

ANNUAL REPORT SCP/RAC 2014



**Regional Activity Centre
for Sustainable Consumption
and Production**



Photos: ENPI, World Bank, Zicla



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I. PRESENTATION

Non-polluting, toxic-free, organic, resource-efficient and socially inclusive – these are qualities of products and services that are in increasingly greater demand by both businesses and individuals.

Likewise, more and more action is being taken by stakeholders such as governments, companies, financial agents and civil society to enable the regulatory and market frameworks to increase the supply of and demand for services and products with those qualities.

The Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC) provides knowledge, training, advice and networking opportunities for businesses, entrepreneurs, financial agents, civil society organisations and governments that work to provide our society with services and products that are good for people and good for the planet.

The Centre operates under the framework of two international treaties: the Barcelona Convention, which brings together the 21 Mediterranean neighbouring countries and the European Union (EU) to work together for sustainable development; and the Stockholm Convention, an international agreement involving around 180 countries, to fight against persistent organic pollutants, highly polluting and toxic substances.

The Centre belongs to the Mediterranean Action Plan, an organisation under the umbrella of the United Nations Environment Programme. Under that institutional framework, SCP/RAC has an official mandate as an organisation that engages in international cooperation with Mediterranean countries on development and innovation in the production sector and civil society, based on Sustainable Consumption and Production patterns (hereinafter SCP).

The SCP approach entails the combined implementation of tools and measures geared towards redesigning how goods and services are consumed and produced to drive the revitalisation of industrial and socioeconomic development towards non-polluting, no-waste, low-carbon, resource-efficient, socially inclusive and circular economies.

According to its mission and mandate, the main lines of action developed by SCP/RAC during 2014 are:

- Support Mediterranean countries in mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production in regional and national development policies;
- development of SCP capacity-building activities;
- prevention and management of toxic chemicals;
- promotion and empowerment of green entrepreneurs and civil society and;
- development of a Mediterranean SCP Hub.

II. MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

04

- Endorsement by the SCP/RAC National Focal Points of the structure of the SCP Action Plan for the Mediterranean first draft prepared by SCP/RAC.
- Launching of the Training and Support Programme for Green Entrepreneurs and Civil Society Organisations, the Mediterranean SCP Hub and SCP Pilot activities.
- Organisation of 13 workshops and capacity-building activities on SCP and pollution prevention and control.
- Co-organisation and active participation in 11 international events on SCP and circular economy.
- Development and review of 4 technical studies and guidelines and, development of a training methodology on green entrepreneurship.
- ‘Med ReSCP: Post Rio+20 Promotion of the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns, in particular resource efficiency, in the Mediterranean’ labelled as a project for the Union for the Mediterranean.
- €35,000 mobilised through the project ‘Supporting Green Entrepreneurs for a POPs-free Mediterranean’ awarded by the Committee of the Stockholm Convention for its regional centres.
- Successful submission of the SCP/RAC, Plan Bleu/Regional Activity Centre and the

Priority Actions Programme/Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC) joint project proposal ‘A Blue Economy for a Healthy Mediterranean’ to the MAVVA Foundation.

III.

ACTIVITY REPORT 2014

Supporting Mediterranean countries in mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production (SCP) in regional and national development policies

By 2030 a prosperous Mediterranean region is established with sustainable and socially inclusive economies. Under this vision, SCP/RAC is preparing a SCP Action Plan for the Mediterranean and a Roadmap for implementation, and is supporting Mediterranean countries looking to mainstream SCP in their national development policies.

Those activities are being undertaken with the support of the [SwitchMed Programme¹](#), a European Union (EU) funded project under the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) aiming at facilitating the shift towards SCP in the Southern Mediterranean Region.



Preparation of an SCP Action Plan for the Mediterranean

In compliance with the Decision adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention at the Conference of Istanbul of December 2013 (COP 18), requesting to prepare a Regional SCP Action Plan for the Mediterranean, SCP/RAC has started developing the document for its final submission to the next Conference of the Parties to be held in February 2016.

During the first part of the year the final version of the Baseline Report 'SCP, a cornerstone in the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its

protocols' which served to prepare the SCP Action Plan was developed. As had been requested by the Contracting Parties, next phase of the development process of the Action Plan consisted of conducting a wider consultation process of relevant Mediterranean stakeholders.



Based on a draft table of contents of the SCP Action Plan and a consultation document, the [consultation process](#) started in the second semester of the year. A regional stakeholders consultation gathering 40 international, Euro-Mediterranean and Mediterranean organisations took place on 1 and 2 October in Marseille (France). Participants were invited to identify the challenges related to the promotion of SCP in 4 key preselected sectors, namely Food, Fisheries and Agriculture, Goods Manufacturing, Tourism and Housing and Construction; to list specific SCP measures addressing those sectors and to identify key stakeholders to be involved in the development of those measures. Immediately after, an online consultation phase was opened giving those non-governmental stakeholders that could not attend the on-site meeting an opportunity to participate and provide inputs on the Action Plan, built on the proposals made in Marseille. Around 15 contributions were received from 16 October to 4 November which, along with the contributions from the regional stakeholder consultation meeting, were taken into

¹ www.switchmed.eu

account in the drawing up of the first draft of the SCP Action Plan.

This on-site consultation meeting was held back to back with the Expert Workshop on Green Economy in the framework of the Review of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (so-called MSSD Review), organised by the Plan Bleu/Regional Activity Centre in order to ensure coherence and synergies between both processes, the SCP Action Plan and the MSSD Review.



Based on the results of this first consultation phase, a first draft of the SCP Action Plan for the Mediterranean was prepared and submitted for discussion by the SCP/RAC National Focal Points during an [Extraordinary Meeting](#) in which they provided their feedback on the structure and discussed its strategic and operational objectives. The comments and contributions received during and after the meeting served to prepare the second draft of the Action Plan. The meeting, held on 25-26 November in Barcelona (Spain), gathered representatives of all the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (including the EU and except Libya), as well as Jordan and Palestine. Likewise representatives from Plan Bleu, the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC), PAP/RAC and from partners such as the United Nations

Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/DTIE) and the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) attended the meeting.

The consultation process is planned to continue in 2015 when the updated versions of the Action Plan and its Roadmap will be submitted for the review of the Ordinary Meeting of the SCP/RAC National Focal Points. Later on, the document will be submitted for clearance by the Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) National Focal Points, to be later finally submitted to the next Conference of the Parties to the Barcelona Convention in 2016.

Mainstreaming SCP into national development planning process

SCP/RAC is collaborating with UNEP/DTIE in the mainstreaming of SCP in countries' main policies and strategies through the development of SCP national action plans.

As part of this collaboration, the Centre organised a [training session on mainstreaming SCP within key economic sectors in Jordan](#). The session, based on the [SCP Policy Toolkit](#), took place during the two-day technical workshop-kick off meeting, which was organised by the Jordanian Ministry of Environment with the support of SwitchMed on 22 and 23 October in Amman (Jordan).

