



Attendees: Aline Brandstatter, Oliver Greenfield, Clara Axblad, Tibor Stari, Holger Schmid, Steve Bass, Monica Inkpen (GEC Secretariat)

Apologies: Andy Norton, Laura Kelly, Kamal Gueye, Peter Poschen, Juha Siikamaki, Steven Stone, Zeenat Niazi, Mike Wilson

Agenda 23rd February 2022:

1. October 2021 minutes for approval.
2. Global meeting feedback and decisions made
3. 2022 – shared intelligence – context for our work
4. GEC 2022 Annual plan to deliver on our Strategy and respond to Coalition decisions
5. AOB – next meeting date - **Wednesday, 4th May 2022, 12.30pm-2pm, UK**

Introduction to Monica, and explanation, that additional GEC sec attendee is to both improve minutes and increase SG secretariat engagement. **SG Agreement.**

Draft – October 2021 Minutes – attached SG sign-off.

- **ACTION OG POST on site**

2. **Global meeting feedback** – Summary attached or [link](#) (10mins) – For Steering Group understanding of event, successes, and decisions made

A big effort went into delivering the GEC 2021 global meeting virtual, and run it over consecutive days, 2 hour daily core sessions midday (UK) so that all our globally distributed members could join. We used one question as the golden thread throughout the week: “How can work together to focus the COVID-19 recovery agenda to deliver the system wide changes needed to tackle the loss of nature and rising inequality gap?”. This theme resulted in a shared event [declaration](#).

Action: GEC to make more of this declaration. OG to work out how to take this forward.

The global meeting numbers:

- **12 online sessions** across **5 days**, covering **nature, inequality, narrative, network building, social contract and green recovery**
- **28 speakers**
- And **359 unique participants...**
- ...from **+45 countries...**
- ...representing **+200 organisations**
- The side events weren't attended very well.

However, there were Global meeting decisions made:

- Day 1: Code Red for nature & people: **Green recovery our key advocacy priority in run up to Stockholm+50 (June 2022)**
- Day 2: Inequality Day: **GEC's approach to inequality will centre around social contract, approved for collaborative development.** Momentum off to a good start, UNRISD event had great attendance and already more members than the GEC.
- Day 3: Nature Day: Where do we go next? **Work with E4N and other partners around Stockholm+50 moment to further embed nature's value in economic decision-making, and make it a political imperative**
 - Day 4: Media debate: The Green Recovery On Trial - [Declaration](#) on a Green COVID-19 Recovery” **finalized together with attendees and ready for public sharing**

- Day 5: Coalition Day - **GEC partners agree outline of coalition growth and impact along 3 groups – policy, funding, comms. Support for TOC and four strategy areas. How do we become more of a decentralised network.**

SG grateful (with particular thanks to Bernard, Tibor, Aline and Steve) and the GEC team for a very productive and professional global GEC event.

SG want more action on DAY 5

SG encourage more progress on distributed funding

- **Making progress on what was agreed from day 5.** Specific opportunities were discussed for GEC members on the last day, working groups among members being mentioned, good way to mobilise members. What's the plan on taking this forward?

Action: GEC to build on the momentum from day 5 with members.

- **Distributed funding approach.** Had our first meeting with the hubs on next steps for funding last week. Some partners are quite well funded. The resilience of the network is that everyone is fairly self-sufficient with funding. Not everyone wants to fund the UK to fund the rest of the world so moving towards distributed funding directly to partners. GEC Global hub in more of a supportive role.

Action: GEC to progress on national/distributed approaches to funding so that funding does not always come from the GEC Global hub.

3. 2022 – Shared intelligence, 30 mins - Steering group input building on the base below to create a context for our annual plan:

What substantive priorities do the SG members have that you see GEC can align with? How can we support?

Shared Intelligence and external contexts/trends/processes

- **COVID and Code Red – The bad news:**
 - **New poor, inequality gaps widening,** NDCs and policy delivery still **not enough to keep within 1.5°C,** nature absent from recovery.
 - **Over half the world have no income security** from their national social protection system (ILO)
 - Nature still facing a **USD 4.1 trillion financing gap by 2050** to meet climate & biodiversity targets
 - Wealthy economies have still **not met the \$100 billion in climate finance pledged in 2009;** but they have spent **\$14.4 trillion** on unsustainable COVID-19 recovery policies.
 - **4/5 of global emissions remain unpriced** and the global average emissions price is only \$3 per ton
 - **Debt crisis:** In 2020 and 2021 alone, repayments on public external debt were estimated at nearly US\$3.4 trillion – between US\$2 trillion and US\$2.3 trillion in high-income developing countries and between US\$666 billion and US\$1.06 trillion in middle- and low-income countries
 - **Reaching tipping points** – tracker evolution possible
 - **Lack of Finance delivery** – tracker development possible
 - High ambition and policy setting but **marginal change.**
- **COP26 and Green recovery – the good news:**
 - **US back(ish); US – China collaboration; EU Green Deal.**
 - The **ratchet mechanism** of the Paris Agreement survived
 - **ESG increasing:** By 2025 one-third of \$140.5 trillion in projected total assets under management.
 - Green taxonomies**
 - G20 countries have agreed to stop financing international **coal power**
 - **New commitment on electric vehicles**
 - Rules for **carbon markets** agreed at COP26 (Article 6)
 - Recovery packages in many countries seek to stimulate the SME sector

