

Committee of Permanent Representatives
Subcommittee Meeting
Thursday, 22 September 2022
10:00 – 13:00
Conference Room 2, United Nations Office at Nairobi
Hybrid meeting

**Background Document for Agenda Item 3:
Update on the implementation of UNEA resolution 5/11 on Enhancing Circular Economy as a
contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production**

This note serves as a background document for consideration under Agenda Item 3: Update on the implementation of UNEA resolution 5/11 on Enhancing Circular Economy.

The document highlights ongoing and planned activities related to the implementation of the resolution. It addresses operational paragraph 9 request to continue to collect information and conduct further analysis on used vehicles and clean fuels, with a view to reducing the negative environmental and health-related impact of used vehicles, including end-of-life disposal, and promoting clean fuels, and to support Member States upon request. It also summarizes action on operational paragraph 10 by UNEP, in collaboration with other United Nations entities, including the International Resource Panel, development partners and relevant international multi-stakeholder networks, including the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, to facilitate collaboration among Member States and members of specialized agencies in research, capacity-building, knowledge management and the sharing of best practices for the promotion of innovative pathways for sustainable consumption and production, including the circular economy, and to facilitate a conversation on natural resources and materials in the context of the circular economy.

Update on the implementation of UNEA resolution 5/11 on Enhancing Circular Economy

1. The fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5) adopted resolution [UNEP/EA.5/Res.11](#) on Enhancing Circular Economy. The resolution recalls on resolution 4/1 on innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production and acknowledges that pursuing circular economy approaches as a pathway to achieving sustainable consumption and production patterns can contribute to addressing climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation and the impact of water stress, pollution, and the impact thereof on human health. The resolution builds on the findings of two reports: the report “*Global Resources Outlook 2019: Natural Resources for the Future We Want*” from the International Resource Panel (2019), and the “*Circularity Gap Report 2020*” (2020).
2. At its paragraph 9, the resolution requests UNEP to continue to collect information and conduct further analysis on used vehicles and clean fuels, with a view to reducing the negative environmental and health-related impact of used vehicles, including end-of-life disposal, and promoting clean fuels, and to support Member States upon request.
3. The resolution underlines the need for Member States and stakeholders to develop partnerships to promote and enhance circular economy approaches as well as business models, innovations, and investments to contribute to, among other things, the sustainable management, use and consumption of natural resources and materials.
4. It also requests, in its paragraph 10, the Executive Director, in collaboration with other United Nations entities, including the International Resource Panel, development partners and relevant international multi-stakeholder networks, including the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, to facilitate collaboration among Member States and members of specialized agencies in research, capacity-building, knowledge management and the sharing of best practices for the promotion of innovative pathways for sustainable consumption and production, including the circular economy, and to facilitate a conversation on natural resources and materials in the context of the circular economy.

I. Collecting information and conducting further analysis on used vehicles and clean fuels

5. In response to paragraph 9, UNEP is developing the first report on Used Vehicles and the Environment that details the global flow of used heavy duty vehicles (HDVs) from the three main developed markets to developing countries, and the regulatory framework in recipient countries. This report will be published in 2023. Out of the 146 countries surveyed on measures to regulate the import of used HDVs, about 60%, have a 'weak' or 'very weak' regulatory regime. These are defined as countries that permit the importation of used HDVs that are more than 9 years old and EURO 3/III and below vehicle emissions standards.
6. Recommendations arising from this work include: 1) more research is needed to further detail the impacts of the trade in used light and heavy duty vehicles on the environment, economy, and road safety; 2) at global and /or regional level, a harmonized approach to regulate the trade in used vehicles is needed to put an end to the trade of obsolete, unsafe, dirty, and faulty used vehicles (both light duty and heavy-duty vehicles); 3) regulation should encompass measures to ensure used vehicles make meaningful contributions towards shifting to cleaner, safer, and affordable mobility; 4) regulations should be gradually tightened in the coming decade. Low and no-emissions used vehicles should be promoted as an affordable way for middle- and low-income countries to access advanced vehicle technologies, such as electric buses; 5) exporting and importing countries have a shared

responsibility to improve and regulate used vehicles to minimize their negative impacts; and 6) a strong implementation and enforcement mechanism, backed by a robust public sensitization campaign, should be introduced to monitor, and check compliance with the agreed regulations.

