

GREEN economy

Advisory Services Update – October 2012

At the request of governments, UNEP is partnering with 26 countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Middle East, including the following: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Burkina Faso, China, Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Korea, Mali, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, South Africa and Ukraine (see Figure 1 and Annex 1).

A new project is being launched in the Caribbean region, while the launching of the new Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) following the Rio+20 Conference will enable UNEP and its partners to scale up and expand national level support to countries.

UNEP Green Economy Advisory Services

UNEP Green Economy Advisory Services consist of policy advice, technical assistance and capacity building that are provided to governments in support of their national and regional initiatives to transform and revitalize their economies. The advisory services include:

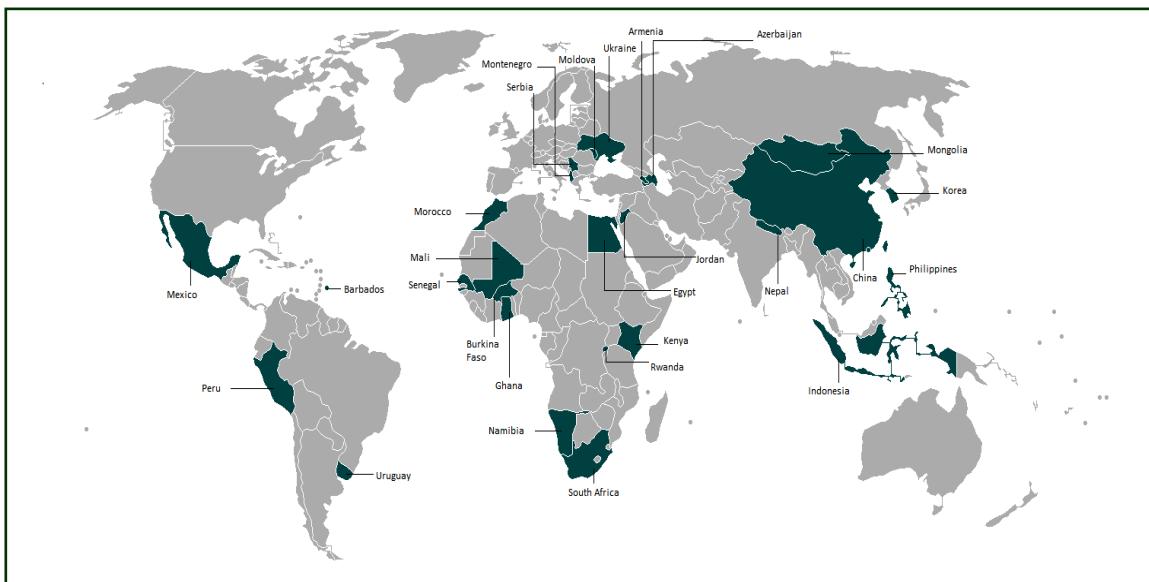
- **Fostering** multi-stakeholder dialogue and consultation on green economy;
- **Delivering** comprehensive Green Economy Assessments that identify key opportunities and options for a green economy transition at country level;

In this issue

- **Implementing Inclusive, Green Economy Approaches: Asia Regional Dialogue on Country Experiences and Ways Forward for Economic Decision-Makers, Bangkok, Thailand**
- **Workshop on Fiscal Policies Towards an Inclusive Green Economy, Geneva, Switzerland**
- **Green Growth in the East Caribbean States, Saint Lucia, Panama**
- **Regional Dialogue on Green Economy in West Indian Ocean Island States, Port Louis, Mauritius**
- **Workshop on Green Economy and Environmental Accounting, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso**
- **African Environment Ministers launch an African Partnership for a Green Economy, Arusha, Tanzania**
- **Kenya Green Economy Assessment**

- **Assisting** countries in creating Indicators and Measurement Frameworks;
- **Identifying and facilitating** Policy and Fiscal Instruments that enable and encourage investments in high potential green sectors, while assisting the “greening” of other sectors;
- **Supporting** Centres of Excellence, **enhancing** local knowledge and **building** capacity;
- **Mainstreaming** green economy into national development strategies and UN Development Assistance Framework; and
- **Forging** partnerships and alliances with national, regional and global institutions.

