1st Global Conference of PAGE
Green Economy after Rio+20 – Progress and Prospects

Under the Patronage of
His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum,
Vice-President and Prime Minister of UAE and Ruler of Dubai

Dubai, United Arab Emirates
4-5 March 2014
It is with great pleasure to welcome you to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) for the First Conference on Global Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE Dubai 2014). Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed Bin Rashid Al Maktoom, Vice President, Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, the Ministry of Environment and Water is proud to host the first PAGE global conference in collaboration with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), International Labor Organization (ILO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

With reference to the Green Growth Strategy launched in 2012 under the slogan “Green Economy for Sustainable Development”, the UAE is committed towards adapting and implementing green economy on the national level and to support international initiatives to achieve sustainable development goals. The Ministry of Environment and Water is honored to host the PAGE Dubai 2014 and keen on providing all resources to assure its success and to make your participation and visit to the UAE an enjoyable experience.

Welcome to PAGE Dubai 2014, Welcome to the UAE.

Rashid Ahmed Bin Fahad
Minister
Ministry of Environment and Water
UAE

Accelerating the transition to an inclusive green economy is at the heart of creating a sustainable future for generations to come.

We need to work together towards building the enabling conditions for such a transition by shifting investment and policies towards the creation of a new generation of assets from clean technologies and resource efficient infrastructure to well-functioning ecosystems, green skilled labour and good governance.

This global gathering, generously hosted by the UAE provides an opportunity for more nations to consider how joining the PAGE initiative can assist in this process and how greener economies can contribute to a new global momentum for sustainability as the world works towards a robust Post-2015 development agenda.

Achim Steiner
UN Under-Secretary-General
Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
The Rio+20 Declaration – The Future We Want – recognized a green economy as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication. It called on the United Nations to support interested countries in developing greener and more inclusive economies. In response to this call for action, UNEP, ILO, UNIDO and UNITAR initiated the Partnership for Action on a Green Economy, or PAGE, as a voluntary and demand-driven mechanism of support to meet the increasing requests from countries seeking to develop and implement inclusive green economy strategies.

The PAGE 2014 Conference will be an opportunity to review international experience and progress related to green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. The conference will also offer a chance to consider how greener economies can contribute to the emerging post-2015 development agenda. More than 300 participants representing governments, the private sector, civil society and development agencies are expected.

Twenty months after Rio+20, the first PAGE Conference will provide an opportunity to reaffirm high-level commitment by countries and explore the various pathways on ‘how’ to move towards a green economy.

The objectives of the conference are three-fold:

- To take stock and share good practices and lessons learned in advancing an inclusive green economy through policy reforms and shifting investment into key areas of the economy that produce jobs, social equity and income, while fostering environmental sustainability;
- To build upon this knowledge through interactive sessions geared toward developing a set of key insights and policy options that could help countries realise the economic, social and environmental benefits from transitioning to inclusive green economies; and
- To explore the multiple pathways and partnerships – including PAGE - available to countries as they embark and lead these transitions within their national contexts.
### DAY 1 – Monday, 4 March 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Floor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>09:00 – 10:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opening plenary session: Creating partnerships for action</td>
<td>10:00 – 11:00</td>
<td>2nd floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee break</td>
<td>11:00 – 11:30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second plenary session: Acting on the Rio+20 outcomes</td>
<td>11:30 – 13:00</td>
<td>2nd floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>13:00 – 14:30</td>
<td>4th floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side event by Green Growth Best Practice Initiative</td>
<td>13:00 – 14:30</td>
<td>4th floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First parallel sessions:</td>
<td>14:30 – 16:00</td>
<td>4th floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Green jobs and skills</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Finance, fiscal policy and investments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Green industrial policy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee break</td>
<td>16:00 – 16:30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third plenary session: UAE experience with green growth</td>
<td>16:30 – 18:00</td>
<td>2nd floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official dinner-reception hosted by UAE</td>
<td>19:30 – 21:30</td>
<td>Heritage Village</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### DAY 2 – Tuesday, 5 March 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fourth plenary session: Summary of key findings from Day 1 and First set of parallel sessions</td>
<td>09:00 – 10:30</td>
<td>2nd floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee break</td>
<td>10:30 – 11:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second parallel sessions:</td>
<td>11:00 – 12:30</td>
<td>4th floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Social inclusion and poverty reduction – making the green economy work for the poor</td>
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<tr>
<td>— Sustainable trade opportunities – driving an inclusive green economy?</td>
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<tr>
<td>— Metrics and indicators for green economy – measuring the future we want</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>12:30 – 14:00</td>
<td>Ballero Restaurant, 6th floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side event by Green Growth Knowledge Platform</td>
<td>12:30 – 14:00</td>
<td>4th floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth plenary session: Summary of key findings from Second set of parallel sessions</td>
<td>14:00 – 15:30</td>
<td>2nd floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee break</td>
<td>15:30 – 16:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing plenary session: Taking green economy and PAGE forward</td>
<td>16:00 – 17:30</td>
<td>2nd floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Key insights and take home point from the Conference – how to move from ideas to action?</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Reflections from panelists, participants, PAGE Partners</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Closing address by the Chair and Host, H.E. Dr Rashid Ahmed Mohammed Bin Fahad, Minister of Environment and Water, UAE</td>
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</tbody>
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DAY 1 – Tuesday, March 2014

