9. Forthcoming Applications

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9.1 GGGI’s Achieving Global Green Transformation Report

Through its forthcoming report, Achieving Global Green Transformation, GGGI plans to share practical examples of successful approaches to green growth across the GGGI’s value chain and in multiple thematic areas. The report will also serve as the main vehicle for publishing and promoting the results of GGGI’s global Green Growth Index and country-level analysis for priority areas, which GGGI conducted to assist countries in policy and investment decision-making. It will provide a high-level platform for explaining, promoting, and, ultimately, advancing the model of green growth, and that is built on a foundation of practical experience and robust, data-driven, and evidence-based analysis.

9.2 AfDB’s African Green Growth Index

Building on the pilot version of the African Green Growth Index developed in 2015, AfDB and GGGI are collaborating to develop the second phase of the African Green Growth Index by applying GGGI’s conceptual framework for green growth. The GGGI-AfDB collaborative project on the African Green Growth Index aims to apply GGGI’s conceptual and methodological frameworks for green growth (Figure 7) to the African context and encourage the use of the index to measure green growth performance across the region. Specifically, the collaborative project seeks to:

- Conduct a scoping study to identify the most important green growth issues in the region and determine the extent to which green growth indicators capture these issues.
- Collect data that are not available online and identify sustainability targets for benchmarking green growth in the region.
- Further develop the Green Growth Index using updated datasets and targets, and conduct subregional consultation workshops to collect feedback on the index.

9.3 A complement to UNEP’s GEP Index

UNEP’s Green Economy Progress (GEP) Index aims to inspire policy change and inform policymaking. The methodology is designed for historic performance and policy decisions are important, other contextual factors, such as geography and climate, can also have a major bearing on future trends. By incorporating different types of indicators, the Green Growth Performance Measurement framework can reflect a contextualized view of green growth performance when modelling the results and ranking of each country. In addition, the approach is expected to allow users to better understand the underlying factors that affect performance, especially at a sectoral level, thus providing users with better knowledge of green growth and the links between policies and performance.

GGGI is developing both the Green Growth Index and Simulation Tool to support an integrated assessment of green growth policies and their impacts on green growth performance. The index measures country-level performance based on a common set of metrics in five green growth dimensions. The Simulation Tool allows users to enhance their knowledge on how different policy options not only within these dimensions but also across sectors influence a country’s green growth performance. The validity of the underlying models and assumptions of the Simulation Tool depend on the policy relevance of indicators that frame the Green Growth Index.

This Simulation Tool not only enhances users’ understanding of green growth but also allows for an interactive learning experience. Users can manipulate input indicators, experiment with different policy choices, and simulate the impacts of their choices on green growth performance through their projected effects on output indicators. This user interactivity not only improves the tool but also adds sensitivity checks to its methodology because user inputs can reflect country or sectoral priorities and strategies.

The objectives of the GGGI-AfDB collaborative project can be further supported by conducting consultations to collect from relevant government agencies data that are not available online and enhance awareness and acceptability on the African Green Growth Index, such as through a launch event. The project started in 2019 and will be completed in 2020.

9.4 Proposed GGGI Green Growth Simulation Tool

GGGI and UNEP identified interesting complementarities arising between the Green Growth Index and the GEP Index despite their different focus. The GEP Index focuses more on progress, while the Green Growth Index focuses more on performance. The progress index works with weighting related to working toward specific thresholds, using international standards and conventions within a relative peer group. The Green Growth Index also uses standards and conventions as targets for its benchmarking approach; in some particular cases, it even uses the same standards. Some of the indicators in the Green Growth Index and GEP Index are the same, but because progress in the GEP Index is based on narratives on future green growth pathways, it does not duplicate the performance measurement of the Green Growth Index, which is based on the baseline or the current year and past trends.

In view of the complementarities, GGGI and UNEP have identified two important opportunities for collaboration. First, GGGI and UNEP will continue to collaborate to enhance the complementarity of the Green Growth Index and Green Economy Progress Index, particularly in terms of the indicators. Second, GGGI and UNEP propose to jointly prepare and publish a report discussing the differences and complementarities between the two frameworks, while doing an application of the Green Growth Index and GEP Index for a common selected group of indicators, focusing on one or two countries with the support from the GGKP Metrics and Indicators Working Group. These case studies take place at the end of 2019.

9.5 National and subnational green growth indices

During the in-country and regional consultation workshops, several GGGI member countries expressed their interest to apply the frameworks of the Green Growth Index and its performance measurement framework at national and subnational levels. The goal is to build on the indicators of the main index, identify new and alternate indicators and targets that are useful for national planning and policymaking, and apply GGGI’s consultative process of developing the Index. GGGI seeks to support such initiatives at the request of member countries.