

HOW TO BUILD GREEN AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIES TO IMPLEMENT THE PARIS AGREEMENT

A One UN Side Event at COP 23

Thursday, 9 November 2017, 13:15 – 14:45
Meeting Room 11 (100), Bonn Zone

**Organized by the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE)
in collaboration with the World Trade Organization (WTO)
and the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)**

BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

There is an unprecedented realisation among decision makers from public and private sector that economic and financial policies and practices must play a far greater role in addressing climate change and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The decisions we make now on investments, infrastructure, measuring economic performances as well as choices about our lifestyles will determine how sustainable, secure and peaceful our lives will be in the future. Our economies must become fit for purpose – they must become **green, inclusive and resilient**. There is no choice to be made between the economy and jobs on the one hand, and protection of the environment on the other. The two must go hand-in-hand.

The side-event will explore policy innovations that countries are leading to advance the 2030 agenda and the Paris Agreement. It will showcase practical examples of how countries are taking informed decisions on economic and financial policies for achieving their Nationally Determined Contributions.

Key questions that will be addressed include:

- The evidence for green economy policies – Why is this important and how can we make sure it's used for decision-making?
- Mobilizing green finance – How can countries use innovative financing instruments to achieve their NDCs?
- Beyond growth – How can green investments address job creation, social inclusion and poverty reduction, and help to build more resilient economies?
- Greening global value chains – How can trade contribute to green and inclusive growth in developed and developing countries?
- Human capital for a green transformation – How do we build up the next generation of leaders, enterprises, and workers in the private and public sector?
- Tinkering at the margins doesn't work – How can we scale up our efforts, strengthen cooperation and act quickly and in a sustainable manner?



DRAFT PROGRAMME

13:15 Welcome

- Opening remarks by Mr. Stephan Contius, Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Head of Division, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, Germany

13:30 Inclusive green economy policy-making in practice – The example of PAGE Mongolia

- PAGE Mongolia Video

13:40 Up-scaling action for green, inclusive and resilient economies

- Panel discussion with:
 - Dr. Z. Batjargal, Special Envoy for Climate Change, Mongolia
 - Ms. Rhoda Boateng, Programme Coordinator, International Trade Union Confederation Africa
 - Mr. Philipp Ischer, Programme Manager, Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs
 - Mr. Hoe Lim, Director, Trade and Environment Division, World Trade Organization
 - Country representative from the Caribbean)Moderator: Mr. Kamal Gueye, Coordinator, Green Jobs Programme, International Labour Organization
- Questions and inputs from the audience

14:35 Summary

- Final reflections by Mr. Cheickh Sylla, Advisor to the Prime Minister, Senegal

14:45 Close

Facilitator: Amrei Horstbrink, Specialist, Green Development and Climate Change Programme, UN Institute for Training and Research

ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP FOR ACTION ON GREEN ECONOMY (PAGE)

PAGE was launched in 2013 as a response to the call at Rio+20 to support those countries wishing to embark on greener and more inclusive growth trajectories. The initiative seeks to put sustainability at the heart of economic policies and practices to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and supports nations and regions in reframing economic policies and practices around sustainability to foster economic growth, create income and jobs, reduce poverty and inequality, and strengthen the ecological foundations of their economies.

PAGE brings together five UN agencies – UN Environment, International Labour Organization, UN Development Programme, UN Industrial Development Organization, and UN Institute for Training and Research – whose mandates, expertise and networks combined can offer integrated and holistic support to countries on inclusive green economy, ensuring coherence and avoiding duplication. PAGE represents a mechanism to coordinate UN action on green economy and to assist countries in achieving and monitoring the emerging Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 8: "Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all."

ABOUT WTO AND GREEN ECONOMY

Sustainable development and the protection and preservation of the environment are fundamental goals of the WTO. They are enshrined in WTO's founding agreement and underpin WTO's objectives to ensure that trade contributes to higher living standards worldwide. For the past 20 years, in the Committee on Trade and Environment in particular, WTO Members have been discussing issues at the intersection of trade and environment with a view to ensuring mutual supportiveness and policy coherence. WTO Members are also discussing how trade and the WTO can contribute to the implementation of SDGs by making environmental protection more affordable (e.g. through the removal of tariffs on environmental goods), by facilitating the diffusion of environment-friendly technologies around the world, and by stimulating investment and innovation into environmentally friendly and efficient solutions, all of which would in turn contribute to the creation of new job opportunities.