
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Introduction to just transition of work force, decent work and quality, jobs in context of response measures

East-Africa region awareness creation workshop to maximize the positive and minimize the negative impacts of implementation of Climate Change response measures
30th September – 2nd October 2019



Vintura Silva, Team Lead, UNFCCC RCC-St. Georges
UNFCCC secretariat

Outline

- Concept of Just Transition
- Policies for Just Transition
- Key messages from technical paper



Just transition

In the global transitions to a low-carbon, greener economy, it needs to be ensured that

- the employment effects and dynamics are understood well
- policy areas and institutional arrangements need to be identified to address issues related to the wellbeing of the affected workers



Decent Work and Quality Jobs

- productive and delivers a fair income,
- security in the workplace and
- social protection for families,
- better prospects for personal development and social integration,
- freedom for people to express their concerns,
- organize and participate in the decisions that affect their lives and equality of opportunity and treatment for all women and men.



Opportunities in lights of the Paris Agreement

- Job creation
- Job upgrading
- Social justice and poverty eradication
- New investment, new industries and new infrastructure
- Cleaner technologies and industrial processes



Challenges in lights of the Paris Agreement

- Job losses
- The absence of appropriate government policies, funds and structures for just transition
- Lack of formal social dialogue mechanisms
- Insufficient support for retraining, reskilling and formalization of work for vulnerable workers



Key policy areas

- Macroeconomic and growth policies
- Industrial and sectoral policies
- Enterprise policies
- Skills development
- Occupational safety and health
- Social protection
- Active labor market policies
- Rights
- Social dialogue and tripartism

* (ILO resolution on sustainable development, decent work and green jobs):



Examples of policies at place, on international and national level

- ILO. 2015. Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all
 - The European Union. Relevant policies on impacts of labor markets of low-carbon development, and opportunities for the creation of green jobs and of green investments
 - South Africa. 2012. National Climate Change Response white paper
-



Key messages – Technical Paper on Just Transition

- ❑ Securing adequate and decent employment for all jobseekers is one of the biggest challenges globally
- ❑ Vulnerable sectors to response measures are agriculture, energy and energy intensive industries which are also biggest employers
- ❑ The **impacts of mitigation measures** on employment are both positive and negative;
- ❑ **Assessment** of these impacts need to be done, both ex-ante and ex-post;
- ❑ **Quantitative impacts**: job creation, substitution, elimination and, transformation and redefinition
- ❑ **Qualitative impacts**: adequate incomes, social protection, safe working conditions, respect for rights at work and effective social dialogue;
- ❑ A **just transition framework** introduced in the paper could be used by environmental policy makers to consider for a just transition of its national workforce to maximize the positive impacts and minimize the negative ones.



United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Thank you !

<https://unfccc.int/topics/mitigation/works-teams/response-measures>

