

2 June 2011

Thematic Debate on the Green Economy: A Pathway to Sustainable Development

Background

Ever since the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, “sustainable development” has been a guiding principle for development and cooperation activities around the world. A goal to be achieved, sustainable development is characterized by the simultaneous realization of economic development, social development and environmental protection.

Although the prevailing economic development model has led to improvements in human wellbeing for many, it has also in some instances generated uneven economic growth, social inequity and environmental damage. These shortcomings stem from a series of market and institutional failures embedded in the prevailing system. For instance, the cost of pollution is not sufficiently reflected in the price of goods; public goods such as freshwater and fisheries suffer from overexploitation; and people whose livelihoods depend on natural resources are often excluded from the decision-making processes that govern those resources.

A green economy seeks to correct the systemic market and institutional shortcomings of the prevailing development model and thereby make economies a more effective tool for achieving sustainable development. A green economy consists of a range of public policy approaches (e.g., expenditures, taxes, regulations, institutional reforms) and private sector actions that fix market and institutional failures. Which approaches and actions are most suitable will vary between nations, depending on their current stage of economic development, natural resource base, human and social capital and other conditions.

Where sustainable development is the destination, green economy offers a pathway.

“A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication” is one of two major themes of the upcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20) in June 2012. But questions still abound. What are the characteristics of green economy? What are the barriers to achieving green economy? Based on lessons learned from case examples, how can a country transition to a green economy? How can green economy serve as a pathway to sustainable development?

Objective and expected outcomes

The *Thematic Debate on Green Economy* will address these and related questions. The debate aims to strengthen the understanding of green economy and of what the international community, each Member State and local communities can do to transition to green economy. Through moderated panel discussions and interactive dialogue, delegates and other participants will be able to discuss the opportunities, challenges, and strategies for advancing a green economy.

The thematic debate will underscore the linkages between green economy, economic development, poverty eradication and environmental protection. It is envisioned that these discussions, which will be captured in the Summary of the President, will help promote a better understanding of green economy and positively contribute to relevant international processes, including the preparation for Rio+20.

Programme

Panel One: Opportunities and Challenges of Green Economy

Examples of green economy in practice exist throughout the world, demonstrating positive contributions to sustainable development. But at the same time, concerns have been raised that green economy could trigger trade protectionism and conditionalities on development aid. This panel will discuss the characteristics of green economy, its potential for achieving sustainable development and the remaining questions regarding green economy.

Panel Two: Transitioning toward Green Economy

Green economy is not a “one size fits all” pathway to sustainable development. A wide variety of green economy approaches exist for transitioning to it. This panel will discuss these approaches, including proven policies and actions that institutions at the local, national and international levels can take.

Time	Programme (NLB, Conference Room 4)
10:00 – 10:15am	<p><i>Opening Remarks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Joseph Deiss, President of the General Assembly • H.E. Mrs. Asha-Rose Migiro, UN Deputy Secretary-General
10:15am – 1:00pm	<p><i>Interactive Panel Discussion I: Opportunities and Challenges of Green Economy</i> Moderator: Ms. Tundi Agardy, Executive Director, Sound Seas Panelists:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Søren Søndergaard Kjær, Deputy Permanent Secretary for Environment, Denmark • Ms. Suzana Kahn Ribeiro, Green Economy Sub-Secretary, State Environment Secretariat, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil • Mr. Harsha V. Singh, Deputy Director-General, World Trade Organization • Mr. Clay Nesler, Vice President for Global Energy and Sustainability, Johnson Controls
1:15 – 2:45pm	<p>A side-event organized by UNIDO and UNEP on the occasion of this thematic debate, and in observance of World Environment Day: “Green Economy: Ecosystem and Resource Efficiency with special focus on Forests and Forest Industries”. - Conference Room 3, NLB</p>
3:00 – 5:45pm	<p><i>Interactive Panel Discussion 2: Transitioning toward Green Economy</i> Moderator: Mr. James Leape, Director General, World Wide Fund for Nature Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Paul Toungui, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Gabonese Republic • H.E. Mr. Du Ying, Vice Chairman, National Development and Reform Commission, People’s Republic of China • Mr. Kandeh K. Yumkella, Director-General, UN Industrial and Development Organization • Ms. Marianne Fay, Chief Economist, Sustainable Development Network, The World Bank
5:50 – 6:00pm	<p><i>Closing Remarks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Sha Zukang, Secretary-General for Rio+20 • H.E. Mr. Joseph Deiss, President of the General Assembly

**INFORMAL THEMATIC DEBATE OF THE 65TH SESSION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON
GREEN ECONOMY: A PATHWAY TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

New York, 2 June 2011

PRESIDENT'S SUMMARY

“A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication” is one of the two themes of the upcoming UN Conference on Sustainable Development, along with “the institutional framework for sustainable development”. Also known as Rio+20, the Conference will take place from 4 to 6 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The Thematic Debate on Green Economy, organized on 2 June 2011, aimed to promote a better and broader understanding of green economy as a pathway to sustainable development. The debate built upon three informal workshops and one Permanent Representatives’ Retreat organized by the Group of Friends on Green Economy (Egypt, Gabon, Grenada, Hungary, Indonesia, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sweden and Switzerland). These events enabled Member States to examine various aspects of green economy and paved the way for more constructive discussions during the thematic debate.

Consisting of two panel discussions with representatives from the local and national governments, international organizations, civil society and the private sector, the debate focused on the opportunities and challenges of green economy as well as ways to transition to a green economy. There was a shared understanding that the extent of environmental degradation such as climate change, biodiversity loss and marine pollution, warrants a new model of development, which better integrates and balances the three dimensions of sustainable development – social, economic and environment

While the prevailing market system has helped many countries make significant gains in terms of poverty reduction and human development, it has contributed to environmental change, with negative impacts on sustainability. The prevailing market system has also led to increased vulnerability, volatility and inequity in the distribution of income, wealth and opportunity. Green economy seeks to address these systemic problems by internalizing externalities and sending the right signals to producers and consumers so that they would have the incentives to modify their behavior and minimize negative environmental impact. Green economy also seeks to advance equity by empowering marginalized peoples most affected by environmental change, including climate change, to have more control over the natural resources on which they depend.

While there is no universally agreed definition and no one-size-fits-all approach to green economy, it offers opportunities for the development of sectors and technologies which promote the efficient use of resources, such as water and energy, and reduce wastes. As demonstrated by panelists from Brazil, China, Denmark and Gabon, green economy can

take various forms and shapes depending on each country's development stage, conditions and priorities. For some countries green economy constitutes organic agriculture or sustainable construction; yet for others, green economy means blue economy and the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal resources. Green economy can help alleviate poverty by enabling local and indigenous communities to effectively value and, where appropriate, price and trade, their rich ecosystem goods and services. Ecosystem protection makes economic sense and has the added value of preserving biodiversity and strengthening disaster risk resilience.

In order to achieve green economy in a way that contributes meaningfully to sustainable development and poverty eradication, strategic policies, regulations and institutional reforms are essential. Local and national governments can create an enabling environment for green economy by, for example, promoting tradable pollution permits, redirecting subsidies and encouraging green procurement. Eco-taxes like carbon taxes can generate revenues for green economy investments as well as basic social services that would help ensure that the benefits of green economy are adequately channeled to the poor. The role of green economy in enhancing food and energy security and creating new job opportunities cannot be overemphasized, as they are closely linked to lifting people out of poverty and achieving the internationally agreed development goals.

Further, the least developed and other developing countries, which are characterized by low levels of carbon dioxide emissions and pollution, can leapfrog directly to clean technologies and processes. In order for these countries to do so – and thereby avoid the costly mistakes of developed countries – the international community must commit to providing financing, capacity building and technology transfer. In particular, recalling the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, developed countries should support developing countries in their nationally-driven efforts to shift to green economy and, at the same time, change their own patterns of unsustainable production and consumption. Coordinated implementation of this principle would help attain intergenerational and intragenerational equity in terms of the availability and use of limited resources.

Green economy also needs to be underpinned by public-private partnership and collaboration with civil society, including women, farmers, youth and scientific communities. The private sector is often at the forefront of technological innovation and plays a major role in providing business solutions and alternative sources of funding for green economy. The engagement of civil society is also important as they constitute key actors in identifying opportunities and implementing green economy at local levels. The role of international financial institutions and development organizations, including the World Bank, is critical in supporting such partnerships and initiatives toward green economy. The green economy transition can be fostered by better policy coherence amongst the Bretton Wood and non-Bretton Woods institutions. All these institutions should review their policies, programmes and projects to ensure that they work in tandem to advance green economy in the context of sustainable development goals and objectives.

While green economy provides diverse opportunities for peoples and countries across the world to promote economic growth within the Earth's carrying capacity, there are challenges and concerns related to green economy. Some of these concerns, such as the notion that green economy may replace sustainable development as the overarching vision for development activities, can be addressed by underpinning green economy in sustainable development. There is a high degree of recognition that when supported by effective policies and political leadership, green economy can decouple economic growth from the excessive use of fossil fuels and natural resources and contribute to the balanced achievement of sustainable development, in all its economic, environmental and social pillars.

Other concerns, such as trade and technological implications of green economy, require more thorough studies and appropriate countermeasures. Countries can work together, in conjunction with relevant international organizations like the World Trade Organization, to maintain an open and stable trading system, one that guards against distorting subsidies and other forms of protectionism but one that also encourages and fosters security in energy, food and vital manufacturing. In order to bridge the potentially widening technology gap between developed and developing countries, the former are encouraged to provide technology transfer and access, while the latter invest more systematically in research and development for green industries. It is also important to assess the long-term soundness of certain cutting-edge technologies.

The transition to green economy and its emphasis on eco-efficiency will entail loss of jobs in certain sectors. For instance, as countries attach greater importance to the development and deployment of renewable energy, jobs available in the traditional energy sector will decrease and governments must find ways to appropriately manage the distributional impacts of green economy. In fact, as highlighted by the UN Industrial Development Organization and several Member States, investments in clean energy and energy efficiency are positively correlated with green economy and helps reduce energy poverty, which traps many communities in low standards of living. Developed countries can assist in these efforts by providing targeted support, while making sure their green economy policies do not give rise to new conditionalities on aid and investment.