7. UNEP is continuing its collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and other agencies¹ to build consensus of exporting and importing countries that only quality used vehicles will be exported or imported. The project currently focuses on West and Eastern African and Central American countries; a next phase proposes the roll out to the remaining sub-regions in Africa, Southern and Central Africa, as well as Cambodia and Bangladesh in Asia. The project will ensure that all actors involved in the export/import of used vehicles will have the adequate legal, administrative, and technical means for an effective deployment of the agreed minimum safety and environmental performance standards. Key outcomes include: 1) exporting and importing countries will have agreed on minimum requirements for used vehicles for selected sub-regions and countries in Africa, and Asia; 2) agreed minimum requirements for the trade of used cars by both exporting and importing countries; 3) established inspection and monitoring frameworks, including compliance systems to ensure used vehicles meet agreed standards and policies; 4) increased public awareness through media training and capacity building for key stakeholders.
8. The used vehicles program has made progress, with countries introducing import regulations to ensure cleaner and safer used vehicles. UNEP is engaged with exporters but there is reluctance to commit to regulations for minimum requirements.

II. Facilitating collaboration among Member States and members of specialized agencies in research, capacity-building, knowledge management and the sharing of best practices for the promotion of innovative pathways for sustainable consumption and production, including the circular economy, and facilitating a conversation on natural resources and materials in the context of the circular economy.

a. Collaboration among Member States and other stakeholders

9. UNEP is supporting and coordinating initiatives at global and regional levels to facilitate collaboration among Member States and other stakeholders. At the global level collaboration is coordinated through the Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency. At the regional level, UNEP supports the African Circular Economy Alliance, coordinates the Latin America and Caribbean Circular Economy Coalition, and launched earlier this year the CIRCULAR STEP to serve the Pan-European region.

i. Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency

10. The [Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency](#) (GACERE) is advocating for, and working on, advancing a global just circular economy transition and a more sustainable management of natural resources. This alliance of governments, launched by the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and UNEP, in coordination with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), has been joined so far by Canada, Chile, Colombia, India, Japan, Kenya, Morocco, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway,

¹ Implementing partners: UN agencies: World Health Organization (WHO) , United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia (ESCAP); Federation Internationale d'Automobile (FIA), International Motor Vehicles Inspection Committee (CITA), International Transport Forum (ITF), the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), African Union Commission (AUC), FIA Foundation, the European Union, Japan, Republic of Korea, USA, and China.

Peru, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, South Africa and Switzerland and the European Union (EU)². In 2021, members have prioritized to explore the nexus between circular economy and climate change, green recovery, and biodiversity through the development of working papers. These papers have been discussed at their High-Level Meetings, the most recent one held as a side event of UNEA-5 the 2nd of March 2022.

11. In 2022, in the support of the INC process, GACERE members have also worked on circular economy and plastics. Analysis on circular economy policies that contribute to addressing plastic pollution and promoting a just transition to circularity and resource efficiency in the plastics value chain have been conducted. Other prioritized thematic areas include circular economy and waste, pollution & chemicals, as well as the potential of the extended producer responsibility instrument.
12. In December 2022, GACERE will lead a session on partnerships for a fair and inclusive transition towards a global circular economy during the WCEF that will take place in Kigali, Rwanda. The session will discuss the leveraging role of partnership platforms such as GACERE, the African Circular Economy Alliance (ACEA), and the Latin America and Caribbean Circular Economy Coalition (LACCEC), UNECE, CIRCULAR STEP, and the Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia and the Pacific, as well as the role of public-private partnerships to facilitate greater collaboration at the regional and global levels to support countries in the development of impactful and coherent circular economy policies.

