Institutional Review for Just Transition in Mpumalanga Province

Just Transition Alignment Workshop
May 12, 2023
Background

• South Africa's economy and energy systems are among the most coal-dependent globally

• Ambitious national plans to transition to a low-carbon economy with a focus on social justice and minimizing adverse impacts on communities, workers, and the economy

• Multiple levels of government and stakeholder involvement: Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE), Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE), Presidential Climate Commission (PCC), and others

• Mpumalanga Province: 80% of national coal production and over 70% of South Africa's total value added from coal, making it a critical region for just transition efforts
Study Objectives

**Review**
- Review of institutional structures, policy frameworks, and capacities at provincial and local levels in Mpumalanga

**Identify**
- Identify challenges and constraints within existing institutional structures and policy frameworks, and recommend measures to address them

**Develop**
- Develop a deeper understanding of the roles of provincial and local governments, related government agencies, private sector, and civil society organizations in implementing just transition strategies

**Support**
- Support provincial and local government agencies in developing capacity reforms, effective policy and programming decisions, and fostering engagement between different entities involved in just transition efforts
Coordination Structures

Mpumalanga Just Transition and Climate Change Forum

- Multistakeholder coordination forum bringing together government, organised labour, the private sector and civil society to align Just Transition response and incorporate the views of stakeholders into government policy

Technical Working Group

- Coordinate among provincial departments on the Just Transition agenda to unblock challenges through a whole-of-government approach recognising complementary responsibilities of various provincial departments

Just Transition Secretariat

- Based in the Office of the Premier to support the work of the multistakeholder forum as well as the technical working group

Other Structures

Climate Change Forum

- A multi stakeholder coordination forum based in the DARDLEA

Mayor’s Compact

- Collaboration between DARDLEA and Local Government sphere
INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

JUST TRANSITION AND CLIMATE CHANGE FORUM

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP / COORDINATING COMMITTEE

MEMBERS OF TWG

1. Director-General (OTP)  
   Chair Person
2. Heads of Department [DARDLEA, DEDT, DPWRT; DHS; COGTA; DoE]
3. District Municipal Managers [EDM, NDM, and GSDM]
4. DDG, Policy and Governance (OTP);
5. JET and CC Provincial Coordinator (OTP);
6. Economic Special Advisor (OTP);
7. GCA CEO;
8. DWS Provincial Head;
9. DMRE Provincial Head;
10. DALRRD Provincial Head;
11. Representatives from Organized Labour [COSATU, SAFTU and FEDUSA];
12. Representatives from Civil Society;
13. Representative from Institutions of Higher Learning/ DHET (TVET)
14. Chairpersons of the Clusters, i.e. Energy, Circular Economy, Water and Smart Agriculture

FUNCTIONS

1. To facilitate engagements and promote dialogue with all stakeholders in the Province in supporting the Just Transition Programme;
2. To advise the Mpumalanga Provincial Government and the Multi Stakeholders’ Forum;
3. To develop and implement a programme of action in respect of the Just Transition Programme for the Province;
4. To empower communities with relevant information;
5. To monitor all initiatives and responses to the Climate Change and Just Transition Programme; and
6. To liaise between the PCC and the Mpumalanga Provincial Government

Assess structuring within existing structures. Formalise Structure and Workflow.
PROPOSED STAKEHOLDERS

GOVERNMENT
1. Provincial Departments and Public Entities
2. National Departments in Province
3. District and Local Municipalities
4. Mpumalanga House of Traditional Leaders
5. South African Local Government Association

BUSINESS
1. Mpumalanga Business Chamber and its regional affiliates;
2. Mpumalanga Landbou / Agriculture;
3. Black Farmers Association of South Africa;
4. Minerals Council South Africa;
5. ESKOM/ SASOL/ SAPPI/
6. Glencore/ Manganese Metal
7. Company/ Columbus Steel
8. Institutions of higher learning :Universities and Colleges (both private and public)
9. Development Partners

CIVIL SOCIETY
1. Environmental interest groups
2. SANCO
3. Women’s Organizations
4. Organizations for People with disabilities
5. Youth organizations
6. Religious and
7. Traditional Healers’ organizations

LABOUR
1. COSATU and its sector affiliates
2. SAFTU and its sector affiliates
3. FEDUSA and its sector affiliates
4. Solidarity Network
1. Establish clear roles and mandates for key departments:

- Office of the Premier – convening role to coordinate departments and drive priorities. Macro and Strategic planning related to the Just Transition and monitoring and evaluation of policy implementation.

- Department of Economic Development and Tourism – economic policy and development planning related to the Just Transition.

- Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs – climate change technical expertise and environmental policy.

- Provincial Treasury – aligning climate change and Just Transition policy with budgets to ensure prioritization of key policies.

- Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs – oversight of and support to local government.

2. Centralize Coordination and Avoid Duplication:

- Ensure that coordination of just transition efforts occurs centrally, avoiding the duplication of functions.

- Effective coordination requires: clear roles and responsibilities for implementation, leadership from the centre in facilitating and incentivizing cooperation, accountability for those who fail to implement their mandate.
3. Importance of working with and supporting local government:
   • Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs must foster collaboration between municipalities, and provincial departments/agencies for a coordinated and effective approach to the Just Transition

4. Mainstream the Just Transition Across Departments:
   • Incorporate just transition goals and strategies across all sectoral departments. Provincial Treasury must ensure that departmental budgets are aligned with Just Transition policies and plans
   • Build capacity on Just Transition within the Office of the Premier and institutionalize it, ensuring that it becomes an integral part of provincial planning and decision-making
   • Champions as Agents for Change - Advocacy

5. Capacity Building and Training:
   • Address the lack of training and resources for provincial structures and officials regarding climate change and the Just Transition
   • Implement climate change and Just Transition training programs for government officials, focusing on capacity building and information dissemination
Future Plans

• Phase 1: Address immediate organizational needs, establish multi-stakeholder governance mechanisms, and develop inclusive and participatory processes

• Phase 2: Conduct a broader institutional assessment to understand capacity needs, integration of just transition into long-term planning, and provide recommendations for strengthening coordination and improving policy frameworks

• Utilize the Climate Change Institutional Assessment (CCIA) framework for analysis, including desk review, key stakeholder interviews, and primary research
a) “Governance, Coordination and Planning” for a Just Transition

✓ Is MP ready for JT implementation? What additional actions are needed to position the province better?

✓ What would be an effective mechanism for ensuring the participation of provincial departments, national govt, local municipalities, private sector, donors, labor unions, and other stakeholders, to implement a JT in MP?

✓ What additional capacity is needed, and where (at provincial, local)?

✓ What kind of coordination mechanisms are necessary for bringing onboard other social partners, including CSOs, unions, community-based organizations, local communities, etc.?