The challenges and concerns of green economy should not justify delay or inaction. Green economy has already unfolded in many parts of the world by different actors and it takes a note of urgency, especially in countries that face imminent and severe environmental challenges like the small island developing States. Debates on specific definitions of green economy have no added value as the international community prepares for Rio+20, which will, among others, secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development. A productive discussion and agreement on the other theme of Rio+20 – the institutional framework for sustainable development – will be a crucial element in realizing green economy at all levels of government and ensuring that green economy contributes effectively to human well-being, sustainable development and poverty eradication.

INFORMAL THEMATIC DEBATE OF THE 65TH SESSION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON
GREEN ECONOMY: A PATHWAY TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Thursday, 2 June 2011
Conference Room 4, North Lawn Building, United Nations Headquarters
Interactive Panel Discussion 1: Opportunities and Challenges of Green Economy

Søren Søndergaard KJAER,
Deputy Permanent Secretary for Environment, Denmark

Introduction

Ladies and gentlemen, Mr Chairman, on behalf of the Danish Government, I would like to start by thanking the organizers for inviting me to this Thematic Debate on Green Economy and giving me the opportunity to share with you some of the Danish experiences in greening the economy. It is my humble intention to present the Danish Green Policy Experience as a *Best Practice Case* in selected areas. I hope the Danish lessons can inspire you to the hard work of greening the economy at the national and the multinational level.

Core Message

The Government institutions – both national and local *and international institutions* – can create a *green* demand for research, development and innovation of new technologies that can help to improve resource efficiency and reduce environmental impact.

Research institutions and the private sector will respond to the demand. Innovation occurs and a few years later, new green jobs in both public sector and private sector are established and the journey towards a cleaner environment and better resource efficiency has started. From time to time, the Government will strengthen the targets, introduce new instruments or incentives and new innovation occurs. Political leadership is needed to move forward in the green economy.

Background

Denmark has a long tradition in environmental and resource policy. The Danish Parliament voted for the first Environmental Protection Act in 1973. We have achieved some important successes in Greening our economy and in making it less resource dependent.

Just to set the stage in general: Denmark is a small but rather densely populated country with about 5 million inhabitants. GDP per capita is high (ranking 16th in the world) and GDP growth rates have been about 2% annually since 1965.

Challenges

The Danish transition to a green economy started in the 1970s and 80s, when our energy and water consumption was high; waste water was largely left untreated; solid waste was mostly deposited at landfills; emissions of pollutants were largely unregulated; and we saw an increasing pressure on the aquatic environment, on the wild nature and biodiversity.

Achievements

Since then, Denmark has achieved significant reductions in resource use and decoupling of resource use from GDP growth in many areas. The state of the Environment has also improved

Since the oil crisis of 1973, Denmark has followed a strategy of both increasing energy efficiency and diversifying the sources of energy supply, with an increasing focus on renewable energy.

As a result, the Danish economy is one of the least energy intensive in the world, and CO₂ emissions are decoupled from GDP growth in an absolute sense. Renewable energy currently account for about 20% of total energy consumption and the aim is to increase this to 30% by 2025. Recently, the government published plans to achieve a fossil free energy sector by 2050.

Water consumption has fallen, and virtually all waste water is now treated. The result is that surface water is so clean now that public swimming pools have been established in the harbour of Copenhagen – the capital of Denmark. A ten minutes walk from the City Hall.

And even though total amounts of waste have risen, 70 % is now recycled and 24% is incinerated and utilized in heat and power generation. Only 6% is being deposited at landfills. Air pollution has decreased significantly, and pollution levels are still falling.

The agricultural sector has managed to reduce losses of nitrates, ammonia and phosphorous by 50% and maintain and even increase production levels in the livestock sector.

Approach

Denmark has used a mix of policies, aimed both at producers and consumers. A very important and frequently used element is adjustment of prices. By number of environmental taxes and relative tax income derived from them, Denmark is one of the world leaders.

Taxes are levied on energy consumption, car purchase and use, CO₂ emissions, plastic bags, SO₂ emissions, packaging materials, pesticide use, just to name a few. The purpose of taxation is both fiscal and environmental.

Besides that, user charges, primarily in the water and waste sector - but also elsewhere - are set so as to fully cover costs.

Our experience is that setting a price in itself can lead to large changes in behavior. This was for example the case when it became compulsory to measure water use and pay per amount consumed.

But we do not just tax 'bads', we also subsidize greener alternatives. The most important example is our feed-in tariff for renewable energy. This has been a major driver for the development of wind power and other forms of renewable energy in Denmark. But subsidies have also been given for energy-saving and for conversion to organic farming for example.

In most areas, we also support the development of new technological solution, through subsidies on R&D. But we go further than that and provide support for testing and demonstration of new technologies, so make sure that new technologies also reach the market. It is the Danish lesson, that the revenue from taxation can be reinvested in research and innovation with important results. The introduction of the CO₂ taxation in 1993 was followed by a major program for "cleaner technology development" and many important solutions was supported initially through this program.

In addition to market-based and fiscal regulations, the Danish Government has used a number of types of regulation. For example a large part of air pollution and use of chemicals are dealt with through direct regulation.

Green jobs

And as a side-effect to our approach, a vibrant clean-tech sector has developed which now represents 3.5 % of GDP; 10% of our exports; and is one of the fastest growing export sectors. Wind turbines form a major part of this, but also in other areas, such as water treatment, waste treatment and

technology to control air pollution, Denmark has a strong position.

The strongest case might be the Danish company *Novozymes*. A major biotech company and a major supplier of green solutions. The key product produced by Novozymes is enzymes – enzymes for numerous uses. When it comes to phosphorous in both detergents and livestock feed, the supply of enzymes from Novozymes has changed the scene completely and the use of resources and the harmful impact to the environment has gone down. The annual turn over is close to 2 billion US \$.

Challenges

Although progress has been made in many areas, we are still facing challenges, and many of these issues could benefit from international cooperation. Denmark is committed to and a firm believer in Multilateral Environment Agreements. We need to share experiences and to set new standards together.

A recent analysis estimated the health related costs of air pollution in Denmark to 6 billion dollars annually. Air pollution is transboundary and we therefore need international cooperation to lower the (air) pollution substantially.

Green Economy Roadmap

Strategies that focus on or include Green Economy at national or regional levels have to be presented and understood as part of the answer to the economic crises and to our future prosperity.

Addressing Green Economy in our national priorities have the potential to stimulate low-carbon and resource-efficient technologies that provide the basic opportunities for economic growth, jobs and a healthy environment.

There is a great chance that greening the economy can spur an industrial revolution – parallel to the IT-revolution – which will have wider positive effects on the global economy. Denmark has experienced this potential already.

Rio+20

Finally, on Rio + 20 we need to cooperate closely on this. The developed countries, the emerging economies and the developing countries are facing different challenges and opportunities. But Rio+20 offers an opportunity for us all – no matter our level of economic and welfare development – to enhance

the transition towards a Green Economy.

We do not need new and glorious definitions of what constitutes a green economy. We need to share experiences, learn from best practice and take decisions on relevant standards that will take us to a sustainable development as it was agreed in Rio in 1992.

When Public institutions and governments demands resource efficiency and improved environmental protection – backed by policy initiatives – research institutions and private sector will respond by innovation – and new marketable solutions are created in the green economy and contribute to sustainable development. .



Green Economy Subsecretariat United Nations

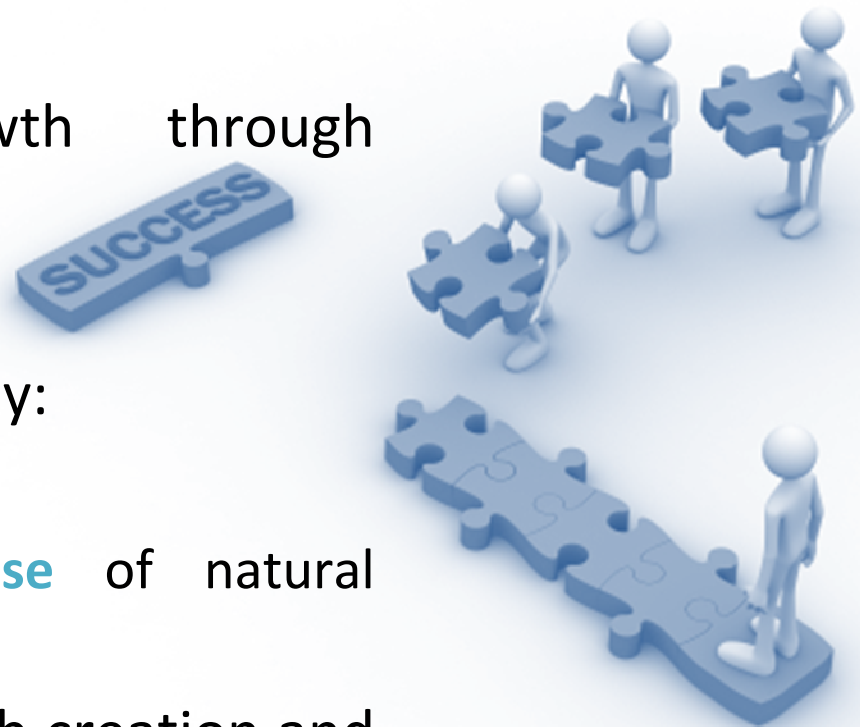
Suzana Kahn Ribeiro
Professor- Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
IPCC Vice-Chair
Sub secretary of Green Economy
Rio de Janeiro Environment State Secretary

