



Evaluation and follow-up

Daily surveys at the end of each elective as well as an end-of-activity overall evaluation were conducted to assess participants' satisfaction and provide experts and organizers with suggestions for changes and possible improvements in the future. Participants expressed their overall satisfaction on 5 parameters:

- Relevance of contents
- Learning methods
- Resource persons
- Relevance of the subject matter
- Overall quality of the elective course

The questionnaire form poses open and closed questions with a 5-point scale ranking answers from 1 (minimum) to 5 (maximum) for closed questions. More detailed feedback on each elective and on the use of tablet devices are available in the full Academy Report.

The implementation of this first Global Academy and the feedback received from both participants and collaborators, provided useful insights in terms of the design and implementation of its second edition in 2016, but also in view of other PAGE capacity building activities that will take place at national and regional level.

Participants confirmed almost unanimously, through the on-line evaluation survey, that the Academy had achieved its overall learning objectives. They were particularly appreciative about the relevance of the training to their individual job and to the needs of their organization. This underlines the pertinence of the Academy as a complementary tool to accelerate PAGE delivery at national level. Participants furthermore suggested that the gender dimension should be strengthened and recommended to put efforts in increasing the number of female participants in further training activities.

In particular, the request from national delegates to make this learning approach available at national and regional level, and in different languages, inspired the design of the **Regional Knowledge Sharing and Learning Forum for Latin America** and the **National Platform on Green Economy for Burkina Faso**. With the objective to build on their previous learning experience and contribute to the consolidation of a growing community of trainers, participants in the 2014 Academy will get involved in the adaptation, preparation and delivery of both events foreseen in the second semester of 2015.



Academy on the GREEN economy

Highlights of the 2014 Global PAGE Academy



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



unitar

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations



International Training Centre

ACADEMY

Partnership for Action on
GREEN economy **PAGE**

Academy on the Green Economy

"I think the Academy on the Green economy is an amazing experience and this has brought together quite a lot of issues on our radar. [...] It's been great having the learning experiences from the other countries, the networking, learning about initiatives ... that is something I can take back and also replicate in my country."

Ivy Wong, Malaysia



Overview

This first global Academy on the Green Economy from October 6 to October 17, 2014, was organized within the framework of the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE). Hosted by the International Training Centre of the ILO (ITC-ILCO) in Turin, Italy, it offered 86 professionals, 32 women participants and 54 male participants, from over 30 countries a unique opportunity for training and global knowledge-sharing to help actively promote green economies.

Learning Objectives

This 2-week training and learning event helped increase participants' ability to analyse the opportunities and challenges for the promotion of a socially inclusive green economy by providing in-depth understanding of suitable approaches, tested tools and best practices at national and sectoral levels.

The learning approach encouraged participants to: (i) customize their learning experience according to their individual and organizational needs; (ii) share knowledge and experience with a large international community of practitioners; and (iii) establish networks with other national, regional or global organizations and centres of excellence.



Besides, the use of tablet devices and a dedicated online platform greatly contributed to enhance participants' learning experience by allowing real-time sharing of resources and materials. Furthermore, it contributed to reduce the environmental footprint of the event given that a paperless policy was endorsed throughout the two weeks.

With a rich faculty, representing the collective experience of PAGE partners, national stakeholders and collaboration agencies, participants benefited from comprehensive and peer-reviewed training materials, quality programmes and resources, and different learning methods.

Target group

- Policy makers, technical staff and stakeholders from civil society organizations, trade unions, employers' organizations, cooperatives, knowledge and research institutions, in current PAGE countries;
- Delegates from other interested countries which are adopting green economy strategies;
- Staff and practitioners from partner/interested agencies and donors.

Structure

The Academy included:

- **The High-Level Policy Forum and Knowledge Fair:** (see Box aside for more information).
- **Plenary Sessions:** These morning sessions created common knowledge and understanding among participants across various policy areas covered by the Academy. These included: (i) The promise of the green economy; (ii) Poverty Reduction and inclusion; (iii) Shaping green economy policies through dialogue and participation; (iv) The business case of greening; and (v) Measuring and monitoring indicators.

- **Elective Courses:** Participants had a choice of 18 electives which covered thematic topics in more depth. Each spanning over 1 or 2 days, participants followed a total of six electives of their own preference throughout the Academy creating their personal learning path towards a green economy through these breakout sessions.
- **Study visits:** To complement the class teaching, two study visits¹ offered practical examples of how greener economies can be promoted by focusing on agriculture, industrial production, agro-tourism, education and food-processing sectors.

Content

Topics covered included: green economy concepts, definitions and approaches; quantitative modelling options; the interplay between international trade law, macroeconomic policies and green-economy measures; green jobs and decent work; skill-needs analysis and development programmes; strategies for the greening of

economic sectors, industries and enterprises; and social inclusion and gender equality.



High-Level Policy Forum and Knowledge Fair

The beginning of the Academy was marked by a 2-day High-Level Policy Forum and Knowledge Fair on October 6-7, 2014. With an additional 30 high-level government and non-government officials, donor representatives and staff from PAGE partnering agencies, alongside the Academy participants, this event gathered around 120 participants.

With the objective to offer greater understanding of policies and strategies for promoting inclusive green economies, notably through PAGE country reviews, the event exposed achievements so far made, highlighted the key drivers in the transition process but also the current constraints and challenges in advancing national green economy policy initiatives. Moreover, a sector perspective on sustainable food systems was presented with a specific focus on the SLOW FOOD movement in and around Turin.

The unravelling of a Knowledge Fair under the overall theme "Sharing knowledge for building joint solutions", whereby a total of 21 topics were presented, enabled participants to share and discuss practical tools and best practices in past and on-going green economy initiatives at country level, including those supported by UN and donor agencies.

The key policy and take-away messages from the discussions of the 2-day High-Level Policy Forum and Knowledge Fair were as follows:

- A transition to an inclusive green economy will happen only if it is **led and driven by people**, from local communities to nations.
- **Strong political leadership is essential** to demonstrate commitment and give a sense of direction for the rest of society.
- National and global efforts to transition to greener economies must relate to, and be relevant to, **the SDGs and post-2015 development agenda to ensure policy coherence and effectiveness**.
- There is a wealth of successful experiences and practices at national, industry and community levels. This offers high potential for **peer-to-peer learning, knowledge exchange and dissemination of successful practices** among countries, public and private organisations and communities.
- **Mechanisms and platforms for social dialogue and consensus building**, including through tripartism already exist in most countries to build upon.
- As a partnership among five UN agencies, PAGE can be a powerful vehicle for effective and **coordinated UN action** in support of countries.

1. Study visit 1: Agrindustria, <http://www.agrind.it/EN/index.html> and Frutto Permessso, <http://www.fruttopermesso.com/?lang=en>
Study visit 2: University of Gastronomic Sciences <http://www.unisg.it/en/>