

THE TEN YEAR FRAMEWORK OF PROGRAMMES ON SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION (SCP) PATTERNS

Overview: The Green Economy

The greening of economies has been promoted by United Nations as one of the major goals of the Marrakech Process¹ – a global process established in 2003 to support the elaboration of a 10-Year Framework of Programs (10YFP) on sustainable consumption and production, as called for by the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development's Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. Specifically, articulated at the Chapter 3 of the JPOI, governments agreed to:

“Encourage and promote the development of a 10-year framework of programmes in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems by addressing and, where appropriate, delinking economic growth and environmental degradation through improving efficiency and sustainability in the use of resources and production processes and reducing resource degradation, pollution and waste.”

The application and pursuit of the Green Economy in Barbados is rooted in the country's pursuit of sustainable development which has been defined in the Barbados Sustainable Development Policy. And underpinning that thrust are 5 core principles. There are:

- Quality of Life
- Conservation of Resources
- Economic Efficiency
- Equity
- Participation

Inherent in the concept of greening is thrust towards greater resource efficiency, reduction of waste and the expansion of multiuse and reuse where economically and environmentally viable. Examples of Green Initiatives are presented in **Table 1**.

Barbados has moved to further consolidate its Green Economic priorities within National Strategic Plan 2006-2025. Furthermore, the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance in his 2009 Budget has outlined his vision of making Barbados the most environmentally and advanced green country in Latin America and the Caribbean.

¹ The goals of the Marrakech Process, a United Nations Environmental Programme and United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs coordinated initiative, are:

1. to assist **countries** in their efforts to green their economies
2. to help **corporations** develop greener business models
3. to encourage **consumers** to adopt more sustainable lifestyles.

TABLE 1 EXAMPLES OF ONGOING “GREENING” INITIATIVES IN BARBADOS

Policy/Programmes	Current Responsibility
1. Beautify Barbados Programme	Beautify Barbados Project- Natural Heritage Department
2. Business and Environment- Barbados Sustainable Finance Group	Environment Unit and The Barbados Banking Association
3. Climate Change Knowledge Survey- Initial Survey	Environmental Unit
4. Climate Change-Articulating a National Policy	Environmental Unit and CEES Inc
5. Eco-Friendly Living –Demonstration Solar House	Energy Division
6. Study Eco-Labeling: Role and Future Use	National Sub-Committee on Trade and Environment
7. Energy Policy	Energy and Environment
8. Study on Environmental Preferable Products	National Sub-Committee on Trade and Environment
9. Green Economy – “Environmental Sustainability”- 3 Year Medium Term Plan (2006-2008)	Economic Affairs-Research and Planning Unit and Environment Division
10. Green Economy – “Strengthening the Physical Infrastructure and Preserving the Environment”- The National Strategic Plan 2006-2025– Goal 4 Articulation	Economic Affairs-Research and Planning Unit and the Environment Division
11. Greening Household Energy Audit Programme	Energy Division
12. Greening Of Government- Articulating A Policy	Greening Government Project Sub-Committee and Ecoisle
13. Household Environmental Audit Pilot Programme	Environment Division
14. Independent Review of the Implementation of the Barbados Sustainable Development Policy and the Design of Indicators to monitor the further implementation	Environmental Unit and Chairman of the National Commission on Sustainable Development
15. Instituting a Public Conservation Programme	Minster of Civil Service and Energy Division
16. Instituting a Refrigerant Management Plan	Environmental Unit/ Environmental Protection Department and
17. Integrated Chemicals Management	Environmental Protection Department
18. Minister of Environment Awards	Ministry of Environment
19. Production/Consumption and Environment-Community Based Research Initiative	Environment Division
20. Second National Communication Programme	Environmental Unit and National Climate Change Committee

Concrete Actions Taken and Specific Progress Made In Implementation

There are a number of policies and programme initiatives being implemented by the Government falling within the international approach to adopt a framework of programmes to advance Sustainable Consumption and Production.

- **The Barbados Sustainable Development Policy**

Ratified by the Parliament in 2004, the Barbados Sustainable Development Policy (BSDP) has as its overarching goal, ensuring the optimization of the quality of life for every person by ensuring that economic growth and development does not occur to the detriment of our ecological capital.