Current Conjecture

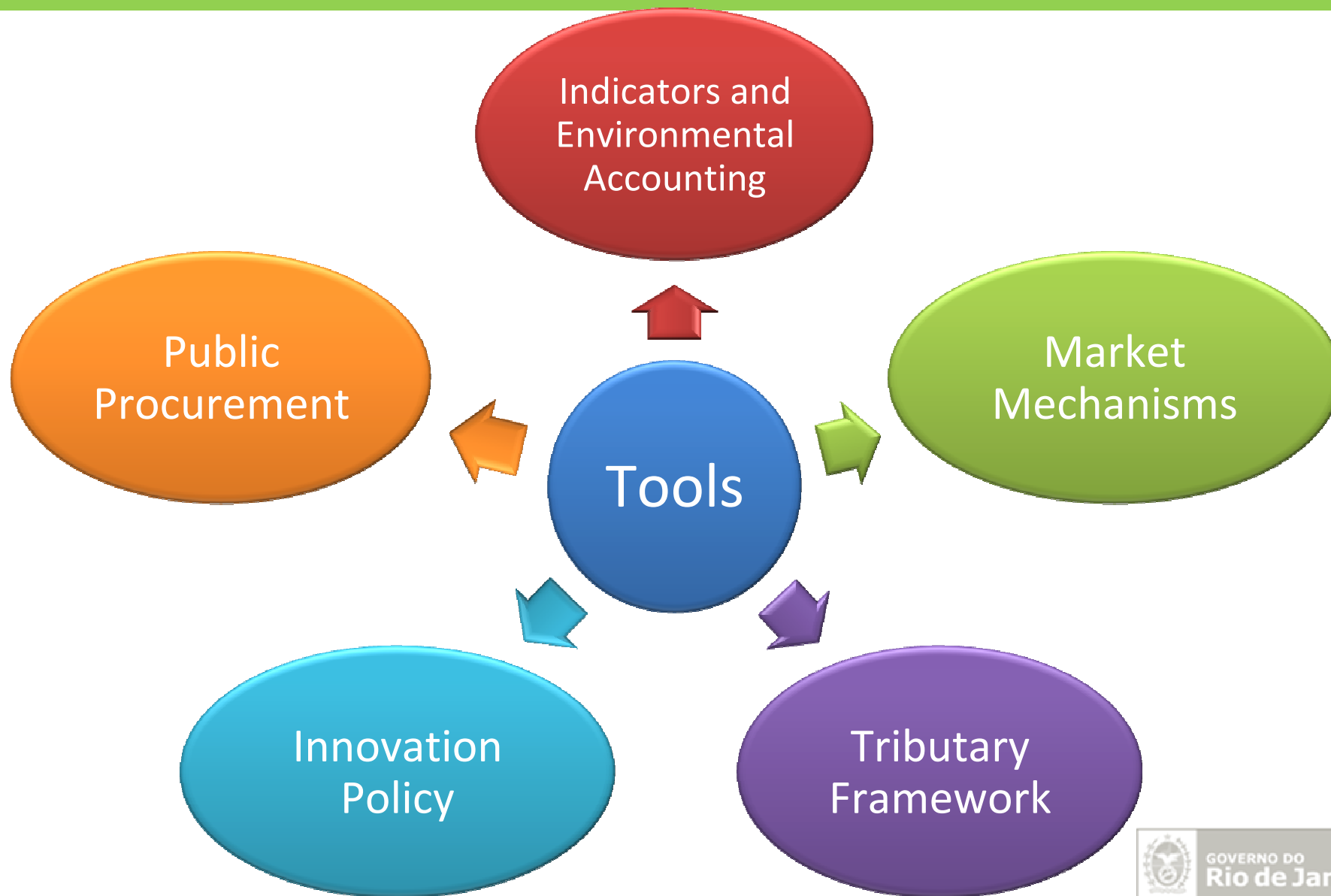
- ⑥ The State of Rio de Janeiro has witness strong economy growth over the years. However, it now has a chance to position itself as a leader in a global trend: the transition to a **Green Economy**
- ⑥ Brazil's environmental challenges are typical to tropical nations: deforestation and a drain on natural resources. Rio's challenges are focused on its **economic development**.
- ⑥ The alternative for Rio is to **realign its growth model**, following the new paradigm of the Green Economy.
- ⑥ We have a unique opportunity: **Rio + 20**
- ⑥ We have the chance to present new and creative solutions to this new development paradigm.

Strategies for a Green Economy

- ⑥ Action plan based on the following objectives:
 - ⑥ Stimulate economic growth through improvement in **Green GDP**
 - ⑥ Create **Green Jobs**
 - ⑥ Promote a low carbon economy:
 - ⑥ emission **compensation**
 - ⑥ **reduction** and **efficient use** of natural resources
 - ⑥ **Poverty alleviation** through job creation and income generation in poor areas.



Green Economy Toolbox



Green Economy Toolbox

- ⑥ Cross-sectoral policies, promoting synergies between renewable energy, agriculture, urban planning and others.
- ⑥ Using the state's building mandate, create a new green building standard in order to promote sustainable construction materials and renewable energy.



Green Economy Toolbox

- ⑥ A focus on economic development and job creation puts competitiveness as a top priority. These different tools have to ensure the development of local industry.
- ⑥ New financing mechanisms such as co-payments and rebates.
- ⑥ Special support for research and development, demonstration and pilots for new technologies in key sectors.



Strategies in Promoting the Transition to a Green Economy

⑥ Creating Indicators

- ⑥ Development of tailor-made indicators and methodologies to properly monitor the Subsecretariat's strategy:
 - ⑥ Definition of green economy concepts such as green jobs, green GDP and others;
- ⑥ First step towards having a resource efficiency plan is to measure them and promote new forms of accounting, applying environmental accounting within the state of Rio de Janeiro.
- ⑥ There are a series of gaps with the current system, making implementing it a challenge

Strategies in Promoting the Transition to a Green Economy

⑥ Innovation Policy

- ⑥ New Technologies are key to this paradigm shift, creating new solutions to old problems.
- ⑥ The government can create a regulatory framework that will promote an innovation-friendly environment.
- ⑥ Part of this is facilitating the use of pilots, while also creating the demand for new technologies.
- ⑥ Finance is key to this process and new investment sources have to be promoted, from venture capital to seed money and angel capital.

Strategies in Promoting the Transition to a Green Economy

⑥ Public Procurement

- ⑥ Public purchases are a way to create demand for new products and documentaries.
- ⑥ Initial focus in infrastructure and sustainable construction. The State is investing in public housing as well as the World Cup and Olympic games.
- ⑥ Government finances numerous initiatives throughout the state and a “Green Economy Screening” is being developed in order to further align government expenditure and green economy targets.

Strategies in Promoting the Transition to a Green Economy

⑥ Work on different sides of the problem:

Regulatory power:

- Create new consumption or technological standards;
- Consolidating the demand for new products and solutions

Create a legal and tributary framework :

- Work as incentives;
- Generate revenue;
- New jobs ;
- Make these key technologies and products more accessible



Main Strategies in Promoting the Transition to a Green Economy

- PNUMA has defined key sectors that will help promote a Green Economy. We have chosen 5 sectors to start with:



Main Strategies in Promoting the Transition to a Green Economy

- ⑥ Numerous **public housing** initiatives in Rio Brazil.
- ⑥ Upcoming international events that will lead to further investments in infrastructure
- ⑥ Development of a business plan regarding the sector: how to promote local industry to facilitate access to products and markets.
- ⑥ Local production of sustainable material will generate jobs and promote innovation.
- ⑥ Capacity building is to take place in local communities in order to promote maintenance workforce.
- ⑥ New standards are to be created, forming a new green building code in the State of Rio.

Sustainable
Construction

Strategies in Promoting the Transition to a Green Economy

- ⑥ Create and implement additional “Green economy” **screening** process to investment decision and credit concession, starting out with public funding.
- ⑥ Engaging national and international financial sectors, promoting **new sources of finance**.
- ⑥ The creating of an **environmental assets** trading platform, starting out with the carbon marketing and moving on to more challenging opportunities.
- ⑥ Creation of new financial tools to promote and finance green economy actions: **Green Bonds**.

Finance

Strategies in Promoting the Transition to a Green Economy

- ⑥ The promotion of technological **innovation** in the renewable energy sector is key to meeting future energy needs.
- ⑥ Promoting demand for **solar power** and enabling the industry to develop in the state of Rio.
- ⑥ The promotion of an **energy efficiency** program that will engage both the private and the public sectors. We are current analyzing different possibilities, such as **White Certificates**.



Energy

Strategies in Promoting the Transition to a Green Economy

Waste

- ⑥ More efficient use of resources is transversal sectors that compose a green economy.
- ⑥ Brazil's national **reverse logistics** law has to be further implemented in the state of Rio, which requires major changes in the way some sectors work.
- ⑥ Waste as a synonym to resource inefficiency
- ⑥ Use of residues and rubble as resources in the sustainable construction industry.
- ⑥ As **waste-to-energy** electricity generation is currently unfeasible due to economic and technological barriers, we aim to create an auction model specific for this source of energy.

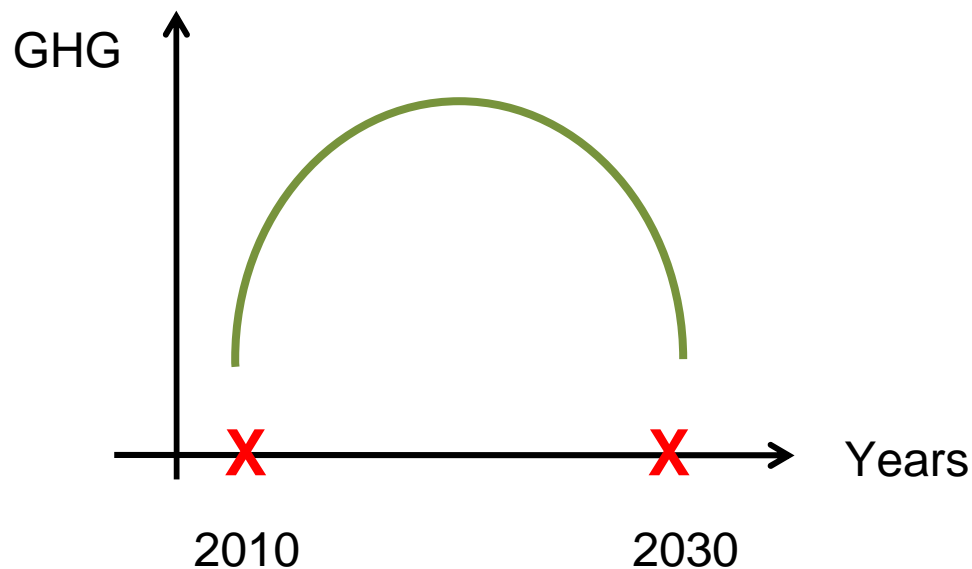
Strategies in Promoting the Transition to a Green Economy

Agriculture

- ⑥ Developing urban agriculture projects, as a way to deal with poverty alleviation, malnutrition, food security and job creation in an urban setting. Rio has a growing urban population and this solution comes to tackle a series of important issues.
- ⑥ Promoting initiatives that will help small producers to have been infrastructure and better access to local markets.