Figure 1. Overview of countries where UNEP's Advisory Services team is currently engaged.



Reaching out to governments

UNEP engages a variety of government institutions, such as the National Economic and Development Authority in the Philippines; the National Planning Commission in Nepal; the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology of Ghana; the National Development and Reform Commission of China; the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry of Moldova; the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico; and the Ministry of Sustainable Development of Montenegro.

Fostering multi-stakeholder dialogue and consultation on green economy

Bangkok. A two-day Regional Dialogue on inclusive green economy approaches was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 27-28 September 2012. The Dialogue provided a forum for over 80 officials and experts representing ministries of finance, planning and environment, UN agencies and partners, as well as civil society, to discuss the outcomes of the Rio+20 conference and its follow up. Participants shared experiences on implementing inclusive, green economy approaches as a means for reducing poverty and ensuring more equitable sustainable development, including a range of policy instruments, tools and measurement frameworks, fiscal and budget policies, employment and green jobs and the social dimensions of inclusive green economy approaches.

Participants in Asia Regional Dialogue on Inclusive Green Economy Approaches. (Photo: UNDP)



It appeared that many countries in the region understand now that there is no specific template for an inclusive green economy and that there can be different green economy approaches depending on national contexts. The event revealed that there is strong country demand for capacity development and advisory services to help unpack a practical set of context-responsive inclusive green economy tools and measures. For the final session, participants broke into sub-regional groups to identify promising green economy initiatives that could be scaled up across the region, to identify gaps and country needs and to outline the role of UN agencies, UN Country Teams and other development partners in supporting these priorities. The Regional Dialogue is one of a series of regional and global events co-organised through a UNEP-DESA-UNDP Green Economy Joint Programme as a contribution to Rio+20 and post-Rio follow-up.

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Saint Lucia. The Secretariat of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, in partnership with EU-ACP Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation, and the Centre for Enterprise Development organized the Green Growth Meeting on 20-21 September in Saint Lucia. UNEP was invited to

lead a session on Green Growth Investment Framework. The meeting was attended by over 70 participants representing policymakers, businesses, civil society, media and academia. At this meeting, UNEP presented a recently launched Caribbean Green Economy Initiative (CGEI) for which many participants expressed interest. The CGEI will provide green economy advisory services to three countries and support regional initiatives in the Caribbean region. On the margins of this meeting, UNEP held a series of bilateral meetings with the Organization of the Eastern Caribbean States, CARICOM Secretariat, Saint Lucia Manufacturing Association, Anguilla Chamber of Commerce and Industry among other institutions.

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Geneva. A joint UNEP-IMF-GIZ workshop on Fiscal Policies towards an Inclusive Green Economy took place in Geneva on 3-4 October 2012. The workshop brought together around 50 participants from over 20 countries, including representatives from both finance and environment ministries, to share and discuss their experiences for driving a green economy through fiscal policy reforms. Participants looked at energy subsidies and their impacts, tax reforms for greening the economy as well as fiscal measures in the transport sector.

Participants at the workshop on fiscal policies for a green economy, 3-4 October 2012. (Photo: UNEP)



Leading experts in these areas introduced the discussions, while participants had the opportunity to discuss challenges when implementing fiscal reforms, share best practices and lessons learned, and identify knowledge gaps. Participants noted that while countries have various experiences and are at different stages in environmental fiscal reforms, crucial elements of success include political will, communication with stakeholders and lobby groups, timing of reforms and the importance of undertaking reform gradually, with the support of compensation mechanisms for groups affected by such reforms. Documents and material presented at the workshop can be accessed [here](#).

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Arusha. The 14th Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) was held on 12-14 September in Arusha, Tanzania under the theme of “Post Rio+20 Strategy for Africa”. The ministerial meeting was preceded by a meeting of experts on 10-11 September. UNEP organised an expert meeting on green economy, sustainable consumption and production and eco-labelling in Africa on 9th September.

