

# *“ Resource Efficiency in the Arab Region: Monitoring Progress of SDG 12 and Building Back Better from COVID-19 ”*



7-8 October 2020

Luc Reuter  
UNEP



Mediterranean  
Action Plan  
Barcelona  
Convention



Regional Activity Centre  
for Sustainable Consumption  
and Production

# SwitchMed Programme

- EU and project country funded;
- Support Switch to Sustainable Consumption and Production;
- Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco Palestine, Tunisia;
- Different implementing partners: EU, UNIDO, UNEP, UNEP/MAP, . .

## **SwitchMed is a regional initiative with the objective of:**

- Stimulating the **creation of greater business opportunities** and **decent employment** while reducing the environmental footprint of consumption and production activities.
- Directly support to the **private sector**;
- Creation of **enabling policy environment**;
- Facilitation of **experiences sharing** among stakeholders.



# SwitchMed I (2014-2018)

# SwitchMed II (2019-2023)

***SDG 12:** Ensure Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns*

***Target 12.1:** Implement the 10-year framework of programs on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries.*

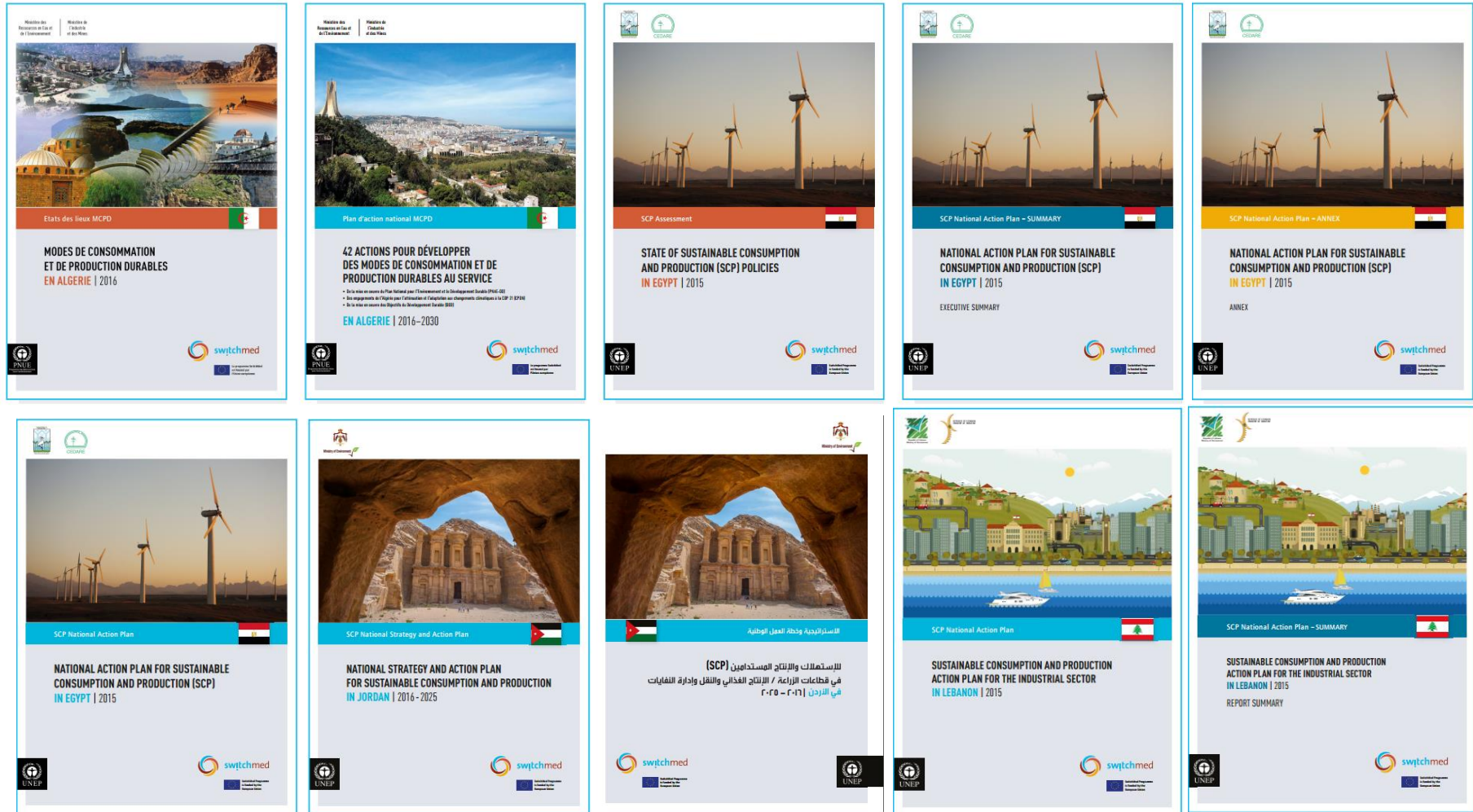
***Indicator 12.1.1:** Number of countries developing, adopting, or implementing policy instruments aimed at supporting the shift to Sustainable Consumption and Production.*



