

WWF Submission:

Call for Inputs by the Katowice Committee of Experts Forum on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures (KCI)

25 September, 2020

1. Background

The 3rd meeting of the Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures (KCI), will happen virtually from 5-9 October, 2020. Inputs from experts are invited to implement some activities in the KCI's 2020-25 workplan. The two activities which are to be considered for implementation by the KCI at its 3rd meeting are:

- <u>Exploring approaches to inform</u> the development and implementation of climate change mitigation strategies, plans, policies and programmes that maximize the positive and minimize the negative impacts of response measures;
- <u>Enhancing the capacity and understanding of Parties</u>, through collaboration and input from stakeholders, on the assessment and analysis of the Implementation of Response Measures to facilitate the undertaking of economic diversification and transformation and just transition

The KCI invites submission with respect to above activities on:

- <u>Potential knowledge products and case studies</u> related to the two activities that could inform the work of the KCI; and
- <u>Potential stakeholders</u> that could collaborate with the KCI on implementing these two activities.

Scope of the submission:

The forum identifies four areas of work programme, namely: Economic diversification and transformation; Just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs; Assessing and analyzing the impacts of the implementation of response measures; and Facilitating the development of tools and methodologies to assess the impacts of the implementation of response measures. WWF would like to present inputs and recommendations on two of the four areas identified: **Just Transition of the workforce and Economic diversification and transformation**.

2. KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Approach just transition as an economic and social transition. A Just Transition is a timely, participatory and well-supported transition to a system in which nature and people live in harmony. It should not be a concept focused only on job replacement and creation and instead must include the consideration of the social implications of the transition across all sectors and communities.
- 2. Study and strengthen linkages between mitigation actions and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), so as to maximizing the synergies and maximize the positive and minimize the negative impacts of response measures by studying and strengthening such linkages.
- 3. Consider how NDCs can provide an important avenue to link Just Transition and SDGs. Chile's nationally determined contribution (NDC) presents an example of how the two can be linked during the process of designing and enhancing NDCs.
- 4. Incorporate key lessons from existing case studies on just transition:
 - a. Run a transparent and inclusive process;
 - b. Share information in a timely and open manner;
 - c. Engage the community;
 - d. Engage with labour and wider societal partners;
 - e. Invest in educating and re-skilling of workforce;
 - f. Ensure integration along multiple level of governance be guided and linked to national and global policies and frameworks but at the same time be relevant and responsive to national and local contexts;
 - g. Ensure benefits of transition are felt widely while costs neither unfairly burden the vulnerable nor are passed onto future generations.
- **5.** Draw upon cases showcasing economic diversification and transformation of regions currently dependent on coal.
- 6. Engage with wider stakeholders in line with an economy-wide transition. It will be important to reach out to social partners (including labour), academia as well as local government to ensure wider stakeholder engagement, broad participation, evidence-based planning and commitment to implementing just transition.
- 7. Prioritise developing case studies from developing countries on both just transition as well as economic diversification and transformation, to understand the challenges faced in planning and implementing just transition.

3. WWF Reflections, Recommendations and Proposed Case Studies for the 3rd KCI Meeting

1. Just Transition: beyond 'just jobs' to societal transformation

WWF sees Just Transition as an economic and social transition - a vision echoed by other leading voices on the concept¹. A systemic transformation across society is required in order to tackle climate change and avoid the worst impacts - impacts which will in turn most negatively affect the most vulnerable. It must therefore not be a concept focused only on job replacement and creation and instead must include consideration of the social implications of the transition across all sectors and communities.

A Just Transition is a timely, participatory and well-supported transition to a system in which nature and people live in harmony. It is a socially and environmentally sustainable transition, consistent with and linked to international climate commitments and the SDGs.

At the global level, this implies equitable burden sharing between high and low-income countries on the basis of respective responsibilities and capabilities. Within countries and at even more granular geographies, the transformation should also be fair such that the Just Transition implies the implementation of a fair framework of accountability for damage and a fair investment in the sustainable and healthy future of regions, their workers and communities.

At the local level the Just Transition must be a central aspect of the systemic transformation away from fossil fuels. Even where the latter brings overall net benefits, the costs may be felt disproportionately by some groups and areas. System-wide strategies to implement a Just Transition should emphasise place-based plans and must also be developed at a local level if they are to be effective and deliver targeted assistance where needed the most. Local authorities have a better understanding of the issues within the territory concerned and should be at the heart of the Just Transition process as well as the local companies, workers and civil society.

