



Additional Submission

Fourth Dialogue under the United Arab Emirates Just Transition Work Programme

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Introduction

The Local Governments and Municipal Authorities Constituency (LGMA) wishes to thank the organisers of the Fourth Dialogue under the United Arab Emirates Just Transition Work Programme held on 1 and 2 of September 2025 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The LGMA was pleased to engage in the discussions and see the growing recognition of the role that cities and other subnational governments play as key actors and partners for national governments in designing and implementing just transition pathways, as well as the numerous examples of multilevel partnerships presented by the Parties from Australia to the Philippines.

The LGMA is pleased to share this additional submission, which builds upon the selected themes discussed during the world cafe table sessions and breakout room discussions. This submission complements the oral interventions made by LGMA representatives in the Dialogue, which, due to limited time and changes in session modalities, could not be shared comprehensively.

Please refer to the LGMA submission for additional case studies of subnational-led just energy transitions submitted ahead of the 4th JTWP Dialogue [HERE](#)

[1] Concrete and actionable outcomes for the JTWP in the context of just energy transition pathways and holistic approaches to just transitions, including through synergies within and outside the UNFCCC

Cities and other subnational governments are vital to achieving just energy transitions by expanding decentralised renewable energy access, addressing energy poverty through retrofits, social tariffs, access to clean cooking or preventing energy disconnections from vulnerable households. As the closest government to residents, they foster inclusive community dialogue, drive green job creation through investment and procurement and facilitate training for those most affected to ensure the transition is equitable and widely accepted.



Best practices include [Rio de Janeiro](#), who with a local partner, is building a solar community providing clean energy and jobs to an informal settlement, and [Warsaw](#), retrofitting low-income homes to address energy poverty and improve air quality.

Key recommendations:

Considering these best practices and the role subnational governments play as just transition implementers, the LGMA requests the following:

- Parties formally recognise and include a reference to subnational governments as implementers and national government partners, and encourage vertical integration in the JTWP COP30 decision. A ‘whole-of-government’ approach is frequently cited as crucial for a just transition, and it’s critical to note it encompasses both horizontal and vertical integration.
- Any new JTWP institutional arrangement or mechanism - if adopted - must clearly define the role and engagement of subnational governments from the outset. This is crucial to avoid them being an afterthought, which often leads to implementation challenges concerning local access, perspectives, and solutions.

[2] Socioeconomic risks and opportunities associated with energy transition pathways

Maximising opportunities and avoiding unintended consequences begins with meaningful community engagement, robust local social dialogues, and local equity assessments that examine potential or existing positive and negative impacts of climate action on specific groups including affected workers, including informal workers, women, youth, and other marginalised groups. Subnational governments are uniquely positioned to play a leading role in this due to their proximity to local communities, understanding local dynamics and vulnerabilities.

Best practices:

Best practices include [Los Angeles and LA County](#) jointly organising engagement sessions with oil workers, resulting in ‘Worker Profiles’ that help understand the relationship between existing and ‘green’ skills and workers’ interests and needs and involving affected populations in policy and planning and [Medellín](#) who has conducted an assessment of the possible benefits generated of installing solar panels on schools, such as electricity cost savings and job creation.

Key recommendations:

Considering these best practices and the role subnational governments play as just transition implementers, the LGMA requests the following:

- Parties involve subnational governments in designing national just transition strategies to ensure these are localised to local needs and empower subnational governments to scale up and replicate successful programmes and policies for maximum impact. This can be facilitated by integrating urban needs and priorities into national just transition plans and creating national multi-level governance mechanisms with subnational representatives, such as national just transition



commissions or advisory bodies, to collaborate for improved policy coherence, localised and equitable outcomes.

[3] Climate finance for just energy transition pathways

C40 [research](#) has found that out of 63 global, national, regional and private sources of finance and funding for climate action, only 16 were dedicated to just transition measures, and only 3 funds provide direct access to cities. Furthermore, the lack of common principles, metrics, and allocation criteria for just transition finance has a knock-on effect on cities' ability to plan and implement inclusive climate action at scale. Yet, to increase the effectiveness of climate policies, [IPCC](#) emphasises that national and international finance must support just transition programmes at the state, regional and city levels.

Best practices:

Best practices for facilitating access include two case studies from South Africa. One is the [Municipal JET Support Programme](#), which assesses municipalities' readiness for a just transition, develops viable projects, maps existing resources, and identifies a specific municipal financing window. The other is a programme for local municipalities, supported by [ICLEI's Sustainable Finance Centre](#) and funded by UK PACT, which prepares embedded generation projects for the Development Bank of South Africa's facilities. Finally, the [Inclusive Climate Action Fund](#) provides a blueprint for providing targeted funding for specific climate justice projects in cities.

Key recommendations:

Considering these best practices and the role subnational governments play as just transition implementers, the LGMA requests the following:

- Ensure direct access modalities under global climate funds tailored for subnational governments with simplified application processes and eligibility for just energy transition measures - including small-to-medium scale community projects, energy efficiency, retrofits, renewable energy and energy poverty programmes. This should also support workforce development policies, targeted energy programmes and social protection measures for those most affected, in particular low-income and marginalised communities, as well as energy-sector workers, including those in the informal sector.
- Establish clear principles and metrics for just energy transition finance that prioritise localisation and require subnational government engagement, social dialogue, rights-based approaches and locally-grounded equity assessments as mandatory criteria for successful project selection to ensure interventions are suited to local realities and to unlock energy action at the local level.

[4] Capacity-building and knowledge sharing

Subnational governments, despite their limited powers, are proactively implementing labour market policies to reskill and upskill workers and convene stakeholders to harness inputs and empower them as decision-makers to shape diverse green workforces. They do this through procurement policies that integrate green skills training, offering tax



benefits for green hiring and training, and allocating budgets for equitable green workforce development and local community forums or platforms. Subnationals work towards ensuring these opportunities are locally relevant and accessible to all, including low-income individuals, women, youth, informal workers, and other underrepresented groups who may face barriers in accessing good green jobs or participating in public processes.

Best practices:

Best practices include [Salvador](#) providing free training courses for women from marginalised communities in solar assembly, sales, and construction; [Durban](#) training unemployed youth, women, and disabled individuals in the renewable energy industry and [Curitiba](#) having a specific bidding window for solar installation companies that hire and train women. [Johannesburg's](#) Green Jobs Youth Expo engaged high school and college youth, introducing them to green career skills and paths and offering professional networking opportunities.

Key recommendations:

Considering these best practices and the role subnational governments play as just transition implementers, the LGMA requests the following:

- Parties should collaborate with cities and other stakeholders to scale up successful initiatives, align national policies, curricula, green skills investments, and plans with local green skills needs and through robust community engagement, and integrate clear measures and urban targets for workforce development into their implementation plans of NDCs 3.0, while working with cities under the CHAMP initiative.