State Climate Change Policy

- ⑥ Emission Reduction Targets (includes CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O):



Targets applied: in a state level and specific sectors

- ⑥ Green Economy principles are being integrated with the State Climate Change and Sustainable Development Policy.
- ⑥ A growing participation of the Low Carbon GDP in the state GDP is an overall concept.

State Climate Change Policy

🌀 Sectors will be analyzed:

Energy

- Energy industry, manufacture, transportation, commerce, public sector, housing, agriculture and livestock and fugitive emissions;

Industry

- Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU)

Other Land Uses (AFOLU)

- Variation in carbon stocks associated with land use, land use change and agriculture and livestock practices

Waste

- Disposition of urban and industrial solid waste and domestic and industrial waste treatment

State Climate Change Policy


⑥ Tools to promote emission reductions:

⑥ Cap and trade market:

- Targets will be established for the highest emitting sectors within the state and the negotiation of allowances will lead to emission reductions in the most **cost effective** manner. Emission reduction vs. **competitiveness**.
- Promote demand for different types of offsets, including **REDD**. Different Brazilian states are already developing REDD projects and state to state partnerships will contribute with this offsetting system.
- Targets will grow over time, starting small and "ramping up" in subsequent years

Regional Governance

- Besides Green Economy, the other topic of Rio + 20 is global environmental governance.
- Our goal is to seek through partnerships, the strengthening of regional governance regarding the Green Economy.
- The creation of forums has the ability to further promote discussion of this topic, respecting differences and allowing close collaboration with regional leaderships.

An aerial photograph of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, showing the city's dense urban landscape, the bay, and the surrounding mountains. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. The text is centered and reads:

These initiatives are part of a paradigm shift taking place in the State of Rio de Janeiro .

As we create a green economy and change our economic growth strategy, we see Rio + 20 as an important opportunity to share these experiences with others

We would like to engage other regions of the world in participating in a joint effort towards this global transition.

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**Panel One: Opportunities and Challenges of Green Economy
Statement by Harsha V. Singh,
Deputy Director-General, WTO**

A key concern highlighted for this Panel is that green economy could trigger trade protectionism. I want to begin by stating that the disciplines and the toolbox of the WTO provide a substantial basis to address such concerns.

The WTO provides a multilateral system to promote Green Economy through its objectives, its core mission of market opening, its body of rules, its institutional mechanisms, and its ongoing negotiations.

The objectives of the WTO Agreement include an emphasis on sustainable development, protecting and preserving the environment and enhancing the means for doing so in a manner consistent with the respective needs and concerns at different levels of economic development.

The WTO promotes Green Economy through the **open and stable trading system**. In general, trade openness leads to more efficient use of resources, and

stimulates growth and income levels. Open markets also improve access to, and development of, green goods, services and technologies.

The importance of open markets for environmental objectives is recognized for example by the first part of UNFCCC's Article 3.5 which states that: "*The Parties should cooperate to promote a supportive and open international economic system that would lead to sustainable economic growth and development in all Parties, particularly developing country Parties, thus enabling them better to address the problems of climate change.*"

International trade allows production to take place with resource efficiency, and then products be provided where they are required. To understand how trade encourages efficient resource use, consider for example trade in agriculture. In effect trade in agriculture is trade in embodied water used in production of the product. If for instance Egypt decides to produce all its own food requirements, it would require two more Niles in its territory.

Let us now consider the features of a desirable trading system that provides the relevant assurance to countries, such as those specified by the second part of UNFCCC's Article 3.5, that: "*Measures taken to combat climate change, including unilateral ones, should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade.*"

These principles are precisely those incorporated in the **WTO rules and disciplines**. Thus, WTO rules ensure predictability and fair implementation of measures used to address environment concerns. A number of WTO Agreements provide scope for necessary trade measures to be adopted for environmental and green economy objectives, but subject to disciplines that curb protectionism. Therefore, the WTO provides open, stable and predictable markets, which are essential for green economy objectives.

Of course, the benefits of the multilateral trading system need to be supplemented by domestic policies.

The WTO institutions are used by Members for transparency, discussions, raising concerns, and following developments in related areas. They include a Committee dedicated specifically to trade and environment, as well as committees dealing with different areas such as technical regulations and standards, subsidies, services, and government procurement. The WTO institutions also cover enforcement mechanism and jurisprudence. The jurisprudence confirms that WTO rules work in consonance with environmental concerns allowing an appropriate balance between the use of regulatory measures for environmental objectives and keeping arbitrary or disguised forms of protection under check.

The ongoing Doha Round of trade negotiations would address the green economy objectives even more comprehensively. At present these negotiations are facing difficulties, and Members are considering the possible steps ahead on what parts could be delivered this year itself. Several parts of the Doha Round would benefit the achievement of the Green Economy, for example:

- Agriculture trade distorting subsidies which are also environmentally harmful, would be subject to overall and product specific reduced ceilings.
- More level playing field and open markets would improve efficiency of resource use.
- Environmentally harmful fisheries subsidies would be reduced and subject to disciplines.
- Opening up markets for environmental goods and services, thus facilitating access to embodied technologies and products promoting Green Economy initiatives. For example, products like catalytic converters, fuel cells, and windmills, and services such as waste disposal, noise abatement, and reducing vehicle emissions.
- Horizontal mechanism for addressing barriers market access problems arising due to technical regulations and standards.

The WTO and Doha Round would also strengthen the **architecture for multilateral governance of the Green Economy**, so that the environmental and economic objectives can be better synchronised. One obvious way is to provide for mechanisms to make the Multilateral Environmental Agreements and the WTO more mutually supportive and interactive. The on-going WTO negotiations and discussions have already achieved important progress in terms of co-ordination, including domestic co-ordination among the different parts of the Government.

Before concluding, I want address two other concerns. One relates to the IPR regime, which is seen as important for balancing the generation of green technologies and their diffusion. The IP regime is seen as a valuable means of promoting green innovation and technology transfer partnerships, while providing for vital safeguards for the dissemination and diffusion of new technologies. The WTO TRIPS Agreement allows countries to manage this balance in practice, including measures to ensure that new technologies are not locked up to thwart their expanding role in the green economy. There are two views regarding the adequacy of the present regime for green economy objectives. One is that there is a need to reinforce or extend safeguards for access to technologies. Others maintain that the current system contains sufficient measures to ensure the necessary uptake and diffusion of green technologies. As this debate unfolds, it is clear that there is a need to monitor

and get empirical evidence based on practical experience on specific problems due to the legal provisions.

The WTO Secretariat works in co-ordination with partners such as the UNFCCC Secretariat and WIPO to provide requisite support and technical inputs, as they address issues within their respective mandates. An encouraging example of this active policy dialogue is the conference being convened by WIPO on 11th and 12th July on innovation and climate change, focusing on stimulating innovation, accelerating technology transfer and diffusion, and enabling global solutions.

The other issue relates to capacity augmentation. The WTO strongly emphasizes technical assistance through its own programmes, and with other agencies under its umbrella initiative of **Aid for Trade**. A major review of Aid for Trade will take place this July, to assess its effectiveness in practical terms. Through these technical assistance initiatives, WTO connects with efforts by international organizations to help developing countries identify inter alia green export opportunities and develop capacities in the production and export of related goods and services.

Based on these points, and empirical experience, I would like to reassure you about the WTO toolbox to address various concerns, and also to emphasise a

need for all of us to take forward the Doha Round so that we have a still better multilateral trade regime to help achieve the objectives of green economy.



