



Work 4 Progress (W4P) at the Green Economy Coalition

Work 4 Progress (W4P) participated in the Green Economy Coalition (GEC) Global Annual Meeting 2020 on “Local Green Enterprises (LGEs)”- Building Movements of MSMEs in India’s Transition to an Inclusive Green Economy, held from 4-6 February, 2020 at Development Alternatives Headquarter in Delhi.

The overall objective of the Global Meet was to build a platform for the civil society and small businesses to engage with green economy policy making in India and other parts of the world. The meeting brought together over 300 civil society networks spanning poverty, environmental protection and labour rights, who are actively championing the green economy transition at local, national and global levels.

The focus of this year’s meeting was to ensure that LGEs get a stake in the transition to a green economy. It delved deeper into aspects of finance, measurements, markets and governance needed for enabling LGEs in India and other countries. The Global Meet also reflected on the stories and lessons from seven national and regional GEC hubs in the Global South, which are part of the ongoing Programme of GEC on creating enabling policy conditions for the transformation towards an inclusive green economy, currently supported by the European Commission.

Work 4 Progress accelerates the creation of meaningful and dignified employment through platforms for innovation, action and continuous learning in Peru, Mozambique and India. In India, W4P provides enterprise development opportunities for youth and women in Bundelkhand and Eastern Uttar Pradesh. W4P adopts a social innovation methodology through which it listens to the community through dialogue, finds answers through co-creation, and then prototypes solutions and shares learnings to eventually create impact at scale.

In the past two years, W4P has created evidence of accelerated growth in micro enterprise development; a growing culture of entrepreneurship in W4P geographies; the power of converging resources and action from diverse organisations; sustainability through community ownership; and the potential of replicating interconnected solutions for addressing multiple challenges. At GEC, it shared learning on:

- The role of meso actors in triggering cross-scale impact by facilitating collaboration, accelerating innovation and enhancing resource flows. This was followed by a panel discussion which discussed approaches to facilitate the current paradigm of LGEs by finding solutions that can help in developing good practices and interventions to further strengthen the enterprise ecosystem in other areas
- Building solidarity for promoting LGEs and providing a platform for local green entrepreneurs working in different sectors across India to showcase their work. Work 4 Progress entrepreneurs from the agriculture, waste management and food processing sectors also participated in the GEC enterprise fair – one such solidarity platform

Shaping the session on 'Triple Bottom Line (TBL) Impact of MSMEs' through discussions on the need for knowledge building for a TBL orientation by combining profits with social and environmental impact, identifying leverage points that can accelerate efforts and collaborative platforms with regional, national and international reach