The SCP Policy Toolkit was produced and published in French and English in 2014 to support policymakers, representatives of local and national administration in Mediterranean countries and other interested stakeholders willing to learn more about the SCP approach and its implementation in the region. The toolkit provides a set of effective tools and instruments, case studies and lessons learned which can help build

national SCP frameworks and integrate them into national and sector-based policies. It is structured around the 4 key sectors identified for the SCP Action Plan (Food, Fisheries and Agriculture, Tourism, Goods Manufacturing and Housing and Construction).

The publication is being distributed to all SwitchMed beneficiary countries². In parallel, specific training materials on the Toolkit are being prepared.

Development of SCP pilot projects

SCP/RAC was commissioned to develop pilot projects in Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia to demonstrate how national SCP policies can be made operational.

A portfolio of 15 SCP pilot activities was developed and submitted to review of the target countries in order to facilitate the selection process of the project. The portfolio includes proposals of pilot activities targeting the following key economic sectors: tourism, food, goods manufacturing, housing and mobility.

So far, Lebanon selected the portfolio project named 'Implementation of Life Cycle Management in a key industrial sector', that will finally focus on wineries.

The Centre is studying the feasibility of the proposal and will work on a detail project proposal and plan it with the country.

SCP capacity-building activities

SCP/RAC has continued developing capacity-building activities based on SCP and pollution prevention and control to increase the knowledge of representatives from the public sector, business and civil society across the Mediterranean region.

Those workshops were developed under the [Horizon 2020 Initiative](#)³, an EU funded programme under the ENPI, which aims to de-pollute the Mediterranean by the year 2020.



The Centre organised eight capacity-building activities:

- [A sub-regional workshop on Green Finance](#) with more than 30 Jordanian, Egyptian and Lebanese delegates coming from ministries, banks, academia and NGOs was held on 28-29 January in Amman (Jordan).
- A [national training session on Industrial Management and Environmental Governance](#) was held on 12-13 February in Tunis (Tunisia), which brought together around 50 Tunisian professionals from industries, civil society and, local and national institutions.



- A [sub-regional training on Sustainable Olive Oil](#) was held on 24-26 February in Amman (Jordan). The event gathered around 50 representatives of ministries, NGOs, producers and research centres coming from Israel, Jordan and Palestine.
- A [national training on Sustainable Stone and Marble Industry](#) was organised on 10-11 March in Ramallah (Palestine) with 40 representatives of

2. Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia. [3. http://www.h2020.net/capacity-building/h2020-capacity-building-sub-group.html](http://www.h2020.net/capacity-building/h2020-capacity-building-sub-group.html)

Palestinian ministries, NGOs, businesses and research centres.

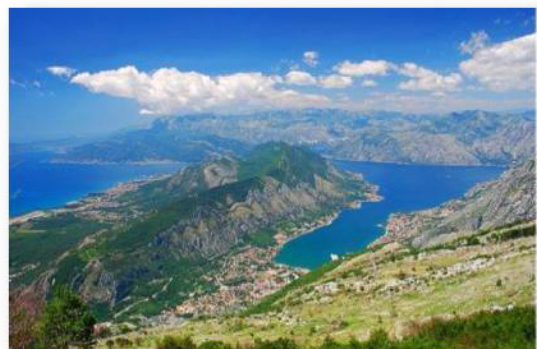
- A [national training on Green Economy and SCP](#) held on 25-26 March in Amman (Jordan), where participants could hear on international good practices on both subjects with a focus on leadership skills, eco-tourism and organic agriculture.
- A [national training on Eco-innovation, Industrial Ecology and Clean Production](#) was held on 6-7 May in Alger (Algeria). 35 Algerian delegates from public administrations, private businesses and civil society attended the 2-days workshop.
- A [sub-regional workshop on Sustainable Industrial Areas](#) was organised on 26-27 May in Beirut (Lebanon). It was attended by 25 participants from Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine.
- A sub-regional training course on Sustainable Food Production was held from 13 to 15 November in Barcelona (Spain) with 40 participants from 10 Southern Mediterranean countries.



SCP in the sustainable management of coastal areas

In the field of sustainable management of coastal areas, SCP/RAC partnered with SPA/RAC and PAP/RAC to implement the Coastal Areas Management Programme (CAMP) of Montenegro.

SCP/RAC, together with the above mentioned centres and the Programme for the Assessment and Control of Marine Pollution in the Mediterranean Region (MED POL)⁴, and in cooperation with the Ministry for Sustainable Development and Tourism of Montenegro, organised the [Workshop 'Ecotourism as an opportunity for Sustainable Development'](#) on 30 January and 1 February in Boka Kotorska, Kotor (Montenegro). The workshop served to share best practices, obtain a SWOT analysis and, define actions and strategies to boost ecotourism which will contribute to the creation of the National Strategy for Integrated Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro. Local authorities, potential eco-entrepreneurs, NGOs, concerned members of the public and university students/academics attended the event.



ECOTOURISM FOR LOCAL DEVELOPMENT IN BOKA KOTORSKA (MONTENEGRO)

FEASIBILITY STUDY

CAMP Montenegro
Integrated Coastal Zone Management Strategy for Montenegro

July 2014

4. The Programme for the Assessment and Control of Marine Pollution in the Mediterranean (MED POL) assists Mediterranean countries in the formulation and implementation of pollution monitoring programmes, including pollution control measures and the drafting of action plans aiming to eliminate pollution from land-based sources.

Likewise, the Centre and SPA/RAC produced and published the [Feasibility Study on 'Ecotourism for local development in Boka Kotorska'](#) which analyses the tourism and ecotourism sector in Boka Kotorska and assesses the potential of ecotourism entrepreneurship and businesses in Kotor.

Prevention and management of toxic chemicals

As regional centre of the Stockholm Convention, one of the main priorities of SCP/RAC in fostering SCP is the prevention and sound management of toxic chemicals. This year, the Centre focused its efforts on developing specific studies and on organising capacity-building activities on environmentally sound management of toxic chemicals and wastes.

Awareness-raising and capacity-building activities on environmentally sound management of polychlorinated biphenyls in national electricity companies

In 2014, SCP/RAC and MED POL together organised capacity-building activities on environmentally sound management (ESM) of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in national electricity companies in [Tirana](#) (Albania) from 21 to 24 January and in [Alexandria](#) (Egypt) from 24 to 27 February.

These activities were developed in the framework of the Medpartnership sub-component 2.3 'Environmentally Sound Management of Equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by PCBs in national electricity companies of the Mediterranean countries'. [MedPartnership⁵](#) is a Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded project, led by UNEP/MAP in which SCP/RAC takes part.

Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem

MedPartnership

The workshops were aimed at introducing the ESM of PCBs to local experts of both countries and providing training on sampling and analysis of PCBs by using a semi-mobile analyser. Practical training included taking oil samples from several in-use transformers in two companies. More than 150 participants from governments, ministries, electricity and waste companies and laboratories attended the workshops.

