

## **Call for Inputs by the Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures**

**Workplan Activity 11:** “Facilitate, exchange and share experience and best practices in the assessment of the environmental, social and economic co-benefits of climate change policies and actions informed by the best available science, including the use of existing tools and methodologies”

**1. Which climate change policy(ies) and actions, informed by the best available science, were assessed for environmental, social and economic co-benefits and what were the co-benefits identified from your assessment? *In response to this question, please:***

- *Define the climate change policies and actions, including scope (e.g. local, sectoral, national, international), category (e.g. mitigation, adaptation) and type (e.g. market-based instrument, regulatory instrument, voluntary programme, mitigation strategy, individual action)*
- *Describe what the environmental, social and economic co-benefits of the policies and actions are according to the assessment*
- *Specify how the best available science informed the assessment*

Climate Strategies’ ongoing South-to-South Just Transitions project (overview [here](#)) brings together nine research partners in countries in the global south to develop alternative, and context-specific approaches to just transitions in each country, and create a platform for south-to-south cooperation and knowledge sharing.

Our South-to-South Just Transitions findings are relevant to the work of Workplan Activity 11 for two key reasons.

1. Firstly, the project focuses on identifying the social, economic, and environmental co-benefits of implementing just transitions in specific develop country contexts, in addition to political, economic, and social barriers to implementation.
2. Secondly, the project is unique in that it uses co-creation and co-production to identify the co-benefits of just transition policies in a manner that foregrounds south-to-south knowledge development and capacity strengthening. The project findings are therefore relevant to furthering the process of sharing and exchanging best practices related to just transition policies and co-benefits.

An overview of the assessed policies, and the relevant co-benefits is outlined below. These findings draw from the three countries in our consortium, all of whom have been working on the just transition since 2020. A further six research institutes joined in 2021, and are still in the process of completing research and finalising results. These assessments are largely focused on policies that are still being developed, as it is these policies that have the potential to expand their engagement to include affected groups, thereby increasing co-benefits and reducing distributive and procedural injustices.

**Colombia:** Our partnering institute in Colombia (Fedesarollo) reviewed the Just Transition Strategy that Colombia aims to integrate into their NDC in 2023. The aim of this strategy is to mitigate the impacts on the livelihoods of those affected by the response measures (this policy focuses on adaptation and mitigation strategies at the national level). In considering the current NDC, Fedesarollo found that key stakeholders have thus far been excluded from the NDC development process. In addition, the current NDCs are affecting coal mining communities in the North of the country, do not consider necessary re-training in their transitions strategies, and could limit the territorial rights of indigenous people. The new Just Transition Strategy has the potential to correct some of these limitations, and generate social and economic co-benefits in the process, by ensuring that communities are adequately financially supported in the transition.

**Indonesia:** The team at the Dala Institute engaged with the National Action Plan (NAP) on the Impact of Climate Change on Labor Sector and Critical Occupational List (COL). This is a national strategy aimed at responding to mitigation measures. In developing the NAP, the Bureau of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Manpower (MOM) is planning to respond to Just Transition issues by inviting other units within the MoM and relevant ministries to gather their inputs. The COL aims to map out the jobs that are disappearing and those that are emerging. As such, these policy developments have the potential to support re-training and diversification to create social, environmental, and economic co-benefits.

**Ghana:** The team at the University of Ghana considered public reactions to the National Climate Change Policy and Strategy, finding that while many of the traditional council leaders, government agencies, and informal workers, have a reasonable understanding of climate change, few people had an awareness of potential injustices associated with climate policies. Recommendations from the research included involving traditional councils and informal workers in future policy development to maximise environmental co-benefits related to the nature conservation, as well as to increase the potential economic benefits of a transition for the large informal economy.