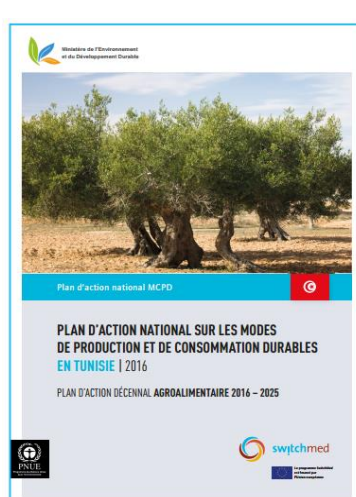
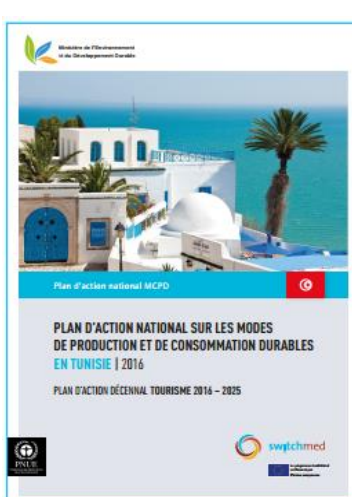
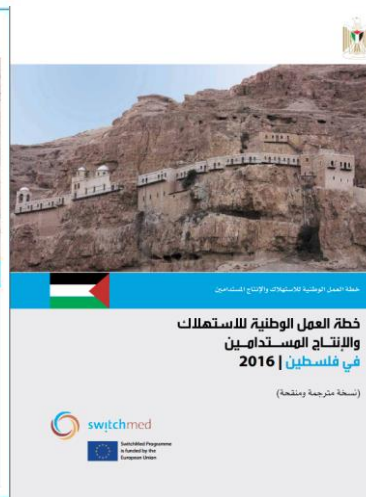
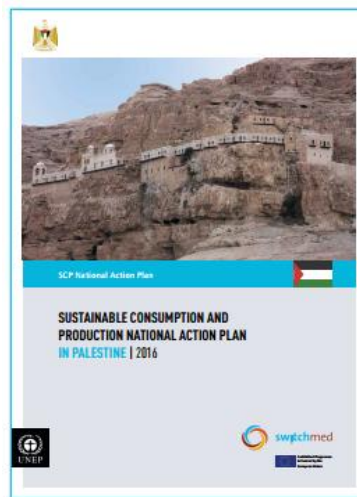
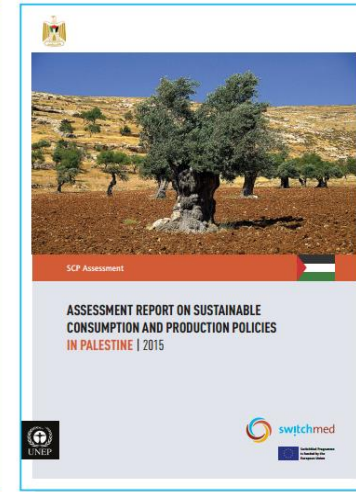
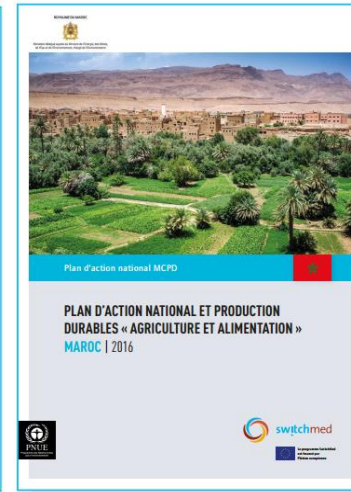
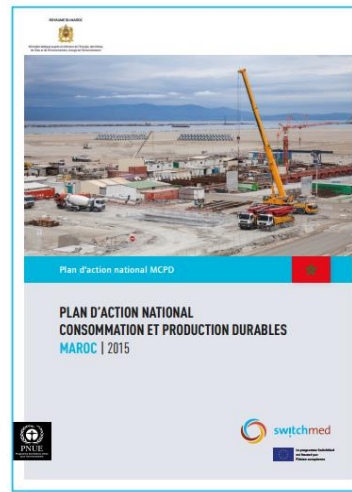
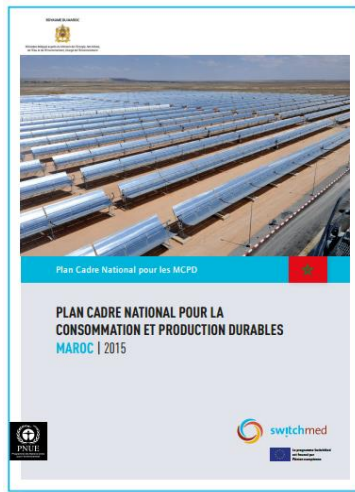




