

Green Growth Working Group (GGWG)

Minutes of Meeting, 13 June 2017

17 August 2017

Participants

- Alexander Oppermann (GIZ) , Naeeda Crishna Morgado (OECD), co-chairs
- Ann Sofie Arransen (Sida), via Skype
- Anders Gerdin (Sida), via Skype
- Karin Isaksson (ILO)
- Siobahn Kelly (FAO), for part of the time
- Soren Moller (FAO)
- Tim Scott (UNDP), via Skype
- Jamison Ervin (UNDP), via Skype
- Florence Tartanac (FAO)
- Charlotte Teodonio (Danida)
- Matthias Ploeg (Consultant)
- Omer van Renterghem (Netherlands), via phone
- Alexander Kasterine (ITC)
- Jonathan Coony (WB) – guest speaker
- Nils Handler (WB) – guest speaker
- Dr. Michael Krakowski (GIZ) – guest speaker

Agency update

After a short welcome by Florence Tartanac from FAO, this year's host organisation, the working group members presented themselves and gave a short agency update. In her welcome note, Florence highlighted that FAO has a new department on climate change and is focussing its work on the connection between nutrition and green growth.

ILO

Karin Isaksson also spoke about the ILO's focus on green jobs. She gave an over view of the ILO's environmental position papers, and how they have subsequently shaped the ILO's policy development. She spoke about the paper "[Guidelines for a just transition](#)", which focuses on finding practical solutions for developing countries that are trying to green their economies. For example, if a government is closing down a coal mines, the report tries to answer how can they find the fairest possible solution. She also gave an overview of "[Work in a changing climate: the green initiative](#)". This report aims to mainstream environment and climate action across core ILO work. She also spoke about the ILO's work with the [UN PAGE](#) programme – partnership for action for green economy.

OECD

Naeeda Crishna Morgado gave an overview of the OECD's programme on Private Sector Engagement for Green Growth. She highlighted the increasing amount of donor interest in this area. The potential for "crowding in" investment in green growth projects must be weighed against the dangers of "crowding out" other private sector actors. A primary concern for green growth in the next ten years is that the developing world's infrastructure must change to be more carbon efficient; this will only be possible with the private sector. A new Working Paper was published, "[Engaging the Private Sector for Green Growth and Climate Action](#)" She also spoke about the OECD's deep dives into regional Green Growth initiatives, which is another upcoming area of research.

FAO

In addition to Florence's intervention, Soren Moller also informed the group that FAO is trying to use an ecosystem approach on agriculture.

ITC

Alex Kasterine outlined the ways that green growth fits into the ITC's mission. One of its main aims is to provide technical assistance to the private sector in the developing world, as part of that it aims to incorporate environmental and ecological goals. One of the ITC's current aims is to mainstream environmental issues in its portfolio of value chain projects. He also spoke about ITC's cooperation with GIZ the "[Climate Expert](#)", a tool that helps companies analyse climate change risks and opportunities and generate strong adaptation strategies. He also outlined how ITC is working to compare and contrast standards, particularly in the biodiversity sphere.

Sida

Ann Sofie Arransen spoke about Sida's coordinating group on green economy. She also mentioned that Sida has developed and tested a tool for integrating market development and trade, which has an important green growth component. Sida has recently hosted several seminars on green economy and green growth. A particular focus of Sida's work has been on trade and the environment post-the Paris agreement. Sida also recently hosted a presentation by the ILO on green jobs.

GIZ

Alexandra Oppermann outlined GIZ's work on green and inclusive business, which is a central concern for the agency. She also explained the German government's increasing emphasis on Africa. An additional focus has been on forced migration. This issue can also be viewed from a green growth perspective: how do we combine support for migrants in their country of origin with environmental stability. As for the ILO with the guidelines for a just transition, the question of trade-offs and synergies remains highly relevant.

Progress in 2016-2017

The co-chairs gave a brief overview of the progress report from 2016-2017 and the work plan 2017-2018.

2016-17 was a year of some changes in the group, including a change from one Chair to two co-chairs, as well as changes in the membership of the group. Two virtual meetings were held during the year. In addition, the main work item from 2016-2017 i.e. the Green Growth (GG) and Business Environment Reform (BER) work, was completed. The deliverables of this work include:

- Draft technical report
- Six case studies
- Guidance document on GG and BER

Participants discussed the guidance document and its distribution. The Secretariat is currently formatting the final version of the guidance document. Matthias Ploeg, the consultant responsible for this item, gave an overview of his work later that day, in a joined session with the BER Working Group.

An additional work item on Green Growth and Value Chain Development was in the work programme, but has been redeveloped and rolled over into the 20-17-18 work programme.

Work Plan

There are two items planned for the year 2017/2018. The co-chairs gave an overview of the proposed work areas.

B. Knowledge sharing on agency efforts to mainstream GG

The aim of this work item would be to exchange experience and knowledge between agencies. This would take the form of a webinar series and summary report.

