



## GEC Phase 3 2013-2015, Friends and Founders Dinner Summary

**On the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2012, the eve of the Global Green Growth Forum, the founders and friends of the Green Economy Coalition met in Copenhagen to agree the role of the coalition in Phase 3.**

**Present were:** Achim Steiner, Executive Director, Unep; Camilla Toulmin, Director, iied; Christian Friis Bach, Minister For Development Cooperation, Denmark ; Poul Engberg-Pedersen, Deputy Director General, IUCN; Teresa Fogelberg, Deputy Chief Executive, Gri; Astrid Folkmann Bonde, Head Green Growth, Foreign Ministry, Denmark; Mark Halle, Vice-President, International, IISD; Rachel Kyte, Vice-President, World Bank; Tony Long, Director, WWF European Policy Office; Lars Pehrson, Ceo, Merkur Cooperative Bank; Corli Pretorius, Executive Assistant To The Executive Director, Unep; Steven Stone, Chief, Economics & Trade Branch, Unep; Simon Zadek, Senior Fellow, GGGI; Oliver Greenfield, Convenor, Green Economy Coalition

**The coalition has had two successful phases (Phase 1 – share and learn, Phase 2 – collective influence for Rio+20). Given the escalation of green economy activity, especially the green growth agenda, how should GEC respond?**

### **What was said:**

Rio+20 gave the global mandate to build ‘green, fair and inclusive’ economies, empowering each nation and institution to define their own implementation. Green Economy is now a dynamic discourse, innovating all over the world. Civil society must be a co-architect with business and government. There is still scepticism in civil society. The GEC helps keep the dialogue honest by engaging the sceptics and by providing a monitoring mechanism. Its benefit is in being nimble and responsive.

### **Green economy:**

- gives us linkages between sectors, and provides scale.
- needs to deliver social inclusion AND also needs to deliver on nature.
- must represent least developed country voices
- is gaining most traction in middle income countries
- needs to tackle what is tripping up the transition, the counter incentives to policy reform
- discourse must tackle the tension between ‘growth versus sustainability’
- needs to make the political choice more boldly – old or new economy
- must go mainstream

### **What GEC could do:**

*“The three themes of Phase 3 work proposed (inclusivity, transparency, influence) are right but need a clearer focus“.*

- Reflection. The success of previous phases was they both had a theme and galvanising idea: Phase 1 - sharing and learning, Phase 2 – Rio+20. In order to remain nimble we will always need to have a reactive capacity. This suggests that focus is about putting our activities within a defining idea – a change theme.

*“The work should complement GGGI, GGGF, UNEP’s Partnership Action for Green economy (PAGE)”.*

- Reflection – the landscape analysis suggests we complement best by being the champions of inclusivity, representing the interests of civil society and their concerns around poverty, fairness and natural systems. This would build on our trust with these communities.

*“Civil society (and the GEC) needs to hold government and business’ implementation to account”.*

- Reflection – this concurs with the data that our most popular products have been our analyses of action.

*“Investment and banking for a Green economy is critical issue that warrants GEC attention.”*

- Reflection – We propose to continue ‘Banking because the future matters’ with our strategic partner Global Alliance for Banking on Values <http://www.gabv.org/>

*“GEC (through its partner’s) work in country is critical to ground activity and understand political economy of making change happen.”*

- Reflection – the national dialogue process has been vital to GEC credibility and knowledge building. However, the local engagement expertise resides with certain coalition partners. We agree this should continue with the coalition’s role connecting the local to global.

*“GEC should take a few specific issues such as policy reform and bring the full weight of members to address them.”*

- Reflection – This is a unique attribute of coalition and should form part of our work going forward.

#### **Overarching reflection:**

- We make a distinction between what GE members can do and what only the coalition can do. E.g.: IIED has led the national dialogues and understanding the interests and priorities of least developed countries, IUCN focus on how GE delivers for nature, UNEP can work with national governments to develop and implement policy.

#### **GEC Phase 3 – going mainstream:**

**‘GE going mainstream’ was repeated across the discussions and is suggested as the defining idea and change theme for Phase 3.**

- We become a network that mobilises the public.
- We build conversation and understanding within civil society (Inclusivity)
- We represent the individual work of members within a shared narrative (Inclusivity)
- We challenge and hold government and business to account (Transparency)
- We join together for critical policy reform (Influence)

**Next steps:** OG calls dinner attendees, discuss with Steering Group, develops Phase 3 work plan. Completed by end of Nov 2012 to ensure GEC has funding to start Phase 3 in February 2013.