Fifth dialogue under the United Arab Emirates Just Transition Work Programme

24 - 25 Apr. 2026
15:00h - 18:00h
Climate Week 3, Korea

Event page, including link to Agenda: https://unfccc.int/event/fifth-dialogue-under-the-united-arab-emirates-just-transition-work-programme

Notes by RINGO attendees

Saturday 24.04, 8:30 Korea Time – plenary (Notes – Kathleen Mar)

General remark: fisheries (“ocean-based action”) combined with (land-based) agriculture in this discussion

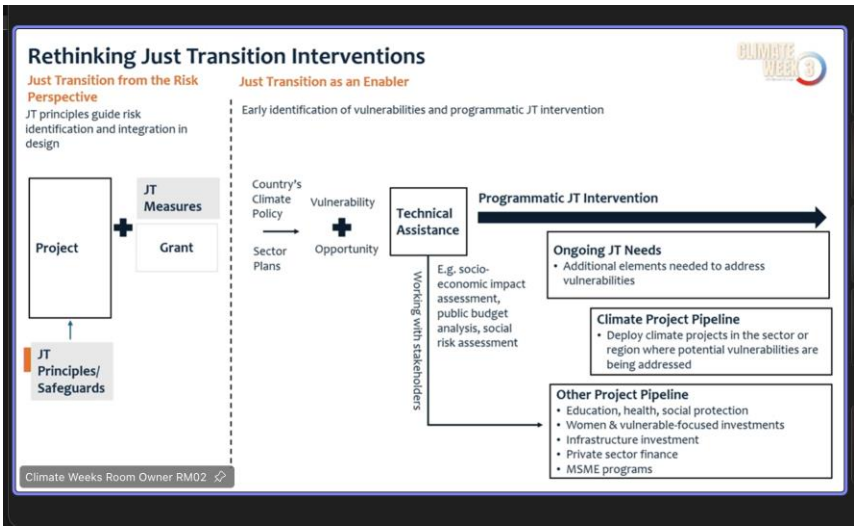
Opening remarks • Ingrid Lundberg, Head of Australia’s COP31 Presidency of Negotiations Branch Scene Setting Presentations • Katherine Hughes, ADB • Stig Svenningsen, TEC • Sangji Lee, UNDP (virtual)

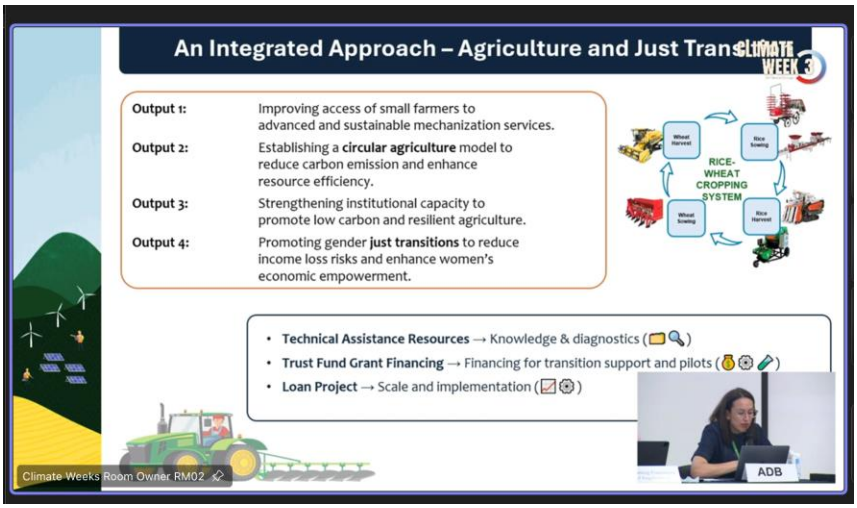
Presentation - Example of ag project:

- Just transition linked to project
- Key funder ADB, but mixed financing model
    - Portfolio of financing instruments
- Rice planting - 80% of labor is manual, differentiated data to allow evaluation of impact on women

- International cooperation
    - Dialogues of this can help intl community align and mobilize finance
- Just transition is not a social add-on, it's what makes transitions financeable and implementable

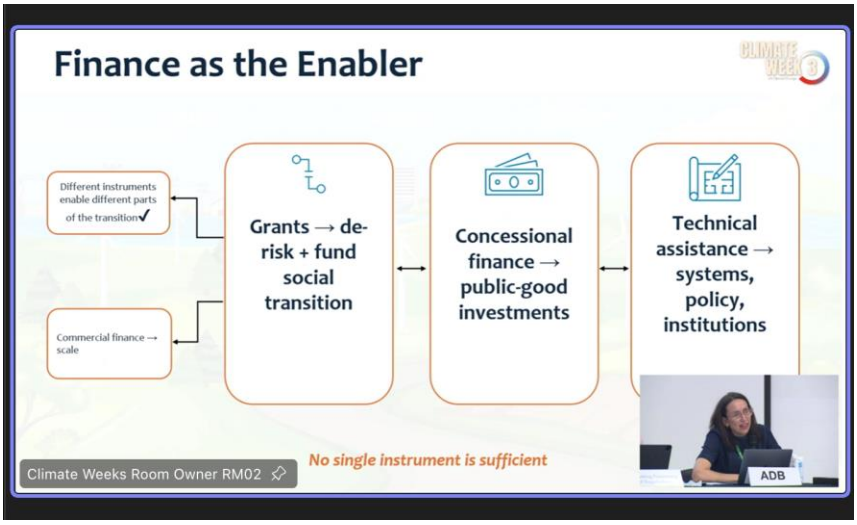
Katherine Hughes, ADB





Example: rice producer country

- Programmatic agriculture project with 4 outputs
- Blended finance strategy for scaling
- Just transition (JT) at the core of project design
- Financing has philanthropic purpose focused on JT