In addition, the Centre supported MED POL on inventory missions and oil analysis of PCBs in national electricity companies and other industries in Egypt, Turkey and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Within the implementation of these activities, SCP/RAC also produced a [PCBs video](#) in English and Turkish, along with a [Toolkit for PCB owners and policymakers](#) which were all published on the [PCBs in the Mediterranean⁶](#) project website.

Review of draft guidelines on mercury decontamination

SCP/RAC and MED POL developed the document [Guidelines on best environmental practices for the environmentally sound management of mercury-contaminated sites](#) with the support of the Spanish National Technological Centre for Mercury Decontamination.

The guidelines, developed as a requirement of the Regional Plan on the reduction of inputs of mercury as a baseline document to envisage measures for the management of contaminated sites, address the different steps necessary to achieve sound management of a mercury-contaminated site: the identification of mercury-contaminated sites,

⁵ <http://www.themedpartnership.org/> ⁶ <http://pcbsmed.org/>

the identification of environmental impacts, the environmental characterisation, risk assessment and eventual remediation of mercury-contaminated sites.

The document was reviewed and updated based on the comments of the MED POL National Focal Points received in two meetings held in Athens and Barcelona. Next year, the document will be submitted for final review and approval at the next National Focal Points meetings of MED POL and UNEP/MAP, and finally it will be submitted for endorsement by the Conference of the Parties to the Barcelona Convention in 2016.

Preparation of the ‘Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of used lubricant oils’ and the Guidelines ‘Towards a more sustainable tannery sector in the Mediterranean’

As part of a collaboration agreement signed with MEL POL within the framework of the Medpartnership project, SCP/RAC has started drafting the Guidelines for the ESM of used lubricant oils and the Guidelines titled ‘Towards a more sustainable tannery sector in the Mediterranean’.



Both guides will aim at facilitating policy and legislation reforms for pollution prevention and control. They seek to develop and improve the legislative and institutional framework in the Mediterranean region and to serve as technical guidance for the Mediterranean countries

in implementing the relevant priority actions of the National Action Plans adopted in the framework of Article 5 and 15 of the Land-Based Sources and Activities Protocol⁷ (LBS Protocol) of the Barcelona Convention and its Strategic Action Programme SAP-MED⁸.

Upgrade of the Toolkit on the Environmentally Sound Management of industrial chemicals

In December 2014, SCP/RAC started to review the ‘Interactive toolkit to assist countries in the environmentally sound management of industrial chemicals under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions’, based on an agreement signed with the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions.

The toolkit is intended to facilitate the effective implementation of the three Conventions in countries with low and medium resources. The toolkit will provide

- i) accurate and consolidated information to assist developing countries in responding to their obligations under the Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention;



- ii) a step-by-step, tailored and modular approach for the management of industrial chemicals;
- iii) tools for the identification of best practices to implement a system for the management of

industrial chemicals and,

- iv) tools and procedures to support the replacement of hazardous substances.

Peer review of the publication POPs in Articles and Phasing-Out Opportunities

The SCP/RAC took part, with other experts and institutions, in the process of peer review of the publication POPs in Articles and Phasing-Out Opportunities.

The publication aims to enhance knowledge of the presence of new POPs in articles and to support and assist parties in the implementation of the Convention. It provides a compilation of information on alternatives to POPs in current use and following mandates on exchange of information, and undertaking appropriate research and cooperation pertaining to POPs.

The compilation of information from different stakeholders, including members of the POPs Review Committee (POPRC) and industry, was led by the Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (SCRCAP) in collaboration with other Stockholm Convention Regional Centres and experts.

Review of Guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of Lead Batteries

SCP/RAC supported the Secretariat of the Basel Convention in the review of the document 'Guidelines for ESM of used lead batteries for the Mediterranean Region' developed by the Basel Centre of Slovakia.

As part of this support, the Centre took part in the Regional workshop of experts to review the ESM Guidelines of Lead Batteries on 18 and 19 March at the Basel Convention Regional Centre in Bratislava (Slovak Republic).

The main objectives of the meeting were to review the

guidelines, to provide basic information on the Basel Convention programme and EU legislation on lead batteries and to share the results of the pilot project on lead batteries (ESM) in Syria. SCP/RAC provided technical comments to the draft.

Promotion of green entrepreneurship and empowerment of civil society in SCP

In the field of green entrepreneurship and civil society empowerment SCP/RAC has launched the programme through which it aims to contribute to build the needed ecosystem in which green entrepreneurs and civil society organisations can find the right conditions to transform their ideas into green businesses and new SCP initiatives.

Training and Support Programme for Green Entrepreneurs

SCP/RAC is leading under the SwitchMed Programme a Training and Support Programme for Green Entrepreneurs comprising a set of innovative actions seeking not only to provide training for entrepreneurs, but also to offer them other services that will support them in developing and improving their Green Business Models and accessing funding resources. It targets entrepreneurs from Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

The Programme started with three scoping missions conducted in Morocco (27-30 October), Algeria (17-20 November) and Tunisia (10-12 December) to meet potential strategic local partners that would support the centre in the development of the programme's activities. After a bidding process, five local partners were selected: the Fodantion du Jeune Entrepreneur (FJE) and the Réseau Marocain de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire (Remess) in Morocco, the Centre National des Technologies de la Production Plus Propres

(CNTPP) in Algeria and, the Centre International des Technologies de l'Environnement en Tunis (CITET) and Confédération des Entreprises Citoyennes de Tunisie (Connect) in Tunisia. In 2015 the selection process of the local partners of Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine will be launched.

In parallel, SCP/RAC has begun the preparation of the training materials design and the delivery of trainings for local trainers. The training materials will consist of a workbook and a handbook for green entrepreneurs, based on the existing SCP/RAC methodological guidelines on Green Entrepreneurship.

Likewise, the Centre started to map crowdfunding actors in the region to prepare a study on existing crowdfunding platforms in the Mediterranean and their potential to support green entrepreneurs and sustainable consumption initiatives.

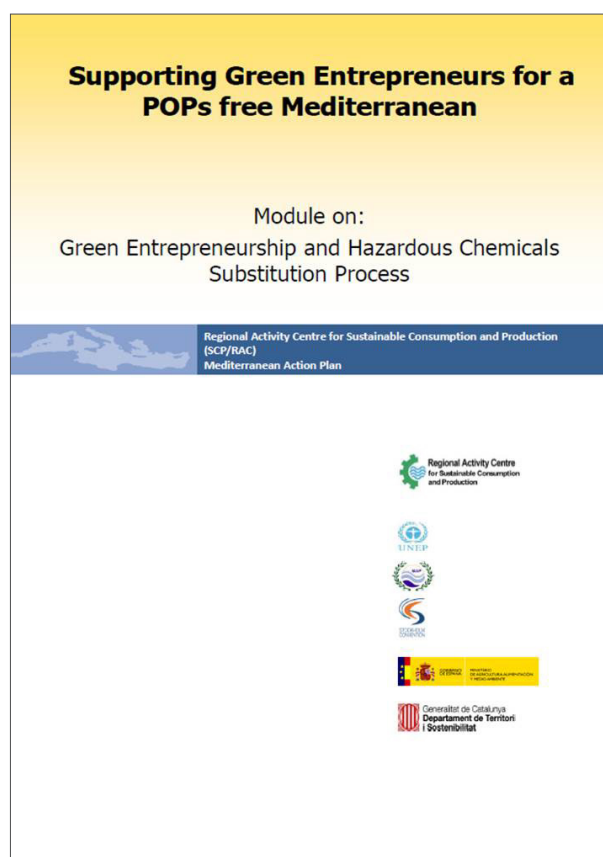
New green business opportunities on alternatives to hazardous chemicals in the Mediterranean

SCP/RAC prepared the project proposal [Supporting Green Entrepreneurs for a POPs-free Mediterranean](#), which was selected by the Stockholm Convention as one of the projects for the annual call of the 'Small Grant Programme'. The project aimed to support new companies from Algeria wanting to phase out POPs and the use of toxic chemicals in the design and production stages of their products.

