

The Resource Efficiency Revolution: Decoupling for Change 14.00-15.30, 17 June

Overview

As a major driver of economic growth and innovation, the manufacturing sector provides a number of opportunities to decouple resource use and environmental impacts from manufacturing output and economic growth at large. Promoting efficiency and sustainability in (consumption and) production patterns can lower costs through reduced material, energy and water consumption, and can translate into increased profitability, job creation, reduced environmental pressure and accurate valuing of ecosystem services. Interventions can also include investing in technological innovation and pursuit of supply and demand side life cycle approaches, such as re-design of products and systems, remanufacturing, cleaner technologies, and closed-cycle manufacturing.

Programme

Moderator: Sylvie Lemmet, Director, Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, UNEP

Panelists:

- Mr. Martin Lidegaard, Minister for Climate, Energy & Building, Denmark
- Dmitri Piskounov, Managing Director, Programme Development and Technical Cooperation Division, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- Yoon Seung-joon, President, Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute
- Martin Geiger, Head Sustainability, Deutsche Investitions, Germany
- César Barahona, President, RECPnet; Director, National Cleaner Production Centre, Nicaragua
- Marcelo Cardoso, Senior VP of Organizational Development and Sustainability, Natura, Brazil

Agenda

The session aims to:

- To further elaborate the opportunities and challenges foreseen by business and industry in the manufacturing sector to a transition to a more resource efficient and green economy;
- Highlight existing initiatives and discuss recommendations to further scale up good practices; and
- Make recommendations for key enabling conditions - including regulations and incentives - that would leverage investment and innovation in the manufacturing sector.