ii. The African Circular Economy Alliance, and the Latin America and Caribbean Circular Economy Coalition

13. The African Circular Economy Alliance (ACEA), and the Latin America and Caribbean Circular Economy Coalition (LACCEC) are being supported and coordinated (respectably) by UNEP through the GO4SDGs initiative. Through ACEA five opportunity areas were identified to transition Africa to a circular economy development model that enables economic growth, job creation, and environmental conservation. These areas include food systems, packaging, built environment, fashion, and electronics; all referred to as the “5 Big Bets”. UNEP in collaboration with AfDB through the SWITCH Africa Green programme are working to develop regional circular economy guidelines for accelerating the transition to a circular economy, these will inform the AU Action plan on circular economy among other regional and national policy and action plans.
14. On response to national requests, UNEP is supporting Seychelles to develop a circular economy action plan and a financing strategy. UNEP is also supporting Mauritius to develop a national roadmap on circular economy as well as a regulatory framework.
15. GO4SDGs sits on the ACEA Technical Steering Committee and is one of its key collaborating partners. ACEA and GO4SDGs have co-organized stakeholder engagement fora on circular economy, including a working group on circular economy at the Africa regional stakeholder consultations in the lead-up to the Stockholm+50. GO4SDGs is also partnering with UNEP FI to conduct a study on “*Financing Circular Economy in Sub-Saharan Africa*” whose overall objective is to provide additional knowledge and resources that support policy makers and financial institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa to understand challenges and opportunities of financing

² Supported by strategic partners: the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, the Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy (PACE), the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and the World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF).

circularity in Africa, including a focus on SMEs. An African stakeholder validation workshop was held on the 6th of September 2022.

16. In Latin America, LACCEC is coordinated by UNEP-GO4SDGGs. The Coalition brings together 16 countries, 9 strategic partners³, and 20 non-government organizations, including private sector organizations. The Coalition reports to the LAC Regional Forum of Ministers of Environment. In February 2022, the Coalition launched the report “*Circular Economy in LAC: a shared vision*”⁴. UNEP Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), the IDB and IDB Invest jointly developed the study “*Unlocking Circular Economy Finance in Latin America and the Caribbean: The Catalyst for a Positive Change. Findings and recommendations for Policy Makers and the Financial Sector*,” summarizing findings from seven countries in the region: Brazil, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, and Mexico. Building on these studies, the Coalition aims to: 1) further promote knowledge exchange and strengthen actors from the financial sector in the region thereby complementing the Working Group on Sustainable Finance Taxonomies in LAC; 2) promote South-South cooperation between Africa and LAC on financial mechanisms to scale up the transition to a circular economy in both continents. The IDB, in coordination with LACCEC is establishing a technical cooperation Fund (“*Circular Economy Policy and Projects Accelerator for Latin America and the Caribbean*”). This fund is intended to become the main financing mechanism of the Coalition for implementing activities and projects in the region.
17. LACCEC has also actively participated in the international working group on Trade and Circular Economy led by the Chatham House, setting out a framework⁵ for inclusive circular trade to enable a pathway in which circular trade helps to promote fair, inclusive, and circular societies. The Coalition is keen on building on this work and taking a step further to generate a concrete project. A close partnership with the PREVENT Waste Alliance⁶ has also been established with 2 webinars on behavioural change and circular economy. Two webinars have been organized jointly, with more instances planned.
18. The LACCEC will also launch its two first working groups on Plastics and Electronics with participation of its member countries as well other organizations, businesses, and institutions. Under the lead of KAS and UNEP the Coalition will organize the *Circular Economy Festival: Vaivén 2022*. This event will take place from 27th to 29th of September and will provide a platform for discussion and exchange of experiences and seeks to involve especially its members⁷. In the framework of the UNFCCC COP27, the Coalition will organize a side event on Circular Economy metrics and present the progress of its Circular Economy baseline analysis.
19. All African and LAC Member States are invited to join these regional platforms on Circular Economy.

