Responsible consumption and production in Africa

Fourth session of the AFRICA REGIONAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies

2 - 4 May 2018
Dakar, Senegal

OUTLINE

❑ **Introduction**

❑ **Status of implementation of Goal 12**

❑ **Conclusion and key messages**

Introduction

- WSSD 2002 promoted development of a 10YFP in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards SCP;

- The Marrakech Process (2003) supported elaboration of a 10YFP on SCP as called for by the Johannesburg Plan of Action;

- African countries have been implementing the global 10YFP on SCP within the context of the African 10YFP approved AMCEN in 2004;

Introduction/…

- Rio+20 (2012) declared the promotion of SCP as an essential requirement of SD;

- AMCEN (2012) -adopted African flagship programmes, incl. partnerships for Sustainable Cities Programme

- Agenda 2063 (AU, 2015) priorities include sustainable natural resource management; climate resilience ; renewable energy; and SCP;

- The 2030 Agenda for SD (UN SD Summit 2015) includes a specific goal on SCP- Goal 12;

- Mixed progress in implementing Goal 12 targets in Africa: **tracking progress with limited data is a challenge**

Status of implementation of Goal 12

• There are 12 targets and 13 indicators, but only 3 indicators have quality data;

• Most indicators (9) have no data and/or methodology is still under development;

Target 12.1: Implement 10YFP on SCP

Source: UNEP

Target 12.1: Implement 10YFP on SCP

- **Requires a strong national framework for SCP integrated into national and sectoral plans;**

- 71 countries globally have SCP in national action plans or have mainstreamed in priorities and targets of national development plans;

- **Only a few African (9) countries** have aligned their national development plans or green economy strategies with the African 10YFP;

- **International support** through the Marrakech Process Task Force on Cooperation with Africa; SWITCH Africa Green programme; and UNEP's eco-innovation project.

Target 12.2: Sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources
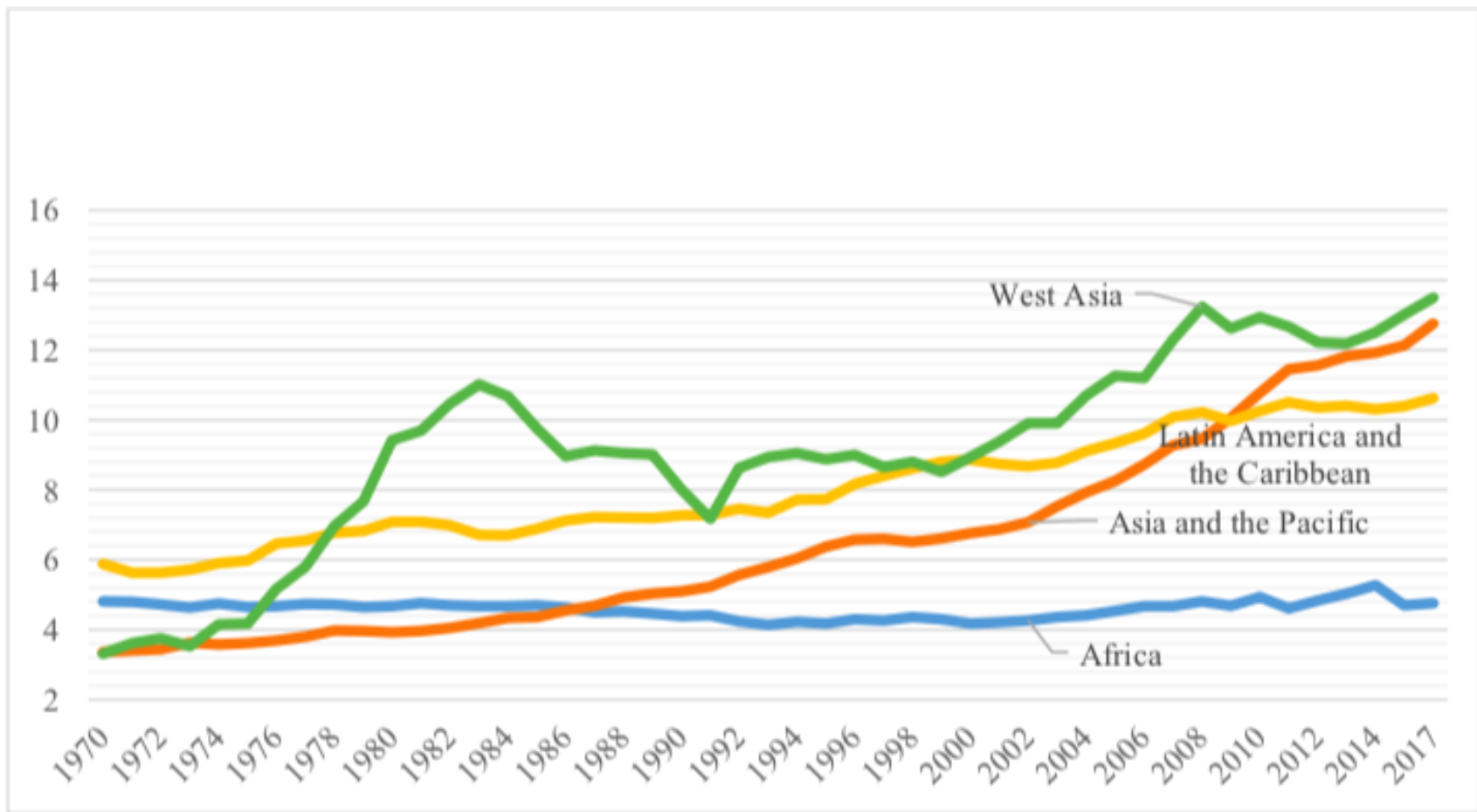

