



WORLD SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT 2022

**TOWARDS A RESILIENT PLANET:
ENSURING A SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE FUTURE**

February 16-18, 2022 (Virtual)



People Centric transition- An Indian Perspective- Just Transition

THEMATIC TRACK SUMMARY

Venue: Sariska

Date: February 16, 2022

Time: 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM (IST)

Suggested Citation

World Sustainable Development Summit (2022), People Centric transition- An Indian Perspective- Just Transition, Thematic Track Summary (Rapporteur: Kartikey Sharma), New Delhi: The Energy and Resources Institute.

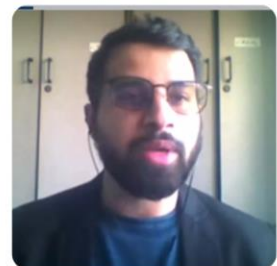
Actionable Messages

Message 1: India needs to be very cautious in its approach towards retrofitting policies and amalgamating them into their local framework. While just transition has success in different parts of Europe, same formula can't work in India

Message 2: India needs to start looking beyond coal and focus on just transition efforts across the fossil fuel landscape, not just coal

Message 3: The nation needs to mobilize its trade unions in order to garner favorable perspective within the eyes of the key stakeholders on ground.

Message 4: Maintaining gender equality and adhering to the social capital of both land and community relations must be a priority for the local government.



Narrative

The session largely focused on how given the emission leakage, India needs to start moving beyond the coal narrative and focus on just transition efforts across different fossil fuel industries. This will help the policymakers create a regularized and common framework that can seamlessly be implemented across different frameworks. The latter half of the session focused largely on capacity building, education and how reskilling techniques must include all the stakeholders in order to avoid information asymmetry and make sure that everyone partakes in the developmental process.

Dr Brian Motherway, Head, Energy Efficiency and **Ms Ghislaine Kieffer**, Policy Analyst from International Energy Agency focused their presentations on the four pillars of just transition developed by the organization on Decent jobs and worker creation, Social and economic development, Equity, social inclusion and fairness and finally on People as active partners.

Ms Anupam Nidhi of Hindustan zinc limited stressed on the principles of training and skilling, expanding on how these tools will empower individuals and give them the freedom to choose their line of work, rather than have the market forces of the area determine the livelihood. **Ms Jesse Burton**, senior Associate of E3G, South Africa summarized the just transition efforts going on in South Africa, and how the nation is basing the transition policies on the sociological theories of 'Justice'.

Additionally, **Professor Pradip Swarnakar** Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur brought to light the importance of expanding the research of just transition in India and developing workable frameworks that can seamlessly integrate themselves within the nation's political economy.

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People are at the heart of just transition, and thus must be part of its development in order to achieve an equitable transition. We need to empower the principle of energy democracy and align all our policies in line with that concept.

Dr Brian Motherway
Head, Energy Efficiency, IEA

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Over 30 million people working in the fossil fuel industry globally will need to be skilled as we move towards the phenomenon of just transition. Thus, we need to put requisite policies in place for their development and sustenance. Subsidies for coal can be redirected to enhance skills training and entrepreneurship development.

Ms Ghislaine Kieffer
Policy Analyst, IEA

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We need to reskill both teachers and students alike to enable the development of a sustainable capacity building framework. Culmination of skills training in line with national missions such as make in India and digital India can help in the commercialization of the job sector.

Ms Anupam Nidhi
Head Corporate Social Responsibility, Hindustan Zinc Limited

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We hope the South African Just Transition story can help inspire the world in its quest to achieve this phenomenon. The South African Just Transition framework strictly adheres to the notion of procedural, distributive and restorative forms of justice.

Ms Jesse Burton
Senior Associate, E3G South Africa

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We are focusing on creating new job opportunities from forests and agriculture to mitigate the losses from climate change, aiding in the creation of new livelihood opportunities.

Mr Gulab Chandra Prajapati,
Damodar Bachao Abhiyan

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The developing nations need to start diverting their research capabilities towards trying to understand the intricacies of just transition and its impact on the local community. We need to replicate just transition frameworks from across the world and mold them with respect to the socio-economic narrative of our nation.

Prof Pradip Swarnakar
Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur