

**UNEP, the Sustainable Development Goals and Business**  
Side Event at The First United Nations Environment Assembly  
26 June 2014, Nairobi, Kenya

## The Green Economies Dialogue and The Sustainable Development Goals

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International Business Green Economies Dialogue  
(Resources for the Future)

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See: [www.green-dialogue.org](http://www.green-dialogue.org)

# Green Economies Dialogue: Objectives

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- Create a pro-active forum to engage governments, business and thought leaders in the lead up to Rio+20
- Improve awareness and understanding of business views, experience and suggestions for promoting a greener economy, green growth, technologies and jobs... especially through international actions
- Encourage approaches that work to stimulate economic growth while greening activities and outcomes



# Green Economies Dialogue Project

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## Green Economy On the way to Rio + 20 (2011-2012)

- Green Dialogues:  
Washington, Paris, Beijing, Tokyo, Brasilia, and at Rio + 20
- Green Perspectives: Academic, peer-reviewed *Green Perspectives* papers published *Energy Economics*, Elsevier, (2012)

## Sustainable Development Goals & the Post 2015 Development Agenda (2013-15)

- Green Dialogues:  
Paris (2), New York, Nairobi (2), ...
- Green Perspectives:  
New Academic, peer-reviewed *Green Perspectives* papers: trade, investment, metrics for nations and firms (in progress)



# Green Economies Dialogue: Themes

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## Green Economy and...

- Jobs
- Development
- Investment
- Innovation
- Energy
- Others.....

Same themes for each Dialogue but significantly different discussions in keeping with national circumstances and priorities



# SDGs: Enabling Factors for Business Contributions

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Although specific goals are still to be agreed, business has highlighted essential enabling frameworks that will promote our contribution

- Good Governance & Rule of law
- Innovation
- Trade
- Investment

Implementation will need to reflect national circumstances and priorities and function in an increasingly linked global economy



# Government's Role

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- Establish stable policy/regulatory environment
- Build societal capacity
  - Education/training especially in science and engineering
  - Fundamental Research
  - Infrastructure
- Create enabling frameworks
  - Governance and rule of law
  - Intellectual Property Rights
  - Investment
  - Technology deployment
  - Access to markets
  - Technology transfer
  - Efficient and predictable regulatory and permit processes

A proper enabling framework is an essential precondition for most private investment, but not enough... projects must also generate economic returns

# Private Sector's Role

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- Create goods and services that meet demand: Business to Consumer, Business to Business, Business to Government
- Grow shareholder and societal wealth, create jobs, innovate
- **Investment Drivers:** growth, productivity, turn over of capital stock, Health, Safety and Environmental improvements, risk management, strategic change through innovation ...
- **Green Drivers:** efficiency (energy, resource, waste), consumer demand and preference, reputation, policy and regulation ...
- **Investment Inhibitors:** Policy and regulatory uncertainty; missing infrastructure, capacity and skills; permitting delays ...

Private sector functions best in a market-based economy... in which companies bear the risks and benefit from rewards

# Investment, Finance and Green Growth Policy

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- Decisions on major capital expenditures by private firms are based on a risk-adjusted expectation of adequate returns
- Many of the innovative technology systems that show promise for green growth face high costs, limited or no commercial experience and political controversy
- Higher costs, potential for permitting or regulatory delays, public acceptance, and policy and legislative uncertainty add to perceived risks and raise costs
- **Public-Private Partnerships help to identify and resolve potential barriers**
- Effective policies will need to work with mainstream project investment and financial processes, local and national approval processes, and global markets
- Business seeks sufficient clarity to plan, propose and implement projects with confidence that they will be commercially viable and proceed in a timely fashion

The key issue in Financing the Green Economy is not so much raising funds, as confidence in returns from successful projects

# Thank You

For more information: [www.green-dialogue.org](http://www.green-dialogue.org)

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