The Centre produced a special [training module on Green Entrepreneurship & Hazardous Chemicals Substitution Process](#) on possible actions to phase out POPs.

Based on that training material, SCP/RAC organised the [seminar 'Green chemistry and eco-entrepreneurship'](#) on 18 and 19 November in Algiers (Algeria) to provide support for green entrepreneurs for a POPs-free Mediterranean. More than 40 participants were trained

over two productive days, in which international experts presented green alternatives to hazardous chemicals (in particular POPs) and shared key tools for the creation of a competitive eco-business.



Training and Support Programme for Civil Society Organisations

In the field of civil society empowerment, SCP/RAC has started to design a Training and Support Programme for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) aiming at facilitating the development of grassroots innovations. It will consist of a series of training sessions to develop and improve CSO's awareness-raising skills and to transmit their role as entrepreneurs and innovators of SCP initiatives and as active agents in decision-making processes.

The above-mentioned scoping missions to Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia allowed the Centre to also meet potential local partners that would support the Centre in the development and implementation of those activities.

Activities planned for next year are preparing the Training and Support Methodology and training local trainers and CSOs. Likewise, the Centre will develop the Switchers Platform, an on-line platform showcasing successful cases of green entrepreneurs and grassroots initiatives for sustainable living.

Mediterranean SCP Hub

In order to globally disseminate and exchange knowledge on SCP among Mediterranean and international stakeholders, SCP/RAC launched a new SCP website, developed several media tools and took an active part in the major Mediterranean and European SCP and circular economy-related events.

Websites and newsletters

On World Environment Day, 5 June, the Centre launched the [Mediterranean SCP Hub web platform](#)⁹, which aims to become the main knowledge platform on SCP for the Mediterranean Region, and the [Action Network](#)¹⁰, a professional social network. Both tools were developed under the SwitchMed Programme.

The web platform, which has been developed under the SwitchMed Programme, seeks to increase the visibility of activities, projects or cases on SCP developed in the Mediterranean region, facilitate the exchange of information and connect with key stakeholders. It includes six corners targeting six major groups, namely policymakers, start-ups and entrepreneurs, civil society, industrial service providers and SME, large companies and impact investors.

Two or three news items were posted every week since the launch of the platform and the sections for events, experts database and strategic partnerships were regularly updated. In 2015, it is planned to create a new section called 'country hubs' with relevant information of Mediterranean countries and to launch the French version of the website.

NEWS BULLETIN OF SCP/RAC APRIL/MAY 2014 - NUMBER 54

Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production **SCP NEWS**

→ **SCP/RAC participated in the SWEEP-NET Forum**
SCP/RAC has participated in the 4th SWEEP-NET Regional Forum in Amman (Jordan) from 13th to 15th May 2014. The SWEEP-NET is a regional solid waste initiative of exchange of information and expertise in the Maghreb and Mashreq countries.
The forum gather participants from public and private sector, NGOs, donors, academics, research institutes, etc in order to exchange experiences and perspectives. ... [+]

→ **SWITCH-Med Programme goes online soon**
SWITCH-Med Programme launches on the 5th of June its new web platform www.switchmed.eu presenting the latest actions by policy-makers, industry, entrepreneurs and civil society towards sustainable consumption and production in the Mediterranean.
SWITCH-Med Programme launches its brand new web platform www.switchmed.eu on the 5th of June, which is the World Environment Day, a day for celebrating awareness on environmental issues worldwide and encouraging ... [+]

→ **17th European Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production**
From 14-16 October, 2014, Portoroz (Slovenia) will host the 17th European Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ERSCP 2014).
The objective of the 17TH ERSCP is to provide a platform to stimulate, develop and disseminate information about new initiatives aiming at fostering the implementation of ... [+]

Logos: switchmed, Horizon2020, BAT4MED, MedPartnership, Consumpedia med, I WANT TO RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION REGULARLY click here

The Action Network is a professional social network for all SCP actors to meet different experts and stakeholders and to share information and knowledge. The virtual community, which is integrated within the Mediterranean SCP Hub web platform, is organised in communities. It includes a chat function, a calendar enabling upload of events by members and file storage within communities. At the end of 2014, more than 190 members were registered.

In addition, the news section of the [SCP/RAC website](#)¹¹

⁹ www.switchmed.eu ¹⁰ <http://www.switchmed.eu/en/community/join-the-action-network> ¹¹ <http://www.cprac.org/en>

was regularly updated with news items on activities carried out by the Centre in the development of its tasks, as well as with other relevant SCP-related news items.

In total, 4 e-newsletters were sent to more than 300 identified key stakeholders. The Centre was also active in other social media such as [Linked-In](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

Media

At the beginning of 2014, SCP/RAC released [21 videos](#) of interviews made to key Mediterranean policy makers and international institutions under the SwitchMed Programme. The videos, which last approximately two to three minutes on average, show opinions and suggestions on ways and solutions to improve the protection of the Mediterranean environment and the benefits of switching to sustainable consumption and production practices with clear case studies and examples.

Furthermore, in February 2014 SCP/RAC released a special edition of the [SwitchMed Magazine on green entrepreneurship](#). This edition addresses the need to strengthen a network of green entrepreneurs for a sustainable Mediterranean by showing cases, projects, initiatives and networks applying and promoting green entrepreneurship.

The SwitchMed Magazine is a publication that brings together scientific and technical contributions on sustainable consumption and production and the sound management of chemicals, with a particular focus on the Mediterranean.

Finally, the Centre has started developing the content and the design of factsheets for the four major target groups: policy-makers, green entrepreneurs and start-ups and, industry service providers under the SwitchMed Programme. The factsheets will be printed

during 2015 in 3 languages: English, French and Arabic.

Meetings and events

SwitchMed Connect 2015

In 2014 the Centre has started to organise the first networking event of the SwitchMed Programme, which will take place on 29 and 30 October 2015 in Barcelona. SwitchMed Connect will be the first annual gathering of Mediterranean stakeholders to build synergies, exchange knowledge, and scale up eco and social innovations.



