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REPORT

EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON "RESOURCE EFFICIENCY IN THE ARAB REGION: MONITORING PROGRESS OF SDG 12 AND BUILDING BACK BETTER FROM COVID-19"

ONLINE VIRTUAL MEETING, 7-8 OCTOBER 2020

Summary

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) organized the Expert Group Meeting on "Resource Efficiency in the Arab Region: Monitoring Progress of SDG 12 and Building Back Better from COVID-19" virtually via Kudo during 7-8 October 2020 in collaboration with the League of Arab States and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). The meeting brought together about 114 representatives of Arab Environment Ministries in charge of SCP, member country representatives to the Technical Committee on Environment as well as senior officials from national statistical offices in the region, in addition to concerned regional institutions, United Nations agencies and relevant experts.

Unsustainable patterns of consumption and production are a primary cause of climate change, and natural resource depletion. Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) comes as one of the main responses to those challenges and contributes to environmental protection, enhancing human wellbeing, and achieving sustainable development. The meeting reviewed SCP status in the Arab States and actions towards a green economic recovery from COVID-19. It also focused on importance of addressing unsustainable patterns of natural resource use and extraction, and the need for a radical change in current unsustainable developmental trends involving changes in environmental, social, and economic development patterns, and integrated cross-sectoral policies.

The meeting also addressed ways to measure indicators and monitor national and regional progress towards resource efficiency in consumption and production (target 8.4) and sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources (target 12.2). This included discussion of the international statistical frameworks for environment statistics in relation to waste and E-waste data collection and to accounting frameworks such as SEEA, natural capital accounts and ecological footprint.

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III. Organization9

Introduction

- 1. The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) organized the Expert Group Meeting on "Resource Efficiency in the Arab Region: Monitoring Progress of SDG 12 and Building Back Better from COVID-19" virtually via Kudo during 7-8 October 2020 in collaboration with the League of Arab States and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).
- 2. The meeting included a review of the status of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in the Arab States, and actions towards a green economic recovery from COVID-19. It also focused on the importance of addressing unsustainable patterns of natural resource use and extraction and called for a radical change in current unsustainable developmental trends involving changes in environmental, social, and economic development patterns, and integrated cross-sectoral policies. The meeting also included discussion on how to build back better in the context of COVID-19, and presentation of UNEP's building back better response to COVID-19, and collection of feedback on existing SCP best practices in the Arab region. The meeting included review of updates on the UNEP-SwitchMed II project, in addition to launch of the GO4SDGs project in West Asia.
- 3. During the meeting, updates about ESCWA's assessment of progress on SCP indicators were presented along with the methodology used for this assessment, and specific ways to measure targets and indicators and monitor national and regional progress towards resource efficiency in consumption and production and efficient use of natural resources. The meeting also included a review of the international statistical frameworks for environment statistics in relation to waste and E-waste data collection and to accounting frameworks such as SEEA, natural capital accounts and ecological footprint. Case studies on the application of these statistical frameworks in the Arab region were also presented with examples from Jordan and Morocco.
- 4. The participants, representing a diversified variety of stakeholders across the environment and statistics sectors reviewed successful initiatives and experiences in monitoring progress on SCP and building back better from COVID-19, and formulated key issues for the way forward to promote resource efficiency in the Arab region, as summarized in section I of this report. Section II provides a summary of presentations, case studies and discussions over the two-day meeting, whereas section III provides organizational information.

I. CONCLUSIONS AND WAY FORWARD

- 5. Participants reiterated the need for collaboration between statistical offices and Ministries of Environment in the implementation of the international statistical frameworks with national subnational or global scopes and which can help the countries organize the data to track the SCP and related SDGs and to continue reporting on the Arab SDG Priority Indicators list including the SCP related indicators.
- 6. Participants highlighted the need to update the existing Arab Regional Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production adopted by the League of Arab States in November 2009, in line with the current status of the Arab region. They also stressed on the importance activating the Arab round table on SCP as a tool for putting effective recommendations, and Yemen requested support in drafting its national strategy on sustainable consumption and production.
- 7. Participants indicated the importance of having reliable national databases to ensure transparency and accuracy of data and improve assessments. They also indicated the need to support

- cooperation between Arabic countries and exchange of successful experiences, as well as international cooperation on circular economy.
- 8. Participants also discussed the important role of raising awareness at the household level on sustainable consumption patterns and promoting recycling initiatives, as well as the need to enhance smart packaging and targeted transport of agricultural products to reduce food loss. They also called for expanding training in the area of environmental accounting to reach out to a wider audience beyond the assigned focal points, and for translating related methodologies into Arabic, and for benefiting from the successful experiences of Jordan and Oman in the area of environmental accounting.

II. SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

A. OPENING SESSION

- 9. The opening session featured interventions by Mr. Mahmoud Fathallah, director of the department of environmental and meteorological affairs at the League of Arab States, by Mr. Abdul-Majeid Haddad, deputy director at UNEP/West Asia Office, and by Ms. Reem Nejdawi, chief of the food and environment policies section, at the climate change and natural resources sustainability cluster at ESCWA.
- 10. Mr. Fathallah welcomed participants and highlighted the LAS initiatives such as the Arab Regional Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production adopted by the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE) in 2009, as well as the Arab 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP). He also indicated that work is underway on additional initiatives that aim to enhance investment opportunities for businessmen in SCP, and raise awareness and involve relevant ministries such as education and energy and health. Mr. Fathallah also mentioned the need for political endorsement to include the circular economy principle into national plans especially in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic whereby environmental priorities have lost momentum.
- 11. Mr. Haddad welcomed participants on behalf of UNEP and stressed the importance of working together to face the growing challenges of protecting nature, encouraging more innovation in resource efficiency in energy transitions and recognizing the positive steps that governments are taking to address regional and global crises,. He emphasized that the main objective of the meeting is to discuss the situation of sustainable consumption and production in the Arab countries while presenting a concrete example on green recovery from the Covid-19, and how this will assist the policy and decision-makers to work on exploring ways to monitor and implement SDG 12.
- 12. Ms. Nejdawi also welcomed participants on behalf of ESCWA and indicated that despite efforts exerted in the region, development patterns still rely on heavy extraction of natural resources which exacerbates environmental degradation and negatively impacts food security. She stressed on the importance of addressing unsustainable patterns of natural resource use and extraction and called for a radical change in current unsustainable developmental trends involving changes in environmental, social, and economic development patterns, and integrated cross-sectoral policies. Ms. Nejdawi highlighted the efforts being exerted by ESCWA and its partners to support member States in this direction through the development of various tools and programs, including a

detailed assessment of progress on SCP in the Arab region, which will support SCP policy setting at the country level.

B. MONITORING PROGRESS ON SCP IN THE ARAB REGION: STATISTICAL

FRAMEWORKS AND METHODOLOGIES

- 13. Ms. Wafa Aboul Hosn moderated the First part of this session which included presentations and interventions from Ms. Wafa Aboul Hosn Chief of Economic and Environment Section at ESCWA, Ms. Nadia Elchtioui Director of the statistics and database department at the League of Arab State, Mr. Ole Pedersen Statistics Denmark, Mr. David Bain Independent Expert, Mr. Sudki Hamdan Department of Statistics (Jordan), Mr. Abderrahmane Lmakadem High Commission for Planning (Morocco), Mr. Alessandro Galli Director of the MENA program at the Global Footprint Network, Mr. Abdelmenam Mohamed Senior Programme Management Officer at UNEP, Mr. Marcus Newbury Statistician at UNSD, Mr. Kees Baldé Senior Programme Officer at the Sustainable Cycles Programme at the United Nations University.
- 14. Ms. Aboul Hosn presentation referred to the available statistical frameworks and their usability according to the scope of measurement for informing on resource efficiency, sustainable consumption and production, SDG12 and other related SDGs. The first framework encompassed the system of the environmental economic accounting (SEEA) and the natural capital accounts (NCA) with various applications at the national and sub-national levels. The second framework is the FDES (Framework for The Development of Environment Statistics) which organized the basic data collection of the components of the environment in a specified country and final the global. The presentation highlighted also the of agreed Arab SDG Priority Indicators list. A brief summary was given on the frameworks that could be used to monitor and calculate domestic material consumption. As well, she reiterated the importance of collaborating between statistical offices and Ministries of Environment in the implementation of the international statistical frameworks that can help countries to organize the data to track the SCP and related SDGs.
- 15. Mr. Pedersen gave an overview of how the SDG indicators 8.4/12.2.2 for material consumption, the System of Environmental and Economic Accounting, SEEA, and the System of Economy-Wide Material Flow Accounts.are logically connected. He explained about different stages in the accounting and how the estimation of footprints requires modelling. He provided as well some examples of how an overall accounting of material flows can be done through physical supply and use tables.
- 16. Mr. Bain then presented the preliminary results of the Waste accounts in the Red Sea governate in Egypt in the context of the World Bank project on Natural Capital Accounts. He highlighted some of the current observation and concerns faced by Egypt on the solid waste management and the role of the Waste Management Regulatory Authority.
- 17. Mr. Hamdan shared the practices of Jordan on E-Waste surveys and Mr. Lmakadem presented the pilot Forest Accounts in Morocco. They gave a brief summary on the methodologies adopted by their countries along with the challenges and opportunities.
- 18. Mr. Galli gave a presentation on the premises, accounting principles and methodology and how it informs on the progress in SCP. He presented alarming trends in the Arab Countries on ecological footprint and biocapacity.