Implementing Sustainable Development through Green Growth

Marianne Fay
The World Bank
June, 2nd 2011



Focusing our efforts around green growth



Working with clients to implement Green Growth

Technology transition...opens up new opportunities

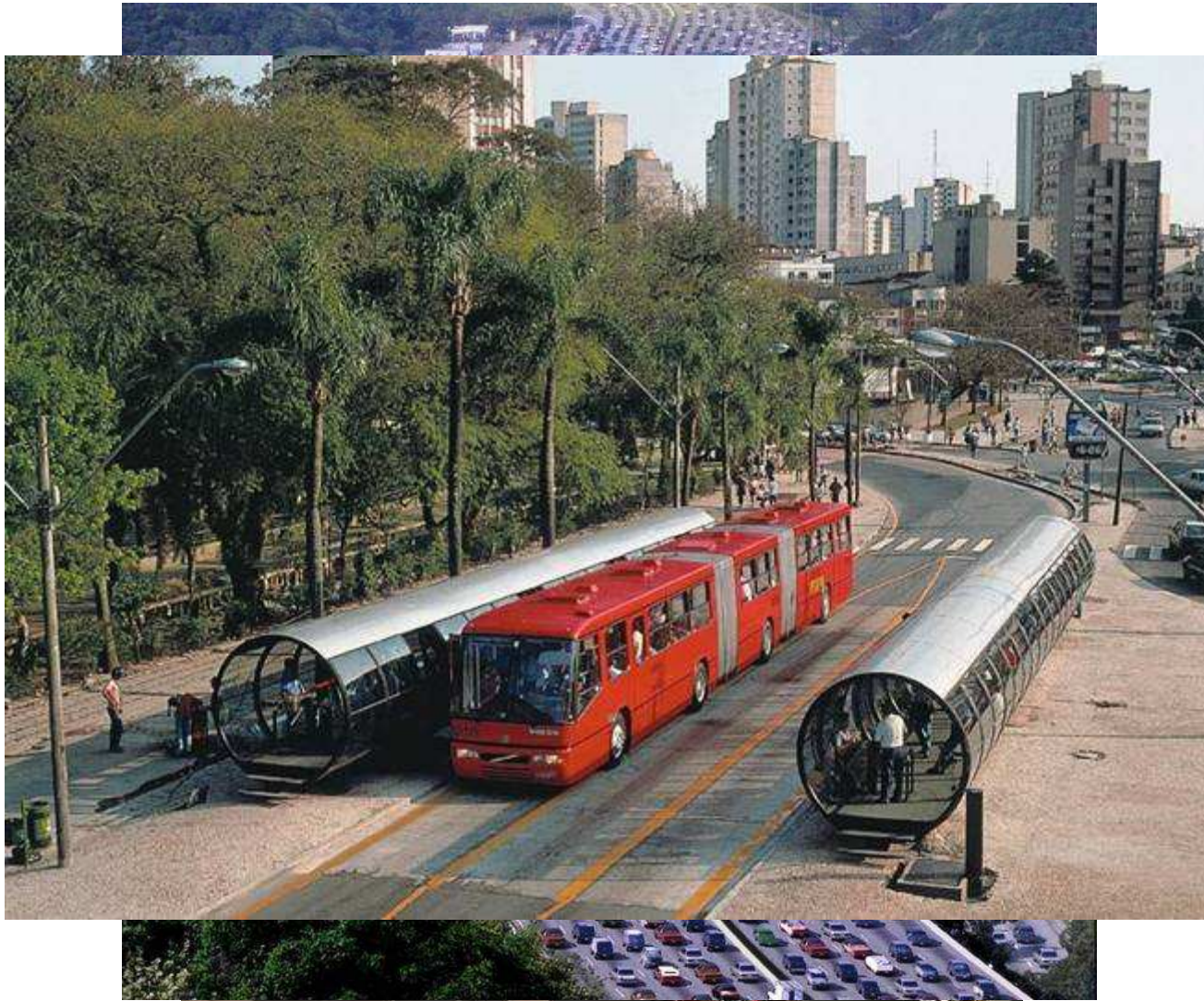


Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) in Middle East and North Africa

- Accelerate global deployment of CSP by investing in transformative programs of five countries in Middle East and North Africa: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia.
- Double current global installed capacity with 1 gigawatt of generation capacity
- Support associated transmission infrastructure to permit regional energy market integration
- Leverage over \$3 billion in public and private investments for CSP power plants, tripling current global investments in CSP



Infrastructure transition— scope for public health and efficiency gains



Work with partners to support **Urban Transport Transformation Program** in Mexico

- 18 new integrated mass transit corridors (e.g. Bus Rapid Transit systems) in five cities serving nearly 4 million passengers per day by 2017
- Deploying low carbon bus technologies (hybrid electric drive vehicles) and scrapping inefficient buses
- IBRD/CTF/Federal Government's support to states and municipalities through National Infrastructure Fund (FONADIN)
- CTF concessional resources helps fill financing gap resulting from additional costs of "enhanced" features that increase modal shift to mass transit



Natural resource management transition – to permit resilient and inclusive growth

- Loess plateau after



Forest and REDD+

- **Forest Carbon Partnership Facility:**
 - ✓ \$200 m Readiness Fund: grants to 37 countries to become ready for REDD+
 - ✓ \$200 m Carbon Fund: performance-based payments for 5 'REDD+ ready' countries
- **Forest Investment Program:**
 - ✓ \$600 m for transformational investments in forestry and other sectors (8 countries)
- **Secretariat to the REDD+ Partnership:**
 - ✓ Increase efficiency & effectiveness of REDD+ financing



Human capital transition – key for both opportunities and co-benefits



Working with partners to build up
the knowledge base

The Green Growth Knowledge Platform - creating and sharing Green Growth Knowledge



WAVES -

“Greening” national accounts to fill critical gaps for natural capital

Ecosystem services	Representation in the National Accounts (NA)
Provisioning services – food, fuel, fiber, etc.	Mostly identifiable in the NA because they have prices, but some are poorly measured
Cultural & recreational services	Mostly identifiable in the National accounts
Regulating & supporting services, e.g., Forests: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• water regulation and sediment control services• pollination services• grazing services for livestock Wetlands: flood protection services	Mostly in the National Accounts, but ‘invisible’ due to lack of prices

Climate portal - climate risk and adaptation country profiles

Collaborative on-line knowledge portal with:

- a suite of climate and climate-related data
- tools to support climate resilience measures
at different levels and for specific user context and needs

Aim: facilitate access to consistent and easily accessible data
across the WB and external sources

<http://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org>

EXAMPLES OF INTEGRATION/ANALYSIS OF CLIMATE RELATED INFORMATION

Climate Change Data Portal
For Development Practitioners and Policy Makers

Map It! Search for a Place Go

Climate Change Projects
 All
 Agriculture
 Education
 Energy/mining
 Finance
 Industry

Climate Data
Impact Maps
Socio-Economic Data

Climate data | Impacts | Socio econ... | Evaluate | Downloads

Projection	IPCC GCMs		Japanese High Resolution GCM (20 km.)
	Change (2030 - 2049 vs. 1980-1999)	# Models Projecting Same Change	Change (2091 - 2100 vs. 1981-1999)
Mean Annual Precipitation:	1%	15 out of 20	2%
DJF Precipitation:	4%	12 out of 20	--
MAM Precipitation:	-4%	14 out of 20	--
JJA Precipitation:	1%	12 out of 20	--
SON Precipitation:	5%	15 out of 20	--
WYND Precipitation:	-1%	5 out of 12	--
Mean Annual Temperature:	1 (°C)	--	2 (°C)
DJF Temperature:	1 (°C)	--	--
JJA Temperature:	1 (°C)	--	--

Country: Ghana
Latitude / Longitude: 8.23/-0.88

Please note that this is a beta version not for external distribution.

Disclaimer | Feedback

Ensemble of climate models

Climate Change Data Portal
For Development Practitioners and Policy Makers

Map data ©2010 Europa Technologies

Climate Information | Impacts | Country Socio economic data | Evaluate | Download Reports and Data

Historical data | Projections | Trends | Historical Variability Analysis Tool

Rainfall | Temperature

Change in rainfall for the early 21st century (2050) across all models

Climate Change Data Portal
For Development Practitioners and Policy Makers

Map It! Search for a Place Go

Climate Change Projects
 Low Input, Irrigated Maize 2085
 High Input, Irrigated Maize 2090
 Low Input, Rainfed Maize 2085
 High Input, Rainfed Maize 2090

Climate Data
Impact Maps
Socio-Economic Data

Country: Bolivia
Latitude / Longitude: -19.32/-64.24

LEGEND
% Change of Crop Yield Projections
-30 0 30

Please note that this is a beta version not for external distribution.

Disclaimer | Feedback

Projected impacts on agriculture crop yields and surface runoff

Mozambique Dashboard
Welcome

Overview | Climate Baseline | Natural Hazards | Climate Future | Impacts & Vulnerabilities | Adaptation | Print | References | GDRR | Climate Change Knowledge Portal

Recent Trends
 Mean rainfall: 2.5 mm/mo
 Mean temperature: 0.6 C
 'hot' days per year: 25
 'cold' days per year: Explore Further

Key Sectors
 Agriculture/Food Security
 Coastal Zones/Marine Ecosystems
 Water Resources
 Natural Hazards
 Biodiversity
 Explore Further

Impacts & Vulnerabilities
 Overview
 Mozambique is one of the poorest countries in the world. It faces many development challenges, including pronounced and widespread income poverty, low life expectancy, and wide gaps in educational achievement. Moreover, the country experiences high levels of climate variability and extreme weather events (i.e., droughts, floods and tropical cyclones). Droughts are the most frequent disaster, occurring every three to four years, and are a major constraint to development, since most of the country's population, especially the poor, reside in rural areas and rely on rainfed agriculture. Mozambique also lies at the end of numerous transnational river basins, and so flooding in its deltas is a perennial threat to both farmers and infrastructure, especially when coupled with cyclonic storm surges.
 Mozambique is already placing special emphasis on the prevention of natural hazards and improving early warning systems. Adaptation measures are being implemented in the agriculture, fisheries, energy, environmental and water sectors, with particular attention being paid to the coastal zones and erosion control.

Selected Indicators
 Agricultural land (% of land area)
 65.00
 55.00
 45.00
 2001 2003 2005
 Years

Legend
 Populated Places
 Major Cities
 Major Rivers
 Water Bodies
 Dams
 Roads

WB Home Page | GDRR Home Page | Climate Change Knowledge Portal
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GFDRR
 Climate Change Knowledge Portal
 SDNIS

Country Vulnerability Profiles

Climate Finance Portal - guidance on financial options for climate action in developing countries

Home Login Register English(UK)

CLIMATE FINANCE OPTIONS
Beta version

Home Funding Sources On the Ground Knowledge Center About




Climate Finance Tracker

[Click here](#) to start tracking climate finance flows from these top sites:

- Fast-Start Finance*
- UNFCCC*
- Climate Funds Update*
- World Resources Institute*
- Project Catalyst*

Introduction

This Platform aims at providing comprehensive guidance on financial options available for climate action in developing countries. Here you can find information on where to access the wide range of funds available from multilateral and bilateral institution, as well as public and private sources. Learn more on how these funds are governed and whether your project is eligible. Users are invited to be a resource to share their experiences with investment projects and offer feedback and comments on ongoing projects.

FUNDING SOURCES	ON THE GROUND	KNOWLEDGE CENTRE
 <p>Find funding sources that are available for both adaptation and mitigation projects that reduce impacts of climate change. See whether your project is eligible, how the fund is structured, and how your organisation can access financing.</p>	 <p>Learn about projects from across the world and a range of sectors that have accessed these funds successfully. They have used a mix of these instruments innovatively and can serve as case studies for those waiting to hit the ground.</p>	 <p>Access and leverage the latest climate finance information with a library of targeted financial documents and project guides, a compilation of online tools for financial and project analysis and much more in our knowledge centre.</p>

My CFO

News & Events:

- NEFCO Carbon Finance Unit Releases**
Operational Review
Mon, 2011-02-14
- NEW in Funding Sources: First private-sector climate fund AECF REACT**
Mon, 2011-02-14
- UNDP report: Lessons learned on promoting wind energy**
Mon, 2011-02-14
- World Bank releases climate finance brief #4**
Mon, 2011-02-14

Conclusion

- Many Green Growth building blocks in place.
- Next steps: help client countries undertake an economy-wide transition to Green Growth.
- A number of countries showing interest (China, Turkey, Mexico, etc).
- Green Growth Knowledge Platform: a broker for creating and sharing Green Growth Knowledge.