CleanSea Project annual meeting

On 23 and 24 January, SCP/RAC took part in the annual meeting of the [CleanSea Project](#) held at the Catalan Waste Agency, Barcelona (Spain). Participants discussed progress in the search for the effects of marine litter, specifically plastics, on marine organisms,

and on the social and economic conditions in Europe which act as generators of these wastes.

SCP/RAC presented the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, which was approved by the 22 Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention during COP18.

The CleanSea Project responds to the interest of the EU in addressing the problem of marine litter to ensure a healthy state of the marine environment. It aims to improve knowledge of the composition of marine litter, its distribution and impacts, and to identify the strategies and the right combination of measures required to minimise this problem.

Visit of a delegation from Guatemala

On 13 March, SCP/RAC received the visit from a [delegation of the Government of Guatemala](#). The visit was part of the 'ADA-Integración' Project of cooperation between the EU and the Central American countries. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Guatemala expressed its interest in setting up this meeting with the Centre given its long experience and its functions as Regional Centre for the Stockholm Convention.

Services for Sustainability Conference






On 3 and 4 April in Brussels, SCP/RAC attended the [Services for Sustainability Conference](#) which aimed to present SPREE project results to partners and to new stakeholders potentially interested in 'Servicizing' Systems.

The SPREE project (Servicizing Policy for Resource Efficient Economy) is a three-year project within the environment theme under the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). The project seeks to identify potential 'Servicizing Policy Packages' for the establishment of servicizing systems which

facilitate the transition from selling products to providing services. SPREE project will simulate their effect on absolute decoupling of economic growth and resource use, within three sectors: water, mobility and agri-food.

Euro-Mediterranean Youth Meeting 2014

SCP/RAC participated in the [Euro-Mediterranean Youth Meeting 2014](#) where 32 young entrepreneurs from different Mediterranean countries and the EU exchanged experiences and good practices in the field of social entrepreneurship. The meeting took place from 7 to 11 April in Barcelona (Spain).

switchmed  **OCTOBER 2014 • NEWSLETTER**
About Contact Media    


Switch
TO SUSTAINABLE
PATTERNS
OF CONSUMPTION
{AND}
PRODUCTION
IN THE

Welcome to our very first SWITCH-Med newsletter

We are a community of practice with the mission of achieving productive, circular and collaborative economies in the Mediterranean. We exchange, build synergies, create, take and multiply actions...

[Read more](#)

SWITCH-Med ACTIONS LATEST NEWS

 **Last days for the open consultation process on the Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Action Plan for the Mediterranean: Raise your voice!**

We invite you to raise your voice in shaping the Sustainable...


[Read more](#)

WE'RE HIRING!

SWITCH-Med is hiring soon local partners in northern Africa countries

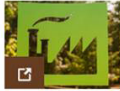
At SWITCH-Med we are hiring by the end of this year four local partners, one per country in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Egypt. At the...

[Read more](#)

 **Our capacity building programme for civil society organisations is taking shape**

Within the SWITCH-Med Initiative we aim at empowering civil society organisations to act as...

[Read more](#)

 **Increasing resource efficiency and productivity in Mediterranean industries**

UNIDO will pool of 15-20 service providers that will be assisting in the...

[Read more](#)

SCP/RAC organised an interactive session aiming at introducing the concept of green entrepreneurship, inspiring participants with real cases of successful green entrepreneurs and presenting the green

entrepreneurship and civil society component of the SwitchMed Programme. Furthermore, participants could discuss and design basic strategies to implement and promote green entrepreneurship through role play.

The meeting was organised by the Youth Directorate General of the Family and Welfare Department of Catalonia in collaboration with the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed) and the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation and aimed to promote and strengthen entrepreneurial attitudes among participants as a tool for social transformation.

Joint MED International Workshop

As associate partner to the ECO-SCP-MED Project, SCP/RAC took part in the international workshop ‘Sustainable Development: products, consumption, promotion and territorial marketing’ organised by the Province of Bologna within the framework of the projects ECO-SCP-MED, MER, Medland 2020 and ZEROWASTE PRO as part of the capitalisation process of the INTERREG MED Programme. The event took place on 14 May in Bologna, Italy.

SCP/RAC had the opportunity to present the SwitchMed Programme within the session entitled ‘The support of the EU strategies and EU next programmes in achieving SCP Interregional cooperation and research and development initiatives’.

The international workshop aimed to encourage real opportunities for collaboration in the fields of sustainable consumption and production and foster cross-fertilisation among experiences and methodologies within a European perspective.

SWEEP-NET Regional Forum

SWEEP-NET is the regional solid waste exchange of information and expertise network in the Maghreb and Mashreq countries that gathers participants from the public and private sector, NGOs, donors, academics and research institutes. SCP/RAC took part in the 4th SWEEP-NET Regional Forum from 13 to 15 May in Amman (Jordan).

The Centre presented the experience of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for light packaging during the last 18 years in Catalonia. Representatives of civil society exchanged points of view on the serious problem posed by plastic packaging, especially beverage packaging and plastic bags, for the environment, particularly the marine environment.



Green Week 2014

From 3 to 5 June, SCP/RAC had a SwitchMed Programme stand at Green Week 2014. Green Week is the Europe's largest environment conference, which in 2014 joined the economic debate. Under the banner 'Circular economy – saving resources, creating jobs' the 3000 participants discussed how Europe must move from the current linear economic model towards a more circular one.

At the stand, SCP/RAC had the opportunity to introduce people to the SwitchMed Programme and current and future activities.

1st French Summit on Circular Economy

The French Environment and Energy Management Agency and the Circular Economy Institute organised the [first French Summit on Circular Economy](#), held on 17 June in Paris (France), in which SCP/RAC took part. A total of 900 participants, including public and private decision-makers, could see how circular economy constitutes a positive dynamic for economic, social and territorial development and learn about concrete examples of implementation of the circular economy concept within businesses and territories.

Dioxin 2014

Dioxin, the annual International Symposium on Halogenated Persistent Organic Pollutants, is the leading international conference for scientists, regulators and companies to present recent advances in all areas relating to POPs.

SCP/RAC, as implementing agency of the SwitchMed Programme, partnered with the organisers of Dioxin 2014 to draw researchers' attention to their role in scaling up alternative non-toxic chemicals in the market. The event was held from 31 August to 5 September in Madrid (Spain).

The SCP/RAC organised a '[Sustainable Production and Use](#)' session in which participants learnt about the most advanced tools to facilitate the substitution process of hazardous chemicals and how the conceptual challenges faced in order to achieve sustainable production free of POPs should be addressed.

Likewise SCP/RAC was involved in arranging the attendance of relevant international organisations like UNIDO, UNEP/MAP, the Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific, the University of California, Berkeley, ETH Zurich, Greenpeace Germany SUBSPORT initiative and ISTAS at the event, to present their perspectives and state-of-the-art alternatives to the use of POPs and toxic chemicals.

