Potential contribution of the 10YFP Programmes to the Sustainable Development Goals

A paper from the Board of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on SCP (10YFP) with the support of the 10YFP Secretariat

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Abstract: this note highlights the potential contribution of the 10YFP and its programmes as means to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
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Introduction: outcomes of previous UN Summits, including Rio+20 in 2012, have stated that adoption of sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns is an overarching objective of and prerequisite for achieving sustainable development. The proposed SDGs are currently being developed by Member States in the Open Working Group (OWG) on SDGs in New York. At OWG 11, many member states reaffirmed that the adoption of SCP in a world of limited resources is an essential requirement for sustainable development and that this could deserve a stand-alone goal. They also recognized that SCP was a universal concern, and many recalled that developed countries should provide leadership in promoting the shift to SCP patterns.

The High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda identified the need for an equitable and sustainable approach to managing consumption and production patterns, and joint mobilization of economic, social and environmental action, to irreversibly reduce poverty. Indeed, poorer communities, depending directly on their local environment and associated natural resources, are the most vulnerable to the impacts associated with unsustainable consumption and production patterns. These communities require secure access to natural resources, support to develop and apply more sustainable production systems, and to be safeguarded against critical impacts of those current unsustainable patterns, such as climate change. Embracing SCP policies, strategies and practices offer opportunities to leapfrog to a more resource-efficient, profitable and cleaner development trajectory, enhancing net gains from economic activities, and contributing to climate change mitigation.

The 10YFP, adopted at Rio+20, is a global framework for action to enhance cooperation and advance the implementation of sustainable patterns of consumption and production in all countries and regions. This framework will deliver collaborative action and capacity building, particularly at national and regional levels, to scale up and replicate policies, management practices and consumer actions and choice which enable the shift to SCP patterns. The formal adoption of the 10YFP at Rio+20 underlines the universal need for this shift, and also positions the framework to support implementation of other outcomes of this conference, notably the SDGs.

10YFP Programmes: the 10YFP initial list of programmes focuses in key policy areas and sectors. The programmes will serve as platforms for partnerships and initiatives to deliver capacity building, policies and methodologies supporting the implementation of SCP. Throughout their implementation, these programmes could contribute to the post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs. These potential contributions are briefly presented below. The target formulation in this paper represents the preliminary views of members of the 10YFP Board, which are still under discussion and are not targets per se for the 10YFP programmes. In addition to proposed SDGs specifically mentioned below, it should be noted that 10YFP also contributes to the achievement of other proposed SDGs as well.

Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP): public purchasing accounts for as much as 20% of GDP in some OECD countries and up to 30% in some developing countries. As a consequence, SPP could play a key role in expanding both the demand for and supply of sustainable products. The programme is supporting the implementation of SPP on the ground by providing better access to capacity building tools and experts for SPP, monitoring its

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implementation and effects; and addressing barriers to SPP implementation by proposing innovative solutions. SPP is relevant to proposed SDG 8 “promote strong, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and decent work for all”, as public procurement policies and actions increase the market share of sustainable products. It is also relevant to proposed SDG 12 “promote SCP patterns”, enabling governments to lead by example.

Suggested target formulation: By 2030, all public procurement integrates sustainability principles.

Example of related indicators:
- Number of countries implementing SPP policies or action plans.
- % of public procurement meeting established international social and environmental standards.

Consumer Information: consumer information is defined as a range of tools and systems that seek to enable consumers to make more sustainable choices about goods and services, including in their use and end-of-life phases. The 10YFP programme on consumer information is designed to facilitate easy, practical and sustainable choice by consumers, through provision of accessible, reliable and verifiable life cycle based sustainability information by market suppliers.

This programme is relevant to proposed SDG 8 “promote strong, inclusive and sustainable economic growth”, and decent work for all, as it enables consumers to take informed decisions to select sustainable goods and services, thus contributing to target 8.10 “promote greater resource efficiency of economic activities, including through sustainable supply chains, according to national circumstances and capacities”. It is also relevant to proposed SDG 12 “promote SCP patterns” for similar reasons, including target 12.7: “by 2030 redouble efforts to create a culture of sufficiency and sustainable lifestyles, including through education, awareness raising, sustainability information on products and services, policies and incentives”.

Suggested target formulation: By 2030, citizens have easy access to credible, transparent and verifiable information enabling them to opt for a more sustainable alternative product, service and overall lifestyle.

