



**PAGE** PARTNERSHIP FOR ACTION  
ON GREEN ECONOMY



# Country Application Package for The Partnership on Action for Green Economy (PAGE)

Application Deadline: 15 October 2021



## About PAGE

The Partnership for Action on Green Economy ([PAGE](#)) is an alliance of [5 UN agencies](#), [8 funding partners](#) and [20 countries](#) working together to transform economic policies and development planning into drivers of sustainability. PAGE supports countries and regions in economic and development planning to foster economic growth, create income and jobs, reduce poverty and inequality, and strengthen the ecological foundations of economies.

Thanks to this integrated approach and support of a wide range of [partners](#), PAGE is recognized as a model to deliver coordinated support of UN agencies to countries for making the economic recovery from COVID-19 green and inclusive, achieving [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) and targets for climate change and biodiversity.

For further information, see the [PAGE Strategy 2021-2030](#), the [Country Application page](#) and the [PAGE 2020 Annual Report](#). The 2020 Annual Report also lays out the spectrum of [PAGE support for a green and inclusive economic recovery](#).



### 1. Introduction to the Application Process

Countries join PAGE through a demand-driven, and criteria-based selection process. This document provides information about the application process, details to be included in the application form (attached as Annex 1) and supporting documents to be attached with the application.

### 2. PAGE Support to Countries

PAGE brings together the combined expertise of its five partner agencies – the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) – to provide integrated support to countries in economic and development planning for transitioning to an inclusive green economy.

### What is an Inclusive Green Economy?

An inclusive green economy, in its simplest expression, is low carbon, efficient and clean in production. It is also inclusive in consumption and outcomes, based on sharing, circularity, collaboration, solidarity, resilience, opportunity, and interdependence. It is focused on expanding options and choices for national economies, using targeted and appropriate fiscal, employment, and social protection policies, and backed up by strong institutions that are specifically geared towards safeguarding social and ecological floors. It recognizes that there are many and diverse pathways to environmental sustainability.<sup>1</sup>

Focused on reframing macroeconomic policies, PAGE work in partner countries seeks to align economies with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by increasing human prosperity, creating green and decent jobs, including for youth and women, reducing inequalities, and strengthening the ecological foundations of economies. This includes support to countries for ‘building forward better’ from COVID-19, as a green and inclusive economic recovery can be a stepping-stone towards a broader green economy transformation that drives positive action for climate and nature, counteracting future pandemics. As outlined in its [Strategy 2021-2030](#), PAGE currently works with 20 partner countries and aims to support up to 10 additional partner countries by 2030.

The [PAGE Strategy 2021-2030](#), Chapter 7, provides further information about the support that PAGE can offer to partner countries, which is guided by the PAGE Overall Outcome, cited below:

### PAGE Overall Outcome

Countries reframe economic policy around sustainability, and strengthen enabling policies and practices that catalyse greater public and private investment in infrastructure, resource efficient technologies, and economic activities that benefit society as a whole.

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from UNEP 2015. Uncovering Pathways Towards an Inclusive Green Economy: A Summary for Leaders. See: <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/report/uncovering-pathways-towards-inclusive-green-economy-summary-leaders>

In line with this Outcome, to help drive economic transformation and long-term sustainability in partner countries, PAGE:

- links closely with existing institutional structures and policy processes in partner countries, including the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCF). Each package of support is specifically tailored to country needs, capacities and development aspirations;
- brings together the economic expertise of the UN system (economists from UN Resident Coordinator Offices, PAGE agencies, UN Regional Economic Commissions, and the Office of the UN Chief Economist), the Government and the research community to jointly design a pathway for transitioning to a green and inclusive economy,
- contributes to and draws on the expertise of relevant government ministries, in particular the counterpart ministries of the five PAGE agencies which are key in addressing the Triple Planetary Crisis of climate, nature and pollution, including Ministries of Environment, Labour, Energy, Transport, Industry etc., along with Ministries of Economy, Finance and Development Planning that drive macroeconomic reform. PAGE also works closely with private sector actors, workers' unions and civil society, including labour, youth and women associations.

