

United Nations Environment Programme

Towards a low-carbon economy: UNEP Green Economy Initiative

ILO, UNEP, ITUC, IOE, ITU Side Event
“Towards a low-carbon economy”

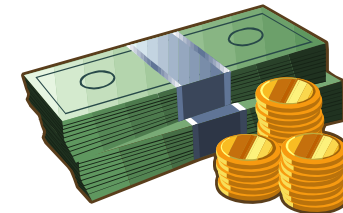
Poznan, Poland
3rd December 2008



Global crises ... amidst the climate crisis

The *financial* crisis:

- Bail out the financial institutions



The *fuel* crisis:

- Crude oil price structurally on the rise



The *food* crisis:

- Since 2006, the average world price for rice has risen by 217%, wheat by 136%, maize by 125% and soybeans by 107%.



Towards a Green Economy

- Mobilising and re-focusing the global economy towards investments in clean technologies and natural infrastructure
- Economic, social and environmental benefits likely to arise from combating climate change and re-investing in natural infrastructure, including green jobs in clean technology and clean energy businesses.

UNEP's Green Economy Initiative

Support increased investments in environmental assets and green production

Three pillars:

- Valuing and integrating nature's services into national and international accounts
- Employment generation through green jobs and the laying out of policies
- Instruments and market signals to investors, entrepreneurs and consumers world-wide to accelerate a transition to a Green Economy

Facilitating the transition: potential sectors ... (1)

Sectors most likely to generate economic returns, environmental sustainability ...

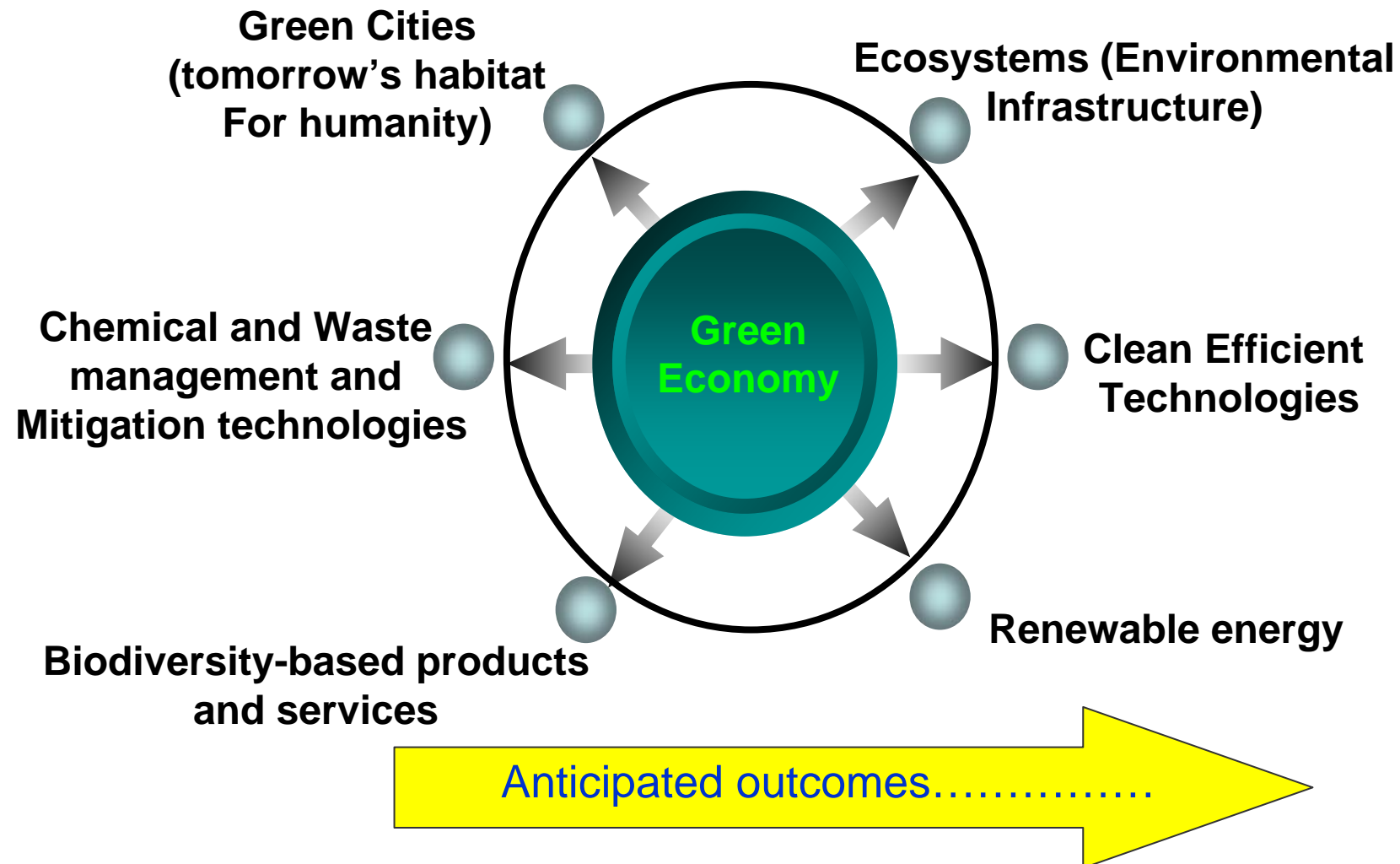
- Clean energy and clean technologies including recycling
- Rural energy, including renewables and sustainable biomass
- Sustainable agriculture, including organic agriculture
- Ecosystem infrastructure
- REDD: Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
- Sustainable cities including planning, transportation and green building

Facilitating the transition: potential sectors ... (2)

Sectors most likely to generate ... green jobs:

- Energy supply – renewable sources of energy, including Bioenergy.
- Energy efficiency in buildings and construction
- Transportation
- Basic industries and recycling
- Agriculture
- Forests

... and new assets



Funding needs

- Funding needs:
 - \$1 trillion can stop green house gases rising to dangerous levels,
 - \$3 billion/year can put all existing protected areas in developing countries under effective management, and
 - \$14 billion in agriculture investment/ year can enable all developing countries to put an end to hunger.



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Elements of a Green New Deal

- Energy efficient buildings
- Renewable energy
- Environmental fiscal reform
- Climate finance
- Sustainable transport



Thank you for your attention!

<http://www.unep.org/greeneconomy/>

and

[http://www.unep.org/labour environment
/features/greenjobs.asp](http://www.unep.org/labour_environment/features/greenjobs.asp)