

TAJIKISTAN NATIONAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON SCP

6 March 2020 • Dushanbe, Tajikistan



BACKGROUND

Many developing countries in Asia and Central Asia are undergoing a rapid industrial transformation, which is having a significant impact on the environment. Activities of the industrial sector, amongst others the burning of fossil fuels, contribute to an increasing amount of greenhouse gas emissions and waste, affecting climate change and natural disasters. The change of production and consumption patterns, decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation and natural resources depletion is an urgent challenge. For this reason, in 2007 the European Commission launched the SWITCH-Asia - Promoting Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) programme to support the transition towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient and circular economy.

SWITCH-Asia is the largest Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) programme supported by the European Union involving 24 countries from Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, Mongolia and China. In line with the priorities of the European Green Deal, the programme aims to promote sustainable and inclusive growth in Asia decoupling it from environmental degradation and to support Asian countries in their transition towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient and a more circular economy while contributing to poverty reduction. The programme promotes mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production in relevant national policies and supports the transition towards a green economy, poverty reduction and climate mitigation.

Through its grants scheme, the programme funds pilot projects helping companies to test and adopt cleaner technologies and more sustainable industrial practices as well as consumers to adopt more sustainable consumption behaviours and lifestyles. The evidence provided by projects is meant to feed into policy and regulatory discussions with national governments supporting them in adopting SCP national plans and regulatory frameworks. SWITCH-Asia will ultimately contribute to help governments in adopting measures to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, in line with their engagements and targets set within the Paris agreement on climate change.

The second phase of SWITCH-Asia was launched in 2018, and in June 2019, the programme was extended to the five Central Asian countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The Central Asian countries have participated in the grants programme in 2019 and 7 projects were selected, to be implemented from 2020.

So far, the EU has invested nearly EUR 280 million towards promoting SCP and funded about 130 projects. Through the grant scheme, the programme successfully reached out to more than 400 Asian and European non-for-profit partners, 100 private sector associates, and 70,000 Asian micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). The replication and scaling-up effect of projects results, together with access to finance and public-private investments for green products, services and technologies, will be key elements within the programme in the next years in order to achieve a greater impact in the region.

The EU is committed to continue this support in cooperation with government partners and stakeholders in target countries and the joint efforts of the SWITCH-Asia components:



Funded by the
European Union



Funded by the
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Implemented by

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SWITCH-Asia is currently organised around two strategic components:

- **Sustainable Consumption and Production Facility (SCP Facility)** aims at facilitating the information sharing between the three components and the projects' grantees. It carries out analysis on the outputs of funded projects in order to involve them in discussions on SCP with national governments. The SCP Facility acts as a coordinator of the three components and it provides a single platform for all of the SWITCH-Asia projects to maximize their results, to further promote SCP policies and principles, and fulfil its policy and advocacy support to eligible countries. This component is implemented by a consortium of IGES, adelphi, and GIZ in the lead.
- **Grants Programme** funds pilot projects helping companies to adopt cleaner technologies and more sustainable industrial practices as well as helping consumers to act more responsibly in their daily choices and lifestyles. This Component is managed by the EU Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO).

Through its activities, the Programme is expected to achieve:

1. Implementation of environmentally friendly technologies and practices to business.
2. Behavior change by consumers to less damaging consumption patterns.
3. A better policy dialogue on SCP at national and regional levels in Asia, a common platform to promote SCP.
4. Active and continuous dialogues on SCP priorities and needs at national, regional and international levels through sharing and learning.
5. Development of effective economic instruments that enhance SCP.

THE NATIONAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

In Tajikistan there are various Ministries dealing with SCP-related issues, including: Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Industry and New Technologies, as well as State Committees on Construction and Investment. The vision of the country's future remains unchanged. It is the preservation of national unity, ensuring national security, implementation of the principles of social justice and economic efficiency, improvement of human well-being. The mission or sense of progress is to create an independent, prosperous, politically and economically stable Tajikistan.

