ABOUT
WORLD GREEN ECONOMY ORGANIZATION
# ABOUT W GEO

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W GEO's Establishment</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W GEO Mission and Vision</td>
<td>06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W GEO's Purpose and Objectives</td>
<td>06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guiding Principles for the W GEO Strategic Outlook for 2018-2022</td>
<td>07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W GEO's Thematic Programs for 2018-2022</td>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W GEO Activities</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational and Institutional Structure</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W GEO Platforms</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTRODUCTION

A clear priority for many economies is the need for innovation, productivity and secure jobs. While different stakeholders may have varying needs, there is an overall need for higher productivity, efficiency, resiliency and innovation capacity.

Yet, a number of environmental systems are being pushed beyond sustainable limits through, for example, loss of biodiversity, nitrogen and phosphorus cycles, land-use change, and climate change.

Just as the physical impacts of climate change are in the here and now, the benefits of transitioning to a green economy also begin today. As leading economists Stiglitz and Stern put it: *The world’s transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy is the story of growth for this century... We’re already seeing the potential that this transformation represents in terms of more innovation, greater resilience, more liveable cities, improved air quality and better health.*

A green economy also addresses intrinsic priorities of the private sector in growing revenues, reducing costs and reducing risks. There is evidence that business benefits from alignment with the direction of a sustainable economy. Transforming to a green economy provides an impetus for innovation, creating technologies that are likely to have an enduring market need. It opens up new market opportunities, and it helps increase the efficiency of energy, water and other physical inputs, thereby cutting operational costs.

In addition, it reduces risks in the supply chain, including the risk of stranded assets and of impacts on reputation.

According to the 2017 Better Business, Better World Report of the Business and Sustainable Development Commission:

*Achieving the Global Goals opens up US$12 trillion of market opportunities in the four economic systems examined by the Commission. These are food and agriculture, cities, energy and materials, and health and well-being. They represent around 60 percent of the real economy and are critical to delivering the Global Goals.*

These words highlight a growing recognition of the role that green policymaking will play in shaping economies of the future, and strong partnerships at global, regional, national and local levels will be critical in the transition to a green economy.
WGEO’s Establishment

The outcome document from the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development or Rio+20, entitled, «The Future We Want» was a call to action for governments, the private sector and the international community to support countries interested in transitioning to a green economy. The path from Rio+20 in 2012 to the recent passage of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Climate Change Agreement has seen strong levels of commitment by world leaders to shift to a green economy.

The World Green Economy Organization (WGEO) has emerged, in response to the priorities and concerns identified during this path, as an organization that intends to support emerging global actions towards the green, low-carbon, climate-resilient development model.

The WGEO seeks to promote the widespread acceptance and increased importance of a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, by linking financing, technology, capacity building and other elements of the enabling environment for a green economy.
It is in this spirit that the United Arab Emirates (UAE), represented by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, in partnership with the United Nations officially launched W GEO in Dubai in 2016 to serve as an international platform dedicated to facilitating public and private partnerships, and promoting international cooperation and knowledge sharing towards increased adoption of a green economy.

The Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) stepped up to support the establishment of W GEO on behalf of the UAE Government.

From the time of its launch, and in order to ensure effective implementation of W GEO’s initial priorities and tasks, a team of professionals from various fields, including green economy, international cooperation, international law and partnership has been hired to establish W GEO, which includes but has not been limited to developing the organization’s strategic direction, internal frameworks and operations, in time for founding members to decide on the establishment of a full-fledged Secretariat.
WGEO Mission and Vision
The WGEO’s vision is to become the leading source of knowledge, innovation, technology, finance, capacity building and other elements that enable green economy growth and expansion, through the facilitation of partnerships between public and private sectors, as well as with and among other relevant stakeholders operating towards the widespread and effective adoption of green economy principles and practices.

The WGEO’s mission is to promote widespread adoption of a green economy within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. The main focus is on sustaining economic growth, enhancing social inclusion, improving human welfare and creating employment opportunities, while maintaining a balanced functioning of the planet’s ecosystems, and preventing the serious negative implications of environmental degradation on human health and welfare.

WGEO’s Purpose and Objectives
The purpose of WGEO is to provide systematic, holistic and catalytic support in the promotion of widespread acceptance and increased importance of the green economy at national, regional and global levels.