# SwitchMed I : SCP-NAPs



# SwitchMed I : SCP-NAPs



# Demonstration activities

- **Egypt:** Public Procurement and plastic bag/waste management;
- **Jordan:** Waste management in the tourism sector and National Solid Waste Management Training Program;
- **Palestine:** Eco-tourism and Agriculture.

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# Communication, Information and Knowledge Sharing



[illegible][illegible]

# Path to Eco-Innovation

## What is Eco-Innovation?

Eco-Innovation is the development of new products, processes, services and business models that ensure sustainable development. Eco-Innovation is based on the idea that innovation can be a powerful tool to address environmental challenges and create sustainable products (goods), services, processes, new business opportunities and organisational models which lead to a competitive environment and competitiveness.

**Size**  
Eco-Innovation can be small or large and can be implemented in a wide range of sectors and industries.

**Scope**  
Eco-Innovation can be implemented in a wide range of sectors and industries.

**Business Model**  
Eco-Innovation can be implemented in a wide range of sectors and industries.

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Eco-Innovation can be implemented in a wide range of sectors and industries.

## Business opportunities with eco-innovation

Business with the EU for eco-innovation projects. The EU is a major source of funding for eco-innovation projects. The EU has a number of funding programmes that support eco-innovation projects. The EU has a number of funding programmes that support eco-innovation projects.

A number of national, regional, and local authorities have established and are establishing eco-innovation centres. These centres provide a range of services to businesses, including advice, training, and funding. These centres provide a range of services to businesses, including advice, training, and funding.

Public and private sector organisations are increasingly looking for ways to reduce their environmental impact. This has led to a number of public and private sector organisations establishing eco-innovation centres. These centres provide a range of services to businesses, including advice, training, and funding.

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# Guiding documents for mainstreaming gender





# SwitchMed II website

[www.switchmed.eu](http://www.switchmed.eu)

The screenshot displays the SwitchMed II website interface. At the top, the SwitchMed logo and the European Union flag are visible, along with navigation links: 'About us', 'What we do', 'News', 'Thematic areas', 'Country hubs', and 'Resources'. The main heading reads 'National enabling policies in Egypt'. Below this, there is a large image of wind turbines at sunset. The text on the page describes the National Action Plan in Egypt, which is based on the 2013 'Green Economy Scoping Study' and aims to facilitate the achievement of the SDG 12. It mentions that the plan is a significant milestone contributing to a continuum of knowledge accumulation for nationally integrating sustainability in the key economic sectors. A multi-stakeholder and nationally owned approach was chosen to include government, academia, private sector, civil society and international organizations to ensure its realistic reflection of Egypt's actual socio-economic and environmental needs and aspirations. The action plan further intends to provide solutions for mainstreaming SCP policies nationally that facilitate the achievement of the SDG 12. The implementation of the national action plan mainstream sustainable consumption and production concept into Egypt's overall sustainable development policy framework and gradually alters unsustainable consumption and production patterns towards more sustainable ones. Governance commitment and policy coherence are essential elements in this process. A list of suggested prioritized actions to be undertaken by the government to...

## Resources

SCP-NAP Egypt

SCP-NAP Summary Egypt

SCP-NAP Annex Egypt

SCP-NAP Assessment Egypt



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# Covid-19 responses ...