Examples of related indicators:
- Increase in the percentage of product and services distributed in a country/available in a given supply chain with environmental and social impacts measured according to internationally agreed criteria, easily available to citizens.
- % ecolabels aligned with international principles and promoting mutual recognition
- Energy, water and material consumption and waste generation at household level

Sustainable tourism: with a contribution of 9% to global GDP (direct, indirect and induced impact), tourism accounts for 1 in 11 jobs worldwide in 2012. Sustainable tourism depends on an intact natural environment, can generate green jobs, and can also promote the shift to SCP in related sectors, such as that of agriculture and food production. Governments at Rio+20 called for “well-designed and well managed tourism... [that]... can make a significant contribution to the three dimensions of sustainable development, has close linkages to other sectors, and can create decent jobs and generate trade opportunities”. The 10YFP sustainable tourism programme will support cooperation between stakeholders for the development and implementation of innovations and good practices in resource efficient and low-carbon tourism planning, reducing the loss of biodiversity, conserving ecosystems, preserving cultural heritage, alleviating poverty and improving sustainable livelihoods.
There is already an existing proposed target to “create incentives for sustainable tourism” previously under proposed SDG 12 “promote SCP patterns”, now placed under proposed SDG 8 “promote strong, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all”. Given the size of the sector, tourism carries weight under both. Tourism policies, planning and management practices are also directly relevant to proposed SDG 14 “attain conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, oceans and seas”, especially in relation to coastal tourism, and proposed SDG 15 on “protect and restore terrestrial ecosystems and halt all biodiversity loss”. Finally, policies and actions for sustainable tourism can promote water and energy efficiency, in what is often a resource-intensive sector.

**Suggested target formulation:** By 2030, all countries have integrated SCP principles into tourism policies and relevant legal frameworks (social, economic, environmental), including integrated coastal zone management plans, energy efficiency, water consumption, sewage treatment, and environmental impact assessments.

**Example of related indicators:**
- % of countries with tourism strategies and master plans that integrate sustainability requirements and measurable outcomes;
- Reduce by XX% water and energy consumption per tourist (available in some countries);
- % of sewage treatment coverage (including level of treatment).

**Sustainable lifestyles and education:** at Rio+20 Member States committed to promote sustainable development awareness among youth, and to promote education for sustainable development beyond the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. The programme of the 10YFP seeks to make sustainable ways of living common practice through overall system change, to promote demand for and enable use of sustainable infrastructures for more sustainable and equitable lifestyles, and to achieve well-being and improve quality of life for all, through awareness-raising, education and capacity-building across all sectors of society.

There are clear linkages to proposed SDG 12 “promote SCP patterns” and the existing targets: 12.2 “by 2030 achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources”, 12.7 “by 2030 redouble efforts to create a culture of sufficiency and sustainable lifestyles, through education, awareness raising, including sustainability information on products and services”. To realize above target, it is very important to work on activities contribute to energy efficiency (proposed SDG 7) and water-use efficiency (proposed SDG 6). Sustainable lifestyles implies, among others, sustainable diet, as well as reduced food waste. Hence the programme is also relevant to proposed SDG 2 “end hunger, achieve food security and adequate nutrition for all, and promote sustainable agriculture”.

The 10YFP programme on sustainable lifestyles and education could also contribute to achievement of the proposed SDG 4 “provide equitable and inclusive quality education and life-long learning opportunities for all”, especially in relation to its target 4.7 “integrate relevant knowledge and skills in education curricula and training programs, including education for sustainable development, and awareness raising on culture’s contribution to sustainable development”.

**Suggested target formulation:**
- by 2030 raise awareness through education, training, public policies and economic and fiscal instruments to foster a culture of sufficiency facilitating the shift toward more sustainable lifestyles and SCP, including sustainability information on goods and services; and
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- by 2030, all countries strengthen, mainstream and implement Education for Sustainable Consumption (ESC) and Lifestyles in formal education policies, curricula and institutions at all levels, as part of Education for Sustainable Development

Example of related indicator:
- Number of countries that integrate ESC into formal educational policies, development plans and/or nationally relevant programmes, including teacher training and learning materials;
- %of educational institutions, including universities in each country that have developed and implemented a sustainability strategy as part of their management practices;
- Increased rate of household waste recycling, water and energy efficiency;
- rate of domestic material consumption per capita

Sustainable building and construction: the construction, retrofitting, operation and destruction phases in the building sector account for one third of global GHG emissions, 40% of global energy use, 40% of global material use, 25% of global water usage, and 40% of waste generated (by volume). The objective of the sustainable building and construction (SBC) programme of the 10YFP is to ensure that governments, the private sector and other stakeholders are provided with a common understanding and the necessary tools and incentives to mainstream sustainable construction and operating practices in the use phase. This programme will offer opportunities for conservation and more efficient use of energy, water, materials and land, which are key inputs to this sector.