- Different financing approaches for JT, adaptation, and mitigation

- Aligning understanding of JT financing is critical
- JT is not an “add-on”; it is central to making the transition sustainable

- Perspective: technology for climate action
- Key focus areas:
    - Food security and livelihoods
    - Water and energy access
- Collaboration with FAO and the Technology Committee

Technology Perspective:

- Not only about hardware; includes knowledge and practices
- Agroecological practices increase resilience

- Technology opens new frontiers (e.g., AI in climate action)

Tech Transfer:

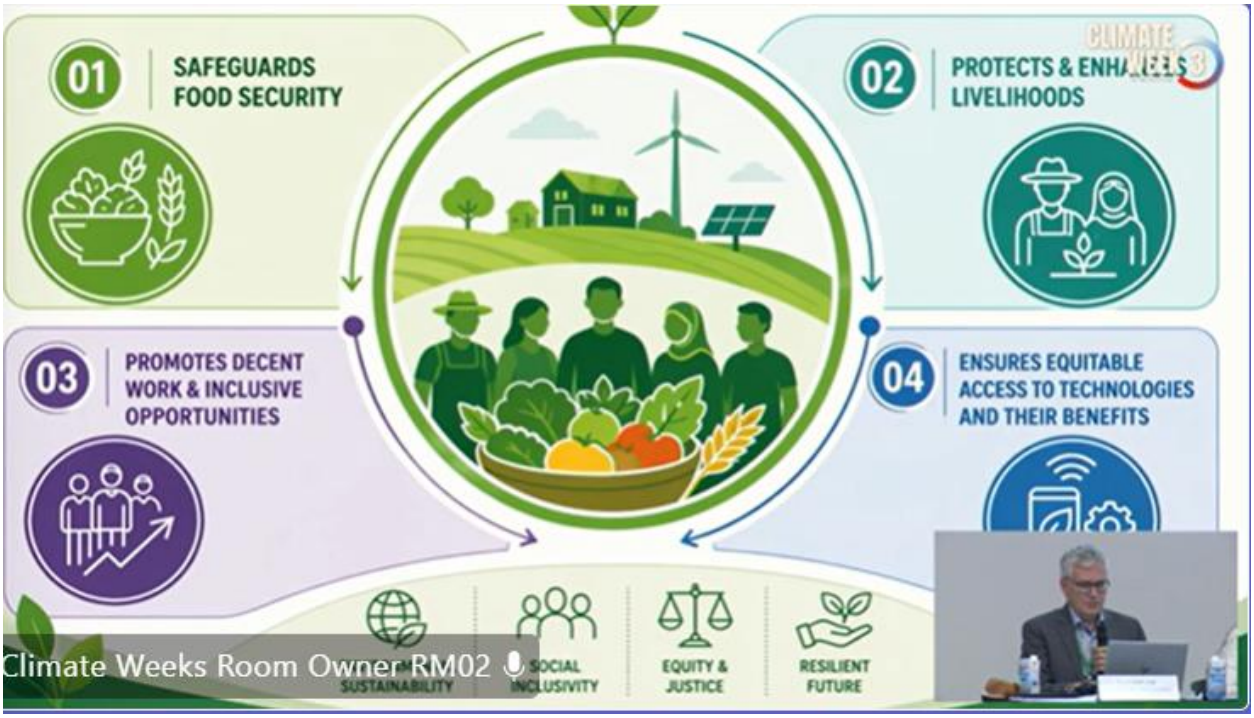
- Must be collaborative and inclusive
- Builds technical skills
- Facilitates peer learning

Important Considerations:

- Four key aspects (not specified here) are important
- Potential trade-offs exist
- Without adequate approach, tech initiatives can lead to injustices

Presentation - food security and oceans - TEC

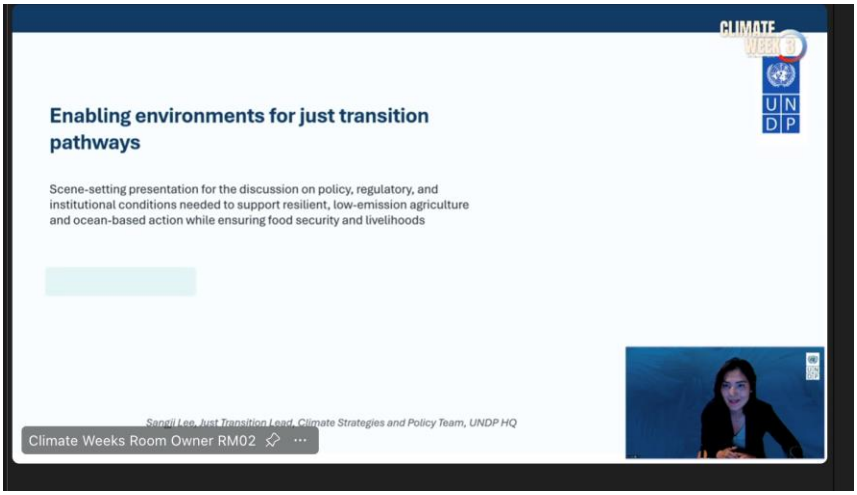
- Transforming food systems require system-based approach



