

## **Green Growth Working Group (GGWG)**

Minutes of Teleconference, 16 March 2018

*16 March 2018*

### **Participants**

- Alexandra Oppermann (GIZ) , Naeeda Crishna Morgado (OECD), Co-Chairs
- Annsophie Aronsson (Sida)
- Claudia Linke Heep (UNIDO)
- Moustapha Kamal Gueye (ILO)
- Omer van Renterghem (NL MoFA)
- Jim Tanburn, Nick Wilson (DCED Secretariat)

### **Apologies**

- Siobahn Kelly (FAO)
- Tim Scott (UNDP)

### **Agency updates**

- Claudia Linke Heep spoke about UNIDO's green industry programme, which has now been running for about 10 years. This programme provides a framework for the agency's activities in resource efficiency and the detoxification of the economy. She also gave an overview of the Partnership for Green Economy – which consists of UNDP, UNEP, ILO and UNITAD. The purpose of this partnership is to advise governments on how to better achieve a transition to a green economy. Claudia also spoke about UNIDO's experience of combining green policy advice with mainstreaming gender responsiveness.
- Annsophie Aronsson gave a brief of overview of Sida's publications on Green Economy Information Brief and Dialogue Support for a Green Economy and mentioned Sida's Environmental Management System (a requirement for all governmental agencies in Sweden). These documents are available on the DCED's green growth knowledge page: <https://www.enterprise-development.org/implementing-psd/greengrowth/#KeyDocuments>. This year Sida is hosting a green economy seminar, in Stockholm in October 2018. Sida's Loans and Guarantees department will be looking at the possible applications of guarantees in environmental projects and programs. Sida is also expanding its focus to oceans in the new global strategy
- Omer van Renterghem gave an overview of the NL MoFA's Green Growth work. He explained that in the context of the Netherland's national policy, Green Growth is lower priority. However, there is a growing focus on the concept of the circular economy. This focus is being translated into policy documents on e.g. plastics, consumer goods. Omer explained that this topic has a possible overlap with Business Environment Reform.
- Alexandra Oppermann (GIZ) gave an overview of GIZ's current work in the context of the new German government. She explained that the government's focus on Africa will

continue. She also stated that SME promotion and startup programmes will continue to be a priority. Alexandra is working increasingly on private sector adaptation to climate change, as well as synergies and trade-offs between green and inclusive growth. The German Development Institute, GGKP, and GIZ will be organising a conference on 18-19 June on the topic of "[Green transformation and competitive advantage](#)".

- Naeeda Crishna Morgado (OECD) explained the OECD's current focus on greening finance and blended finance. Her current work has evolved to include a new priority on the ocean economy and development. She also focuses on investments can be mobilised for climate change adaptation and on the mechanisms of blended finance. The OECD will shortly be starting a study (inception workshop in May) on how the environment can be mainstreamed across development programmes.
- Moustapha Kamal Gueye (ILO) spoke about the next ministerial conference organised by the ILO on the environment, which will be held in South Africa this year. He offered to share a draft programme with working group members. He explained his department's strong emphasis on SME development for social inclusion. He also announced that he will now be the main focal point from the ILO, replacing Karin Isaksson (who has returned to Sida from her ILO secondment).

### **Update on dissemination of Green Business Environment Reform Guide**

The guide will be presented in a GGKP webinar on 21 March 2018. Tim Scott will moderate the event, and Matthias Ploeg (Technopolis) will give an overview of the main takeaways from this work item. Case studies from the guide will also be presented. It is hoped that this webinar will introduce the guide to a broader audience. Further details on the webinar can be found [here](#).

**Action: Alexandra Oppermann will share the invitation to the webinar with group members, who agreed to share the event with their colleagues and other networks.**

### **Work item on Green Growth in Fragile States**

The first draft of the Terms of Reference of the Scoping Paper (which was previously sent to participants) was presented by Alexandra Oppermann and discussed by the group. Omer van Renterghem (NL MoFA) raised the work that the IFC undertakes on green growth in conflict-affected states, particularly across its Africa portfolio (CASA). He asked whether there might be the opportunity to learn from this work. He also highlighted that the ToR do not currently focus on the role of businesses within this area. Naeeda Crishna Morgado emphasised that it would be important for consultants selected for this work item to have a thorough grounding in conflict-affected situations.

**Action item: The co-chairs will re-circulate the ToR for this work item, and give participants one week to respond with any amendments that they would like to make to them. The co-chairs will then consider them as approved by the Group, and proceed to liaise with the IFC to progress this work item to the contracting stage.**

## Work item on a Webinar series

The purpose of this work item is to increase knowledge sharing on member agency efforts towards addressing climate change and enhancing sustainable development through a green growth approach.

The group agreed that a promising direction of work would be to focus on individual member agencies, and their lessons learned. Annsophie Aronsson volunteered Sida as the first agency to present its work in such a way. This first session will be a trial, and if successful could be further rolled out to other agencies represented in the group.

Additionally, the Secretariat has begun to research possible external speakers on topics within green growth. The shortlist of potential speakers will be circulated to the working group.

**Action point: Annsophie Aronsson and the Secretariat will liaise and begin to plan a first webinar, exploring Sida's experience of Green Growth. A list of potential external speakers will be circulated to working group members for their comments and contributions.**

## What is next for the GGWG?

Discussion on the possible work items for the GGWG's new work plan for 2018/19 focussed on two main themes: the circular economy and blue (or ocean-focussed) growth. Alexandra Oppermann reiterated that the GGWG's key focus is on Private Sector Development and businesses. Work items should therefore focus on these aspects. Moustapha Kamal Gueye raised the topic of carbon pricing, which was also a topic of interest with other group members.

The GGWG work plan must be submitted to the DCED Secretariat by the end of April, so that it can be reviewed, commented on and approved by the DCED Executive Committee (ExCo) before the 2018 Annual Meeting. At least three agencies must be included as the task team members for each work item, to ensure that all work items have broad support within the group.

**Action point: The co-chairs will consult group members via email over the coming weeks.**

## AOB

- Naeeda Crishna Morgado will be stepping down from her role as co-Chair, as she will be moving on from the OECD. Working group members thanked her for her hard work in helping to coordinate the GGWG over the past two years.
- Participants agreed that it was unlikely that the group will meet at the [DCED Annual Meeting](#) in Toronto in June, as neither co-chair will be present. However, if another group member volunteers to chair the meeting then the group will consider holding an in-person meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> or the 6<sup>th</sup> of June in Toronto.