

Practical Recommendations for Implementing Just Transitions from the South-to-South Network

There is no one size fits all framework for a just transition



In Colombia, the government embedded Just Transition (JT) into the country's development plan. This enhances the legitimacy of JT, integrates JT into wider stakeholder engagement and policy planning processes, and can increase resources for JT planning.



In Argentina, JT is a politicised subject—there is disagreement between ministries about how climate policy should be implemented. Inclusive dialogues on JTs could bring together stakeholders to contextualise climate action within other socio-economic challenges to create a coherent plan for national just transitions.



By integrating the objectives of a JT into Ghana's national development plans and Ghana's Sustainable Financing Network, the country could highlight the co-benefits of investing in JT to potential donors.



In Malawi, efforts to industrialise and expand agricultural production could support national development, but changes will need to be carefully managed to ensure that benefits are not captured by large producers who may outcompete smallholders—many of whom are women. By creating forums to engage with smallholders, decision-makers could ensure that no one is left behind.



In Vietnam, just transitions away from the coal-fired power sector could result in benefits like improved health, better jobs, and reduced pollution. However, investment is needed in the country's coal-dependent northern provinces to enable economic transformation—including social support and reskilling for the country's 122,000 coal industry workers.



In Indonesia, there is progress on the development of a policy plan for the Just Energy Transition Partnership but accurate statistics and integrated data on the impacts of transitions on workers (formal and informal), communities, and vulnerable people are not available. A dedicated dataset (coordinated by Statistic Indonesia) could enable empirical decision-making and support the social component of the energy transition.



In Kenya, County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) include climate change units, which interact with national ministries to integrate climate policies into different sectors. By integrating JT strategies into CIDPs and climate change units, Kenya could promote the creation and ownership of local JT strategies and plans.

Recommendations for policymakers



Recommendation #1
Have access to reliable information about how climate action might create new opportunities, but also new costs or risks for certain groups.



Recommendation #2
Governments need to find new mechanisms for internal coordination between and within different levels of government.



Recommendation #3
Governments also need to find avenues to listen to, and share information with, different stakeholders, particularly vulnerable groups.



Recommendation #4
Understand how the national and local contexts may influence the impacts of climate action. Solutions to support communities affected by the transition should be place-based and locally owned.



Recommendation #5
Political leadership is critical to a just transition and should include ongoing monitoring and evaluation that allows for policy correction.



Recommendation #6
Ensure that the policy and fiscal environment is oriented towards helping regions affected by transition to create thriving, diversified economies.



Recommendation #7
Coordinate needs-based finance that increases both adaptive and mitigative capacity. Financing should prioritise the recipient's needs over those of donor countries and leverage public and private investment.