



The Donor Committee for Enterprise Development

Green Growth Working Group (GGWG)

Minutes of Meeting, teleconference, 13 June 2022

v. 30 June 2022

Participants

- Anastasia de Santos (USAID) – Co-chair
- Ozunimi Iti (UNIDO) – Co-chair
- Ana Patricia Batalhone (ITC)
- Arjan de Haan (IDRC)
- Enrico Botta (OECD)
- Florian Güldner (GIZ/BMZ)
- Ingela Juthberg (SIDA)
- Isaac Cowan-Gore (ILO)
- Kerry Max (Global Affairs Canada)
- Mette Lund (ILO)
- Yan Chen (GIZ/BMZ)
- Jim Tanburn, Ella Duffy (DCED Secretariat)

Apologies

JICA, WB

DCED Annual Meeting 2022

Jim Tanburn and Ella Duffy of the DCED Secretariat provided a brief overview of the DCED Annual Meeting (AM). The 44th DCED Annual Meeting took place in Cambridge, UK, and on-line, 8-10 June 2022. It was the first full Annual Meeting since [Vienna in 2019](#), and was attended in person by 31 people from 19 agencies, including 2 potential members. All sessions were also available for members to join and participate on-line. Presentations and other materials are being posted on the [Annual Meeting web page](#) as they become available. Next year's Annual Meeting is likely to be hosted by the Argidius Foundation and ILO in Switzerland. Members of other Working Groups seemed very interested in the work of the GGWG, presented as part of the Thematic Day by Ella Duffy, Yan Chen (GIZ) and Anastasia de Santos (USAID, Co-chair).

Anastasia flagged that there was some discussion at the AM about whether green issues should be mainstreamed in all the other WG's work, rather than having a separate GGWG. She asked the group to provide individual thoughts on this in the member updates section of this meeting.

Work item updates

Nature-based Solutions (NBS) for climate adaptation work item

Kerry Max (GAC) explained that procurement has closed, and 3 consultancies have been shortlisted. They have now been invited to submit a full bid. Two consultancies had questions; one on whether the budget could increase any further and another on whether the GGWG would accept a draft version of the final product, as the end product (to which Kerry said no). Kerry reminded the group that this work item involves the creation of a plain-language toolkit for women providers of NBS, with an aim to have a product by the end of 2022, then an active dissemination effort.

Mette Lund (ILO) commented that she has colleagues working on an NBS report with IUCN, with a gender and indigenous people's lens; **she will get in touch with her colleagues and link them up to the NBS task team if relevant.** Kerry commented that Canada has dedicated budget to consider biodiversity and NBS, and are also working closely with IUCN, so there may be interesting intersections to build on.

'Overview of Green Growth Approaches' (Green PSD Navigator) work item

Yan Chen (GIZ) introduced Florian Guldner (GIZ) who will be taking over from Yan representing BMZ/GIZ in the group, and on the webinar series and dissemination of the Navigator. **Yan will share the final version with everyone via email after this meeting. Please double check your names, and your organisations' contributed tools, approaches etc.** because they will soon close the contract with the designer and will not be able to edit after that time.

Yan, Florian, Mette and the DCED Secretariat recently started a conversation with Hannes MacNulty of the GGKP on co-organising a launch event or series of launch events. It was proposed that we organise a series of interactive workshop-style events focussing on particular key topics from the Green PSD Navigator.

Florian then presented slides containing an overview of the proposed format of the workshop series, from the GGKP, and an altered version from GIZ. Each workshop would begin with a short introduction about the Navigator, then an expert-led presentation and/or interactive discussion on a specific topic, with case studies, then a moderated Q&A. The GGKP proposed 7 topics for 7 workshops, but GIZ felt this was probably too many. Also, Hannes had included a lot on the GGKP's IGO Initiative, rather than the Navigator. GIZ therefore redrafted the proposal, and this is detailed in the slides (**Ella to share all relevant materials after this meeting**).

Florian then opened up discussion on the proposal, and clarified that, even if 'green' wasn't specified in the title of each workshop, they would maintain a green focus. The general consensus was that the altered version from GIZ was good; with 5 workshops, targeted more specifically at donor agencies and their partner organisations.

Mette commented that she is happy to see the topic of a just transition included, as it is a recurring theme in these GGWG meetings. She suggested that the workshop on this would be a good way to reach other target audiences, e.g., employers organisations and BDS providers. On the proposed 5th workshop, Mette likes the idea of including the finance angle. She suggested that it could be framed as related to all the other session topics.

Florian commented that members should reach out to him over email if they have further comments, or suggestions of experts to lead the workshops, as they aim for the workshops to be practitioner-led.