- 19. Mr. Newbury presented the relationship between waste statistics and SDG indicators and data collection the 3rd component of the FDES, while highlighting the experience of waste data collection with ESCWA member countries.
- 20. Mr. Baldé presented the global e-waste trends focusing on the challenges more specifically the sustainable consumption, production and waste management of electronics. As well, he emphasized on the need for materials required for clean energy transition and smart cities. SDG 12.4.2 and 12.5.1
- 21. Mr. Mohamed presented the data assessment tool for drafting waste management indicator and indicated the SDG indicators that are related to waste falls under UNEP mandate.
- 22. Ms. Elchtioui closed with a brief summary on the status of the Arab SDG Priority Indicators list (41 indicators) and the need to add the indicator on SDG12. 2.2. on Domestic material Consumption in the SCP context
- 23. The discussions raised issues that there is a need for more cooperation between ESCWA member countries to share experiences and practices. As well, a question was raised for one of the experts about the limits of applying the ecological footprint on marine ecosystem.

C-BUILDING BACK BETTER WITHIN CONTEXT OF COVID-19

- 24. Mr. Tarek Al Khoury- Regional Coordinator, Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production, UNEP moderated the first part of this session which included presentations and interventions from, Mr. Abdul-Majeid Haddad Deputy Regional Director, UNEP West Asia Office, Ms. Adriana Zacarias GO4SDG, Global Coordinator, Mr. Hussein Hassan Associate Professor of Food Science and Technology/Food Safety Program Coordinator, Lebanese American University, Ms. Yara Abdul Samad Sustainable Lifestyle Expert, UNEP West Asia, Mr. Luc Reuter SwitchMed Policy Coordinator, Mr. David B. McGinty Global Director of the PACE.
- 25. Mr. Al Khoury delivered a presentation outlined UNEP Resource Efficiency Strategy 2020-2021 and its overall goal as supporting the region, in its transition to inclusive green economies.
- 26. Mr. Haddad presentation covered the topic of "Working with Environment to protect people UNEP's Covid-19 response" he Stressed that UNEP is committed to supporting countries efforts on investing to build back better by providing policy advice to countries, facilitating knowledge sharing and promoting dialogue on how green fiscal policies can mobilise resources towards COVID-19 relief and recovery. Mr Haddad presented example on building back better indifferent sectors and thematic areas, including energy and climate change, agriculture and food systems, biodiversity, pollution and health, and extractives.
- 27. On behalf of UNEP, Ms. Zacarias Launched the GO4SDGs project and its menu of service". This initiative aims to accelerate the shift to more inclusive green economies and sustainable production and consumption patterns in order to strengthen public and private sector capacities to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement. The initiative will share innovative practices from countries at the regional level and strengthen capacities for replication across regions. It will also offer countries the opportunity to access existing tools and services at a larger scale through a menu of options to strengthen the capacity of three critical actors: policymakers, small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and youth, and support them as

change agents to implement policies, investments, business models, and consumer choices towards decarbonization, resource efficiency, and sustainability. Ms. Zacarias outlined the needs of GO4SDGs and what it will achieve, and how will regional capacity scale up Inclusive Green Economies, besides the objectives of GO4SDGs, lastly, she indicated the activities in West Asia that are the beginning of implementation phase.

