Community of Practice 3

Charting Just Transition Pathways towards a sustainable future
“A just transition ensures environmental sustainability as well as decent work, social inclusion and poverty eradication.”

Context

- Just transition pathways: have risen fast up global climate agenda
  - Paris Agreement (2015) calls on Parties to “take into account the imperatives of a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs in accordance with nationally defined development priorities.”
  - Brazil’s COP 30 UNFCCC Presidency has prioritized focus on “just transitions”
History of just transitions

• In principle, exs:
  • Just Transition Alliance (founded 1997): six principles
  • ILO Guidelines (2015)

• In practice: ex: Germany’s coal phase out plan:
  • Energy share from coal-fired power plants has declined significantly, falling to 26.1% in 2023 from 33.2% in 2022. However, coal is still Germany’s second most important energy source for electricity generation.
  • National and länder governments, trade unions, utilities, other stakeholders have hammered out consensus on a phase-out plan with broad support
  • Still, the road ahead may not be smooth once trade-offs/costs become evident
Illustrative JT initiatives around globe

• Climate Strategies and its So-So Just Transitions Initiative
• World Benchmarking Alliance stakeholder consultations
• LSE Grantham Research Institute: work on financing JT
• International Energy Agency (IEA): People-Centred Energy Transitions
• Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JTEP), emerged from COP 26 (Glasgow)
• Climate Action 100+ (top corporate GHG emitters) - JT indicators
Building global JT community of practice

CoP 3 Terms of Reference: bring together different JT stakeholders to:

- Share knowledge, experience and research from different countries, sectors, relating to just transition strategies and policies, what has worked where and why
- Identify areas for JT cooperation, including through focused working groups, joint projects and longer-term partnerships
- Foster collaboration on policy-relevant research to address research questions raised in CoP 3 (e.g., what JT means in context of adaptation to climate change)
- Develop tool kits to chart viable just transition pathways garnering broad public support and ensuring that no one is left behind
- Link field experience and practice to national, international policy and advocacy work