

NIG GEF-UNIDO IEE /RECP PROJECT"

Recommendations for Environmental Industrial Policies on Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production for the Nigerian Industrial Sector.

Commissioned by: Federal Ministry of Environment, (FMEnv) Global Environment Facility (GEF) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Arranged by: RECP Working Group

Backstopping Expert: Engr. Morgan O. Chigbo RECP WG. Lead

The Federal Ministry of Environment and UNIDO through the GEF-UNIDO IEE/RECP Project conducted a comprehensive assessment and analysis of environmental policies and regulations between 2022 and 2023, to produce regulatory framework and appropriate recommendations for industry in alignment to ISOs and gender dimension. As a follow-up to all-inclusive stakeholders' engagement, a review meeting with selected industries in Abuja and Kano State was also organized on April 9th and 29th, 2025, respectively, to assess Resource Efficient Cleaner Production (RECP) and Circular Economy compliant practices. During this period, an in-depth analysis of relevant policy documents and various industrial practices to identify gaps and overlaps were steered and recommendations were made by relevant stakeholders to solve the various challenges identified during the study.

Key Gaps Identified:

1. Policy awareness: Industries were unaware of existing policies and regulations.

2. Policy accessibility: Industries lacked access to relevant policies and regulations.

3. Limited stakeholder engagement in policy-making: Major stakeholders are not sufficiently represented during policy drafting and development, which can lead to ineffective policies and duplication of efforts/functions.

To enhance active implementation and acceptance, the recommendations were validated by key government bodies, and industrial associations on the 6th of May, 2025.



RECOMMENDATION-1

The Federal and State governments may establish formal Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production strategies or programmes to act as a framework for the coordinated implementation of specific/customized policy instruments in sub-sectors.

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMENV and all relevant stakeholders

RECOMMENDATION-2

To enhance compliance, RECP audits should be integrated into licensing requirements, making them mandatory for firms. Additionally, relevant MDAs should collaborate to ensure streamlined auditing and effective compliance monitoring.



IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMENV and all relevant MDAs

RECOMMENDATION-3

To promote Resource Efficient Cleaner Production (RECP), the government can offer grants, loans, tax rebate, compliance reward and technical assistance.



These incentives should be prioritized to encourage enterprises promoting circular economy, RECP industry-specific criteria, and sustainable practices.



IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMENV and all relevant MDAs

RECOMMENDATION-4

Companies should be required to implement a structured Environmental Management System (EMS) and publicly disclose their Environmental Performance Indicators (EPIs) through regular reporting.



IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMENV, NESREA, MAN, etc.

RECOMMENDATION-5

Implement a flexible compliance approach for firms adopting ISO 14001, particularly those seeking to meet environmental and social governance standards for multinational partnerships and external investment.



IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMENV, NESREA and other relevant MDAs.

RECOMMENDATION-6

1. Firms should implement advanced drying technologies to improve post-harvest processing.
2. Develop infrastructure to replace open-air drying methods, enhancing efficiency and reducing losses
3. FMEnv should establish a technical working group under the Climate Change Department to drive greenhouse gas emission reduction initiatives, leveraging Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production (RECP) strategies as a key approach.



IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMENV (DCC), FMARD, FMITI, FMIST.

RECOMMENDATION-7

Develop a Resource Efficient Cleaner Production (RECP) curriculum and implement a "train-the-trainer" approach, where selected experts are trained to then



educate others. Additionally, create awareness programs tailored to grassroots

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMENV, FMITI, NUC, NOA.

RECOMMENDATION-8

When creating policies for energy efficiency, regulatory institutions should mandate that high-end properties (valued at ₦20m+) incorporate renewable energy solutions to meet their energy requirements, promoting sustainability and reduced dependence on non-renewable sources.



IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMENV, FMP
and other relevant MDAs.

