

Just Transition and trade union participation; the role of social dialogue

Bert De Wel, ITUC
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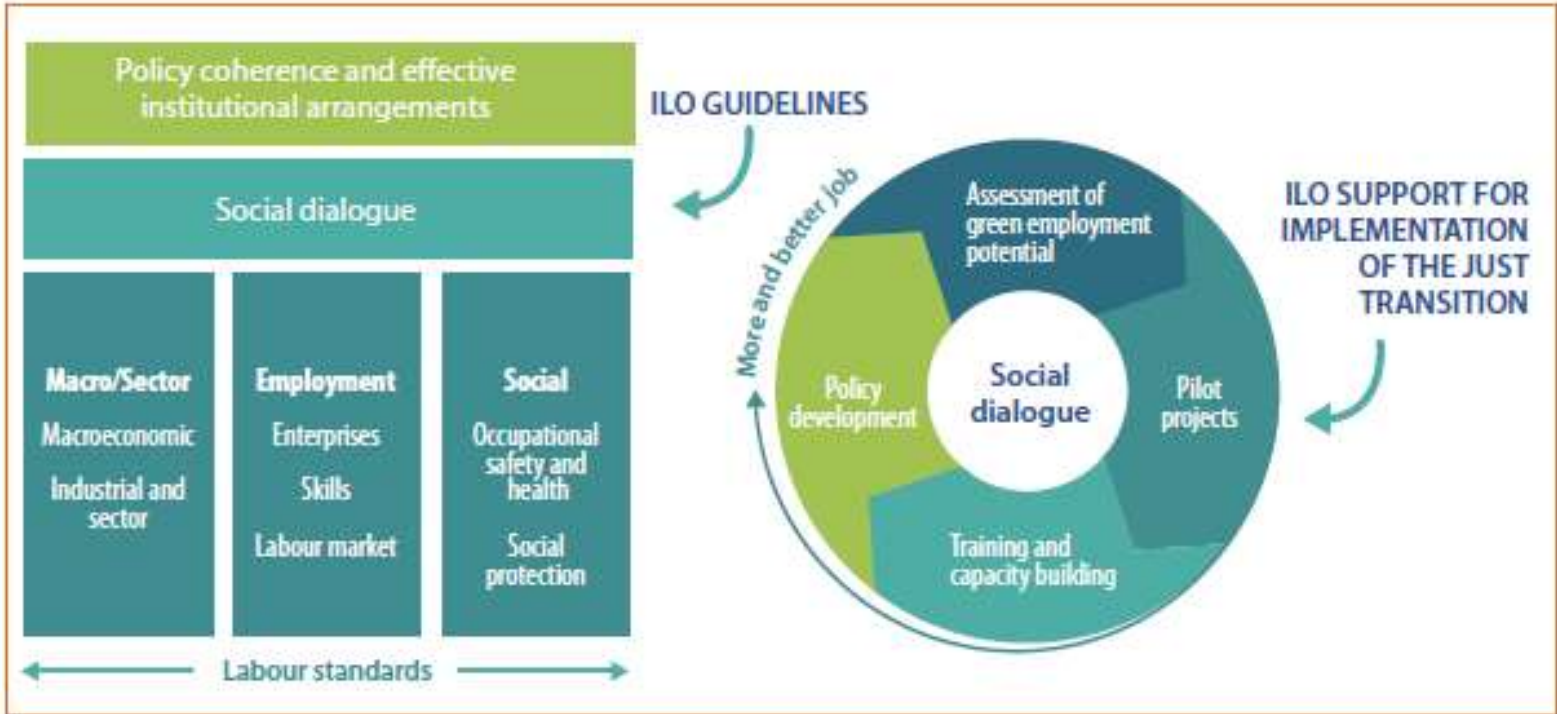
The Contribution of Social Dialogue to the 2030 Agenda

Promoting a Just Transition towards sustainable
economies and societies for all





CHAPTER 1
WHAT IS A JUST
TRANSITION?



Source: ILO

A portrait of Plamen Dimitrov, a middle-aged man with short grey hair, wearing a light blue blazer over a striped shirt. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a blurred indoor setting with large windows.

For former communist countries, a well-managed, well-funded Just Transition is crucial for their sustainable development and the creation of jobs and opportunities for its citizens.

Plamen Dimitrov
CITUB Bulgaria



Climate justice is the biggest imperative facing us. The wisdom and knowledge of frontline workers will be crucial to the success of Just Transition. Ensuring a collective voice of workers is the only way to ensure that there is justice in that transition.

