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► A Just transition in the textile and garment sector

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Just Transition
Toolkit for the
Textile and
Garment Sector

Reducing the footprint? How to assess carbon emissions in the garment sector in Asia

- Carbon emissions across the sector significant - 6-8% of global emissions
- Paris Agreement – challenge to limit warming to 1-5-2 degrees. Globally emissions will need to reduce by 45% by 2030.
- Fashion sector stakeholders have come together, forming the UNFCCC Fashion Industry Character for Climate Action – committing to 30% emissions reduction by 2030 on 2015 base year.



Employment impacts of decarbonisation



- Emissions reduction require system-level changes in production and consumption of textiles and garments.
- This will likely have significant impacts on how, where and the employment associated with this production.
- How do we ensure a *Just Transition*

The ILO Just Transition Guidelines

– Green and inclusive



ILO Guidelines for a just transition to environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all

There is considerable potential for creation of decent work associated with the transition to a low-carbon sustainable development path and to minimize and manage the inevitable dislocation that will accompany it.

Guy Ryder, Director General ILO



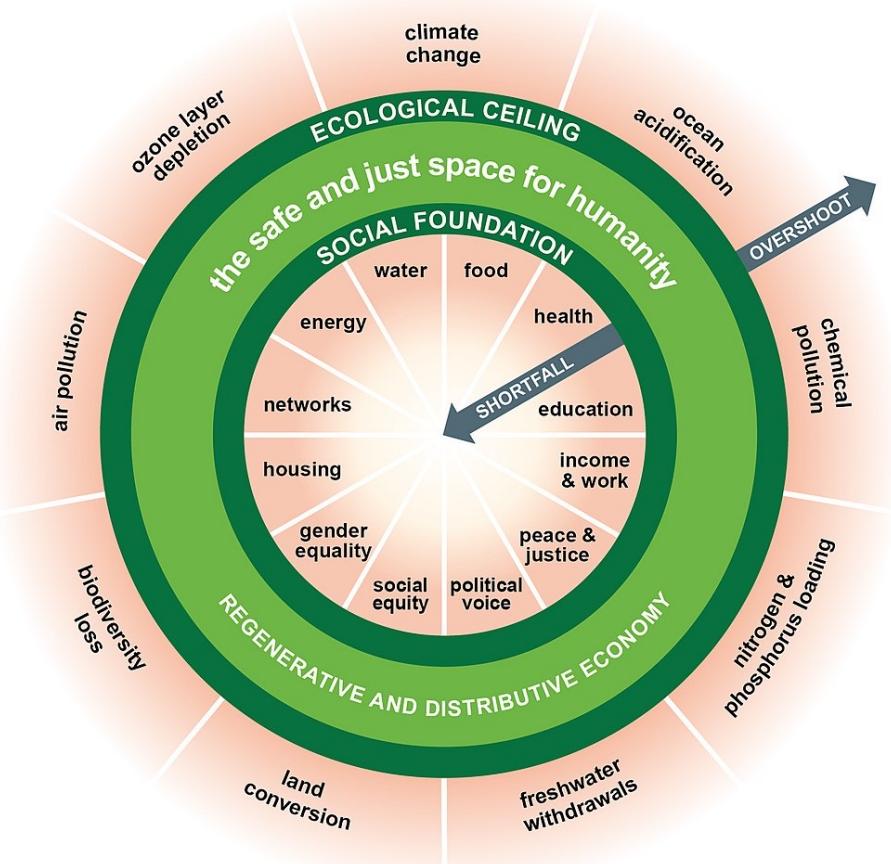
Opportunities and challenges of a Just Transition

Opportunities

- New employment, and opportunities to create decent employment
- Improved job quality
- Social inclusion – equitable access to clean energy, and environmental services

Challenges

- Economic restructuring away from carbon intensive industries – displacement of workers, job losses
- Creating pathways between brown and green industries and jobs
- Need for enterprises and workers to adapt to climate change
- Compounding impacts of climate change on livelihoods of vulnerable



Where are systemic levers for change for the garment sector

- How to **share the costs and benefits of enhanced environmental sustainability** across the value chain – we need new mechanism given the limited effectiveness of existing ‘top-down’ models in creating impact.
- **Policy, regulation and incentives play a clear role** in encouraging environmental sustainability but need to **develop availability and market for knowledge intensive services and businesses**
- How to **focus on and build capacity with SMEs?**
- Different partners will have (new) roles in contributing to Just Transition - Do they have the **capacity** for that?

► SMEs and barriers to environmental sustainability

- **Awareness:** lack of awareness about environmental issues and their impacts including social impacts; as well as awareness of options for eco-innovation, and how could be integrated into strategic business planning activities and contribute to productivity and competitiveness
- **Environmental regulatory compliance:** responsibilities in complying with environmental legislation, and know-how in investing beyond compliance
- **Access to knowledge, skills and networks:** seeing how best practice is implemented in other businesses and capacity to adapt and adopt
- **Access to finance:** affordable and accessible
- **Poor infrastructure:** access to water systems and waste water filtration systems

Just transition toolkit for the garment sector

What role can the toolkit play?

- **Building awareness of the need for a Just transition strategy for the sector**
 - Meeting Paris Agreement and SDGs significant challenge for the sector.
 - Emissions reduction 30-45% by 2030, net zero at 2050. Other changes to production and consumption systems – e.g. circularity.
 - What will the garment sector look like in 2030 and 2050?
- **Characterizing the significant employment impacts – positive and negative**
 - start to identify and understand these impacts, how they will affect workers and enterprises, and how to plan for best outcomes.
- **Building capacity of actors and frameworks for dialogue and collaboration**



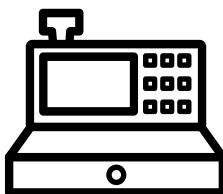
Role for key actors in transition

Governments



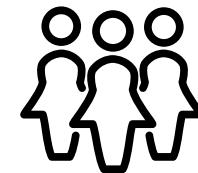
Using recovery measures to help green industry, support innovation and collaboration; use regulatory and other incentives to strengthen sustainability

Industry and firms



Exploring and implementing innovation at all levels of the supply chain and developing capacities for collaboration

Workers



Enhanced role in protecting workers in recovery and transition and recognizing the key role workers play in innovation and sustainability adoption.



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▶ **Thank you!**

