



European
Commission

The EU Switch to Green

switch²
green

Flagship Initiative

A Gateway to Inclusive Green Economy
For the European Union and Partner Countries



Development
and Cooperation

What is SWITCH to Green?

A flagship initiative aiming at facilitating the transition to an inclusive green economy that generates growth, creates decent jobs, and helps reduce poverty. Developed by the European Commission Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO), SWITCH TO GREEN links complementary programs to improve the overall coherence, coordination and visibility of existing and future EU funded international cooperation initiatives on green economy.



It builds on several initiatives, in particular the SWITCH regional programmes:

- in Asia <http://www.switch-asia.eu>
- in Africa <http://www.switchafricagreen.org>
- in the Mediterranean <http://www.switchmed.eu>

The initiative combines policy level cooperation to contribute to the establishment of the right incentive structures and instruments, with support to private sector initiatives to promote SCP practices and the development of green businesses. The expected results of the initiative are:

1. Inclusive green economy policy reforms take shape/are in place in partner countries;
2. Economic actors are better equipped and have greater opportunities to develop green business and/or apply SCP practices in partner countries.

Why SWITCH to Green?

In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the international community acknowledges the importance of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) practices, through a dedicated Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 12) and various targets across the agenda.

EU development policy explicitly backs the transition to a green economy in partner countries. The EU has significant experience with international cooperation on SCP to contribute to this process. It has committed more than EUR 200 million over recent years to support the development of SCP policies and green business initiatives in developing countries under the SWITCH programmes.

The EU also has relevant domestic experience to share with partner countries. Initiatives such as the Resource-efficient Europe roadmap, the Green Action Plan for SMEs or the Circular Economy Action Plan provide instructive blueprints, with significant lessons learnt for partner countries.



The SWITCH To Green Facility

The technical assistance Facility provides resources to support the development and steering of the SWITCH to Green Flagship Initiative.

It assists dialogue and cooperation between the EU and partner countries' stakeholders promoting a green transition process.

Actions to improve synergies

The facility has a multi-task role, broken down into three main areas of action:



Technical support

Technical advice is provided to the European Commission and development partners to better identify and formulate actions contributing to the green economy transition in partner countries. The facility also assists with monitoring and evaluation, with a view to identifying and understanding potential synergies and opportunities to accelerate this transition.



Dialogue and exchange of experiences

The facility supports the organisation of policy and learning events to assist coordination and dialogue among inclusive green economy stakeholders. Likewise, the facility creates dedicated tools contributing to knowledge sharing.



Knowledge creation and management

The facility supports the planning and delivery of trainings and publications, with a view to promoting capitalisation on existing knowledge and EU domestic experience on inclusive green economy.

www.switchtogreen.eu

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