Tim Scott and Jamison Ervin (UNDP) gave an overview of the lessons learned from UNDP's experience in reaching a larger audience with its learning materials. They highlighted the fact that in-person workshops and publications are rarely sufficient in reaching large audiences. UNDP developed e-learning modules, e.g. MOOCs, which were very successful and efficient in attracting large and motivated audiences. Learning from this, UNDP is now running weekly webinars and MOOCs on sustainable consumption and production.

Participants agreed that the most important questions to answer on this work item: who the intended audience is for this work item, and what the desired focus is.

In terms of the item's intended reach, participants agreed that the main targets are agency headquarter staff who are one-step removed from directly working on green growth issues. In addition, programme and sector staff would also be part of the intended audience. The focus of the item would be on mainstreaming approaches within agencies. This could include sectoral perspectives on green growth. The precise focus will be set by the agencies who take the lead in presenting their work. Participants also agreed that the knowledge-sharing should have a component focussed on targeted support on analytical tools, as this would be of practical use for practitioners.

The deliverables for this work item would be a series of webinars linked to an online space. Participants from UNDP, OECD, and Sida agreed that they would be the three members of the task team for this item. The immediate next step agreed for this item was to set up a call between these three members of the task team (and any other interested working group members) to discuss the best way to progress.

B. New areas: green growth in conflict / fragile contexts

The aim of this work item will be to help members design long-term, sustainable approaches to encourage green growth in fragile and conflict affected environments. Several options were discussed for an area of focus within this item.

- This work item could be focussed on the risks and opportunities posed by these contexts green growth PSD work. Karin Isaksson spoke about the ILO's internal working group on fragile states, and mentioned that this experience might be relevant.
- It could also focus more on mapping solutions that have already been completed, including by reviewing data on development finance flows
- Alexandra Oppermann also suggested that another potential area of interest could be the close connection between the environment and fragility, e.g. around natural resources issues.
- Potential deliverables could include an inventory of what has been done based on existing country typologies as well as collation of initial lessons learned
- It was agreed that the working group will take into account the work of the former DCED working group on fragile and post-conflict affected states (especially as regards the definition)

UNDP, ILO, ITC, GIZ all expressed interest in being part of the task force for this work item. They agreed to consult together and develop a Terms of Reference before the September meeting, in order to progress this item. The co-chairs agreed to discuss with the IFC on the recruitment process for consultants, and what the next steps would be in this process.

Presentation of Green Business Environment Reform Case Studies

During this session, three out of six Green BER case studies were presented by the respective case sponsor or expert:

- ILO "Green Jobs Programme" – Karin Isakson
- SIDA "WWF-MTI Better Cotton Initiative" - Ann Sofie Arransen
- German Development Cooperation "Programme Macroeconomic Reforms/Green Growth Vietnam" – Dr. Michael Krakowski

The presentations were followed by a discussion, mainly around exit strategies and the question whether the projects were donor driven or not. Members agreed to publish the case studies on the DCED website.

Presentation of the Guidance Note on Green Growth and BER

For this session the GGWG joined the BEWG, as this was a joined initiative of both working groups. Both working group members expressed their satisfaction with the outcome documents (except for the current layout which needs further improvement). Members will distribute the document within their organizations. The need for Green BER Indicators was mentioned. The BEWG has done some work on that, collecting examples of indicators in this field (see attached).

World Bank presentation

The presenters (Jonathan Coony, Nils Handler) gave an introduction to the World Bank climate technology programme, which is based within the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Unit. He introduced three major research projects:

1. Building competitive green industries.
2. Morocco Climate Entrepreneurship and Innovation Ecosystem Diagnostic
3. Innovations for Scaling Green Sectors

He also explained the unit's work in mapping of areas of intervention that can address climate change in developing countries through the private sector.

Several participants also asked why other DFIs don't also get involved in this form of financing. The presenter answered that one of the main problems was that such institutions have too low a risk-tolerance for working in this area.

Next Meeting

Participants agreed that the next meeting will be in the final quarter of 2017. They also agreed that it would be preferable to have a face-to-face meeting, rather than a teleconference. As such, the co-chairs suggested holding a working group meeting on the day before or after one of the following events.

- GGKP Conference (end November, Washington DC)
- GGSD Forum (21-22 November, Paris)
- DAC ENVIRONET meeting (19-20 October, Paris)

A majority of participants suggested that the DAC ENVIRONET meeting in October would be their preferred option. Naeda Crishna Morgado agreed to explore the options for the OECD hosting such an event.

Several working group members also expressed interest in organizing a side event during COP 23 in Bonn. Interested participants agreed to hold a phone call within the next two weeks to develop a proposal for this event.

Attachment:

- Presentation ILO "Green Jobs Programme"
- Presentation SIDA "WWF-MTI Better Cotton Initiative"
- Presentation "Programme Macroeconomic Reforms/Green Growth Vietnam", GIZ
- Presentation "Guidance Note on Green Growth and BER"
- Presentation WB "The Climate Technology Programme"
- DCED Sample Indicators