2. Maximizing the positive and minimizing the negative impacts of response measures: Linking NDCs and SDGs

Maximizing the positive impacts (synergies) and minimizing the negative impacts (trade-offs) of response measures is a crucial dimension of the KCI's mandate. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C states that *"Mitigation options consistent with 1.5°C pathways are associated with multiple synergies and trade-offs across the [SDGs].* While the total number of possible synergies exceeds the number of trade-offs, their net effect will depend on the pace and magnitude of changes, the composition of the mitigation portfolio and the management of the transition".² Thus mitigation measures cannot be seen in isolation but rather they can only pursue Just Transition if they cognizantly work towards realising the SDGs as well. We believe that the KCI can benefit from various initiatives currently underway for exploring synergies and trade-offs between climate action through the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and SDGs to inform its work.³ These initiatives speak to the KCI's mandate of informing the development and implementation of climate change mitigation strategies, plans, policies and programmes that maximize the positive (synergies) and minimize the negative impacts (trade-offs) of response measures. However, the 2020 Social Progress Index⁴, compiled by the US non-profit group Social Progress Imperative

¹ International Trade Union Confederation Just Transition Centre, Just Transition: a Business Guide, May 2018, p.2

² IPCC, 2018. IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C: Summary for Policymakers, D4.

³ In particular, see NDC Partnership. NDC-SDG Linkages 2020. <u>https://ndcpartnership.org/climate-watch/ndcs-sdg</u>

⁴ Social Progress Index 2020. Available online at <u>https://www.socialprogress.org/</u>

(SPI), concludes that SDG fulfilment is 62 years behind schedule and could be delayed further by Covid-19. Inability to reduce global GHG emissions significantly would severely undermine the realization of various SDGs. We therefore strongly urge the KCI to study response measures linkages with SDGs, particularly in the context of Just Transition. We highlight the Chilean NDC further below to emphasize that this is feasible. In particular, mitigation actions linkages with the following SDGs should be particularly studied and guidance on how to strengthen them be made available to the parties:

SDG 5 - Gender Equality: Only 1 % of NDC climate activities mention a gender equality dimension.⁵ This lack of synergies is surprising as the importance of access to energy for women's empowerment as well as for building their adaptive capacity has been well recognized. One of the reasons for this could be lack of adequate knowledge as well as tools for gender analysis to both assess and articulate the key role that energy plays in enhancing women empowerment and livelihoods. In particular, as a system, the energy sector comprising institutional framework, infrastructure and various actors involved in its supply chain has not been adequately studied from the lens of gender.

SDG 8 - Decent work and Economic Growth: Just over 4 % of NDC activities connect to SDG 8, specifically through two of the ten targets under SDG 8: target 8.4 (improve global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation) and target 8.1 (sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances).⁶ More research is needed to identify what measures can be undertaken to reduce GHG emissions while promoting decent work and sustainable economic growth.

SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities: Recent studies show that inequality is on a rise and can fuel societal discord. Oxfam's report, 'Time to care' shows that 22 richest men have more wealth than all the women in Africa. The Covid-19 Pandemic has also thrown socio-economic inequities in sharp relief. In recovering from this pandemic, we need to simultaneously reduce GHG emissions and inequality. However, reducing inequalities is featured in only 30 climate activities submitted by countries in their NDCs. It is not feasible to realise a Just Transition without acknowledging and addressing systemic inequities in our societies.

SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities: A crucial avenue to enhance inclusiveness and equity in day-to-day realities of ordinary citizens are cities and other human settlements. At the same time urban areas are a major contributor to GHG emissions. Without changing urban construction practices, equity and inclusiveness will continue to remain elusive quests for a large portion of our population. Transforming urban living experience provides an opportunity for just transition and climate action to be seen as a felt reality rather than abstract constructs.

SDG 13 - Climate Action: In SDG 13, climate change has an avenue to explicate linkages between NDCs and SDGs. however, while it is not surprising that all NDCs are bound to have some degree of connection with SDG 13, only 6 % of activities directly correspond to this goal.⁷ A reason for this is that the SDG targets are relatively narrow and focus on adaptive capacity, policy mainstreaming and education and awareness, whereas not all NDCs speak to adaptation. Another reason behind this finding is that mitigation activities are spread across other SDGs, particularly SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy). Pursuing ambitious climate action provides an important avenue to pursue SDG simultaneously. This is especially visible in the approach undertaken by Chile which showcases the importance of setting institutional framework for undertaking a Just Transition to a global low carbon society.

