



United Nations Division for Sustainable Development Goals
Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)

*An expert group meeting in preparation for the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2018:
Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies*

Thursday 3 – Friday 4 May 2018
United Nations Headquarters, New York
Conference Room 9

Background Note

Session 2: Fostering implementation of the 2030 Agenda and climate goals through responsible consumption and production

Background

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change together set universal transformative objectives for embarking all countries on a sustainable and low-carbon development path. The two agendas are deeply interdependent. Poverty eradication and sustainable development cannot be achieved if climate change reaches catastrophic levels, and effective climate change mitigation and adaptation cannot progress in a context of poor economic performance, widespread poverty and inequality, and weak governance. These agendas therefore reflect a strong potential for mutual benefits. SDG 12 is instrumental for reconciling economic, social and environmental objectives and decoupling GHG emissions from economic growth. While it represents a self-standing goal, responsible consumption and production is closely associated with a wide range of SDGs and their targets.

The session aims to address the potential of how policy interventions related to SDG12 can catalyze implementation of additional SDGs and climate goals. National plans to further sustainable consumption and production, SDG implementation and NDCs respectively, encompass strategies to foster resource-efficiency in goods and services production, circular economy, sustainable waste management, reuse and recycling, sustainable management of natural resources, and sustainable consumption and diet. To this end, the session outcome is expected to help build a greater understanding of the linkages, potential trade-offs, and synergies between SCP, SDG targets and NDC actions, and recommendations for policymakers on how to address barriers and promote policy coherence.



Questions

Guiding questions to frame the discussion:

- What are the opportunities for strengthening coherent implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement on climate change through sustainable consumption and production?
- In which areas can SCP promote positive synergies in implementation?
- What can we learn from practical experience in countries?