Opening Plenary Session: Creating partnerships for action
4 March 2014, 10:00–11:00

A high-level session will open the conference, with the attendance of the Prime Minister of UAE, ministers from developed and developing countries, and senior officials of United Nations agencies and development institutions, including UN Under-Secretary General and UNEP Executive Director Achim Steiner.

The UAE Minister of Environment and Water, Dr Rashid Ahmed Mohammed Bin Fahad, will open the conference, on behalf of His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of UAE and Ruler of Dubai, the United Arab Emirates. The minister will present the UAE’s Vision 2021 and UAE Green Growth Strategy that was launched in 2012 under the Slogan ‘Green Economy for Sustainable Development’.

The session will also introduce the ‘Partnership for Action on Green Economy’ (PAGE), a multi-agency programme responding to Rio+20. The four UN agencies – the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) – are working together to catalyse the transformation process of 30 countries’ economies by shifting investment and policies towards the creation of a new generation of assets, clean technology, well-functioning ecosystems, and a skilled labour force with green jobs driven by strong institutions and good governance.

The following speakers will take part in this opening session:

- **Rashid Ahmed Bin Fahad**, Minister, Ministry of Environment and Water, UAE
- **Achim Steiner**, UN Under-Secretary General and Executive Director, UNEP
- **Oyun Sanjaasuren**, Minister of Environment, Mongolia
- **Jae-Hyun Lee**, Deputy Minister of Environment, Republic of Korea
- **Katariina Poskiparta**, State Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Finland
The objective of this plenary session is to review the Rio+20 outcomes and the following decisions adopted by governing bodies of UN agencies. Panelists will explore the conference’s three key themes: urgency and benefits of adopting green economy pathways; multiplicity of approaches to a green economy; and, lessons learned from countries having embarked on green economy trajectories.

Moderator:
Simon Zadek, Co-Director, Inquiry into the Design of a Sustainable Financial System, UNEP

Speakers
— Alfonso Navarrete Prida, Secretary of Labor and Social Welfare, Mexico
— James Fletcher, Minister, Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology, Saint Lucia
— Ephraim Kamuntu, Minister of Water and Environment of the Republic of Uganda
— Peter Poschen, Director, Enterprises Department, ILO
— Howard Bamsey, Director General, Global Green Growth Institute on behalf of the Green Growth Best Practices Initiative
— Xia Guang, Director General, Policy Research Center for Environment and Economy (PRCEE), Ministry of Environmental Protection, China
— Hanne Bjurstrøm, Special Envoy for Climate and Environment, Norway

Closing remarks: Achim Steiner, UNEP Executive Director
Side Event: Green Growth Best Practice – Release of synthesis of key findings
4 March 2014, 13:00 – 14:30

The Green Growth Best Practices (GGBP) Synthesis Report provides the green growth community with a review of effective practices and an analysis of the approaches being taken in 30 different countries in nine priority areas.