³ [Ellen MacArthur Foundation \(EMF\)](#), [World Economic Forum \(WEF\)](#), IDB, UNEP, UNIDO, ECLAC, KAS, CTCN, PACE.

⁴ This publication was the result of a broad participatory process with more than 50 organizations and was led jointly by four of its strategic partner organisations: Ellen MacArthur foundation; the Konrad Adenauer Foundation; The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); and UNEP.

⁵ “Trade for an Inclusive Circular Economy”: <https://www.chathamhouse.org/2022/06/trade-inclusive-circular-economy>

⁶ Initiated by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the PREVENT Waste Alliance was launched in May 2019. It serves as a platform for exchange and international cooperation. Organizations from the private sector, academia, civil society and public institutions jointly engage for a circular economy. (<https://prevent-waste.net/>)

⁷ Registration Link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeaArk5OIbcXR0xeMv5becqrc5e4ikCX44IW4TK8460rj2Imw/viewform>

iii. CIRCULAR STEP

20. Launched in April 2022, during UNECE's Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (RFSD), the CIRCULAR STEP (Stakeholder Engagement Platform), promotes the exchange of experience, sharing of best practices and stakeholder engagement in the circular economy transition in the Pan-European region, with a focus on countries with economies in transition (UNECE's 17 programme countries in Central Asia, Southern Caucasus, Western Balkan, and Eastern Europe). CIRCULAR STEP helps to address three key challenges that hamper concrete progress on the circular economy in transition economies region: 1) low visibility of the specificities of transition economies in the circular economy policy debate; 2) lack of capacity in transition economies to design and implement effective circularity policies and investment; and 3) financing gaps in transition economies for the circular economy transition. CIRCULAR STEP focuses on the wide range of economic issues addressed by UNECE (e.g., trade, innovation enhancing public procurement, waste management, small and medium enterprises, traceability of value chains, institutional arrangements, financing, and digital solutions in the circular economy transition). CIRCULAR STEP also contributes to the implementation of a four-year, multi-agency capacity-building project "*Accelerating the Transition towards a Circular Economy in the UNECE region*," supporting specifically Georgia, Serbia, Tajikistan and financed through the UN Development Account (UNDA).

b. Facilitating a conversation on natural resources and materials in the context of circular economy

21. UNEP is facilitating a conversation on natural resources and materials in the context of circular economy by providing background knowledge and evidence-based recommendations to global conversations and by enabling and facilitating these conversations through diverse platforms at global and regional levels.
22. To facilitate an informed conversation on natural resources and materials in the context of the circular economy the International Resource Panel (IRP) is in the process of developing its second flagship report – *the Global Resources Outlook*. The report to be launched in 2024 for UNEA-6 will present the status, trends, and outlook of natural resource use with a special focus on 'wellbeing decoupling'. As a complement the Panel in the process of developing a study on the '*Socioeconomic Implications of Enhancing Resource Efficiency and Promoting the Circular Economy*.' The primary purpose of the study is to explore factors that impact upon or influence equitable distribution of socioeconomic benefits from circular economy and resource efficiency in different development contexts. It is expected to provide: 1) a better understanding of circular economy and resource efficiency strategies from a socioeconomic impact standpoint; and 2) evidence-based policy options on how to decouple human well-being and economic growth from environmental degradation. The IRP is also developing an assessment report on '*Advancing the Circular Economy on Consumer Electronic Markets*' aiming to: 1) assess environmental and socio-economic implications of upscaling recycling and value retention processes (VRP), namely remanufacturing, refurbishment, repair, and reuse; and 2) analyze systemic regulatory, market, technology, and infrastructure barriers to scale-up these processes and evaluate how they could be overcome. GO4SDGs is partnering with the IRP, developing the West Asia Regional Outlook on Resource use. It will be officially launched in during 4th quarter of 2022 at a regional or international event. In Africa, GO4SDGs and the IRP have fostered a strategic partnership between ACEA and the IRP that will see to collaborate in these reports, growing the IRP Steering Committee membership amongst African countries.

