

The Green Help Desk (GHD)

As part of the project, pilot Green Help Desks (GHDs) will be established in three member countries, namely Egypt, Lebanon and Oman.

Main goal of the GHD

Provide information and technical advice to small and medium enterprises that want to develop their products and/or their means of production to benefit from opportunities presented by the emerging green economy.

Main services of the GHD

⇒ Collection and dissemination of information

- Green business opportunities;
- National policies, programmes, institutions and laws related to green economy;
- Green funding opportunities;
- Regional and international support programmes and best practices in green production.

⇒ Training

- Organize national workshops and training courses for trainers on topics related to green production sectors.

⇒ Networking

- Act as a network of experts and national authorities specialized in the development of green production sectors.

Hosts of the pilot GHDs



Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (Egypt)



Royal Scientific Society (Jordan)



The Association of Lebanese Industrialists (Lebanon)



The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Oman)



The Ministry of Equipment and Environment (Tunisia)

The Productive Sectors Section

The Productive Sectors Section (PSS) of the Sustainable Development and Productivity Division (SDPD) at ESCWA aims at enhancing the environmental performance of the production sectors, particularly small and medium enterprises, by disseminating best practices and building capacities, networking and clustering, and harnessing green technology and innovation. To this end, the section produces technical studies, holds national and regional meetings and workshops, provides technical assistance to Member States, and implements field projects.

Main focus areas of the PSS for 2012-2014 include:

- Developing green production sectors;
- Preparations for, and follow-up on the outcomes of, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20);
- Monitoring transition to green economy;
- Green value chains for sustainable rural livelihoods;
- Food security.



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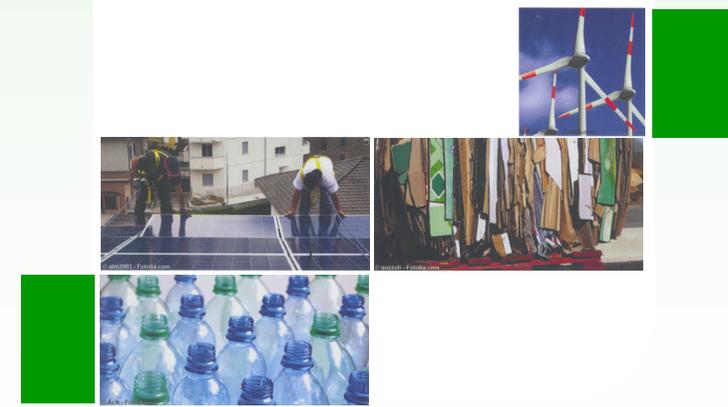
ESCWA
United Nations
Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia



Strengthening
National Capacities
in the ESCWA Region
on Developing

Green Production Sectors

2012 — 2014





Strengthening national capacities in the ESCWA region on developing green production sectors

Background

Countries in the ESCWA region* suffer from severe resource scarcities and environmental stresses. They are also vulnerable to emerging global challenges, including the food and financial crises.

Recent global initiatives have called for a greater convergence of government policies and programmes addressing economic growth, social development and environmental conservation, including the **Green Economy Initiative**. One approach supporting such convergence is the development of green production sectors that are less polluting and resource efficient, create decent jobs, yet able to thrive economically and compete in local and export markets.

However, there is a need in the region for policies and programmes to support the development of green production sectors. The present project implemented by ESCWA and partners attempts to address this gap.

* ESCWA comprises 14 Arab countries in Western Asia: Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

Objective

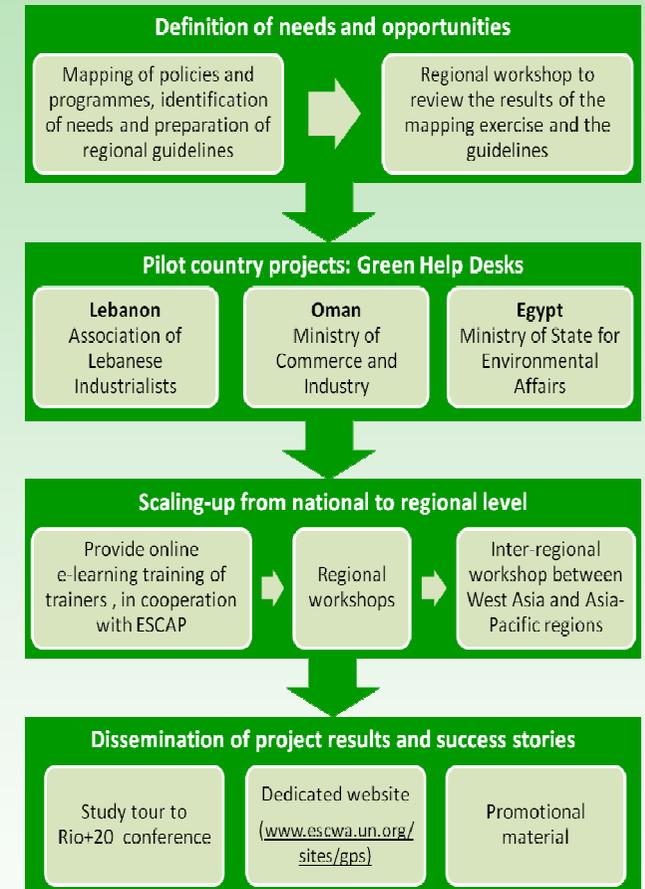
The main objective of the project is to build the capacity of policymakers, civil society, business support institutions and industry associations in developing green production sectors in the ESCWA member countries through the design and implementation of effective policies and programmes.

The project will benefit from the implementation of national pilot projects demonstrating the viability and application of Green Help Desks and other capacity building programmes in the Arab region.

Strategy



Main activities



Implementing partners



The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)



The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)



The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)