

## Key messages LD2 Informal Working Group meeting

### **1. ACTIONS FOR RECOVERY IN KEY COVID-AFFECTED SECTORS AND VALUE CHAINS – Chaired by Germany - Stephan Contius**

#### **KEY ISSUES RAISED**

- Several interventions stressed that the way in which we use resources needs to be reconsidered. Based on the work of the International Resource Panel, we know that our extraction of resources is responsible for more than 45% of the climate emissions and 90% of biodiversity loss. Our footprint on the planet is continuously increasing; we have crossed 4 planetary boundaries. Still 3-4 billion people live in poverty. Our environmental footprint is therefore highly uneven.
- To address this, we need to transform the way in which we produce and consume. The need of this transformation pre-existed the Covid-19 pandemic. A comprehensive and sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic should be based on innovative, clean energy and circular economy principles. Such transformation is particularly relevant for emerging economies where high impact sectors are expected to experience significant growth, which should bring jobs and sustainability.
- The recovery should ensure that supply chains are resilient, ready to adapt and can deliver quality assured products and materials. The interventions stressed the importance of keeping our focus on high impact sectors, as reflected in the background paper. Reference was made in several instances to one specific high impact sector, the food sector.
- Additional points which were raised during this discussion include the recognition that a low-carbon, resource efficient, inclusive and just recovery will also require innovative technologies. Reference was made to green hydrogen. The recovery should ensure we are not widening the technology gap.
- Finally, it was recognized the role of SMEs, which constitute between 70 and 90% of workforce in countries. SMEs are essential to achieve an inclusive and transformative recovery.

#### **CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

- We heard an expectation that this Leadership Dialogue would provide specific recommendations for stimulus measures. Several interventions reminded us that current stimulus packages are not aligned with the climate and biodiversity objectives. This Dialogue should develop recommendations which lead to stimulus measures that are aligned with climate and biodiversity priorities and that take on board the definition of nature-based solutions as agreed at UNEA 5.2. Such recommendations will help to build more accountability around measurement of progress by financial institutions and other key stakeholders.
- We also heard suggestions to consider the development of partnerships or alliance which promote the uptake of innovative technologies, including green hydrogen technologies.

- We also heard the recommendation of development of a SDG taxonomy framework which recognizes the contribution of SME in the SDGs, as well as of a global platform that connects developing and developed countries in the promotion of innovation and technology to build forward better. This is also very relevant to the third session of today's meeting.

**2. HARNESSING INNOVATIONS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR TRANSPARENCY AND DISCLOSURE –  
Chaired by Indonesia - H.E. Ambassador Ibnu Wahyutomo**

**KEY ISSUES RAISED**

- The pandemic has highlighted the need for better foresight capability and resilience planning in national and global governance.
- Access to the internet is a key requirement to participate in the digital economy and unless we ensure that “we leave no one behind”, we risk losing those with lower incomes and living in remote communities out of the global economic system and exacerbating divergences. The current IP and trade regulations are also limiting access to key digital public goods, and we need to think seriously about urgent reform to ensure more equitable access to opportunities for all.
- Going beyond GDP to incorporate qualitative aspects of growth in measuring progress is important – you can only manage something if you can measure it. If we continue focusing on quantity and not quality, we risk reinforcing existing vulnerabilities and not strengthening the productive foundations of our socio-economic fabric.
- Financial institutions have a key role to play in realizing the promise of S+50 – however this requires a fundamental change in incentives and values. Change starts at the top and more conscious efforts at leadership training and education could lead to systemic shifts in the financial sector's actions and aligning them with the SDGs.
- Our current modes of consumption and production are clearly unsustainable, and we need scaled up incentives to shift demand patterns towards more sustainable goods and services.
- Civil Society Organizations are key to holding government accountable – we need to protect their rights and provide civil society and youth with transparent and credible data on progress made by governments and analysis of environmental data.

**CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

- We heard suggestions for taxes on wealth to ensure equitable distribution and more thoughtful and considerate digital trade rules that leave no one behind.
- We also heard about the need for greening the global maritime industry and some participants also suggested a Universal Basic Income for consumption of sustainable goods and services to incentivize a shift towards sustainable consumption and production, a so-called global sustainable supplementary income.

- We also heard calls from the S+50 Youth Task Force representative for World Environment Situation Room to be strengthened and positioned as the global central hub for granular environmental data analysis and communication.

### **3. LEVERAGING GLOBAL AND SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION FOR ACTIONS AT SCALE – Chaired by Germany - Stephan Contius**

#### **KEY ISSUES RAISED**

- Global partnership is key for implementation, including through south-south cooperation and triangular cooperation.
- Progress needs to be equitable for global growth. This entails that we need a shift from technology transfer to technology co-development, that go beyond technology transfer to shared Intellectual Property between developed and developing countries. We need to build stronger capacity in developing countries. We also need to reduce risk perception of access to finance in developing countries and build a global risk mitigation mechanism. As well, we need to address the lack of technology infrastructure in developing countries (e.g. in Africa).
- We should talk about a global cooperation instead of a south-south cooperation. We must support the national perspectives in developing countries: the relation between global north to south is focused on supporting project and initiatives based in private sector without considering the effort done by SMEs or other groups (e.g. indigenous people).
- We should also concentrate on the replication of technologies: building public private partnerships within an enabling ecosystem with a focus on creating dialogues between stakeholders that can advance policies and innovations. Only SMEs in cooperation with large companies and public actors can bring the much-needed change within the global south (and within the global north-south).
- We need to look at recovery and connect this to the other big topics, such as climate change. How can we get a democratized model in place, with diversified ownership over renewables?
- Importance of solidarity under international law: obligations for north-south are key. Importance of local production must be considered.
- The global north has a responsibility and legacy. Where does the global north responsibility towards the global south come in at Stockholm +50?

#### **CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

The recommendations which were raised during this discussion highlighted the need for:

- Increased access to data and knowledge exchange for capacity building programmes.
- Ease the flow of capital; increase international private investment; to attract and scale up clean investment in developing countries.
- We need a well-being oriented economic model. To be put into one comprehensive framework.

- Raise the importance of health: the pandemic has shown the importance of human health and our dependencies the human health for economies to function.