

Green Economy= Green jobs - beyond business as usual to climate resilient development

Date: Wednesday 20 March

Time: 14:20 – 15:00

Venue: Committee Hall II, Ground Floor, Accra International Conference Center

Status: Open to all participants attending Africa Climate Week.

Organised by: Ghana Climate Innovation Centre (GCIC) AND UNU-INRA

Description:

Green economy is part of the new transition for a safe growth and climate resilient future. African countries have an opportunity to move from recognition of the problem to taking concrete steps to usher in a new model of development that will sever ties with unsustainable practices related to both consumption and production. Unsustainable management of water and other natural resources can conspire towards creating further hardship for economies and societies, and, thus, reversing many poverty reduction, job creation and hard-won development gains. There is increased recognition in Africa on the centrality of a new economic paradigm that will act as a buffer towards substantive climate change, and unleash Africa's potential in the deployment of renewable energy to support many climate sensitive sectors, not least, water, agriculture and forestry. It offers Africa an opportunity to leapfrog technologies and get it right the first time. It moves away from the dominant thinking of 'develop and clean up later' and provides an opportunity for Africa to avoid taking the 'wrong' turns that will result in being 'locked out' from possible technological innovations and opportunities that could yield to greater development and environmental sustainability.

The Ghana Climate Innovation Centre (GCIC) and its consortium partners are making good traction to demystify the concept of green economy through the realization of green businesses and green entrepreneurship. The solution space will showcase GCIC entrepreneurs who are pioneering innovations and practical solutions that have huge potential for Ghana's mitigation and adaption to climate change.

It will enable young budding new entrepreneurs to share their experiences and identify ways to scale up some of their best practices. It will enable GCIC to demonstrate many of the positive impacts generated from the range of green businesses, and highlight several tangible outcomes, not least the creation of green jobs, the development of green skills and the establishment of green infrastructure.