SDG 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions: As climate events become more and more frequent, it will increase migration and can fuel resource wars, creating pressure on global governance architecture to maintain global peace. Yet, this SDG connects with the smallest number of NDC activities. Faltering global governance architecture and increasing uncertainty on account of Covid crisis

⁵ See NDC-SDG Connections: SDG 5 <u>https://klimalog.die-gdi.de/ndc-sdg/sdg/5</u>

⁶ See NDC-SDG Connections: SDG 8 <u>https://klimalog.die-gdi.de/ndc-sdg/sdg/8</u>

⁷ See NDC-SDG Connections: SDG 13. <u>https://klimalog.die-gdi.de/ndc-sdg/sdg/13</u>

need renewed investment in global governance architecture to ensure peace and justice for all.

3. Case Studies on Just Transition that could inform the work of the KCI:

A number of case studies already exist that could inform the work of the KCI on Just Transition. However, there are a number of potential case studies that the KCI can undertake as part of its mandate to draw on work being carried out elsewhere. In this section, we provide a summary of some existing case studies and also list potential case studies for the KCI's consideration.

A) Existing case studies:

I. Key lessons for Just Transitions that reverse nature loss⁸ (WWF, *Forthcoming in 2020*)

WWF believes that Just Transition is a timely, participatory and well-supported transition to a system in which nature and people live in harmony. Reversing nature loss requires transformative change across economies and society in which nature is valued and recognised as the foundation for our future development. This will involve key sectors responsible for nature loss (e.g. agriculture, infrastructure, extractives, fisheries, forestry and finance) transitioning to more sustainable models that protect and restore nature. They will need to be 'Just Transitions'. This report draws on stories of change that reverse nature loss: Economic transitions to a green economy in Costa Rica and to a sustainable blue economy in Seychelles; in Agriculture, removing agricultural subsidies in New Zealand and Switzerland and greening of the European Union Common Agricultural Policy; Promoting sustainable shrimp farming in Vietnam and shifting millions of small holders to sustainable agriculture in China; Integrating ecosystem services into infrastructure development planning in Kenya; and restoring forests in China. The study concludes that Just Transitions to reverse nature loss need to simultaneously be both socially and environmentally sustainable transitions and should:

- 1. Transform the key sectors that significantly contribute to nature loss, to make them work for people, nature and the climate.
- 2. Be guided by a common vision with clear and realistic timelines (10 years plus) and targets linked to national and global policies and frameworks.
- 3. Be developed and implemented through inclusive participatory processes with clearly defined decision-making procedures. This should include the full and effective participation of IPLCs, women, youth and other marginalised groups.
- 4. Establish coherent and integrated policies and approaches across economic, environmental and social realms to enable the transition.
- 5. Establish integrated institutional mechanisms to facilitate implementation.
- 6. Be informed by quality quantitative, transparent and objective analysis.
- 7. Ensure that the benefits of transition are felt widely and the costs do not unfairly burden those whose livelihoods are directly or indirectly affected by the transition and the costs are not passed onto future generations.
- 8. Mobilise dedicated funding (public and private) that can be accessed on a rolling basis.
- 9. Where relevant encourage international collaboration.
- 10. Embrace innovative and adaptive approaches.
- 11. Be relevant and responsive to national and local contexts.

II. Just Transition to climate neutrality: doing right by the regions⁹ (WWF 2020, link)

This compilation report from February 2020 brings together the studies and findings from WWF's engagement in - and collaboration with local stakeholders on - Just Transition in coal regions in Germany (the Ruhr, which began its transition in the 1960s, to see the final mine close in 2018), Bulgaria, Poland

⁸ Based on WWF, Forthcoming. "Reversing Nature Loss: how can we ensure a just transition?"

