



BURKINA FASO 2014-2019

RESULTS FACTSHEET

OVERVIEW

PAGE began its work in Burkina Faso in 2014 and has worked closely with the government to provide support for inclusive green economy in the country. At the national level, PAGE has supported the development of the **National Green Economy Strategy (SNEV)**, which serves as the backbone for Burkina Faso's inclusive green economy transition. Building on this momentum, PAGE has supported thematic policy reform in the areas of green industry and sustainable trade and is working to integrate green economy principles into the implementation of the National Rural Sector Programme through capacity-building of relevant governmental officials. PAGE is also convening national and international partners to build national capacities around green economy, green industry, green entrepreneurship and sustainable agriculture.

In doing so, PAGE activities in Burkina Faso are contributing towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 6, 8, 9, 12 and 17.



STORY OF RESULTS

Contributing to a national green economy framework

In 2015, following a period of political pressure and transition, a new, democratically-elected government took office in Burkina Faso. The adoption of the National Plan for Economic and Social Development (PNDES 2016-2020) soon followed, demonstrating the new government's commitment to inclusive green economy. In this context, PAGE has engaged with the newly-established Ministry of Environment, Green Economy and Climate Change (MEEVCC) to develop a national green economy framework, the National Green Economy Strategy (SNEV). The SNEV contributes to PNDES' vision, which states that Burkina Faso transform its economy to achieve strong and inclusive growth through sustainable consumption and production patterns. Building on macroeconomic and sectoral assessments supported by PAGE, the SNEV highlights several main axes of operation, including green jobs, sustainable trade, green finance, and national capacity development on green economy.

This work has included a **Green Economy Assessment**, in which PAGE applied systems dynamics modelling to investigate the economy-wide effects of different investment scenarios to explore opportunities for economic transformation. The assessment found that green investments would lead to strong economic growth and identified priority six economic sectors for focus green investments—agriculture, livestock, forestry, water, energy and mining—that were subsequently included in the SNEV.

The SNEV was developed and validated through a participatory approach involving all relevant national stakeholders in July 2018 and was subsequently submitted to the MEEVCC for adoption. Once adopted, it will guide Burkina Faso's inclusive green economy transformation in the years to come.

Sectoral and thematic policy reform

Taking up key elements of the SNEV, PAGE has supported sectoral and thematic policy reforms through diagnoses and policy analysis assistance.

Agriculture, which accounts for over 30% of GDP in Burkina Faso and employs over 90% of the labour force, provides a clear entry point for green economy action. To this end, PAGE is working to integrate green economy principles into the implementation of the second National Rural Sector Programme through capacity building and policy analysis. This Programme, which is meant to implement the rural sector component of PNDES, promotes productive and resilient agriculture, fisheries, wildlife and natural resource management, making it an important pillar of sustainable growth.

To advance sustainable trade—another priority area outlined in the SNEV—PAGE is currently supporting the MEEVCC in formulating a strategy for developing market access for non-timber forest products (NTFPs). The Strategy for the Sustainable Management and Export of Non-Timber Forest Products is currently under validation and aims to make trade of NTFPs sustainable, efficient, competitive and profitable to the national economy.

Similarly, PAGE has supported the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Handicrafts in conducting a green industry diagnosis and developing a green industry strategy. As a result, green economy was integrated into the National Industrial Strategy, which was validated by all relevant national stakeholders in September 2018 and is expected to be adopted by the government in 2019. The government has already signaled a high level of ownership over the strategy, showcasing it at an important Ministry event in December 2018.

Other priority sectors—mining, transport, energy, forestry and waste industries—have been the focus of PAGE's work on green fiscal policy, which has included research and proposals for environmental taxation instruments to boost sustainable consumption and production patterns in line with PNDES.

Strengthened inclusive green economy national capacity

Building capacity and consensus around green economy is a national priority for Burkina Faso and is essential to continue the country's green economic transition beyond PAGE.

In 2016, PAGE convened a Green Economy Academy that mobilized more than 200 public and private sector actors around topics like green jobs, green finance and green fiscal policy. This event provided a unique platform for the new government, helping to re-create cohesion and a shared vision on green economy and empowering the MEEVCC to take a leading role in the process. The event also catalyzed collaboration between PAGE agencies and funding partners, for example, opening a dialogue between the ILO and the Swedish Embassy for the continued development of green enterprises beyond PAGE.

To identify key entry points for capacity building support, PAGE, together with the University of

Ouagadougou, completed a Green Economy Learning Capacities and Needs Assessment, validated by representatives of ministries, universities, research centres and UN agencies in June 2018. A national action plan for green economy learning was developed on the basis of this assessment and the SNEV and will be submitted by the MEEVCC to a donor roundtable in 2019. PAGE is now partnering with the University of Ouagadougou to expand its existing green economy courses, with the goal of reaching a wider audience. PAGE is also supporting the development of a green economy course, including a training of trainers on sustainable agriculture, to be delivered by the Ecole Nationale des Eaux et Forêts, an official learning institution under the Ministry of Environment. The final course will target government officials from different ministries to advance the integration of green economy principles into their portfolio, and specifically aims to support the cross-sectoral implementation of the National Rural Sector Programme.

To advance private sector capacity, PAGE held a training course on green entrepreneurship for trainers from the Maison de l'Entreprise, a non-profit association supporting companies. A pool of trainers is now available to support young entrepreneurs in developing green businesses, particularly in the field of sustainable agriculture.

Ensuring coordinated and coherent joint service delivery

In Burkina Faso, PAGE has joined forces with other UN initiatives that are also supporting a green transition. For example, PAGE collaborated with the **Poverty-Environment Initiative (PEI)** and **SWITCH Africa Green** to create a model for joint delivery of advisory services. As a result of this collaboration, the SNEV was validated under the umbrella of the SWITCH Africa Green Policy Dialogue in July 2018, highlighting the synergies between the two initiatives.

LOOKING FORWARD: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Burkina Faso's economy is heavily focused on agriculture and extractive industries, which together account for over 40% of GDP and over 90% of the country's exports. Going forward, economic diversification will be a priority for policymakers, who have already set the goal of almost doubling the manufacturing industry's share of GDP by 2022. A challenge will be to ensure that these changes create and reinforce opportunities for green transformational change in the country.

The forthcoming formal adoption of the SNEV will be a key milestone in this transformation. The MEEVCC is leading the effort for the creation of a National Steering Committee on inclusive green economy, which will act as an inter-ministerial body guiding its implementation. The on-going capacity building work will equip key actors to further advance reforms in priority sectors (agriculture, trade, forestry, industry, modeling, taxation, entrepreneurship). Coordination with initiatives such as Switch Africa Green will continue to create working synergies and provide support and resources on the ground.



Since its inception in 2013, The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) has grown into a prominent alliance of five UN agencies, eight funding partners, and eighteen countries that work together to transform economies into drivers of sustainability.

Thanks to this integrated approach and support of a wide range of partners, PAGE is increasingly recognized as a model to deliver coordinated support to countries for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets of the Paris Agreement.

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