The goal of the long-term development of Tajikistan is to improve the standards of living of population based on sustainable economic development. In order to achieve it, the following strategic development objectives/priorities are defined for the next 15 years:

- Energy efficiency and energy saving standards in the construction and re-construction of buildings.
- Food security and people's access to good quality nutrition.
- Development of hydropower resources of small and large rivers, building technical capabilities for the use of renewable energy sources (solar, wind, biological, geothermal).
- Agricultural diversification, as well as introduction of innovations with minimum impact on the environment and quality of land.
- Adaptation of a system of differentiated tariffs for electricity depending on its production technologies, which would establish subsidies for alternative energy technologies.
- Effective use of secondary resources, including municipal waste, sewage water/sludge, condensate.

Existing frameworks and measures related to SCP in the country include: the National Development Strategy (to 2020) which includes commitments to the SDGs and a legal framework for a number of SCP-related topics. Recently, a series of laws were developed in relation to environmental protection, ecological education, alternative sources of energy, drinking water and supply, as well as environment monitoring. Relevant programmes include: ecological education, drinking water availability, renewable energy. Policies and programmes related to water efficiency, solar energy, agriculture, education and science are also under development.

Moreover, the President of the Republic of Tajikistan has recently announced a new initiative called the international decade of action on “Water for Sustainable Development 2018-2028” and a rational use of trans-boundary freshwater resources in the Central Asian region. The “Strategy for Development until 2030” was adopted. The Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population has initiated the implementation of GHS (globally harmonized system) of classification and labelling of chemicals to minimize impact on the environment and health. The Green Economy Concept is also under development with the support of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) located in Tajikistan.

From a desk assessment, current **challenges** identified included the need for adequate technical assistance for the adoption of energy-saving and environmentally-friendly technologies.

The National SCP Multi-stakeholder Consultation (MSC) will serve as driver to improve the framing of needs and priorities, provide an opportunity to national stakeholders to set a strategic direction for delivering SCP at the national and local level. This will be based on the key sectors and SCP practices that will be tested in the country in the next years by the SWITCH-Asia newly selected grants. The MSC will provide a platform to better understand the role/input of SCP to a Green Economy Transition, to discuss main issues, to select national priorities and to find appropriate solutions, to strengthen cooperation among all of stakeholders.

The SCP Facility is going to organise this event at the request of and in close collaboration with the Ministry of Economy and Industry, which is the responsible ministry for the development and implementation of the green economy. International/regional organisations such as CAREC and UN Agencies, UNEP, UNDP, UN ESCAP, GERES will be consulted and associated in order to optimise and reinforce joint inputs to green economy implementation.

OBJECTIVES

- Bring the concerned stakeholders together including ministries, business, academia, universities and other key actors at national and sub-national levels and create a productive exchange on needs and priorities;
- Discuss national SCP needs, priorities, challenges and opportunities for action;
- Identify support needed from the SCP Facility to address priorities;
- Define concrete next steps on how to implement the demand that will result from this consultation in further supporting SCP delivery;
- Establish a consultation platform between key stakeholders including the ministries, business, civil society actors, National SCP Focal point, and the EU Delegation to further mainstream and address SCP related issues in the country.

VENUE

Serena Dushanbe Hotel

Rudaki Avenue 14, Dushanbe 734013, Tajikistan

Phone: +992 48 701 4000

Languages of the meeting: English and Russian

AGENDA

Tajikistan National Multi-stakeholder Consultation on Sustainable Consumption and Production

6 March 2020

Serena Dushanbe Hotel, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Moderated by Francesco STRANIERO and Zulfira ZIKRINA, SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility

08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:20	Welcome and opening <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ashurboy SOLEHSODA, First Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Republic of Tajikistan- Stefano ELLERO, Head of Cooperation, European Union Delegation to the Republic of Tajikistan
09:20 – 10:00	Introduction session <ul style="list-style-type: none">- SWITCH Asia programme and SCP approach as enabler to green economy and sustainable development, by Arab HOBALLAH, Team Leader, SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility (20min)- Outcomes of the SCP assessment: status, challenges, needs and opportunities in Tajikistan, by Zulfira ZIKRINA, Key Expert for Central Asia, SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility (15min) Q&A (15min)
10:00 – 11:10	Environmental policy related to SCP in Tajikistan The Role of Green Economy in Sustainable Development <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dilshod SHARIFI, Head of Foreign Economic Cooperation Department, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade- Quentin MOREAU, Central Asia Regional Director, GERES (10 min)- Vaysidin SAIDOV, Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) (10 min)- Fattokh FAYZULLAEV, TATO, 10 min- Sergey CHUTKOV Country Director of Tajikistan, ACTED, (10 min) Q&A (15 min)
11:10– 11:30	Coffee/Tea Break
11:30 – 13:30	Framing SCP needs and actions on key SCP sectors in Tajikistan: agri-food, waste and construction <p>Supply chain in agri-food sector and development of MSMEs, eco-tourism development, value chain in textile industry starting from the raw materials to final products.</p> <p><i>Mainstreaming, localising, partnering and delivery for each of the three selected priorities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Needs, Challenges, Opportunities for action• Identifying action priorities and related partnerships, governance, implementation needs• Way forward and recommendations for actions <p>Above issues will structure the discussions around three priorities to be selected from the assessment and discussions; their outcomes will then guide next steps for a suggested programme of activities in support to SCP in the country.</p> <p>Each of the priority issues will be discussed more thoroughly in smaller groups, for about 2 hours. The outcomes of groups will be presented in a plenary session. The focus of the recently approved SWITCH-Asia grant projects on tourism, agri-food and textile/Ikat & Silk will be used as cases for the three selected tools and priorities.</p>
13:30 – 14:00	Wrap-up and conclusions
14:00	Lunch

SPEAKERS BIO



STEFANO ELLERO

Head of Cooperation Section, EU Delegation to Tajik Republic

Stefano Ellero was appointed as Head of Cooperation Section in the EU Delegation to Tajik Republic in September 2018. He started his career with the European Commission in 2013 and previously worked in the EU Delegations to Liberia and South Sudan.



ASHURBOY SOLEHZODA

First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Republic of Tajikistan



DILSHOD SHARIFI

Head of the International Economic Department, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan



ARAB HOBALLAH

Team Leader SCP Facility, SWITCH-Asia Programme

Mr Arab Hoballah is currently the Team Leader of the Sustainable Consumption and Production Facility (SCP Facility) of the SWITCH-Asia Programme. He has a longstanding experience in this sector as he used to be the Head of the Sustainable Consumption and Production Branch in the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics of the United Nations Environment Programme. Arab launched and supervised various initiatives and partnerships (buildings, tourism, cities). He also coordinated the preparation and supervised the implementation of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on SCP.

SPEAKERS BIO



ZULFIRA ZIKRINA

Key Expert for Central Asia, SCP Facility SWITCH-Asia Programme

Ms Zulfira Zikrina is the Key Expert for Central Asia at the SCP Facility of the SWITCH-Asia Programme being in charge of the support to SCP policy developments in the five Central Asian countries. She has extensive international experience in the field of sustainable consumption and production and in depth knowledge of cleaner production and circular economy. Zulfira used to be the President of the SCP Centre in Kazakhstan and she participated to several regional consultations for the preparation of the Statement for UNEA (UN Environment Assembly) 3 and UNEA 4 with a link to SCP.



QUENTIN MOREAU

Central Asia Regional Director, Geres

Quentin Moreau has been working in Central Asia for the last 11 years as a development professional for various INGOs. After holding country directors positions in Mongolia, he is now based in Dushanbe, Tajikistan as Regional Director Central Asia for Geres INGO in charge of programmes in Afghanistan, Mongolia and Tajikistan related to energy poverty, access to energy, renewables and energy efficiency in housing and agricultural sectors mainly. Focusing on resource management, E&S standards, governance and climate matters, he has worked with grass-root communities and NGOs, private sector and the industry, policy makers and financial institutions in supporting the global agenda for sustainable development in the region.



FATTOKH FAYZULLAEV

Chairman of the Tajik Association for Promotion of Tourism Development (TATO)

Mr. Fattokh has worked in a youth organization in 1973, then was appointed Chairman of the Tajik Republican Council on tourism and excursions. Since 2007, he is the Chairman of the Tajik Association for Promotion of Tourism Development (TATO), the first Association established to protect and lobby for the interests of tourism organisations in Tajikistan. Mr. Fattokh is well renowned for his expertise in the field of tourism. He played a strong role in the development of the Tajikistan's tourism industry and legislative and regulatory frameworks.