# Covid-19 responses: SCP national roundtable and SCP hackathon



## SwitchMed Responses to COVID-19

One of the key challenges for the countries in 2020 is to adapt and plan to the post Covid-19 world. Questions will be raised on how will the world look like after Covid-19 confinement? Will the world go back to "business as usual" or will there be major changes in our behavior and our consumption and production patterns? What will be the short, medium and long-term consequences for national economies and for job creation (and conservation)? And how will specific sectors adapt to this new paradigm?



### Response to Covid-19

In the post-Covid-19 setting, countries will need to think how to re-position themselves to enable sustainable growth. The Covid-19 experience in countries provides insights on how sustainable consumption and production (SCP) practices could feature in recovery strategies to align the economy with enhanced public health, nature and climate, for future readiness through behavioral changes, strengthening of public and private institutions and promoting local supply chains and local green enterprises. Already some lessons are emerging on how to build resilience back into economies and address the frailties that were exposed by the crisis and the aftermath.

Under this backdrop, SwitchMed aims to provide countries with opportunities to discuss, exchange ideas and find solutions to address the challenges through organization of a SCP Roundtable and a SCP Hackathon as national response to covid 19, taking into consideration and anticipating the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and its implications on national consumption and production patterns as well as on the national economy.



### SwitchMed Programme

The EU-funded SwitchMed programme has been assisting eight countries in Development of Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plans (SCP-NAPs) addressing SDG12 through nationally owned multi-stakeholder processes with over 3,000 participants in more than 100 national capacity building sessions and SwitchMed workshops. The United Nations Environment Programme has provided advisory services and technical support to the countries in the developing process and has further supported four countries in the implementation of the SCP-NAPs through demonstration activities.



### • SCP Roundtable (SCP-NR)

A Sustainable Consumption and Production National Roundtable (SCP-NR) will bring national, regional and international stakeholders together to present updates on the current SCP-NAP and national SDG 12 status, showcase experiences and share lessons learned and further allow to address specific themes and challenges and discuss concrete next steps for implementation of SDG 12 and the SCP-NAP.



### • SCP Hackathon

Hackathon is a term used to innovation and describes an event that pools relevant stakeholders into a confined space for a day or two and challenges them to innovate. A SCP Hackathon can bring relevant national stakeholders together to work on SCP solutions for the post Covid-19 world. The outputs-concrete innovative projects/activities proposals - will be selected by a jury of the hackathon and supported by SwitchMed for implementation.



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## SCP National Roundtable

Well-designed national policy frameworks and instruments are necessary to enable the important shift in the way we consume and produce. Consumption and production patterns are intrinsically linked to fundamental aspects of social development, such as employment, women's empowerment, poverty eradication, shared prosperity and well-being at large. Although SCP is being more and more mainstreamed into national policies, there is still a need to continue raising awareness and showcasing SCP initiatives at country level.



### SwitchMed Programme

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Yet SDG 12 remains still one of the less reported and less funded among the internationally adopted sustainable development goals. Achieving Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) will not only contribute to the success of SDG 12 but simultaneously to the achievement of almost all of the SDGs, directly or indirectly. Developing and implementing an SCP-NAPs allows countries to work and implement a range of other goals and many of their targets including SDG 8 on sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, SDG 9 on resilient infrastructure industrialization and innovation or SDG 17 on global partnerships for sustainable development, etc.

### Sustainable Consumption and Production National Roundtable (SCP-NR)

Under this backdrop, a Sustainable Consumption and Production National Roundtable (SCP-NR) will serve as a unique platform bringing national, regional and international stakeholders together to present updates on the current SCP-NAP and national SDG 12 status, showcase experiences and share lessons learned. Such a forum will further allow to address specific themes and challenges each country is facing and their linkages to SCP and discuss concrete next steps and actions for implementation of SDG 12 and the SCPNAP

### SCP National Roundtable objectives

- Provide a stage to showcase national, regional and international SCP experiences and initiatives;
- Mobilize the diverse and multistakeholder national community working on SCP (policy makers, private sector, green entrepreneurs, sustainable lifestyles trendsetters, academia, media...);
- Share lessons learned good practices related to SCP;
- Demonstrate the diversity of national SCP initiatives and help in bringing joint efforts together to avoid overlapping in the SCP NAP implementation;
- Support national SDG reporting mechanism including monitoring and tracking the implementation;



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## SCP Hackathon

**What is a SCP hackathon?**  
Hackathon is a term used to innovation and describes an event that pools relevant stakeholders into a confined space for a day or two and challenges them to innovate. A hackathon goes beyond a simple brainstorm session as it also focusses on results and jump-starting a way of working.