The objectives of WGEO are:
1. To promote the widespread acceptance and increased importance of the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, by linking financing, technology, capacity building and other elements of the enabling environment for the green economy;
2. To serve as a forum for international cooperation and knowledge sharing between developed and developing countries, the public and private sectors, international organizations, and other key stakeholders that are promoting green economy policies at all levels, in a manner that endeavors to drive sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and job creation, particularly for women, youth and the poor; and
3. To support, through technical and technological assistance, the efforts of developing countries that choose to implement green economy policies in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.
Guiding Principles for the W GEO Strategic Outlook for 2018-2022

The W GEO has a key role to play in the ongoing shift to a green economy. Its mandate, growing membership and the multi-stakeholder platforms provide unique opportunities in supporting global green economy transformation. As the only international organization fully focused on all aspects of the green economy, W GEO will rely on its key strengths, which include:

1. Focused and clear mandate;
2. Strong engagement of State members in its work and focus on national ownership;
3. Multi-stakeholder membership base involving institutionalized participation of private sector entities and other institutions as non-State members with equal seat at the table;
4. Consultative, inclusive and participatory approach to all dimensions of its work;
5. Direct and continuous engagement with stakeholders at national, regional and global levels;
6. Increasing intellectual capital accumulated through programmatic work; and
7. Growing credibility and authority based on substantive products and inclusive platforms for cooperation.

The elaboration of the W GEO Strategic Outlook for 2018-2022 has been guided by the following principles:

1. Commitment to promoting sustainable economic growth, social development and environmental protection;
2. Enhancing synergies and close collaboration between the public and private sectors;
3. Allocation and use of entrusted public resources in an efficient manner, and ensuring highest value for money, so as to achieve the greatest possible benefit for all stakeholders, bearing in mind the specific needs of developing countries; and
4. International cooperation and ongoing coordination focused on avoiding duplication of efforts, enhancing the impact, and making full use of the resources available to other international organizations and the public and private sector actors, with a view to generating integrated solutions for transition to a green economy.
WGEO’s Thematic Programs for 2018-2022

By focusing on offering an innovative mechanism to deliver on green economy global priorities and commitments, WGEO provides a forum from which its wide range of stakeholders can work collaboratively in the following five thematic programs:

1. Green Economy Advocacy Support through Partnership and Outreach
   Within the domain of green economy advocacy, a number of systematic initiatives are to be advanced in supporting the expanding membership of the organization across seven WGEO partnership Platforms. These initiatives include production of the annual World Green Economy Report, as
well as co-organization of the annual World Green Economy Summit. The annual World Green Economy Report will aim to establish WGEO as the global thought champion on the Green Economy. The annual report may be complemented by the quarterly Green Economy Magazine that will be used to source preliminary material for the annual report, to feature green economy champions around the world, and to update on the progress by the WGEO and its numerous partners.

2. Promoting Green Investment
Within the domain of promoting green investment, WGEO aims to support the process on both demand and supply sides. On the demand side, the organization will seek to catalyze identification, elaboration and implementation of sectoral portfolios of innovative green investment project proposals. On the supply side, efforts will be made to promote and globally develop various green capital financing opportunities, including mapping existing green capital credit lines and other sources, as well as helping to establish new subsidized long-term
green financing credit lines.

In the process of supporting sectoral portfolios of innovative green investment projects, an open database will be created containing the body of knowledge on proven technologies and solutions that could be replicated and scaled up regionally and globally. In addition, where elements of intellectual property and know-how are involved, a clear and transparent mechanism of utilization of relevant technological solutions will be presented. These information resources will be used to consolidate a representative group of private sector entities/entrepreneurs to be supported by WGEO in implementing highly impactful and visible green economy investment projects, and applying breakthrough technological solutions, such as solar-powered water desalination plants, biotechnology-enabled waste processing, block chain-based energy grid platforms, and the like. Systematic support will be provided by WGEO in promoting these and other highly impactful and visible investment projects, so as to replicate and scale up the use of relevant technologies as broadly as possible, by increasing the number of geographical locations and markets, as well as by expanding the range of investors and other stakeholders.

3. Creating an Enabling Environment through Policy, Legislative and Resource Support

Within the domain of creating an enabling environment for a green economy, efforts will be made to systematically promote best examples of regulatory and policy frameworks for de-risking green investment, including through a generic set of policies, legislative acts and other legal instruments that will be developed and offered for implementation to interested governments. The WGEO will proactively reach out to interested governments and non governmental players to initiate and support policy dialogue aimed at creating an enabling environment for a green economy in a set of countries, based on a first come-first served principle.

4. Capacity Development in Green Economy Action

Within the domain of green economy capacity development, systematic actions will be taken in establishing and maintaining the global network of government and institutional focal points for a green economy, which will serve as an entry point for all WGEO-supported activities at national
and institutional levels.

It is also expected that regular networking of government and institutional focal points for a green economy would lead to the creation of a global community of practice on a green economy that would be nationally-driven and would reflect the needs and capacities of the countries themselves.

