

▶ The pathways and lessons learned leading to a Just Transition Work Programme

About the side-event

Since the 1970's the concept of Just Transition has evolved massively. The 2015 ILO Guidelines on Just Transition, the Paris Agreement preamble, and this years' 111th ILC Resolution and Conclusion on Just Transition are just a few of the milestones leading up to the development of the Just Transition Work Programme at COP28. Meanwhile, climate and environmental change is quickly becoming the largest threat to poverty reduction, decent work, gender equality, sustainable development and social justice. Approximately half of the world's GDP is dependent to a greater or lesser extent on nature and the sustainable management of ecosystem services. This includes 1.2 billion jobs in farming, fisheries, forestry and tourism. People living in poverty, including women and indigenous peoples, are often disproportionately dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods and food security.

This event comes in the aftermath of a landmark at the 111th International Labour Conference's discussion on a just transition, which cemented the link between the work of ILO and its constituents on just transition in relation to the UNFCCC. This session will not only take stock of the development of just transition in the UN framework, but particularly bring in the lessons' learnt and insights made from governments, social partners and other key actors in the just transition space. Thereby, this session will take stock of just transition efforts and seek policy coherence between the ILO and UNFCCC policy processes on just transition. It will also centre gender equality and women's meaningful engagement and benefits from a just transition, including from decent jobs.

This side-event is organized by the ILO with the support of UNFCCC, UN WOMEN, United Nations University - Institute for Natural Resources in Africa, YOUNGO, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), International Organisation of Employers (IOE).

Time and date

December 9, 2023 | 13.15-14.45 | SE Room 2 (175 pax)

Programme and speakers

► Moderator

Mr. Moustapha Kamal Gueye, Director, Priority Action Programme on Just Transitions, ILO

► Opening and setting the scene (10 min)

Ms Fatima Denton, Director, United Nations University – Institute for Natural Resources in Africa

► Government and social partners experience from the ground (50 min)

- **Ms Zakia Khattabi**, Minister of Climate, the Environment, Sustainable Development and Green Deal, Belgium
- **Ms Barbara Creecy**, Minister of Forestry and Fisheries and Environmental Affairs, Republic of South Africa
- **Dr Jemimah Njuki**, Chief of Economic Empowerment, UN Women
- **Mr Roberto Suárez Santos**, Secretary-General, International Organisation of Employers
- **Ms Alison Tate**, Director, Economic and Social Policy, International Trade Union Confederation

► Partnering for impact (20 minutes)

- **Ms Maria Reyes**, queer Mexican climate and human rights activist, Fridays for Future MAPA (Most Affected People and Areas)
- **Ms Zainab Bie**, Indian climate action advocate and economic policy researcher, Fridays for Future MAPA (Most Affected People and Areas)
- *Indigenous Peoples Representative (IPO)*
- *Human Rights (RINGO)*

► Closing (5 minutes)

Mr Nassim Oulmane, Acting Director Technology, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Run of show

Time	Description
13:15-13:25	Opening and setting the scene by: Ms Fatima Denton, Director, United Nations University – Institute for Natural Resources in Africa
	Government and social partners experience from the ground

13:25-13:35	<p>Ms Zakia Khattabi, Minister of Climate, the Environment, Sustainable Development and Green Deal, Belgium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could you provide insights into specific policies and initiatives that have been implemented to support a just transition in Belgium and Europe more generally? What policy frameworks are in place and what progress has been made so far, and are there any notable successes or challenges encountered?
13:35-13:45	<p>Ms Barbara Creecy, Minister of Forestry and Fisheries and Environmental Affairs, Republic of South Africa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Africa is one of the countries central to the global decarbonization agenda. Transitioning to more sustainable practices often requires new skills and capacities. How has South Africa approached capacity building and skills development, especially with a focus on inclusivity and gender equality, in the energy, forestry and fishery sectors?
13:45-13:55	<p>Dr Jemimah Njuki, Chief of Economic Empowerment, UN Women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women and marginalized groups often face specific barriers in accessing opportunities. What are the main barriers, and how can they be effectively addressed in the context of a just transition? What innovative solutions or policies can successfully mitigate these challenges, ensuring equitable participation and benefits?
13:55-14:05	<p>Mr Roberto Suárez Santos, Secretary-General, International Organisation of Employers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are employers addressing the interconnected challenges of a just transition, encompassing initiatives for workforce reskilling, sustainable economic development, and the promotion of gender equality?
14:05-14:15	<p>Ms Alison Tate, Director, Economic and Social Policy, International Trade Union Confederation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the perspective of the trade unions, what are the key challenges encountered in promoting a just transition, and conversely, what opportunities do you see emerging?
14:15-14:20	Time Buffer
Partnering for impact – Main discussants	
14:20-14:25	<p>Ms Maria Reyes, queer Mexican climate and human rights activist, Fridays for Future MAPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can just transition policies better incorporate gender and LGBTQ+ inclusivity, acknowledging and addressing the distinct vulnerabilities and opportunities these communities face amid economic and environmental changes?
14:25-14:30	<p>Ms Zainab Bie, Indian climate action advocate and economic policy researcher, Fridays for Future MAPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the context of just transition, how can we empower local communities, especially in developing countries, to take the lead in shaping and implementing transition initiatives that are tailored to their specific circumstances?
14:30-14:40	Time buffer

14:40-14:45	Closing remarks: Mr Nassim Oulmane, Acting Director Technology, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
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Practicalities

We ask that all speakers please join us at the event 15 minutes before.