

**Discussion Forum on
« Why Trade Matters in Development Strategies »**

Geneva, 27-29 November 2013

Presentation

By

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Trade, Environment and Climate Change

UNEP's experiences on the Trade and Environment Nexus

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Trade and Environment Nexus

Trade is vital for the global economy, but creates stress on the environment.

- Since 2002, the financial volume of international trade has more than tripled
- Global exports of goods and services in 2012: US\$ 22.8 trillion → 31.7% of global GDP
- Total developing country export increase: 39.2% in 2002 → 50% in 2010
- GHG emissions from international maritime & aviation transport: + 88% in the last 25 years
- Two-fifths of global raw material extracted are used to enable global exports
- However, trade can also facilitate resource efficiency and sustainable development.



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The Rio+20 Context and the Green Economy

The opportunities at the trade and environment nexus are emphasized in the Rio+20 Outcome Document and embedded in the Green Economy concept.

- Rio+20 outcome document *The Future We Want*.
 - Green economy as a tool for achieving sustainable development
 - Mandate for the UN System to coordinate the GE transition
 - Trade as an engine for development and sustained economic growth
- UNEP defines a Green Economy as:
 - An economy that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities



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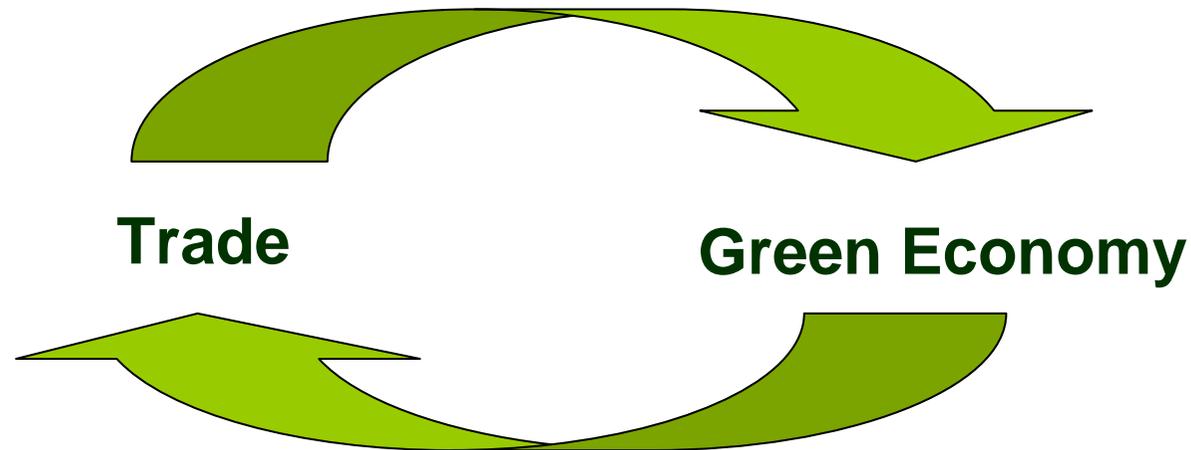


Trade and the Green Economy

Green Economy and trade can interact in a mutually beneficial way.

Trade as an engine

Appropriately regulated, trade can drive development, sustained economic growth & the Green Economy transition



Trade opportunities

Global market in low-carbon and energy efficient technologies
US\$ 2.2 trillion in 2020



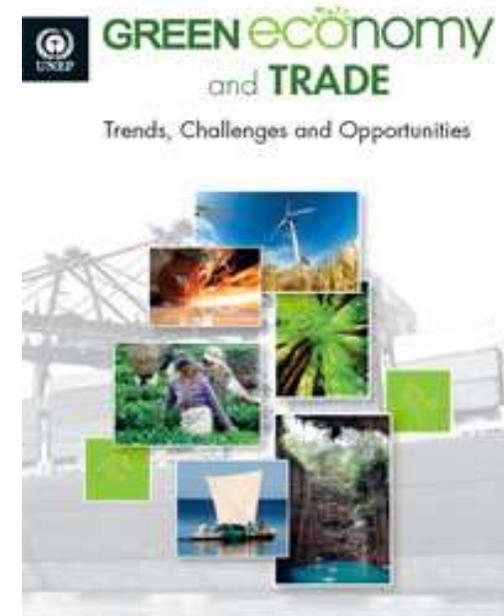
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GE-TOP Phase I: Global Report

The GE-TOP report explores triple-win situations at the nexus of environment, trade and development.

- The GE-TOP report analyses:
 - Emerging trade opportunities and related challenges in six economic sectors (incl. case studies)
 - Enabling conditions (policy tools, market based instruments etc.) for harnessing green export opportunities



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GE-TOP Phase II: Country Work

In order to apply the conceptual framework of the GE-TOP report, UNEP undertakes projects at the country level.

- **Objective:**
 - Identify, assess and inform green trade opportunities associated with GE transition
- **Approach:**
 - Demand-driven
 - Local ownership
 - Inclusive and participatory stakeholder process
 - Harnessing synergies with partners
- **Result:**
 - Recommendations on how to seize identified trade opportunities



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GE-TOP Phase II: Pilot Projects

Sustainable trade opportunities in one key sector are analyzed and enabling conditions to scale up these trade opportunities are identified.

- **GE-TOP Ghana:**
 - Foster solar energy exports under the umbrella of the WAPP (regional integration)
- **GE-TOP Peru:**
 - Address obstacles to certification and export of Peruvian BioTrade products
- **GE-TOP Viet Nam:**
 - Assess trade opportunities from sustainable aquaculture certification



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What's more ...

UNEP collaborates with many partners in different trade-related projects.

- **Projects and Partnerships**

- PAGE – Partnership for Action on Green Economy
- UNFSS - United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards
- GGKP – Green Growth Knowledge Platform
- United Nations Inter Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity

- **Knowledge Products**

- Handbook on Green Economy and Trade
- Thematic Papers (e.g. South-South Trade in Selected Environmental Goods)



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Contact

Thank you!

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