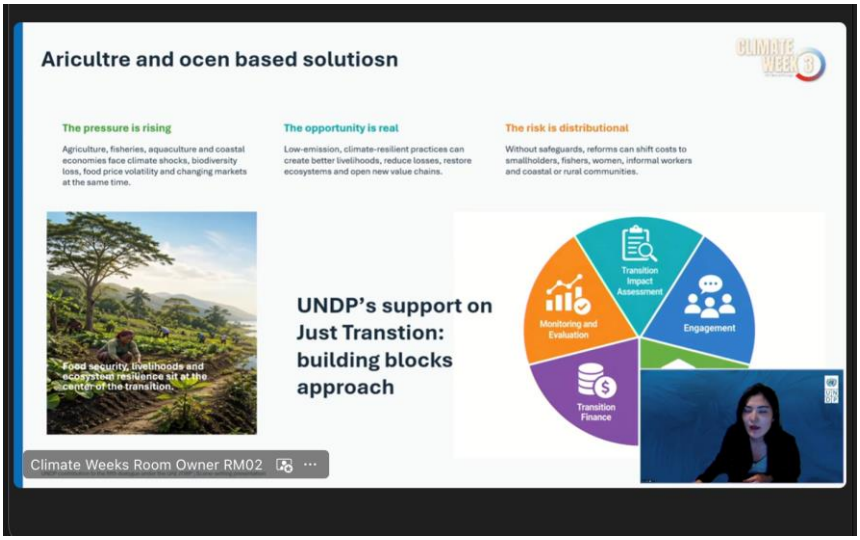
UNDP Presentation - Enabling Environment

- Now is the time for implementation -> why enabling environment is so important
- Implementation impacts deeply political

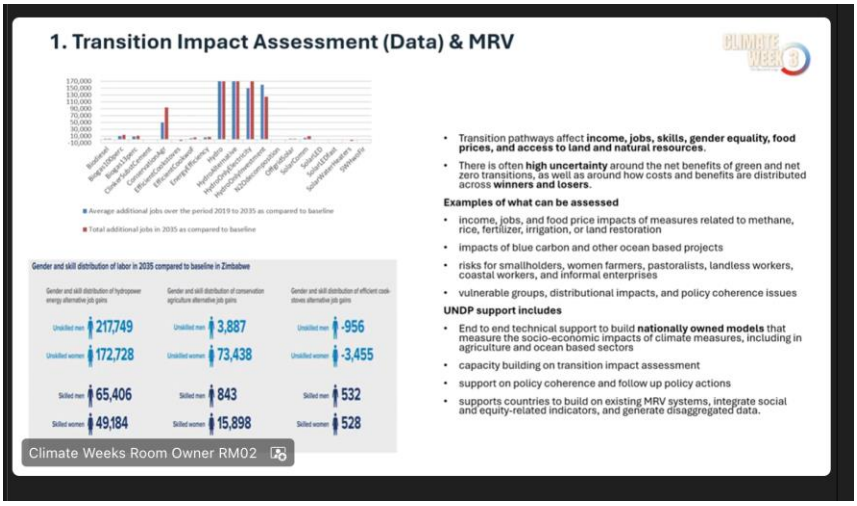
Sengi Lee - UNDP

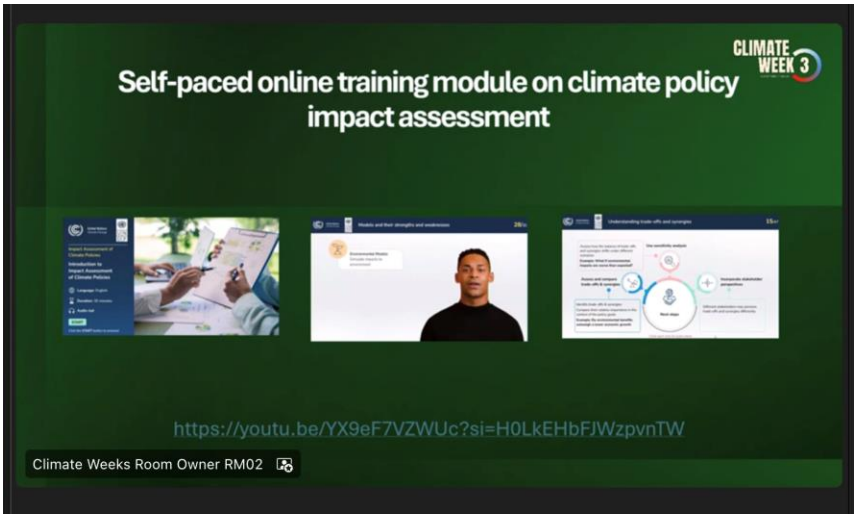

Enabling environments for just transition pathways
Scene-setting presentation for the discussion on policy, regulatory, and institutional conditions needed to support resilient, low-emission agriculture and ocean-based action while ensuring food security and livelihoods
Sangji Lee, Just Transition Lead, Climate Strategies and Policy Team, UNDP HQ
Climate Weeks Room Owner RM02

