



**Implementing Inclusive, Green Economy Approaches:
Asia Regional Dialogue on Country Experiences and Ways Forward for Economic Decision-Makers**

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Closing Remarks, Tim Scott, UNDP

Thank you.

As we close, I'd like to share a few thoughts on some of the things that have happened before, during and after this two-day Regional Dialogue on Inclusive Green Economy Approaches

First: a few words about what has been going on before this Dialogue in the many countries represented here today:

We recognize the significant and innovative work that is already going on in many countries across the region, and we recognize your individual roles as champions for sustainable development.

The presentations we heard and the promising initiatives that were shared during this last plenary session illustrate some of the cutting edge work on inclusive green economy approaches that is going on in the region, even at times without the explicit green economy label.

We recognize this ongoing work, your contributions to it, and we appreciate your time and engagement here over the past two days to share your experiences.

Over the past two days, we've talked with many of you during the breaks to get feedback, and these one-on-one discussions have been very meaningful.

We've heard things like: "I'm learning", "I've gotten many new ideas", "I've made new contacts", "It's been really useful to share experiences". That's what this Dialogue has been all about.

We've had a rich discussion on a complex topic in a diverse region, so it's not possible to summarize the past two days, and I could not possibly do it justice in a few minutes.

So instead I've tried to capture a few of your insights, your words and wisdom – a few of the more memorable quotes from the past two days, which I would like to share now - what follows are your words, your quotes:

What happened in Rio+20? It depends on your perspective.

We have an opportunity now after Rio and leading up to 2015 to listen, to learn, to set the agenda for the next 20 years of development.

What does green economy mean?

It's a tool, a means to support more sustainable development for all. And we need to unpack this tool as it applies to each country context

It doesn't tell us what to do, it tells us what we can do differently.

There is no template for a green economy.

And there is no single green economy, there are many: we live in a technicolor world of multi-hued economies: brown, red, green, blue and black.

It's not about having a separate Green Economy Strategy – it's about integrating into existing policies, working together with the media, civil society and the private sector, the UN System and other partners.

What about fiscal policy and pricing, equity and distribution? One dollar in my pocket can be much more valuable than a 1000 dollars in your pocket.

We need to move beyond GDP and get excited about a set of measures and indicators, so we know where we're going, and what progress we're making.

How do we ensure inclusion of all voices in green economies? How to ensure that we improve livelihoods and empower the poor? Without the inclusion of women, youth, and other groups, we can't talk about social equity.

Empowering women as natural resource managers and green entrepreneurs is a powerful strategy for sustainable development that we can no longer ignore.

Green jobs means decent work for all while reducing environmental impact. We need new green jobs, and we need to green the jobs we already have.

We need to do more on the three I's of inclusion, integration, and implementation.

Strengthened governance and capacity building are key, especially at the local level where we need more support.

Moving to green economies is not a technical process, or a project or a programme, it's a long-term transformative journey of social and political transition.

Now, those were just a few of the questions and comments from the past two days that stayed with me and resonated well, and of course we had many more detailed experiences that were shared.

And that brings me to my final thought, a short one, which I'm sure is shared by my colleagues from UNEP, DESA, and all partners.

THANK YOU for making this Asia Dialogue a success in every way. Of course we have much more work before us.

I wish all of us safe travels and GOOD LUCK as we journey home later today and tomorrow, and also good luck and success as we continue our collaboration, our long-term journey towards a greener, more sustainable, and equitable future.

Thank you.