The BSDP outlines five principles of sustainable development for Barbados including Quality of Life, Conservation of Resources (specifically mentioning the Polluter Pays Principle), Economic Efficiency, and Equity.

The major objectives of that policy articulation process were to:

- i. formulate a national definition of sustainable development
- ii. provide a national framework for decision-making based on our principles of sustainable development;
- iii. promote principles of sustainable development and encourage all persons to adopt and apply these principles in every aspect of decision-making; and
- iv. sensitise and educate all persons in Barbados about key issues and conflicts between development and environment and the need to make wise consumption and production choices.

The action plan, which forms part of the policy, provides detailed recommendations pertaining to specific sectors and/or issues with a view to fostering and supporting the pursuit of sustainable development, through implementation of the Sustainable Development Policy. The following issues relevant to sustainable consumption and production are detailed:

- Freshwater resources
- Transportation
- Energy
- The Built Environment
- Waste management
- Land and Natural Resources
- Concession and Incentives
- Consumption Patterns
- Indicators for Sustainable Development

It is noteworthy that although policy recommendations have been articulated by sector, decision makers and stakeholders are encouraged to adopt an integrated approach towards policy implementation and resource management whenever possible.

- **The National Strategic Plan (NSP) for Barbados 2006-2025**

The National Strategic Plan provides the blueprint for the realisation of Barbados' vision of becoming a fully developed society that is prosperous, socially just and globally competitive by the end of the first quarter of the century. The NSP advances six strategic goals in pursuit of the national vision for 2025. Goal four of the NSP speaks specifically to "Building a Green Economy: Strengthening the Physical Infrastructure and Preserving the Environment.

Within the umbrella of Goal Four of the NSP are six objectives that provide specific focus to sectoral issues highlighted within Chapter 3 of the JPOI and that are being addressed within the Marrakech process. Those issues pertain to:

- Natural Resources use and management,
- Energy,
- Water,
- Transport,
- Waste and
- Chemicals management with respect to land and agriculture.

The pursuit of sustainable approaches to encapsulate these issues remains essential elements of national development programming as they constitute core structural pillars required to build the Barbadian Green Economy.

A draft list of Green Economic Indicators, based on previous work undertaken in formulating National Sustainable Development Indicators, have been developed and are in the process of being submitted to the Cabinet for noting, and approval to commence data collection and stakeholder consultations. As the mainstreaming of the Green Economy indicators into national decision making and reporting, the process outputs of this process will feed into the IADB funded Modernisation of the Barbados Statistical Service Project.

A summary of the National Strategic Plan can be seen at **Appendix B**

- **Annual Financial and Economic Policy Statements 2007 -2009**

The Minister of Finance, via the annual financial and economic statements in 2007 and recently in 2008 announced several policy measures to give effect to the successful pursuit of a Green Economy. The Green Economy represents a national integrated policy response to address unsustainable consumption and production practices.

Specifically in 2007, the national sustainable development principles of equity and efficiency were adopted as the underlying green economic principles, along with the three crosscutting issues of integrated water resources management, integrated solid waste management, and integrated coastal zone management. The specific programmatic areas to be addressed over the short to medium term included:

- i) Establishment of a real-time Green Economic Indicators Programme based on previous work undertaken by the National Commission on Sustainable Development;
- ii) Establishment of natural carrying capacity limits for planning purposes via the establishment of an integrated environmental information system;
- iii) Adopting green procurement procedures;
- iv) Promotion of Sustainable Transportation;
- v) Promotion of green approaches within the design and construction fraternities and establishment of green business centres;
- vi) Establishment of a Green Home Certification Scheme.

In 2008, support was given further to the pursuit of the Green Economy regimen. The Government reinforced its commitment to the Modernisation of the Barbados Statistical Service Project; sustainable tourism development in the context of land use issues, the island's carrying capacity and greater inter-sectoral linkages; the promotion of greater energy efficiency and energy conservation and incentives to facilitate the transition to a greater share of renewable sources in the energy mix; and the promotion of greater corporate social responsibility.