At AMCEN 14, African environment ministers adopted several decisions including a decision on “Rio +20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development outcomes and Strategy for Africa”. In this decision, ministers agreed to initiate 10 regional flagship programmes as a means for effective implementation of the outcomes of the Rio +20 Conference in Africa including a African Green Economy Partnership and a Partnership for Sustainable Consumption and Production in Africa. See AMCEN 14 documents and decisions at: http://www.unep.org/roa/amcen/Amcen_Events/14th_Session/default.asp

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Mauritius. Representatives of Seychelles, Mauritius, Comoros and Madagascar met together in Port Louis on 4-5 October 2012 to consider how regulatory instruments can promote and support a green economy in the context of the sustainable development in these Island States which share several unique features. This event was attended by the Minister for Agro-Industry and Food Security, the Acting Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development of Mauritius, SD, Hon. Satya Veyash Fangoo and the UN Resident Coordinator in Mauritius.

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Participants at the green economy workshop in Port Louis on 4-5 October 2012. (Photo: UNEP)



Ouagadougou. The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development organised, in collaboration with UNEP and UNDP a national workshop on “Green Economy and Environmental Accounting” in Ouagadougou, on the 8th of October 2012. This event convened in the context of UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative in relation to UNEP-supported green economy activities in Burkina Faso brought together 150 experts from various ministries, inter-governmental organizations, civil society, academia and the media. Participants considered a range of policy and methodological issues to foster a transition to a green economy, sustainable consumption and production modes, and the greening of national accounts. In Burkina Faso, it was emphasized that greening agriculture, in particular the cotton industry, and mining are likely to be the most challenging, including areas with highest economic, social and environmental benefits.

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Informing policy decisions through country-tailored green economy assessments

Kenya. A green economy could offer Kenya new opportunities for sustained economic growth, energy saving, agricultural productivity, progress on MDGs and create green jobs for a growing young population. These are findings from a green economy assessment conducted by Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis, with the support of UNEP and Washington Millennium Institute as part of a UNEP green economy advisory support to Kenya. On 6 September 2012, over 50 participants including officials from the office of the Prime Minister, Treasury, Energy, Water, and other government ministries along with representatives of the private sector, non-government organizations, and representatives of the United Nations system in Kenya met at a validation workshop hosted by Kenya Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources and UNEP to present and discuss the report.

Findings from the report indicate that under a green economy scenario, Kenya would achieve faster economic growth with an average annual real GDP growth rate of 5%, as compared to 3.7% under business-as-usual (BAU) between 2010 and 2030. Real per capita national income would rise to Ksh 57,000 – 64,000 in 2030 compared to Ksh 40,000 in 2010 and Ksh 53,000 in 2030 under the BAU scenario. This would contribute to reducing the proportion of the population below poverty line by about 3 per cent more than in a BAU scenario. Agricultural output would exceed the baseline scenario by about 23 per cent, as green economy measures help mitigate the impact of climate change. The MDGs composite indicator is projected to improve to 0.67 – 0.72 in 2030 compared to 0.63 when the interventions are not implemented. Kenya's MDGs composite index in 2010 was 0.54. In order to realize the potential, key challenges need to be addressed including political, social, economic, financial and technical barriers.

Building on the results of this assessment, UNEP in collaboration with the African Development Bank, ILO, UNDP and other UN agencies in Kenya, seeks to accompany Kenya in the formulation of a green economy roadmap, in connection with process of Kenya's up-coming Medium Term Plan for 2013-2017.

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Supporting centres of excellence – Enhancing local knowledge, building capacity

UNEP delivers advisory support to governments through national policy research institutions such as:

- Centre for Economic Development Policy in Senegal;
- International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development in Nepal;
- Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research, University of Ghana;
- Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis;
- University of West Indies-Cave Hill Campus, in Barbados;
- Millennium Institute in Washington, D.C.;
- National Academy of Sciences in Azerbaijan;
- National Ecology Institute of Mexico;
- Organic Federation of Ukraine;
- Policy Research Centre for Environment and Economy in China;
- Sustainability Institute at Stellenbosch University in South Africa

Forging partnerships and alliances

UNEP works with key partners within and outside the United Nations system in delivering advisory services to countries. Key United Nations partners include ILO, UNDP, UNITAR and UNDESA.