### 3. Criteria for Country Selection

Country applications are assessed against the following criteria:

#### **Demonstrated high-level commitment of the country to a transition to green economy, including a green economic recovery from COVID-19, and confirmed support of key ministries to the country's application to PAGE**

- Engagement and support from a key coordinating government body, e.g. Cabinet Office, Office of the President, Office of the Prime Minister
- Evidence of engagement and support from key ministries responsible for economy, finance and planning
- Expressed interest by government in greening economic recovery plans and/or fiscal stimulus packages in response to COVID-19, as part of the country's overall commitment to a green economy transition

#### **Demonstrated linkages of potential PAGE support with national policy processes**

- Linkages between potential activities to be carried out through PAGE and relevant national planning processes such as for the SDGs, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)
- Interest by government to take a strategic, macroeconomic, and programmatic approach to advance an inclusive green economy and recovery

#### **A clear demand for technical assistance for policy reform, green economic recovery, and economic transformation**

- Identified specific areas of policy reform, including for green economic recovery, that PAGE could support
- Potential areas of capacity development which could be strengthened through PAGE

## Evidence of inter-ministerial coordination

- Demonstrated coordination between government ministries to advance an inclusive green economy
- Envisioned governance and coordinating mechanisms for PAGE support, e.g. an inter-ministerial body

## Readiness for multi-stakeholder engagement

- Expected involvement of stakeholders outside government, e.g. private sector, civil society, workers' unions, academia, economic think-tanks, and research institutions

## Additional PAGE considerations for the selection process include:

- Presence and/or existing activities of the five PAGE partner UN agencies in the country and agencies' capacity to respond
- Regional balance, inclusion of both larger and smaller economies and of Least Developed Countries (LDCs)
- Readiness of applicant countries to co-finance PAGE activities, including in-kind contributions. This is not a requirement but provides a strong indication of commitment to green economy and partnering with PAGE
- Linkages to other development partners, programmes and initiatives supporting a green economy in the country

N.B. Only a limited number of countries can be selected to join PAGE. Not all countries meeting the criteria may be accepted.

## 4. Components of the Application

The application form (included in Annex I) has four sections to be filled by the applicant countries, taking into account the national situation and governance structure. Supporting letters and documents should be submitted together with the application form.

### Section A: Government Ministries

The transition to an inclusive green economy is a country-driven process led by key government ministries. It is expected that the application process will be supported by a lead coordination body (e.g. Cabinet Office, Office of the President, Office of the Prime Minister etc.). It is also possible that the application process is supported by an inter-ministerial committee dealing with national planning processes as well as by other key ministries. As the core offer of PAGE is related to supporting economic transformation, it is expected that the Ministry or Government Agency responsible for the development of economic policies, planning and budget, should lead the application or be strongly involved in the process (e.g., Ministry of Economy/ Finance/ Planning/ Development).

### Section B: Institutions and Organizations Participating in the Process

Since transitioning to green economy is a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder process, the participation of additional government ministries and institutions, business and private sector, workers' unions, civil society, academia and research institutes and other relevant actors is important. The list of these stakeholders and their

expected roles needs to be provided in the application form and the Statement of Interest (Section C).

