultation with multiple stakeholders to identify the relevant and actionable recommendations. Recommendations will address a sector, stage of the value chain, stakeholder, product category. In addition, and based on the lessons learned from the multi-stakeholder consultations, the Task Group will aim to propose systematic processes to develop actionable recommendations.

3. Identifying available solutions on the basis of the hotspots and recommendations, including through collaboration with the project *Mainstreaming coherent and effective sustainable consumption and production policies, including through circular economy models: Best practices and recommendations*, which specifically addresses OP 15 of the UNEA4 resolution 1 on Innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production – in which UNEP will compile an inventory of coherent product-policy frameworks and best practices to designing products and services in a sustainable manner.



The objective is to ensure that key stakeholders have access to comprehensible information packages and messages, that are based on evidence, data and science, and which help identify priorities, implement and monitor strategies for a sustainable management of natural resources.

3. Activities and outputs

A. Identify data needs and information availability on resource use and hotspots required to prioritise action on SCP and natural resource management:

- Consult selected members of the One Planet network – who are potential “users” of this information – on the priority information required from their perspective from a set of IRP reports.
- In addition and based on the above, identify, extract and refine available data and information on resources/materials overall and in the three identified sectors (agri-food, construction, textiles) and different stages of the value chain that can inform action and prioritization of key stakeholders in these value-chains. This will be undertaken not only through the analysis of the IRP reports, but also UNEP reports, data on resource use available in tools such as the SCP-HAT and the World Environment Situation Room, as well as other materials. If applicable, knowledge gaps will be defined.
- Through a consultative process extract and/develop actionable recommendations and assure the accuracy of the data extracted and its interpretation; identifying gaps and entry points in the sectors/value chains

Output: a Set of key data based on the different stages of the value chains in each of the three sectors: agri-food, construction and textiles, that is scientifically sound, and action oriented.

B. Develop actionable science-based recommendations and tailored knowledge products based on the data set identified in Output A.

- Through a consultative process formulate actionable science-based recommendations to address the gaps that consider key resources, key stakeholders and key stages of the value-chains in three resource-intensive sectors.
- Based on the outcome of the multi-stakeholder consultations develop actionable science-based recommendations on natural resource use applicable to different stakeholder groups.

Output: - A set of science-based actionable recommendations.

- Proposal of systematic process to develop actionable recommendations

C. Dissemination and Engagement

- Develop communication material based on the above outputs – including material for digital outreach for UNEA5 and beyond
- Facilitate the participation of the members of the task group to the steering committee of the International Resource Panel and the executive committee of the One Planet network.
- Engage members of the One Planet network or the International Resource Panel for high level events related to the key agendas identified.

Output: Communication material



4. Composition of the task group

In the context of the above objectives and outputs, the International Resource Panel should be seen as the “supplier” of data and information and the One Planet network as the “user” of the same.

The task group will be composed of 15 members of the One Planet network and the International Resource Panel. It will include:

- 4 Government representatives, of which it is recommended that 2 that are (or have been) members of the steering committee of the International Resource Panel and of the Board of the 10YFP
 - ✓ Argentina: Ms. Maria del Pilar Bueno Rubial, Secretary of Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Innovation, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Argentina & Chair of the 10YFP Board
 - ✓ Finland: Ms. Merja Saarnilehto, Programme Manager, Ministry of Environment
 - ✓ The Netherlands: Mr. Arthur Eijs, Policy Advisor, Ministry of Infrastructure & Water Management
 - ✓ South Africa: Mr. Ndivhuho Raphulu, Director, NCPC-SA (nominated by Department of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of South Africa)
- 2 Business/private sector representative in the One Planet network
 - ✓ Centre for Responsible Business, India: Mr. Rijit Sengupta, Chief Executing Officer
 - ✓ Saudi Green Building Forum, Saudi Arabia: Mr. Faisal Alfadl, Founder/Secretary General
- 2 representatives of a scientific initiative or NGO in the One Planet network
 - ✓ WWF: Ms. Martina Fleckenstein, Policy Manager, Food Practice
 - ✓ WRF: Mr. Baas de Leeuw, Managing Director
- 3 representatives of the United Nations system, International Financial Institution or intergovernmental organisations
 - ✓ UN-Habitat: Mr. Christophe Lalande, Leader, Housing Unit
 - ✓ European Union: Mr. Javier Arribas-Quintana, Senior Expert
 - ✓ UNEP: Ms Ligia Noronha, Director, Economy Division
- 1 Co-Chair of the International Resource Panel
 - ✓ Ms. Izabella Teixeira, former Minister of Environment, Brazil
- 3 Experts of the International Resource Panel
 - ✓ Ms. Stefanie Hellweg, Professor ETH Zurich Institute of Environmental Engineering (IfU) Ecological Systems Design
 - ✓ Mr Jeffrey Herrick, Soil Scientist USDA-ARS Jornada Research Unit New Mexico State University
 - ✓ Ms. Ester van der Voet, Associate Professor, Leiden University, the Department Industrial Ecology of the Institute of Environmental Sciences (CML)

