

switchasia

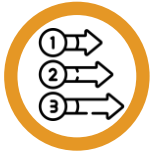


Funded by
the European Union

EU SWITCH-Asia Programme Contributions towards “Green Jobs & Just Transition”

13th November 2023

The Programme in a nutshell



SWITCH-Asia was **launched in 2007**. In 2023, the programmes entered into its **Phase III**



Geo-coverage: as of 2023, SWITCH-Asia covers 42 countries across **Asia**, the **Middle-East** (Yemen, Iran, Iraq) and the **Pacific**.



Objective of the Programme: support the transition of the region to a **low-carbon, resource efficient and circular economy**, whilst promoting more **sustainable supply chains and products** between the region and Europe.



Economic sectors supported: key polluting industries and export-led value chains in the region (e.g. food-systems, textiles and leather, plastics, sustainable tourism, construction).

The Programme in a nutshell



EU policy alignment:

- **External dimension of the EU Green Deal** (e.g. Circular Economy Action Plan, Farm to Fork Strategy, EU Strategy for Sustainable Textiles, EU Plastics Strategy, Corporate Sustainable Due Diligence Directive, EU Sustainable Products Initiative, CBAM-if extended to relevant sectors)
- **Global Gateway** (supporting the integration and resilience of value chains between the Region and Europe)



Raising awareness of EU interests and values: including ensuring that supply chains of EU companies are aware about **EU standards and norms** (avoiding the disruption of value chains in the long term).



Supporting Partner Countries: supporting development of policies and industrial practices that lead to reducing the environmental and carbon footprints and comply with international agreements (e.g. Paris Agreement).

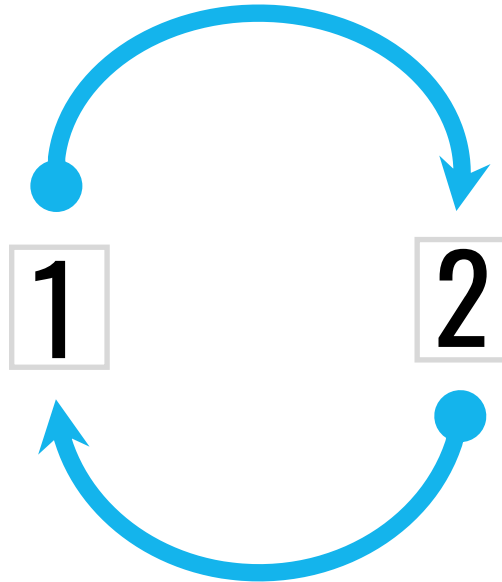
Implementing Structure

GRANTS SCHEME

Support to collaborative projects
(EU-Asia/Pacific consortia)

Objective: testing and uptake of SCP
practices in MSMEs and by consumers

- *A call for proposals is launched every second year.*



POLICY SUPPORT COMPONENT

The outcomes of projects will feed into **policy dialogues, technical assistances and capacity building** supported by this component

Objective: design & improve national / regional policies and regulatory frameworks, include industrial concerns into NDCs, facilitate discussions with FIs & investors to scale up sustainable practices in the region.

By the end of 2022 (end of Phase II) there were:



38



ONGOING GRANT
PROJECTS AS OF TODAY
(33)



45



POLICY ANALYSIS &
ADVISORY CONDUCTED

- Circular Economy (agri-food sector)
- Green Building Code
- Green Public Procurement
- National Action Plan on SCP
- Plastics



TOP POLICY AREAS
COVERED

Policy Support Component

01/2023-12/2026

Modality

New: multi-country or regional approach

Delivery of objectives through **Technical assistance (TA)** providing SCP / SDG 12 policy advisory, stakeholder dialogues and supporting implementation.

45 Policy Analysis & Advisories delivered between 2018 and 2022

Objective 1: support the design of regional and national action plans on SCP and/or CE; the establishment of GPP systems; help governments in monitoring / reporting on SDG12.