### Section C: Statement of Interest

Interested countries should prepare a Statement of Interest, including the following information:

- Background information/rationale for advancing an Inclusive Green Economy in the country
  - This could include e.g. the impact of COVID-19 on the country and the country's commitment to a green and inclusive economic recovery
- Interest in participating in PAGE and expected benefits of a partnership with PAGE, including, for example, reflections on the following questions:
  - What are the short, medium and long-term objectives of a partnership with PAGE?
  - How will these objectives leverage green economic reform and financing in the country?
- The national policy context, key policy areas and priority sectors targeted for policy reform and action
- Proposed inter-ministerial coordination to support policy reform and implementation of PAGE support
- Linkages to national development planning, UNSDCFs, SDGs, NDCs, and other relevant major United Nations and International Financial Institutions (IFI) programmes (e.g. identification of ongoing or planned policy processes that can include PAGE elements and engagement)
- Expected involvement of stakeholders from private sector, workers' unions, organized labour, civil society, etc.
- Please also refer to Section 3 for the list of criteria for country selection and additional considerations

### Section D: Supporting Letters

Applications are submitted with:

- A cover letter signed by a high-level official (e.g. Cabinet Office, Office of the President, Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Economy/Finance/Planning/Development) demonstrating interest and commitment
- Supporting letters from key government ministries (e.g. Economy, Finance, Planning, Environment, Labour, Industry, Education, Social Affairs, Gender etc.) signed at senior level
  - Note that if the cover letter is not issued by the Ministry of Economy/Finance/Planning/Development, then at least one of these ministries must provide a supporting letter
- Other supporting letters from private sector, organized labour and civil society (desired but optional)
- Other supporting letters from PAGE [collaborating partners](#) with country presence including, UNEP-UNDP Poverty Environment Action Initiative (PEA), SWITCH Africa Green and SWITCH-Asia, GIZ, NDC Partnership, the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), the Green Economy Coalition (GEC), and [others](#) (desired but optional).

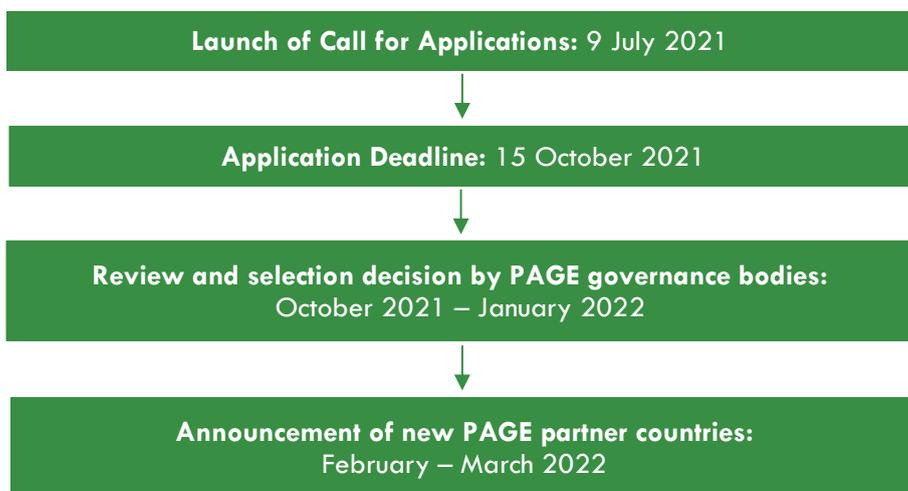
## 5. Application, Review and Selection Process

Based on the country selection criteria, country applications are reviewed by PAGE governance bodies. The process comprises the following steps (see also the timeline diagram on the next page):

- Interested countries contact the PAGE Secretariat or a PAGE agency to express initial interest and seek guidance on the preparation of their application

- Interested countries prepare and submit their application
- The application is screened by the PAGE Secretariat to determine if it meets the selection criteria
- The PAGE Technical Team reviews the application and seeks formal advice from the UN Resident Coordinator, as well as relevant regional and country offices of PAGE agencies. It then makes a recommendation to the PAGE Management Board
- The PAGE Management Board reviews the application. It seeks the advice of PAGE Funding Partners and makes a final decision on selection

### Estimated timeline for the PAGE Country Application and Selection process



### Key Questions for Submitting a PAGE Country Application

- Who should submit the application?

The application and cover-letter are to be signed and submitted by a high-level official from a ministry or government institution with lead coordination functions.