- **UNEP and GIZ.** A joint three-year project was initiated with the support of Germany's Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). This joint initiative seeks to support six countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America in their efforts to promote low-carbon development by greening the economy. The project activities include policy dialogues, advisory services and development of green economy metrics and indicators.

Upcoming event: 5-9 November 2012, Uruguay – Kick-off and planning workshop for the UNEP-GIZ project “Enhancing low-carbon development by greening the economy”.

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- **Global Green Growth Knowledge Platform (GGKP).** Launched on 11 January 2012 in Mexico by high-level representatives of UNEP, OECD, the World Bank and the Global Green Growth Institute, GGKP is a cutting-edge global initiative that aims to identify and address major knowledge gaps in green growth theory and practice. GGKP hopes to improve local, national and global economic policy-making around the world by providing rigorous and relevant analysis of the various synergies and trade-offs between the economy and the environment. It will complement other efforts by emphasizing policy instruments that yield local environmental co-benefits while stimulating growth, providing a compelling set of incentives for governments.

Upcoming event: 4-5 December 2012, Indicators for Inclusive Green Economy/Green Growth Policies: An International Workshop, Geneva, Switzerland

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- **The Green Jobs Initiative.** Led by the International Labour Organization (ILO), in partnership with UNEP, the Green Jobs Initiative supports a socially fair transition for enterprises, workers and communities, where the impact of changes in labour markets, including vulnerabilities and inequalities and new business models, are addressed through social dialogue. Building on their joint ground-breaking report on Green Jobs first published in 2008, ILO and UNEP are currently bringing together their methodologies and technical support to countries at the national level.

Upcoming event: 20-22 November 2012, Conference on Green Jobs Strategy in Africa, Nairobi, Kenya

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- **UNEP, UNDP and UNDESA Joint Programme.** Bringing together the three UN agencies and supported by The Netherlands, this joint programme will implement a four-year initiative to assist 15 countries in addressing green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. Through this project, the three agencies assisted countries in their national preparatory process for Rio+20, provided international and regional platforms for dialogue on the theme of green economy of Rio+20 and will undertake national green economy assessments and other capacity building activities in the post-Rio phase.

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Annex 1. Status of delivery and next steps