The infographic is titled "POPs free substitution of halogenated flame retardants as a base for more sustainable production and use". It features the SwitchMed logo at the top left and the tagline "Promoting Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean" at the top right. The main content is divided into several sections:

- The challenge: Substitution of halogenated FR**: Discusses the health and environmental risks of halogenated flame retardants and the need for safer alternatives.
- Substitution results in safer burning performance and improved environmental footprint**: Compares the environmental impact of halogenated FR (red) and Paxymer (green).
- Paxymer® the halogen free flame retardant**: Describes the unique properties of Paxymer, such as being non-toxic, non-accumulating, and having a long lifespan.
- Success stories: Cases**: Lists three successful substitution cases: retaining mechanical properties, toxic free fire safety, and tough production processes.
- Who we are?**: Provides information about Paxymer AB, a company founded in 2009 that works on halogen-free flame retardants for polyolefin plastics.

At the bottom, there are logos for UNIDO, UNEP, Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production, Paxymer, and the European Union.

SEED Symposium 2014

SCP/RAC attended and partnered as a [Symposium supporter at the SEED Africa Symposium](#), which is a

unique forum for businesses, policymakers, civil society and support institutions to share their knowledge and experience, explore partnerships, and develop solutions to stimulate the growth of social and green entrepreneurship in Africa. The event took place on 10 and 11 September in Nairobi (Kenya).

On 11 September, under the SwitchMed Programme, SCP/RAC organised a workshop to gather lessons on how to address the factors enabling sustainable entrepreneurs to thrive. Factors addressed were the policy factor, the economic factor, cultural factor and capacity and skills factor. At the start of the session, participants heard from four different initiatives from Africa addressing one or more of these factors. After this, there was a World Café round to collect more insights from the workshop participants.



'SINnovation' Conference

On 8 October, SCP/RAC attended the presentation of 'SINnovation – keys for the future', a new chemicals substitution tool, in Brussels (Belgium).

The SIN (Substitute It Now!) List, an NGO list of Substances of Very High Concern, is one of the tools in the process of innovation for green business and companies, and also helps to avoid 'regrettable

substitution' (replacement of one recognised hazardous chemical with another that may also present hazardous properties). Both the updates of the SIN List and of the grouping of SIN List substances were presented together with a new tool for assessing substances similar to the SIN substances: 'SINmilarity'.

ERSCP 2014

In the framework of the 17th European Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production held from 14 to 16 October in Portoroz (Slovenia), SCP/RAC delivered the 'Joint SwitchMed and SWITCH-Asia Workshop: An overview of leveraging approaches for scaling-up green industry and green entrepreneurship efforts'. The workshop was organised within the SwitchMed Programme on 15 October.

Red Empreendeverde Awards

On 12 November, SCP/RAC attended the Red Empreendeverde Awards in Madrid (Spain). The awards recognise green entrepreneurs contributing to a sustainable economy and aim to help them create and consolidate their business projects. The awards, developed in the framework of the Red Empreendeverde, were organised by the Fundación Biodiversidad in collaboration with the European Social Fund.

Disruptive Innovation Festival

SCP/RAC took part in the Disruption Innovation Festival (DIF), an on-line festival organised by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, bringing together thought leaders, entrepreneurs, businesses, makers, learners and doers to catalyse system-level change for a future economy. The festival took place from 20 October to 14 November under the general title 'The economy is changing. What should I know, experience and do?'

SCP/RAC actively participated organising the [webinar](#)

[‘Opportunities for the Circular Economy in the Mediterranean’](#) on 13 November. Participants got an insight into the development of the regional action plan integrating circular economy principles in the Mediterranean, the latest activities of regional networks, business models based on circular economy thinking and opportunities that are tapped by entrepreneurs.

7th Global Eco Forum

SCP/RAC took part in the 7th edition of the Global Eco Forum organising the workshop entitled [“Financing pathways for green businesses and sustainable entrepreneurs”](#) on 28 November in Barcelona (Spain).

The objective of the workshop was to provide an overview of the diverse financing solutions available, on the one hand, for small businesses that like to take up resource-efficient technologies and practices, and on the other, for entrepreneurs and start-ups that integrate sustainability into their strategies, core businesses, own products and services. Concrete examples of what type of financing solutions are available for small businesses and entrepreneurs were shown.

The Global Eco Forum, that took place as part of the Mediterranean Week of Economic Leaders, gathered opinion leaders, decision- and changemakers to promote dialogue and collaboration towards the sustainability of the Mediterranean region.

Governance

In addition to its core activities, in 2014 SCP/RAC fulfilled the institutional responsibilities required by the governance framework of the Barcelona Convention, UNEP/MAP and the Stockholm Convention and, took part in several coordination meetings on projects in which it is involved.



Medpartnership Steering Committee Meeting

As one of the implementing partners of the Medpartnership Project SCP/RAC attended the Fourth MedPartnership Steering Committee Meeting that took place from 17 to 20 February in Hammamet (Tunisia). The Centre gave a presentation on the current status of Subcomponent 2.3 ‘Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in national electricity companies of Mediterranean countries’ jointly implemented with MED POL.

Participation in meetings aimed at preparing the UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment and Climate Change

On March 2014 SCP/RAC attended a series of [meetings](#) organised in Amman (Jordan) by the Co-Presidencies of the UfM, the EU and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan with a view to preparing for the UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment and Climate Change that took place on 13 May in Athens (Greece).

SCP/RAC took part in the Stakeholder Conference held on 10 and 11 March to consult key Mediterranean stakeholders on the H2020 Initiative, Climate Change and SCP, the main themes of the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change. The SCP working

groups ended with the drawing up of 5 conclusions and 24 recommendations to be considered by the Senior Officials for inclusion in the Ministerial declaration.

On 13 and 14 March the ad-hoc Senior Officials Meeting took place in which the first draft of the Ministerial Declaration was discussed and modified according to the conclusions of the Stakeholder Conference and the interventions from the represented countries. The discussions were very constructive and led to a smooth agreement on the text of the Declaration to be presented for endorsement by the Foreign Ministers of the 28 EU member states, the 15 Mediterranean countries and the European Commission on 13 May in Athens.

Those meetings were also the occasion for the SCP/RAC team to communicate on the SwitchMed Programme and to conduct around 21 short interviews of key Mediterranean stakeholders.

Steering Group Meeting of the H2020 Initiative

The Centre participated on 12 March to the Steering Group Meeting of the Horizon 2020 Initiative and a Climate Change Experts Group Meeting held in Amman (Jordan). The H2020 Steering Group Meeting served to review the activities developed up to then and to discuss the orientation for the next years.

In particular, participants highlighted that the three focus areas of the initiative (waste water, solid waste and industrial emissions) remained valid but they needed to better integrate cross-sector implications and the pollution prevention dimension, including the root causes of pollution and cultural aspects. In this sense, SCP was recognised as a key approach to achieve the H2020 objectives.