Source: UN Chronicle

Target 12.2: Sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources

- **Requires decoupling economic growth from natural resource use, reducing domestic material consumption/material footprints;**

- Negative income when depletion and depreciation of natural assets and environmental damage from economic growth is accounted for;

- (-) Adjusted net savings ->economic growth patterns are unsustainable;

- Improving (2000– 2015) as countries actively implemented measures to sustainably manage their natural resources

Domestic material consumption per capita (1970-2017)

Source: United Nations Environment Programme, "Environment live".

Target 12.2:\...Decoupling...

- Resource productivity= constant gross domestic product to domestic

material consumption;

Target 12.3: Food waste at retail and consumer levels and food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses

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❑ A third of the food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted annually

  ➢ Volume: **1.3 billion tonnes** of food lost or wasted/annum;

  ➢ Monetary: **$990b** of lost of wasted food globally; of which **$310 billion** is from developing countries;

  ➢ Consumers in rich countries waste almost as much food (**222m tons**) as the entire net food production of SSA (**230m tons**)

  ➢ Per capita waste : **95 - 115 kg/year** in Europe and North America; Only **6 -11 kg/year** in SSA and South and South-East Asia

Target 12.3: Food waste…

- **Saving just 25 % globally could feed 870m hungry people in the world (795m people were hungry worldwide: 2014–2016);**

  ➢ The food lost in Africa (2014-2016) could have fed 300m people (233m people were hungry or malnourished in SSA);

  ➢ **Post-harvest handling and storage** dominates the loss incidences (40%) in SSA, while a similar proportion is lost at the retail and consumer levels in developed countries;

- **Interventions that alter behaviour** could be the best possible option to reduce food loss and waste at the retail and consumer levels.

- **Reduce inefficiencies** in food supply chains and post-harvest handling

Target 12.4: Management of hazardous chemicals and wastes

Source: UN Environment

Target 12.4: Management of hazardous chemicals and wastes

- Dumping hazardous chemicals and wastes pose a serious threat to coastal and inland countries.

- 1.9m tonnes of waste (min. estimate- serious **data gap**)

- Reducing generation and movement of hazardous waste require:

  ➢ Strengthening regulatory systems and environmentally sound management of hazardous waste;

  ➢ Transparency in the regulatory systems;

  ➢ International cooperation: Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal

Target 12.4: Hazardous waste generation ….

- Rio Conventions; **Rotterdam Convention**; **Stockholm Convention** and the **Montreal Protocol**;

- Gaps in international conventions on the control of hazardous wastes;

- The **Bamako Convention** (1991/1998) was supposed to fill those gaps;

  ➤ Inadequate preparedness of importing developing countries,

  ➤ The general lack of protection from industrial and nuclear wastes offered by the other conventions;

- Strengthen scientific capacity to ascertain the hazardous potential of wastes and materials.

- Collaboration of all States, not only those adversely affected by hazardous

Target 12.5: Reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

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- Massive pollution and the accumulation of waste are responsible for the loss or destruction of many ecosystems.

- Municipal waste generation currently at <mark>**1.3 billion tons**</mark> annually and expected to increase to <mark>**2.2 billion tons by 2025**</mark>;

- In Africa, **169,119 tons** of waste are generated in urban areas daily; expected to reach **441,840 tons/day by 2025** (> East and Central Asia);

- Possible solutions:

  - ➢ Sustainable human settlements, and integrated waste management;

  - ➢ Interventions should include behavioural policy levers.

