

Call for Proposals

National hotspots analysis to support science-based national policy frameworks for sustainable consumption and production

Desired final outcome:	The desired final outcome is the delivery of a project that successfully develops a harmonized methodology for hotspots analysis of national economies and value chains. More practically, a tool or guidance will be developed to enable governments to decide on and prioritise actions for sustainable consumption and production, including pilot testing it in 3 countries.
Project proposals sought:	Applicants should submit project proposals, under the supervision and technical guidance of the Life Cycle Initiative , 10YFP and IRP
Who can apply:	Academia (Research Institutes and Universities), Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), Not-for-Profit Organisations (NPOs)
Project budget:	The maximum budget for this project is \$130,000, with in-kind contribution expected from the applicant
Project duration:	The project implementation period is from December 2017 until December 2018.
How to apply:	Please send your project proposal using the template attached, addressed to Kristina Bowers and Feng Wang, Project Officer, UN Environment To: kristina.bowers@un.org , feng.wang@un.org CC: dtie.intern11-ruchitodi@un.org
Timeline for application:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission deadline 17 November 2017 • Notification of selection 27 November 2017

Background

Sustainable consumption and production (SCP) is an essential requirement for sustainable development. In 2012, at the Rio+20 Conference, Member States adopted the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP)¹ as a global platform to accelerate the shift towards SCP at regional and national levels, in both developed and developing countries. The important transversal role of SCP as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was then clearly affirmed with the inclusion of a standalone goal (Goal 12) on SCP. The central role of the 10YFP in achieving this shift was also clearly affirmed in a standalone target (12.1) calling for its implementation. The current indicator to measure progress on target 12.1 looks at the “*Number of countries with sustainable consumption and production (SCP) national action plans or SCP mainstreamed as a priority or a target into national policies*” (12.1.1).

¹ Introduction of 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns (10YFP)
<http://web.unep.org/10yfp/about/what-10yfp>

Over the last 15 years, including in the context of the 10YFP, often with the support of other key regional projects led by UN Environment and partners (e.g. SWITCH Asia, SWITCH Africa Green, SWITCH Med and PAGE, among others)², countries are designing policies that directly address or integrate SCP as a national development priority.

During the process of designing policy frameworks conducive to the shift to SCP, it is a prerequisite to have an objective understanding on the key national economic processes and activities that are generating the most environmental and socio-economic impacts (so-called “hotspots”). “Top-down” assessment of national economies and overall footprint can pinpoint crucial areas of consumption and production, and drivers of environmental and socio-economic impacts, including the impacts occurring outside national boundaries (Hellweg and Milà i Canals, 2014). This assessment can help prioritize areas for intervention (such as value chains, sectors or product categories), in accordance with national priorities and conditions.

So far, there is no harmonized methodology to help Member States identify “hotspots” or high-impact intervention areas through a robust, science-based but also feasible analysis of their national economies. Methods and indicators accounting green growth, sustainable consumption and production and resource efficiency exist, but they need to be adapted to guide, primarily on the basis of science and evidence, the design of the national policy frameworks that address sustainable consumption and production as a development priority. Such “hotspots analysis”³ also needs to offer a good balance between the requirement of reliable and trustworthy science-based results and pragmatism (speed of calculation).

Objective of the project

The objective of this project is to develop a harmonized methodology for hotspots analysis of national economies and value chains (for instance, which sectors or activities causing the most environmental, and/or social impacts). The main function of such an analysis will be to support countries in their efforts to prioritize sectors and actions, while avoiding unintended trade-offs, in the context of SCP national policy frameworks, whether in the form of national SCP action plans or other national strategies integrating SCP as a development priority. The objective will be to maximize the positive and large-scale impacts of those sectors and actions in terms of environmental, economic and social benefits. The project will be implemented by the selected applicant, and supervised by the Life Cycle Initiative as a project under its Programme area technical and policy support. Additional supervision and advisory will be provided by 10 YFP, International Resource Panel (IRP) and delegates from the pilot countries.

Methodology of the project

The methodology should provide a good overview of the country’s key environmental and socio-economic hotspots at three levels: 1. value chains across national geographic boundaries in all sectors; 2. all life cycle stages and 3. multiple environmental impacts and socio-economic implications. The methodology shall also consider an optimum between the levels of effort on data collection and modelling and the accuracy needed to support the design of effective national SCP policy frameworks.

The methodology will focus on consumption and production processes in the country under study. The methodology should help identify the whole environmental footprint of the country by considering different environmental impact categories (such as material, carbon and water footprints; energy use; land use; land use

² Switch Asia Project <http://www.switch-asia.eu/> SwitchMED project <https://www.switchmed.eu/> Switch Africa Green project <http://switchafricagreen.org/> Partnership for Action on Green Economy, PAGE: <http://www.un-page.org/>

³ Hotspots analysis is being used around the world to address significant sustainability challenges, to filter and distil large volumes of information to identify and prioritise hotspots for further investigation or action by industry, governments and other stakeholders. <http://www.lifecycleinitiative.org/activities/phase-iii/hotspots-analysis/>

change) and their socio-economic implications. All major import and export value chains should be covered, and a distinction need to be made between the impacts caused by the country's consumption, including beyond borders (externalization of production processes), versus the impacts caused by consumption in other countries (e.g. linked to imports and exports).