Opening remarks
— Howard Bamsey, Director-General, Global Green Growth Institute
— Bert Metz, Chair, GGBP Steering Committee

Speakers
— Ron Benioff, GGBP Project Director, Introduction of GGBP and Overview of Findings
— Antonio Mediavilla, WWF Mexico, Visions, targets, benefits and options
— Wanxin Li, City University Hong Kong, Monitoring and Evaluation
— Anne Olhoff, UNEP Risø Centre, Policy Design and Implementation

NB: Limited capacity for side event – attendees are invited to arrive on time.
Parallel Session a: Green jobs – Seizing the opportunities for decent work
4 March 2014, 14:30 – 16:00
(Note: This session will be held in the plenary room, 2nd floor)
This session will examine current experiences, knowledge and good practice on job creation, improving job quality and increasing social inclusion in a green economy.

Session Co-Chairs
— Peter Poschen, Director, Enterprises Department, ILO
— Cynthia Cruz, Executive Director, Institute of Labour Studies, Department of Labour and Employment, Philippines

Speakers
— Alfonso Navarrete Prida, Secretary of Labour and Social Welfare, Mexico
— Osman Mahomed, Executive Chairman, Maurice Ile Durable Commission, Mauritius

Panelists
— Nompumelelo Barbara Mnconywa, Head, Labour Activation Program, Department of Labour, South Africa
— Mika Vehnämäki, Senior Economic Advisor, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland
— Steve Bass, Head, Sustainable Markets Group, IIED, & co-founder, Green Economy Coalition

Parallel Session b: Fiscal policy and finance– Investing in a green transition
4 March 2014, 14:30 – 16:00

The theme of this session will address how fiscal policy can mobilize the private investment needed for a green economy, and measures for scaling up knowledge sharing.

Session co-Chairs
— Charles Anderson, Head, UNEP Finance Initiative
— Leo Brincat, Minister for Sustainable Development, Environment and Climate Change, Malta

Speakers
— Jose Maria Valenzuela, Director for Energy Sustainability, Secretariat of Energy, Mexico
— Karin Ireton, Head, Sustainability Management, Standard Bank, South Africa

Panelists
— Rae Kwong Chung, Director, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
— Kwabena Boadu Oku-Afari, CEO/Director, Real Sector Division, Ministry of Finance, Ghana
— Nancy Martasuta, Vice President, Bank Negara Indonesia
— Gerhard Fourie, Chief Director, Green Industries, Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa

Closing remarks: Nick Robins, Co-Director, Inquiry into the Design of a Sustainable Financial System, UNEP
Parallel Session c: Green industrial policies  Shaping the future of manufacturing
4 March 2014, 14:30 – 16:00

This session examines “greening” industrial policy and the comparative advantage for resource efficient and low-polluting sectors of the economy, as well as countries’ needs.

Session Co-Chairs
— Edward Clarence-Smith, Director, East Asia Region, UNIDO
— Chuluunbat Ochirbat, Vice-Minister of Economic Development, Mongolia

Speakers
— Edwin Nii Lantey Vanderpuye, Deputy Minister for Trade and Industry, Ghana
— Jacqueline Cramer, Director, Utrecht Sustainability Institute, and former Minister, Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment, Netherlands

Panelists
— Cuauhtemoc Ochoa, Vice-Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Mexico*
— Gonzalo Ansola, Technical Advisor, Ministry of Production, Peru

Third Plenary Session: UAE best practices and green growth strategy – Spotlight on the Middle East
4 March 2014, 16:30-18:00

This session will focus on UAE best practices and green growth strategy.

