

MINUTES: GEC Steering Group, Wednesday 26th Feb 2020

Attendees: Steve Bass, Oliver Greenfield, Andy Norton, Zeenat Niazi

Apologies: Holger Schmid, Aban Marker Kabraji, Kamal Gueye, Holger Schmid
Peter Poschen-Eiche, Steven Stone, Mike Wilson, Juha Siikamaki, Jakob Haushofer*

*Note: Jakob Haushofer now moved on. **OG to organise new EC rep.**



Agenda 26th Feb 2020:

1. December minutes for approval.
2. GEC updates and Quick horizon scan
3. GEC global meeting update
4. GEC Annual plan – calendar of events – priorities and targets for the year
5. AOB - Partnership growth

1. Draft – December Minutes – attached

- **SG approval. The minutes are posted on our GEC website.**

2. GEC updates on Davos/trilogy launch update, EC funding and Quick horizon scan

- Davos dinner a success in convening a useful debate about stakeholder capitalism and the mutually re-enforcing space of policy leadership and societal shift. Tracker achieved good outreach and media coverage
- EC funding for next phase of dialogues secured and will now revert to being managed through IIED. This is welcome by GEC secretariat. Thanks to IIED for this continued hosting.
- Horizon scan - main policy development– European Green Deal. Overall, very positive policy development which has most of the GEC policy areas covered – including just transition. **OG to share blog and policy timetable.**
- Forward calendar of SG includes Cop26 (led by IIED) and IUCN Congress (led by IUCN). **SG request these be scheduled to ensure preparations by those organisations**

3. GEC Global meeting update – presented by Zeenat Niazi (attachment)

- Hosted by Development Alternatives in Delhi, 4-7th Feb 2020.
- Summary document shared that will form outline publication – 7 highlights and lessons.
- It was a well-structured and attended event: 180+ participants over the three days, including 40+ Local Green Entrepreneurs, 50+ Technical Experts, 40+ NGOs, 20+ Financiers and Business Groups, 10+ Government officers and 20+ UN officials.
- Achieved outcome that DA now on PAGE India steering group.
- Created insights into ‘scaling out’ not scaling up. i.e. success is from 1 to 20 smaller community businesses/initiatives rather than growth to 1 big one. Key is aggregation and money where it matters.
- Social movements at all geographical scale and how to connect them – was a key unanswered question – to be answered by GEC, with IIED input.
- Tracker very well received and could be part of the answer to connecting social movements.
- Tracker to be launched by hubs independently in 2020.
- Small green [enterprise policy statement](#) created and presented to policy stakeholders
- Hubs now agreed to own GEC strategy pathway 4 – Building the coalition.
- **SG thanked Development Alternatives for their hosting of GEC global meeting**

4. GEC Annual plan 2020– priorities for the year (attachment)

- Note December 2019 we signed off an annual SG agenda (in this document appendix). February meeting should focus on the GEC workplan for the year.

- **Top 2020 plan reflect the GEC 10 year strategy. The priorities were revised based on SG input:**
 1. Achieve mainstreaming economic reform impact via:
 - Tracker established and used – globally and nationally
 - EC new finance programme established
 - Economics for Nature – building country action
 - *Impact on CBD, COP, EU GD*
 2. New Social movement plan in place
 3. GEC coalition network function co-defined with hubs and being implemented. Partnership growth enabled.
 4. New funding pipeline strong with Tracker funded
- **SG request – subsequent SG meetings should have a report against these priorities**
- **SG signed-off GEC 2020 action plan**

5. AOB: Partnership growth.

Over the last three years, the Green Economy Coalition’s membership has plateaued, at 51 members. Only 2 new members have joined since May 2017 (the Organisation of American States) and (FAS Brazil) compared to 13 new members in the 12 months before then. However, we have had a large number of organisations express an interest.

This slowing of growth has been caused by several factors: Organisational bottlenecks in responding to and approving new members. Direction from the Steering Group to develop a coherent partnership strategy.

However, we are receiving interest and finding space on Steering group agenda to discuss them remains very difficult.

GEC global hub request: Whilst we build the new organisational strategy that includes a detailed partnership strategy where hub partners manage their own partners, **the GEC Global hub are empowered to admit new partners, bringing only potentially contentious partners to SG.**

- **SG debate and decisions:**
 - **SG acknowledges that as the new hub led ‘coalition building’ structure emerges, hubs will recruit their own partners – so SG will not be able to admit all partners. Some sort of hub empowerment of admitting new partners will become inevitable.**
 - **In the broader building coalition strategy SG want a more detailed partnership approach: to include:**
 - **Geographic expansion should be clearer.**
 - **Whatever the final approach is - Due-diligence will need to continue in this process but run by hubs.**
 - **Working together to demonstrate partnership commitment**
 - **In the meantime, GEC global hub should more clearly define the portfolio criteria for partners – so that SG are comfortable to empower the global hub to admit new partners.**
 - **SG should retain global partner overview and contentious partners escalated to SG**
 - **OG to create one pager on portfolio criteria and answering the above questions,**

NEXT GEC Steering group MEETING: Wednesday, 29thth April, 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

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

April: Building the coalition – including funding

June: Big reviews and sign-off

August: Influencing, Tracker, E4N review, 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