



The Donor Committee for Enterprise Development

Green Growth Working Group (GGWG)

Minutes of Meeting, teleconference, 17 March 2021

Version: 18 March 2021

Participants

- Steffen Felix (GIZ/BMZ) – Co-chair
- Ozunimi Iti (UNIDO) – Co-chair
- Ana Patricia Batalhone (ITC)
- Anastasia de Santos (USAID)
- Annegret Brauss (ITC)
- Enrico Botta (OECD ENV/GGGR)
- Guy Halpern (OECD)
- Ingela Juthberg (Sida)
- Jan Wimaladharma (FCDO)
- Kerry Max (Global Affairs Canada)
- Philipp Ischer (SECO)
- Siobhan Kelly (FAO)
- Tim Scott (UNDP)
- Yara van Heugten (NL MoFA)
- Yan Chen (GIZ)
- Jim Tanburn, Ella Duffy (DCED Secretariat)

Introductions and any urgent agency updates

The meeting was opened by Ozunimi Iti (UNIDO). Everyone in the call introduced themselves in the chat function.

BEWG/GGWG Cooperation: Study on BER and climate change

Siobhan Kelly (FAO) presented on this currently ongoing study that was started by the BEWG. The objective of this piece is to learn about the kind of business environment reforms that have been pivotal in leading companies to become more sustainable.

The task team has defined sustainability as encompassing both environmental sustainability but also economic and social sustainability. There was some discussion as to whether it is appropriate for the definition to be so broad (rather than just focussing on environmental aspects) and this question will be revisited as study progresses. Several participants shared resources with Siobhan for the consultants to consider.

Siobhan Kelly indicated that if anyone else wants to get involved then to let her know and they can join task team meetings if interested. Likewise, if anyone has any further information that they think are relevant, then please share with Siobhan Kelly or Steffen Felix. Final webinar and closure of project is planned for October 2021.

Discussion: Can we better apply the work of the group through joint activities on the ground?

Tim Scott (UNDP) and Ingela Juthberg (Sida) led this discussion, to consider whether stronger coordination between members is possible on the basis of the work of this working group. They stressed that they did not have a major effort in mind; the purpose of this discussion was to explore further opportunity to leverage this network.

Several ideas were floated, such as having a shared document with Green Economy interventions in different countries and regions, or updating members at the beginning of each working group meeting on how agencies have collaborated as a result of the working group meetings. This is an ongoing discussion and members are encouraged to share further thoughts (via Tim Scott, Ingela Juthberg or Steffen Felix) on this topic.

ITC's Green to Compete strategy

Annegret Brauss (ITC) presented ITC's new green to compete strategy. COVID-19 has been a huge issue but there are larger challenges on the horizon post-covid. Their work at the moment is helping MSMEs with the green transition, especially as developing countries are disproportionately affected by climate change. The five pillars of GreenToCompete are green competitiveness, ecopreneurship, business environment, sustainable value chains and green policies. Themes addressed by GreenToCompete are climate change, circularity and biodiversity (towards a nature-positive economy).

Work plan

Steffen Felix (GIZ/BMZ) presented the status of current work items:

- **Knowledge sharing:** The group organised 2 webinars in cooperation with GGKP and the group continues sharing inter-agency in these meetings.
- **PSD and circular economy:** Etienne Kechichian (IFC) couldn't join this meeting but sent updates to Steffen. The team are still expecting the study to be finalised by June 2021.
- **Overview of GG approaches for PSD:** the contract has just been signed with a consultancy and the project will start by the end of March 2021 with a kick-off meeting of the task team.
- **BEWG collaborative item:** see today's presentation from Siobhan Kelly (FAO).

Steffen Felix (GIZ/BMZ) also opened discussion on next year's items:

- **Continue the above** (including the PSD and circular economy study if not complete by June)
- **More webinars** – he requests volunteers to coordinate. Anastasia de Santos (USAID) volunteered.
- **Work item collaborating with the MSDWG (scope tbd)** – he requests volunteers for the task team

Kerry Max (GAC) suggested a new work item on climate change resilience and nature-based solutions, especially with a gendered lens. General support was voiced by Tim Scott (UNDP), Ana Patricia Batalhone (ITC) and Enrico Botta (OECD). Kerry will write up a paragraph to define the possible scope which would then be circulated to the group to ask whether to include this in the new work plan.

Jim Tanburn (DCED Secretariat) indicated that Working Groups are encouraged to submit their work plans and budgets in early to mid-April. Steffen will send an email with a list of possible work items to vote on as a follow up to this meeting.

Co-chairs in 2021/22

Steffen is stepping down as co-chair. Yan Chen (GIZ) will be taking over Steffen's work in general, but the group needs a new co-chair. Steffen encouraged members to think about it. Prior to the next working group meeting, Steffen will send out an email to ask for submissions of interest. The group can then make a decision at the next meeting, probably in June.

AOB

The meeting was closed by Ozunimi Iti (UNIDO), and she noted that there will be a few things coming by email soon to the group, in particular a draft work plan to vote on. She also encouraged members to step up as volunteers for work item task teams.

The next meeting is planned for June, once again virtually.