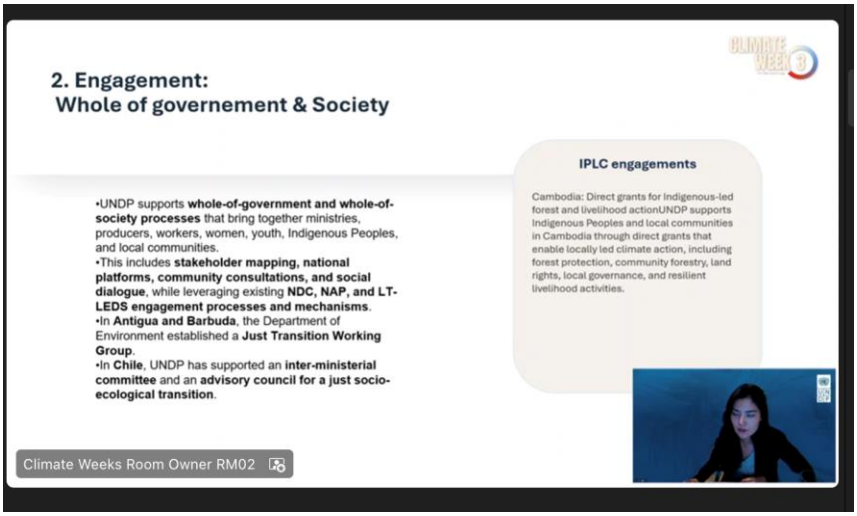

Global state of play: Just transition is increasingly embedded in NDC 3.0
Countries are increasingly recognizing that climate action must address jobs, livelihoods, equity, and resilience. The next challenge is to move from inclusion to implementation.
90%+
of new NDCs include just transition considerations
42%
include a dedicated just transition chapter
94%
include concrete just transition measures
60%
integrate social and equity indicators into MRV systems
47%
apply a socio-economic lens to climate finance
Why this matters
Climate Weeks Room Owner RM02


Aricultre and ocen based solutiosn
The pressure is rising
Agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture and coastal economies face climate shocks, biodiversity loss, food price volatility and changing markets at the same time.
The opportunity is real
Low-emission, climate-resilient practices can create better livelihoods, reduce losses, restore ecosystems and open new value chains.
The risk is distributional
Without safeguards, reforms can shift costs to smallholders, fishers, women, informal workers and coastal or rural communities.
Food security, livelihoods and ecosystem resilience sit at the center of the transition.
UNDP's support on Just Transtion: building blocks approach
Transition Impact Assessment
Engagement
Transition Finance
Monitoring and Evaluation
Climate Weeks Room Owner RM02

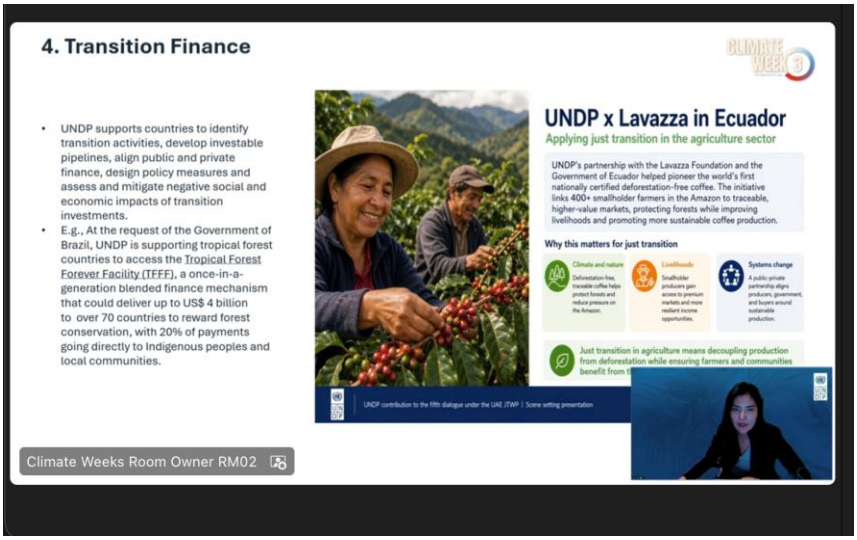
Undp approach: 5 key buiding blocs – enablers implementing JT






2. Engagement:
Whole of governement & Society
•UNDP supports whole-of-government and whole-of-society processes that bring together ministries, producers, workers, women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities.
•This includes stakeholder mapping, national platforms, community consultations, and social dialogue, while leveraging existing NDC, NAP, and LT-LEDS engagement processes and mechanisms.
•In Antigua and Barbuda, the Department of Environment established a Just Transition Working Group.
•In Chile, UNDP has supported an inter-ministerial committee and an advisory council for a just socio-ecological transition.
IPLC engagements
Cambodia: Direct grants for Indigenous-led forest and livelihood actionUNDP supports Indigenous Peoples and local communities in Cambodia through direct grants that enable locally led climate action, including forest protection, community forestry, land rights, local governance, and resilient livelihood activities.
Climate Weeks Room Owner RM02


3. Policy, institutional, and capacity-building support
• Low-emission and resilient practices require extension systems, standards, traceability, local delivery capacity, vocational skills and institutions that can coordinate across climate, agriculture, fisheries, labour and finance mandates.
• UNDP helps countries design policy pipelines, implementation frameworks, institutional arrangements, capacity-building packages, green skills programmes and sector roadmaps linked to NDC and national development priorities.
Costa Rica | SCALA
Agriculture and land use
Supported development of a deforestation free beef standard with MAG, CORFOGA, and INTECO.
Helped strengthen traceability and credibility by updating land use data and integrating it into the national traceability system.
Paired regulatory and market incentives with a Gender and Social Inclusion Roadmap for Women in Livestock.
Indonesia | seaBLUE
Oceans, fisheries, and coastal livelihoods
UNDP and MMAF are supporting small scale fishers in Morotai through a blue economy approach.
Project support includes solar powered fishing boats, cold storage, and seaweed based livelihoods to raise incomes while reducing pressure on nature.
This shows how technology, local economy development, and partnership can reinforce just transition in coastal communities.
Climate Weeks Room Owner RM02



First discussion round - Breakout room “Enabling Environments” (Kathleen Mar)

Focus on investment cycle

Q1: how do we attract the right kind of investment. What policies and regulatory frameworks?

