

Conference on the Future of Work

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Climate change & Just transition: SDGs, Paris Agreement, and the Future of Work



GOAL 8.4 global resource efficiency in production, decouple economic growth from environmental degradation GOAL 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning



The Paris Agreement's goal is to hold global temperature increases well below 2 C, and pursuing efforts to stay below 1.5 C. All countries must have national plans. These must «take into account the imperative of the **just transition** of the workforce, and the creation of decent work and quality jobs.»

Future of Work

« transforming economies to produce decent and sustainable work »
Climate change mitigation measures and addressing technology shifts

What is a Just Transition?

Just Transition includes both measures to reduce the impact of job and livelihood losses and industry phase-out on workers and communities, and measures to produce new, low emissions and decent jobs and livelihoods as well as healthy communities.

The FOW report calls for major Investments in:

- Renewable energy in the rural economy (modernizing small-scale farming), sustainable agriculture and food security
- Green infrastructure and construction for ecological production
- More widely adaptation planning (e.g. reskilling, social protection, life long learning policies)

Plans, policies and investments so that:
Everyone has social protection;
All jobs are decent;
Emissions are low or at zero;
Communities are thriving and resilient

Just Transition Pillars

The foundations and guiding principles are enshrined in the
2015 **ILO Guidelines for a Just Transition to
Environmentally Sustainable Economies and Societies
for All**

- ➔ Integration of Just Transition into macroeconomic policies by combining industrial and sectoral policies with investment of public funds, appropriate taxation policies and the adjustment of training and education to the new needs
- ➔ Just Transition is based on **social dialogue** between workers and employers and governments

Silesia Declaration



This declaration - signed at the last COP in Katowice by numerous governments from both developed and developing countries- calls on governments to address a Just Transition and launch social dialogue processes to promote:

- High employment rates,
- Adequate social protection
- Labour standards and wellbeing for workers and their communities
- Long term low greenhouse gas emissions development strategies
- Adaptation planning processes

Examples of trade union actions on Just Transition

GERMANY

Climate targets

- 65% renewables by 2030. The energy sector as a whole will reduce its emissions more than 60% by 2030.
- Plans for coal phase-out must be seen in the context of ongoing steps to phase out nuclear power. The last nuclear plant will close in 2022.

Commission "Growth, Structural Change and Employment"

- Labor advocated for the Commission. Members included unions, regional and local govt representatives, environmental organizations, and industry.
- 40 BN EUR over 20 years for regional redevelopment, including infrastructure.
- The package will ensure that for each direct job lost, a new and decent job is created;
- Complete phase-out of coal-fired power by 2038 at the latest.

Examples of trade union actions on Just Transition



NIGERIA

The Nigerian government - economy that is largely based on fossil fuels - is about to start working on a Just Transition Strategy.

The govt has invited the NLC to "...develop a national roadmap outlining action plans for domesticating the Silesia declaration to chart a new carbon economy and build workers' perspective on the implementation of the NDC (Nationally Determined Contribution, the countries' climate commitments) and related domestic policy instruments".

"The recognition did not come on a platter of gold". The NLC in the last five years has been engaging Climate Change research, education and training, and advocacy.

Examples of trade union actions on Just Transition



INDONESIA

Indonesia will be one of the countries most affected by climate change and it is amongst the five countries with the greatest greenhouse gases emission into the atmosphere.

A Steering Committee was established, involving multiple stakeholders (trade unions, NGOs, ILO, and the Ministries of Labour and the Environment). This has now been recognised by the government, which is even proposing to formalise it as a long-term alliance.

For the just transition to become part of the political and trade union agenda, it is necessary to train trade unionists on these issues, in order to improve their negotiating capacity.

Examples of trade union actions on Just Transition



PHILIPPINES

In February 2017, the government ordered the closure of 23 mines (mostly nickel mines) and the suspension of seven others, because of their environmental impacts.

Trade unions, in collaboration with the ILO , began to develop a proposal for just transition. This document was used as a basis for negotiations with social partners interested in operating in the key mining region of Caraga.

The initiative adopts a capacity-building approach with social dialogue and tripartism at the heart of the process. One of its noteworthy results is the establishment of the single mechanism for tripartite cooperation, which provides guidance in terms of just transition policies and programming.



The Centre was established by the ITUC and ETUC in 2016. It supports unions and their allies in getting concrete plans for Just Transition.

The Centre helps to get good, concrete plans for Just Transition at different levels: Company and sector; city and state; national; and with investors.

Good plans for Just Transition improve the material conditions of workers and bring down emissions and/or build resilience.