### SwitchMed Programme

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The Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) hackathon will serve as a unique setting to bring relevant stakeholders together to work on SCP solutions. Our goal is to motivate and encourage innovative idea generation among national stakeholders of SCP. Stakeholders will be gathered to not only brainstorm on how to re-position themselves to enable sustainable growth but also provide possible solutions on specific themes and challenges linking to SCP as well as provide concrete next steps and actions for implementation of the innovated projects/activities at country level.

### Highlights of organizing a SCP Hackathon

- The sessions will start with ideas but end with a working level solution, e.g. projects/activities proposals;
- It will involve stakeholders from all relevant areas to find different ways of working out problems and challenges;
- Outputs will include a clear development path that highlights all the steps needed to accelerate the implementation;
- A jury composed of specialists and sectoral experts from national authorities, academia, international organizations will evaluate the solutions according to certain criteria;
- The hackathon will conclude with presentations to the jury of the hackathon, including demonstrating roadmaps and capabilities needed to bring the final outputs;
- SwitchMed could support the implementation of the best solutions identified by the hackathon jury (tbc).

### Thematic areas

During the hackathon we aim to create solutions for SCP real-life problems and challenges in the Mediterranean region and focus on developing corresponding approaches to solve the challenges and issues. It is essential that the solutions are actually needed, and able to benefit a customer/beneficiary base. Each country's hackathon could choose two to three targeting thematic SCP areas from the following list:



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# SCP-NAPs status 2020 reports (on-going)



**UN environment programme**

## SwitchMed SCP-NAPs status 2020 reports

The EU funded SwitchMed programme assists eight countries in the southern Mediterranean to switch to sustainable pattern of consumption and production and support national and regional stakeholders in achieving efficient, circular and sharing economies in the Mediterranean. During SwitchMed phase I (2014-2019) the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) provided advisory services and technical support to the eight countries (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia) in developing Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plans (SCP-NAPs), through nationally owned multi-stakeholder processes with over 3,000 participants in more than 100 national capacity building sessions and SwitchMed workshops.

**12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION**

**Target 12.1:** Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries.

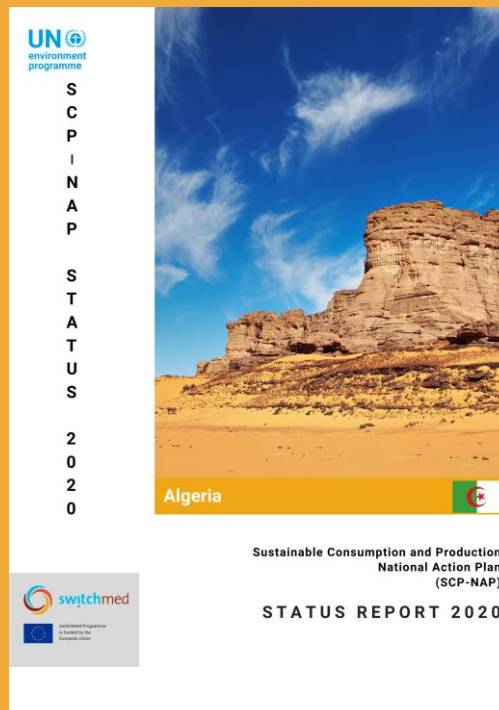
**Indicator 12.1.1:** Number of countries developing, adopting or implementing policy instruments aimed at supporting the shift to Sustainable Consumption and Production.

The SCP-NAPs processes enabled countries to progress towards the achievement of SDG indicator 12.1.1 and provided them with nationally validated and owned roadmaps/action plans to implement the switch towards more sustainable consumption and production patterns and more sustainable lifestyles.

UNEP and the eight SwitchMed countries agreed to launch national consultation and data gathering processes to develop "SCP-NAP status 2020" reports to:

- showcase the leadership of the countries in the implementation of SCP/SCP-NAPs;
- focus on analyzing how SCP can contribute to the national Covid-19 responses to build back better (and more sustainable);
- display how implementation is taking place and how the SCP-NAPs did not only allow to create awareness and reinforce national capacity on SCP, but also how they are used as a tool to implement SDG 12 at country level and trigger laws, mobilize resource and launch additional programs;
- present concrete examples of the synergies which can be achieved when implementing sustainable consumption and production patterns and circular economy, blue economy, climate change (NDCs enhancement) and national post covid-19 responses;
- provide ideas, recommendations and opportunities for possible next steps under SwitchMed II or other programmatic frameworks that are adapted to the specific national contexts;
- collect data, good practices and successful examples for information sharing and communication purposes.

