THE 5TH ARAB ROUNDTABLE MEETING ON SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION

“FROM ACTION PLANS TO IMPLEMENTATION”

Cairo, Egypt
18-20 December 2017
SUMMARY

➢ The 5th Arab Roundtable Meeting on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in the Arab Region was held in Cairo from 18 to 20 December 2017 at Marriott Zamalek.

➢ The meeting was organized by the League of Arab States (LAS), the United Nations Environment Program (UN Environment), the UN Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (UNESCWA) and the Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE).
The 5th Roundtable Meeting benefited from the participation of around 70 participants representing government officials, SwitchMed National and 10 YFP focal points, industry & civil society representatives, academics, NCPCs’ representatives, international experts and United Nations agencies.

The Arab representation included 15 countries: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Lebanon, Sudan, Morocco, Syria, Oman, Tunisia, Palestine, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Iraq and Jordan.
BACKGROUND

- Mar. 2008  1st Roundtable Meeting on SCP in the Arab Region was held in United Arab Emirates.

- Sept. 2009  2nd Roundtable Meeting on SCP in the Arab Region was held, in Cairo, Egypt.

- Jan. 2011  3rd Roundtable Meeting on SCP was held in Cairo, Egypt.

- June 2013  4th Roundtable Meeting on SCP in the Arab Region was held in Cairo, Egypt.
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THE 5TH ARAB ROUNDTABLE MEETING ON SCP IN THE ARAB REGION

Pillars of the meeting

1. Developing SCP policies and tools and the alignment of the Arab Strategy of SCP with the goals and targets related to SCP in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. Implementing SCP policies and tools at the national and cities levels and sharing knowledge, good practices and lessons learned of National Action Plans processes.

3. Showcasing success stories from Arab Countries partners of SwitchMed Project, the private sector and other stakeholders in the region.

4. Financing SCP, the challenges and opportunities.
The first session aimed at “setting the global and regional scene for the progress achieved concerning the SCP in the Arab region and at the global level”.

The second and third sessions showcased "SCP in the switch med countries of the Arab region" namely in Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, Algeria, morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon, UAE, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.
The fourth session presented selected “SCP initiatives, programmes, partnerships and their implementation mechanisms” in the region.
The fifth session discussed “the linkages between the SDGS and the SCP”.
The sixth session was dedicated for “the private sector initiatives on SCP in the Arab region”.
The seventh session showcased “the private public partnerships and private sector initiatives on sustainable consumption & production in the region”.
The Eighth Session aimed at exploring “The Potential Challenges And Opportunities For Financing Sustainable Consumption And Production Projects Under The Current Regional And International Context”.
The ninth and final session generated a list of important “recommendations for the 5th Arab roundtable meeting”.
RECOMMENDATIONS & OUTCOMES OF THE 5TH ARAB ROUNDTABLE MEETING ON SCP

- Request the Technical Secretariat of the Round Table to prepare an *Executive Programme for the years 2018-2020* with specific activities and projects inspired by the Arab Strategy for SCP to implement all the recommendations generated from the 5th Arab Roundtable Meeting, 2017.

- Call upon the Arab States to *establish/strengthen SCP mechanism* at the national level and work to strengthen the institutional framework at the regional level.
RECOMMENDATIONS & OUTCOMES OF THE 5TH ARAB ROUNDTABLE MEETING ON SCP......CONTD....

- The identification of a small number of indicators for SCP to serve as the minimum of approved Arab indicators that can be used at the level of the Arab region in monitoring and follow-up of the implementation.

- Emphasize the importance of the public-private partnership, to assess the efforts of the private sector to promote sustainable consumption and production concepts.

- Consider the important role of the civil society organizations in the implementation of SCP activities and raising awareness.

- Emphasize the importance of the transfer of technologies and building capacities.
Welcome the outstanding results of the SwitchMed Program and requesting the UN Environment to replicate this important experience in the other countries of the Arab region and to call upon the European Union to support these efforts.

Request the Technical Secretariat of the Roundtable to evaluate and monitor the implementation of SDG12 (responsible consumption and production) using the adopted international SCP indicators to draft a report about the progress of the Arab region in the implementation of SDG12.
RECOMMENDATIONS & OUTCOMES OF THE 5TH ARAB ROUNDTABLE MEETING ON SCP......CONTD....

- Invite the Media Sector of the League of Arab States to develop an awareness media plan about the SCP concepts in collaboration with the media focal points of the concerned partners.

- Request the Technical Secretariat of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment, along with their partners, to mobilize the required resources to hold the Arab Roundtable meeting for SCP on yearly basis.