National WGEo Research and Training Centers, as well as other dedicated nationally-owned and nationally-led affiliate institutions of WGEo will be established on a demand-driven basis in close cooperation with relevant members. Such centers and other affiliate institutions will serve as national-level platforms for systematic targeted action in response to country-specific demands and needs.

An effort will be made to consolidate existing green economy toolkits, guidelines and other training materials through consultations and negotiations with other international organizations, and to make these materials available to the general public. Any additional toolkits, guidelines and training materials that may be required will be conceptualized, designed, developed in detail, pilot tested and rolled out.

Regular orientation and training workshops will be organized in cooperation with key partners targeting specific groups of participants, including national government and institutional focal points for a green economy, members of their national teams, where relevant, as well as other stakeholders.

Such training will be based on a regularly updated core curriculum and additional interchangeable modules in order to ensure a common standard in understanding core concepts of the modern green economy, and at the same time, tailor the orientation and training to the needs of specific groups.

5. Scaling Up Innovation through Research and Technology Transfer

Within the domain of scaling up innovation, WGEo will initially focus on mapping and promoting relevant tools and innovative technologies that could potentially contribute to the advancement of a green economy. Thus, the Knowledge Explorer that is powered by artificial intelligence will be further enhanced, starting with the WGEo Capital Finder Tool, and expanding it to other areas,
including green economy research and innovative technology solutions.

The W GEO will also make a systematic effort to develop and adopt appropriate block chain technology tools in order to further optimize the shift to a green economy.

The organization of innovation labs to address various burning issues, including but not limited to the issues of sustainable use of water resources, water desalination, waste management, clean energy and energy efficiency, will be supported. Such innovation labs will be organized by bringing together corporate private sector institutions with their capital power and well-established market distribution networks, and innovative research groups with their flexibility and responsiveness to the ever-changing environment, as well as other relevant stakeholders. The W GEO Trust Fund for Green Action and Technology Transfer, as well as other funding instruments will be established to provide full-cycle support, from research and development to production and marketing, in promoting innovative technologies that could contribute to the advancement of a green economy.

**W GEO Activities**

In conjunction with the above thematic programs, W GEO will provide ongoing support for the benefit of, and in response to, the demands from members, through the implementation of the following activities:

1. Analyze, monitor and systematize current green economy practices, including policy instruments, incentives, investment mechanisms, best practices, available technologies, integrated systems and equipment, and success-failure factors;
2. As a forum for a wide range of stakeholders, initiate, facilitate and, where necessary, coordinate discussions and ensure ongoing results-oriented policy dialogue between all the stakeholders concerned in the field of the green economy;
3. Provide relevant policy advice, facilitation and assistance to members upon their request, taking into account their respective needs, and stimulate international dialogue on the green economy;
4. Facilitate pertinent knowledge and technology transfer, including through south-south cooperation, and promote the development of local capacity and competence among members, including necessary interconnections;
5. Serve as a trusted source of information and expertise in the field of the green economy;

6. Stimulate, facilitate and encourage research on the green economy, including its socioeconomic aspects, facilitate innovation, and foster research networks, joint research, and the development and deployment of technologies;

7. Offer technical assistance and capacity building (including training and education) to members and other stakeholders concerned;

8. Facilitate, or participate in a wide range of financial and operational instruments, including innovative instruments specific to the green economy, as may be required in fulfillment of WGEO’s objectives and for any other relevant purposes;

9. Provide to members, upon their request, advice and support in financing for the green economy, and in the application of related mechanisms;

10. Initiate, facilitate and, where necessary, coordinate and implement green economy programs, projects and technical assistance initiatives aimed at promoting the adoption of the green economy;

11. Help mobilize funding and leverage resources for green economy programs and projects, and invest funds in projects of various nature and scale, including technical assistance initiatives aimed at promoting the adoption of the green economy;

12. As a hub of information on all aspects of the green economy, promote and help coordinate, with the support of advanced information technology, the collection and dissemination of information regarding the green economy, and undertake any other measures required to increase public awareness on the benefits and potential offered by the green economy; and

13. Engage in other activities as may be required to accomplish its objectives, subject to approval by the Assembly.

In the 2018 - 2022 period, WGEO will embark on enhancing its institutional structure, networks and mechanisms to improve its overall delivery of results with fewer but more clearly articulated programmatic activities, in line with the five thematic programs described above. Such an
approach will include greater outreach at national, regional and global levels that showcase evidence-based impact of WCEO activities for the benefit of members. In line with its mandate, WCEO will:

1. Remain focused on its core functions, concentrating on upstream policy-related work, as well as supporting implementation of tangible programs and projects on the ground;

2. Build on synergies and cooperation, avoiding duplication, redundancies and marginal endeavors; and

3. Introduce systematic review and evaluation with the objective of demonstrating impact and strengthening program delivery.

