



POLICY DIALOGUE SERIES

SOUTH AFRICA AND INDONESIA – A SHARED COMMITMENT TO A JUST ENERGY TRANSITION

G20 SIDE-EVENT AND POLICY DIALOGUE SERIES ON-LINE

From July to November 2025



BACKGROUND

South Africa's G20 Presidency: An opportunity to elevate action for a just energy transition

Over the past four years, countries in the Global South have hosted the G20 Presidency. Among them, Indonesia, India, Brazil, and South Africa. South Africa's G20 Presidency for 2025 represents an important opportunity to shape global energy transition narratives and steer action towards a greater focus on social justice and dialogue, particularly for coal-reliant economies in the Global South. The country has taken a prominent role in advocating for a Just Energy Transition, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while leveraging the opportunity to create jobs and address socio-economic challenges in coal-reliant communities. During its presidency, South Africa can draw on its experience with the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP), which mobilized international financing to shift from coal to renewable energy, as a framework for broader global discussions. South Africa can position itself as a leader advocating for inclusive energy transitions that leave no one behind, provided that developing economies receive adequate financial and technical support.

South Africa and Indonesia: A shared commitment to a just energy transition

The transition away from coal presents both pressing challenges and transformative opportunities for countries that depend on coal for energy and employment. In coal-dependent economies such as Indonesia and South Africa, achieving a just energy transition means not only reducing emissions but also safeguarding livelihoods, promoting social inclusion, decent jobs, and sustainable enterprises, and creating new pathways for sustainable development.

South Africa and Indonesia share a significant reliance on coal and concerns about the impact of coal phase-down on employment and social inclusion. In South Africa, the coal industry employs tens of thousands of workers and plays a central role in its energy security, with over 80% of electricity generated from coal. In Indonesia, the coal mining sector directly employs around 150,000 workers, while its broader economic impact touches a wider segment of the population through indirect employment and economic activities related to the industry. Moreover, both countries have demonstrated their commitment to ensuring that coal mining regions are not left behind as they transition to cleaner energy systems. Additionally, both have leveraged partnerships, such as the Just Energy Transition Partnerships - JETP, to secure funding and technical support for their transitions. In both countries, social dialogue with workers organizations, employers and business member organizations, and civil society has been central to designing just transition policies. Both nations are investing in reskilling coal workers and creating new economic opportunities in renewable energy and other sectors. For both South Africa and Indonesia, a provincial/local focus is important to ensure broad social dialogue and stakeholder engagement and targeted support.

OBJECTIVES OF THE DIALOGUES

This virtual South-South policy dialogue series on a just energy transition is proposed as:

- An opportunity to discuss just energy transition between countries under the theme of South Africa’s G20 Presidency Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability as means for promoting robust, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth,
- A cross-country dialogue on PAGE in South Africa and Indonesia as well as within PAGE collaboration with other countries,
- A platform to foster south-south collaboration and enhance capacities among countries in the Global South and PAGE practitioners and policymakers on a just energy transition, including in coal mining regions, and
- An opportunity to showcase the added value of dialogue and knowledge-sharing processes for a just energy transition.

This dialogue series emerged from country exchanges held on the sidelines of the PAGE 2023 Global Green Economy Academy. It builds on ILO work under the Partnership for Action on Green Economy, supporting the Government of South Africa in advancing the Just Energy Transition. It also builds on work done by the ILO in Indonesia in the framework of the “Innovation Regions for a Just Energy Transition (IKI-JET)” project. This project supports Indonesia by accelerating just energy transitions (JET) away from coal to renewable energy and other sustainable economic activities with a focus in the regional level.

FORMAT AND CONTENTS

The virtual policy dialogue series will be organized during South Africa’s G20 presidency, as a series of monthly online exchanges from July to November 2025 between policy makers and practitioners in South Africa and Indonesia. The first dialogue on Thursday 3 July is a G20 side event.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

	<p>Dialogue 1 and G20 Side event:</p> <p>Just transition in coal mining regions in Indonesia and South Africa</p> <p>3 July 2025</p>
<p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Social dialogue for a just transition in coal mining regions</p> <p>7 August 2025</p>	
<p>Dialogue 3:</p> <p>Skills development for a just transition in coal mining regions: Workplace dynamics, new and emerging enterprises</p>	

4 September 2025
Dialogue 4: Financing the just energy transition 2 October 2025
Dialogue 5: The Energy Transitions Working Group progress on just transition in coal-dependent economies 6 November 2025

All dialogues take place at 9 AM Johannesburg time, 14 PM Jakarta time. All dialogues have a duration of 90 minutes.

TARGET GROUP

Participants will be selected from institutions, including but not limited to:

- Policy makers at the national, provincial and district level in Indonesia, South Africa and other G20 countries
- Workers' representatives and employers' representatives at the national, provincial and district level in Indonesia, South Africa and other G20 countries
- Experts and practitioners working on energy transitions at the national, provincial and district level in Indonesia, South Africa and other G20 countries

LANGUAGE

The learning and knowledge sharing event will be organised in English and Bahasa Indonesia.

HOW TO REGISTER

Interested participants can register to the policy dialogues by filling in the online registration form available at: https://itcilo-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/zzCUSREQR9y8znIWrqXP_g by 30 June 2025.

In case you need support, please contact: greenjobs@itcilo.org

ABOUT THE DIALOGUES

The virtual policy dialogue series is organized by the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE). The PAGE programme is supported by funding from the European Union, Finland, Germany, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Arab Emirates.

PAGE is working closely with the Presidential Climate Commission (PCC) and the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) of South Africa. PAGE works closely with the Ministries of National Development Planning (BAPPENAS) and the Ministry of Finance in Indonesia.

The virtual policy dialogue series is facilitated by the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization.