There is a clear link to proposed SDG 7 on Energy and the proposed target: “Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency, including in buildings, industry, agriculture and transport, by 2030”.

Taking action to design a more resource efficient building sector it is also extremely relevant to proposed SDG 12 “promote SCP patterns”. The proposed target 11.5 of “by 2030, reduce the environmental impact of cities by x%” under proposed SDG 11 “build inclusive, safe and sustainable cities and human settlements”, will also benefit substantially from more SBC practices, which enhance resource efficiency, reduce pollution and enable more sustainable consumption patterns and lifestyles for contextually appropriate, balanced territorial development. Finally, the SBC programme could offer support in the proposed SDG 8 “promote strong, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and decent work for all”, given the contribution of building and construction to these objectives and assets.

Suggested target formulation: Promote resource efficient construction and building sector through 50% reduction in energy-related CO2 emissions, XX% increase in water efficiency in building operations and XX% decrease in the rate of raw material extraction for building and construction by 2030, through more efficient design and increase in use of recycled materials.

Example of related indicators:
- CO2 eq emissions from buildings;
- building operations' water footprint;
- rate of construction-related mineral extraction.

Sustainable Food Systems: the Secretary General Zero Hunger challenge includes targets closely related to sustainable food systems, namely target 3 - all food systems are sustainable, and target 5 - zero food loss and waste. The 10YFP programme on sustainable food systems aims to promote a more efficient use of natural
resources, products and recovered materials, and reduce the pollution intensity of food systems along supply chains, while improving food and nutrition security. Sustainable food systems essentially aim to satisfy growing demand for food, in terms of quantity, quality and diversity, while reducing the overall impact of food production and consumption on the environment, including by reducing food losses and food waste.

Sustainable food systems is closely related to proposed SDG 2 “end hunger, achieve food security and adequate nutrition for all, and promote sustainable agriculture”, and to proposed SDG 12 “promote SCP patterns”. Indeed some proposed targets responds directly to this challenge: 2.6 “by 2030, reduce by 50% global food waste at retail and consumer level” (also 12.6) and 2.7 “by 2030, reduce by 50% production and post-harvest food losses and those along food supply chain”. At the 11th session of the OWG, there were calls for differentiating between developed and developing countries, focusing predominantly on food waste in the former and food loss in the latter. Some member states also referred to need to address malnutrition in all its forms (under-nutrition and over-nutrition), including obesity / over-weight, and to build public awareness on food security and nutrition, including through dietary-related measures in schools and other public institutions. The sustainable food systems programme could thus support the achievement of targets under proposed SDG 3 “attain healthy life for all at all ages”, and proposed SDG 4 “provide equitable and inclusive quality education and life-long learning opportunities for all”.

Suggested target formulation:
- All food systems become more productive, sustainable, efficient and resilient – minimising adverse environmental impact, while improving food and nutrition security
- More efficient post-production food systems (harvest, handling and storage, processing and packaging, transport and consumption) that reduce the global rate of food loss along the food supply chain, and waste at the consumption stage by 50 per cent by 2030.

Example of related Indicators:
- Global Food Loss Index;
- Levels of organic and avoidable food waste entering landfill or being handled;
- productivity of food production systems per unit of energy and water input;
- biodiversity levels in agro-ecosystems.

Conclusion: the six 10YFP programmes, which support the use of a mix of policy instruments, and set clear objectives, activities and indicators of performance and success, could play a key role in helping ensure that the SDGs are designed and implemented in a way that sustains the provision of human needs.

It was noted in the compilation of goals and targets originating from the 10th session of the OWG in April 2014 that: “the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP is the principal framework for international cooperation and will need to be adequately resourced”. In the current “Introduction and proposed goals and targets on sustainable development for the post 2015 development agenda” (2nd June 2014), the Target 12.1 reflects this statement by proposing “timebound effective implementation of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production”. The potential that this global framework for capacity building and collaboration on SCP has to contribute to the design and achievement of the SDGs, deserves continued consideration by governments in the coming months.