

Summary Report

1. Background

A series of knowledge sharing events on the green agenda was organized in the margin of GGGI's the 9th Session of the Assembly and 13th Session of the Council (Joint Session) during the last week of October 2020.

The purpose of the events is to provide a forum for participants, who are representatives from governments and donors, partner organizations as well as GGGI country/thematic teams:

- To present GGGI and its Members & Partners' efforts and commitments to green growth solutions, highlighting key achievements and initiatives, and
- To share experiences, good practices, and lessons learned on Members' transition towards green growth and identify common regional perspectives, priorities and solutions.

2. Event Overview

Event title	From Transition to Transformation: Towards Transformative Planning and Implementation of Climate and Green Growth Actions
Date and Time	October 27 th , 2020, 16:00 – 18:30 Korea Standard Time (KST)
Venue	Hybrid (a combination of in-person attendance – usually GGGI HQ staff – and online participants through Zoom)
Format	Webinar – presentations and Q&As
Number of attendees	98 participants (including 10 speakers)

** Sessional documents, including presentation slides and recordings, are available at the Sway platform: <https://sway.office.com/WMdiTILgEp7SeDCU?ref=Link>

3. Key highlights

1) Long Term – Low Emission Development Strategies (LT – LEDS) for sustainable green growth

Developing Long Term – Low Emissions Development Strategies (LT – LEDS) that Parties of the Paris Agreement need to formulate and communicate, is an organic, participatory and inclusive process. The process also requires multi-sectoral and multi-dimensional approach through consultations by multiple actors, as stressed by *Stelios Grafakos, Principal Economist, GGGI*. The development of LT – LEDS should be well aligned with SDGs and other policy perspectives.

The LT – LEDS is communicated in Hungary in the framework of Clean Growth Strategy. As pointed out by *Barbara Botos, Deputy Secretary of State for Climate Policy, Ministry of Innovation and Technology*,



Hungary, several challenges have been identified in Hungary's LT – LEDS process – 1) data gaps (missing data), 2) communication between relevant ministries, and 3) time constraints. Tackling these challenges, engagement of private sectors is also encouraged in the process.

In the development of LT – LEDS, France has also experienced similar challenges such as the difficulties of coordination between different ministries. *Serge Perrin, Senior Climate Expert, The Agence Française de Développement (AFD)*, emphasized that taking into account of both GHG emission reduction and adaptation actions while coordinating between international initiatives (e.g. NDC partnership, 2050 Pathways Platform) is critical.

2) Leading examples - National Green Growth Strategies

Several leading examples of national green growth strategies were presented from Lao PDR and Jordan, and EU's support on this area was also highlighted, emphasizing Green Growth National Action Plan (GGNAP) as a guiding principle of development cooperation programs.

Phonevanh Outhavong, Director General, Department of Planning, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Government Lao PDR, explained why countries need to promote Green Growth Strategy. The reasons include, among others: 1) degradation and depletion of nature resources, 2) economic vulnerability and social disparity, 3) increase of GHG emission and climate disasters and 4) degradation of urban environment. In Lao PDR, the development of National Green Growth Strategy was initiated in 2017 with technical support from GGGI, and the final draft was completed in 2019. In the following year in 2020, the 1st draft Green Growth Planning Manual was developed, which highlights priority sectors and sets the expected outcomes and outputs.

Jihad Alsawair, Director, Green Economy Unit and Technical Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Environment, Jordan, provided narratives of how the GGNAP was developed in Jordan, involving close collaboration of different stakeholders. From defining the national green growth objectives to setting sector level objectives, collecting/reviewing existing priorities and data and to action formulation and validation, a significant level of sectoral and national efforts was dedicated, leading up to the final review and approval by the Cabinet in 2020 as a national document. In the process, cross-sector collaboration was observed, involving Green Economy High-Level Steering Committee – Green Economy Unit and Technical committees on agriculture, energy, tourism, transport, waste and water.

Highlighting the GGNAP as a guiding principle of development cooperation programs, *Omar Abu-Eid, Energy, Environment and Climate Change Programme Manager, EU Delegation to Jordan*, explained EU's vision for greening cooperation on multiple areas: biodiversity, anti-desertification, climate mitigation and adaptation, sanitation, green energy. In efforts to realizing EU's green growth vision as a development partner, it foresees to offer its technical and financial support to its partners, "leaving no one behind".



3) Transitioning to the implementation of transformative green interventions

Part 3 of the event was dedicated to the presentation of GGGI's work on the implementation of transformative green interventions through Carbon Finance and green infrastructure project in India.

Fenella Aouane, Principle Climate Finance Specialist, GGGI, explained the role of Carbon Finance in green transformation under Article 6 of Paris Agreement, which aims at supporting the authorization of international emissions trades. Enabling international carbon transactions leads to flows of carbon finance which then helps to achieve more costly mitigation measures. In GGGI, two Article 6 – related programs are underway: 1) Designing Policy Approaches under Article 6, and 2) Mobilizing Article 6 Trading Structure (MATS), funded by Norway and Sweden respectively. The key achievements so far include, among others, Readiness completed for both programs, Letter of Interest (LOI) from host governments received, and policy approach/mitigation activities currently under development.