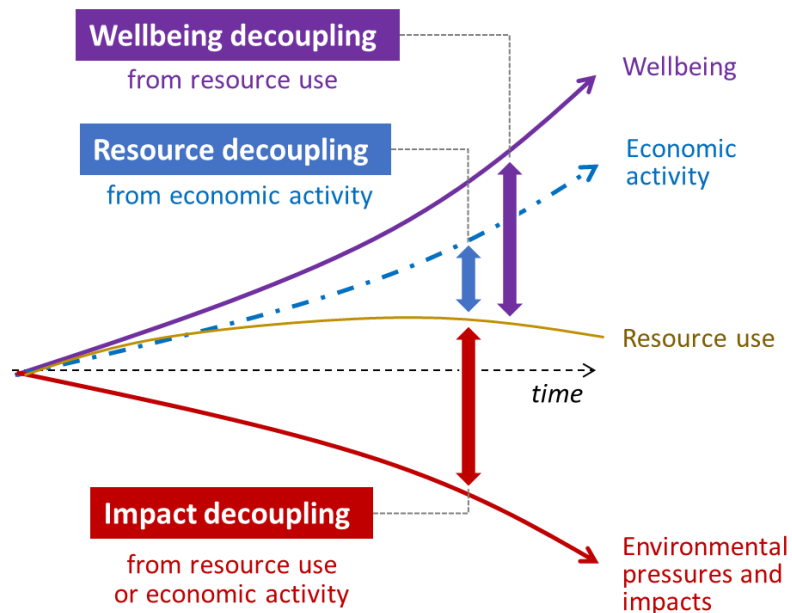
Objective 2: support governments in including SCP targets in their NDCs and comply with multilateral environmental and climate change-related agreements (e.g. Global Agreement on Plastics).

Objective 3: support policy dialogues and strengthening relations between policy-makers and stakeholders in the EU and in the region.

Our Contribution Towards the “Green Jobs & Just Transition”

Embedded Vision

- Transition towards a low-carbon and resources efficient circular economies is imperative
- SWITCH-Asia trigger and facilitate the transition – through resource, impact and wellbeing decoupling
- Delayed transition will challenge social justice in transition and might endanger survival of humanity



Link between SCP and Circularity/ SCP & Green Jobs

- The skills are the center of the transition of the economies from linear to circular.
- In the transition many of the current skills can become obsolete.
- New skill are needed at all levels in all sectors – business, government, civil society.

Target Groups

Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are the center of SWITCH-Asia work.

SWITCH-Asia Projects & TAs support the transition of MSMEs – Capacity creation, policy formulation and broader engagement opportunities.



Operational Modality of SWITCH-Asia and Capacity Development

- **Grants** – Providing opportunity for creative and locally appropriate project ideas to be implemented at the ground (Entrepreneurial skills, knowledge of technology, innovation in management)
- **Policy Support Component** – Creative conducive policy environments towards transition in a locally appropriate manner (Strategic visioning, different policy development context /co-creation, trans-sectoral engagement, system thinking).

Provides country ownership so the transition process is sensitive to cultures, diversity and local aspirations.

Sectors & Thematic Areas

SWITCH-Asia works across many sectors and themes. A few of those have a very close interlinkages with “Green Jobs”:

- **Entrepreneurship**
- **SCP/CE in Education**
- **Innovations**

Examples from SWITCH-Asia projects



Lao PDR

MSMEs in the tourism value chains.

Supports skills to deliver more sustainable products and services. The project introduced “Travelife” sustainability certification for the MSMEs.

Examples from SWITCH-Asia projects



Sustainable Tourism Promotion of energy security and sustainable growth through resource efficiency

Kyrgyzstan

Adoption of SCP and efficiency measures through the introduction of different tools and training:

- Voluntary green certification;
- Online Self-Assessment Tool for MSMEs;
- Access to green finance for MSMEs of the tourism.

Cases from our Programme's Events

Skills for Circularity in Africa, Asia and the Mediterranean Region

Skills for sustainable, resilient, and socially fair communities



8
June
23



3-11 June 2023

**#EUGreenWeek
PARTNER EVENT**



Issues that deserve attention

- The skills are the center of the transition of the economies from linear to circular
- In the transition many of the current skills can become obsolete and new skill are needed at all levels in all sectors – business, government, civil society
- Skills are a part of a larger ‘set’ comprised of knowledge and values.
- Green skills are linked to questions of entrepreneurship, quality, governance and other aspects of responsible organisational (and business) development

Questions and Discussion

Stay in Touch



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