- 28. Mr. Hassan presented "The state of play of food waste in West Asia" and presented some reality facts about food waste in the region. He also presented the state of food waste in West Asia by UNEP that is under finalisation. He clarified the role of various stakeholders, including NGOs, food banks and governments in addressing the issue of food waste in West Asia and highlighting gaps and opportunities focusing on the impact of COVID-19 on food system.
- 29. Ms. Abdul Samad delivered a presentation on "Mainstreaming Eco-innovation in Sustainable Consumption and Production Policies with focus on Sustainable fashion" through her presentation she defined the Eco-Innovation and the importance of applying it in all practical areas, she also clarified the meaning of Linear Model which is known as the take-make-waste and the Circular Economy which is "rather than throw away used products, the circular economy embraces reusing natural resources in order to minimize waste and ensure the efficient use of the world's resources".
- 30. Mr. Reuter's presentation was on "SwitchMED; he focused through his presentation on SwitchMed Programme and its objectives, the demonstration activities and what the programme has done as a responses to Covid-19 in addition to all activities and programs that the programme performs in general.
- 31. Mr. B. McGinty delivered a presentation on "PACE (Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy) work calling the region for establishing alliances on circular economy. Through his presentation he emphasis deep collaboration between business, government and civil society and creating a space for leaders are key to overcome challenges through catalysing global leadership from business, government and civil society; transforming knowledge into an evidence-based collective action agenda and advancing projects that are pioneering or scaling the circular economy
- 32. Ms. Reem Nejdawi moderated the second part of this session which included presentations from Mr. Cameron Allen, ESCWA's expert, Mr. Ramy Boujawdeh, Deputy General Manager at Berytech, Ms. Theresa Wong, Natural Resources Officer at FAO/Regional Office for the Near East, Mr. Ziad AbiChaker, Chief Executive Officer at Cedar Environmental, Lebanon, Mr. Abdelaziz Zaki, Science National Professional Officer at UNESCO Regional Bureau for Sciences in the Arab States, as well as an intervention by Mr. Fadi Jabr, Secretary General, Arab Federation for Food Industries.
- 33. Mr. Allen delivered a presentation on "Sustainable Consumption and Production Assessment for the Arab Region". He indicated that this is an updated SCP assessment that builds on the 2017 ESCWA's SCP assessment report, and that the 2020 updated assessment relied on additional data at national and regional levels, and on developed methodologies using weighted averages. He highlighted the importance of selecting the right indicators and targets for such assessments, including proxy indicators, which should be aligned with UN SDG Framework. He also explained the assessment methodology used, and the selection of 14 indicators, and explained how results can be aggregated at target or goal level or across all goals.

- 34. Mr. Boujawdeh presented the "Role of Startups in Advancing Sustainable Consumption and Production at the National Level", whereby he indicated that Berytech helps innovators convert ideas to successful, social and responsible businesses covering five pillars, and that work on investment mechanisms supports circular economy entrepreneurs. He listed various startups supported by Berytech and indicated that for start-ups to have an impact on communities, there's a need for an ecosystem to support and scale up their work including media channels to convey opportunities for developing business solutions, academia to create solutions to sustain their work, and prototyping and different acceleration programmes.
- 35. Ms. Wong delivered a presentation on "Building Back Better: Addressing Food Loss and Waste", and she focused on the importance of boosting small holder resilience. She mentioned that the FAO 2020 report on State of Food Sec and Nutrition in the World shows a significant crisis under covid19, and that there's a need for food system transformation. Ms. Wong also highlighted ways to calculate the index of food loss and waste and presented available FAO tools and methodologies in this regard. She and indicated that recent work in Egypt and Tunisia on Food loss and waste reduction found the need to understand the value chain decisions and actions that are effective to reduce food loss and waste.
- 36. Mr. Abichaker delivered a presentation entitled "Zero waste is not science fiction" which included an overview on the work towards zero waste from the different types of wastes, and the decentralized method of work that aims at reducing quantities of waste. He indicated that organic waste is the highest percentage waste in the Arab region, and it can be used for producing compost for farms, and work is being done on having separation stations to split waste based on material types. He also presented the work being done on converting single use plastic into green walls and on vertical farming which can be spread on rooftops in cities.
- 37. Mr. Zaki indicated in his presentation on UNESCO's experience in addressing wastewater treatment that UNESCO is part of regional collaboration platform in the Arab region on water issues, and that it has a hydrological programme that addresses managing non-conventional water resources in the region. The programme focuses on a number of pillars including data collection and analysis of non-conventional water resources, recovery and decrease in cost of wastewater treatment, revision of legal and institutional frameworks, and engagement of stakeholders.
- 38. Mr. Jabr highlighted in his intervention the importance of addressing sustainable consumption and production at both the industry and the producer levels, and at enhancing awareness raising on sorting and recycling at the household level.
- 39. In the discussion that followed with participants highlighted the importance of creating second hand markets especially in countries with high consumption, high per capita waste generation rates, where waste is still mixed and dumped in landfills with no proper sorting mechanisms. They also stressed on the role of research and development done by academic and research institutions to advance SCP in the region. The idea of producing a country ranking by LAS at the Arab regional level for progress on SCP targets was raised, however lack of proper statistical data availability could be an obstacle to achieving that although the idea was found to be sound by LAS, and could be looked into in the future.

