



Green Growth Working Group (WEEWG)
Minutes of Teleconference, 6th October 2016

12th October 2016

Participants

- Naeeda Crishna Morgado (OECD), Co-Chair
- Alexandra Oppermann (GIZ), Co-Chair
- François-Philippe Dube (Global Affairs Canada)
- Markus Johannesson, Kaspar Nilsen (Sida)
- Alex Kasterine (ITC)
- Siobhan Kelly (FAO)
- Matthias Ploeg (Technopolis), Consultant
- Jim Tanburn, Nicholas Wilson (DCED Secretariat)

Item one – Member Updates

Working group members introduced their agencies' current work on green growth in private sector development.

Alexandra Oppermann spoke about GIZ's recent focus on green and inclusive business models. The agency has also recently carried out work on the environmental and social aspects of value chain development.

Siobhan Kelly introduced her team's role within the FAO, which focuses on small agribusinesses and the interface between agribusiness and green growth. The FAO's principal areas of interest in the GGWG will be around the business case for sustainability. The question of how to attract small and medium sized enterprises to adopt green growth strategies is a high priority for the FAO.

Markus Johannesson and Kaspar Nilsen, from Sida, explained their agency's increasing focus on green growth issues. This is driven by a growing political focus on climate change and its effects, and is part of a bigger effort to integrate green issues into sustainable development. Sida has recently established a group for green economy and hopes to use the GGWG to benchmark their activities and to reach out to other agencies.

Alex Kasterine introduced ITC's work in its trade and environment programme. This relatively new area of the agency is working to support SMEs to compete in green economy areas. ITC helps to support these enterprises by improving their access to markets, sustainable sourcing etc. ITC is also working on utilising Public Private Partnerships to advance green growth (e.g. with the Body Shop, a cosmetics company). The ITC have also recently (28-30 September) hosted a Trade and Sustainable Development convention in Geneva.

François-Philippe Dube explained that Global Affairs Canada and the Canadian government are currently undertaking an international assistance review. Initial consultations have been completed, and the agency is now processing them. It is expected that green growth items will form a key part of the review, and Global Affairs Canada's policy priorities going forward.

Naeeda Crishna Morgado identified the main work of the OECD in green growth as currently focussing on green investment, blended finance, and cultivating an enabling environment for green

growth enterprises. More generally the OECD is focussed on sharing knowledge through the GGWG. In November the OECD will host a Green Growth Forum, in Paris.

Item two – Ongoing work item on Green Growth and Business Environment Reform

Alexandra Oppermann and Matthias Ploeg gave an overview of this work item, which seeks to provide a practical overview of the synergies and trade-offs that practitioners should consider in the area.

This work item has been ongoing since the 2015-16 Work Plan. A draft study has been finalised in collaboration with the DCED's Business Environment Working Group (BEWG). The next phase of this project is to incorporate in-depth case studies and derive policy guidance for practitioners. At the last GGWG meeting, at the DCED Annual Meeting in June 2016 ([see minutes on the DCED website](#)), Matthias Ploeg presented the key findings of the draft report, as well as presenting an initial case study, in order to illustrate the second phase of the work item.

Working group members discussed the selection of case studies for the second phase of the work item. Markus Johannesson suggested that the list of case studies would benefit from more of a focus on industrial/manufacturing examples. Kasper Nilsen highlighted that this work item should be aligned with the priorities of working group members. Sida's main focus is on LDCs with large informal economies. As such, a case study on clean production (Africa Clean Production Centres) would make an interesting case. Markus Johannesson agreed to share Sida's suggestions and guidance in more detail on this item.

Matthias Ploeg explained to the group that one of the main criteria in selecting case studies is that members should be able to provide contacts for interviews relevant to the case study. As such, suggestions from working group members are very welcome. The other criteria are that they should have a high potential for green growth and business environment implications, and provide a geographical balance.

Action point: Members agreed that they would share further suggestions for case studies after the call. A final list will be compiled and circulated to members for final approval.

Working group members agreed that a longer term idea would be to present/discuss final report at an event. This event would preferably include representatives from the business environment and green growth communities, to further foster understanding between the two approaches.

Item three: Work item on Green Value Chain Development

In the previous GGWG meeting, several working group members suggested a focus on Green Value Chain Development. This work item would seek to compare good practices and inform guidance in this area. The exact focus of the work item remains undefined, but a task team has been identified, with representatives from the OECD, GIZ and Global Affairs Canada.

Siobhan Kelly discussed the FAO's focus on green value chain development, particularly in Agribusiness. The FAO is currently trying to improve interface between agribusiness and sustainability by providing a business case for green value chain development. Achieving private sector buy-in will be vital for green value chain development. By using SMEs as the entry point for value chains, you can achieve relevance for both upstream and downstream actors.

Similarly, Alex Kasterine explained that the ITC are also looking at SMEs as an entry into green value chains. This is by focusing on topics such as climate sustainability and sustainable sourcing in a way which is relevant for these enterprises and the greening of value chains.

François-Philippe Dube suggested that one point to explore would be on how we measure success in green value chain development. How do we capture the “greenness” of a value chain, and do we think value chains can be compared in this way? A set of common parameters on green value chain development would be helpful. Not necessarily a shared set of indicators, but general definitions that could allow us to move forward.

Action point: Members of the task team for this item will take on board the suggestions of direction for this work item. Working group members are also encouraged to share other suggestions for this work item directly with the task team.

Next meeting

The final point was on the location and timing of the next meeting. The co-chairs would like to hold meetings back-to-back with another meeting that would be of potential interest to working group members.

Action point: Members of the working group will suggest possible events that would be of interest to GGWG members, and submit proposals to the co-chairs.