Thank you





Б Е Л А Р У С Ь

**Генеральная Ассамблея ООН
65-я сессия**

**Интерактивный тематический диалог по
зеленой экономике: пути к устойчивому
развитию**

2 июня 2011 года

**Выступление
Здорова Дениса
делегата
Республики Беларусь**

Хотел бы поблагодарить председателя Генеральной Ассамблеи за созыв этого тематического диалога. С большим вниманием выслушали докладчиков, которые поделились своим опытом и видением дальнейших действий.

Обеспечение устойчивого развития является одним из приоритетов внутренней политики Республики Беларусь. При этом Беларусь руководствуется комплексным подходом, предусматривающим скоординированную работу на этом направлении, который лежит в основе Национальной стратегии устойчивого развития до 2020 года и ряда государственных программ.

В условиях стремительного истощения природных ресурсов, продолжающегося ухудшения экологической ситуации и изменения глобального климата переход к «зеленой» экономике приобретает все большую актуальность.

Многие государства уже накопили серьезный опыт в области формирования устойчивой низкоуглеродной экономики. Однако число стран, не обладающих «чистыми» технологиями, остается весьма значительным. В этой связи, особое значение придаем налаживанию взаимодействия по передаче технологий развивающимся странам и странам со средним уровнем дохода, а также наращиванию научно-технического сотрудничества, призванного содействовать появлению новых научных разработок, позволяющих более эффективно использовать возобновляемые ресурсы без ущерба окружающей среде.

Особое внимание, по нашему мнению, должно быть уделено определению на конференции ООН по устойчивому развитию в Рио-де-Жанейро в 2012 году конкретных мер, направленных на решение сквозных

проблем с тем, чтобы обеспечить более широкие перспективы для устойчивого развития.

К их числу относим проблему энергообеспеченности стран-членов. Важными аспектами решения этой проблемы должно стать внедрение источников энергии, использование которых не приводит к изменению климата, а также реализация мер по энергосбережению и повышению энергоэффективности экономики.

Считаем, что обсуждение энергетической тематики должно осуществляться с привлечением всех заинтересованных и базироваться на принципах глобального партнерства при лидирующей роли государств, добившихся наибольших успехов в освоении «зеленой» экономики.

Отмечаем сообщение генерального директора ЮНИДО Канде Юмкеллы о подписании соглашения о создании «Партнерства по глобальной устойчивой электроэнергетике» с ведущими энергетическими компаниями.

Одним из элементов повестки дня могло бы стать обеспечение максимально широкого внедрения безопасных с точки зрения климата энергетических технологий и повсеместного доступа к современным энергетическим услугам. Для этого необходимо создать надежный механизм по передаче соответствующих энергетических технологий развивающимся странам и странам со средним уровнем дохода. Полагаем, что функционирование этого механизма могло бы придать дополнительный импульс переходу к устойчивой экономике, а также способствовать разработке более экономически эффективных «чистых» энерготехнологий.

Со своей стороны, Беларусь уже вносит достойный вклад в формирование такого партнерства. У нас в стране создана Международная лаборатория по возобновляемым источникам энергии на базе Института энергетики Национальной академии наук. Прежде всего, это площадка для обмена опытом в области возобновляемой энергетики. Не менее важно и то, что в умеренных климатических условиях нашей страны лаборатория станет экспериментальной базой для отработки и проверки эффективности использования «зеленых» технологий, что, несомненно, будет содействовать развитию мировой возобновляемой энергетики.

Особое значение придаем содержательной и успешной работе конференции ООН в Рио-де-Жанейро в 2012 году. В свете итогов, проходившей в мае 2011 года, 19-й сессии Комиссии по устойчивому развитию призываем государства-члены предпринять все необходимые политические усилия для обеспечения успеха конференции.

Полагаем, что особое внимание на конференции должно быть сфокусировано на странах со средним уровнем дохода, которые продолжают демонстрировать самые высокие темпы экономического роста и обладают большим экономическим потенциалом. Содействие таким странам в переходе к «зеленой» экономике ускорит процессы формирования

стабильной устойчивой мировой экономики и придаст им необратимый характер.



**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY
SOUS RÉSERVE DE MODIFICATIONS**

**STATEMENT OF
THE DELEGATION OF CANADA**

**DELIVERED BY
BRIANNA PETERSON
PERMANENT MISSION OF CANADA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AT THE INFORMAL INTERACTIVE THEMATIC DEBATE ON "GREEN
ECONOMY: A PATHWAY TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT"**

NEW YORK, 2 JUNE 2011

**DÉCLARATION DE
LA DÉLÉGATION DU CANADA**

**PRONONCÉ PAR
BRIANNA PETERSON
MISSION PERMANENTE DU CANADA AUPRÈS DES NATIONS UNIES**

**LORS DU DÉBAT THÉMATIQUE INTERACTIF INFORMEL SUR LE THÈME
"L'ÉCONOMIE VERTE : UNE VOIE VERS LE DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE"**

NEW YORK, LE 2 JUIN 2011

Chair, fellow delegates,

The benefit of international discussions on green growth/green economy, such as this debate, is largely in developing a common understanding of the concepts and the potential synergies between environmental and economic objectives.

A green economy can be seen as a subset of sustainable development, with a greater emphasis on policies that support both improved environmental performance and economic objectives relating to innovation, productivity and job creation. Canada wants to ensure that the green economy paradigm is focused and applicable, adaptable to national circumstances, and that it builds a strong economic rationale (outlining long-term risks and opportunities) for policy action.

The full suite of policy options to promote a transition toward a green economy needs to be considered, including the implementation of ambitious and pragmatic policies by all stakeholders, which envisage different national circumstances and the broadest range of technologies.

Recognising the importance of establishing green growth measurement schemes, we will need to work with relevant international fora, including the UNEP, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the International Energy Agency, to identify an appropriate set of possible indicators. These indicators can help expand economic growth and job creation through sustainable use of natural resources and efficiencies in the use of energy.

The Government of Canada and Canadian provinces and territories have already implemented a number of policies and programs that are consistent with a green economy.

Targeted investments, research and stakeholder engagement are important non-regulatory actions towards a green economy. Through these methods, Canada can involve the many actors and sectors whose participation is necessary for movement towards a greener economy. For example, Industry Canada's Technology Road Maps and Digital Economy Strategy and Natural Resources Canada's support of green energy research engage the

private sector and academia in research that is relevant to greening economies.

Moreover, Canada's approach to development assistance, where a key priority is sustainable economic growth and working with developing countries to reduce poverty, provides a significant contribution to further green economies. For example, Canada is supporting a project to improve social, political and economic conditions in the Upper Nile State of Sudan. Through activities in environmental conservation, food security and income generation, this project is expected to benefit 16,000 households. Within this context, UN Conference on Sustainable Development discussions on the concept of green economy should include a focus on opportunities for developing countries.

Transitioning towards a green economy for sustainable development is a long-term process that requires the support and contribution of industry, NGOs and civil society as well as government.

Given the valuable contribution of the UN in working with developing countries to address their social, economic and environmental challenges, we see the UN as being well placed to help national governments in both developed and developing countries understand the opportunities and challenges of a green economy and establish appropriate systems to promote a green economy.

In this regard, the UN Conference on Sustainable Development will provide an opportunity for sharing best practices, with an understanding that appropriate policy tools will vary according to different national circumstances.

Monsieur le Président et chers collègues,

Les discussions internationales sur la croissance verte/l'économie verte, telles que ce débat, consistent largement à favoriser une compréhension commune des concepts et des synergies potentielles entre les objectifs environnementaux et économiques.

L'économie verte peut être vue comme un sous-ensemble du développement durable dont l'accent doit être mis sur les politiques qui appuient le renforcement de la performance environnementale et les objectifs économiques relatifs à l'innovation, à la productivité et à l'emploi. Le Canada veut s'assurer que le paradigme de l'économie verte est compréhensif et applicable, adaptable aux circonstances nationales et qu'il donne lieu à une justification économique solide (concernant les risques et les possibilités à long terme) dans le cadre d'une action stratégique.

L'ensemble des options stratégiques visant à promouvoir une transition vers une économie verte doit être examiné ainsi que la mise en œuvre, par tous les intervenants, de politiques ambitieuses et pragmatiques qui tiennent compte des différentes circonstances nationales et de tout l'éventail des technologies.

Compte tenu de l'importance d'établir un schéma de mesures de la croissance verte, nous devons collaborer avec les instances internationales pertinentes, notamment le PNUE, l'Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques et l'Agence Internationale de l'Énergie, pour déterminer un ensemble approprié d'indicateurs possibles. Ces indicateurs peuvent contribuer à stimuler la croissance économique et la création d'emplois au moyen de l'utilisation durable des ressources naturelles et d'une meilleure utilisation des sources d'énergie.

Le gouvernement du Canada et les provinces et territoires canadiens ont déjà mis en œuvre plusieurs politiques et programmes qui sont compatibles avec l'économie verte.

Les investissements ciblés, la recherche et l'engagement des intervenants sont autant d'actions non réglementaires importantes en vue d'une économie verte. Au moyen de ces méthodes, le Canada peut solliciter de nombreux acteurs et secteurs dont la participation est nécessaire en vue de l'établissement d'une économie plus verte. Par exemple, les feuilles de route

technologiques et la Stratégie sur l'économie numérique d'Industrie Canada ainsi que le soutien de Ressources naturelles Canada à la recherche en matière d'énergie verte mobilisent le secteur privé et les universités, lesquels consacrent des efforts à la recherche sur l'écologisation des économies.

