

Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)-linked Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) – Identifying Opportunities to Capitalize Synergies between NDC & SCP



WHERE WE ARE

Unsustainable patterns of consumption and production (SCP) are root causes of the triple planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. It is widely accepted that the appropriate adjustments in the production and consumption patterns can potentially avoid a significant portion of global greenhouse gas emissions, both directly and indirectly. Therefore, the countries can obtain multiple benefits by integrating SCP aspects within the NDC targets. This is critically important to the Asia-Pacific region as it has the steepest increase in domestic material consumption during the first two decades of the century.

Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) is the building block of the Paris Agreement, which was agreed at the 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) of the United Nations Framework Convention (UNFCCC). It paved the path towards a bottom-up approach towards a global agreement to solve the global climate change challenges and to provide an opportunity to align national priorities with climate actions. All the parties are supposed to update their NDC progressively in every five years in order to achieve the overall objectives of the Paris Agreement.

During the first NDC cycle of the Paris Agreement, many Asia-Pacific countries have included SCP-linked NDC targets and championed in SCP-NDC integration. Altogether 28 countries in the Asia-Pacific region have a direct reference to SCP within the NDC targets while in almost all the countries there are SCP related targets without direct reference to SCP. Energy efficiency, waste management, value chain improvements, green buildings, building material with low carbon footprints, promoting sustainable lifestyles, etc. are some common SCP-linked NDC areas in Asia. However, many of these targets have been given as general or as conditional so that the achievements are contingent to access to international support in the areas of finance, technology, and capacity building. Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka are the “champion countries” from South Asia region to consider SCP aspects within their first NDC development cycle.

WHERE WE WISH TO BE

The next NDC enhancement cycle will be completed in 2025 where all parties to the Paris Agreement will enhance their NDC targets progressively. It is of utmost importance that the experiences from the first NDC cycle is captured and analysed so that the next NDC targets are more ambitious and pragmatic. The SWITCH-Asia PSC seeks to engage in the process of capturing the lessons of SCP integration into NDCs including challenges and opportunities from the champion countries in the Asia Pacific region. This analysis, including analysis of processes leading to integration of the SCP and climate agenda within NDC, will be important in enhancing the NDCs in 2025 by integrating more ambitious and pragmatic SCP-linked NDC targets to achieve the climate change benefits while achieving national sustainable development priorities.

We wish to see that the countries in the Asia Pacific region will understand better and act with greater determination integrate SCP into the NDC targets based on the lessons from South Asia.

WHAT WE ARE DOING

This Technical Advisory (TA) aims at capturing experiences and co-creation of knowledge based on the practices of Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Maldives, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Pakistan on integrating SCP aspects into NDC targets and implementation of those targets during the current NDC cycle while exploring opportunities for integration for potential SCP aspects. This TA will:

- 1 Assess the current NDC targets of the region and identify their current and potential SCP integration aspects.
- 2 Carry out consultations with government, private sector, and technical sector experts in the South Asia region.
- 3 Organizing a webinar series on SCP-NDC integration based on the current global understanding and findings of this technical advisory.
- 4 Engaging with the stakeholders, presenting the regional findings and deliberations at the UNFCCC COP28 on SCP-NDC integration.

WHO WE ARE

switchasia



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Launched in 2007, the **EU SWITCH-Asia Programme** is the single largest programmatic investment to promote and facilitate the uptake of sustainable consumption and production practices in the Asia and Pacific region. Under the current phase of its Policy Support Component (PSC), SWITCH-Asia lends advisory support to multi-country and sub-regional initiatives on policy and practices for sustainable consumption and production and their contribution to circular economy and achievement of Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Climate Agreement.

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