SwitchMed in Palestine

Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plan

The Palestinian Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plan (SCP-NAP) was developed under the coordination of the Environment Quality Authority (EQA) under the EU-funded SwitchMed programme, with advisory services and technical support from the United Nations Environment Programme. The Plan is part of Palestine’s efforts to achieve Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. The SCP-NAP which contributes to SDG12.1, prioritizes tourism, housing and construction, agriculture and food and was developed in Palestine through nationally owned multi-stakeholder processes. It was officially launched by H.E. the Prime Minister of Palestine on October 5th, 2016 during a two-day Sustainable Consumption and Production workshop and exhibition in Ramallah. The implementation of the plan is ongoing through selected projects and initiatives.

The national action plan was prepared in a participatory and inclusive approach, taking into consideration different stakeholders (local and national government, semi-governmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations, grass roots organizations and initiatives, private sector, universities and research centers). More than 300 persons participated in the development process. The SCP-NAP time frame is from 2017 to 2022 in lieu with the Palestinian National Planning framework and its vision is “sustainable consumption and production patterns are systematically and explicitly integrated in the national development agenda in Palestine and are being adopted and implemented by the various stakeholders in Palestine”.

Three priority areas

Three priority areas for mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production were identified based on environmental, social-economic, and institutional / political criteria:

- **Agriculture and food**: sustainable agriculture production and climate smart agriculture, tackling environmental practices in food manufacturing, addressing sustainable food consumption;
- **Tourism**: focusing on eco-tourism;
- **Housing and Construction**: green building and green public procurement of infrastructure;
For each priority area, operational objectives were identified with outcomes, intervention and indicators to measure achievements:

**SCP in agriculture and food:**
- Promote and implement best environmental and health practices and technologies in food manufacturing;
- Develop policy and legal frameworks through conservative agriculture, and empowering small farmers and their cooperative;
- Sensitize and educate food producers, retailers and consumers to promote green value chains;

**SCP in construction and housing:**
- Enhance the role of public policy and decision making for triggering the greening of the building sector;
- Promote Retrofitting existing energy and resource intensive buildings stock;
- Sensitize and raise awareness of all stakeholders involved in housing and construction;

**SCP in tourism:**
- Promote the diversification of the tourism (e.g. ecotourism, cultural tourism, rural tourism, off-season tourism);
- Promote regulatory, legislative and financial measures to create green and decent jobs and foster local community engagement and empowerment;
- Raise awareness, capacities and technical skills to support sustainable destinations.

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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)