

UNEP's work on Voluntary Standards

An overview



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The contextual background

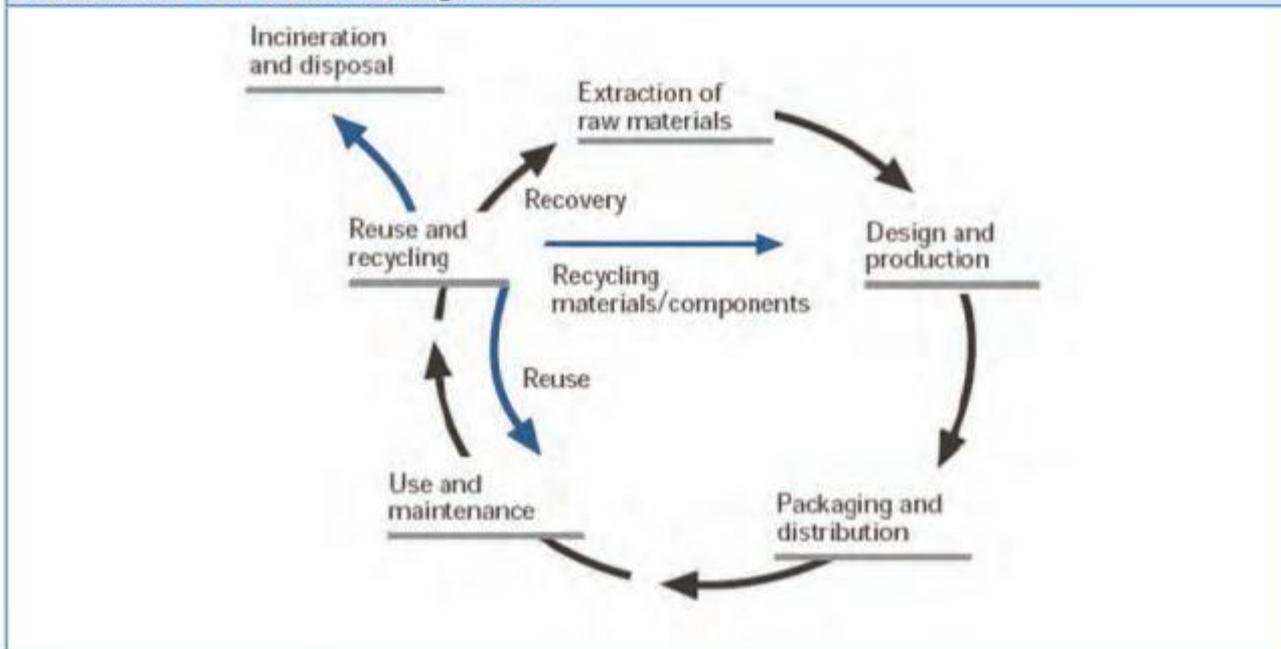
Green Economy

- An economy whose growth in income and employment is driven by public and private investments that reduce carbon emissions and pollution, enhance energy and resource efficiency, and prevent the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Need to **redirect investments**



Lifecycle approach

Figure 2:3 A schematic product life-cycle covering all the major phases from raw materials extraction to end-of-life management



Source: (UNEP/SETAC 2005)

Resource Efficiency

- Promoting sustainable resource management in a life cycle perspective for goods and services



Consumption

Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production

Assessment | Policy | Business | **Consumption**

Consumption

Education, Lifestyles and Youth



Standards and Labels



Procurement



Standards and labels

- Ecolabels
 - Increase export of products with a type 1 ecolabel
 - Promote cooperation and mutual recognition of ecolabelling schemes
- Measuring Sustainability
 - Lifecycle Assessment
 - LCA databases (baselines)
- Environmental Footprint
 - Carbon footprint
 - Water footprint

VSS and trade opportunities

- ❑ To produce high value (environmental credentials) products
- ❑ To increase the international competitiveness and enhance market access
- ❑ To improve the regional economic integration
- ❑ Create frontrunners in trade

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An overview of initiatives and outputs

Examples of Initiatives

- Multi-sector level
 - Green Economy and Trade Project
 - Regional Cooperation on Ecolabelling and Sustainable Public Procurement
 - Global programme on consumer information
- Sectoral level
 - Sustainable Buildings and Climate Initiative
 - Global Partnership on Sustainable Tourism
 - Sustainable Rice Platform
 - Agri-food Task force (with FAO)

Examples of Outcomes

- ❑ Global Sustainable Tourism Criteria
- ❑ Common Carbon Metric -Protocol
- ❑ Sustainable Buildings Protocol (water, materials, biodiversity, etc.)
- ❑ Guidelines for sustainability communication

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An example of relevant work in
Panama

sustainable public procurement
initiatives (from 2013 onwards)

Sustainable Public Procurement and Ecolabelling Project

- Initiated by UNEP in the following countries in LA
 - Panamá, Chile, Ecuador, Brazil
- Two-stream approach:
 - Public policy development
 - Voluntary market transformation initiatives

Sustainable Public Procurement and Ecolabelling Project

- Objectives:
 - To develop a sustainable procurement policy using information provided by ecolabel

Sustainable Public Procurement and Ecolabelling Project

- Establish / revise procurement policies
- Define products or services to be purchased
- Support implementation of policies

Gracias por su atención

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