**Recommendations for assessment informed by the best available science:**

Our methodology enabled country teams to co-create findings by engaging with those most impacted by just transition policies, as well as the policymakers and other relevant stakeholders, which constitutes an important and cutting-edge research approach to policy assessment. The project employs co-production on two levels, 1) as our teams co-create knowledge by engaging with those impacted by the implementation of response measures to inform national just transition dialogues, and 2) by researchers across diverse countries in the Global South engaging with one another to find commonalities, differences and shared opportunities for just transition policies in the Global South.

The South to South Just Transitions project has so far not used quantitative analytical tools to assess the co-benefits of just transition policies. There is a specific research gap in terms of the use of quantitative methodologies to assess *just transition* policies, particularly using a systems approach. Future research could benefit from engaging participatory systems modelling approaches to help multisector and multi stakeholder communities of practice develop a shared understanding of the economic and non-economic co-benefits of the just

implementation of response measures. Research on positive social tipping points has so far predominantly focused on social-technological systems and the agency of policymakers to tip change.<sup>1</sup> Further work is needed to consider the opportunities for positive tipping points across social-technological-ecological systems and the potential for multiple actors and interventions to trigger them.<sup>2</sup> As the potential co-benefits of just transition policies may be underestimated by traditional approaches to economic analysis, such as cost benefit analysis.<sup>3</sup>

The S2S JT project has revealed that national just transition strategies have the potential to generate significant co-benefits, but further research is needed to explore, quantify, and compare the co-benefits of the just transition strategies, ideally using a participatory systems analysis approach.

**How such assessment was conducted? Were there any standards used? What are challenges and opportunities, and lessons learnt from these assessments? In response to this question, please elaborate on:**

- *The assessment approach (e.g. qualitative and/or quantitative)*
- *The tools and methods used for the assessment (e.g. surveys, models)*
- *The factors considered in selecting the assessment approach and data collection*
- *The challenges and opportunities in, and lessons learned from, each step in the process*

Please find below a summary of the approaches taken by our various partners. In this stage of our research, institutions engaged in qualitative methods to map the level of awareness related to just transition and other climate policies among various stakeholders, as well as the coordination and communication between stakeholders. This type of stakeholder focused research is essential to process of understanding best practices for both a) exchanging knowledge between academic institutions, civil society, government ministries, and private stakeholders to develop a shared understanding for the development of climate policies and b) sharing knowledge between governments and societies related to the impacts of the implementation of response measures.

| <b>Institution</b>         | <b>Tools and Methods Used</b>   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Dala Institute (Indonesia) | Held webinars with various government ministries (summarised in pp.2-3 in the final country <a href="#">report</a> ) in order to assess their level of understanding and intra-government coordination on just transition policies. Current methodologies include reviewing |

<sup>1</sup>Economics of Energy Innovation and System Transformation Consortium (2021) *The New Economics of Innovation and Transition: Evaluating Opportunities and Risks*. Available at: <https://eeist.co.uk/download/557/>

<sup>2</sup>Lenton, T., et al. (2022) "Operationalising positive tipping points towards global sustainability", *Global Sustainability*, 5, pp. 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1017/sus/2021.30>

<sup>3</sup>Economics of Energy Innovation and System Transformation Consortium (2022) *Ten Principles for Policymaking in the Energy Transition: Lessons from Experience*. Available at: <https://eeist.co.uk/download/932/>

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|------------------------|---|
|                        | government data and published interviews, engaging with stakeholders at G20 Bali, and holding co-productive workshops.  |
| University of Ghana    | The research involved interviews and surveys to understand diverse stakeholders' awareness of climate policies and just transition policies. The first stage of the study involved a random-sampling of workers engaged by the informal sector in two peri-urban districts in the Greater Accra Region, comprising of equal numbers of males and females. The second stage of the study included interviews with a) Governmental institutions involved in climate change policy development and implementation issues, and b) public and private institutions and organizations involved in the protection of workers' rights and interests. The third stage involved interviews and data collection from 4 traditional leaders in two local councils (representing the Ghanaian traditional states). Further details are on p. 9 of the final country <a href="#">report</a> . |
| Fedesarollo (Colombia) | Interviews and engagements with senior officials from the Ministry of Climate Change and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development to understand differing levels of engagement with just transition thinking in developing climate policy. The team also used co-creative workshops and capacity building seminars to engage with senior officials. Workshops with academics, NGOs, and civil society were used to harvest findings on responses to the just transition policies outside state-led institutions. More details are available on pp.4-5 of the final country <a href="#">report</a> .  |

