



Task Force “Cooperation with Africa”

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Background

- Establishment of the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ARSCP) as a regional networking organisation
- Endorsement by the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) in March 2005.
- Launch of the African 10 Year Framework of Programmes in May 2006
- 5th ARSCP-meeting, 4-6 June 2008 in Johannesburg, South Africa



Scope

- Supporting the African regional process on SCP
- Work is demand driven. Priority setting by ARSCP.
- Holding meetings to share experiences between cooperation partners and African countries and amongst African countries.
- Encourage and support African countries in developing national or regional action plans on SCP.
- Linking SCP with development cooperation policies.
- Development of strategic partnerships for the implementation of concrete regional measures, e.g. the cooperation with other Marrakech Task Forces.



Activities

- Development of an eco-labelling scheme for African products
 - Study of an overview of ongoing activities
 - Developing a concept for an African 'green' label
 - Discussion with main experts and stakeholders (First African Ecolabelling Workshop in 2007)
 - Project to develop the organisational basis of an African Environmental Labelling System
 - African Union declares leadership in the project
- Potential product groups
 - agricultural products
 - fishery products
 - services like tourism
- Making use of already developed criteria e.g. through cooperation with existing labelling systems.



Activities (continued)

- Development of a manual for developing and implementing SCP action plans on a national, regional and local level
 - pilot projects in 2 countries and two cities
 - using the UNEP manual on SCP Action Plans adjusted to African needs
- Development of a Best Practice Manual on SCP for development cooperation projects
- Developing a report on opportunities to leapfrog in Africa
- Cooperation with other Marrakech Task Forces
 - Implementing tools of the other task forces
 - Presentations, workshops and training sessions in the margins of ARSCP 5.



Organisation

- Secretariat of the ARSCP is established in Dar es Salam, Tanzania
- African Life Cycle Assessment Network (ALCANet) has been established
- Support by the African National Cleaner Production Centres (NCPCs)
- Support by UNEP Regional Office for Africa including an additional staff person (working for the task force) sent by Germany for 2 years