# AGENDA/ORGANIZATION OF WORK

**Expert Consultation on Knowledge and Capacity Needs for Sustainable Development in Post Rio Era**  
6-8 March 2013, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Incheon, Republic of Korea

## Day 1 (6 March, Wednesday)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>08:00-09:00</td>
<td>Registration of participants: 08:00 to 09:00 hrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00-09:40</td>
<td><strong>Opening Session</strong> (09:00 to 09:40 hrs)</td>
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<td>Venue: The Ballroom B, C</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Opening remarks: Mr. Nikhil Seth, Director, DSD/UNDESA, New York</td>
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<td>Introduction of the expert consultation: M. Aslam Chaudhry, Head of UNOSD, Incheon</td>
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<td>Welcome remarks:</td>
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<td>- Mr. Yoon Jong-Soo, Vice Minister of Environment, Republic of Korea (tbc)</td>
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<td>- Mr. Young-Gil Song, Mayor of Incheon City</td>
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<td>Keynote remarks:</td>
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<td>- Mr. Byung-Wook Lee, President, Korea Environment Institute, Seoul, ROK</td>
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<td>- Mr. László Pintér, Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy, CEU, Budapest</td>
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<td>09:40-10:00</td>
<td>Coffee/Tea Break and departure of guests (09:40 to 10:00 hrs)</td>
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### Session 1: Knowledge and capacity needs and gaps for sustainable development  
(10:00 to 13:00 hrs with 20 minutes nutrition and networking break)

**Chair:** Mr. Nikhil Seth, Director, DSD/DESA, United Nations, New York  
**Rapporteur:** Ms. Chikako Takase, Director, UNCRD, Nagoya

- Chair’s remarks/reflections
- **Presentation 1:** Knowledge and capacity needs for sustainable development in post Rio era  
  *Speaker:* Mr. Alan AtKisson, UNOSD Consultant, Stockholm
- **Presentation 2:** Mapping of issues, strategies and initiatives in sustainable development: a preliminary analysis  
  *Speaker:* Mr. François Fortier, Senior Sustainable Development Expert, UNOSD, Incheon
- **Presentation 3:** Strengthening knowledge-policy-practice interface towards sustainable development  
  *Speaker:* Mr. Peter King, Senior Policy Adviser, IGES, Bangkok
- **Presentation 4:** Knowledge sharing and capacity building for sustainable development: lessons learned, challenges, and opportunities  
  *Speaker:* Ms. Grazyna Pulawska, Project Executive, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), Singapore
- **Presentation 5:** Stakeholder engagement in knowledge sharing and capacity building for sustainable development: experiences and lessons learned  
  *Speaker:* Mr. Felix Dodds, Tellus Institute, USA

Interactive discussion will focus, *inter-alia*, on the following questions:
- How close is your perception of the needs and gaps to what you have heard presented? Is there some important aspect that has been missed or overlooked?
- Can the needs and gaps identified so far be clustered into categories? What are those categories?
- This meeting’s goal is, in part, to produce a Framework for Action for knowledge sharing and Capacity Building. What would make such a framework particularly useful to you?

### Lunch Break (13:00 to 14:30 hrs), Venue: Restaurant, 1st Floor
**Session 2: Parallel Working Group Sessions:**

**Mapping of who is doing what and how: sharing of experiences and lessons learned**

(14:30 to 17:30 hrs with 20 minutes nutrition and networking break)

### Working Group 1
Experiences from different knowledge and capacity building programmes and networks in sustainable development: what has worked and what has not?