In 2009, the Prime Minister reaffirmed commitment to Barbados becoming the most environmental advanced, green country in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The National Sub-committee on Trade and Environment (NSCTE): The National Sub-Committee on Trade and Environment was established by Cabinet in 1998 under the Ministry of the Environment, Water Resources and Drainage (MEWD). The major functions of the Sub-Committee are as follows:

1. To monitor the decisions of the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) with a view to determining its impacts for Barbados;
2. To contribute to the formulation of the position of the Government of Barbados on issues of trade and environment discussed within the CTE forum, or in international negotiations;
3. Assist in developing national policies and programmes on trade and environment issues; and

4. Facilitate cooperation among actors in the areas of trade and environment in an effort to promote the common goal of sustainable development.

As part of its robust research mandate the NSCTE has undertaken two relevant studies including:

- Benefiting from trade liberalization in environmental goods and services- identifying the possibilities (ongoing)
- Proposal To conduct Background Research and produce a draft White Paper on the Role and Future Use of Eco-labels in Barbados with Respect to Trade and Economic Development (Completed)

Emerging Issues- Assessments, Programmes, Partnerships and Sub-Regional Actions for the 10-FYP

National assessment of the effectiveness of existing policies and incentives to promote SCP: The Ministry of the Environment, Water Resources and Drainage is currently, via the NSCTE, seeking to undertake a sectoral assessment of ongoing SCP initiatives as a means of identifying opportunities for new incentive measures and potential projects. The overarching goal of this project is to produce a report describing Barbados' national activities on SCP. The main objectives are:

1. To describe the current status of sustainable consumption and production in the following categories: Water, Energy, Waste, Construction, Transport and Food production.
2. Describe where possible what policy tools exist (e.g. taxes and subsidies, other economic instruments and trade policies);
3. Describe where applicable any analytical tools utilized e.g. life cycle analysis, indicators, technology impact assessment;
4. An indication of where measures can be taken to improve consumption and production patterns e.g. *inter alia* application of regulations and incentives, investment incentives, emissions regulations and standards, cleaner production, pollution prevention and resource efficiency;
5. In accordance with the information obtained, provide a list of possible demonstration projects on the issue of sustainable consumption and production.

Living Sustainably: Theme for Environment Month 2008 and 2009: With respect to educating consumers and the general public, the Ministry of Environment, Water Resources and Drainage as of 2008, adopted "**Living Sustainably**"... as the theme for its environment month of activities. Public input on SCP issues is also being incorporated currently into the development of a National Environmental Education Strategy.

It should be noted that Barbados has participated in the activities of **Marrakech Task Force on Sustainable lifestyles since 2007.**

Sustainable Rural-based Gastronomic Tourism and Caribbean SIDS Sustainable Development partnership:As mentioned previously, the Ministry of the Environment, Water Resources and Drainage is also seeking to undertake sectoral assessments of ongoing SCP initiatives as a means of identifying opportunities for new green incentive measures and localised green economy projects.

With respect to the latter, a preliminary assessment of the production and consumption patterns of the rural community around Welchman Hall in St. Thomas, referred to as “De Heart uh Barbados ®” (DHUB) was conducted. The study reinforced agro-tourism opportunities as an economically viable development option for community members. And, via the collaboration and support of the Environmental Unit and the Natural Heritage Department, the “**Farm and Food Lovers**” Trail was successfully piloted by the local group. It is the intention of the Ministry to see this initiative promoted as a best practice within the 10 Year Framework of Programmes.

The Government has also undertaken an initiative to see this project integrated in a CSD partnership framework for Caribbean SIDS. A workshop was recently held in March 2009 to commence the partnership articulation.

The LAC Council of Experts, Implementation of the Caribbean Sub-region Action Plan and Indicators for SCP: As a result of its ongoing programming to implement sustainable consumption and production at the national and regional level the Government of Barbados (GOB) via the Ministry of Environment, Water Resources and Drainage has been recently nominated to the Executive Committee of Latin and America (LAC) Council of Experts on SCP. It is proposed that the Executive Committee represent the four sub-regions of LAC in advancing the Regional Action Plan over the biennium.

As an active advocate for cohesive environmental governance at the United Nations level, the GOB has also been in discussion with United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) to establish concrete synergies between the Indicators of Sustainable Development process and the SCP process which will require the use of indicators to measure the success of targeted interventions. SCP Indicators featured at the September 2009 GOB-UNDESA Experts Meeting on Sustainable Development Indicators, held in Bridgetown, Barbados, September 17th -19th 2009.

Priority Areas related to SCP in Barbados are provided in the following Table 2. An analysis of policy instruments is presented at Table 3.

