

Progress, gaps and challenges: Pathways toward a green economy

Accelerating Global Actions for a World Without Poverty: Gaps, Challenges and Progress |
Presentation to the Inter-Agency Expert Group Meeting on Implementation of the Third UN
Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018-2027)
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Context



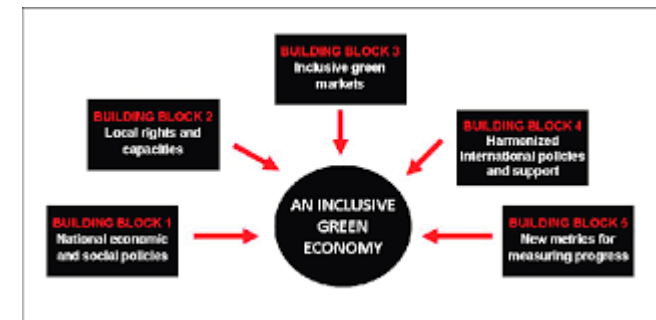
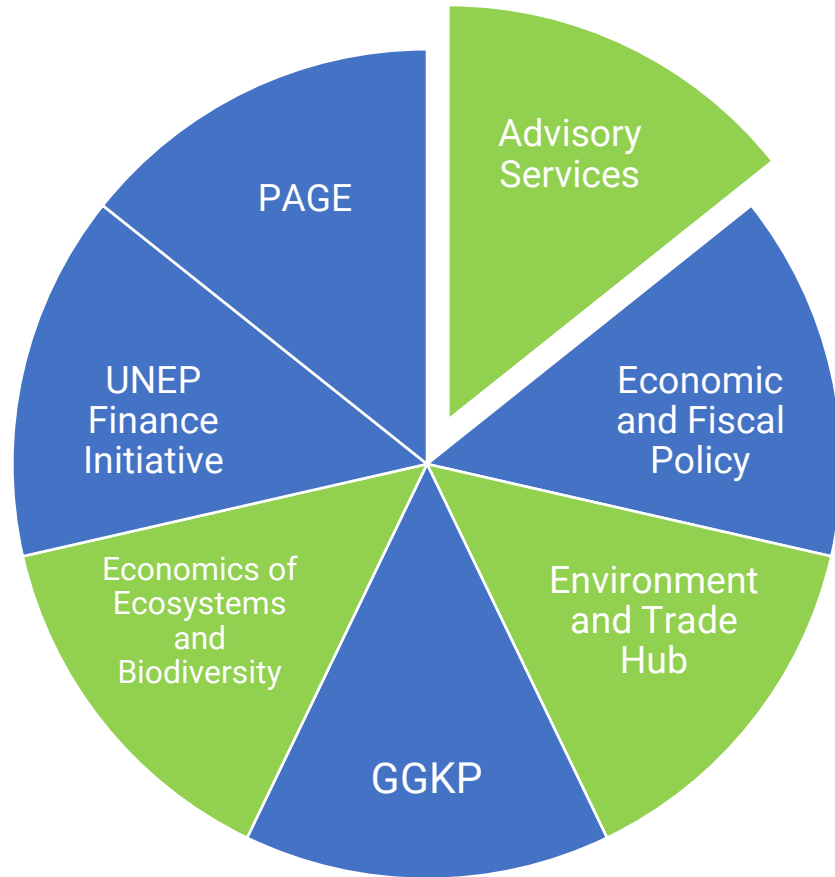
- Triple planetary crises broadening inequalities and jeopardizing achievement of 2030 Agenda and SDGs
- Inextricable link between poverty eradication and better maintenance of ecological commons
- Enormous challenge ahead of the world:
 - 836 million still in extreme poverty
 - Environmental degradation concentrated among groups and households in vulnerable situations
 - Lower baseline health, limited access to healthcare, etc. increase vulnerability of poorer households to environmental issues
- But opportunities exist:
 - Resilience-building, livelihoods diversification
 - Exploring pathways towards inclusive green economy
 - Involving industries in transition towards greener economy