RECOMMENDATION-9

STRENGTHENING SUSTAINABLE RECYCLING POLICIES FOR PLASTICS AND OTHER MATERIALS TO DRIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH, BOOST PRODUCTIVITY, AND CREATE JOBS.



THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED BY:

Supporting waste minimization initiatives

Encouraging the formation of waste/ Environmental clubs or networks

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMENV, State Authorities and other relevant MDAS

RECOMMENDATION-10

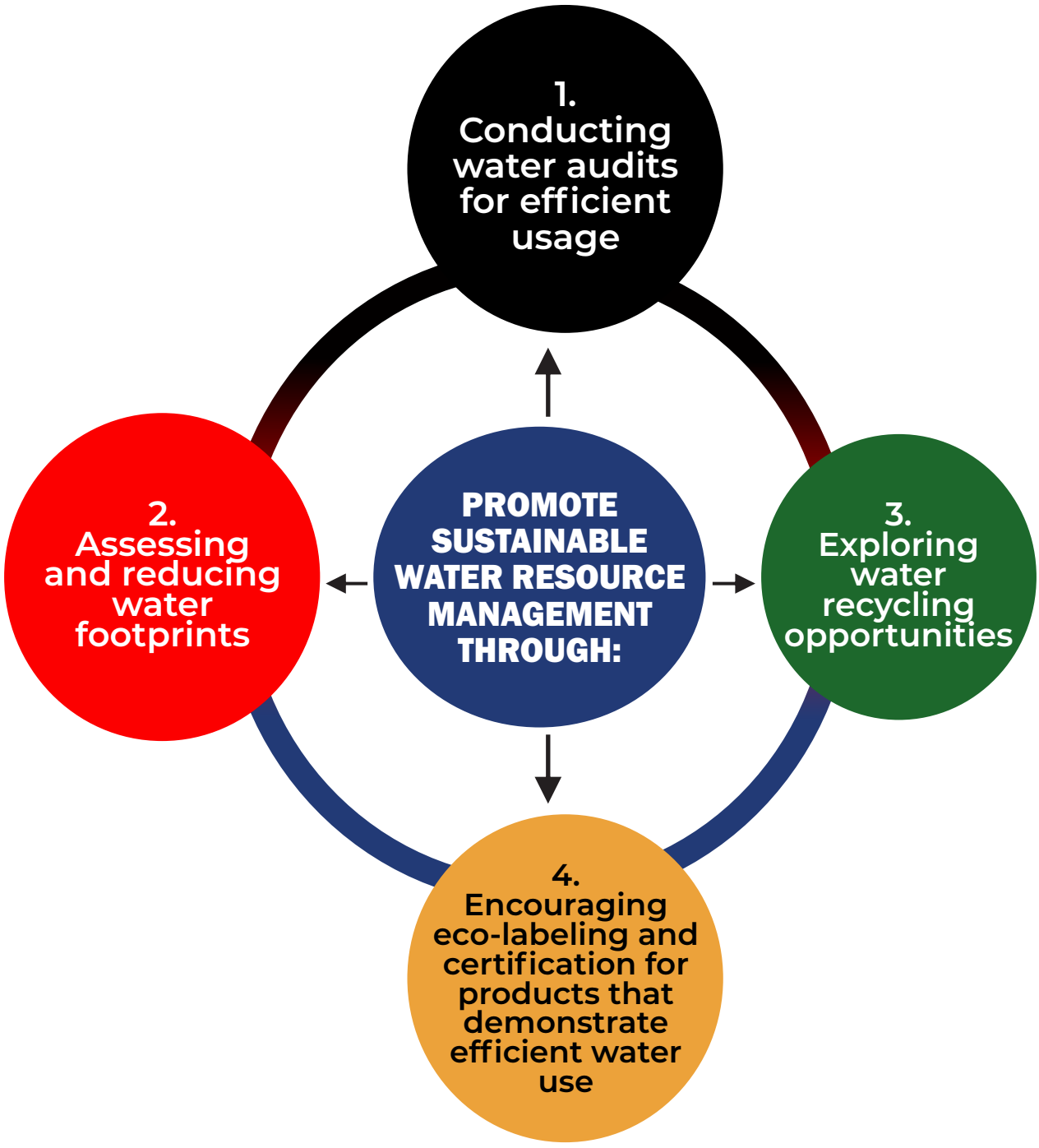
Annual national summits should be held to promote resource efficiency and cleaner production best practices, preceded by in-house events within each MDA to foster awareness and preparedness.



IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMITI, FMENV, MAN
and other relevant **MDAs**

RECOMMENDATION-11



IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMWR, NIWRMC, FMENV, NAFDAC

RECOMMENDATION-12



Enhance enforcement/or regulation of the existing Packaging Policy by incentivizing companies to adopt biodegradable packaging



Additionally, support farmers in scaling up production of grains used for sustainable packaging, through circular economy approach.

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMITI, FMENV, NAFDAC, AEBP, NESREA, FMARD, FCCPC, RMRDC

RECOMMENDATION-13

TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION, CONSIDER:



Reducing exploitation of natural resources and the use of environmentally harmful raw materials (e.g., logging, Lead etc).

Enhancing ecosystem management across the federal, state, and local governments to mitigate ecological disasters.





Strengthening policies governing raw material usage.

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

RMRDC, MAN, FMITI, FMSTI, FMENV, FCCPC, NESREA and other relevant MDAs.

RECOMMENDATION-14



Ensure strict compliance to sustainable waste management policies.

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMENV, NESREA, AEPB, States' Environmental Protection Boards.

RECOMMENDATION-15

The RECP policy

should include provisions for:

2



Reviewing and evaluating foreign technology transfer agreements.

2



Collaborating with research and academic institutions to develop innovative solutions and inventions that support RECP.

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION

FMENV, MFA, NOTAP, FMITI, FMSTI, NUC and other relevant MDAs

RECOMMENDATIONS-16

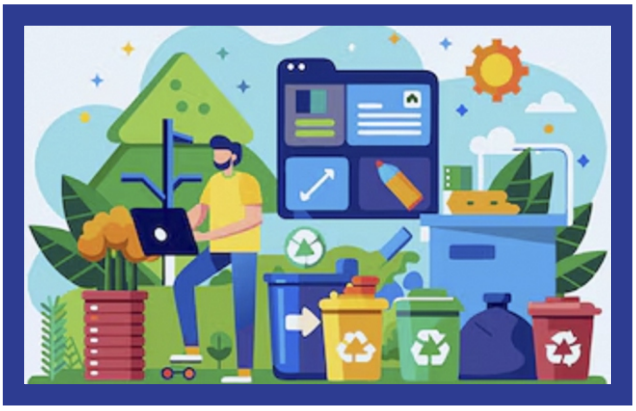
Establish a National Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production (RECP) Centre to:



Coordinate and gather relevant data



Support implementation and monitoring of RECP in industries



Facilitate a Waste Exchange Platform. This Centre will enhance RECP adoption, data-driven decision-making, and waste reduction across industries.

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION
FMENV

VALIDATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ANALYSIS OF INDUSTRIAL POLICIES ON RESOURCE EFFICIENCY CLEANER PRODUCTION (RECP) BY MDAs AT ZOE HALL, ZEUS PARADISE HOTEL, MABUSHI, ABUJA ON THE 6TH of MAY, 2025.

