



EMG Nexus Dialogue Series on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) – A vehicle to address the triple planetary crises and to promote a sustainable economic and social transformation

Paving the way towards a UN Alliance for SDG12

2nd Nexus Dialogue: Sustainable living and aspirational consumption to address the triple planetary crises and support the SDGs

Draft Agenda September 11th 2023 (Paris, UNESCO/hybrid)

Venue: UNESCO HQ, 7 Place de Fontenoy, Paris, France

Connection details: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

The Environment Management Group is pleased to co-organize with UNEP and other UN entities three nexus dialogues reflecting on how sustainable consumption and production (SCP) can contribute to a green economic transformation in the post-COVID context, focusing on high-impact systems and value chains. The dialogues will seek ways for UN entities to join forces for SCP/SDG12 implementation, by paving the way for a “UN Alliance for SDG12”.

The second dialogue in the series will focus on sustainable living and aspirational consumption as a solution to the triple planetary crisis, specifically considering enabling policies, infrastructure and other tools. The overall objectives of the dialogue are to:

- Provide and promote science-based evidence and best practices on sustainable lifestyles and aspirational consumption¹
- Enhance coordination, coherence and upscale related UN system-wide offerings
- Unlock opportunities for cooperation, knowledge sharing and resource mobilization to identify joint interventions.

Applying sustainable living and lifestyle (SL) approaches can enable global pandemic recovery trajectories that leave no one behind, deliver on global sustainability ambitions, and bring us on track to 2030. A strong demand for sustainable, resource efficient and circular lifestyles, can help us address the destructive trends we are facing collectively. This is clearly highlighted in the last report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which states that demand-side measures² and new ways of end-use service provision across food, building and transport sectors can reduce emissions is 40-70% by 2050.³ But demand must be framed, enabled and encouraged by conducive policies, infrastructure, markets, and more broadly by a new social contract governing sustainable behaviours across nations, societies and organisations. Achieving sustainable development requires a change in the way we think and act, and consequently a transition to sustainable lifestyles, consumption and production patterns. Addressing inequalities must be part of the equation and ensuring sustainable lifestyles will fail if efforts are not made to address the extremes of poverty and wealth in the society: The richest one percent of the world’s population are responsible for more than twice as much carbon emissions

¹ IPCC reports emphasizes need for flexible, multi-sectoral, inclusive, long-term adaptation options that have co-benefits to many sectors and systems and notes that sustainable lifestyles, energy use, land use and land-use change, and consumption and production patterns are essential to address the global climate crisis.

² Demand side measures include : ‘Socio-cultural factors’, associated with individual choices, behaviour; and lifestyle changes, social norms and culture; ‘infrastructure use’, related to the design and use of supporting hard and soft infrastructure that enables changes in individual choices and behaviour; and ‘end-use technology adoption’, refers to the uptake of technologies by end-users, [Figure: SPM.6 \(ipcc.ch\)](#)

³ [Figure SPM.7: AR6 Synthesis Report \(ipcc.ch\)](#)

as the 3.1 billion people who make up the poorest half of humanity.⁴ Promoting global sustainable consumption through circular economy approaches, policies, and social frameworks can:

- ⇒ **Address the three planetary challenges:** Focusing on addressing the triple planetary crises (climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss), and tackling most pressing social and economic crises through sustainable lifestyles.⁵
- ⇒ **Focus on impact enablers:** Governments and companies need to design, deliver and enable access to sustainable choices at scale through policies, services and products and ensure that everyone's needs are met.⁶
- ⇒ **Aspirational lifestyle transitions for all:** Integrating all voices for better living: faith-based approaches, indigenous knowledge and cultural influencers and the new policy wild cards like youth.⁷
- ⇒ **Accelerate circularity:** Provide an entry point for a global transition towards a fairer consumption pattern that benefits all segments of society alike. Sustained SCP action offers a framework of hope for those who want to take action.

The dialogue will explore ways in which the UN system can support this by:

1. ***Providing science-based evidence and best practices for sustainable living, addressing the three planetary crises.*** Showcase science-based evidence on what drives household consumption to address the disruptive changes needed to live within 1.5 degrees, restore nature and move towards circularity and zero waste.
2. ***Enhancing coordination and unlocking cooperation opportunities for sustainable living and aspirational consumption.*** Explore policy options to induce behaviour change and more sustainable living, such as choice editing. Outline and invest in policy pathways for awareness raising and education campaigns across impact sectors such as food, mobility, housing, fashion and leisure. Hence, educating consumers with information about strategies and practices of sustainable production and consumption.
3. ***Leveraging the UN system to engage all voices for social inclusion in sustainable lifestyles, aspirational consumption and traditional knowledge.*** Include key actors— such as youth, women, indigenous people, educators, faith-based organizations, and other key stakeholders.
4. ***Identifying key messages and proposals for action*** at major global fora such as COP 28, Summit of the Future, and UN steering meetings such as the EMG Senior Officials Meeting.
5. ***Providing recommendations to the UN system to strategically support the transition to sustainable lifestyles in a coordinated and inclusive manner through appropriate mechanisms and focused actions, building on the One Planet Sustainable Lifestyles and Education programme. and the Consumer Information programme.***

Outcomes of the dialogue will be disseminated through platforms such as those of the 10YFP One Planet Network and presented at major global fora such as COP 28, Summit of the Future, and UN steering meetings such as the EMG Senior Officials Meeting.

Target audience:

The dialogue will bring together representatives from UN entities to upscale UN-led efforts to build a better – more sustainable and inclusive - world.

