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## International Training on “Green Growth – Policy Measures as a Tool for Local and Regional Sustainable Development”

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22<sup>nd</sup> July – 15<sup>th</sup> August 2013

Organized by the Weitz Center for Development Studies

The concept of Green Growth (GG) is a relatively young concept. It was first adopted by the UNESCAP in Korea 2005 at the “Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development”. Although young, Green Growth evolved out of some well recognized policies for sustainable development such as ‘Smart Growth’<sup>1</sup> and the ‘Triple Bottom Line’<sup>2</sup>. Yet, only during the 2009 world economic crisis, Green Growth gained wide spread world recognition, offering a policy path linking growth, sustainability and green recovery. Currently, GG is a widespread measure with formulated strategies by the OECD, the African Development bank, Korea, Rwanda, Israel and countries in working process such as Vietnam, Ethiopia, Brazil, United Arab Emirates, Mongolia, Cambodia, China, Philippines and more.

Green growth is the means by which the current economy can make the transition to a sustainable economy. In sustainability terms, economic and social sustainability on the one hand, and social and environmental sustainability on the other, have been found to be not only compatible, but also largely complementary. Not so with economic and environmental sustainability, as growth has come largely at the expense of the environment which is why Green Growth aims to ensure that economic and environmental sustainability are compatible (see figure – the dotted line). Green Growth policies typically include aspects of:



- Mitigation of climate change and energy independence
  - Effective mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions
  - Reduction of fossil fuel use
  - Climate change adaptation capacity
- Creation of new engines for economic growth
  - Development of green technologies
  - Greening of industries
  - Structural development for green economy
- Improvements in living quality and livelihoods
  - Greening the land and water, creation of green transport infrastructure
  - Bringing the green revolution into daily life

### The Developing World Relevance

Economic growth is essential to alleviate poverty, build livelihoods and improve the quality of life. However, economic growth is not the only essential ingredient. Commonly economic growth has not uniformly benefitted livelihoods. Often growth has been confined to particular sectors, e.g. extractive industries and agricultural commodities, and hence limiting its benefits. While some have benefitted, others have not. In fact, in Africa the Gini index, which represents a measure of income equality, has increased over the recent

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.epa.gov/dced/>

<sup>2</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Triple\\_bottom\\_line](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Triple_bottom_line)

years, showing a widening gap between rich and poor<sup>3</sup>. Green Growth builds on existing policies and measures. It reinforces the need to address the social, economic and environmental dimensions of development. However, it places further emphasis on growth as a central driver of development and seeks to promote a better valuation of natural and social assets in decision-making processes to remove inefficiencies in the current economic model, that have led to environmental degradation, pollution and climate change.

### **The Israeli experience**

On October 23, 2011, the Israel cabinet approved the proposal of the Minister of Environmental Protection and the Minister of Industry, Trade and Labor to prepare a national green growth strategy for the country for the years 2012 – 2020<sup>4</sup>. As of today, the national plan, pending government approval, outlines current and future measures for achieving green growth, a review of the cost/benefit of each of the recommended steps, targets and tools for their implementation, and a definition of the economic, social and environmental outcome indicators to track the success of the plan in achieving its targets. Israel's GG plan includes among others policies for:

- Green licensing
- Centers of green growth
- Green procurement tenders
- Grants and assistance to green industrial plants
- Green training for employment
- Support to eco-innovation

### **The methodology**

Participants will attend lectures in class and on-site conferences, benefiting from the experience and knowledge of policy makers, high-level Israeli experts and consultants. Participants will visit relevant experiences. Israeli cases and practice will be discussed and exercised throughout the program.

The following topics will be covered:

- + **Introductory Sessions:** Green Growth knowledge building
- + **Strategy Policies and Frameworks:** Strategy formulation policies and programs for green growth; Utilization of local assets for green development; Israeli experience for green growth: governmental policies, green technologies, climate change mitigation, eco innovation, local economic development and the role of the private sector.
- + **Implementation:** the implementation of green growth strategies and support systems – financial, social, economic, environmental and infrastructure.