S/N	ORGANIZATION	SIGNATURE
1.	FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT	
2.	FEDERAL MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND INVESTMENT	
3.	FEDERAL MINISTRY OF INNOVATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	
4.	FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ~~WORKS~~ POWER	
5.	FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE	
6.	FEDERAL MINISTRY OF SOLID MINERALS DEVELOPMENT	
7.	FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY	
8.	FEDEREAL MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND SANITATION	
9.	NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS, REGULATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (NESREA)	
10.	NATIONAL OIL SPILL DETECTION AND RESPONSE AGENCY (NOSDRA)	
11.	NATIONAL OFFICE FOR TECHNOLOGY ACQUISITION AND PROMOTION (NOTAP)	
12.	NIGERIA INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION (NIWRMC)	

13.	NIGERIAN ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIETY (NES)	
14.	NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION (NUC)	
15.	NATIONAL ORIENTATION AGENCY (NOA)	
16.	NIGERIA EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL (NEPC)	
17.	NATIONAL AGENCY FOR FOOD AND DRUGS ADMINISTRATION AND CONTROL (NAFDAC)	
18.	RAW MATERIALS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (RMRDC)	
19.	STANDARDS ORGANIZATION OF NIGERIA (SON)	
20.	UNIVERSITY OF ABUJA	
21.	SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPEMT AGENCY OF NIGERIA (SMEDAN)	
22.	FEDERAL COMPETITION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION COMMISSION (FCCPC)	
23.	MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (MAN)	
24.	ABUJA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD (AEPB)	
25.	INDUSTRIAL TRAINING FUND (ITF)	
26.	ENERGY COMMISSION OF NIGERIA (ECN)	
27.	ABUJA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE	
28.	FEDERAL MINISTRY OF POWER	
29.		
30.		

WAY FORWARD: A PROPOSED PLAN

	ACTION POINTS		IMPLEMENTING AGENCY	TIMELINE & STATUS
1.	DATA AND INDICATORS	Identify inventory data points and indicators to be reported upon at different levels (sectoral/regional)	RECP WG in collaboration with stakeholders	2025
		Identify resource efficiency indicators to be reported in progress report		
		Prepare framework for data collection, compilation, and monitoring and evaluation		
		Reporting of Baseline date for selected sectors		
		Data report (Baseline and Progress)		
2.	CAPACITY BUILDING	Capacity building of state government/agencies on resource efficiency.	RECP WG with FMENV, NESREA	2023 - 2025

2.	CAPACITY BUILDING	Capacity building of state government/agencies on resource efficiency.	RECP WG with FMENV, NESREA	2023 - 2025
		Capacity building of state government and sectoral stakeholders on indicators framework and monitoring.		
		Generic Manuals, Brochures and Videos – Innovative communication tools for visibility		
		Support start-ups and other agencies in development and commercialization of Waste Exchange Platform		
3.	POLICY INSTRUMENTS	Identification of products/sectors for which Eco - mark scheme be revised, strengthened and developed.	RECP WG, MAN, SON, other stakeholders	2022 – 2025

		Work on development of standards for secondary raw materials for selected secondary materials.		
		Development of resource efficiency sectoral standards.		
		Deliberation on regulatory instrument (tax/ban on disposal to landfill) and Green Public Procurement		
		Deliberation on strengthening and implementation of EPR		
		Report on deliberations undertaken on policy instruments for resource efficiency		
4.	Sectoral Resource Efficiency Strategy	Develop sectoral resource strategies	RECP WG, FMENV, MAN, MDAs	2022 - 2025
		Adoption of resource efficiency targets as developed by concerned ministries into Action Plan		

		National Resource Efficiency Policy		
		Development of sectoral Toolkits on Resource Efficiency & Circular Economy		
		Coordination with Ministries to cover more resources, sectors and life cycle stages for resource efficiency.		
5.	Research and development	Organize workshop on Life Cycle Assessment	RECP WG, Funding Agency	2022 - 2025
		Identify sectors with need and scope of resource efficiency improvements and develop strategies for same		
6.	Action Plan	Progress report	RECP	2025
7.	Institutional Set-up	Set up National Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production Centre (NRECPC)	Inter-Ministerial	
		Constitute National Resource Efficiency Advisory Board (NRECPCB)		


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eco


gef


MAN
MANUFACTURERS
ASSOCIATION OF
NIGERIA




UNIDO