**Venue:** The Ballroom A

**Chair/Facilitator:** Mr. Alan AtKisson, UNOSD Consultant, Stockholm  
**Rapporteur:** Mr. Khalid Riaz, Professor of Management Sciences, Comsats University, Islamabad

- Chair's/Facilitator's reflections
- **Presentation 1:** Growth of SD knowledge and trends in its dissemination-- are knowledge networks competing or complementing?  
  **Speaker:** Mr. Felix Dodds, Tellus Institute, USA
- **Presentation 2:** Revisiting capacity building approaches and models: successes and failures  
  **Speaker:** Mr. Kees Leendertse, Cap-Net UNDP, South Africa
- **Presentation 3:** Have knowledge platforms helped in strengthening capacities of developing countries in sustainable development?  
  **Speaker:** Ms Jane Rovins, Executive Director, Integrated Research on Disaster Risk, Beijing

The Working Group will focus its discussions, *inter alia*, on the following questions:

- What are 3-5 key takeaways (reflections and insights) from the presentations that can inform the development of knowledge and capacity building programmes going forward?
- Are there any common patterns in the examples of what has “not” worked?
- What do the “most effective and successful” examples have in common? What can we learn from these?

**Summary Question:** What appear to be the key elements of a successful programme for knowledge and capacity building?

### Working Group 2
SD knowledge management for capacity building in post Rio+20 era

**Venue:** The Ballroom B

**Chair/Facilitator:** Mr. László Pintér, Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy, Central European University, Budapest.  
**Rapporteur:** Ms. Eva Ludi, Overseas Development Institute, United Kingdom

- Chair's/Facilitator's reflections
- **Presentation 1:** Impact of knowledge platforms and networks in advancing sustainable development  
  **Speaker:** Mr. Kimo Goree, Director Reporting, IISD
- **Presentation 2:** Challenges in connecting traditional capacity building models to new agenda and knowledge  
  **Speaker:** Mr. Jacques Prescott, Associate Professor, Chair on Eco-Advising, Université du Québec
- **Presentation 3:** Informing global stewardship from local experience: the GEF KM strategy  
  **Speaker:** Ms. Patrizia Cocca, Communication Officer & KM Coordinator, Global Environment Facility, Washington DC

The Working Group will focus its discussions, *inter alia*, on the following questions:

- The landscape for SD knowledge management and capacity building is changing rapidly, in complex ways. In order to address this, what key messages need to be communicated to decision makers?
- What new technologies and methods appear to be most important in putting SD knowledge to use, and in increasing our capacity to use it?
- What is different about knowledge and capacity for SD in the post-Rio+20 era? What has changed?

**Summary Question:** How can these insights be translated into effective strategy and programming?

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**Reception hosted by the Korea Environment Institute**  
(18:00 to 20:00 hrs)  
**Venue:** Main Bar Room, 1st Floor
Day 2 (7 March, Thursday)

Session 3: Unlocking the potential of water-energy-agriculture nexus for poverty eradication
(09:00 to 13:00 hrs with 20 minutes nutrition and networking break)
Venue: The Ballroom B, C

Chair: Mr. M. Aslam Chaudhry, Head of UNOSD, Incheon
Rapporteur: Mr. Peter King, Senior Policy Adviser, IGES, Bangkok

Recap of day 1 and organization of day 2: Mr. Aslam Chaudhry, Head of UNOSD

Keynote address: “Education and Capacity Building for Sustainability”. Speaker: Mr. Arjen Wals, Professor of Social Learning and Sustainable Development, Wageningen University, The Netherlands

- Chair’s/Facilitator’s reflections
- Presentation 1: Capacity building in strengthening water cooperation for sustainable development - trends and results
  Speaker: Mr. Anton Earle, Director, Capacity Development, SIWI, Stockholm
- Presentation 2: Providing sustainable energy for all: need for additional knowledge and capacities
  Speaker: Mr. Mark Hopkins, International Energy Efficiency Director, United Nations Foundation, USA
- Presentation 3: Eradicating poverty through climate change adaptation and mitigation: developing countries’ perspective on water and energy
  Speaker: Mr. Atiq Rahman, Director, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, Dhaka
- Presentation 4: Managing water-energy and agriculture nexus for poverty eradication: evidence from the field
  Speaker: Mr. Eric Kemp-Benedict, Centre Director, Stockholm Environment Institute, Bangkok
- Presentation 5: Learning from best practices in water, energy and sustainable agriculture
  Speaker: Mr. Jacques Prescott, Associate Professor, Chair on Eco-Advising, Université du Québec
- Presentation 6: Advancing sustainable development: mainstreaming water-energy-sustainable agriculture in regional development planning context
  Speaker: Mr. Masao Takano, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Environment Studies, Nagoya University, Japan

