

# KYRGYZ REPUBLIC 2016-2021

## RESULTS FACTSHEET

### OVERVIEW

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic is committed to advancing inclusive, sustainable growth and has adopted a long-term *National Development Strategy 2040* that recognizes the importance of integrated policies that balance the social, economic and environmental dimensions of development. To realize this strategy, the government has prepared a five-year development programme *Unity, Trust and Creation*, covering the period of 2018-2022, that provides a medium-term framework for all national, sector and sub-national strategies, including those linked to the environment and climate change.

It is within this broader national policy context that PAGE and other bilateral and multilateral partners, including GIZ, the EU and the OECD, are collaborating to catalyze the transition to a more inclusive, greener economy in the Kyrgyz Republic. Since its start in late 2016, PAGE has prioritized support to advance the integration of inclusive green economy goals and targets into the government's national planning processes. In line with these national frameworks, PAGE is also facilitating evidence-based sectoral reforms in green industry and green jobs and strengthening institutional capacities for inclusive green economy diagnostics, coordination, financing and procurement.

This work supports the Kyrgyz Republic's progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals 8, 11, 12, 13 and 17, as well as the implementation of the Paris Agreement, which the country is in the process of considering for ratification.



### STORY OF RESULTS

#### Supporting national policy and planning for green economy

In early 2018, the Kyrgyz Parliament adopted the "Concept of Kyrgyzstan as a Green Economy Country", a first step in the formal policy process assigning the government to develop a green economy programme. This in turn laid the groundwork for the government to develop a National Programme and Action Plan (2019-2023) for the country's inclusive green economy transition, which integrates gender concerns and is directly aligned with the SDGs. The Plan, which was developed jointly with the UNDP Biodiversity Finance Initiative, includes climate change needs, commitments and actions on green agriculture, transport, energy, education, sustainable procurement, finance and fiscal policy.

These two key policy milestones have been directly supported by PAGE through the establishment of a national inter-agency and cross-disciplinary expert group, as well as inter-ministerial coordination led by the Ministry of Economy. With PAGE's support, national expertise is also being drawn on to mainstream inclusive green economy principles into the Strategy 2040 and the five-year development

programme. In this way, green economy reforms and innovations are not developed by different departments independently, but rather, they are directly influencing the country's strategic plans and related policy processes.

#### Supporting sectoral and thematic green economy action

With PAGE support, the government is advancing several sectoral and thematic initiatives designed to further strengthen and implement these guiding policy frameworks. These include the design of national green economy and green jobs modelling systems, policy planning and a green jobs assessment; a demonstration pilot on resource efficiency in the metal industry building on a green industry assessment; the design of a green urban planning system; and review of legislation for sustainable public procurement. When fully implemented, these initiatives will contribute to the national objectives of pursuing inclusive economic growth while safeguarding the environment and natural resources.

### Building capacity and raising awareness on green economy

To build national capacity for inclusive green economy, PAGE has worked with the American University in Central Asia to carry out a Green Economy Learning Assessment in the Kyrgyz Republic. The Assessment aimed to identify the needs, priorities and entry points for integrating the principles of the green economy into various training and learning activities, as well as the curricula of national learning institutions in the Kyrgyz Republic. It provided a set of recommendations for long-, mid- and short-term action to improve the capacities of national learning institutions to develop the competences of current and future policy makers.

Building on the findings and recommendations of the Assessment, PAGE is teaming up with the one-UN partnership for Climate Change Education ([UN CC:Learn](#)), and with the support of the Ministry of Economy, State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry and Ministry of Education, will promote the development and implementation of a National Strategy for Green Economy and Climate Change Learning. The objectives of the national learning strategy include:

- Foster a systematic and country-driven process to strengthen human resources, learning and skills development on various levels (e.g. primary, secondary, tertiary, and executive/professional education)
- Determine specific actions to enhance learning and strengthen learning institutions
- Ensure that green economy and climate change learning is linked to and helps achieve national objectives

- Augment mobilization of resources for training and skills development from national budgets and external partners (UN organizations/country teams, bilateral donors, foundations)
- Ultimately, create a strengthened human resource base in the country to support the green transition.

In addition, PAGE is partnering with GIZ to support the Ministry of Economy's Green Week and Green Forum. The annual high-level dialogue is designed to raise awareness and understanding of a common country-wide green economy approach, and to convene national and international stakeholders for in-depth strategic and technical debates and discussion. For example, the 2018 Forum was used to validate and adopt Resolutions on the National Programme and Action Plan, sustainable finance, and the establishment of a Clean Production Center. The Forum also included interventions from the heads of the National Bank and National Sustainable Development Council under the President, as well as leaders from the private sector. As part of this collaboration with GIZ, journalists are also being trained to cover inclusive green economy issues.

As part of broader efforts to support peer-to-peer learning across countries, PAGE has also facilitated an ongoing dialogue and direct exchange of experts between the Kyrgyz Republic and Mongolia. This collaboration has helped to accelerate the Kyrgyz Republic's green economy transition.

## LOOKING FORWARD: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

With the support of PAGE and partners, the government has quickly set in place strong foundations for transformational green economy change in line with its Strategy 2040 and medium-term five-year development programme. This progress has included a focus on ensuring the sustainability of green economy reforms and innovations through strengthened inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms, legislative reviews, and institutional capacity building within and across Ministries, Parliament and with other national stakeholders including academia and the media.

The next five years, as outlined in the medium-term development plan, will present a range of challenges and opportunities for the country to address. To maintain and accelerate green economy progress, the government, under the leadership of the Ministry of Economy, will need to ensure that the enabling policy environment it has established is matched by equally strong results reflected in inclusive green economy policy and programme implementation. This will require sustained efforts to ensure sufficient financial and political support. An inter-ministerial working group, formally established by the Ministry of Economy, will play a key role in this. The green economy transition has already demonstrated key aspects of its durability through a change in government and the shifting of senior public green economy champions across offices.

In addition, major public-private investment initiatives, including the growing influence of the Belt and Road Initiative, will also need to be fully aligned with the country's sustainable development vision.



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

MORE INFORMATION ON PAGE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

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