Towards Sustainable Industrial Systems

UNIDO and UNEP cooperate to advance sustainable industrial development and consumption and production in developing and transition countries. Specifically, their joint Programme on Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) aims to improve resource efficiency and environmental performance of businesses and other organisations.

UNIDO and UNEP therefore develop and strengthen national capacities for delivering RECP services to businesses, governments and other organizations. This enables them to implement RECP concepts, methods, techniques and policies and thereby reduces their pollution and waste intensities and improves efficiency of their natural resource use. In addition, UNIDO and UNEP operate and contribute to regional and global networks to transfer knowledge and technology efficiently, both South-South and North-South.

The current RECP Programme provides for the first time a strategic and coherent framework for upscaling and mainstreaming of activities and results of NCPCs, nationally, regionally and globally.

Why a joint Programme?

The key justifications are:

- **Globalisation of Production and Consumption:** goods and services are increasingly produced and consumed in developing and transition countries.
- **National needs:** 42 NCPC countries call for continued support to upscale and mainstream RECP while about an equal number of other countries have requested support.
- **Organisational Synergies:** The programme capitalizes on complementary mandates and capacities of UNIDO and UNEP, further contributing to the ‘UN Delivering as One’ objective.
- **Strategic Alignment:** RECP is an operational vehicle for delivering organization-wide strategic priorities on Green Industry (for UNIDO) and Green Economy (for UNEP).
Programme Strategy

The programme provides a strategic and coherent framework to deliver targeted support and interventions to participating countries, individually and collectively. The key strategic elements are:

- **Multi-level intervention** to cover macro, meso and micro levels of industrial production systems;
- **Complementary role definition** between UNIDO and UNEP based on the mandate and existing capacities of the two agencies;
- **Country-level engagement** through joint programming at the country level;
- **Synergy and partnership** with existing similar bilateral and multilateral initiatives;
- **Multi-dimensional networking** for effective knowledge transfer and experience sharing;
- **Modular design** consisting of modules that can be delivered flexibly in different combinations to meet national and/or regional needs of programme countries; and
- **Flexible funding mechanism** through the mobilisation of:
  - **Core Programme Funding**: leading partner countries providing funds for programme development, coordination, networking and transfer of information, knowledge and technology at programme;
  - **Thematic project funding**: for projects that deliver the same intervention module in parallel in several countries, with funding from broader pool of project donors; and
  - **Country project funding**: for national projects that include several intervention modules in an integrated manner, with funding from broader pool of project donors.

Programme Intervention Modules

The programme outputs are structured in four intervention modules, related to services delivery network, thematic applications, incentives and innovation. Their interrelatedness is illustrated below.
Programme Modularisation at Global, Regional and National Levels

The Joint programme is developed and managed by means of standardized intervention modules. These are implemented in flexible combinations to achieve effective delivery of technical support at the national, regional and global levels, whilst also supporting the further development of RECP methods, tools, policies and technologies. The programme is therefore carried out through:

- **Global programme activities**: these constitute the backbone of the programme. These provide a programme level development facility for substantive projects that collectively benefit in principle all participating countries and cover all intervention modules. These include such activities as coordination and networking, preparatory and review initiatives, knowledge management, and efficient transfer of information, experience and technologies.

- **Substantive projects**: these cover the implementation of the intervention modules in the programme countries. These can be country projects, for creating or strengthening of national RECP service delivery capacities, including through National Cleaner Production Centres. They can also be thematic projects that focus primarily on development of innovative approaches, guidelines and/or toolkits on for example policy, finance or technology, and their parallel implementation in several countries.

Key programme deliverables

The programme aims to lay the foundation for the programme countries to move towards sustainable industrial systems. Specifically, the following key deliverables are expected:

- One global and three regional networks of RECP services providers established/strengthened and serve as effective platforms for knowledge management and South-North-South collaboration in technology and knowledge transfer.
- The technical, operational and institutional capacities of 42 existing National Cleaner Production Centers (NCPs) enhanced in the area of RECP providing the basis for upscaling the technical support service provided by the centres to businesses and governments with a particular focus on SMEs.
- A minimum of 15 National Cleaner Production Programmes launched in countries new to the programme. These build national capacity for RECP support service provision to improve resource efficiency and reduce environmental impacts of industries.
- A minimum of five toolkits and training manuals prepared covering for example key areas of RECP including: energy efficiency, water efficiency, materials and chemicals management, safer production and waste management.
- More than 500 experts trained as trainers through regional Training of Trainers programmes that will be organized on the basis of the toolkits and training manuals to be developed.
- A minimum of 5,000 industries supported to achieve measurable economic, environmental and social benefits through RECP implementation.
- A minimum of 15 countries supported to mainstream RECP in national policy and planning processes and/or creating a financial instrument that supports the increased application of RECP approaches and technologies by industries and businesses.
- A minimum of 10 countries supported to develop and implement a national programme on the development and marketing of sustainable products with a focus on products that are based on locally available renewable resources and that have higher potential for job creation.
- A global knowledge management system supported by regional and national nodes established to facilitate knowledge exchange and the transfer of environmental sound technologies.
Programme Governance

Effective programme oversight and management will be ensured through:

- **A Programme Board**: the Board will consist of 11 representatives from both developing regions, development partners and partner institutions and will provide general guidance to the programme.
- **A Programme Management Team**: a joint management team chaired by UNIDO and UNEP will manage the implementation of the programme as per agreed allocation of responsibilities.
- **A Network Committee**: A global network committee will provide input to the implementation of the programme at the global level and facilitate the participation of the network members in implementation at the regional level.

Programme implementation will be further coordinated through UNEP Regional Offices and UNIDO Country and Regional Offices with technical support from the global management team.

**Indicative budget: 5 years ~ 70 Millions €**

- Three types of resource mobilization and implementation
  - ~16% Programmatic backbone activities
  - ~19% Substantive thematic projects
  - ~65% Substantive country projects
- Breakdown of backbone funding (~11M€)
  - UNEP: 4.7 Million Euro (~42%)
  - UNIDO: 6.5 Million Euro (~58%)
- Target contributions
  - ~ 75% donors
  - ~ 25% national contributions (incl. cost recovery), plus UNIDO and UNEP in kind (~4 M€)