Interactive discussion will focus, inter-alia, on the following questions:
- Food security: How can we use the extensive knowledge that we already have (on how to increase food security) more effectively?
- Climate change: Despite ample knowledge and great efforts in the area of capacity development, most observers agree that progress on climate change remains too slow, in every dimension of the issue. Is there something we can do differently, in the area of knowledge and capacity development that will help us overcome roadblocks and accelerate change?
- Poverty eradication: What specific types of knowledge and capacity are most needed now, in your experience? And needed by whom?
- The nexus: Our “capacity for capacity development” is already limited, and the complex interactions among these areas (water, energy, food, poverty, climate) stretch us even further. What are the most effective ways of “integrating” knowledge and capacity building programmes to advance progress in several areas at once?

Lunch Break (13:00 to 14:30 hrs)
Venue: Restaurant, 1st Floor
Session 4: Parallel Working Group Sessions: Bridging knowledge and capacity gaps in post Rio era (14:30 to 17:30 hrs with 20 minutes nutrition and networking break)

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<tr>
<th>Working Group 3</th>
<th>Working Group 4</th>
<th>Working Group 5</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Building capacities for adapting to climate change in water management</strong></td>
<td><strong>Knowledge and capacity needs for providing energy access to all</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sustainable agriculture, food security and climate change</strong></td>
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<td>Venue: The Ballroom A</td>
<td>Venue: Regency Room A</td>
<td>Venue: Regency Room B</td>
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**Chair/Facilitator:** Mr. Anton Earle, Director Capacity Development Office, SIWI, Stockholm  
**Rapporteur:** Mr. Kees Leendertse, Cap-Net UNDP, South Africa  
**Chair/Facilitator:** Mr. Mark Hopkins, International Energy Efficiency Director, UNF, USA  
**Rapporteur:** Mr. Kang Sang-in, Senior Development Management Expert, UNOSD, Incheon  
**Chair/Facilitator:** Mr. Eric Kemp-Benedict, Centre Director, Stockholm Environment Institute, Bangkok  
**Rapporteur:** Mr. François Fortier, Senior SD Expert, UNOSD, Incheon

- Chair’s/Facilitator’s reflections  
- **Presentation 1:** Capacity building needs for water management vis-à-vis current practices  
  **Speaker:** Mr. Michael Douglass, Professor, University of Singapore.  
- **Presentation 2:** Knowledge and capacity gaps in water management in Africa: issues, challenges and opportunities  
  **Speaker:** Mr. Ousmane Diallo, Water Management Expert, Burkina Faso  
- **Presentation 3:** Strengthening linkages between research and farmers for improving agriculture water management  
  **Speaker:** Mr. Khalid Riaz, Professor of Management Sciences, Comsats University, Islamabad  
- Chair’s/Facilitator’s reflections  
- **Presentation 1:** Knowledge and capacity needs and solutions for sustainability transition in post Rio era  
  **Speaker:** Mr. Arjen Wals, Prof of Social Learning and SD, Wageningen University, The Netherlands.  
- **Presentation 2:** Addressing the energy gap in developing countries through capacity building and knowledge sharing  
  **Speaker:** Mr. Dilip Ahuja, Prof of Science & Technology Policy, Nat. Institute of Adv. Studies, Bangalore  
- **Presentation 3:** Technology transfer and capacity building for enhancing access to energy  
  **Speaker:** Mr. Johng-Ihl Lee, Professor of Department of Technology and Society, SUNY Korea, Incheon

One key objective of this expert consultation is to gain a better understanding about the “Framework for Action for Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Building”. Towards this aim:

