

## **Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (BIG-E) Actions by Sweden**

**Country: Sweden, Ministry of the Environment and Energy**

***Title:***

**PAGE, Partnership on Action for a Green Economy**

*Focus area 1, 2, 5, 7:* Improve the measurement and valuation of natural capital; Promote the internalization of negative externalities and the sustainable use of natural capital; Develop clean physical capital for sustainable production patterns and Increase green and decent jobs, while developing the necessary human capital

***Description of the action:*** Sweden contributes to the UNEP initiative PAGE through financing and engagement in Steering Committee. The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) seeks to put sustainability at the heart of economic policymaking. The Partnership supports nations and regions in reframing economic policies and practices around sustainability to foster economic growth, create income and jobs, reduce poverty and inequality, and strengthen the ecological foundations of their economies.

PAGE is a direct response to the Rio+20 Declaration, *The Future We Want*, which called upon the United Nations System and the international community to provide assistance to interested countries in developing, adopting and implementing green economy policies and strategies. Bringing together the expertise and broad convening power of five UN agencies — United Nations Environment Programme, International Labour Organization, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, United Nations Development Programme and United Nations Institute for Training and Research — and working closely with national governments, private sector and civil society, PAGE offers a comprehensive, coordinated and cost effective package of analytical support, technical assistance and capacity building services to countries and regions to transform their economies into drivers of sustainability and social equity.

In its first two years, PAGE has set up a governance structure (with a Secretariat, Management Board and Donor Steering Committee) and centered the five agency partnership in a jointly developed results framework, with the overall objective to support countries' efforts to transform their economies to be greener and more inclusive. The expertise and delivery models of each agency are brought together under a joint commitment to deliver on agreed outcomes and outputs at the national and global level. Building on this joint agreement on results, PAGE partners have developed a business model that provides an integrated offer to interested countries, taking into account each agency's strengths and the specific country demand.

***Action's time frame/milestones, as appropriate:*** As the demand by countries for support on inclusive green economy (IGE) continues to grow, PAGE has developed a medium term strategy. It lays out plans for supporting 20 countries by 2020 and includes a blueprint for mobilizing resource and augmenting partnerships to achieve this initial target. It also sketches out a growth trajectory to 2030 that aligns PAGE with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

***Type of action:*** PAGE services take into account different starting points, needs and circumstances of each partner country and, inter alia, include:

1. Assessments for evidence-based policy proposals, e.g. green economy modelling and policy assessments to enable policymakers to visualize the impact of their policy and investment decisions, green jobs assessments, green industry assessments, and public expenditure reviews
2. Multistakeholder policy consultations and support for adoption of policies and plans
3. Sector-specific and thematic policy reform
4. Policy implementation and mobilization of finance, and
5. Capacity development

***Economic sectors:*** All economic sectors

***Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate:*** -----

***Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome:*** The collective convening power of five partners UNEP, UNIDO, UNDP, ILO, UNITAR, and distinct expertise of each of them enables PAGE activities to cover macro, mezzo, micro levels of economy and issues that cut across economic sectors. Through relevant partners, PAGE reaches out to the ministries of planning, labour, environment, transport, agriculture, industry, and education, among others. Similarly, PAGE reaches a broad segment of the private sector and civil society through the networks and constituencies of the multiple governmental partners involved.

***PAGE produces a coherent and comprehensive action:*** As a result of its broad reach within the economic policy-making circles, and close coordination among its partners, PAGE activities are synergistic and comprehensive. National plans and strategies, including IGE priorities, are validated and endorsed across Government and with civil society, ensuring that stakeholders are informed and enabled for a coordinated action to implement them.

***PAGE reduces transaction costs:*** Agreement on joint efforts and results framework to achieve a common objective, high level of trust and transparency between partners, shared governance mechanism for organizational and operational decision making, management of the PAGE trust fund under rules of one agency, and appropriateness of working with common national green economy champions and leaders have been some of the key factors to reduce transaction costs for PAGE partners and for the countries they are supporting. In most partner countries, general preference by the national ministries is to engage through PAGE compared to working bilaterally with multiple UN agencies, each with its own administrative procedures and requirements. The Partnership also reduces the costs of delivering development assistance for PAGE funding partners as efforts are streamlined and duplication is avoided.

***SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement:*** 1, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15

***Implementation of Environmental Performance Review (EPR) recommendations, as appropriate:*** -----

***Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate:*** -----

***Partners:*** Lead UN organisation: UNEP in partnership with UNIDO, UNITAR, UNDP and ILO. Support from Steering Committee/Donors; Germany, South Korea, Switzerland, Norway, Finland, Sweden, and EU Commission. Partner

countries (receiving support): Burkina Faso, Senegal, Ghana, South Africa, province in China, Peru, Mongolia, Mauritius.

*Contact point:*

Gunilla Blomquist

Swedish Ministry of the Environment and Energy

E-mail: [gunilla.blomquist@gov.se](mailto:gunilla.blomquist@gov.se)