i. Facilitating global conversations

23. GACERE aims to facilitate global conversations on the governance of natural resources and options to improve the current situation, including through the wider adoption of more resource efficient and circular approaches. In 2022-2023, UNEP, with the support of UNIDO, will consolidate key findings emerging from GACERE's work on options to improve the governance of natural resources through resource-efficient and circular approaches, profiting from existing research, and exploiting information gathered in other relevant processes, e.g. resolutions and ministerial declarations of the United Nations Environment Assembly, UNIDO General Conference, ministerial declarations of the High-Level Political Forum, other declarations and documents, such as outcomes of UN conferences and high-level meetings. It is expected that these findings will increase the knowledge base concerning the current governance mechanisms that address the unsustainable and linear use of natural resources at global level, and the strong link between resource management, environmental impacts, and the circular economy. In this context, attention will be given to exploring the gender implication of governance mechanisms of natural resources. This will eventually allow a discussion with GACERE members to initiate a global conversation on the governance of natural resources and agree appropriate follow-up actions.
24. In line with the new Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production, building on progress achieved so far, multistakeholder partners and programmes of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns (10YFP), will engage leading platforms on circularity – such as GACERE , PACE and EMF, to address the knowledge and implementation gaps in the circularity-consumption interface and promote the implementation of circular economy policies and business models in high-impact systems and sectors that fully integrate the demand-side of circularity.
25. This will be done through the development of recommendations and identification of priority actions to further the use of circular economy practices worldwide, considering specific contexts and needs across countries and communities, as well as through the production and dissemination of relevant knowledge products, including a UNEP report on '*Rethinking Consumption for an Inclusive Circular Economy.*' This report will serve as a basis to enable coordination and cooperation across various leading platforms, facilitating the development and the up take across countries and sectors, of concrete solutions that can help ensure that the shift to circularity is supported and driven by demand. This set of activities will also inform a series of Global Dialogues with Members States on natural resources and materials in the context of circular economy to be held in the second semester of 2023 and in the lead up to UNEA 6.
26. In addition, the 10YFP will continue to organize the One Planet Network Forum, an annual event organized and facilitated by the 10YFP Secretariat. It will serve as a global platform for delivering progress on sustainable consumption and production efforts in the context of the new Global Strategy as well as provide a space for thought leadership on advancing the tools and actions needed to take forward sustainable practices around the world, securing new partnerships and commitments for action as well as monitoring progress against existing ones. The first version of the Forum was held on 31st May and 1st of June 2022 as an associated event to Stockholm+50. It brought together 4,000 participants. Alongside discussions and debate, several clear SCP commitments for action were made: 1) an agreement on a clear vision of the post-2022 Global Strategy for SDG12 and SCP; and 2) the Launch of Regional Science Partners for SCP in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America to support the scaling up of sustainable consumption and production and SDG12 implementation at country level.