First MED POL National Focal Points Meeting 2014

From 26 to 28 March 2014, SCP/RAC took part in the first MED POL National Focal Points Meeting held in Athens (Greece). National representatives appreciated the work done by MED POL and SCP/RAC in preparing the document Guidelines on BATs and BEPS for the ESM of mercury-contaminated sites and agreed that it was important to start implementation of the measures provided by the Regional Plan on Mercury. In this respect, the utilisation of those draft guidelines for this purpose would be a step in the right direction, in particular with regard to two main mercury issues identified in the Mediterranean: chlor-alkali plants and old mines.

Meeting PREPARE

SCP/RAC attended the Meeting of the PREPARE Core Group that took place on 26 March in San Sebastian (Spain). During the meeting, the Centre had the chance to inform the PREPARE members on the actions it is developing and, especially, on the progress made under the SwitchMed Programme.

SwitchMed Steering Committee

SCP/RAC participated to the [first Steering Committee Meeting of the SwitchMed Programme](#) on 4 and 5 June in Brussels (Belgium), to present the programme of work for the three components: Policy, Demonstration and Networking Facility. The meeting was organised by the programme partners UNEP/MAP, UNEP/DTIE, UNIDO and SCP/RAC.

The meeting had two specific objectives: to learn about the countries' understanding of SCP as well as the national priority sectors and their expectations for SwitchMed, and to get to know the demand from the beneficiary countries on the national activities and support required in the area of sustainable

consumption and production and related fields.

The two-day meeting was attended by 53 selected delegates from the Southern Mediterranean countries and international organisations including the Global Footprint Network, Plan Bleu, SWITCH-Asia Network Facility, UfM, Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), EBRD and the European Investment Bank (EIB).



2nd meeting of the Correspondence group on Economic and Social Analysis of the EcAp Initiative

In the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan's 'Ecosystem Approach Initiative' (EcAp) implementation project, SCP/RAC participated to the [Second Meeting of the Correspondence Group on Economic and Social Analysis](#) (COR ESA group), which was held in Sophia-Antipolis on 4 and 5 June.

The COR ESA Group, led by Plan Bleu and the UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit, was established to develop and coordinate the socio-economic assessment of water uses and coastal areas of the Mediterranean at the regional, sub-regional and national levels. The meeting served to present the results of ESA action at the regional Mediterranean level, to present the

outcomes of ESA action at the national level, through three pilot cases conducted in Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia, to exchange the experiences, methods and availability of data and, to share ownership of methods and results at national level.

Follow-up to the UfM Ministerial Conference on environment and climate change

Ministers in charge of environment and climate change from the 43 countries comprising the UfM gathered on 13 May in Athens on the occasion of the first UfM Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change. The Conference adopted an UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change which identified Sustainable Consumption and Production – along with de-pollution and pollution prevention of the Mediterranean Sea and Climate Change – as a priority axis for action.

The 43 countries of the Union for the Mediterranean affirmed their commitment to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production patterns and the transition to a green and low-carbon economy, emphasising their strong support for the complementary efforts to promote SCP in the Mediterranean region, through the development of the SCP Action Plan for the Mediterranean in the framework of the Barcelona Convention and the actions of the SwitchMed Programme and the UfM-labelled Post Rio+21:Med RESCP project. Both initiatives were recognised as important support for the transition to sustainable consumption and production.

Experts Workshop in the framework of the MSSD Review

In close collaboration with UNEP/MAP Coordination Unit and SCP/RAC, Plan Bleu organised an Expert Workshop in the framework of the Review of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development

(MSSD Review). Organised back to back with the SwitchMed 'Regional stakeholders' consultation meeting on the Sustainable Consumption and Production Action Plan for the Mediterranean' this workshop aimed to contribute to the preparation of the MSSD 2.0, particularly for cross-cutting area No. 5 'Transition towards a green economy, including Sustainable Consumption and Production'. SCP/RAC participated as a key resource in this Expert Workshop, which was held on 30 September at the Villa Valmer, Marseilles (France).

4th Coordination group meeting of the EcAp

On 9 and 10 October SCP/RAC took part in the [4th Coordination group meeting](#) of the EcAp implementation project led by UNEP/MAP, which seeks to design a key implementation strategy for the Mediterranean and set ecological and operational objectives to bring and keep the marine and coastal ecosystems within their carrying capacities.

Participants acknowledged that the SCP Action Plan for the Mediterranean could be used as a cross-cutting strategy contributing to the achievement of the EcAp objectives. One of the recommendations of the meeting was to request that the UNEP/MAP Coordination Unit 'ensure strong links between EcAp and the process leading up to [...] an SCP Action Plan for the Mediterranean'.

Medpartnership Coordination group meeting

On 4 and 5 November, SCP/RAC attended this meeting, which brought together in Barcelona (Spain) the project-implementing partners of the Medpartnership project in order to follow up on the activities developed by each organisation, share the challenges and assets encountered during their implementation, ensure coordination in the development of the project's Work

Plan, budgets and corresponding reports, and to plan the final activities to be developed in the last phase of the project. Likewise, the Centre had the chance to share with the participants some initial proposals on SCP activities that might be integrated into a possible new project proposal.

H2020 Capacity Building Subgroup meeting

SCP/RAC attended this meeting of the H2020 Capacity Building Subgroup to discuss the draft work programme for the capacity-building component for the period 2015-2020. The meeting took place on 17 November in Brussels (Belgium).

Joint Meeting of the Basel and Stockholm Conventions' regional centres

On 27 and 28 November, SCP/RAC participated in the annual joint meeting to enhance cooperation and coordination between the regional centres under the Basel and Stockholm Conventions held in Geneva (Switzerland).



The meeting aimed to strengthen the regional centres as independent and self-sustainable regional institutions and to enhance coordination and collaboration among them. Two major issues were the focus of the meeting: the preparation of the performance and sustainability report of the regional centres for the consideration

of COP 21 and how to enhance regional delivery of technical assistance for the implementation of the conventions on chemicals and wastes by capitalising the opportunities that already exist and also those which are surfacing.

Second MEDPOL National Focal Points Meeting 2014

On 18 and 19 December 2014, SCP/RAC attended the second MED POL National Focal Points meeting on National Action Plan (NAP) Update. The main objectives were to review the following documents: the proposed updated criteria for hot spots and sensitive areas assessment; the draft guidelines on national budget of pollutants (NBB) assessment; the proposed indicators to assess the implementation of the Land-Based Sources (LBS), Dumping and Hazardous Waste (HW) protocols, LBS Regional Plans and NAPs; and, the draft guidelines on the cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit analysis of measures. The meeting also provided strong impetus for the NAP update process at country level.

Institutional partnerships

Mainstreaming SCP requires the involvement of a vast array of national, regional and international stakeholders. In 2014, SCP/RAC signed the following collaboration agreements:

- Project Cooperation Agreement with UNIDO to develop the Demonstrations component of the SwitchMed Programme. The project is jointly implemented by UNEP/MAP, UNIDO, UNEP/DTIE and SCP/RAC. The project will run for four years and SCP/RAC will receive €7.5 million.
- Amendment with UNEP to extend the duration of the agreement already signed with them relating

to the extension of the Medpartnership Project, and to increase the total budget.