Region/Country	Services currently provided	Next steps
Azerbaijan	A green economy assessment of opportunities for diversification in the non-oil sector.	Policy support to develop sectoral strategies or demonstration activities.
Barbados	Green economy scoping study addressing the tourism, agriculture, transport and housing/buildings, fisheries, energy, water, waste and land use sectors.	Scale-up into a Caribbean-wide green economy initiative.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Request from the Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations for UNEP to undertake GE sectoral modelling study.	Organize the first consultation meeting with the government and stakeholders at the end of September 2012
Burkina Faso	Support to the formulation of an investment plan for the environment and natural resources sector, in partnership with UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative	Quantitative assessment of the economic, social and environmental impacts of implementing the Investment Plan.
China	Green economy modeling, focusing on paper industry, renewable energy and environmental protection industry.	Feed the outcomes of the assessment into policy processes aimed at scaling up green investments.
Egypt	National green economy workshop completed.	Quantitative assessment of the potential benefits of a green economy.
Ghana	Quantitative assessment of the potential benefits of a green economy focusing on agriculture, cocoa, energy, and forestry.	Support to the development of a green economy action plan.
Indonesia	Green economy and REDD assessment for the state of Kalimantan completed.	Support an assessment and formulation of a strategy on sustainable agriculture.
Jordan	Green economy scoping study covering land use management, agriculture, energy, ecocities, urban planning, energy, transport and buildings.	Support to the development of a green economy roadmap.
Kenya	Quantitative assessment of the potential benefit of a green economy and a country-wide consultation process in ten key provinces.	Support to the development of a green economy action plan.
Mali	Initial assessment of green economy opportunities in four key sectors related to the achievement of MDGs.	Update the study as a basis to support a green economy action plan.
Mexico	Green economy scoping study covering housing/building, tourism, natural capital, agriculture, energy, transport and green jobs.	Support the development of a green economy roadmap.
Moldova	A sectoral assessment of opportunities for greening the agricultural sector and development of organic farming.	Support a broader assessment and collection of existing success stories in other economic sectors.
Montenegro	Modelling the impacts of scaling up energy efficiency in the build and transport sectors as well as increasing domestic supply chains for the tourism sector.	Support to integrate findings into the process of developing a national Green Economy Platform for implementation post-Rio+20.
Morocco	Green economy scoping mission completed.	Provide a comprehensive green economy assessment of existing sectorial initiatives.
Nepal	Review and greening of National Development Plan.	Support the development of a national training programme for government officials.
Peru	Assessment of the regulatory framework to promote a green economy, assessment of opportunities for BioTrade.	Policy support to facilitate implementation.
Philippines	Quantitative assessment of the potential benefits of a green economy.	Support to the development of a green economy action plan.
Republic of Korea	Review of national strategy for green growth.	Engaging with Korea on collaborative activities in other countries.
Rwanda	A sectoral assessment on energy.	Support to the development of sectoral strategy for clean energy development.
Senegal	Quantitative assessment of the potential benefits of a green economy.	Support to the development of a green economy action plan.
Serbia	Modelling the impact of improving energy efficiency, increase in renewable energy use and increase organic agriculture.	Support the post-Rio+20 Green Economy project activities.
South Africa	Economic analysis and modeling focusing on energy, agriculture, transport and natural resources management.	Build on the modeling result to support the implementation of targets in the National Development Strategy – Vision 2030.
Ukraine	A green economy scoping study for the Odessa Region.	Support the development of regional green economy initiatives.



Partnership for Action on Green Economy – (PAGE)

As heads of State and Government and high-level representatives validated the Rio+20 outcome document, the Government of the Republic of Korea and UNEP convened on 21 June 2012 a consultation to launch a Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE).

PAGE is perhaps the first follow-up action to paragraph 66 of the Rio outcome document, which reads: “Recognizing the importance of linking financing, technology, capacity building and national needs for sustainable development policies, including green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, we invite the UN System, in cooperation with relevant donors and international organizations to coordinate and provide information upon request on: (a) matching interested countries with the partners best suited to provide requested support; (b) toolboxes and/or best practices in applying policies on green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication at all levels; (c) models or good examples of policies of green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; (d) methodologies for evaluation of policies of green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; (e) existing and emerging platforms that contribute in this regard.”

PAGE is a programme initiated by UNEP, the Republic of Korea and the ILO. Through PAGE, key actors can work together to foster cooperation, pool resources together and ensure coherence between their activities, while drawing upon the best of their respective expertise and political leverage to support the implementation of the Rio+20 outcomes.

PAGE NEWS

On the margins of the 14th African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, held on 12-14 September in Arusha, Tanzania, UNEP convened a consultation on PAGE among African delegates to AMCEN. The consultation brought together around 50 participants from several African countries along with representatives of ILO, African Development Bank, UN Economic Commission for Africa, African Union Commission, NEPAD, African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production and several other regional and sub-regional institutions in Africa as well as development partners including the European Union and Norway Embassy in Tanzania.

Delegates from Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, and South Africa that currently received green economy advisory services through UNEP presented their experiences in advancing national green economy initiatives. A number of other African countries including Cote d'Ivoire, Tunisia, and Nigeria among others expressed interest in benefiting for technical assistance in this area. AfDB discussed their Green Growth Strategy and highlighted the ongoing collaboration with UNEP to support African countries to implement Rio+20 outcomes on green economy.

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