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**UN environment programme**

**SCP INAP STATUS 2020**

**Algeria**

**Sustainable Consumption and Production  
National Action Plan  
(SCP-NAP)**

**STATUS REPORT 2020**

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**SCP INAP STATUS 2020**


**Egypt**

**Sustainable Consumption and Production  
National Action Plan  
(SCP-NAP)**

**STATUS REPORT 2020**

Author: Bina Hibout

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**SCP INAP STATUS 2020**

**Jordan**

**Sustainable Consumption and Production  
National Action Plan  
(SCP-NAP)**

**STATUS REPORT 2020**

Author: Bushra Harab

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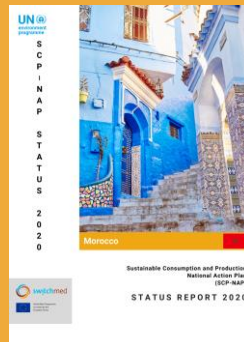
**SCP INAP STATUS 2020**

**Lebanon**

**Sustainable Consumption and Production  
National Action Plan  
(SCP-NAP)**

**STATUS REPORT 2020**

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**SCP INAP STATUS 2020**

**Morocco**

**Sustainable Consumption and Production  
National Action Plan  
(SCP-NAP)**

**STATUS REPORT 2020**

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**SCP INAP STATUS 2020**

**Palestine**

**Sustainable Consumption and Production  
National Action Plan  
(SCP-NAP)**

**STATUS REPORT 2020**

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**SCP INAP STATUS 2020**

**Tunisia**

**Sustainable Consumption and Production  
National Action Plan  
(SCP-NAP)**

**STATUS REPORT 2020**

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- SCP in country
- SCP-NAP process
- SDG 12 monitoring / reporting mechanism
- Circular Economy: linkages with SCP
- Blue Economy: linkages with SCP
- Climate Change and nationally determined contributions (NDCs): linkages with SCP
- SCP in a Post Covid-19 national response strategy



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# SwitchMed Collaborations ...

# 6<sup>th</sup> Arab Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production

- October 2019, Cairo, Egypt
- UNEP, League of Arab States, UN Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (UNESCWA) and the Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE).



## SwitchMed and Arab SCP Roundtable

### Arab Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production

The Arab Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production is a well established forum for addressing specific themes and challenges facing the Arab region, recommend solutions and serve as a platform for engaging all relevant stakeholders in an open dialogue to discuss issues, challenges and solutions to SCP in the region. The 1st Roundtable Meeting was held on 17-19 March 2008, in Al-Ain, United Arab Emirates and the 6th Arab Roundtable held during 9-10 October 2019 in Cairo, Egypt.



The SCP Arab roundtables are part of the regional response to the SDGs and in-line with the One Planet network. They are organized by the United Nations Environment Program in partnership with the League of Arab States (LAS), the UN Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (UNESCWA) and the Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE)








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The 6th roundtable meeting was benefited from the participation of around 40 participants representing government officials, SwitchMed national and 10YFP focal points, industry and civil society representatives, academics, and NCPs' representatives, international experts and United Nations agencies.

The objectives of the 6th Roundtable were to address the existing programmes, initiatives, challenges and opportunities for Innovative Solutions for Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Arab Region with a focus on the outcomes of 4th Session of the UN Environment Assembly to reach a unified understanding on the status of implementing Sustainable Consumption and Production at the national and local levels in the Arab region and to assess potentials for engaging the private and financial sectors to find innovative and sustainable solutions for sustainable consumption and production and transition towards a circular economy. SwitchMed approach, methodology and partners intervened in several session to present concrete examples from the various SwitchMed countries and components.



UNEP gave an overview of the SwitchMed programme followed by presentations from SwitchMed country representatives highlighting their experiences with developing and implementing Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action plans. Egypt presented their SwitchMed demonstration projects on green and sustainable public procurement and reducing plastic bags consumption. Egypt further presented the Egyptian Pollution Abatement Program III which provides a financial package to support public and private industries in improving their environmental status.