De plus, l'approche du Canada en ce qui concerne l'aide au développement, dont la priorité clé est une croissance économique durable et une collaboration avec les pays en développement afin de réduire la pauvreté, s'avère une contribution importante favorisant l'établissement d'économies vertes. Par exemple, le Canada appuie un projet visant l'amélioration des conditions sociales, politiques et économiques dans l'État du Haut-Nil du Soudan. Grâce à des activités propices à la conservation de l'environnement, à la sécurité alimentaire et à la génération de revenus, ce projet devrait profiter à 16 000 ménages. Dans ce contexte, les discussions sur le concept de l'économie verte, dans le cadre de la Conférence des Nations Unies sur le développement durable, devraient comprendre un volet sur les possibilités pour les pays en développement.

La transition vers une économie plus verte pour un développement durable est un processus à long terme qui demande l'appui et la contribution de l'industrie, des ONG et de la société civile, ainsi que du gouvernement.

À la lumière des efforts utiles déployés par les Nations Unies pour collaborer avec les pays afin de s'attaquer aux enjeux sociaux, économiques et environnementaux, nous estimons qu'elles sont en mesure d'aider les gouvernements nationaux dans les pays développés et les pays en développement à comprendre les possibilités et les défis que comporte l'établissement d'une économie verte et à établir des systèmes adéquats pour promouvoir l'économie verte.

À cet effet, la Conférence des Nations Unies sur le développement durable donnera une occasion de mettre en commun les pratiques exemplaires, tout en reconnaissant que les outils stratégiques appropriés varieront selon les circonstances nationales différentes.

Statement by H.E. Mr. Shigeki Sumi
Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations
Informal Thematic Debate of the 65th
Session of the United Nations General Assembly on
Green Economy: A Pathway to sustainable Development
2 June 2011

Mr. President,
Ms. Deputy Secretary-General,
Excellencies,

Thank you for convening the informal thematic debate of the General Assembly on Green Economy. I appreciate the impressive presentations by the excellent Panelists. The title of this meeting gives us a very valuable guidance, because a transition to a green economy is an effective and appropriate approach to achieve sustainable development.

Firstly, in order to secure the renewed political commitment, demonstrate its added value and give tangible impact for sustainable development, we need to set a new paradigm and overcome the traditional dichotomy between developed and developing countries and between environment and development. We are critically in need of a new green growth model, which reconciles economic development, efficient use of natural resources and environmental protection.

We believe that vital elements towards the building of a green economy include, inter alia, the internalization of environmental costs, green infrastructure development and technological innovation. Rio+20 should provide the opportunity for the international community to express its determination to make a transition to a green economy as well as to promote individual countries' concrete policies which aim to achieve a green economy.

Mr. President,

At the TICAD Ministerial Follow-up Meeting held in Senegal earlier this month, it was agreed to jointly develop a "Low-Carbon Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy" that corresponds with the different needs and priorities of African countries in different stages of development. To promote this task, the participants agreed to organize meetings in the course of this year. Japan's energy-efficient and environment-related technologies can contribute to tackling climate change and to sustainable growth.

Thank you for your attention.

Monsieur le Président,

Je voudrais tout d'abord, au nom du Maroc, m'acquitter de l'agréable devoir d'exprimer mes remerciements à Monsieur le Président pour sa conduite efficiente de ce débat, d'une extrême importance, organisé à la veille de la tenue de la Conférence des Nations Unies pour le Développement Durable Rio+20.

L'initiative du Président de l'Assemblée Générale de tenir ce débat, aujourd'hui, sera, d'une grande valeur ajoutée, pour le processus préparatoire de Rio+20.

La délégation du Maroc s'associe également à la Déclaration, prononcée par l'Argentine, au nom du Groupe des 77 et de la Chine.

Monsieur le Président,

A douze mois de la Conférence des Nations Unies sur le Développement Durable Rio+20, la question qui nous vient toujours à l'esprit : comment le Développement Durable pourrait-il être érigé, aujourd'hui, en une priorité politique ?

Le principal objectif de la Conférence de Rio+20 est de conférer un souffle nouveau au Développement Durable, à travers l'engagement de la Communauté internationale, en faveur d'un régime écologique, encore en gestation, celui de l'Economie Verte.

La réflexion approfondie, autour de deux grandes thématiques : « L'Economie Verte dans le contexte du Développement Durable et de l'élimination de la Pauvreté » et « le cadre institutionnel du Développement Durable » constituera une excellente plateforme, en vue de promouvoir un nouveau régime économique vert, parmi les pays en développement.

Ce régime économique vert, faut-il le rappeler, ne devrait guère reconsidérer le Développement Durable. L'Economie Verte ne pourrait nullement se substituer au Développement Durable. Elle devrait plutôt le compléter, voire le consolider.

Face au réchauffement climatique, généré par la prolifération des émissions de gaz à effet de serre, face à l'urgence d'emprunter l'étape transitoire internationale de l'Economie Verte et compte tenu de l'absence d'une définition consensuelle de l'Economie Verte, il convient de bâtir, aujourd'hui, sans tarder, une feuille de route

urgente pour l'Economie Verte et lui établir des liens rigoureux avec le développement Durable.

Monsieur le Président,

L'instauration de l'Economie Verte nécessite cependant, la mise en œuvre de mesures importantes, en matière de transfert de technologie, de renforcement de capacités, d'emploi, de politique commerciale et de lutte contre la pauvreté.

L'Economie Verte devrait disposer d'abord, d'une dimension financière. Son instauration nécessitera l'octroi de ressources financières additionnelles aux Pays en Développement, qui peuvent d'un autre côté, concevoir le recours à l'Economie Verte comme un facteur ou bien une alternative d'allègement de leurs dettes.

En matière commerciale, opter pour des technologies vertes, requiert l'octroi de brevets verts, soit la création d'une nouvelle conception de l'économie, qui ne devrait nullement être utilisée à des fins protectionnistes.

Instrument, par excellence, de création d'emploi, l'instauration de l'Economie Verte ne devrait pas méconnaître la dimension sociale. Elle ne devrait pas aggraver les inégalités entre les classes sociales. Elle devrait plutôt générer une économie, reposant sur la justice et l'équité et par conséquent, servir comme moyen efficace de lutte contre la pauvreté.

Monsieur le Président,

Recourir à la voie de l'Economie Verte, requiert, tout de même, une certaine vigilance. La création de l'Economie Verte suppose le recours à des règles ou bien à des normes juridiques internationales souples, dans le cadre d'un engagement politique mondial, exempt de règles impératives.

Si la conférence de Rio+20, aura pour ordre du jour, principal, l'examen de l'Economie Verte, il n'en demeure pas moins vrai, qu'on devrait recourir au nouveau régime écologique, en fonction du niveau de développement de chaque Groupe régional. L'instauration graduelle de l'Economie Verte parmi notre Communauté internationale, requiert d'inclure toutes les préoccupations spécifiquement régionales de toutes les composantes de la société internationale.

Monsieur le Président,

Le Développement Durable, concept consacré depuis la Conférence de Rio, est un choix de Développement délibéré, auquel, le Royaume du Maroc a souscrit, au même titre que la Communauté Internationale.

Le Maroc dispose, actuellement, de la nouvelle stratégie nationale d'énergie, adoptée en 2008. Cette dernière vise à promouvoir les énergies renouvelables, dont la consommation devra atteindre de 10 à 12% du total de l'Energie consommée en 2020 et de 15 à 20% en 2030.

Dans cette perspective, le Maroc a lancé un programme ambitieux pour promouvoir l'énergie solaire, d'un coût de 9 Milliards de Dollars USW et d'une puissance de 2000 Méga Watt, concernant cinq sites et qui sera opérationnel, au titre de la période (2015-2020). Le Maroc a également mis en place, un nouveau programme intégré d'énergie éolienne permettant à la puissance électrique d'atteindre 2000 Méga Watt à l'horizon 2020. La part des Energies Renouvelables représentera ainsi 42% de la capacité électrique totale installée. Le solaire, l'éolien et l'hydraulique occupant chacun 14%.

Dans le cadre du transport durable, il convient de souligner, en effet, qu'un Contrat-Programme Logistique a été signé récemment entre le Gouvernement du Royaume du Maroc et la Confédération Générale des Entreprises Marocaines. Ce Contrat-Programme Logistique repose sur cinq axes majeurs, déclinées en 36 mesures et 10 contrats d'application, concernant, notamment, l'élaboration d'un système fiscal vert, incitant les entreprises à réduire, leurs émissions de gaz à effet de serre (GES) à hauteur de 35%, à l'horizon 2015.

En matière de Tourisme, la nouvelle stratégie du Maroc, vision 2020, vise la consécration d'un tourisme, haut de gamme et la valorisation des atouts compétitifs de notre pays.

La vision du Maroc 2020, en matière de Tourisme, repose sur une méthodologie et des schémas régionaux de développement territorial obéissant à la croissance de la demande et répondant à la compétitivité internationale.

Monsieur le Président,

Le Maroc adhère à tous les efforts déployés par la Communauté Internationale, s'inscrivant dans le cadre de l'instauration de l'Economie Verte, aussi bien au niveau du concept qu'au niveau institutionnel.



MISIÓN PERMANENTE DE MÉXICO

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Claude Heller, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations, during the Thematic Debate of the General Assembly on Green Economy
“A Pathway to Sustainable Development”**

New York, 2 June 2011

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Mr. Chairman,

- It has been many years since evidence was found on the fact that the economy and the environment not only overlap, but also are dependent on each other. Nevertheless, the last report of the International Energy Agency shows that this last year the highest CO₂ emissions were registered. The definition that we all share on sustainable development has not been sufficient to change our path.
- The negotiating process of climate change has shown that increasing change is possible and approachable because the technology, resources and capacities needed to achieve it exist, under the scope of shared but different responsibilities.
- Mexico recognizes that a green economy has the potential to become a way for transition towards a sustainable development and the eradication of poverty.
- The debates and dialogues on the transition towards a green economy have evoked concerns that Mexico shares and considers necessary to continue to evaluate, for example, the conditions or parameters that could be unjustly and unilaterally produced in areas of trade, financing, assistance for development and other forms of international cooperation; the excessive weight of economic variables on social variables, which are essential for a sustainable development; and also to achieve that the green economy create jobs, while also absorbing those jobs in economy sectors that are “less friendly” to the environment.
- The experiences that we have analyzed show that we all, regardless of levels of development, look for a transition towards clean, innovative, efficient and low carbon technologies and infrastructures, suiting the efforts for a sustainable consumption.
- In this regard, it is essential that developed countries transfer technologies that contribute to the eradication of the deterioration of the environment and to ensure the proper use and implementation of these technologies in developing countries.