⁹ WWF, 2020. Just transition to climate neutrality: Doing right by the regions. Germany. Available online at <u>https://regionsbeyondcoal.eu/just-transition-to-climate-neutrality-doing-right-by-the-regions/</u>

and Greece. Based on these studies, it proposes five policy recommendations that can be applied for delivering a just and comprehensive transition away from coal at regional, national and European level. These policy recommendations are:

- 1. Provide clear policy direction, including ambitious coal phase out dates and consensual timeline-based transition strategy.
- 2. Clear, objective analysis underpinning timelines and long-term strategies.
- 3. Ensure adequate, targeted financial and policy support for the transition.
- 4. Focus on real economic diversification that drives sustainability and resilience.
- 5. Involvement of all stakeholders particularly local stakeholders and communities in the process for designing transition plans.

III. South Africa - Vision and Pathways for a Just Transition 2050 (2019, link)

In 2015, South Africa was the only country to refer to just transition in its 2015 NDC. South Africa's National Planning Commission (NPC) convened a two-year process to develop pathways upto 2050 for a low-carbon economic and climate resilient future for the country through an initiative bringing together social partners (government, labour, private sector and civil society), experts and communities for a series of dialogues on a 2050 vision and best Pathway(s) for a Just Transition. The aim was to develop consensus and plot different paths to transition to low carbon society that also addresses the triple challenge of poverty, inequality and unemployment. It prioritised just transition in three sectors. water, energy and land-use.

The NPC convened Social Partners dialogues in all nine provinces of South Africa using a *bottom-up approach* for engaging strongly with communities and complemented them with community meetings, constituency roundtables, bilateral meetings, and a concluding conference in 2019. The NPC process used the ILO definition and guidelines on just transition, adopting a broad approach for the Just Transition to a low carbon, climate resilient economy and society, that also includes defending and protecting the rights of the most vulnerable, including women, children, people with disabilities, those that are poor and the working class more broadly. Some of the key critical approaches that it identified for a just transition are:

- 1. Just Transition must be considered from an economy and society-wide perspective
- 2. Collaboration, partnership and good governance are central for achieving a Just Transition. Participation of all stakeholders, especially labour is a must.
- 3. Political will essential to enable support of vertically integrated policies and regulations
- 4. Investing in education and re-skilling of workforce.

The process has reached agreement on following immediate actions:

- Negotiation and development of Labour and Social plans for the decommissioning of coal-fired power stations;
- Pilot the planning for a Just Transition in two hotspots: the mining belt of Mpumalanga from energy and mitigation perspective; and the province of Free State from impacts on agriculture sector perspective; and
- The Presidential Commission on Climate Change should be the institutional home for taking Just Transition work forward with a broader definition that goes beyond jobs.

IV. EU Platform on Coal Regions in Transition

In 2017, the EU launched the *Platform on Coal and Carbon-Intensive Regions*, for connecting and sharing best practice between coal regions undergoing the transition from coal. Civil society criticised its early lack of transparency, as well as a lack of clarity on the direction of the transition being discussed (notably due to terms of reference¹⁰ which did not clearly represent EU climate and energy policy objectives and ultimately phasing out of coal). Under the umbrella of the Europe Beyond coal Campaign,

¹⁰ Available online at <u>https://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/crit_tor_fin.pdf</u>

prominent NGOs came together to produce the Seven Golden Rules for open and inclusive just transition planning at the regional level.¹¹ The seven golden rules to follow in the transition process are:

- 1. Invite openly: Publicise intention to start planning early and in multiple, accessible locations.
- 2. Be inclusive: Ensure all partners are included in teams implementing the just transition.
- 3. Give equal status: All partners be given equal status and voting rights at all stages.
- 4. Share information: Provide all partners with the same information, on and at same time.
- 5. Allow feedback: Establish clear and transparent feedback routes.
- 6. Go public: Ensure minutes of all meetings are made public within 2 weeks.
- 7. Engage the community: Facilitate community and public engagement.

Important improvements have been made since the introduction in early 2019 of a dedicated Secretariat, run by a consortium of 4-think tanks, consultancies and NGOs. This format has both assured relative independence of the platform from the stakeholders involved and has led to greater transparency, direction of discussion and institutionalisation of the Platform. Clear direction has been enhanced by the clear recognition and adoption by the EU of a target of climate neutrality by 2050 and the implied phase out of coal. The experience of the coal platform illustrates the benefit of best practice and support sharing platforms, but also shows the need for transparency, the benefit of an independent and impartial secretariat as well as the value and necessity of clear agreement on transition direction and objectives early on.