Moderator
— Iyad Abumoghli, Regional Director, Regional Office for West Asia, UNEP

Speakers
— Aisha Al Abdooli, Undersecretary for Environment Affairs, Ministry of Environment and Water, UAE
— Taher Diab, Director, Strategy and Planning, and Secretary General, Emirates Energy Award, Dubai Supreme Council of Energy
— Nawal Al Hosany, Director of Sustainability Department, MASDAR
— Omar Al-Kharji, Senior specialist, Telecommunication Regulatory Authority
— Reem Nejdawi, Chief, Productive Sectors Section, Sustainable Development and Productivity Division, UN Economic and Social Commission on West Asia
Fourth plenary session: Summary of key findings from Day 1 and First set of parallel sessions
5 March 2014, 09:00 – 10:30

Moderators
— Elliot Harris, Director, New York Office, UNEP
— Jane Stewart, Special Representative and Director, ILO

Commentators
— Hakima Elhaiti, Minister, Minister of Environment, Morocco
— Mujibul Haque Chunnu, Secretary of State, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Bangladesh
— Henri Bastaman, Deputy Minister for Technical Infrastructure and Capacity Building, Ministry of Environment Indonesia
— Kare Chawicha Debessa, State Minister, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Ethiopia*

Introduction to Second set of parallel sessions by Achim Halpaap, Senior Manager, Environment and Green Development, UNITAR
Parallel Session d: Social inclusion and poverty reduction: making the green economy work for the poor
5 March 2014, 11:00 – 12:30
This session will explore how green economy approaches can help reduce poverty, inequality, and vulnerabilities, while ensuring environmental sustainability.

Session Co-Chairs
— Chair: Coletha Ruhamya, Deputy Director General, Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA)
— Co-Chair: Kees van der Ree, Coordinator, Green Jobs Programme, ILO

Speakers
— Shantanu Mukherjee, Head, Millennium Development Goals Team, Development Policy Bureau, UNDP
— Carlos Roberto de Carvalho Fonseca, Deputy Head of the Office for International Affairs, Ministry of the Environment of Brazil*

Panelists
— Vannak Chhun, Secretary of State, Secretary-General & Member of National Council on Green Growth, Cambodia
— Ashok Khosla, President, Development Alternatives, India
— Helen Marquard, Executive Director, the SEED Initiative, UK

Parallel session e: Sustainable trade opportunities - driving an inclusive green economy?
5 March 2014, 11:00 – 12:30
The session will outline the importance of, and pathways towards, sustainable trade opportunities that arise from the transition to a green economy.

Session Co-Chairs
— Ephraim Kamuntu, Minister, Ministry of Water and Environment, Uganda
— Scott Vaughan, President, International Institute for Sustainable Development

Speakers
— Neermala Seenarain, Environment Officer, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Mauritius
— Tim Drury, Procurement Operations Director, Unilever (North Africa Middle East, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine and Belarus)

Panelists
— Papa Kow Bartels, Director, Logistics and Value Chain Division, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Ghana
— Carla Vaca, Coordinator, National Commission for the Promotion of Biotrade, Peru
— Tra Huong Nguyen, Senior Expert, Ministry, Industry and Trade, Vietnam
Parallel session f: Metrics and indicators for green economy – Measuring the future we want
5 March 2014, 11:00 – 12:30

This session will address how countries can use indicators to guide their transition to a green economy, while highlighting different frameworks and initiatives.

Session Co-Chairs
— Stephen Wainaina, Economic Secretary, Ministry of Devolution and Planning, Kenya
— Laszló Pintér, Professor, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary

Speakers
— Pablo Montes Goitia, Coordinator, National Portfolio of Environmental Projects, National Bureau of the Environment, Ministry of Housing, Land Planning and Environment, Uruguay
— Niramon Sutummakid, Associate Professor, Economics, Thammasat University, Thailand

Panelists
— Hoseok Kim, Senior Programme Manager, Global Green Growth Institute
— Matteo Pedercini, Director, Modeling and Capacity Development, Millennium Institute
— Pushpam Kumar, Chief, Ecosystem Services Economics Unit, Division of Environment Programme Implementation, UNEP

Side event: Green Growth Knowledge Platform
5 March 2014, 12:30-14:00

"What We Don’t Know – Expanding the Frontiers of Green Growth Knowledge” will be the focus of this high-level debate. During the panel, leaders in this field will highlight what additional understanding, research and data collection is needed to expand the frontiers of green growth knowledge.