The above composition of the task group includes at least one representative of the Sustainable Food Systems (WWF) and of the Sustainable Buildings and construction programme (UN-Habitat), as the programmes directly addressing the most resource intensive sectors.

The Secretariats of the International Resource Panel and One Planet Network will facilitate the task group and coordinate the activities, with the support of UNEP.



The nominations for the task group were received through an open call for proposals launched through the International Resource Panel and the One Planet network. The selection of task group member will be finalized by the one of the co-chairs of the International Resource Panel and the Chair of the 10YFP Board. Selection criteria considered regional and stakeholder balance.

The task group will:

- i) provide inputs and information on the identification of priority information,
- ii) represent the stakeholder group / programme / organisation they are nominated for and ensure consultations within that group,
- iii) champion the recommendations and key messages within their stakeholder group and relevant events.

Interested parties are kindly invited to consider these responsibilities when submitting expressions of interest.

5. Timeline

Establishment of the Task Group – December 2019

Review of the IRP reports and identification of data needs – March 2020

Identification of data needs and information availability on resource use and hotspots – Mar-May 2020
Consultations with experts and academia to identify gaps and entry points in the value chains – May-July 2020

International Resource Panel Steering Committee meeting: End of September 2020

One Planet network Executive Committee meeting: tbd
Multi-Stakeholder Consultations to develop actionable science-based recommendations – October 2020

Final set of science-based actionable recommendations: October 2020

Communication materials in preparation for UNEA5: January 2021

6. Budget

In addition to in-kind support from the One Planet network, the International Resource Panel and UNEP, the following additional resources would need to be mobilised:

Task	Amount (USD)
Travel and DSA for Task group member to attend 2 meetings (to be held during IRP or OPN meetings) (4 participants @2,500 per traveller)	10,000
Design, layout, printing (paper and digital material)	15,000
Consultant for consultations and recommendations development	15,000
Total	30,000
<i>If an exhibition is to be envisaged for UNEA5 – and additional 50 to 200,000 USD would need to be considered</i>	<i>From 50,000 to 200,000</i>
<i>Total minimum required</i>	<i>30,000</i>

Annex 1: Reports of the International Resource Panel and additional resources for consideration by the task group

- Global Resources Outlook 2019: Natural Resources for the Future We Want. [GRO 2019](#)



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International
Resource
Panel

- Resource Efficiency: Potential and Economic Implications, 2017. [G7 report](#)
- Resource Efficiency for Sustainable Development: Key Messages for the Group of 20, 2018. [G20 report](#)
- Global Material Flows and Resource Productivity, 2016. [MFA report](#)
- Food Systems and Natural Resources, 2016. [Food systems report](#)
- The Weight of Cities: Resource Requirements of Future Urbanization, 2018. [Weight of Cities report](#)
- Resource Efficiency and Climate Change (to be launched at UNFCCC COP 25)
- Data on resources through tools such as the SCP-HAT (<http://scp-hat.lifecycleinitiative.org/>), the material flows database and the World Environment Situation Room.
- Reports on textiles produced by UNEP, as they become available
- Other sources as applicable
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