V. EU Just Transition Platform (2020, link)

The EU Just Transition Platform serves as an umbrella organisation for the Coal Regions in Transition Platform and the new Energy Intensive REgions Platform. The Platform recognises the need to talk about Just Transition more holistically, across sectors and not just in coal regions. While early in development, it will hopefully provide a useful (online) hub of information, best practices, case studies and links. WWF hopes that it will boost transparency and be used to host publications of the national just transition plans and share experience with implementing just transition processes and projects supported by public funds.

VI. Tripartism and Social dialogue (ILO, 2020, link)

The ILO aims to assist member States in establishing or strengthening legal frameworks, institutions, machinery or processes for sound industrial relations and effective social dialogue in member States. It also aims to promote social dialogue among member States and regional or sub regional groupings as means of consensus building, economic and social development, and good governance. It supports the development of knowledge on global industrial relations, in particular the actors and institutions involved in cross-border social dialogue and agreements. The tripartism and social dialogue platform provides an avenue for sharing experiences between employers organisations, trade unions and governments and exploring interlinkages through its Decent Work for Sustainable Development (DW4SD) resource Platform.

B) Potential case studies that the KCI should consider undertaking

I. Chile's updated NDC: Novel approach to link just transition and the SDGs (2020, link)

Chile's updated NDC recognizes the importance of aligning the climate and sustainable development agendas. It includes an innovative social pillar that ties together mitigation, adaptation, and integration commitments, focusing on simultaneously realising a just transition and the SDGs. As part of this component, Chile commits to guide implementation of its NDC actions based on a criteria comprising of: synergies with the SDGs, with each commitment contributing to the fulfillment of one or more SDG; just transition needs; water security; gender equality and equity; cost-efficiency; nature-based solutions; inclusion of both scientific and traditional knowledge of indigenous people and local knowledge systems,

¹¹ Available online at https://beyond-coal.eu/2019/07/15/seven-golden-rules-for-open-and-inclusive-just-transition-planning-at-the-regional-level/

where available; and participation of citizenry. In addition, by 2021, Chile intends to develop a 'Strategy for Just Transition' that protects rights of the most vulnerable during the decarbonisation process and ensures active participation of citizens in both its design and implementation.

We recommend that the KCI analyses Chile's approach to develop its NDC and draws key lessons to inform other Parties to the Paris Agreement on developing NDCs that link Just Transition and the SDGs. This will facilitate the development of coherent and integrated policies and approaches across economic, environmental and social realms to enable the transition.

II. Lessons from the measures undertaken to offset the impact of Covid response measures

The Covid-19 crisis has exposed and exploited existing socio-economic fault lines and held up a mirror to our unsustainable practices that extract huge costs from our natural world, and yet, fuel inequality across the planet. The response measures to slow down the spread of Covid-19 are extracting huge costs from the marginalised in different parts of the world, rendering hollow any justification for the current socio-economic structures that privilege short-term economic gains over securing long-term resilience and public goods. Given that all countries are dealing with the fallout of this global crisis, Covid response measures provide an opportunity for the KCI to study and compare the impact and ramifications of transitions that are enforced with or without consideration of varied socio-economic contexts and equity considerations. We recommend that in the upcoming meeting of KCI, parties should also reflect on the learning derived from the measures undertaken to offset the impact of Covid response measures and the applicability of the experience to just transitions.

III. Case studies on Economic Diversification and Transformation that could inform the work of the KCI:

WWF sees existing studies on economic diversification and transformation as an important repository of information to inform just transition work. In particular, understanding the challenges faced by different regions in diversifying away from coal is particularly relevant for the KCI's work. The following case studies present studies undertaken to understand the impact of economic diversification in some European countries. While these cases are important we are also aware of the paucity of the cases from developing countries and therefore recommend that KCI should undertake case studies to understand the complexities of undertaking such economic diversification and transformation in developing countries while also aiming to realise various SDGs.