- Small-Scale Funding Agreement with UNEP/MAP to prepare guidelines on the ESM of used lubricant oils and guidelines for a more sustainable tannery sector, under the framework of the Medpartnership Project.
- Small-Scale Funding Agreement with UNEP, represented by the Secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, to implement the project titled 'Supporting Green Entrepreneurs for a POPs-free Mediterranean'. The Centre received €35,000.
- Small-Scale Funding Agreement with UNEP/MAP to support SCP/RAC in organising the Extraordinary SCP/RAC National Focal Points meeting.
- Small-Scale Funding Agreement with MED POL to support them in organising the MED POL National Focal Points meeting held on 18 and 19 December in Barcelona (Spain).
- Small-Scale Funding Agreement with UNEP, represented by the Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention, to review the draft electronic toolkit on industrial chemicals and to organise a meeting of experts to review the toolkit.
- Small-Scale Funding Agreement with Plan Bleu to support them in the organisation of the Experts Workshop in the framework of the MSSD Review.

Fundraising actions

In order to increase its sources of funding, SCP/RAC, together with other relevant organisations, prepared the following project proposals to support

Mediterranean countries in the shift towards SCP:

Med RESCP: Post Rio+20 Promotion of the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns, in particular resource efficiency, in the Mediterranean

The project 'Med ReSCP: Post Rio+20 promotion of sustainable consumption and production patterns – with emphasis on resource efficiency – in the Mediterranean region' was labelled a UfM project. The Senior Officials of the 43 UfM countries unanimously approved the labelling of the project during the Senior Officials Meeting that took place in Barcelona on 7 and 8 April.

The project, prepared by SCP/RAC together with the EBRD and UNIDO, will support Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries in implementing SCP in existing and new companies while reducing their environmental impact and providing access to finance.

The project is fully in line with the objectives of the SwitchMed Programme and will complement it and provide added value by providing access for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to adopt SCP models in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia, and stimulating the development of green industries and entrepreneurship in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Turkey through technical assistance and pilot projects.

Project proposal 'A Blue Economy for a Healthy Mediterranean'

SCP/RAC, Plan Bleu and PAP/RAC submitted the project proposal 'A Blue Economy for a Healthy Mediterranean' to the MAVA Foundation. The aim of the project is to provide a clear and common definition of the concept of green economy as applied to the Mediterranean, called here the 'blue economy', and to

define the operational tools that can be used to achieve this concept (policies, measures, best practices, etc.).

Project proposal 'Promotion of non-chemical alternatives in the Mediterranean'

The project proposal 'Promotion of non-chemical alternatives in the Mediterranean', developed by SCP/RAC in collaboration with ISTAS and the European Environmental Bureau, was submitted to the trust fund of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM). The project aims to extend the SUBSPORT Project, a platform for information exchange on alternative substances and technologies to hazardous chemicals, as well as tools and guidance for substance evaluation and substitution management.

ANNEX: Conclusions Document of the SCP/RAC National Focal Points Meeting 2014

**Conclusions of the Extraordinary Meeting of the SCP/RAC National Focal Points on the SCP
Action Plan for the Mediterranean
25-26 November 2014, Barcelona (Spain)**

The SCP/RAC National Focal Points (hereinafter SCP/RAC NFPs):

Welcome the first draft of the SCP Action Plan, presented for the first time to Governments representatives during the meeting and that was prepared after an on-site consultation meeting bringing together regional and international institutions (Marseille, 1st and 2nd of October) and an online consultation process.

Thank the Secretariat, SCP/RAC and the Mediterranean SCP Expert Group for the work carried out in the drafting of the SCP Action Plan.

Acknowledge the support received from the UfM to the SCP Action Plan and Road Map through the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change.

Acknowledge the support from the EU for the elaboration of the SCP Action Plan through the SWITCH-Med programme.

Underline that the SCP Action Plan needs to tackle issues common to the Mediterranean region and address the priorities of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.

Support the proposed structure of the SCP Action Plan but agree on several modifications to be implemented in the 2nd draft of the document.

Concerning the links with global and regional processes for sustainable development:

Request to further reflect the contribution of the SCP action plan to global processes for sustainable development (10-YFP, SDGs) and further elaborate the articulation with the MSSD review and the Ecosystem approach in the Mediterranean (EcAp).

Concerning the priority sectors and transversal issues:

Support, in principle, the 4 priority economic sectors: Food, fisheries and agriculture (initially named food and agriculture), Goods Manufacturing, Tourism and Housing and Construction but request in the definition of the 4 sectors (i) to further specify the economic activities included within each of the 4 priority sectors and (ii) to further detail the relevance of the four priority sectors for the Mediterranean economy as well as the generated environmental impacts and their contribution to the degradation of the coastal and marine areas (to be included as a diagnostic chapter).

Welcome the definition of transversal issues but request to further highlight the links between the priority economic sectors and these environmental issues; and to also include social and economic issues.



Regional Activity Centre
for Sustainable Consumption
and Production

Concerning the strategic objectives:

Agree on several modifications for the strategic objectives. Changes will be made accordingly and will be included in the 2nd draft of the SCP Action Plan that will be circulated among the Focal Points for further review.

Concerning the operational objectives:

Suggest to harmonize the operational objectives proposed for each of the 4 priority sectors so that their formulation follows a common and simple structure.

Concerning the suggested actions:

Welcome the presentation of the first proposal of actions for each sector, but request to further develop them in the following manner: (i) cluster them in order to reduce their number and avoid overlapping, (ii) review their formulation so that they are more action-oriented and facilitate the identification of projects for their implementation and (iii) consider roles and responsibilities of stakeholders

Recommend to include actions focused on exchange of information, capacity building, awareness raising and technology transfer in all the sectors.

Request to identify actions that reinforce the role to be played by the consumer and support them in shifting to sustainable lifestyles.

Concerning the stakeholders to be involved

Agree that further definition of the stakeholders to be involved in the implementation of the actions is needed as well as the specification of their role.

Request to include the public institutions as SCP concerned stakeholders and to further address and integrate SCP specific actions relevant to public services (e.g. green public procurement, energy efficiency, etc) along the SCP Action Plan and for each economic sector and its corresponding operational objectives.

Concerning the reporting, monitoring mechanisms and indicators

Recommend the definition of a simple reporting format based on appropriated indicators to be included in the Action Plan. This should be part of the general reporting obligations under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.

Recommend to clarify roles concerning reporting, monitoring mechanisms, indicators and the elaboration of a communication strategy.

Suggest to review the identification of a set of progress indicators for the actions included in each sector of the Action Plan, which could be adopted at a later stage. This might include the creation of a working group.

Offer to provide written comments on the first draft of the SCP Action Plan circulated for the meeting. Comments should be provided by the 15th of December in order to be taken into account for the second draft of the Action Plan. Subsequently, SCP/RAC will provide the 2nd draft to the SCP/RAC NFP together with a template for further comments on the draft contents.



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