Target 12.6: Corporate sustainability information and reporting

GLOBAL
CORPORATE
SUSTAINABILITY
REPORT
2013

United Nations Global Compact
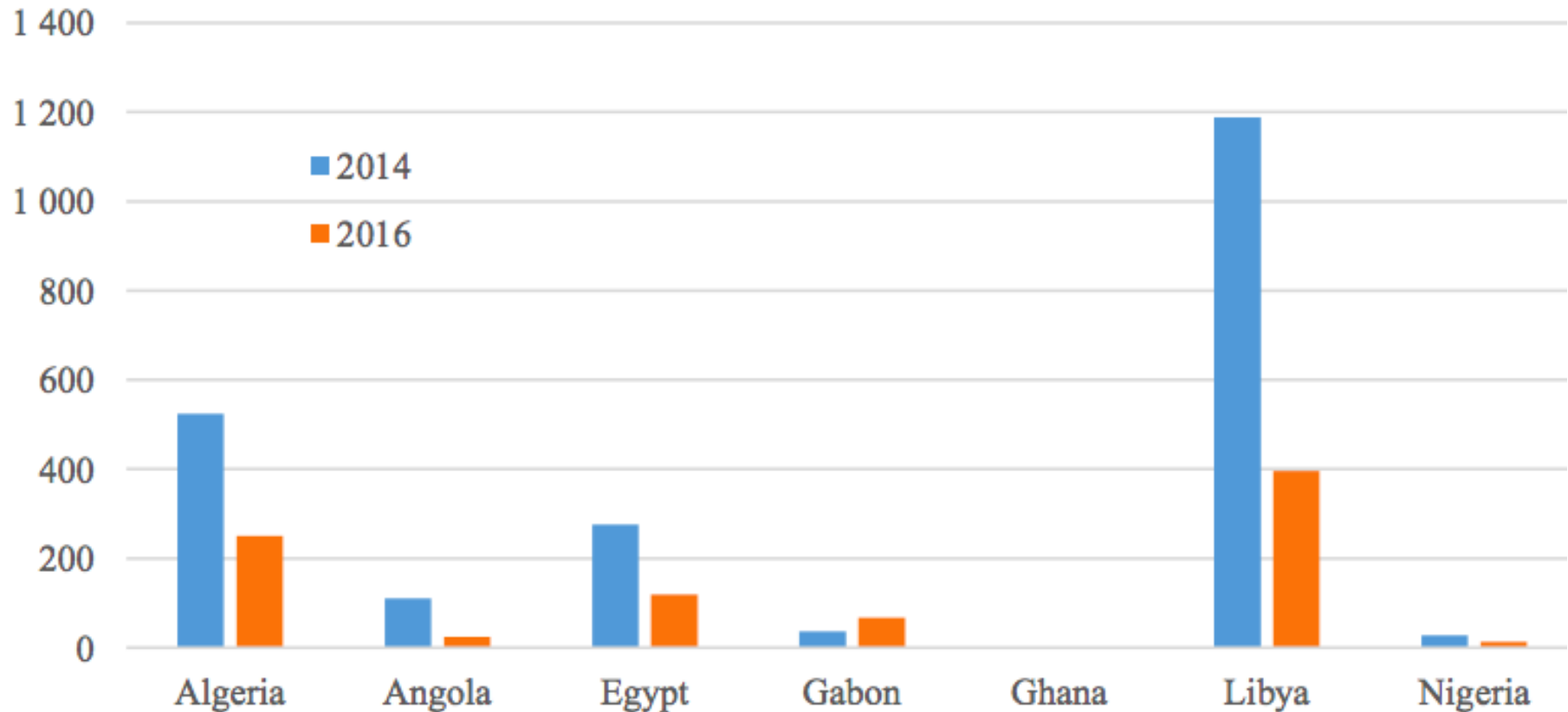
Value of sustainability reporting

Target 12.6: Corporate sustainability information and reporting

- The objective this target is to ensure that financial and capital markets are aligned with the SDGs.

- Sustainability reporting among listed companies in the region is very low, with only 13 companies reporting either through a sustainability report or integrated report;

- Glaring gap in regulating corporate sustainability information reporting in most jurisdictions except SA.

- Private sector-led initiatives are filling the glaring gap in regulating corporate sustainability information reporting.

Target 12.c: Rationalization of inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies

• The fossil-fuel subsidies offered by African countries are declining;

CONCLUSION

- SCP is central to enabling countries to achieve sustainable growth and poverty reduction;

- The imperative for SCP in Africa is to be consistent with the overarching objective of poverty reduction and improving the welfare and quality of life of people;

- The transition can be through changing patterns of consumption and production (keep level constant) or efficiency gains through better methods (reduce level);

- Scaling up of green investment in priority sectors, including agriculture and industry; greening industrialization, buildings and infrastructure;

Conclusion|….

- Human capital investment is necessary to reap demographic dividends and to prevent the continent from becoming both a "market" and "consumer".

  ➢ Technology innovation in the value chain from the conception of ideas to commercialization and to "smart consumers";
  ➢ Clear vision or programme for skills development at all levels of education and training, including on-the-job training, that meets the needs of the job market.

- SCP designed to respond to key development challenges and opportunities, e.g., infrastructure, transport, energy, technological and industrial upgrading, strengthening value chain linkages and structural transformation.

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THANK YOU!

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