

Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea
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TASK FORCE

**on Education
for Sustainable
Consumption**



Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea
General Direction for Development and Environmental Research

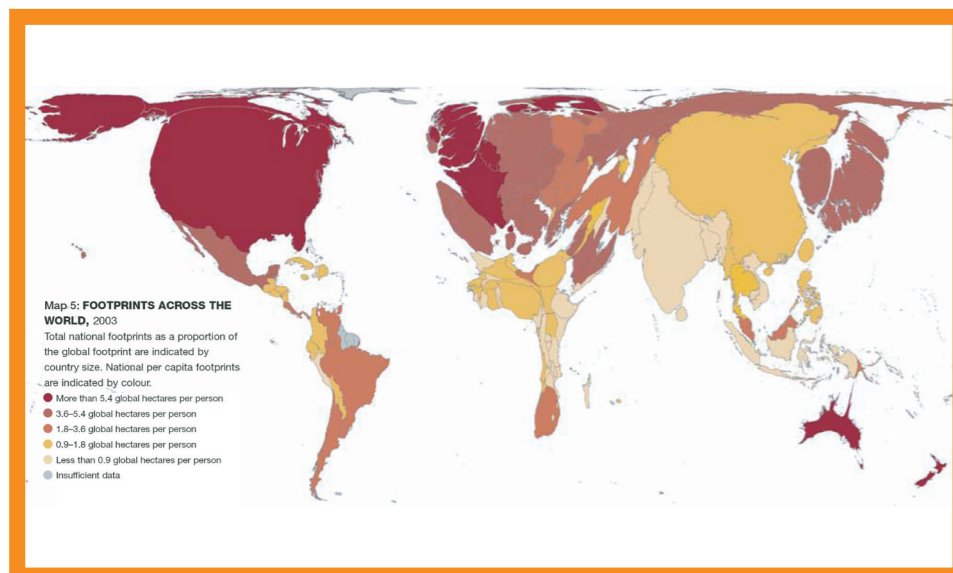
**First International Meeting of the Task Force
on Education for sustainable consumption
Genova (Italy), 16-17 April 2007**

The thematic area of “sustainable consumption and production” is addressed at international level through the Marrakech Process as a response to the recommendations of the Johannesburg Summit, where governments, international organisations and civil society were invited to “encourage and promote the development of a 10-Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP) to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production (...)” (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, chapter 3). The 10YFP will be prepared within the “Marrakech Process”, and will be discussed during the 18th and 19th sessions of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (2010/2011). This Process is jointly coordinated by UNEP and UNDESA.

The Italian Task Force

Considering the experience which Italy achieved with regards to education as a key tool in promoting sustainable development, the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea launched an international Task Force on Education for sustainable consumption (New York, CSD, May 2006), which will support the development of 10YFP in the field of education. The International Task Force (TF) led by Italy works on identifying useful synergies among international and regional initiatives and will ensure a strong cooperation with the other task forces, in particular with the Task Force on sustainable lifestyles led by Sweden, as it presents contents which are complementary to the Italian TF in the field of Education.

Global consumption in 2005



Total national footprints as a proportion of the global footprint are indicated by country size.

Overall Objective

The overall objective of the Task Force on Education for sustainable consumption is to achieve progress in introducing sustainable consumption and production issues into formal curricula, without omitting the link to non formal and informal education, with the aim to support the Marrakech Process through initiatives, activities and pilot projects in this sector at regional and national level.

In this perspective, the work of the TF is focused on the realisation of the following activities:

- creation of linkages and synergies between the activities of the TF and initiatives at national, regional and international level under the broad concept of Education for all as a life long learning process and within the framework of the UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014);
- collection of Good Practices on Education for sustainable consumption;
- study and analysis on the thematic issue of education (e.g. pedagogic aspects) and the interlinkages and interdependencies with consumption patterns;
- creation of a matrix highlighting political priorities, a framework of policy options and future practices based on the best experiences highlighted;
- guidelines to include SC into formal education curricula at all levels, to share research-action methodologies on projecting educational initiatives and to integrate different processes;
- provision of a list of indicators and criteria for quality assessment, evaluation and monitoring initiatives;
- report on projects (e.g. integrated approach to education, etc) and initiatives in the field of Education for sustainable consumption launched within the framework of activities of the TF;
- report on the outreach activities of the TF (African SCP Roundtable, Latin America SCP Roundtable, CARICOM, UNEP/MAP MSSD, Chinese Roundtable on SCP) and the involvement of other countries, with a particular reference to developing countries, in the work of the TF.

Geographical scope

A special focus of the TF is on the Mediterranean region where Italy is actively involved in promoting cooperation and partnership programmes, contributing to the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development. Ministries of Environment and other ministries, above all Ministries of Education and Ministries of Economic Development, are welcome to work together and to join the Task Force, which aims at involving institutional subjects to better influence the process at all levels. Countries and international organisations from different geographical areas are also invited to join the Task Force and to disseminate information and competences built through their participation to the TF, becoming promoters of initiatives on education for sustainable consumption at regional and national level.