

Attendees: Steve Bass, Oliver Greenfield, Thibaut Portevin, Steven Stone, Peter Poschen-Eiche



Apologies: Mick Blowfield, George Varughese, Holger Schmid, Mike Wilson, Aban Marker Kabraji

Agenda 12th October 2017:

1. July Minutes for approval.
2. Thibaut update
3. Strategic content discussion – Principles, Pathways and Priorities for a Green economy
4. Strategic content for information/final reflections - GEC 2017 Global meeting
5. AOB - France

1. Draft - July Minutes – attached. Approved.

2. TP gave an update on EC Switch to Green Meeting 10th October Brussels

- GE has improved EC policy status, it is included in EU 2030 agenda – green and circular economy, with a focus on jobs and investment
- In preparation EU did an evaluation paper on cooperation. EU is looking for more co-operation between its funded programmes. This includes Joint cooperation – information – demand to work together.
- GEC has a unique role – the only organisation representing civil society, and its success at communications with wider non-technical audiences.
- EC is interested in Finance for GE – and access to finance for SME. It is creating an external investment plan – mapping instruments and needs.
- EC encourages Joint events among its funded partners. (and like the GEC idea of considering all partners a Transition team)

SG asked how GEC should respond to support EC.

ACTIONS:

- **GEC to continue with Institutional collaboration group**
- **GEC Potentially consider focusing on SCP in 2018**
- **GEC to maintain focus on Societal inclusion and broader communications**

3. Strategic content discussion –Principles, Pathways and Priorities for a Green Economy

In preparation for Berlin PAGE meeting, at the request of PAGE, GEC created a draft set of GE principles, an overview of transition pathway and a set of priority actions. These were tested and refreshed by both us, some conference participants and later at the institutional collaboration meeting 18th and 19th July. The original intention of this work was to start to create coherence between collaborating organisation on what is in scope (principles to define GE and GG), to clarify at a top line that this is multi-year and multi-stakeholder process (transition pathway), and a shared set of priorities for action. The conclusions from the Institutional collaboration group were that this is a useful document, but no firm co-operation on next steps was achieved. It was agreed GEC could publish. The paper is attached. This is a potentially valuable piece of work as it responds to the most fundamental challenge – what is a green economy?

SG comments:

- They are a portrait of where we stand.
- They are currently too dense coded language.
- Natural capital investment is too underplayed
- Sufficiency needs to be strengthened and prompt more work sustainable consumption
- Scp, circular and ge principles should be better connected to definitions and clarity

SG conclusions:

- GEC to publish them as 'Living principles' i.e. continue to evolve.
- Can use them in dialogue activities

Actions: GEC to improve the paper as above and publish

4. GEC 2017 Global Meeting Trinidad on the 1-3 November – for information/final reflections.

A discussion was held at SG in July on the forthcoming GEC 2017 global meeting. In October a further update was provided on progress and final preparations.

- EC have previously partnered with UNEP on GE policy thinking in the region. GEC to ensure this will be reflected.
- SG had a concern that our 'green enterprise' approach is a niche (small organic or craft businesses), while acknowledging that the Caribbean has real strengths to share in supporting green enterprises. We also need to be clear on how to enable the greening of all business, focussing on small business. Recommend we further develop this in the conference. The suggested framing – building green economies from the base of small business.
- Clarification sought on PEP small green business work and links.
- Clarification and strategizing on the Declaration – would be good to develop and test the idea in advance, and be clear on its geographical scope/mandate.

- **ACTIONS:**

- **GEC to continue to discuss the framing with Canari about SMEs and the declaration.**
- **GEC to discuss with Canari how to reflect on the recent Hurricane disasters in the meeting.**
- **PAGE to invite their Caribbean reps from Panama offices and Barbados**
- **GEC to include Brown economy analysis in the barometer**

5. AOB – strategic actions outstanding

- GEC informed SG that there was an emerging partnership through the NAT cap programme with WWF France. This was well received with suggestions that we consider : SDGs, Agriculture and the links to NAT cap, and the role of French policy for Francophone countries
 - **ACTION GEC to progress the WWF France partnership**

NEXT GEC Steering group MEETING: Thursday, 14th December, 12.30pm-2pm, UK.