



## Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP)

### Context

In 1994, UNIDO and UNEP started their joint programme to establish National Cleaner Production Centres (NCPCs). Hosted by national institutions in developing and transition countries, these NCPCs foster the uptake of Cleaner Production by businesses and governments alike, through such activities as information dissemination, professional training, in plant assessments, and support for policy change and technology transfer. The independent global evaluation during 2007/2008 confirmed the Programme's success in putting Cleaner Production on the agenda of business and government, building professional and institutional capacities and facilitating implementation of predominantly low investment improvements in enterprises. It also identified a range of opportunities for leveraging the NCPCs and achieving greater development and environmental impact.

### Strategy

The Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) concept was introduced by UNIDO and UNEP in 2008 to emphasize the contribution of preventive environmental management techniques to the productive use of natural resources, minimization of wastes and emissions, and human development. Consecutively, the joint UNIDO-UNEP global RECP programme was formulated and approved in 2009. It is aimed at scaling up and mainstreaming RECP for improving resource productivity and environmental performance of enterprises and other organizations. The four-pronged programme strategy targets:

- ◇ expansion and further development of a global service delivery network;
- ◇ thematic RECP applications for greater resource efficiency, waste and emission prevention and safe chemicals management;
- ◇ mainstreaming of RECP in government policy and enterprise financing; and
- ◇ enabling RECP innovation in products and technologies

### Impact/Outlook

The RECP programme continues to be effective in fostering the adaptation and adoption of RECP methods, techniques and policies in partner countries. Moreover, RECP has become even more relevant over time in light of the sharpening resources, environment and climate dilemmas. NCPCs have become over time gradually independent and transform themselves into nationally directed institutions that serve their national, regional and local governments, business community and development partners in the areas of sustainable consumption and production. New programme initiatives are making inroads towards low carbon production, eco-industrial parks and introduction of safe and efficient chemical products and processes. Collectively, RECPnet is turning into a powerful South-North-South partnership, as a stepping stone for resolving the challenges associated with scaling-up and mainstreaming RECP.



### Expected Results:

- ◇ Set up and supported National Cleaner Production Centres in 50 developing and transition countries since 1994;
- ◇ Established a global RECPnet, the network that brings together RECP service providers for knowledge management and innovation; advocacy and learning
- ◇ Demonstrated convincingly in 1000s of enterprises globally that RECP is good for environment, climate, employees, community, business and society at large; and
- ◇ Promoted and achieved productive linkages and contributions of RECP to innovative business models (e.g. chemical leasing), corporate social responsibility and for low carbon development

### At a Glance

<p><b>GOAL:</b> MDG:</p> <p><b>THEME:</b></p> <p><b>DONORS:</b></p> <p><b>PARTNERS:</b></p> <p><b>BUDGET:</b></p> <p><b>STATUS:</b></p> <p><b>DURATION:</b></p>	<p>Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production</p> <p>MDG: 7 - Ensure Environmental Sustainability; and MDG8 – Global Partnership for development</p> <p>EC3 - Environment and Energy</p> <p>Multiple, including Governments of Switzerland, Austria, Norway and Slovenia, EC and selected multi-donor trust funds</p> <p>UNEP and members of the global RECPnet</p> <p>&gt;35MUSD (since 2009)</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>initial 5 year period</p>
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