C. CLOSING SESSION

40. In the closing session, Mr. Mahmoud Fath-Allah called for integrating green economy concepts and new methods of waste management into national development plans to enhance resource efficiency. Ms. Reem Nejdawi indicated that the SCP assessment conducted by ESCWA will be addressed in a future consultative meeting that will engage member states and cover the results of work. Mr. Tarek Alkhoury stressed on the importance of partnership for working on the SCP as it covers ways of life, and the aim is to try to change ways of production and consumption and finding solutions to pressing environmental problems faced by the region.

III.ORGANIZATION

A. DATE AND VENUE

- 41. The meeting was held virtually via the Kudo online platform during 7-8 October 2020.
- 42. The meeting was organized in two main sessions in addition to the opening and closing sessions. The detailed agenda is included in Annex I.

B. PARTICIPANTS

- 43. The full list of participants is provided in Annex II.
- 44. Presentations delivered during the meeting may be accessed through the following meeting webpage: https://www.unescwa.org/egm-resource-effiency-arab-region

Annex I. Agenda

Day 1: Wednesday, 7 October 2020

12:30-12:45	Opening						
	Welcoming Remarks by Organizing Partners						
	- Mr. Mahmoud Fathallah, Director, Department of Environmental, Meteorological Affairs (EMA), Economic Sector, League of Arab States						
	- Mr. Abdul-Majeid Haddad, Deputy Director, UNEP - West Asia Office						
	- Ms. Reem Nejdawi, Chief, Food and Environment Policies Section, Climate Change and Natural Resources Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA						
	Presentation of Background and Meeting's Agenda						
	 Ms. Wafa Aboul Hosn, Chief Economic Statistics Section, Statistics, the Information Society and Technology Cluster, ESCWA 						
	- Mr. Tarek Alkhoury, Regional Coordinator, Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production, UNEP						
12:45-15:30	Monitoring Progress on SCP in the Arab Region: Statistical Frameworks and Methodologies						
	The session will focus on three statistical frameworks: 1) The System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA) and its application in measuring domestic material consumption, 2) The Framework for Development of Environment Statistics (FDES) in relation to SCP and waste management, and 3) Global Footprint analysis with a regional perspective and multitude of indices informing on progress on SDGs targets such as the OECD, ESCAP and SDG -SDNS. The existing frameworks and their relevance for the SCP in the Arab Region will be presented and will help countries to track SCP in the national context and for cross-country comparable data.						
Moderator: Ms. Wafa Aboul Hosn, Chief Economic Statistics, Cluster on Statistics, Information Society and Technology, ESCWA							
12:45-12:50	- Introduction Mr. Juraj Riecan, Cluster Leader, Statistics, the Information Society and Technology Cluster, ESCWA						
12:50–13:15	- Statistical Frameworks as standards for informing on Resource Efficiency, Sustainable Consumption and Production in SDG12 and other related SDGs and Current undertakings at the global and regional levels Ms. Wafa Aboul Hosn, Chief Economic Statistics Section, Statistics, the Information Society and Technology Cluster, ESCWA						
13:15-13:30	- Brief on the follow-up on Arab SDGs of Priority and the SCP context Ms Nadia Elchtioui, Director, LAS-Statistics and Database Department						
13:30-13:45	- The System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA) and its application in measuring domestic material consumption (DMC) Mr. Ole Pedersen, Statistics Denmark						