It will also include representatives of governments, the private sector, civil society organizations, indigenous peoples, youth and academia.

⁴ Oxfam 2020, [Carbon emissions of richest 1 percent more than double the emissions of the poorest half of humanity | Oxfam International](#)

⁵ [Enabling Sustainable Lifestyles in a climate emergency](#) (publication for policy makers uses a lifestyle framework and a choice-editing framework. Focus on 4 key sectors and features dozens of existing policy strategies. Based on the science of the [1.5 degree lifestyles: towards a fair consumption space for all](#) (latest science on SL looking at lifestyle carbon footprint in 10 G20 countries and offering policy recommendations).

⁶ [UNEP EGR 2020](#), 2020- Chap 6 on lifestyles

⁷ Reflects outcomes from [Stockholm+50 regional multistakeholder consultations](#) to address climate change, biodiversity loss, and poverty; importance of **youth engagement**, shift in focus **from economic growth to wellbeing**, and inclusion of diverse perspectives in community building. They called for a positive vision of the future, updated indicators for sustainable society, removal of poverty and wealth extremes, learning from indigenous knowledge, redefining the meaning of work. Financial institutions were urged to scale up sustainable development.

Agenda

14:00-14:05 Introduction by Moderator of Session I

14:05-14:10 Welcoming words Mr. Nicholas Jeffreys, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Administration and Management.

Session I

Sustainable living and aspirational consumption for a sustainable future and address the triple planetary crises

Moderator Jorge Laguna Celis, Head of the One Planet Network

14.00 – 15.15 CEST

14:10- 14:22	Keynote speakers Aspirational consumption to drive systemic lifestyle changes
14:10 - 14:22	H.E. Giovanna Valverde , Co-chair of the 10YFP Board and Ambassador and Permanent Representative UNEP and UN-Habitat
14:22- 14:32	Life campaign and other SCP Initiatives of India. H.E. Jawed Ashraf , Ambassador of to India to France and the Principality of Monaco Q&A
14:32-14:37	<i>Panellist reactions and dialogue: Partnerships and actions for transformative changes for sustainable living and aspirational consumption.</i> <i>Introduction by Moderator</i>
14:37-15:00	Special Guest IPCC Report- Prof. Bronwyn Hayward , University of Canterbury, New Zealand, member of the IPCC AR6 Synthesis Report core writing team UNICEF: Youth empowerment for sustainable lifestyles, Ingrid Sanchez Tapia , Senior Advisor Education Global Partnership for Education: Sarah Beardmore , Senior Partnerships Specialist Consumers International: Peter Andrews , Director Consumer Rights – Innovation and Impact
15:00-15:10	Open dialogue: How can the UN system work together to promote sustainable lifestyles and effective education for aspirational consumption? How can we promote a global movement at COP28?
15:10-15:15	Break

Session II Making sustainable living the default option: Enabling policies for a global movement and a systemic change.

15:15-16:30 CEST

Moderator: Jorge Laguna Celis, Head of the One Planet Network

15:15-15:20	Introduction by the Moderator
15:20-15:40	<p>Call for action- OPN Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme – Driving Sustainable lifestyle policies for COP28 – KAWAMATA, Kotaro (Dr./Mr.) Director, International Strategy Division, Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ)</p> <p>Placing sustainable lifestyles at the center of the UN agenda for sustainable development: Lessons learned from the One Planet Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme, and opportunities to amplify the movement “Live Life Better”</p> <p>Fabienne Pierre, Coordinator of the 10YFP programme</p> <p>UNESCO: Teachers have their say on SCP: motivation, skills and opportunities</p> <p>Bernard Combes, Programme specialist, Section of Education for Sustainable Development</p>
15:40-16:00	<i>Panellist reactions and dialogue on strengthening efforts to promote policies for sustainable living</i>
	<p>Dialogue strengthening efforts to promote policies for sustainable living</p> <p>Brazil (Embassy of Brazil to Paris): Luiz de Andrade Filho, Second Secretary Head for Climate Change and the Environment</p> <p>UN-Habitat: Rafael Tuts, Director of Global Solutions Division</p> <p>UNEP Finance Initiative: Peggy Lefort, Resource Efficiency Coordinator UNEP FI</p> <p>FAO - Greening Education Partnership: Reuben Sessa, Deputy Workstream Leader, Innovations for Sustainability, FAO</p>
16:00-16:15	<p>Open dialogue:</p> <p>How can policies be better implemented across countries? How can Member States be driving high-level Agendas? How can all UNEP’s OPN programmes in concrete (Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme, Consumer Information programme) work to bring these Agendas forward more effectively?</p>
<p>Working as ONE UN – implementing and scaling impact</p> <p>Towards a UN Alliance for SDG12</p> <p>Jorge Laguna-Celis, Head of the One Planet Network</p>	
16:15-16:35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify areas of common interest where UN agencies, can establish a common approach to advance on the implementation of the sustainable development goals using the cross-cutting nature of SCP. • Learn from global member-state led initiatives seeking to raise the profile of sustainable lifestyles and sustainable consumption (including in the G-20 context) • Receive feedback from Member States and Stakeholder to understand better how to elevate sustainable lifestyles and consumption-related approaches higher in the international agenda. • Identify key platforms we should continue to work with to advance commitments to act on sustainable lifestyles and consumption based approaches
<p>16:35-16:40 Next Steps EMG Nexus Dialogues, Jannica Pitkanen, Programme Management Officer</p> <p>17.00 Cocktail reception</p>	