- Solidarity in least developed countries – is it an opportunity to cluster them for green economies
- **Relevant other trends and processes:**
 - Legal players – increasingly relevant to make change happen
 - Social movements starting to impact voting; legal campaigns to mandate action through the courts bearing fruit, eg - Germany
 - Growing proliferation of economic reform agendas and organisations
 - **Stockholm +50** – a global stock- take of sustainable development and reflection on past 50 years of conservation and what IIED has brought to this.
 - **PAGE Leadership dialogue 3** – means of implementation – economics and finance to accelerate. Also planning a side event.
 - **UNEA** –
 - **Zero pollution – air, water, soil - Marine** Plastics. Action plan for 2050. https://ec.europa.eu/environment/strategy/zero-pollution-action-plan_en
 - **End of life vehicles**
 - PAGE - From Recoveries to Transformation: Greening Economies for People & Planet - PAGE side-event at UNEA-5.2, 1 March at 11.15 am CET: https://itcilo-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EfHJ1hggSICH7Wql6odkgw
 - MAVA closing
 - In the absence of leadership from government and finance – increases the importance of GEC as a social movement.

Action: GEC to research what does a green economy look like for an LDC to be able to make that leap?

Action: GEC to consider if other aspects, mentioned above, can be reflected in the tracker?

Action: GEC to follow up with UNPAGE re shared Stockholm event.

Action: GEC to better understand EC policy focus areas and include this in our description of green economy.

4. GEC 2022 Annual Plan – attached doc. For Steering group improvement, comments and sign-off

Overview given of the annual plan, including the external context (above discussion), our theory of change and strategies, the changes we seek, the decisions made at GEC global meeting, the main operational issues and development needs. **It proposes five priority areas of work this year:**

1. Delivering on Green recovery advocacy, E4N, and Finance dialogues
2. Catalysing Shared Global Green Deal
3. Expanding Social Contract work
4. Refresh Telling the Stories
5. Building the coalition

See attached doc – DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN.

SG feedback on GEC DRAFT 2022 annual plan priorities.

Action: SG broad approval – but would like 2 more weeks of review before sign-off.

- The world needs a Global Green Deal and a Social Contract. See these two programmes as supply and demand and being a twin path - virtuous reinforcing programme.
- We seek a global aspiration but regional and national collaborations.
- For each of these pieces to go to scale we need to ensure that all 4 areas of the ToC are captured and work together.

Action: GEC to identify the overlap and map links between the two sister programmes (Shared global green deal and social contract).

- New model of giving more importance to global campaigns in the secretariat and strengthening the autonomy of hubs, enhancing regional cooperation. Having regional approaches with the hubs helps to take forward larger collective issues.
- EC support for transformative change, social mandate, global policy, enhancing regional action

Actions:

GEC to work out global aspects, autonomy of hubs, societal demand – and ensure this is all articulated well in the design.

Global work – should be explicit on global economic architecture that supports change – such as trade rules etc.

- The targets are quite ambitious – not sure we are going to be able to deliver every single one of this and some are quite vague. Might want more real targets.
- Lots of activities – who is going to do this – working groups/members, might be worth saying otherwise assumptions that it's at GEC headquarters
- More engagement with marginal voices – this has been going on – indigenous people's groups and farmers groups who really have an incentive to move on this – we should engage with these groups more.
- A critical mass of stakeholders working from a green and fair economy – perhaps this is something to track? If a social mandate is important why don't we look at how this is evolving. Tracking this social demand a little bit more – cheaper and quicker than holding lots of dialogues.
- What is a critical mass, is different in every country – having a better description of this, seeing it change and tracking this would be really useful

Action: GEC needs to work on how marginalised groups will be engaged/assisted through the social contract work.

Action: SG suggests we invest in M&E tracking social mandate evolving

- We have to play a role of being a network of networks. Proliferation of new movements all doing different things there is a risk that all of this is competitive noise rather than harmonious drumbeat. Need to find the things that unite us. Started this thinking with Wellbeing Alliance. Rather than controlling the movement – how do we convene the movement?

Action: Reflect more on how GEC 'feeds the burgeoning economic reform movement'. Be clear about what our value added is.

5. AOB

- GEC (OG) at UNEA – anybody else there. Good to catch up in person.
- PAGE at UNEA - From Recoveries to Transformation: Greening Economies for People & Planet - PAGE side-event at UNEA-5.2, 1 March at 11.15 am CET: https://itcilo.org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EfHJ1hggSICH7Wql6odkgw
- New pack of members – any objections hope to hear from SG by end of next week. A cluster of partners from our East Africa hub.

NEXT GEC Steering group MEETING: Wednesday, 4th May, 12.30pm-2pm, UK

Appendix: GEC Forward calendarⁱ that maps above agenda items to a year of SG activity:

December: Annual review of strategy and partnership. - Global meeting agenda

Jan/February: Annual plan – calendar of events – priorities and targets for the year

March/April: Building the coalition – including funding

May/June: Big programme reviews

August/Sept: Influencing, Tracker, other policy areas

October: Telling the story and Barometer - context

December: global meeting strategy, partnership, annual plan review

Each meeting could have 5-minute standing agenda item on ‘horizon scanning’ – to identify big strategic issues

Individual SG members could volunteer to take the lead for particular items in the calendar. The advantage of a forward calendar is this should enable members’ forward planning.

ⁱ Forward calendar for SG meetings approved in December 2019