- What are the key competencies (both the knowledge and capacity to use that knowledge) that are most needed, to help countries adapt to climate change in water management?  
- What are the top priorities for action (maximum three), in order to make knowledge sharing and capacity building more effective? What needs to happen?  
- There are several key actors, in addition to the governments, who will contribute towards the implementation of this framework for action. What are your views as to who can do what?  
- What are the key competencies (both the knowledge and capacity to use that knowledge) that are most needed, to help countries to accelerate the provision of sustainable energy for all?  
- What are the top priorities for action (maximum three), in order to make knowledge sharing and capacity building more effective? What needs to happen?  
- There are several key actors, in addition to the governments, who will contribute towards the implementation of this framework for action. What are your views as to who can do what?  
- What are the key competencies (both the knowledge and capacity to use that knowledge) that are most needed, to help countries to secure food supplies sustainably in an era of climatic change?  
- What are the top priorities for action (maximum three), in order to make knowledge sharing and capacity building more effective? What needs to happen?  
- There are several key actors, in addition to the governments, who will contribute towards the implementation of this framework for action. What are your views as to who can do what?
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<th>Day 3 (8 March, Friday)</th>
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<td>Recap of day 2 and organization of day 3: <em>Mr. M. Aslam Chaudhry, Head of UNOSD</em></td>
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**Session 5: Implementing Rio+20 outcomes: the way forward for knowledge sharing and capacity building**  
(09:00 to 13:00 hrs with 20 minutes nutrition and networking break)  
**Venue:** The Ballroom B, C

**Expert Panel 1**  
**Sustainable development goals and new architecture for sustainable development governance**

Chair/Moderator: *Mr. Thierry Schwarz, Director for Intellectual Exchange, ASEF, Singapore*  
Rapporteur: *Mr. Simon Olsen, IGES, Tokyo*

**Panel:**
- Mr. Surendra Shrestha, Director, United Nations Environment Programme, New York  
- Mr. László Pintér, Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy, CEU, Hungary  
- Ms. Ella Antonio, President, Earth Council Asia Pacific, Philippines  
- Ms. Zeenat Niazi, Vice President, Development Alternatives, India  
- Mr. David O’Connor, Chief, Policy Analysis Branch, DESA, United Nations, New York

*See Annex 1 for Issues Note*

**Expert Panel 2**  
**Knowledge and capacity needs for accelerating transition towards sustainability including green economy**

Chair/Moderator: *Mr. Nikhil Seth, Director, DSD/DESA, United Nations, New York*  
Rapporteur: *Mr. François Fortier, Senior Sustainable Development Expert, UNOSD, Incheon*

**Panel:**
- Mr. Peter King, Senior Policy Adviser, IGES, USA/Bangkok  
- Mr. Felix Dodds, Tellus Institute, USA  
- Mr. Eric Kemp-Benedict, Centre Director, Stockholm Environment Institute, Bangkok  
- Ms. Eva Ludi, Overseas Development Institute, UK  
- Mr. Lee Myung Kyoong, Director, Green Growth Planning and Implementation, GGGI, Seoul

*See Annex 2 for Issues Note*

Lunch Break (13:00 to 14:30 hrs)  
**Venue:** Restaurant, 1st Floor

**Closing session** (14:30 to 16:30 hrs)

**Chair:** *Mr. Nikhil Seth, Director, DSD/DESA, United Nations, New York*

- Presentation of working groups reports  
- Discussion on summary of conclusions and recommendations  
- Closing statements and next steps
Annex 1
Issues Note on
Expert Panel on Sustainable Development Goals and New Architecture for Sustainable Development Governance
8 March 2013 from (09:00 to 11:20 hrs)

Context

The expert panel will discuss the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) state of play including the political framework of the process.

Coherent action to achieve sustainable development is an important factor to advance global discussions on sustainability. The development of goals could also be useful for pursuing focused and coherent action on sustainable development. In Rio, leaders “recognize the importance and utility of a set of sustainable development goals, based on Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, which fully respect all the Rio Principles, taking into account different national circumstances, capacities and priorities, are consistent with international law, build upon commitments already made, and contribute to the full implementation of the outcomes of all major summits in the economic, social and environmental fields, including the present outcome document.” The development of these goals should build upon the lessons learnt from the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The SDGs can offer a coherent vision for sustainable development and be an effective tool for addressing wider development challenges in a comprehensive manner. They can ultimately do so by capitalising on the successes and learning from the shortcomings of the entire MDGs process and integrating efforts with the on-going process to develop a post-2015 development framework.

