

Green Growth Working Group (GGWG)
Minutes of Meeting, Paris, 26 November 2019

16 December 2019

Participants

In person

- Steffen Felix (GIZ/BMZ) – Co-chair
- Ozunimi Iti (UNIDO) – Co-chair
- Ana Batalhone (ITC)
- Kumi Kitamori (OECD)
- Martijn Reubzaet (NL MoFA)
- Amy Rice (DCED Secretariat)
- Jim Tanburn (DCED Secretariat)

Online

- Arjan de Haan (IDRC)
- Annsofie Aronsson (Sida)
- Bouba Housseini (IDRC)
- Klas Svensson (Sida)
- Klaus Tyrkkö (UNIDO)
- Moustapha Kamal Gueye (ILO)
- Sarwat Chowdhury (UNDP)
- Selina Haeny (SDC)

Apologies

- Annegret Brauss (ITC)
- Fia van der Klugt (NL MoFA)
- Gaku Funabashi (JICA)
- Jonathan Coony (World Bank)
- Paul Simister (DFID)
- Philipp Ischer (SECO)
- Tim Scott (UNDP)

Agency updates

- **Steffen Felix:** GIZ – on behalf of BMZ – currently has an important focus on climate change adaptation for SMEs. It is actively using its [Climate Expert tool](#) for SMEs. It also supports projects focussing on macroeconomic modelling of climate change impacts (e.g. in Vietnam, Kazakhstan and Georgia) as well as Sustainable Industrial Areas (in cooperation with IFC and UNIDO, e.g. in Egypt and South Africa). GIZ and UNIDO have developed the [EQuIP toolbox](#) to support sustainable industrial development, and are currently developing a new module on climate change for that toolbox. Programmes in Kyrgyzstan and Uganda are expecting to strengthen their focus on Green Economy.
- **Kumi Kitamori:** OECD is very active in the GG space, for example hosting the Green Action Task Force, which is chaired by Germany and Georgia. OECD is focusing on green

finance in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. In South East Asia, the [Clean Energy Finance and Investment Mobilisation Programme](#) (CEFM) is promoting policies to shift to low carbon. Also in SE Asia, Canada and the OECD are implementing a programme for greening SMEs.

- **Ozunimi Iti:** UNIDO's Economic Empowerment of Women in Green Industry project is gaining momentum and should have preliminary results by March 2020. UNIDO is in the process of developing an online green industrial policy course (expected to be live by the end of 2020 Q1) and is doing work through [PAGE](#) on, for example, the circular economy in Uruguay and energy efficiency in Ghana.
- **Ana Batalhone:** ITC is implementing a coaching programme to support SMEs to adopt more efficient and circular production practices in more than 10 countries worldwide and across different sectors. They are developing an e-learning course on resource efficiency for SMEs and have launched one on climate adaptation for SMEs. In November they launched four [sustainable investment handbooks](#) for investing in Africa. ITC is collaborating with the UNCTAD BioTrade Initiative to develop an online self-assessment tool to enhance understanding of the BioTrade concept among companies and producers.
- **Martijn Reubzaet:** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands is very interested in the circular economy and is looking into circular solutions for problems in fast-growing African cities. Martijn explained more in his later presentation.
- **Annsophie Aronsson and Klas Svensson:** Sida is, amongst other things, working on the management response for the OECD DAC peer learning on mainstreaming which took place beginning of the year. The final report from the peer learning exercise can be found [here](#). Furthermore, a training was recently conducted on MSD approaches. The Swedish government has a particular interest in biodiversity which has been part of newly updated bilateral strategies in Africa. Sida is supporting PAGE, which currently is in the final stage of preparing the PAGE 2030 Strategy.
- **Arjan de Haan:** IDRC's work was explained in Arjan's later presentation.
- **Moustapha Kamal Gueye:** The ILO will formally launch its Climate Action for Jobs initiative at [COP24](#) in December. The Prime Minister of Spain will preside.
- **Sarwat Chowdhury:** UNDP recently co-organised the [Green Economy Week](#) in Kyrgyzstan; it also contributed to the recent PAGE [Global Academy on the Green Economy](#) in Turin. It continues to work on the [Biodiversity Finance Initiative](#) and [Green Commodities Programme](#).
- **Selina Haeny:** Selina noted that SDC's [CEDRIG tool](#) is not as gender-sensitive as it could be. However, it is going to be reworked, in part to rectify this and in part reflecting a new emphasis on all SDC strategies taking climate risks into account.

Sustainable Industrial Areas/Eco-Industrial Parks

Steffen Felix (GIZ/BMZ) and Klaus Tyrkkö (UNIDO) presented GIZ/BMZ and UNIDO's work in the area of Sustainable Industrial Areas (SIAs)/Eco-Industrial Parks (EIPs). [An International Framework for Eco-Industrial Parks](#) has been published by the two organisations and the World Bank Group. UNIDO has launched a [Global EIP Programme](#), and GIZ has developed an [SIA toolbox](#) and a [guide](#) to help industrial zones become climate resilient. The Group discussed the reaction of businesses to being involved in SIAs/EIPs.

Work plan item 1: Webinar series

The GGWG organised its first webinar in September 2019 in collaboration with the Green Growth Knowledge Platform (GGKP). The [webinar](#) was about the Climate Expert tool and was attended by around 200 participants. GGKP's large audience reach and their role in planning and hosting the webinar were noted as reasons to collaborate with them again in future.

Steffen Felix is liaising with GGKP to organise a webinar on the DCED's gender-responsive green growth guidance sheets which is likely to take place in mid-December. A webinar on OECD and UNDP projects is also in the pipeline. It was suggested that biodiversity (potentially linked to the launch of ITC/UNCTAD BioTrade's self-assessment tool) and the circular economy would make good topics for future webinars.

Action item: Working Group members will share webinar ideas with Steffen Felix.

Work plan item 2: Circular economy

This work item will study circular economy approaches from a PSD perspective. The initial funding has been added to by IFC and consultants have been selected. As the IFC did not attend the meeting, the current status was unclear.

Action item: Steffen Felix (GIZ/BMZ) will contact IFC to ask for an update on the study.

Work plan item 3: Green growth and gender guidance

The guidance sheets produced by Katharine Miles on gender-responsive green growth have been published on the [DCED website](#) and will be promoted further through upcoming webinars.

This work item is now complete.

Green growth work of the International Development Research Centre

Arjan de Haan (IDRC) presented on IDRC's approach to green growth, which focuses on promoting partnerships, finding evidence for solutions, and improving measurement. The Group discussed development agencies' responses to research findings and IDRC's work on

adaptation and mitigation. It was suggested that a webinar could be used to share the results on adaptation and mitigation when they are available.

Green growth work of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

Martijn Reubzaet (NL MoFA) presented on the Netherlands' national program to become a fully circular economy by 2050 and on their involvements in international circular economy efforts. As part of the national program, a knowledge sharing platform has been established called [Holland Circular Hotspot](#). The Group discussed commodity agreements and the NL MoFA's e-waste fact-finding mission in Ghana.

Action item: Martijn Reubzaet (NL MoFA) will share PSD tools with the consultants for the GGWG circular economy study.

AOB

- The next GGWG meeting will take place in early March via teleconference (Steffen Felix will send out a Doodle poll to determine the exact date). Its purpose will be to provide an update on the circular economy study and to discuss the Working Group's 2020-21 work plan.
- Selina Haeny (SDC) will be absent from the next meeting as she will be on maternity leave. The Group wished her well with the birth of her child.
- Moustapha Kamal Gueye (ILO) invited members to be involved in the planning of PAGE week which will take place 22-23 January 2020.