



TOURISM & CONSTRUCTION: CIRCULAR ECONOMY SOLUTIONS FOR SDG12

The One Planet network at work: Decoupling economic growth from the consumption of natural resources to advance sustainable and resilient societies through innovation and measurement in tourism and construction.

Wednesday 18th of July from 1.15 pm – 2.30 pm.

Conference Room 7, UN Headquarters A light lunch will be served

On the occasion of the 2018 High-Level Political Forum and the in-depth review of SDG 12, the Sustainable Tourism and Sustainable Buildings and Construction programmes of the One Planet network, together with UN Environment, as well as the governments of Bhutan, Botswana, Finland and Mexico, are organizing a side-event. It will bring together high representatives and experts to **showcase how circular economy solutions in the tourism and construction sectors can accelerate the shift to sustainable consumption and production (SCP) and the implementation of SDG 12 while contributing to sustainable and resilient societies.**

If we are to preserve our One Planet while taking into account social and economic considerations, we need to make fundamental changes in the way we produce and consume goods and services as reflected in the Agenda 2030. Accelerating the shift to SCP as set in SDG 12 is everyone's responsibility and also an opportunity to advance other connected SDGs, given its cross-cutting nature.

In line with SDG Target 12.1., large economic sectors such as tourism and construction are involved in the implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (rebranded One Planet network). In view of their impact and outreach, tourism and construction can make an essential contribution to decouple growth from the use of natural resources by avoiding compromising the environment while ensuring sustainable growth and opportunities for societies.

A key approach to address this challenge is circularity, a concept which explores opportunities to move from linear to circular SCP patterns. Circularity, promotes closed material loops and enhanced resource efficiency along with reduced pollution levels while tackling climate change mitigation with a system-wide approach along within sectoral value chains and across the traditional sectors. Embracing circularity implies robust **measurement and monitoring** of the sustainable development impacts of economic activities and a constant rethinking and optimizing of performance through the **use of innovation and cost-effective technologies.**

In the side-event, the panelists will discuss innovative solutions and good practices to build upon for making further progress on SDG12, as well as lessons learned.

PROGRAMME

TIME	THEME	PANELIST
13:15-13:20	Opening remarks	Ms. Ligia Noronha, Director of the Economy Division of UN Environment
MODERATOR	Ms. Annika Lindblom, Secretary General, National Commission on Sustainable Development Counsellor, Ministry of Environment, Finland	
13:20-13:28	The application of SCP and circularity to the tourism sector: from national policies to practical implementation on the ground	Dr. Dirk Glaesser, Director of the Sustainable Development of Tourism Programme, UNWTO
13:28-13:36	Circularity in the built environment provides cost-efficient solutions to mitigate climate change, providing business opportunities globally including SMEs	Mr. Pekka Huovila, Coordinator of the One Planet Network Programme on Sustainable Buildings & Construction
13:36-13:46	"The Kasane Call to Action on Sustainable Tourism": a framework to support circular models and SDG12 monitoring in tourism sector	H.E. Mr. Tshekedi Khama, Minister of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism of Botswana
13:46-13:53	Implementation of SDG12 at national and destination level in Mexico towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda	H.E. Mr. Jorge Carlos Hurtado, Vice Minister for Environmental Promotion and Regulation, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico
13:53-14:00	Advancing SCP in Mexico through evidence-based sustainable tourism policies and practices	H.E. Ms. María Teresa Solís, Vice Minister for Tourism Planning and Policy of the Mexico's Federal Secretariat of Tourism (SECTUR)
14:00-14:10	Featuring national SCP good practices and innovative solutions to progress SDG12 in Bhutan	Ms. Chhimmy Pem, Director of the Tourism Council of Bhutan
14:10-14:20	Advancing the contribution of tourism to the 17 SDGs and launch of the 'Tourism 4 SDGs Platform - Journey to 2030'	Mr. Christoph I. Lang, Senior Adviser, Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SCD); Ms. Zoritsa Urosevic, UNWTO Representative in Geneva
14:20-14:25	Questions and Answers	
14:25-14:30	Closing remarks	Mr. Martin Bortzmeyer, Head of Delegation for Sustainable Development, Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, France

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