Determining a new development agenda must be an urgent priority for the international community.

The ultimate aim over the next two and half years for the post-2015 and SDGs process must be to ensure that a single set of global goals which are action-oriented, concise and easy to communicate, limited in number, aspirational, global in nature and universal in application are agreed in the year 2015. As stated in the Rio+20 outcome document, it is imperative that the Rio+20 and post-2015 processes fully converge to arrive at one post-2015 UN development agenda, with sustainable development at its center.

The political coherence needs to be ensured and the process on post 2015 and SDGs should come to a joint position on post-2015 agenda.

Issues to be discussed

Issue 1, Status of on-going negotiations: Many countries have already expressed their viewpoints on what should be the guiding principles to be applied to SDGs and how they should be articulated with MDGs. The High Level Panel and the Open-Ended Working Group have been established. Now what is the discourse development regarding SDGs and post-MDGs? Questions to be discussed are:
• How are countries positioning themselves, what are the main lines of divides, what will be the main obstacles to the finalization of an agreement?

**Discussant:** Mr. Surendra Shrestha

**Issue 2, SDGs, SDGs’ Indicators (SDGIs) and the green economy:** One of the reasons why MDGs were successful was their simplicity. Anyone could understand them and no one could disagree with them. Therefore, the same rule is recommended for SDGs creation. In parallel, the Rio+20 established a connection between the promotion of the green economy concept and the development of SDGs. The development of new indicators creates a big opportunity for mainstreaming growth related indicators beyond GDP. Questions to be discussed include:

- What are the possibilities and concepts that are relevant for this discussion? Is this a right moment to define new measurement for development?
- What could be the conceptual framework for creating SDGs and SDGIs? And what kind of existing approaches could be used for making it happen?
- Could SDGs be an opportunity to promote new indicators incorporating externalities and/or promote the use of “green accounts”? What can be taken from existing statistics (for example bi-yearly Eurostat report)?

**Discussant:** Mr. László Pintér

**Issue 3, Political framework of the process and Stakeholder involvement:** Rio+20 outcome document encourages to “acknowledge the role of civil society and the importance of enabling all members of civil society to be actively engaged in sustainable development. (We) recognize that improved participation of civil society depends upon, inter alia, strengthening access to information and building civil society capacity and an enabling environment. Participation is considered as a key for building up consensus on SDGs and to ensure successful implementation. Key questions to be discussed include the following:

- What are the processes in place to ensure stakeholders participation?
- What are the initiatives taken by the UN, international organizations, regional organisations, countries, NGOs to encourage participative processes?
- Are there good case studies of stakeholders’ participation in Asia or in Europe? What are the existing initiatives on the country level concerning SDGs?

**Discussants:** Ms. Ella Antonio and Ms. Zeenat Niazi

**Issue 4, Funding SDGs:** The Rio Declaration states: “In view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities. The developed countries acknowledge the responsibility that they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development in view of the pressures their societies place on the global environment and of the technologies and financial resources they command.”

Similar language exists in the Framework Convention on Climate Change; parties should act to protect the climate system “on the basis of equality and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.”

It can be taken for granted that a large part of the negotiations on SDGs will focus on the means of implementation. In times of crisis and rising new economies, it is very unlikely that developed countries will accept to commit additional funding for the implementation of SDGs. Emerging countries will be required to do more and new forms of financing that are not restricted to transfers from “rich countries” to “poor countries” (but also by rich people in poor countries) will have to be examined: Tax on airlines tickets, Tax on financial transactions,
trading of carbon credits, carbon tax or end to subsidized fossil fuels… Key questions requiring some insights include:

- Will financial issues be the main obstacle to an agreement on SDGs?
- Is the divide between the so-called group of 77 and the rich countries still relevant?
- Are the new forms of financing likely to be supported by a sufficient number of countries?

