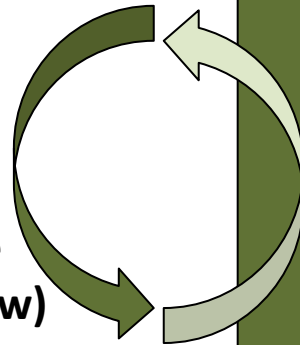


# What is the (Inclusive) Green Growth narrative, and how has it developed in practice?

## Definitions of Green Growth

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- An *alternative* way to discuss “low carbon”
- A way of boosting “green” in the post-2008 stimulus and recovery
- The environment-economy axis of sustainable development with more climate change, energy security, (new) growth engines, etc. (MDBs/OECD)
- A rebranding of sustainable development, including “social” elements (UNEP – Green Economy)
- A more dynamic (optimistic?), strongly pro-growth version of sustainable development (GGGI)








## Green Growth in Practice

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- Emphasis on locally-defined and bottom-up goals – no one-size fits all
- More focussed on “win-win” opportunities
- Aims to be a mainstream development approach
- Largely a public-sector, policy-oriented program
- Broad and flexible ideology, but *not* politics-free

## How widespread is the narrative?

- **GGGI**  c.15 countries engaged, and 30+ members
  - **OECD**  10+ GG country strategies, 34 members, 42 signatories to GG declaration (incl. Russia)
  - **UNEP**  6 PAGE pilot countries, 30 countries by 2020
  - **MDBs**  Various country studies; integrated into their overall development narrative
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- ❖ Largely a developing country policy program, although it pops up in developed country discussion
- ❖ Lacks strong BRICS engagement/leadership, although it does form the focus for some large lower and middle-income countries (Mexico, Indonesia, Ethiopia)
- ❖ Has not created a politically-unified coalition of countries (yet)

# What is green growth achieving in countries strongly engaged?

## – Rough, high-level overview

### Ethiopia

- Embedding mitigation in core development goals and plans
- Integrating mitigation with adaptation goals and broader development goals ('co-benefits')
- Providing an international "leadership" agenda

### South Korea

- Embedding mitigation in core development goals and plans
- Integrating mitigation with industrial and innovation policy
- Providing an international "leadership" agenda

### Mexico

- Embedding mitigation in core development goals and plans
- Integrating mitigation with adaptation goals and broader development goals ('co-benefits')
- Providing an international agenda with which to align

### Indonesia, Colombia, Peru, etc.

- Improving GHG footprint of core development plans
- Integrating mitigation with adaptation goals and broader development goals ('co-benefits')
- Providing an international agenda with which to align

### India, South Africa, etc.

- Improving GHG footprint of some development plans (a few champions)
- Facilitating a politically neutral framework with which to consider mitigation goals alongside adaptation and broader development goal
- Providing a *potential* international agenda with which to align

## What does the green growth narrative mean for the negotiations?

- Without the strong/leading engagement of key countries ...  
**it is unlikely to be a driving force in unblocking negotiations**
- Key countries appear more comfortable keeping the green growth narrative and the climate change negotiations separate, so ...  
**it probably won't provide strong direct pressure for an agreement**
- National green growth initiatives raise climate change alongside other development issues, and so ...  
**it is not (yet) an alternative way to rally for specific climate change commitments**
- Green growth has not become a strong private sector or civil society rallying cry, so ...  
**it is not (yet) drawing significantly greater outside pressure for an agreement**
- Green growth does offer a perspective through which to enhance the case for climate change action, and so ...  
**it *should* provide stronger tailwinds for negotiations among some countries**

## **Net-net, is green growth strengthening or diluting the climate change negotiation process?**

- ❖ **To the extent that it has re-positioned (or re-branded) sustainable development with a stronger climate change focus, it is creating broader support for a deal**
- ❖ **The different proponents are not always pulling in the same direction, but it is not clear that a more coordinated, top-down approach would have worked better**
- ❖ **There has been some energy spent trying to figure out what green growth means and how to apply it, but generally spent in the service of in a low-carbon**
- ❖ **More deleteriously, it has occasioned (or failed to alleviate?) some areas of political friction, although it pales in comparison to the pre-existing level of politics**
- ❖ **Could show its greatest value if a climate agreement does not materialize, and the world will need to rely on strong, locally-driven, bottom-up initiative**

# Thanks!

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