Ghana. Distinguish 2 types of policies

- 1. Domestic framework
- 2. What is needed to attract international investments

- Need to adapt international frameworks to adapt to African needs
- Land tenure security and community rights
- Don't generate land conflict
- Equitably share costs of transition
- Concessional land-based finance

Brazil

- Strive for coherent public instruments
- Land tenure security is the most basic fundament - also for investment
- Room for public procurement policies
  - Brazil: at least 30% of school meals need to be provided by local farmers

Philippines

- Need not only ambition, but enabling conditions
- Robust policy frameworks: provides security to investors and protects farmers
- Need grants, non debt-creating finance
- Need socially legitimate transition pathways
- Workforce development

Online participant Tejal Kanitkar (NGO India)

- Criticism of focus on investment in this session.
- What makes us think that investments will lead to justice? Why not lead with other issues? (like justice issue)
- Focus on investment means focus on mitigation
- Smallholder farmers with low levels of mechanization - if they are further burdened with mitigation, how does this lead to climate justice?

Panama

- [Could not capture intervention.]

Indigenous People's Constituency

- Enabling conditions need to be based in human rights
- Securing indigenous peoples rights over territories, lands
- Prioritizing indigenous-led projects, indigenous priorities

Germany

- Wants to comment on the "how" rather than the "what"
- Mentions One Health approach
- Need a package of mutually-enforcing enabling conditions
- Deliver Social, economic, environmental co-benefits

Palau AOSIS

- SIDS - enabling conditions: financial, institutional, technical enabling conditions

Saudi Arabia

- Share experiences in managing food security in extreme arid conditions
- mentions/ complains about CBAM. Risks creating an uneven playing field

South Africa

- Treat an enabling environment as an outcome of international cooperation and support, rather than as a (prior) condition for support
- Many constraints are structural and systematic
- Viability of value chains
- Acknowledge: food system transitions can't rely on traditional approaches
- Reshape how risk is approached and allocated
- Shift how finance is structured globally

Resilient, low-emission agriculture often mentioned as goal

Russia

- Highlight role of BRICS countries
- Highlight voluntary contributions

Breakout room 1 (Veronica Goncalves)

First discussion round - Breakout room 1

Topic 1: International cooperation and climate finance as an enabler for just transition pathways to food security

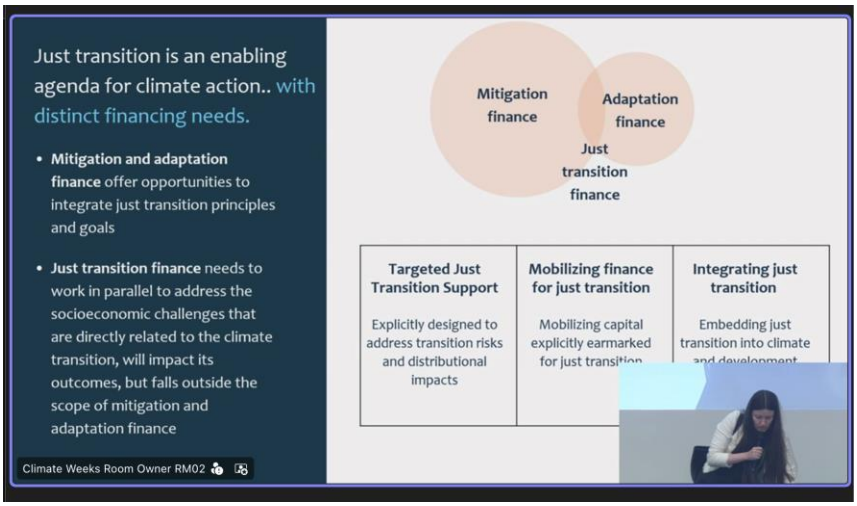
- How can international cooperation and access to climate finance better support nationally determined just transition pathways, including by looking at interlinkages between climate, food security, and ecosystem health and approaches to address structural challenges in risk and benefit sharing?

- What financing approaches and partnerships can accelerate nationally determined just transitions toward resilient, low-emission and sustainable food systems consistent with pathways to limit global warming to 1.5°C, while safeguarding livelihoods and ensuring food security?

- How can countries translate NDCs, NAPs, and food systems strategies into investable, programmatic pipelines that mobilize sustained, scaled-up finance for just transitions?

***2 facilitators**:*

*"**We need implementation. The anchor is NDCs. 90 % NDC include JT,*** but somehow this is not translated into implementation; it is lost. In your country, is there an example of trying to incorporate JT principles from NDCs into a project or plan— for example in agriculture or the food sector?"



Saudi Arabia:

“This is a different language, we cannot accpet fossil fuels language. There is nothing related to fossiel fuels in the mandate, only decarbonization and low emissions”.

Facilitators:

“Sorry, it was a copy-paste mistake. Lets use the concept note questions”.

Japan – Adachi Muneki

- International cooperation important for promoting just transition (JT) toward 1.5°C target.
- Green Food System Strategy (2021) for agriculture, forestry, fisheries:
    - Smart technologies, labor-saving, automation, improved work safety.
    - Reduced use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers.
    - Biodiversity conservation along supply chains.
- Two-stage goals: 2040 – develop innovative technologies; 2050 – green jobs, social implementation.
- Carbon credit system (J-Credit) for agriculture.
- Zero-emission measures for fishing vessels.
- Knowledge sharing and international cooperation to promote JT globally.

Burkina Faso – HRH Princess Abze Djigma

- NDCs and NAPs provide frameworks but remain largely unfunded. *International cooperation is essencial para fully operacionalize naps and ndc*
- Climate finance must integrate food security, agriculture, fisheries, and ecosystem health.
- Structural barriers: weak institutions, limited fiscal space.
- Need stronger national institutions and local delivery systems.