Anastasia de Santos (USAID) commented that there was interest in the Navigator and in more interactive formats generally, at the Annual Meeting, so all sounds great. She feels that community of practice workshops are better than the standard webinar presentation. She also commented on ‘just transition’ as a phrase; that it is defined differently in different organisations so she supports unpacking it more in a workshop. However, she is more unsure about including the 5th workshop on finance, as both the high-level view, and carbon finance specifically, are well-covered elsewhere. Perhaps the 5th workshop could not be fixed, and can then be based on discussions that come out of the first 4?

Arjan de Haan (IDRC) commented that greening public procurement is important. Florian indicated that this angle is included in the Navigator’s ‘tools’ section.

MSD WG update: Greening MSD

Yan presented, noting that she is not an MSD expert, but the MSD WG focusses on developing MSD as an approach to tackle all development issues. She provided an overview of recent MSD WG work; finance, youth employment, fragile and conflict affected situations (FCAS), green. The green work item has been split into two stages. The first is on ‘greening MSD’; considering how to make current MSD programmes aware of their green and climate impacts, with a focus on agriculture (because agriculture has significant environmental impact, and because 60% of MSD programmes are in the agriculture sector). Work has just started with consultants, with a final product expected by the end of 2022. She hopes that the resulting product will be useful for anyone working in agricultural supply chains, not just the MSD community.

The second part of the Greening MSD work item has not yet started but will look to define the space of ‘green MSD’, considering how to integrate the MSD approach into green growth projects. This will begin with a webinar series introducing such projects, then using the discussion topics from those webinars to inform a policy report.

Mette mentioned that Isaac Cowan-Gore (ILO) is also involved in the MSD WG and will be involved in this work. Mette shared [a resource from Climate Action for Jobs on](#)

[Environmental Sustainability in value chain development \(VCD\)](#). Isaac also shared [a recent resource from the ILO Lab](#).

Yan clarified that the task team for the Greening MSD item in the MSD WG involves GIZ, ILO, Sida, ITC and ADA.

Anastasia opened discussion on how the GGWG could best contribute, given that Yan will no longer be part of the GGWG going forwards. **Isaac offered that he is happy to relay information between the two working groups**, as he is a member of both.

Yan commented that anyone with any related resources on greening MSD should connect with her bilaterally. Anastasia offered that she would ask colleagues internally and flagged that a lot of USAID resources on MSD are available publicly via the [Agrilinks platform](#).

Kerry mentioned work at GAC on building the market for the NBS and biodiversity programming space. They are taking an industrial policy standpoint, but **he is happy to share links to resources bilaterally if helpful**, as he would like to see NBS featured in the work if possible.

Enrico Botta (OECD) commented that they have recently been working on the policy angle of food security and sustainability and can share some links if helpful. It might relate on aligning policy to the MSD framework. Isaac commented that it might not overlap much, but the meso-level mentioned is still important. **Enrico should share anything related to VCD, as that is often related to the MSD approach.**

Member agency updates

ILO

Isaac Cowan-Gore presented from the ILO SME Unit (a large unit, made up of c.25 people working on a range of topics, e.g., entrepreneurship, MSD, BER). They recently commissioned a consultant to review all the green products of the unit and provide recommendations on how best to green the entire portfolio, including the SIYP programme. **Isaac will share the report if it becomes publicly available.** ILO also launched the Systems Change Initiative, with a green economy component, funded by Sida. The main focus of this for now is knowledge generation.

Mette Lund added. She sits within the smaller Green Jobs Unit. They are currently reviewing the SCORE training module on resource efficiency and circularity, and **she will share that with the group when the update is complete.** Mette was recently in Stockholm for the +50, where [ILO and UNICEF soft launched their Green Jobs for Youth pact](#), which will partially focus on agriculture.

On the question of whether the GGWG is useful as a standalone WG, Mette commented that mainstreaming is great in theory, but she also sees a role for this group to continue separately as she finds it very valuable to meet and share updates.

IDRC

Arjan de Haan presented. On the WG question, his instinctive reaction is not to attempt to mainstream the green angle as it will just disappear. He feels that it should actually be the other way around - mainstream everything else in green.

On IDRC's update, they are currently working on gender equality and low-carbon transitions, specifically in relation to how SMEs can contribute to and benefit from transitions to cleaner energy. At IDRC, they work with researchers from the Global South to generate local knowledge. Next year they will focus more on public policy.

Anastasia commented that her personal views are the same with regards to mainstreaming, particularly given numerous examples of poor mainstreaming of gender issues. Ozunimi Iti (UNIDO) also echoed these concerns; the GGWG can collaborate with other WGs but this group gives members the opportunity to champion the cause itself, and do work that is distinct from the themes of other working groups.