A) Existing case studies

I. Regions Beyond Coal (WWF 2020, link):

Sustainable economic diversification is an essential part of building social and economic resilience to systemic shocks. However, as each locality faces different challenges, opportunities and histories - and therefore different potentials – a place-based approach to planning and implementing economic diversification strategies is needed. In 2018-19, WWF commissioned three studies in coal regions of three European countries to analyse the impacts of different development scenarios on social and economic indicators. They illustrate the value of thorough, place-based, objective economic analyses of alternative development scenarios and show that, in general, a focus on sustainable economic diversification is beneficial both economically and socially for the regions in transition. These studies are summarized below:

II. From restructuring to sustainable development: The case of Poland's Upper Silesia (2018, link)

The viability of coal mining in Silesia, Poland was analysed from an economic perspective up until 2050, coupled with an examination of the social and demographic impacts. The objective was to inform pathways that the region of Silesia could develop in the context of the inevitable decline of coal while pursuing various societal goals, namely raising GDP per capita, reducing and ending depopulation and ageing of the region, improve quality of life by reducing air pollution, poverty, and unemployment. The study showed that the energy transition is in any case inevitable, primarily driven by market forces and

not policy decisions, and that targeted intervention to diversify the economy sustainably was needed to improve all target indicators.

III. Just Transition development scenarios: Coal-mining regions in southwest Bulgaria (2019, <u>link</u>)

This study was developed in coordination with various institutions and organizations affected by the transition in the region; including local and regional authorities, trade unions, business, national institutions and the non-governmental sector. It examined three economic development scenarios for the coal mining municipalities in the region of South West Bulgaria: maintaining the status quo; taking advantage of internal opportunities to diversify sustainably, and; realising a creative upgrade of the region with the inclusion of foreign investment. The study found that decarbonisation policies and measures could actually become drivers of sustainable economic growth and social progress in the region. It highlighted the untapped value of natural resources other than coal, namely over 150 protected areas including two of the country's three national parks, which could favour the development of tourism, organic farming, sustainable forestry and fishing.

IV. Roadmap for the Transition of Western Macedonia in Greece to a post-lignite era (2016, link)

This report was developed by the University of Athens. It included an examination of the current and historical role of lignite in Greece, the region's economic development profile, demographics and geographic characteristics, alongside a consideration of existing initiatives, recommendations and proposals by local stakeholders and organisations. The report analysed the potential of six different economic development scenarios for Western Macedonia. These scenarios included an "inaction scenario" including further lignite unit construction, versus "mild", "medium" and "strong" sustainable development scenarios over a 15-year time period. An input-output analysis at regional level regarding job opportunities and local added value demonstrated that even a mild sustainable development scenario, focusing on the primary sector (e.g. saffron production) with support from the secondary sector (renewable energy, waste management and energy efficiency, etc.) and some ecotourism and academic research in the region generated almost the same number of jobs as those that will be lost from shutting down the lignite thermal power stations ("Inaction scenario") and a higher Local Added Value (LAV).

Potential strategic stakeholders:

We would like to suggest following potential strategic stakeholders and initiatives for the consideration of the KCI:

I. The Just Transition Center, ITUC

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and partners established the Just Transition Centre in 2016. The Centre has a useful repository of reports on Just Transition from the perspective of trade unions The Just Transition Centre works with stakeholders to accelerate the Just Transition processes through: **Empowering workers and their allies** through sharing examples of Just Transition processes and plans, facilitating peer-to-peer skill and experience sharing, and capacity building on Just Transition; **Documenting** best practice in social dialogue processes through interviews, videos, reports and case studies; **Starting and supporting social dialogue processes** involving unions, communities, government and business, with participation from investors and expert; and providing **Strategic input** to national and global policy dialogues and planning on Just Transition.

II. The SHAPE Project

The Sustainable development pathways achieving Human well-being while safeguarding the Climate and Planet Earth (SHAPE) project a) investigates interactions between options to mitigate climate change and the broader agenda of the UN SDGs, and b) models and analyses Sustainable Development Pathways that simultaneously achieve the SDGs in 2030, maintain sustainable development thereafter, and meet the climate targets set out in the Paris agreement. The project is led by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and is currently undertaking development of the Sustainable Development Pathways through a co-designing process with a variety of stakeholders.

III. The Global Covenant of Mayors and the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments

Recently the Global Covenant of Mayors and the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments called for addressing the root causes of social and racial injustices and have expressed their willingness to work with those creating change to ensure health, safety and opportunity of all city dwellers around the world. As we move towards implementing just transition in our economies, participation of subnational governments and cities would be crucial to realise multiple objectives simultaneously. We encourage working with both these initiatives to develop ownership of both economic diversification and transformation; and just transition agenda.

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