13:45-14:00	- Natural Capital Accounts: Waste Accounts and the Case of Egypt: World Bank Project Mr. David Bain, Independent Expert, Australia				
14:00-14:20	 Country Practice Jordan experience, e-Waste Survey Mr. Sudki Hamdan, Department of Statistics, Jordan Morocco experience, Forest Accounts Mr. Abderrahmane Lmakadem, High Commission for Planning, Morocco Discussion 				
14:20-14:40	- Ecological Footprint analysis with a regional perspective Mr. Alessandro Galli, Global Footprint Network, Director, Mediterranean- MENA Program				
14:40-14:50	- Data assessment tool" for drafting waste management related indicators Mr. AbdelMonam Mohamed, UNEP				
14:50-15:00	- The Framework for Development of Environment Statistics (FDES) in relation to SCP and waste management <i>Mr. Marcus Newbury, UNSD</i>				
15:00-15:10	- Global and regional e-waste trends Mr. Kees Balde, UNU				
15:10-15:30	Discussion				
	Conclusion and Recommendations for Day 1				

Day 2: Thursday, 8 October 2020

13:00-16:00	Building Back Better within Context of COVID-19					
	How to build back better in the context of COVID-19, and an overview of UNEP's building back better response to COVID-19. Feedback on regional SCP best practices, and on design and implementation of coherent SCP strategies during the recovery phase. Discuss the approaches and modality for assessing progress on achieving SCP's goals and targets in the Arab region, with a focus on selected experiences and challenges encountered in implementing SCP interventions at the national level, highlighting success stories in food and conflict waste recycling.					
Moderator: Mr. Tarek Alkhoury, Regional Coordinator, Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production, UNEP West Asia						
13:00-13:05	Overview of Agenda for Day 2					
	- Mr. Tarek Alkhoury, Regional Coordinator, Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production, UNEP					
	- Ms. Reem Nejdawi, Chief, Food and Environment Policies Section, Climate Change and Natural Resources Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA					
13:05-13:15	- Presenting COVID-19 strategic response for UNEP with focus on Building back better Mr. Abdul-Majeid Haddad, Deputy Regional Director, UNEP West Asia Office					

Addressi	ng the SCP challenges while building back better, examples of regional and global programmatic approach by UNEP						
13:15-13:20	- UNEP West Asia Resource Efficiency strategy Mr. Tarek Alkhoury, Regional Coordinator, Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production UNEP West Asia						
13:20-13:30	- Launching the GO4SDGs project and its menu of service Ms. Adriana Zacarias, Global Coordinator						
13:30-13:40	- The state of play of food waste in West Asia Mr. Hussein Hassan, Associate Professor of Food Science and Technology/Food Safety Program Coordinator, Lebanese American University						
13:40-13:50	- Mainstreaming Eco-innovation in Sustainable Consumption and Production Policies with focus on Sustainable fashion Ms. Yara Abdul Samad - Sustainable Lifestyle Expert, UNEP West Asia						
13:50-14:10	- SwitchMED; what has been done and what is new? A concrete experience in implementing the SDG12						
	Mr. Luc Reuter, SwitchMed Policy Coordinator, UNEP						
14:10-14:20	- PACE (Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy): a global community leading the way towards a circular economy Mr. David B. McGinty, Global Director of the PACE						
14:20-14:30	Discussion						
Moderator: M	Is. Reem Nejdawi, Chief, Food and Environment Policies Section, Climate Change and Natural Resources Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA						
14:30-14:50	- Assessment methodology for progress on sustainable consumption and production Mr. Cameron Allen, ESCWA's expert						
14:50-15:00	- Role of Start-Ups in advancing SCP at the national level Mr. Ramy Boujawdeh, Deputy General Manager, Berytech						
15:00-15:10	- Building back better: Addressing food loss and waste Ms. Theresa Wong, Natural Resources Officer, FAO/Regional Office for the Near East						
15:10-15:20	- Recycling of glass debris and other material recycling examples Mr. Ziad AbiChaker, Chief Executive Office, Cedar Environmental, Lebanon						
15:20-15:30	- UNESCO's experience in addressing wastewater treatment Mr. Abdelaziz Zaki, Science National Professional Officer, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Sciences in the Arab States						

15:40-15:50	Discussion
15:50-16:00	Concluding remarks, ESCWA, UNEP, LAS

Annex II. List of Participants

A. ESCWA & Non ESCWA Member States

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