ii. Facilitating regional level conversations

27. In April 2020 UNECE member States devoted the high-level segment of the 69th Commission session to the topic of ‘*Circular Economy and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources in the UNECE Region*’. [Among others, they requested, “the relevant Sectoral Committees and bodies ... to consider how to enhance the impact of relevant existing ECE instruments, in order to foster circular and more efficient approaches, including by proposing ways to identify, assess and fill gaps in governance and good practice”.] Since then, through its intergovernmental machinery, UNECE has been providing a platform for sharing of best practices and adopting concrete tools that offer innovative pathways for the circular economy transition. End 2021, a first status report compiles UNECE-wide results.⁸
28. Recent examples from the field of trade and economic cooperation include the second edition of the ‘*Code of Good Practice – reducing food loss and ensuring optimum handling of fresh fruit and vegetables along the value chain*’.⁹ Currently in preparation are the ‘*Guidelines on Public-Private Partnerships for the Sustainable Development Goals in Waste-to-Energy Projects for Non-Recyclable Waste: Pathways towards a Circular Economy*’ and the ‘*Guidelines on Promoting Circular Economy in Public-Private Partnerships for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals*’ (both slated for adoption end 2022). And, based on the ‘*UNECE Sustainability Pledge, for Transparency and Traceability in the Textiles and Footwear sector*’ (adopted in 2021)¹⁰, the new UNECE Team of Specialists (ToS) on Environmental, Social and Governance Traceability of Sustainable Value Chains in the Circular Economy, is expanding this approach to additional sectors (to agri-food and extractive industries). The second meeting of the ToS is scheduled for 6 October 2022.
29. While adopted by UNECE’s 56 member States, in the organizations’ intergovernmental machinery, the Guidelines, Codes, Recommendations and Standards are free of charge and open for use by governments and stakeholders in all UN member States.
30. Specifically on trade, UNECE contributes to the generation of knowledge on how harness the power of trade for the circular transition. In June 2022, in the context of UNECE’s Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards, trade-related discussions among developed and transition economies, with contribution of international experts, elaborated on the circular economy and trade nexus, sharing successful experiences and existing challenges for the circular economy shift. While highlighting the importance of the circular economy transition, it was stressed the critical need to ensure that these environmental measures do not turn into barriers to trade. The UNECE Steering Committee recognized the important role of trade and economic cooperation in the circular economy transition, also as discussed at other international and regional forums such as WTO Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD), to which the UNECE secretariat regularly contributes.
31. With a view to addressing the knowledge gap in transition economies to design and implement effective circularity policies and investment, UNECE is in the process of preparing a series of analytical papers – discussing how the circular transition can be supported by: digitalization, financing, supply chain traceability, trade, innovation-enhancing procurement, and institutional arrangements.

⁸ Implementation of decisions taken by the 69th session of the Economic Commission for Europe related to the cross-cutting theme of the high-level segment, available at: https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/Item%207%20ECE_EX_2022_4_Reporting%20on%20%20implementation%20of%20CE%20ECE69.pdf

⁹ https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/WP7_2021_INF1_0.pdf

¹⁰ The Sustainability Pledge consists of a policy recommendation, implementations guidelines and an information-exchange standard for improved transparency and traceability in the garment and footwear supply chain,