Given the project's emphasis on co-creation, a key criteria for selecting approaches was considering a) which groups were most implicated by just transitions policies, b) which groups had the most power to implement just transition policies and c) what strategies could be effectively tailored to engage the relevant groups. For example, the Dala Institute in Indonesia found that government stakeholders were most responsive to informal, in-person discussions about the just transitions, while academics were most likely to engage in the co-creative process through virtual webinars. On the other hand, the University of Ghana used in-person interviews with informal transport workers and council leaders, given limited access to online survey technology. As a result, the research methodology and data collection was tailored to the needs of the groups who were most impacted by, or most able to affect, just transition policies in order to ensure a plurality of voices in the research process.

Please find below an outline of the steps taken in this research process, with associated opportunities, challenges, and lessons learned.

- 1. Bringing together research institutions from all over the world to engage in discussions on just transition research.** Challenges included diverse understandings of justice, and varied government instruments and processes to combat climate change. As a result, a key finding was that there is no 'one size fits all' approach to just transitions in developing countries; both the 'just' and the

'transition' part of strategy must be tailored to and defined by each individual country in order to maximise potential co-benefits.

2. **Conducting research and government interviews to assess existing climate policies and understand how these policies may enable the positive co-benefits of a just transition.** This programme has highlighted the importance of local knowledge, expertise and contacts through the in-country partners to place people at the centre of just transition. By collaborating and co-producing climate strategies they can also address current and potential co-benefits. Challenges included disparate information, as well as the need for increased funding to hold more engagement events.
3. **Using surveys, webinars and interviews with stakeholders to assess diverse understandings of justice in relation to mitigation policies and strategies.** One of the biggest challenges in assessing just transition strategies and policies in developing countries is the high incidence of the informal economy – which looks different in different contexts and must be engaged with in a way that suits the context. Overall, developing approaches that were tailored to each stakeholder in each country was a challenging process, but ultimately generated fascinating results, as stakeholders shared a diversity of opinions related to existing climate policies, anxieties about future policies, and potential benefits or impacts of national climate plans.
4. **Sharing findings with relevant stakeholders to improve awareness of the potential barriers to and co-benefits of enabling a just transition.** We learned the importance of establishing and maintaining relationships with relevant stakeholders to enable ownership of just transition in a specific national dialogue, in order to inform climate policies. Challenges included developing multiple engagement plans for varied stakeholders to increase awareness across different levels of society.

**What actions were/are/will be taken based on the co-benefit assessment and what specific measures taken to maximise the co-benefits if any? *In response to this question, please specify:***

- *How the results of the assessment have informed the policymaking process*
- *How the results of the assessment have incentivized further action to maximize the co-benefits*

The research from the S2S JT project has informed several key policies. The Just Transition concept was included in the presidential debate in Colombia, with support from Fedesarollo. The Dala Institute has also used this research to contribute to Indonesia's Long-Term Strategy for Low Carbon and Climate Resilience 2050. The project findings have also been publicised online, including in an overarching [report](#) (which includes additional findings from new country partners). Additional reporting includes an op-ed in [Reuters](#), a think piece in [Energy Monitor](#), and an addition to the [Handbook of Climate Change Management](#).

Efforts to tailor and maximise the co-benefits of just transition strategies are being enabled by increased stakeholder engagement. Our country partners are presently working on national engagement plans, government toolkits, and investment outlines to consider how

governments could implement just transitions pathways and increase co-benefits of national just transition policies. Co-benefits could additionally be maximised by increased complexity modelling to quantify the long-term economic co-benefits of just transitions, in order to support evidence-based policy making in this field.