- How should the application be submitted?

The complete application package should be submitted to the PAGE Secretariat via email to [page@un.org](mailto:page@un.org)

- When is the deadline for applying?

Applications must reach PAGE Secretariat no later than 15 October 2021.

- Who to contact for support?

Any questions should be addressed to the PAGE Secretariat via email to [page@un.org](mailto:page@un.org)

## Application Form

### SECTION A: Government Ministries – for information see Section 4. *Components of the Application* in the PAGE Country Application Package

<b>1. Country Name</b>	
<b>2. Lead Ministry/Agency Coordinating the Application</b>	
Ministry/Agency	
Department	
Address	
Contact Person	
Title	
Phone	
Email	

### 3. Signature

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Name and Title of Government Signatory

Date

**SECTION B: Institutions and Organizations Participating in the Process – for information see Section 4. *Components of the Application* in the PAGE Country Application Package**

**1. Other Ministries/Agencies<sup>2</sup> Involved in the Application Process**

Ministry/Agency	Name and Title of Contact Person	Phone, Email
Finance		
Economy		
Planning and Development		
Environment		
Energy		
Industry		
Labour and Employment/and Social Protection		
Other		

<sup>2</sup> This is an indicative list. Depending on the national governance structure, additional sectors and ministries can be added.

**2. Academic/Research Institutes**

Organization name	Role/relevance for application	Name, Title and Contact Details (Phone, Email) of Contact Person

**3. Private Sector**

Organization name	Role/relevance for application	Name, Title and Contact Details (Phone, Email) of Contact Person

**4. Workers’ Unions, Civil Society, NGOs and Networks**

Organization name	Role/relevance for application	Name, Title and Contact Details (Phone, Email) of Contact Person

**SECTION C: Statement of Interest – see also Section 4. *Components of the Application in the PAGE Country Application Package***

1. Background Information/Rationale
2. Expected Benefits of Partnership with PAGE
3. Priority Sectors for Policy Reform
4. Linkages to National Development Planning/ United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)  
Please include other relevant major UN/International Financial Institutions (IFI) programmes (e.g. identification of ongoing or planned policy processes that can include PAGE elements)
5. Inter-ministerial Coordination for Policy Reform and Implementation (e.g. indication of formation of a Green Economy Steering Committee with membership from key ministries, inclusion of other key actors, political support and an official status/notification, expected in-kind contributions from ministries and other key actors)
6. Engagement of stakeholders (private sector, workers’ unions, organized labour, civil society, economic think-tanks, research institutions etc.)

**STATEMENT OF INTEREST**

The statement of interest may be written in the space provided below or attached separately.

[Empty space for writing the statement of interest]



## SECTION D: Letters of Support – see also Section 4. *Components of the Application in the PAGE Country Application Package*

1. Cover letter signed by a high-level official (e.g. Cabinets Office, Office of the President, Ministry of Economy/Finance/Planning, etc.) demonstrating interest and commitment
2. Letters from key government ministries (e.g. Environment, Labour, Industry, Economy, Finance, Development, Planning) signed at senior level
3. Other supporting letters from private sector, workers’ unions, organized labour, civil society, economic think-tanks, research institutions etc. (desired but optional)

**Note:** Documents for Sections C and D can be combined in a single letter of interest with multiple signatories.

### Application Checklist

Completed Application Form	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cover letter from a government institution/ministry with lead coordination functions (e.g. Cabinet Office, Office of the President, Ministry of Economy / Finance / Planning etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting letters from Ministry of Economy / Finance / Planning / Development if not already submitting the cover letter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting letters from additional ministries (e.g. Environment, Labour, Industry, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting letters from private sector, organized labour and civil society etc. (desired but optional)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Completed Statement of Interest	<input type="checkbox"/>

For **questions or general information** please contact the PAGE Secretariat via email: [page@un.org](mailto:page@un.org)



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