32. With a view to building capacity, UNECE implements a multi-agency UNDA project on '*Accelerating the transition towards a Circular Economy and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources in the UNECE region*'. Through in-depth discussions on the gaps, potentials, and member States' experiences in the transition to a circular economy, the project aims to chart the way forward for three countries with economies in transition: Georgia, Serbia and Tajikistan. First national workshops were held, and gap analyses are being prepared, for Serbia and Tajikistan, with Georgia to follow.
33. UNEP through the SWITCH Africa Green programme is developing two documents '*Guidelines for Accelerating the Transition towards a Circular Economy in Africa*' and an '*Assessment of Green Financing Mechanisms for Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Africa*.' The purpose of these guidelines is to accelerate the transition of African countries towards a circular economy by providing a clear pathway to adopting its principles. The guidelines provide a framework to promote a coordinated approach to the transition towards a circular economy throughout Africa. They are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive. Instead, they encourage countries to be cognizant of their specific needs and resources, and tailor how they adopt these guidelines to their specific contexts.
34. National stakeholder consultations were carried out in 10 countries (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, and Uganda) to provide insights on the national interventions required to advance the circular economy. A regional validation meeting was held in Accra, Ghana and about 70 participants participated and deliberated on these two documents.
35. The guidelines will support the development of national action plans as well as inform the Africa Union Commission's (AUC) regional strategy and action plan on circular economy in Africa. They are also expected to enhance the work of the African Circular Economy Alliance (ACEA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and compliment the work of UNEP in promoting circularity in Africa. The Green financing assessment report aims to provide an up to date and broad understanding of the financial instruments, models, policies, and tools available and their access to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) for green financing. The assessment builds on work done with MSMEs in the region. It will also inform the work undertaken with various partners including the AfDB.
36. Bringing actors together at the regional level UNEP through the GO4SDGs initiative is collaborating with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), IDB and IDB Invest to establish a baseline analysis for Latin America following the example of the Global Circularity Gap Report. This work will: 1) enable national stakeholders in Latin American countries to better understand the key sectors, materials, and kinds of strategies that should be prioritized to achieve a circular economy; 2) establish a valuable benchmark for measuring relative performance between countries in the Latin American region; 3) obtain further insights on issues such as job creation potential, inter-regional trade, industrial specialization, collective resource management and economic resilience. In addition, with the support of the EU and its "Switch to Green Facility," LACCEC has initiated the documentation of experiences by Member States in planning for Circular Economy. These experiences shall serve as reference for other countries, to foster peer to peer exchanges and to create guidelines in Spanish on how to develop National Circular Economy Frameworks.
37. To cover measuring gaps the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), a strategic Partner of LACCEC, will be initiating a multi-country technical assistance with six countries (Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Peru, Uruguay) to provide guidance on establishing synergies among Climate Change metrics and Circular Economy metrics.

38. With the support of academia, the LAC Coalition has also initiated a mapping of Circular Economy education or training offers in the region and/or in the Spanish and Portuguese languages. The objective of this process is to: 1) provide a space through which interested stakeholders, and the public, can be informed about training options; 2) provide guidance to training entities, universities, and others to close capacity building and training gaps in the region and eventually ensure high quality training on the subject.
39. On Finance, UNEP FI, GO4SDGs, IDB, AfDB, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), and private banks organized the Stockholm+50 Official Side Event on “*Financing Circularity: for a sustainable recovery and green jobs*” to share existing mechanisms to finance circularity and to raise awareness on its benefits and opportunities and share evidence on how the circular economy contributes to a sustainable and green jobs driven recovery. A series of webinars to raise awareness and to build capacities for the financial sector and to explore how financial institutions can accelerate the transition to a circular economy have also been organized from June to October 2022¹¹. The events are held in Spanish, with simultaneous translation into English and Portuguese¹².
40. In West Asia UNEP with the support of GO4SDGs, has launched the “*Sustainable Fashion Academy in West Asia*” providing capacity development to governments, private sector, and youth (in partnership with the Lebanese American University) to integrate circularity and resource efficiency in the textile and fashion sector. Finally, in Asia and the Pacific, UNEP, with the support of GO4SDGs and in partnership with Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), has co-organized a hybrid online seminar on “*Sustainable Infrastructure for Circular Cities*” to build capacity on creating an enabling environment to replicate and scale up good practices on sustainable lifestyles.

Recommendations

41. It is recommended that Member States, including through the CPR, continue to be appraised of progress achieved and relevant recommendations leading towards UNEA-6 emerging from the following workstreams:
- Recommendations emerging from UNEP’s report on Used Vehicles and the Environment;
 - The International Resource Panel (IRP) second flagship report – *the Global Resources Outlook*.
 - Engagement and input in the development of a UNEP report on ‘*Rethinking Consumption for an Inclusive Circular Economy*.’

¹¹ Implementing partners: UNEP FI, UNEP, the IDB, IDB invest, the eco.business Development Facility and its Sustainability Academy, GO4SDGs, Circular Economy Coalition organized.

¹² <https://www.unepfi.org/events/serie-de-webinars-sobre-economia-circular/>