



Green Economy Coalition Global Annual Meeting 2020

The Green Economy Coalition Global Annual Meeting was organised by Development Alternatives from 4-6 February 2020 in Delhi. The meeting aimed to create global momentum on recognising Local Green Enterprises as an instrumental approach towards greening the economy, with special focus on India.

Day 1 focused on the scope and potential of green MSMEs in building green and inclusive economies in the world. The 7 national hubs – South Africa, Caribbean, Uganda, Senegal, Peru, Mongolia and India - reiterated the role of Local Green Enterprises in creating jobs and contributing to the local economy, protect local knowledge and social capital while conserving the natural assets. They also highlighted some critical issues that cut across national contexts. The GEC Secretariat shared the GEC Tracker with Indian stakeholders and indicated that while progress was evident in the greening of sectors, the evidence on participation and inclusion of the small scale was far from desirable. The Tracker was identified as a useful and potent tool to initiate dialogue in countries and drive legislative ambition.

Day 2 saw Local Green Entrepreneurs share stories of transformation and build solidarity while reflecting upon the scope, opportunities and challenges of Local Green Enterprises (LGEs) in India. The Global Meeting facilitated interaction with Local Green Entrepreneurs from the agriculture, construction, energy, waste, tourism and crafts sectors during the Mela. A Joint Statement by Indian civil society and green entrepreneurs was issued, calling on the Government of India to build enabling conditions for Local Green Enterprises. The statement can be accessed [here](#).

In the discussions on Day 3, participants worked towards identifying what has been done, what needs urgent attention and who needs to steer and play roles in taking these actions forward. It was inaugurated by Suresh Prabhu, Member of Rajya Sabha and Ravi Shankar Prasad, Additional Secretary, MoEFCC. The special address was delivered by Arun Maira, Former Member, Planning Commission. Among the other dignitaries present were Rene Van Berkel, Head of Regional Office, UNIDO; Steven Stone, Chief of Resources and Markets, UNEP; Atul Bagai, India Country Head, UN Environment; Reema Nanavaty, Director, SEWA and A.V.R. Prasad, Assistant General Manager, Farm Sector Policy Department, NABARD.

The Joint Statement was read out to the Government officials from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ministry of Finance, and the Ministry of MSMEs with a demand for taking action. Three Technical sessions were also conducted: Recommendations on financing LGEs (Co-hosted by DA, GGGI, SEED, CRB), procurement systems congenial to LGEs (Co-hosted by DA, FICCI, TERI) and developing a frame for Triple Bottom Line Assessment of LGEs (Co-hosted by DA, UNIDO, GRI, GIST).