4. The WCEO multi-stakeholder membership base brings diverse perspectives on priorities and strategic direction. Thus, clarity of the programmatic focus is one of the major challenges, and focus will be retained on key drivers of change. Consolidated annual work plans and budgets, including work plans and budgets of each individual WCEO platform, will provide for regular reviews of priorities and timely alignment of activities to respond to members’ needs.

5. To improve impact on the ground, programmatic efforts will be concentrated around fewer, well-defined areas, and guided by WCEO’s strategic objectives. In defining these, the focus will be placed in areas where WCEO and its partners possess comparative strengths and advantages and an established track record, or where it has a clear added value.

6. In this context, evaluation plays a critical role by providing credible and evidence-based information that feeds into decision-making processes. During 2018-2022, a systematic effort will be undertaken to further strengthen monitoring and evaluation of WCEO programmatic impact through targeted activities and enhanced quality, type and coverage of evaluations. These will include self-evaluation at the end of each programmatic cycle, and external evaluations that will also inform the development of WCEO Strategic Outlooks for the coming periods. Considering the importance of monitoring and evaluation for the long-term effectiveness of the organization, WCEO will work with its members to appropriately resource these functions.
Organizational and Institutional Structure

The Wgeo is being established by a treaty (the «Agreement establishing the World Green Economy Organization») with an innovative organizational and institutional structure, and innovative operating procedures. It is a multi-stakeholder institution, which also provides the private sector and other stakeholders with a voice in decision-making. It has a three-tier structure comprising the Assembly, the Council and the Secretariat.

The Assembly is composed of State members and regional intergovernmental economic integration organizations (RIEIOs). Subject to the level of contributions made to Wgeo’s annual budget, State members will be qualified as List A State members - high-contributing State members that have made contributions equal to or above a minimum threshold amount as defined by the Assembly, and List B State members, which includes all other State members other than the List A State Members.

Concurrently, private sector entities and other stakeholders may, as non-State members of Wgeo, be represented in the Council on equitable terms. In addition, a variety of stakeholders may participate in the platforms that will serve as the main forum for cooperation and collaboration between State members, RIEIOs, non-State members and other stakeholders. The Secretariat will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of Wgeo, and provide administrative, legal and financial support.
WGEO Platforms

The activities of WGEO are organized around seven platforms, as follows:

- States: Sustainable Development
- Cities: Smart and Sustainable Cities
- Private Sector: Innovation
- Financial Institutions: Green Finance
- International Organizations: Green Institutions
- Academia & Civil Society: Intellectual Leadership
- Youth: Youth Leadership

Each platform has a Platform Conference and a Platform Board. Activities undertaken under each platform will be consistent with an annual work plan established for each platform and will be aligned to WGEO’s strategic objectives.

Activities will be undertaken and implemented by the State members, RIEIOs and non-State members participating in each platform. The WGEO will establish a strategic framework to source funding and other support for such activities.
**Budget**

The UAE Government is covering the cost of WGEO establishment and operations until the end of 2020.

Intrinsic to the ability to streamline and deliver impactful results is a predictable and sustained resource base. The WGEO resources will be comprised of WGEO’s regular resources and special funds resources, as well as resources received in trust or based on administration or co-financing arrangements with State members, RIEIOs and other international organizations, including philanthropic organizations or other entities. To the extent possible, all these resources will be held or administered on similar terms and conditions.

**The budget of WGEO will be financed by:**

1. Mandatory contributions from State members, RIEIOs and non-State members, as determined by the Assembly;
2. Voluntary contributions;
3. Income from investment; and
4. Any other sources in accordance with financial rules approved by the Assembly.

---

**ANNUAL BUDGET COVERED BY STATE, RIEIO & NON-STATE MEMBERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-State Members</th>
<th>49%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Members &amp; RIEIO</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEMBERS’ CONTRIBUTIONS**

**Assessed Contribution towards WGEO Budget**

- List A Countries: 20%
- List B Countries: 2%
- Voluntary Contribution towards WGEO Trust FUNDS & Special Funds: 0.001%
The WGEO will establish and/or accept the administration of special funds for specific purposes that are consistent with WGEO’s strategic objectives. Special funds will be part of the resources of WGEO and will be incorporated in WGEO’s financial statements.

While regular resources are called to provide an essential and stable source of funding, the experience of other international organizations demonstrates that these resources alone will not be sufficient to meet members’ ambition for the effectiveness and impact of WGEO operations, and that such ambition will have to be supported through the diversification of WGEO resource base and a growth of non-core resources.

Thus, the WGEO financial framework will also consist of one or more multilateral trust funds, single donor trust funds, funds under administration, resources received through co-financing, and other types of cooperative arrangements.