SDG 12



6 Roundtable sessions



22 Countries



40 Participants

# Arab Sustainable Development Report 2020



<https://asdr.unescwa.org/>



## SCP-NAP mentioned in the Atlas of Sustainable Development 2020 in Palestine



# Circular Economy and the 2030 Agenda



## SwitchMed Circular Economy and the 2030 Agenda Training

The [circular economy training course](#) will explore the application of Circular Economy (CE) practices in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It is evident that the business as usual will not help us to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Systems-based approaches along with a strong commitment to deep rooted transformations and actions are vital to the reduction of humanity's footprint in our planet. Our resources are finite and the principles and practices of the circular economy will be catalytic in creating goods, processes and ecosystems that are restorative and regenerative by design.



**Where:** online

**When:** 02 Nov- 04 Dec 2020

**Fee:** 0 USD

**Duration:** 5 weeks

**Format:** interactive, team work, live interaction with experts

**Language:** English

SwitchMed therefore would like to present this brand new, engaging five-week online course in collaboration with the Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development at the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC). It focuses on harnessing circular economy principles and systems based approaches to explore ways in which we can redesign our systems, products and services to allow us to achieve a sustainable living for all, within planetary limits.

In May 2020, the training course was firstly launched and included high-level speakers from the UN system, think tanks, private sector as well as academia. A total of 147 participants were selected from more than twice that number of applicants to participated the five-week facilitated online course. Participants were divided into 2 boards of 75 participants each to encourage participant interactions. There were 5 webinars organized – one a week, which were attended live by over 100 participants each time. The recordings of all webinars were also made available to participants unable to attend.

**Objectives**

Upon the successful completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Demonstrate the interconnection between Circular Economy approaches and its potential in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Explain the butterfly diagram of circularity through technical and biological cycles of products and resources and demonstrate its application in real life cases;
- Understand the opportunities to drive circular value across the life cycles of products and processes and examine business models that could support circularity;
- Explore the policy environment that supports the successful application of circular strategies to cities and examine why citizens could play a crucial role in ensuring circularity;
- Identify the barriers and enablers to mainstreaming circular strategies.



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## SwitchMed Circular Economy and the 2030 Agenda Training

**Contents**

**Week 1:** key features of the 2030 Agenda, the evolution of the concept and principles of Circular Economy and the importance of the need to transition from a linear to a circular system.

**Week 2:** establish the need for a systems based approach to circular economy. The butterfly diagram as a strategic tool for circular design and its operational principles through technical and biological cycles of products and resources with the real life case studies. And the need for systemic enabling environments to support circularity.

**Week 3:** how to make businesses more circular, applying CE principles to business products and processes and examining innovative business models and relationships as well as policy environments that could support circularity in business.

**Week 4:** designing circular cities by illustrating the potential of CE principles to create sustainable and thriving urban living environments.

**Week 5:** analyse the key barriers and enablers to increasing the adoption of CE principles and processes. The importance of circular economy in order to achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

**This online course is offered free-of-charge.** Participants will enjoy the following benefits from the free online course:

- 3-months access to course materials (incl. exclusive video material and key readings), recording of webinars and speakers' presentations.
- Participation in live webinars with renowned subject matter experts.
- Exclusive access to the UNSSC online social learning environment with training and supporting background materials, and the opportunity to stay connected with colleagues.
- **Certificates from the United Nations System Staff College** will be awarded to participants upon completion of the course.

**Target Audience**

Policy makers and policy shapers from the multilateral sector and government, members of the private sector and civil society who would like to apply circular design principles to products or services.

For more information please contact: UNEP: [luc.reuter@un.org](mailto:luc.reuter@un.org); [chang.yan@un.org](mailto:chang.yan@un.org)

### UN Environment Programme

UNEP is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.



The EU-funded SwitchMed programme assists eight countries in the southern Mediterranean to switch to sustainable patterns of consumption and production and supports national and regional stakeholders in achieving productive, circular, and sharing economies in the Mediterranean. [www.switchmed.eu](http://www.switchmed.eu)

- UNSSC – UNEP
- 5 weeks, online, free;
- 143 participants;
- 63 countries;
- Completion rate over 80% ;
- Next session Nov 02 – Dec 04. 2020.

<https://www.unssc.org/courses/circular-economy-and-2030-agenda-november>

# Thank You!



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