Facilitator: Ben Simmons, Head, GGKP

Potential discussants
— Ashok Khosla, President, Development Alternatives
— Najib Saab, Secretary General, Arab Forum for Environment and Development*
— Jane Stewart, Steven Stone, Chief, Economics and Trade Branch, UNEP
— Scott Vaughan, President, International Institute for sustainable Development

NB: Limited capacity for side event – attendees are invited to arrive punctually.
Fifth plenary session: Summary of key findings from second set of parallel sessions
5 March 2014, 14:00-15:30

Moderators
— Jane Stewart, Special Representative and Director, International Labour Organization
— Elliot Harris, Director, New York Office, UNEP

Commentators
— Lukwebo Bahati, Minister, Ministry of Employment and Labor, DR Congo*
— Oliver Greenfield, Director, Green Economy Coalition

Closing plenary session – Taking PAGE and the green economy forward
5 March 2014, 16:00-17:30

Chaired by the UAE, this session will focus take home messages and key insights derived from the conference, asking the question – how to move from ideas to action?

Moderator: Simon Zadek, Co-Director, Inquiry into the Design of a Sustainable Financial System, UNEP

Final remarks and observations
— Mor Ngom, Minister, Ministry of Environment, Senegal
— Osman Mahomed, Executive Chairman, Maurice Ile Durable Commission, Mauritius
— Oyun Sanjaasuren, Minister of Environment, Mongolia
— Salif Ouedraogo, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, Burkina Faso

Reflections from PAGE Partners:
Lead by Tim Kasten, Director ad interim, Division of Industry, Trade and Economics, UNEP

Closing address from UAE Host and Chair
Rashid Ahmed Bin Fahad, Minister, Ministry of Environment and Water, UAE
The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the lead organization on the global environment in the UN system. UNEP focuses on ensuring environmental sustainability in policy advice under PAGE. Under its Green Economy Initiative, it has produced a number of green economy reports, and provided technical assistance and policy advice to more than 20 countries. Furthermore, UNEP has created partnerships with the Green Growth Knowledge Platform, among others, as part of its efforts to promote a green economy worldwide.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) brings its knowledge and experience on employment, the greening of enterprises, green jobs, gender equality and skills building to PAGE. Under its Green Jobs Programme, the ILO has provided international policy coherence through research and advocacy on employment, entrepreneurship and social inclusion; supported constituents at national level through social dialogue, policy and technical advisory services; and developed capacity through training and knowledge sharing.

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is the UN’s expert in promoting sustainable industrial development. UNIDO has a long track record in implementing cleaner production technologies at the national level, as well as providing evidence-based policy advice to member states. UNIDO’s contribution to PAGE focuses on industrial policy advice and its implementation through industry engagement, industry-related training and its building of public-private partnerships.

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is a strategic UN partner dedicated to environmental training and strengthening capacities of research and training institutions in partner countries. Under PAGE, UNITAR supports and contributes to the development of international training programmes, including those hosted by the ILO’s International Training Centre. UNITAR also leads on national training and competency development in support of green economy policy and action plan development, as well as contribute to other specialized training, capacity building and high-level dialogues.
The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) supports countries interested in pursuing inclusive, resource-efficient, low-carbon economies.

Between now and 2020, PAGE aims to catalyse the transformation process of 30 countries’ economies by shifting investment and policies towards the creation of a new generation of assets: clean technology, well-functioning ecosystems, a skilled labour force with green jobs driven by strong institutions and good governance.

Together, this partnership will set the conditions for enhanced prosperity and greater equity, contributing to natural resource conservation and poverty eradication.

For further information:

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