Constraints and Challenges

Effective mainstreaming of SCP in the National Development Framework is challenged by the following:

- The absence of an integrated, multi-stakeholder governance mechanism. It should be noted that Government is committed to re-establish the National Commission on Sustainable Development;
- The need for an instituted monitoring and evaluation mechanism on SCP at the national level. It is critical that a system of indicators be institutionalized with the requisite technical and human resources
- The need for a dedicated sub-regional institutional mechanism to support the implementation of the Caribbean Sub-regional Action Plan on SCP;
- The need for dedicated international facilities in the area of technological and financial resources to support implementation of SCP. It was proposed at the 5th regional SCP meeting in LAC that SCP be integrated in the GEF as a cross-cutting issue.
- The need for economic instruments and other enabling mechanisms such as cleaner production centers to support private sector involvement in SCP.
- The need for targeted educational programmes on SCP
- The need for an integrated research programme
- The need to heighten the involvement of SIDS in the SCP process
- The need to widen the economic space within the Caribbean

TABLE 2 PRIORITY AREAS RELATED TO SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION.

SECTORS AND ISSUES	Current Government Priority	Expected Future Priority
Solid waste management	HIGH	HIGH
- Waste disposal	HIGH	HIGH
- Reuse and recycling	HIGH	HIGH
- Waste reduction,	HIGH	HIGH
- Others		
Transport		
- Clean fuels and vehicles	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
- Public and alternative transportation	HIGH	HIGH
- Urban and regional transportation planning	HIGH	HIGH
- Others		
Cleaner production		
- Resource efficiency	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
- Pollution prevention	HIGH	HIGH
- Technology strategies	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
- Others		
Energy efficiency and renewable energy		
- Industrial energy efficiency	HIGH	HIGH
- Household energy efficiency	HIGH	HIGH
- Renewable energy markets	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
- Others		
Housing and construction		
- Energy efficiency	HIGH	HIGH
- Building materials	MEDIUM	HIGH
- Construction standards	HIGH	HIGH
-Building operations	MEDIUM	HIGH
- Others		
Food and clothing		
- Organic products	MEDIUM	HIGH
Chemical management	HIGH	HIGH
Hazardous waste	HIGH	HIGH

TABLE 3 SCP POLICY INSTRUMENTS AND ASSOCIATED PRIORITY

B. POLICY INSTRUMENTS	CURRENT GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES	EXPECTED FUTURE PRIORITIES
General policy instruments		
- Taxes, subsidies	REGULATED BY INTERNATIONAL TRADING REGIME	
- Preferential tariffs and trade policies	REGULATED BY INTERNATIONAL TRADING REGIME	
- Economic instruments	HIGH	HIGH
- Tax reform	HIGH	HIGH
- Consumer protection policies	HIGH	HIGH
- Polluter-pays principle	MEDIUM	HIGH
- Integrated product policies	MEDIUM	HIGH
Changing consumer behaviour		
- Education and public information	HIGH	HIGH
- Consumer information	HIGH	HIGH
- Labeling, eco-labels	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
- Consumer organizations	HIGH	HIGH
- Public procurement policies	HIGH	HIGH
- Others		
Changing production patterns		
- Regulation of emissions and effluents	HIGH	HIGH
- Charges or incentives for cleaner production	HIGH	HIGH
- Product standards (e.g. energy efficiency)	HIGH	HIGH
- Cleaner production programmes	HIGH	HIGH
(R&D, training, technical assistance)	HIGH	HIGH
- Pollutant reporting and registers	HIGH	HIGH
- Strategic industrial and technology planning	HIGH	HIGH
- Investment incentives	HIGH	HIGH
- Voluntary initiatives and codes of conduct	HIGH	HIGH
- Corporate social/environmental responsibility	HIGH	HIGH
- Improved management accounting	HIGH	HIGH
- Investment analysis	HIGH	HIGH
- Others		
Analytical tools		
- Life-cycle analysis	MEDIUM	HIGH
- Indicators of sustainability	HIGH	HIGH
- Technology impact assessment	MEDIUM	HIGH
- Policy impact assessment	MEDIUM	HIGH
- Impacts of globalization and urbanization	HIGH	HIGH
- Impacts of changes in international markets	HIGH	HIGH
- Others		