Inclusive Green Economy: Central to Poverty Eradication

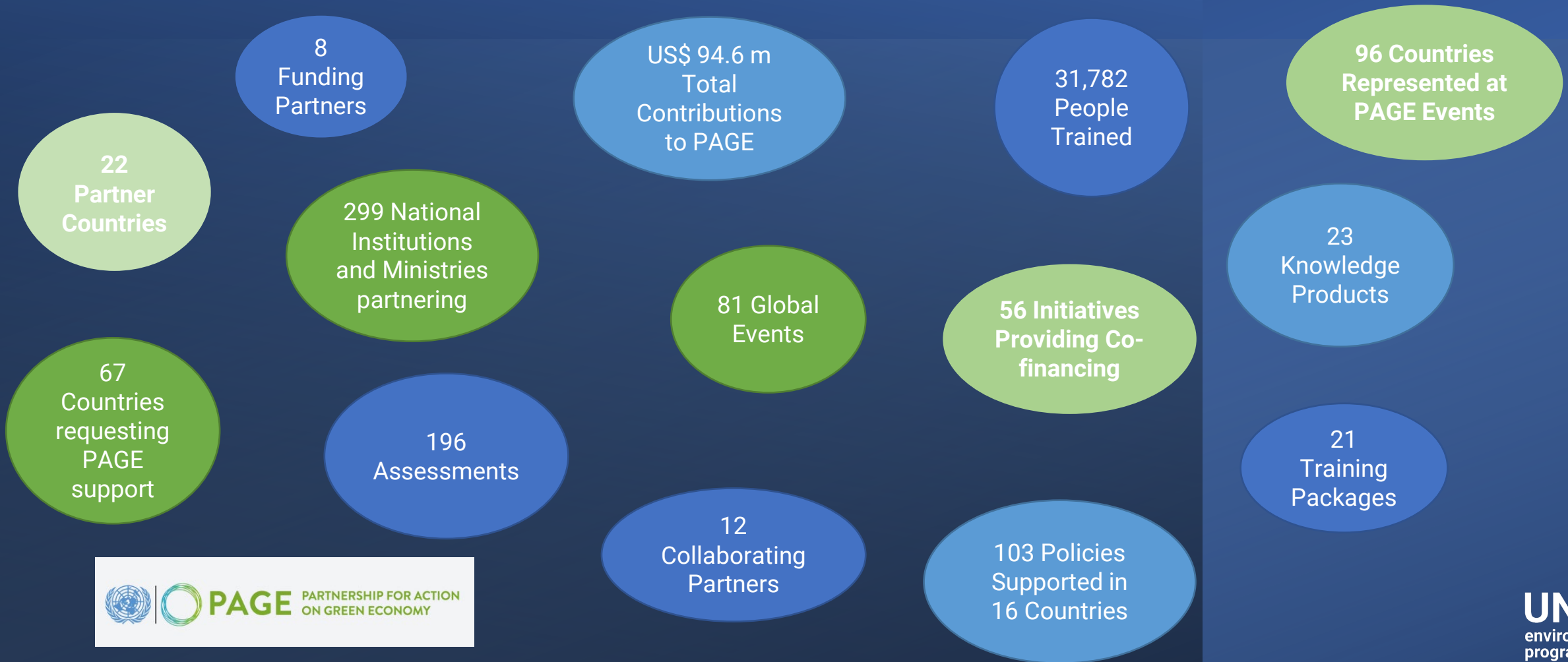
- Inclusive green economy may address persistent poverty; overstepped planetary boundaries; and inequitable sharing of growing prosperity
- Member States have embraced green economy as an important tool for achieving sustainable development (The Future We Want, 2012)
- They agreed that (The Future We Want, 2012):
 - Green economy policies should be consistent with international law; respect national sovereignty; enhance welfare of IPLCs; and continue efforts to strive for inclusive, equitable development approaches to overcome poverty and inequality
- Called on UN system to provide information on (The Future We Want, 2012):
 - Toolboxes and/or best practices in applying policies on green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication at all levels
 - Methodologies for evaluation of policies on green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication
 - Existing and emerging platforms that contribute to the topic



UNEP's Activities: Green Economy



PAGE in Numbers: 2022



PAGE Highlights: 2022

Influencing global debate

Inputs to Indonesia's G20 Presidency, the Stockholm+50 Conference, UNFCCC COP27, and the World Circular Economy Forum put green and just economic transition high on the agenda in global debates with mention in the G20 Bali Leaders Declaration.

Providing knowledge on green economic recovery

The Green Recovery Observatory helped to showcase policy solutions and green investments providing the basis for a Sustainable Budgeting Approach. Focused on the impact of COVID-19 on Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, additional guidance was developed on how to recover from exogenous shocks and increase resilience.

Leveraging economic expertise

UNRCOs benefitted from training on green economic modelling and dialogues reflecting on priorities for a green economic transition, in addition to targeted economic expertise provided to countries through the Green Transformation Economic Advisory Mechanism (Green TEAM).

Accelerating policy reforms in countries

PAGE countries announced new policy measures to reduce carbon emissions, facilitate green finance and sustainable public procurement, promote green industry, and protect natural resources. Capacity building and social dialogue advanced sectoral reforms related to agriculture, energy, infrastructure, textiles, and tourism, with green jobs and circular economy being prevailing areas of action across countries.

Developing skills and capacity

Since PAGE's inception, 26,000 learners completed courses of PAGE's e-learning portfolio contributing to improved knowledge on inclusive green economy. A Green Industry Summer School provided deep-dive learning for key actors in industry on circular economy, green recovery for SMEs, decarbonization and green jobs.

Going Forward: Challenges and Gaps



Economic polarization
undermining poverty
eradication efforts and
protection of
environmental systems

Crisis of rising inequality
must be placed at center
of policy issues and
analyses

Coordination between
different government
ministries is imperative

Informal sector: requires
greater attention within
green economy
discourse and action

Need to connect global
policy goals across the
transition i.e., connect
financial system reform
agenda to goals of green
economy

Indicators of success
must be re-defined



Foreign and international
relations on green
economy must extend
beyond ODA and global
initiatives

Thank you



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