- In a first instance, a green economy supposes the efficient use of resources and the in depth consideration and evaluation of environmental implications in economic growth. These investments, both public and private, provide a mechanism to restructure businesses, institutions, infrastructure and for the adoption of sustainable production and consumption.
- The preparatory process of Rio+20 represents an opportunity for achieving clear agreements that will allow the review of actions and decisions to be adopted by the international community at short term to move towards a green economy and respond to present and future challenges in sustainable development, mastering new opportunities.

Mr. Chairman,

Please let me share some ideas that in our view can be included in our conclusions of the transition towards a green economy:

1. The expansion of green markets through voluntary norms that allow businesses to classify their products in an objective scale of environmental excellence.
2. Both the private and development banks should enable access to small and medium businesses to credits that will allow them to invest in environmental technologies of better quality.
3. The use of tax measures, including the promotion of efficient buildings in the context of energy and other economic incentives to promote technological change.
4. The promotion of efficient energy consumption through ODA to underrepresented groups in order to replace electric house appliances and energy savings.
5. The expansion of electric services in rural communities using renewable energy in cases when power connection is not technically or economically possible.

Thank you.



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STATEMENT BY

**THEMBELA NGCULU (MR), COUNSELLOR
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC
OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON
THE INFORMAL DEBATE ON THEMATIC
ON GREEN ECONOMY**

**NEW YORK
2 JUNE 2011**

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Mr Moderator,

Your Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My delegation would like to express its gratitude to the Office of the President of the General Assembly for organising this debate that we consider to be critically important and opportune for an exchange of views in the build-up to the Rio plus 20 Conference, to take place in the first half of next year next year in Brazil.

Mr Moderator,

Our approach to this debate is that it aims to strengthen the understanding of the concept of green economy and what the international community, each Member State and local communities can do to enhance the transition to a green economy. My delegation hopes to share what we consider as opportunities, challenges, and best strategies to implement those aspects of a green economy that specifically contributes towards sustainable development, job creation and poverty alleviation.

Two main factors underpin the demand and rationale for green growth. First, there are growing concerns about the environmental unsustainability of past and current economic growth patterns and the risk of irreversibly altering the environmental base needed to sustain economic prosperity. Increased awareness of a potential future climate crisis has made it clear that the environment and the economy can no longer be considered in isolation. These concerns point to the need for substantial transformation of consumption behavior, industry structures and technologies. South Africa has listed its Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) with the associated commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 37% in 2020 and 42 % by 2025. A Green Economy plan would need to complement these actions and ensure a drive towards the achievement of this commitment. Moving towards green growth will require targeted government intervention across a number of policy areas in order to address the existing externalities and market failures characterizing environmental goods and services as identified during the summit, this would assist in accelerating green innovation, and to manage the transition to a green economy. This will help to put green growth on an even playing field with conventional growth. It will establish the market certainty and incentives that businesses need to make long-term investment decisions. It will also assist in providing stable, long-term support for research, development and deployment of clean energy, for innovation throughout the economy, and for the sustainable use of natural resources while supporting the rise of household and private sector demand for green products and services.

South Africa views a green economy as a sustainable development path based on addressing the interdependence between economic growth, social protection and natural ecosystem. A more formal definition can be regarded as a "*system of economic activities related to the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services that result in improved human well-being over the long term, while not exposing future generations to significant environmental risks or ecological scarcities*". It implies the decoupling of resource use and environmental impacts from economic growth. It is characterized by substantially increased investment in green sectors, supported by enabling policy reforms.

We furthermore believe that any move towards green economy should not impose any conditionalities that could manifest themselves in the form of trade barriers which could

place an additional burden on the economies of the developing countries. We share the view that a transition towards a green economy should be informed by a supportive international financial system and policies in this area and should expand market opportunities for developing countries while at the same time contribute to a fair and balanced international trading system.

In addition we believe that transition towards a green economy should embrace principles that promote natural resource efficiency thus contributing to a secure natural resource base which support humankind in the quest to eradicate poverty and secure livelihoods. It is our view that any possible development paradigm shift in the form of green economy should not only be the responsibility of developing countries but should be burdened by all to ensure that such a shift would contribute positively to the global attainment of sustainable development and eradication of poverty across the board.

In its 2009 framework response to the international economic crisis, the South African government called for the development of incentives for investment in programmes geared at creating large number of 'green jobs', i.e. employment in industries and facilities that are designed to mitigate impacts of development to the environment and natural systems and the protection thereof.

The Government in South Africa is prioritizing the Green Economy as one of the key economic drivers in our Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) for the period 2009-2014, for decent employment through inclusive economic growth and environmental assets and natural resources that are valued, protected and continually enhanced. Our government has also adopted a growth and development strategy known as the New Growth Path (NGP) which was adopted by Cabinet in October 2010.

The new growth path sets out a vision: five million new jobs by 2020. It identifies twin goals: increasing the economy's labour-absorbing capacity and decreasing its carbon-emission intensity. These goals are central to our development as a country. At the same time, these goals cannot remain solely government's concern. The majority of new employment opportunities will come from outside the state. Government can support employment creation by providing infrastructure, skills and an efficient and effective regulatory environment. It must allocate its capacity and resources to encourage new opportunities in the formal sector; amongst small and micro enterprise; in the social economy, which comprises other not-for-profit activities; through rural development and with support for economic development across the continent. To achieve its aim of generating five million new jobs, the New Growth Path prioritises six jobs drivers: infrastructure development; the agricultural value chain; mining and metals fabrication; manufacturing expansion; the green economy and key services of tourism, creative industries and business services.

The New Growth Path points to big opportunities on the African continent, with its market of one billion consumers and some of the fastest growing economies in the world. It sees a key role for knowledge-based sectors that rely on information, innovation and new technologies. It sets out the jobs and development potential of rural development, the social economy and public sector. It also addresses alignment of macro- and micro-economic policies; a competitive exchange rate; and the micro-economic toolbox of skills development, enterprise promotion including small business, competition policy to tackle monopolies and price fixing, labour policies, technology and innovation, rural development, industrial policy, trade and regional integration.

The new growth path aims to address unemployment, inequality and poverty by unlocking employment opportunities in South Africa's private sector. It is a broad framework that sets out a vision and identifies key areas where jobs can be created. The growth path places employment at the centre of economic policy and critical to this plan would be partnerships between key social players, business and government to address structural challenges in the economy. South Africa is committed to work with other countries on the continent to build a single African integrated economy, embracing one billion consumers, and to focus immediately on expanding economic links with the rest of the continent. At least six key sectors, including infrastructure development, agriculture, mining, the "green" economy, manufacturing and tourism, had been identified as having potential to unlock employment opportunities

As a country, South Africa has no alternative to the course of action we propose. Manufacturing and other productive sectors of the economy are the engines of long-term sustainable growth and job creation in developing countries such as our own. The Government's 2012/13 Industrial Policy Action Plan (IPAP2) focuses on the manufacturing aspects of the green economy namely Green Industries and Industrial Energy Efficiency. It further champions the South African Renewables Initiative (SARi) aimed at funding initiatives to achieve greater critical mass of renewable energy generation hand-in-hand with localisation of manufacturing related to renewables.

Our Government's commitment to the green economy is informed by the realisation that green economy programmes are to be supported by practical and implementable action plan. Therefore it is of utmost importance to build on existing best processes, programmes, initiatives and indigenous knowledge in key sectors for a just transition "*towards a resource efficient, low carbon and pro-employment growth path*"; and that government alone cannot manage and fund a just transition to a green economy and that the private sector and civil society must play a fundamental role.

Working very closely with the private sector the Government has identified the overall enablers of implementation for the green economy programmes which include: Regulatory framework; market-based instruments; innovation, science and technology commercialization, greater localisation and manufacturing; investment, finance opportunities and financing instruments include leveraging of funds; availability of skills; institutional capabilities and capacity and partnerships.

The nine (9) key focus areas identified in our green economy programmes report of 2010 include (1) green buildings and the built environment, (2) sustainable transport and infrastructure, (3) clean energy and energy efficiency, (4) resource conservation and management (5) sustainable waste management practices, (6) agriculture, food production and forestry (7) water management (8) sustainable consumption and production; and (9) environmental sustainability (i) Greening and Legacy (2010 Soccer World Cup, COP17 flagship & Tourism) and (ii) Research, awareness and skills development and knowledge management. The green economy programmes report analysis indicates that a approximately R 9 billion is required if the identified potential green economy with 46 projects in 9 key focus areas for the environment sector are to be implemented with a potential to create 22627 job opportunities.

The 'event greening' is also one of the initiatives being implemented to promote responsible tourism.

This programme referred to above will be implemented through local and international partnerships, with green investments, supported by domestic funding streams that could include the National Treasury's Green Fund, Clean Technology Fund, Employment Creation fund, DBSA and other possible streams including international organisations. For this purpose we have currently secured a substantial amount through donor funding.

Mr Moderator,

Your Excellencies,

We have gone this far, realising that for green economy to be achieved, different regional circumstances should be taken into account as many within the developing world continue to witness and experience different development trajectories. This clearly demonstrates that a 'one size fits all approach' may not be workable and therefore various views that have been collected through this debate should serve as a resource to help shape a universal understanding of the green economy notion around the world. This debate should be seen as a resource contribution that could be tapped into anytime by any region to ensure that we share best practices and approaches as the international community with a view to extricate ourselves from the mould of poverty and environmental degradation.

My delegation hopes to contribute more during the formal Rio plus 20 preparatory process so that as we continue to engage on this issue to be able to draw from the same information and resource pool.

Thank you.