

MINUTES GEC Steering Group, Wednesday 29th April 2020



Attendees: Aban Kabraji, Zeenat Niazi, Steven Stone, Holger Schmid, Andy Norton, Steve Bass, Peter Poschen, Oliver Greenfield

Apologies: Mike Wilson, Magnus Andre

Agenda 29th April 2020:

1. February minutes for approval.
2. GEC Reporting of four strategic priorities
3. Achieving mainstream economic reform – focus on COVID 19 recovery
4. GEC April: Building the coalition – including membership - portfolio criteria
5. AOB

1. Draft – February Minutes – attached

- **SG Approved. Action OG post on our GEC website.**

2. GEC reporting - SUMMARY – STATUS OF FOUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

	Strategic Theme	Status Update	Status	Planned activities
1	Achieve mainstreaming economic reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID 19 response has dominated our policy reform. The contours emerging are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared policy steps to recovery from the institutional collaboration group (draft attached) • EU Green Deal group established • UK COP 26 group developed • E4N CBD advocacy – policy submitted • Built an African online platform bringing together natural capital and green economy community (first webinar held). 	GREEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissemination of policy steps • Planning Tracker-COVID alignment for rapid development. • Reviewing CBD through COVID lens
2	New Social movement plan in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forming relationships with XR and other social movement leaders • Youth approach – with Aviva trialled (currently paused) • Green deal networks forming – i.e. UK hub • WeALL – collaboration on narrative work • Telling the story work evolving. Finalised a new framework for telling the story of a new economy and run a design sprint with UK creative industries 	GREEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global campaign for Social contract – in early development (detailed overleaf)
3	GEC Building the coalition: network function co-defined with hubs and being implemented. Partnership growth enabled	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hub co-creation team on board • EC Finance Dialogues project specifically supports evolution of hubs and membership. Once started, we have the means. • Draft paper in preparation to define a process. • COVID 19 and EC contracting have slowed process – hence amber • Prototyping new hubs initiated FAS Brazil, Acode regional hub Uganda. 	AMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerate hub model development – through Uganda regional hub and Amazon hub
4	New funding pipeline strong with Tracker funded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of MAVA concept till end of 2022 – including development of Tracker and seeding national hub development of Brazil, Uganda, EU, China 	GREEN	

	Strategic Theme	Status Update	Status	Planned activities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC dialogue phase 2 approved – now moving through contracting – contracting delays due to COVID and Brexit. June start expected. • Developing Brazil FAS-GEC Alliance around Amazon Bioeconomy; with outline proposal in development • Relationships being built with 3 foundations 		

- **SG approve of and appreciate new reporting process.**

4. ACHIEVING mainstreaming economic reform – COVID 19 as a catalyst

Mostly, the short-term reform frame is being defined by COVID 19 recovery, through which we are reviewing all GEC work and pursuing shorter-term opportunities.

- The most substantive item since last steering group is the COVID 19 recovery policy paper created with the Institutional collaboration group. **Attached for SG information and debate.**
- **SG approve of the paper and GEC's role in helping stimulate it.**
- They identified its limitations, specifically it is weak on:
 - **Debt relief – particularly relevant for GEC – as it focusses on who has fiscal space for recovery, hard and soft currencies, long term impacts**
 - On the role of bottom up, local governance, distributed responses, participation
 - Work and jobs, livelihoods and health
 - Values, global solidarity
 - Threats and opportunities for democracy, corruption
 - Building resilience
 - It does not pick up the whole story of Coronavirus – i.e. wet markets, illegal wildlife trade, deforestation economies, agricultural practices, food insecurity, poverty, global supply chains, hypomobility, connections – i.e. the sources, causes, and processes and conditions of accelerated global transmission.
 - However, the paper's focus on stimulus and building back green and fairer is agreed to be sensible
- **ACTIONS: OG to consider these points in developing GEC positions beyond the institutional collaboration statements. Keep GEC members involved – offer it to them as a starter for GEC positioning.**
- SG asked for updates on other GEC coalition current COVID activities:
 - Consultation with GEC members and hubs to define perspectives from the ground for the policy improvement and to build ownership of policy steps leading to shared network dissemination.
 - EU Green Deal group established – looking at the role of China and EU GD both on COVID 19 recovery and as a political economy boost to UNFCCC and CBD
 - UK COP 26 group developed – and now developing shared positions on recovery
 - E4N CBD advocacy – developing COVID positioning.
- Other planned activities:
 - Dissemination of Institutional collaboration policy steps
 - Planning Tracker-COVID alignment for rapid development - 'tracking the green recovery policy'
 - From our network and hubs consultation and potentially in partnership with our evolving social movement partners we are scoping the idea of 'Social contract: public money, COVID recovery and the future we want'.
- **SG see the value in a shorter-term GEC campaign on recovery – in line with the same goals as in our GEC 10 year strategy – i.e. Supply (policy) and demand (critical mass) goals.**

- **ACTION – OG to scope a 2 pager on COVID Recovery Campaign approach, potential partners etc. (Look at Jubilee debt campaign).**

3. GEC: Building the coalition – including membership and partnership portfolio (April’s SG priority from our GEC annual calendar)

- The process to build the coalition equipped to deliver our 10 Year strategy has several steps, most of which are sequential, and due to being a coalition, they involve thorough consultation/co-creation. We are targeting completion up to step 7 by end of 2020:

STEPS	Progress and notes
1. Formulate overall 10 Year strategy through in-depth consultation	Complete
2. Sign-off strategy with SG and coalition members in the global meeting	Complete
3. Put a team together around theme ‘4 – Building the coalition’	Hub group Set-up – however, hub contracting delays have stalled progress
4. Commission external review (ODS) to act as catalyst to define options	Almost complete – report due
5. Prototype new hub vision – with Brazil (FAS) and Uganda (Acode)	Built an African online platform Aim to empower ACODE to become the regional hub moving forward. FAS partnership moving to incubation phase
6. Develop partnership growth model – in line with distributed delivery hubs, defining partnership criteria	Initiated
7. Develop coalition funders relationships – identify who would fund GEC network functions (over and above projects)	Initiated – but difficult – SG advice appreciated
6. Develop full coalition building plan and proposal (based on above co-developed plan)	By the end of 2020
Fund and deploy full distributed delivery model	2021

- However, the most significant membership consequence of this sequential development process is that until the new hub structure and funding is in place – we are accumulating new partners applications. We look unresponsive if we leave them on hold until the new structures and governance are in place. This was discussed at the previous SG (Feb 2020).
- With the above development plan and previous SG discussion context, OG was tasked to create an interim member process and portfolio criteria – attached.
- **SG discussion:**
 - **Greater clarity needed on criteria for selection and for escalation**
 - **Nominated SG member to assist with due-diligence (PP)**
 - **Recommend looking at GGKP’s partner process – ‘pre-screened recommendations sent round to board by email – if no objections – admitted’.**

SG decision: OG to develop new member process in line with GGKP.

5. AOB - none

NEXT GEC Steering group MEETING: Wednesday, 24th June, 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