



CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIES

Launch of the GO for SDGs Initiative

Tuesday, 24 September 2019

12:30 – 13:30

Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations

(Refreshments and light lunch available from 12pm onwards)

The economic transformation needed for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals is unprecedented: it will amount to a total turn-around of our lifestyles, production patterns and approaches towards policymaking. Making this transformation “fast, fair and green” and using it for creating good jobs, decent working conditions, adequate livelihoods and inclusive outcomes is key to leaving no one behind.

The event

Over the last decade, the momentum towards an inclusive green economy and the shift to more sustainable patterns of consumption and production has grown. Governments, business, and civil society have been pioneering new economic pathways and policies that aim to protect the environment while creating prosperity and ensuring well-being for current and future generations. These efforts have spurred many innovative approaches and crosscutting initiatives that engage a variety of actors and sectors, contributing to the implementation of the SDGs and Paris Agreement with a focus on SDG 8, 9, 10, 12, and 13, as well as contributions to many more. Despite these success stories and the positive track record of available tools and policies, it will be crucial to accelerate and broaden their uptake and implementation.

A panel of high-level representatives from governments, international organisations and civil society academia will discuss good examples of integrative policies that foster sustainable consumption and production and how to best scale up successful approaches and instruments for the inclusive green economy.

Invited Speakers

Svenja Schulze, Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany

Krista Mikkonen, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change of Finland

Sergio Bergman, Secretary for the Environment and Sustainable Development of Argentina

Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme

Børge Brende, President of the World Economic Forum

Sharan Burrow, General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation

Launching the GO for SDGs initiative

As part of Germany's and UNEP's promise to step up their efforts for globally implementing the SDGs, the German Ministry for Environment and UNEP will launch '*Global Opportunities for SDGs*' (or in short: *GO for SDGs*) on the sidelines of the event. This new initiative aims to accelerate and raise ambition for building inclusive and sustainable economies and societies, by facilitating regional dialogue among practitioners on best practices for replication and scale-up of effects, and by fostering local institutional learning and experience sharing.

The new initiative will act as a regional pacemaker and enabler, display innovative and successful practices from the countries while building on existing pools of expertise around the world and further strengthening local capacities, both of institutions and individual agents of change. *GO for SDGs* will work as a lever to apply existing tools and instruments at large scale. It will galvanize support and enhance the capacity of three change-agent groups, policy makers, business, and society/youth to guide and implement sustainable policies, investments, business models and enable consumer choices towards sustainability through newly designed regional sustainability hubs and regional sustainable business fora. In order to fulfil the proclaimed goal of a "just and fair" transformation, the initiative will also collaborate closely with international labour and trade organisations, making sure that the foreseen transformation will also lead to better paid jobs, and healthier, safer working conditions for all.

GO for SDGs will build on existing partnerships and programs such as the One Planet Network, the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE), the Green Growth Knowledge Platform (GGKP), ITUC's Just Transition Center and the World Economic Forum's Uplink Initiative among others. In this way, it will ensure the tailor-made dissemination and scaling up of their work using a regional approach, which is best suited to address the differing needs in the regions.

If you wish to attend the event, please **RSVP** to Tobias.Cabani.Extern@bmu.bund.de