JUST TRANSITION

Just transition differs in the African context because it is not only about minimizing the negative impacts of climate actions. It is also about maximizing development and prosperity from transformation actions.

The transition will be different in different contexts. In Africa, it is critical to distinguish between fossil fuel dependent countries and non-fossil fuel dependent countries.

- **Fossil fuel dependent** countries will have to make decisions on stranded assets and the related impacts (i.e. power plant closures, decommissioning, informal and formal workforce, limited social protection availability).
- **Non-fossil fuels dependent** countries have the potential of leapfrogging or skipping fossil fuel driven economy and pursuing a renewable, sustainable economic model.

The African Development Bank Group defines the Just Transition concept as a framework for facilitating equitable access to the benefits and sharing of the costs of sustainable development such that livelihoods of all people, including the most vulnerable, are supported and enhanced as societies make the transition to low carbon and resilient economies. A Just Transition affirms Africa’s right to development and industrialization based on the Paris Agreement-negotiated language of equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances.

The African Development Bank established a just transition initiative on December 2021 with technical and financial support from CIF to investigate just transition in an African context - considering the challenges, opportunities, and impacts for Africa. To meet this objective, a series of roundtables with wide-ranging stakeholders from various sectors and regions in the continent were established.

Three roundtable events were conducted in 2021, defining a concept of just transition that was fit for Africa, discussed ways to go from theory to action, and highlighted overarching challenges and opportunities for financing a just transition in Africa.

For further context, a high-level technical report indicating how just transition may be contextualized and considered for Africa was produced.

For more impact and to share new-found knowledge a capacity building workshop conducted for the internal Bank staff. The Bank presented its initiatives findings and experiences in different stages such as the following events: World Bank InnoovateClimate, Chatham House, Africa Climate Week, COP27, MDB working group etc..

A just transition technical working group at the African Development Bank has also been created as part of this initiative to facilitate the development of a Just transition framework.

The framework will to support just transition in the Bank’s operational priorities, mainly in projects with RMCs. The goal of the framework is to ensure that just transition is advanced at the country/project level and that just transition-led projects can be identified efficiently and effectively.