John Cartwright
Toronto Labour Council



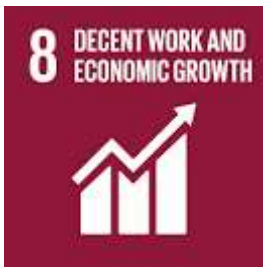
Transitioning from a high carbon to a low carbon economy, achieving the Paris agreement and funding the SDG's can't happen without the private sector and in particular without investment. Pension funds control billions of dollars of retirement savings on behalf of workers and have a key role to ensure that their capital is deployed in a way that considers society as a whole including workers, and the environment.

Fiona Reynolds
Principles for Responsible Investment





CHAPTER 2
A JUST TRANSITION
IN ACHIEVING THE
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS AND IN THE
FIGHT AGAINST
CLIMATE CHANGE



The key role of decent work in the promotion of economic development is highlighted in Goal 8 (*Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all*) and, more specifically, in Target 8.5 (*Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people*). In target 8.4, the 2030 Agenda, proposes action to “improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavor to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation” in a framework of “sustainable development”, “full employment”, “decent work” and “quality employment”.



With rising greenhouse gas emissions, climate change is occurring at rates much faster than anticipated and its effects are clearly felt worldwide. While there are positive steps in terms of the climate finance flows and the development of nationally determined contributions, far more ambitious plans and accelerated action are needed on mitigation and adaptation. Access to finance and strengthened capacities need to be scaled up at a much faster rate, particularly for least developed countries and small island developing States.



CHAPTER 3


THE IMPORTANCE OF
SOCIAL DIALOGUE IN
PROMOTING A JUST
TRANSITION AND ITS
CONTRIBUTION TO
THE ACHIEVEMENT
OF THE SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

In democratic countries, social dialogue (bipartite or tripartite dialogue between workers and **employers'** representative organisations and governments) is a basic tool for managing social conflict. Its main objective is to promote the exchange of information and proposals to achieve a more or less explicit degree of consensus.

As the ILO points out, social dialogue structures have allowed important economic and social issues to be resolved, have encouraged good governance, social progress, peace and stability, and have promoted economic development.

- Full respect for freedom of association, in such a way that workers and employers may freely organise, defend their interests without external interference, and negotiate without pressure, between themselves and with the government, on matters of mutual interest.
- There must be strong, independent and representative trade union and **employers'** organisations.
- Sufficient political will and a sense of responsibility among all parties to engage in social dialogue.

"Costa Rica seeks to inspire all kinds of stakeholders to go beyond «the usual» and be part of this positive transformation, becoming the best version of itself and demonstrating that it is possible to fulfill the commitments acquired in the 2030 Development Agenda."

 **No one left behind**

Decarbonisation and resilience are based on the principles of inclusion, respect for human rights, and gender equality.

Source: Costa Rica National Decarbonisation Plan 2018-2050



CHAPTER 6
CHALLENGES AND
RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE SUCCESSFUL
IMPLEMENTATION OF
A JUST TRANSITION

**CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION
OF A JUST TRANSITION**

1.
The international community needs to make further progress in making a Just Transition operational. An important step would be to include a reference to a Just Transition in the negotiations taking place on the guidelines for nationally determined contributions (NDC) and the definition of new commitments in the framework of the Paris Agreement.

2.
Translate the international commitments into national policies (NDCs) and plans related to the Sustainable Development Goals, etc.

3. Commit to ensuring early assessments of the social and employment impacts of climate change.

4.

Strengthen active employment policies aimed at the most vulnerable groups and territories in order to promote their integration into the labour market.

5.

Ensure retraining and the updating of workers' skills to facilitate a fair and just transition, through measures such as revising the curricula at all levels of education and training, and promoting the dual vocational training model and training for work.

6.

Design a good governance system for Just Transition processes, which must be supported by strong institutions that guarantee its effective implementation.

**CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS
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OF A JUST TRANSITION**

7.
Promote productive investments in the new green production sectors and processes.

8.
Develop and strengthen public industrial policies favouring the transition to a low-carbon, circular production model.

9.
Ensure a transformative and empowering Just Transition that fully incorporates the gender perspective in all areas.

10.

In the area of collective bargaining, the social partners, trade union and employers' organisations can also:

- Promote an increase in the number of Global Framework Agreements
- Promote the creation and effective participation of global works councils
- Encourage the figure of the union delegate with recognised competencies to participate and have access to environmental information.
- Introduce environmental clauses into collective bargaining agreements
- Strengthen information and transparency processes within companies

Thx for your attention!



Bert De Wel

Climate Policy Officer, ITUC

Mail: Bert.DeWel@ituc-csi.org

Twitter: @BertDeWel