**Discussant:** Mr. David O’Connor

**Process**

The discussion will be organized in three rounds.

First round: The Chair/Moderator will invite each expert to reflect his/her thoughts on one of the above issues. There will be no provision for Power Point overheads. (5 minutes per speaker, total 25 minutes).

Second round: The Chair/Moderator will invite each panel member to comment on the views expressed by other members of the panel, especially their agreement/disagreement and important issues not touched upon. (5 minutes per panelist, total 25 minutes).

Third round: Participants will engage into an interactive dialogue with the panel based on the discussions of the first two rounds.

Finally, the Chair will summarize the key points of discussion.

**Panel**

Chair: Mr. Thierry Schwarz, Director for Intellectual Exchange, Asia-Europe Foundation  
Rapporteur: Mr. Simon Olson, IGES

- Mr. Surendra Shrestha, Director, United Nations Environment Programme, New York  
- Mr. László Pintér, Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy at the Central European University (CEU) in Budapest, Hungary  
- Ms. Ella Antonio, President, Earth Council Asia Pacific, Philippines  
- Ms. Zeenat Niazi, Vice President, Development Alternatives, India  
- Mr. David O’Connor, Chief, Policy Analysis Branch, DSD/ UN DESA, New York
Annex 2
Issues Note
Expert Panel on Knowledge and Capacity Needs for Accelerating Transition towards Sustainability including Green Economy
(8 March 2013 from 11:40 to 13:00 hrs)

Context

The expert panel will discuss knowledge and capacity needs for making successful transition towards green economy. The importance of this subject could hardly be overemphasized given that countries are attempting to translate outcomes mentioned in Rio+20 outcome document into their national contexts. However, evidence shows that most countries are facing many challenges and obstacles in moving their economies to more environmentally friendly paths. Some of these challenges and obstacles relate to target setting, formulating strategies to achieve these targets, and mobilizing institutions and resources to support the transition. In this regard, knowledge sharing and capacity building can be instrumental in accelerating the transition process.

Issues

The panel will discuss the following issues:

**Issue 1**: Eradicating poverty is one of the most pressing issues of our times. Advocates of green economy are of the view that moving towards green economy could help in eradicating poverty in a number of ways. *What is the evidence from the real world and how can such evidence translate more efficiently into pro-poor green policies?*

**Discussant**: Mr. Peter King

**Issue 2**: Paragraph 66 of the Rio+20 outcome document called upon the UN system and its partners “to coordinate and provide information about matching interested countries with the partners best suited to provide requested support.” There are several initiatives that either provide or can potentially provide technical support and advice, but these remain dispersed. *Will a one-stop shop or portal be more useful or if the current mix of sites and initiatives be the best option to meet countries’ needs? In other words, how shall we move ahead with this process of matching supply and demand?*

**Discussant**: Mr. Felix Dodds

**Issue 3**: Over the years, developing countries made huge investments in technology and infrastructure with support from international financing institutions, but some of these investments were not green. A more drastic climate action will require these countries to abandon existing high carbon capital stock. *Will it make sense? Also, how to steer future infrastructure build-out away from high carbon intensity to low, especially if such investments remain unattractive (unless international concessional carbon finance is available)? What should both developing countries and their developing partners do to deal with this dilemma and, towards this aim, what sort of knowledge sharing and capacity building programs are needed?*

**Discussant**: Mr. Eric Kemp-Benedict

**Issue 4**: Despite numerous SD-specific knowledge building and capacity development initiatives over the past 25 years, progress has been slow, and the situation is now urgent as we are crossing several planetary boundaries, notably climate change. *What
key knowledge-generation and exchange process should be strengthened to accelerate transitions towards sustainability?

**Discussant: Ms. Eva Ludi**

**Issue 5:** At Rio+20, Several Major Groups and some governments criticized the green economy for not moving fast enough, even though it goes in the right direction. *Is this the case, and how can knowledge sharing and capacity building speed-up transitions to sustainability?*

**Discussant: Mr. Lee Myung Kyoon**

**Process**

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**Panel**

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