GIZ/BMZ

Florian Güldner updated the group. At BMZ, the former minister of the environment is now in power so their entire portfolio is becoming greener. The new government have 4 political priorities on development policy with a working group steering each (in addition to increasing the number of missions in general, as they follow Mariana Mazzucato's philosophy more); hunger and poverty, COVID-19, just transition (including climate and infrastructure), gender equality (through the new Feminist Development Policy). In addition, one of the, separate, 6 core strategy areas of the strategy focusses on sustainable economic development, with a significant focus on green issues. Documents on all of this are not yet public but **he will share what he can with this group.**

Yan Chen added that, over the last 5 years, GIZ has thought about economy in terms of specific interventions, but the new minister is championing a more transformative, policy-level view. They have found it difficult to define 'transformative'.

USAID

Anastasia de Santos reflected on Yan's comments around defining 'transformative'; it is difficult to define but it is important – green growth approaches shouldn't be piecemeal but sometimes they are. There are still knowledge gaps in how the labour market transitions to renewable energy in terms of reskilling, but she personally thinks it should all be seen more holistically. She shared [a resource from the WBG spring meetings](#) and commented that donor agencies need to be realistic in thinking about job transitions.

Kerry Max (GAC) commented that easiest reskilling process is from oil and gas to renewables.

USAID are implementing a [new climate strategy](#), including sector-specific guidance. It is a work-in-progress, and her team are currently contributing to the evidence base in collaboration with the Argidius Foundation and the ASPEN Network for Entrepreneurs. Together, they are funding research on defining climate entrepreneurship. They are also carrying out impact evaluations but won't see the full results of these for three years.

Mette Lund commented that this reskilling conversation is key to defining the idea of a just transition. It is important that any jobs created are decent jobs as well as green jobs, so labour unions and employers' organisations have interesting insights on this. **She suggested that this group should have a longer session to discuss 'just transition' in depth.** She also shared a link to a past IRENA event on [Energy and Jobs to Power the Future](#).

Ana Batalhone (ITC) supports the idea of a session specifically on just transition.

UNIDO

Ozunimi Iti presented, notifying the group that UNIDO runs a [Green Industry Summer School](#). Applications were open until the 15th of June.

OECD

Enrico Botta presented. On the relationship of the GGWG with other WGs, he reflected that experience of mainstreaming at the OECD is similar to what others have already shared. At OECD, they do try to mainstream green, and part of his specific role is trying to manage green issues across different workstreams. He commented that, in the DCED context, it is great that other WGs have green-related work items, and perhaps the GGWG can occupy this 'aligning' function. Enrico also supports Mette's idea of a session specifically on just transition and suggested this could be the focus of the next WG meeting.

At the ministerial level at the OECD, they are now focusing on the 'twin transition'; including digital and green angles. This will involve specifically considering climate change and climate adaptation. There is also a lot of interest from large OECD countries in environmental justice, which they are framing broadly as just transition (it changes depending on context, but generally means equal access to environmental goods, and that the impacts of climate changes are not just on workers). He also shared that he is working on a report on trends in plastic pollution, which will be published in the near future.

Global Affairs Canada (GAC)

Kerry Max began by sharing some useful resources with the group:

- [Applications for proposals for Partnering for Climate](#)

- [Applications for proposals for Canada's climate finance for developing countries](#)
- [Introductory webinar on Partnering for Climate \(March\)](#)
- [Coding webinar on Partnering for Climate \(April\)](#)

At GAC, they are considering the climate change and biodiversity significance of all projects, which should be at a specified level. There is more information on this in the 'Coding' webinar linked above.

Reflecting on the length of impact evaluations, in relation to Anastasia's update from USAID, they have similar timing issues at GAC, particularly with one 4-year evaluation of climate entrepreneurship. In the meantime, while waiting for evaluations, they are organising webinars such as the ones linked. He commented that, for NBS and climate-related issues, we cannot afford to wait for programming cycles so, at GAC, they are trying to share knowledge as they go.

ITC

Ana Batalhone presented. They work mainly on green competitiveness and are developing online solutions for SMEs and supply-chain actors. One tool that they are creating maps out risks and challenges associated with low-carbon transitions, details how SMEs can mitigate those risks, and highlights environmental opportunities. That tool is now being implemented in relation to agricultural value chains, and they are working on a webinar series to disseminate the findings. The tool will be ready this year. A second tool they are creating is an environmental assessment tool for SMEs in the garments sector, covering resource management and use, and waste management.

Mette shared a related resource from ILO: [A "Just Transition Toolkit" for textile and garment supply chain in Asia.](#)

AOB

Kerry reflected on food security due to the Ukraine crisis; there are clear links between the environmental impact of conflict and food stability, so NBS and land regeneration will be key topics to work on in the near future.

Ozunimi reminded members to please check the latest version of the Navigator before the design is completely finalised, and to share any good project examples on the greening MSD item to Yan and Florian.

Ozunimi closed the meeting.