The infrastructure project on the upcoming Mumbai -Nagpur Super Communication Expressway is the first initiative in India for highway solarization, as explained by *Vijay Waghmare, Joint Managing Director, MSRDC*, and is developed by Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) and supported by GGGI. *Gulshan Vashistha, GGGI's Regional Technical Lead for South Asia, East Asia, and the Pacific region* further highlighted that this program envisions to generate employment for 20,000 – 25,000 people in the area and lead to local area development.

4) Q&A and discussions

The moderator facilitated the Q&A session around guiding questions, which were prepared in advance. The discussions took place around challenges and barriers in the process of developing and implementing green growth strategies and its related interventions as well as critical success factors and ways forward.

In Jordan, mainstreaming priority objectives and green growth agenda in the national planning process was the greatest challenge. In India, the main barriers of private sectors' engagement in green transformation included transparency, development of models, and access and cost of technology. To tackle these challenges, strong stakeholder's engagement, not only inter-ministerial level but also with technical groups, is crucial through regular meetings with civil society, private sectors and government stakeholders. Political leadership and national ownership (in analytical work in particular) were also considered as critical factors for the successful development of an LT – LEDS, as suggested by Serge Perrin. Technology transfer and sharing between technologically advanced countries and lesser ones should also be given serious consideration.

For governments to accelerate/facilitate the mobilization of carbon finance to drive green transformation, government will be required to involve in every transaction to ensure environmental accountability and the prevention of double – counting. As highlighted by Fenella Aouane, in the process of setting up a framework, multiple governmental agencies should be involved to agree on the process and authorize the framework.

Annex 1. Program details

From Transition to Transformation: Towards Transformative Planning and Implementation of Climate and Green Growth Actions

Overview

The development of green growth, low carbon and climate-resilient plans and strategies - which can identify green growth and transformative actions - is a critical step in advancing sustainable development while achieving climate mitigation objectives. This session will introduce some leading experiences and lessons learned of recent green growth, low carbon and climate-resilient planning processes and actions supported by GGGI. These experiences will be shared side by side with government counterparts who have led the planning exercises, and funding partners with the vital role supporting their implementation. GGGI will also introduce its work on carbon finance as a tool for achieving green growth implementation.

Agenda

* Times in Korea Standard Time

- 16:00-16:05** **Opening & Introduction**
Dr. Frank Rijsberman, Director General GGGI
- 16:05-16:55** **Part I: Leading Examples of Long Term - Low Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS)**
(presentations: 40 mins, Discussion: 10 mins)
GGGI's approach to support countries to develop their LT-LEDS
Dr. Stelios Grafakos, Principal Economist, GGGI
Hungary's Long Term - Clean Growth Strategy
Dr. Barbara Botos, Deputy Secretary of State for Climate Policy, Ministry of Innovation and Technology, Hungary
Fiji's Long Term - Low Emission Development Strategy
Mr. Vineil Narayan, Acting manager of Climate Change Division, Fiji
AFD's experience in supporting countries to develop their LT-LEDS
Dr. Serge Perrin, Senior Climate Expert, The Agence Française de Développement (AFD)
- 16:55-17:35** **Part II: National Green Growth Strategies**
(Presentation: 30 mins, Discussion: 10 mins)
Lao PDR: National Green Growth Strategy
Madam Phonevanh Outhavong, Director General, Department of Planning, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Government of Lao PDR
Jordan: Green Growth National Action Plan (GG-NAP)
Dr. Jihad Alsawair, Director, Green Economy Unit and Technical Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Environment, Jordan
Green Growth National Action Plan as a guiding principle of development cooperation programmes
Mr. Omar Abu-Eid, Energy, Environment and Climate Change Programme Manager, EU Delegation to Jordan



17:35-18:05 **Part III: Transitioning to the implementation of transformative green interventions**
(presentations: 20 mins, Discussion: 10 mins)

Carbon Finance and its role in Green Transformation

Ms. Fenella Aouane, Principal Climate Finance Specialist, GGGI

**Transitioning to a transformative green infrastructure project, The Case of GGGI -
MSRDC designed 250 MW Solar PV power plant and revenue optimization business
model**

*Mr. Vijay Waghmare, Joint Managing Director, MSRDC and Mr Shantanu Gotmare, India
Country Representative, GGGI*

18:05-18:25 **Q&A and Discussion**

18:25-18:30 **Closing Remarks**

Dr. Stelios Grafakos, Principal Economist, GGGI

Annex 2. Acknowledgements: Organizing and Facilitation Team



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Rijsberman



Mahamadou
Tounkara



Christopher
Dickinson



Christina Cheong



Stelios Grafakos



Donovan Storey



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Hakku Bang



Mihwa Wi



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Hee Kyung Son



Su Jeung Hong



Kyu Hwa Park



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Yaerin Yoon