- Emphasis on equitable access for smallholder farmers and informal sector workers.
- Align JT mechanisms with international financial architecture (e.g., Basel III).

Argentina

- Strengthen Means of Implementation (MOI): predictable finance, tech transfer, capacity building.
- International cooperation to support productive sectors: agriculture, fisheries.
- Agriculture already has sustainable practices; further innovation encouraged.
- Promote sustainable fishing practices; advocate for WTO Fisheries Subsidies Agreement adoption.
- Trade measures for environmental purposes must comply with WTO rules.

C40 / Cities – Marta Stencel

- *The biggest chalange for JT is in cities, urban centers. There is a need for local finance.*
- 76% of people facing food insecurity live in urban/peri-urban areas.
- Cities provide school meals and local food strategies.
- Subnational governments often lack resources and mandates.
- Out of 63 climate funds, only 16 address JT; only 3 provide finance to local governments.
- Localize JT finance and embed JT principles in financial frameworks.
- Strengthen whole-of-government approaches and engagement with communities/workers.

Egypt

- Our program for water-food-energy security presented at COP27 aligns NDC/NAP with sustainable financing.
- Water scarcity is a major challenge.
- Focused design ensures projects can access finance for implementation.

Belgium / EU

- Agrifood system is a major contributor to GHG emissions.
- JT often treated in silos.
- Need to integrate emissions reduction, technology adoption, workforce development, gender inclusion.
- Reform fossil fuel and agriculture subsidies – essencial to have net zero societies

United Kingdom

- Agriculture contributes significantly (1/3) to emissions, deforestation, biodiversity loss.
- Existing subsidies (agriculture, fossil fuels) create perverse incentives.

- UK promotes sustainable agriculture reforms domestically and internationally (e.g., Indonesia, Brazil).

Kenya

  - One step back. Art 2 Paris Agreement combines climate resilience with low emissions;
  - JT should be mainstreamed in NDCs/NAPs.

- Agrifood systems crucial for poverty eradication and low-emission pathways.
- Costing JT measures must include systemic, macroeconomic impacts.
- Unilateral measures. How to understand some of these measures that influence markets.

South Africa

  - ADB presentation very useful: instead of focusing of JT as an artefato, JT as enabler of climate ambition.

- Food system transitions cannot rely solely on traditional finance.
- JT Mechanisms (JTM) help mobilize innovative finance for food system resilience.

Russia

- Global financial system not fully prepared for JT financing.
- BRICS and voluntary contributions important.
- Russia Supports JT and food security without legal obligations.
- Opposes unilateral trade measures (e.g., CBAM).

Saudi Arabia

- Emphasis on respecting mandate: no fossil fuels.
- Developed countries must scale up finance; developing countries face large costs. Developed countries didn't guarantee finance not even to 2.0 degrees,
- Global north must scale up
- Carbon border adjustments and unjustified trade restrictions are problematic.

China

- JT evolved from workforce/mitigation focus to broader adaptation, including food security.
- Agricultural development and rural areas emphasized.
- Negative impacts of CBAM and unilateral trade measures noted.

Fiji

- JT finance for Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
- Finance mechanisms should prioritize resilience.
- MOI must track NDC/NAP implementation.

Topic 2 Innovation, technology transfer, capacity-building and knowledge sharing

- How can access to climate- resilient and context-appropriate Technologies enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen food security, and support locally led solutions, particularly in vulnerable communities?

- How can innovation and technology development and transfer support just transition pathways to climate resilient, low-emission and sustainable food systems, including through sustainable value chains, circular practices and clean production methods?

- How can capacity-building initiatives strengthen institutional and human capacities to design and implement inclusive, nationally determined just transition pathways that enhance food security?

LDC Burkina Faso

- Innovation and technology are essential for adaptation and food security, but access, infrastructure, and technical capacity are limited. Intellectual property barriers restrict access.
- Technology transfer must be structured, with knowledge sharing and capacity building, avoiding outdated or non-contextual technologies.
    - CBDR: developing countries need tech transfer and access.

Saudi Arabia

- Emphasized importance of access to finance and technology, focusing on R&D, capacity-building, and job creation.
- Highlighted Circular Carbon Economy (CCE) as an inclusive framework, stimulating innovation, strengthening sustainable value chains, and turning CO_2 into an economic resource.

Dominican Republic

- JT is not Only about ambition, it is not abstract to vulnerable communities.
- Technology must be practical, accessible, and locally relevant.
- Maximum impact occurs when combined with capacity-building, community knowledge, and locally led approaches.

LDC Burkina Faso

- Q2: Innovation and technological transfer: essential to enable transition

Republic of Korea

- Q2: AI can support just transition; example: AI for Climate Action initiative and SAFIR (Smart AI-based Farming and Irrigation for Resilience) app for agriculture and irrigation.
- Mobile solution integrates local context, including female farmers with low literacy.

ENGO (World Animal Protection)

- Technology justice principles: technologies should be equitable, inclusive, transparent, and co-created with smallholders, indigenous peoples, and women.
- Prioritize open-source, publicly accessible, locally adapted solutions. Support biodiversity, livelihoods, and animal welfare. Avoid technologies that reinforce exclusion or high emissions.

Russian Federation

- Use of AI and remote sensing to monitor soil fertility and microbial biodiversity.
- Drones and irradiation centers increase productivity, reduce chemical inputs, lower emissions, and enhance agricultural resilience.

Fiji / SIDS

- Climate-resilient technologies strengthen adaptive capacity and food security.
- Integration with indigenous and traditional knowledge, predictable climate finance, and regional cooperation are essential.
- Capacity-building, access to finance, and coordination among governments, private sector, and development partners are critical.

