UN Environment Management Group Nexus Dialogue

Greening with Jobs: A Just Transition to Sustainability

23 October 2018, 9.30 – 17.00

Venue, International Labour Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

Room IX

Background

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides a transformative vision for people and planet-centred, human rights-based, and gender-sensitive sustainable development policy for more sustainable and resilient societies. Production and consumption activities and decent jobs depend on the use of natural resources and the services provided by natural ecosystems as well as human workforce. The greening of economies will enhance our ability to manage natural resources sustainably, increase energy efficiency and reduce waste, while addressing inequalities and enhancing resilience. The Sustainable Development Goals can only be achieved if the transition to green economies is inclusive, providing opportunities for decent work for all, reducing inequalities and effectively eliminating poverty. A just transition to green jobs requires that we leave no one behind.

The global efforts to transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies have profound social and economic repercussions on different groups of people and over time in all countries and at all levels of development. For this reason, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change adopted in 2015 calls for "*Taking into account the imperatives of a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs in accordance with nationally defined development priorities*".

In the same vein, ILO constituents representing governments, workers and employers' organizations adopted in November 2015 a set of Guidelines for a just transition to environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all[1]. These Guidelines offer a policy framework and a practical tool to ensure that responses to climate change advance employment creation, social justice and fair transitions for workers, enterprises and communities. Therefore, the concept of sustainability is a call for social justice within and between national borders and generations. Social justice realized through inclusive and sustainable development can guarantee that human societies are resilient and can generate a lasting and shared improvement in living conditions.

[1] Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all, ILO (2015)

Objectives

This Nexus Dialogue aims to contribute to a common understanding of the concept of just transition, establish a global platform to share national and international experiences in the practical application of greening with jobs and just transition in national contexts; and foster support by both public and private stakeholders for social justice in the fight for environmental sustainability. It will explore the potential of innovative financial solutions and mechanisms to create scalable and effective ways of channelling both private money and public resources towards just transition. It will also consider the interlinkages of just transition with gender equality, human rights, indigenous people's rights, migration, innovation, technology, education and poverty. The outcome of the dialogue will be captured in 10 key messages to guide policy advice, future research, partnerships, and advocacy.

Structure and Content

The Nexus Dialogue will be a one-day public event consisting of a high-level segment and a technical component. It would start with a high-level opening by UN senior officials and Geneva-based Ambassadors, followed by technical sessions among UN agencies and representatives of governments and social partners, research and civil society organizations with sessions on 1) Country experiences; 2) policy dialogue on promoting jobs and protecting people; and 3) dialogue on innovative financing for just transition.

Draft Agenda

Date: 23 October, 2018
Time: 9.30 – 17.00
Location: International Labour Organization Office in Geneva, Switzerland, Room IX

9.30 – 10.00 **Registration & welcome coffee**

10.00 – 10.15 **Opening of the Dialogue**
Room IX

Mr. Moustapha Kamal Gueye, *Coordinator, Green Jobs Unit, ILO* - @ILO
Mr. Hossein Fadaei, *Head of the Environmental Management Group - @UN_EMG*

10.15 – 11.30 **PLENARY SESSION: High-level Panel on Just Transition**
Room IX

Ms. Nazhat Shameem Khan, *Ambassador to the UN in Geneva, Fiji* – @nazhatskhan_ and @FijiGeneva
Ms. Laurence Monnoyer-Smith, *General Commissioner for Sustainable Development, France* @lmonsmith

Mr. Nikhil Seth, *Executive Director, UNITAR*
@NikhilSethUN_ and @UNITAR

Mr. Jamil Ahmad, ***Deputy Director, New York Office, UN Environment***
@UNEnvironment

Moderator: **Mr. Vic Van Vuuren,** *Director of the Enterprises Department, ILO*
@ILO

11.30 – 11.45 **Coffee Break**

11.45 – 12.45 **SESSION 1: Country Experiences: Just Transition in Practice**
Room IX

Ambassador to the UN in Geneva, Philippines
Mr.German Proffen, *Minister, Permanent Mission of Argentina*
Ambassador to the UN in Geneva, Indonesia
Ambassador to the UN in Geneva, El Salvador
Ambassador to the UN in Geneva, Canada
Ms. Laura Martin Murillo, *Policy Advisor on Just Transition, Spain*
Moderator: **Mr. Steven Stone**, *Chief of Economy and Trade Branch, UN Environment*
@UNEnvironment

12.45 – 14.00 **Lunch Break** *(Cafeteria located in R2)*

14.00 – 15.15 **SESSION 2: Policy Dialogue: promoting jobs, protecting people, building consensus**
Room IX

Ms. Stefania Tripodi, *Human Rights Officer, OHCHR*
@UNHumanRights
Ms. Dunja Krause, *Research Officer, UNRISD*
@dunjamarie and @UNRISD
Ms. Alicja Kacprzak, *Forestry Officer, FAO UNECE*
@UNECE
Mr. Vicente Paolo Yu, *Coordinator, Global Governance for Development Programme, South Centre*
@South_Centre
Moderator: **Ms. Kusum Lata Jain**, *Team Lead, Response Measures Unit, UNFCCC*
@UNFCCC

15.15 – 15.30 **Coffee Break**

15.30 – 16.30 **SESSION 3: Innovative financing for just transition**
Room IX

Mr. William Irwin, *Investing in a just transition – global project, LSE Grantham Research Institute*
@willirwin and @gri_lse
Mr. Christopher Beaton, *Senior Policy Advisor with GSI and Lead for the India Program, IISD*
@chrisbeaton3 and @globalsubsidies
Mr Jose Miguel Solana, *Senior Technical Officer Microinsurance, Social Finance Unit, ILO*
@ILO
Moderator: **Ms. Alison Tate,** *Director of Economic and Social Policy, ITUC*
@ituc

16.30 – 17.00 **CLOSING**
Room IX

Mr. Hossein Fadaei, *Head of the Environmental Management Group*
Mr. Vic Van Vuuren, *Director of the Enterprises Department, ILO*
Ms. Ms. Laurence Monnoyer-Smith, *General Commissioner for Sustainable Development, France*