



EU BE Presidency **Priority 'Just Transition'**

Input for stakeholders' presentations
CCPIE stakeholders dialogue of 4/07/2023

The four visions of “just transition”

Vision 1: “Holistic”	Vision 2: “Workers-centered”	Vision3: “Social-ecological state”	Vision 4: “Pragmatic business-centered”
<p>The just transition should simultaneously reduce environmental degradations and reduce existing inequalities, while guaranteeing access to fundamental rights for all</p>	<p>The just transition should first focus on workers-related issues and should aim at guaranteeing the perspectives of workers and their access to decent and quality jobs as part of the ecological transition.</p>	<p>The action of the state (taxation, investment and social security) is key in ensuring a just transition. The ecological crises and environmental degradation should be seen as social risks to be mutualized</p>	<p>The just transition should ensure as a “level-playing field” for companies and should aim at guaranteeing the security of supply of energy and materials.</p>
			

Table – Summary of the four visions of a just transition identified in the study : “Just transition visions : An analysis of the perceptions of the Belgian Actors

Conceptual origins

- ❖ The concept of a just transition originated from the U.S. labor movement. In the early 1990s, Tony Mazzocchi, leader of the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers Union, proposed the idea of a 'Superfund for Workers', referencing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's recently-established Superfund program for toxic cleanups.
- ❖ ILO (2015) : « *Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all*»
- ❖ Preamble to the Paris Agreement (2015) : « *Taking into account the imperatives of a just transition for the workforce and the creation of decent and quality jobs in accordance with nationally determined development priorities*»
- ❖ EU Green Deal (2018) : *Leave no one behind*

European Union - Just Transition Mechanism

→ **Linked to DG REGIO and FEDER Funds**

Just Transition Fund

- of €19.2 billion in current prices, is expected to mobilise around EUR €25.4 billion in investments.
- Territorial plans, social dialogue, local needs.
- Aims to support the phasing out of fossil fuels in regions heavily dependent on them (mainly in Eastern Europe)

InvestEU "Just Transition" scheme

- Provide a budgetary guarantee under the InvestEU programme across the four policy windows and an InvestEU Advisory Hub that act as a central entry point for advisory support requests. It is expected to mobilise €10-15 billion in mostly private sector investments.

Public Sector Loan Facility

- Combine €1.5 billion of grants financed from the EU budget with €10 billion of loans from the European Investment Bank, to mobilise €18.5 billion of public investment.

EU BE Presidency : priority 'Just Transition' (1/6)

Objectives:

Organize exchanges and knowledge building on just transition at European level in cooperation with European civil society organisations, administrations, citizens and political representatives.

*Use the momentum that exists regarding just transition in Belgium and Europe to formulate a number of **important signals and concrete proposals to the next European Commission**, the new European Parliament and national governments about possible policy initiatives or reforms that should contribute to the ecological transition of the European economy and society leaves no one behind.*

The insights gained during the States General and during the Conference in Belgium, which are relevant for the European level, can also be raised at this level.

*Following the example of the Sibiu Declaration, we want to obtain a mention of the importance of a just transition in a **'joint statement' by government leaders**.*

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What has been done?

- **Creation of the Ad-Hoc Working Group CCIM-CCPIE**
 - 5-pager approved by CCIM-CCPIE
 - Invitation to recruit experts via template: federal, regions and communities
 - Kick-off meeting of the working group: Thursday, June 15, 2023
- **Contact with European partners**
 - European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)
 - Observatory Social Europe (OSE)
 - Spanish Presidency : Just Transition Institute & Cabinet of Minister Teresa Ribera
 - ...

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European Economic
and Social Committee

- Request for an opinion from the EESC (approved by the CCIM)
- European Economic and Social Committee
 - A European advisory council composed of employers, trade unionists and representatives of social, occupational, economic and cultural organizations
- *Which steps should the EU undertake to realize a more comprehensive just transition policy framework which can deliver on the objective of organizing a carbon neutral, environmentally sustainable, toxic-free and fully circular society and economy by 2050?*

EU BE Presidency : priority 'Just Transition' (4/6)

Program preparation:

- **July 11: Just Transition conference in Valladolid (after informal ENVI council)**
 - => organized by Solidar (European and worldwide network of Civil Society Organisations working to advance social justice through a just transition in Europe and worldwide)
 - => Hosted by Minister Teresa Ribera (Vice-President of the Government of Spain and Minister for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge)
 - => Minister Zakia Khattabi has been formally invited
- **September 20: presentation at the European Alliance for a Just Transition members meeting**
 - => The alliance is a group of civil society, social and environmental movements, and political parties to unite behind a call for immediate, bold, and transformative action at all levels of society to build a sustainable and safe future for all
 - => They approached us and asked for a presentation of the priority Just Transition during our presidency

EU BE Presidency : priority 'Just Transition' (5/6)

Program preparation:

- **October 5-6:** Declaration of Granada
- **October 26-27:** Spanish Presidency's Just Transition Conference
- **December:** reception of the EESC Opinion on Just Transition

EU BE Presidency : priority 'Just Transition' (6/6)

In 2024 during :

- **Round table at the EU Informal Council for the Environment (15-16 January 2024)**
timeslot 'Just Transition':
Debriefing about activities 'Just Transition' by the EU ES Presidency; presentation of EESC Opinion; ministerial 'Tour de table';
- **European Conference for a Just Transition (4-5 March 2024)**
Venue: Palais d'Egmont; Programme: TBD
- **Point AOB at the EU Council for the Environment (25 March 2024)**
Debriefing on the European Conference for a Just Transition
- **Objective: reference in the 'Joint Statement' of HoS/in the EC Strategic Agenda**
(Informal Summit op 13-14 Juni 2024; European Council op 27-28 Juni 2024)



“Many European citizens still do not feel that the ecological transition in the EU is being organized in a fair way. A 2022 Eurobarometer survey on perceptions of the green transition shows that only 50% of respondents think the EU is doing enough for a just transition and only 46% of respondents are confident that sustainable energy, products and services will be affordable for everyone, including poorer people, by 2050.”

Source: *EU BE Presidency – priority ‘Just Transition’ – 5 pager approved by the CCIM-CCPIE.*