ENGO

- Tecnology justice principles, tech must be equitable, accessible, accountable, cocreated with smallholders and frontline communities.
- Public accecible locally adaptable

Saudi Arabia

• Circular Carbon Economy (CCE) framework presented as a holistic and pragmatic approach to climate action.
• Focus should be on tackling emissions rather than the source of emissions.
• CCE framework accelerates innovation and creates demand for advanced technologies.
• Carbon circularity can transform CO2 into a valuable resource, supporting sustainable value chains and economic growth.
• Locally adapted pathways and technologies are essential for implementation.

Russian Federation

• Innovation and technology deployment are essential to food security, productivity, and adaptation in agriculture.

• Use of AI and remote sensing technologies to monitor soil fertility and mineral composition.
• Advanced microbiological soil assessment technologies used to identify soil bacteria and improve soil management.
• Application of irradiation technologies for seeds and food products to increase shelf life and resilience.
• Use of drones for biological pest control helps reduce chemical use, emissions, and climate impacts in agriculture.

Fiji

• Access to climate-resilient and context-appropriate technologies is critical for SIDS.
• Highlighted technologies for climate-smart agriculture, sustainable fisheries, early warning systems, and water management.
• Technologies must be accessible, affordable, and adapted to local realities, especially for rural and coastal communities.
• Regional cooperation and partnerships support technology transfer and knowledge sharing.
• Innovation should be linked to capacity-building and access to finance to ensure long-term adoption.
• Integration of indigenous and traditional knowledge systems is essential.
• Innovative financing tools and concessional climate finance are important to scale resilient food systems.

Women and Gender

• Innovation frameworks must address intellectual property rights and unequal access to technologies.
• Questions raised on who controls, accesses, and benefits from innovation and technology transfer.
• Example raised regarding seeds, patents, and restrictions affecting indigenous and traditional seed-saving practices.
• Intellectual property and plant variety protection frameworks may hinder traditional and community-based practices.
• Concerns raised about technologies being deployed without proper assessment of impacts on land and oceans, including geoengineering.
• [Could not fully capture the remaining intervention.]

Chad

• Highlighted the importance of sharing best practices.

Belgium / European Union

• Referenced Horizon projects focused on farmers and technological innovation in agriculture.

Argentina

- [Could not capture intervention.]

Question 3

LDC Group / Burkina Faso

- Capacity-building should empower local actors, particularly regarding mineral processing and value addition.
- Need for technologies that allow developing countries to process their own minerals locally.
- International cooperation is essential to support technology transfer and capacity-building efforts.

Mauritius

- [Could not capture intervention.]

Saudi Arabia

- Recalled principles related to technology transfer under the Convention framework - decision 5.cp7 par 26
- Highlighted the importance of financial and technological support from developed to developing countries.
- Rejected top-down approaches to technology transfer and implementation.

Russian Federation

- [Could not capture intervention.]

Dominican Republic

- Capacity-building is a foundational requirement for climate action and just transition pathways.
- Necessary to enable sustainable development pathways and strengthen resilience to climate change impacts.

United Kingdom

- Implementation of just transition is closely linked to access to technologies.

• Structural barriers, especially finance, remain major obstacles to achieving just transition.
• Highlighted links between the energy industry and agriculture sectors.
• Referenced agricultural technology leadership initiatives (CGAER).

Women and Gender
• Mechanisms under the Convention can be useful tools to address capacity-building needs.

Topic 3 Enabling environments

- What policy and regulatory frameworks can attract investment into resilient and low emissions agriculture and ocean-based action, while ensuring food security and livelihoods?

- How can enabling environments ensure that investment in agriculture and ocean-based action deliver inclusive outcomes, like decent work, resilience and sustainable resource use

What enabling conditions are needed to support a global shift toward resiliente and low emissions agriculture?

Facilitator Introduction

- Just transition finance requires attention to fair distribution of benefits, access to resources, and support for populations who may lose income: smallholders, fishers, rural women, indigenous peoples, local communities.
- Country-specific examples of successful financial instruments and policy frameworks?

Egypt

- Advocates bottom-up approaches, focusing on local communities, farmers, and stakeholders in food systems.
- Enabling environments should address productivity challenges and food security.
- Identifies barriers:
    - Unilateral trade measures affecting climate action.
    - Carbon pricing: while a financing tool, can increase fertilizer costs and food prices, negatively affecting food security.
- Calls for a holistic approach, considering socio-economic impacts and opportunities of carbon pricing at national and international levels.

Saudi Arabia

- Unilateral measures measures impact developing countries, puts Food security at risk
- We should not reopen discussions. Not predjuge.

- Holistic approach aligns with food security and investment design.
- Highlights siloed systems: financial actors and food security actors operate separately; need mechanisms to link finance to local food actors.

- Developed Sustainable Financing Framework (2024) and launched Green Bonds (oversubscribed 6x by Feb 2025).
- Echoes Egypt's concern: top-down policies (like carbon border adjustment mechanisms) may jeopardize food security, deter investment, and reduce capital for climate action in developing countries.

C40 / Local Governments

- Highlights the importance of urban and peri-urban food systems for food security.
- Recommends local government engagement for bottom-up approaches.
- Proposed solutions:
    1. Establish national-level just transition governance or advisory bodies to coordinate multi-level government and stakeholders (examples: UK, Australia, Scotland, South Africa).
    2. Embed food systems into national planning and NDCs/NAPs, integrating climate and food policies (example: South Africa prioritizes local/subsistence production).
    3. Develop national food strategies to strengthen urban food systems and policy coherence (example: Brazil's Strategy for Food and Nutritional Security).