More practically, a tool or guidance to enable governmental decision-making by means of a more operable and practical methodology would be desirable. In the later phase of the project, it is expected to test the methodology in 3 pilot countries, in order to gain first-hand learning experience from the countries and to further improve the methodology. (*Note: UN Environment will provide contact and assistance to select and reach out to the pilot countries.*)

The qualification of the project proposal

Project proposals are sought which meet the following criteria:

- Proposals with clear objectives and feasible implementation plan.
- Proposals with a strong technical and science component on developing national hotspots analysis methodologies and tools.
- Proposals with a practical plan to test the methodologies and tools in 3 pilot countries, in order to validate and further enhance the methodologies and tools.
- Proposal which have organizational co-financing and additional support so they can demonstrate their sustainability after the completion of the project with a view to replicate or adopt it in more countries.
- Track record of the applicant.

Who can apply?

Applications are sought from Academia (Research Institutes, Universities), Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), Not-for-Profit Organisations (NPOs). The applying institution shall have a good track record on:

- Possessing a good understanding of sustainable consumption and production topics, Life Cycle Assessment, life cycle based indicators and hotspots analysis.
- Proven expertise and experience in the assessment of national value chains and related issues, such as the Material Footprint, Carbon Footprint, Water Footprint, Eco-Efficiency of Production and Consumption related indicators, Indicators for Resource Efficient economies and national Environmentally Extended Input-Output (EE IO) tables.
- Proven expertise and experience in research and development of methods relating to similar issues such as identification of hot spots at a national level.
- Proven experience of carrying out data collection, analysis and consultation in different countries.
- Published high quality reports or peer-reviewed journal papers related to the mentioned methodologies.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Fluency in both written and spoken English.

How to apply?

Applicants should submit an application in the attached template to program coordinators Kristina Bowers kristina.bowers@un.org and Feng Wang feng.wang@un.org. Please also CC Ruchi Todi dtie.intern11-ruchitodi@un.org. Please also send us an email for any inquiry.

Application template:

Call for proposal on “National hotspots analysis to support science-based national policy frameworks for sustainable consumption and production”

Please email completed application to kristina.bowers@un.org & feng.wang@up.org.

CC: dtie.intern11-ruchitodi@un.org

Applicant organization

Applicant organization	
Applicant organization contact details	Contact name: Email address: Phone Number: Address: Country:
NFP status	Registered Not For Profit : <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Project team member names	
Project organization and team’s prior engagement with the Life Cycle Initiative, UN Environment, 10YFP, and International Resource Panel	
Project organization and team’s prior experience in the field of national hotspots analysis, relevant to the scope of this project (please provide a short list of relevant	

projects and publications etc.)	
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Project information

<p>Methodology (up to 800 words)</p> <p><i>Please provide the intended methodology to be used in this project, including methods, modelling approach, use of data and indicators, specification on the tool etc. (no need for a comprehensive literature review, please only provide the actual methodology that will be used in the project)</i></p>	
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Project plan and activities

(up to 800 words)

The project plan should include all of the activities, resources and skills utilized in a schedule to achieve the project objectives (including methodology development, tool development, and pilot testing in 3 countries, communication plans).



<p>Project deliverables and milestones with detailed timeline (up to 600 words)</p> <p><i>The project deliverables are the major steps or activities that align with the project plan and that can be used to monitor successful project implementation. Responses here can be provided in text, tables or figures.</i></p>	<p>You can also use a separate Excel/Word file to visualize the work arrangement, if it does not fit into the table here. Please make sure to attach it in your email.</p>
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<p>Project total budget and allocation against deliverables</p> <p><i>Project budget should include table with costs allocated against deliverables, and funds received from the Life Cycle Initiative and other sources (co-financing and in kind contribution)</i></p>	<p>The budget can be provided in a separate Excel/Word file, if it does not fit into the table here. Please make sure to attach it in your email.</p>
<p>Project partners (up to 200 words)</p> <p><i>Please describe any additional partners and their role in project delivery</i></p>	



<p>Additional support, sponsorship or in-kind contribution from other organisations projects (up to 200 words)</p> <p><i>Please describe the extent and nature of any additional external support</i></p>	
<p>Communication on project results and project sustainability (up to 200 words)</p> <p><i>Referring to the plan to communicate and disseminate the project outputs. Measures to ensure that the result of the project will be taken up and used after project ends</i></p>	