

Investment Key for Greener Growth

Paris, 6 December 2013 – BIAC congratulates the OECD on the organisation of its Green Growth and Sustainable Development Global Forum, and welcomes the ongoing substantive dialogue with BIAC on this vital area for business.

The OECD Green Growth and Sustainable Development Global Forum took place in Paris on 5-6 December 2013, focusing on how to unlock investment in support of green growth. By specifically addressing the multi-disciplinary nature of green growth and sustainable development, the OECD has a key role in fostering dialogue, exploring synergies and taking a comprehensive approach to the challenges and opportunities in greening growth.

Getting the policies right for investment and open markets is a fundamental requirement to greening growth. It is worrying therefore that global business investment is far below potential, with recent [data](#) showing that global foreign direct investment (FDI) fell by nearly a third in the second quarter of 2013 as international investors pulled more money out than they invested across a record number of OECD countries.

To enable a successful transformation to greener growth, a transparent and predictable policy framework is needed for increasing business confidence to undertake long-term and often capital-intensive investments. This calls for putting in place basic fundamentals such as rule of law, sound science, life cycle informed decision-making, intellectual property rights protection, access to long-term financing, as well as open markets and trade, including for cleaner technologies.

Investment for green policy objectives has to contribute to overall economy-wide growth, and depends on strong and predictable policy signals especially for currently non-economic investments. “We need to bring in all sectors, and need to make a business case for business communities in developed and developing countries”, underlined Norine Kennedy of the US Council for International Business (USCIB), speaking on behalf of BIAC. Open trade and investment are fundamental prerequisites for greening growth. Kennedy also highlighted the ongoing work of the International Business Green Economies Dialogue ([GED](#)) initiative, which will continue to provide business perspectives for successful and sustainable approaches to greener economic policies in the globalized marketplace.

In BIAC’s view, the OECD as a multi-disciplinary organisation with excellent expertise in areas such as economics, environment, trade, and investment, can make a significant contribution to [green growth](#) and in the broader context of the post 2015 development agenda.

Founded in 1962 as an independent organisation, the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD (BIAC) is the officially recognised representative of the OECD business community. BIAC’s members are the major business organisations in the OECD member countries and a number of OECD observer countries.

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