



DA Partners with the SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility to Promote SCP in India

The SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility supported by the European Union Delegation to India (EU) and Development Alternatives (DA), organised the first of a series of Multi-stakeholder Consultations on 28th August, 2018, on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in New Delhi. The Consultation aimed at further and better mainstreaming policies and actions in support to SCP. The objectives of the consultation were to identify SCP priorities, shortcoming, constraints and challenges in terms of policy; institutional and technical needs; identify opportunities to unlock effective transformative actions together with possible interventions for up-scale of sustainable consumption and production practices in India and targeted means of implementation of the identified interventions.

The key speakers for the Multi-stakeholder Consultation included: Mr. Arab Hoballah (Team Leader, SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility), Ms. Puja Sawhney (South Asia Expert, SWITCH-Asia), Mr. Jerome Pons (Head of Operation, EU Delegation), Shri. A.K. Jain, (Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India), Dr Ashok Khosla (Chairman, DA) and Zeenat Niazi (Vice President, DA).

The consultation proceeded with group discussions that were aimed at identification of key interventions for mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production patterns. A clear reflection of the participants based on the group discussions were that in India, there was a need for larger efforts to be put into implementation of these initiatives and less on the existing robust policies that govern the country. Having identified the key gaps and challenges that hinder the impacts of SCP, the group delved into looking at sustainable housing as one of the key sectors where a significant impact could be made. Conclusions from the group discussion indicated that indicators of sustainability, that is, resource efficiency, water efficiency, need to be part of the procurement process of housing projects. More than 40 experts representing industry, civil society and government, and various international organisations participated in the event.

Moving forward in the discussions, the group suggested that a roadmap for mainstreaming SCP in India is the need of the hour and will be developed in the near future in consultation with stakeholders including, government, civil society, business, academia and media.