



Sustainable Production and Consumption – a Development Agency Perspective

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United Nations Development Programme

Why sustainable consumption and production?



- Ecological footprint
- Population growth
- Overconsumption and under-consumption
- Climate change

Need to transform economies; need new development paradigm.

How do we bring that shift about? Can the SCP concept help – and how?

Part 1: SCP and UNDP



UNDP's mandate



1. Resident Coordinator system - UN coordination at the country level
2. Strategic Plan 2008-13:
 - Poverty reduction
 - Democratic governance
 - Crisis prevention and recovery
 - *Environment and sustainable development*
 - Capacity building and gender equality as cross-cutting issues

Environment and sustainable development



UNDP's goal is to *strengthen national capacity to manage the environment in a sustainable manner while ensuring adequate protection of the poor* through

- Mainstreaming environment and energy
- Mobilizing environmental financing
- Promoting adaptation to climate change
- Expanding access to environmental and energy services for the poor

In 2009, direct disbursements for environment amounted to approximately 500 million USD (or 12 % of total expenditure) financed through core funds and bilateral donors (227 MUSD), GEF (225 MUSD), and MLF (48 MUSD)

UNDP's disbursements 2009 – extracted/estimated according to UNEP's strategic goals



Strategic goal	Amount disbursed (million USD)
Climate change	73
Disasters and conflict	620 (total)
Ecosystem management	179
Environmental governance	200
Harmful substances	48
Resource efficiency	Included in totals above, e.g. SCP activities cannot be extracted/estimated
Total	1,120
Total (excl. disasters)	500



Examples of SCP –related activities can be found in numerous areas of UNDP's work

- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy
- Housing
- Transportation
- Payment for environmental services
- Mainstreaming biodiversity management in production sectors (agriculture, tourism etc.)
- Integrated Water Resource Management
- Valuation of ecosystem services
- Reducing GHG emissions
- Fiscal measures for industrial pollution control
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Why, then, is the term SCP not in common use in UNDP?

- UNDP is a highly decentralized organization responding to country demands
- SCP related activities are embedded in activities that serve other purposes as well
- Maybe there is also a confusion/overlap of concepts:
 - How is SCP different from sustainable development?
 - How is SCP different from the green economy?

Part 2: UN system responses





Strengthening coordination at the country level in support of countries' own priorities

Environmental sustainability is a guiding principle for the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) of which 90 are to be rolled out in 2010 and 2011.

New mainstreaming guidance notes available for UN Country Teams:

- Disaster Risk Reduction (2009)
- Environmental Sustainability (2009)
- Integrating Climate Change (2010)
- Green Economy (to come)

One UN approach being piloted in 13 countries

Strengthening coordination at the global level



The Environment Management Group is currently working on (inter alia):

- Assessing the role of the UN in assisting countries in the transition to a green economy in the context of UNCSD preparation
- Options for system-wide social and environmental safeguards in the UN system

Part 3: Some suggestion to guide future work on SCP



In the context of *transforming economies*:

- Align SCP more clearly with green economy (maybe as a guiding principle for increasing resource efficiency). Could enhance a focus on changing the incentives for production and consumption as well as on the trade-offs.
- Seek bottom-up rather than “implementing” top-down approaches. Countries’ priorities have to be in the driver’s seat and the international system should increasingly provide services on demand (i.a. policy advice, capacity building, mobilization of financing)



- The parallel UNCSD process and preparation of The 10YFP for CSD 19 provide an opportunity that should not be missed.

And finally:

- “Do more with less” is a good slogan in affluent societies,
“Poor people also deserve resource efficient and healthy solutions” is maybe a better slogan in not so affluent societies.

Thank you