Participants will be requested to conduct individual and group exercises. For this purpose, selected participants are required to submit prior to the training:

- + A short presentation on using local assets for an environmentally sound economic development in their respective countries/local areas
- + A case/project of green growth and entrepreneurship they wish to further develop throughout the training in small groups (5-6 most relevant cases will be selected with the participants for further development throughout the training)

*Detailed instructions will be sent to the selected participants.*

*Remark: Please take into consideration that the program involves daily walking on the campus as well as in field visits.*

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<sup>3</sup> <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.GINI/countries/1W?display=default>

<sup>4</sup> [http://old.sviva.gov.il/bin/en.jsp?enPage=e\\_BlankPage&enDisplay=view&enDispWhat=Zone&enDispWho=growth\\_plan&enZone=growth\\_plan](http://old.sviva.gov.il/bin/en.jsp?enPage=e_BlankPage&enDisplay=view&enDispWhat=Zone&enDispWho=growth_plan&enZone=growth_plan)

### **Who may apply?**

The training targets transport, energy, water, waste, agriculture, climate related, infrastructure and economic development policy makers working in government ministries or local authorities; NGOs and CBOs active in the field of entrepreneurship and startup; development agencies; policy makers of local and foreign investment funds and development bank; business organizations; and academic institutions.

### **Application Process**

Candidates must complete the appropriate application forms (including health certificate, declaration etc.) available at the Israeli diplomatic mission in their country, or through the Internet <http://mashav.mfa.gov.il>, [www.weitz-center.org](http://www.weitz-center.org). The completed forms should be submitted at the Israeli mission in your area and sent as a **Word Document** attachment to our office ([ronit@weitz-center.org](mailto:ronit@weitz-center.org)) **not later than 25.05.2013**. Candidates must also hand in a passport photo by electronic file.

### **Scholarships**

The scholarships includes: 25 days with full board, tuition, accommodation (double room) and meals, medical insurance (not included dental services, eye glasses, chronic illnesses and pregnancy) and transportation from/to the airport in Israel. The scholarship does not include flight tickets.

It should be taken into account when booking the flight tickets that the scholarship covers exclusively from 21-22.07.2013 (arrival day) to 15.08.2013 (day of departure). Any liability or expense out of this term shall be entirely at the expense of the participant.

### **Arrival and transportation**

A Taxi Company called "MONI SITON TOURS" will transport the participants to the Residence in Rehovot, Israel, where the students will stay during the training. Transportation will be free of charge only if transported by this company.

The MONI SITON TOURS counter is located after passing through Customs, in the gallery of level 1 (Arriving Passengers' hall, left staircase near gate 2, towards "Arbel Launch".)

### **Medical Insurance**

MASHAV will assume the responsibility of the participants' medical insurance for the duration of the course, excluding dental care, pregnancy, eyeglasses and chronic illnesses.

MASHAV and Weitz Center are **not** responsible in case of lost or stolen personal belongings.

### **About MASHAV**

MASHAV – Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation - at Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs was founded in late 1957, and is responsible for the design, coordination and implementation of the State of Israel's development cooperation programs. MASHAV concentrates on human and institutional capacity building by sharing Israel's own development experience and expertise, imparting know-how and transferring innovative technologies and tested methodologies adaptable to developing country needs. MASHAV's approach is to ensure social, economic and environmental sustainable development, joining the international community's efforts to implement the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. In events of natural disasters, MASHAV also provides humanitarian assistance and participates in reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts.

### **About Weitz Center**

The Weitz Center for Development Studies is a leader in capacity building for sustainable development. Our work is dedicated to enhancing the efforts of international agencies, governments, communities, civil society and private sector organizations to achieve positive social and economic change worldwide. Towards this end, we offer high quality training and consulting services, highlighting our practical, assets-based and integrated approach to development. <http://www.weitz-center.org/>

**Additional Information**

Any additional information is available at:

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