China

- Supports addressing unilateral measures raised by Egypt and Saudi Arabia.
- Advocates for free trade and international enabling environment for climate-friendly products (e.g., solar panels, wind turbines).
- Notes that current economic and development structures in developing countries may increase emissions, requiring careful consideration for achieving Paris Agreement goals.
- Reiterates support for developed countries to intensify emission reductions and achieve GHG neutrality well before 2050 - essential for enabling economic and social development and a just transition in developing countries.

Belgium / European Union

- Responds to Egypt's concerns on unilateral measures and fertilizer costs:
    - Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM): impact on urea fertilizer prices is minor (~€1.4–€1.79 per ton).
    - Fossil fuel market volatility (linked to international conflicts) has a much larger effect on fertilizer prices, production costs, and food security.
- FAO analysis: volatile energy and fertilizer prices risk global agricultural production and food security.
- Defended the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) as a climate policy developed in line with international commitments and rules.
- Explained that EUDR creates due diligence obligations for European companies regarding imported products.
- Responded to Saudi Arabia by clarifying that the EU was addressing carbon and fertilizer market volatility, not discussing the conflict itself.

- Also noted that, if raising procedural concerns, discussions on specific national policies could equally be questioned.

Saudi Arabia

• Raised a point of order arguing that discussions on wars, conflicts, and commodity-related issues were outside the scope of the discussion.
• Reiterated that the session should not address geopolitical conflicts.

Facilitator

• Clarified that the space was not operating under formal "points of order."
• Sought to reframe the discussion and maintain focus on the agenda topic.

Russian Federation

• Argued that discussions should focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions rather than targeting specific sources.
• Expressed opposition to unilateral trade-related measures.

Belgium / European Union

- EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR):
    - Integral to meeting climate commitments and protecting biodiversity.
    - Complies with international trade rules, environmental agreements, and SDGs.
    - Introduces due diligence obligations for EU companies, ensuring imported products respect human rights and labor rights.
    - Supports true transition in agricultural supply chains, complementing global multilateral climate action.

Closing Plenary 11:35 – 12:35

Reflections on the Breakout Discussions

Co-Chairs

• Highlighted the challenge of accurately summarizing rich discussions held across the breakout groups in a limited amount of time.
• Invited participants to complement facilitators' summaries where necessary.
• Reminded participants that additional written inputs could be submitted to the Secretariat by email.
• Introduced the facilitator for Group 3 discussions on "Enabling Environment."

Facilitator 1 – Enabling Environment

• Thanked Parties, constituencies, and observers for constructive and diverse discussions.
• Discussions focused on how to ensure investments deliver inclusive outcomes, not only how to mobilize finance.

• Participants emphasized the importance of attracting the “right kinds” of investment aligned with food security, resilience, and livelihoods.

Policy Frameworks and Planning
• Strong emphasis on coherent policy frameworks and whole-of-government approaches.
• Need to align national climate targets with sectoral policies and food security objectives.
• Participants highlighted the integration of food security into NDCs, National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and national food strategies.

Costa Rica
• Highlighted the importance of regulatory clarity and investment pipelines linking climate goals with food security and livelihoods.

Brazil
• Shared experiences connecting sustainable agriculture with subsidized loans, public procurement, and blended finance.

Saudi Arabia
• Highlighted water-related policies, including desalination, wastewater reuse, and drip irrigation to sustain agriculture in arid conditions.

Finance and Investment Instruments
• Participants stressed that finance instruments should be matched to specific outcomes and needs.
• Examples mentioned included grants, blended finance, guarantees, insurance, and technical assistance.
• Several interventions noted that private finance alone is insufficient, particularly where long-term returns and public goods are involved.

Risks and Distributional Impacts
• Participants warned that poorly governed investment can increase risks such as:
o Land concentration
o Exclusion of small producers
o Pressure on fisheries and water resources
o Overfishing and ecosystem degradation

Egypt
• Raised concerns regarding impacts of response measures, including carbon pricing and affordability impacts on agricultural inputs such as fertilizers.

Belgium / European Union
• Highlighted inflationary pressures and impacts associated with new regulatory obligations.

Discussion on Unilateral Measures
• Diverging views emerged regarding unilateral measures and trade-related climate policies.
• Some participants argued such measures may create uncertainty and spillover effects for developing countries.
• Discussion highlighted the need to consider distributional and cross-border impacts of climate-related measures.

Just Transition and Safeguards

- Participants emphasized that just transition principles should shape project design from the outset, not only function as safeguards at later stages.
- Strong focus on participation, inclusion, and rights-based approaches.

Panama

- Proposed an integrity framework for just transition finance.

Indigenous Peoples Representatives

- Highlighted the importance of land rights, territorial rights, and free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC).

Human Rights and Labor

- Several interventions stressed the need for strong human rights safeguards to avoid land dispossession and exclusion.
- Participants emphasized that resilient agricultural infrastructure should also support:
  - Fair wages
  - Labor rights
  - Safe working conditions throughout value chains
- Linked discussions to social protection and income security for producers and workers affected by climate impacts and transition processes.

Scaling and Local Implementation

- Participants discussed how to move from isolated projects toward broader transition programs.
- Key barriers identified included:
  - Limited finance
  - Limited institutional capacity
  - Siloed policymaking
  - Overly technical policies
  - Difficulties translating national goals into local implementation

Academic Participants

- Highlighted the need for multidisciplinary approaches aligned with local realities.

Local Authorities and Communities

- Emphasized the role of municipalities, local authorities, and communities in implementation and long-term investment success.

C40 / GMA Intervention

- Highlighted whole-of-government and whole-of-economy approaches.
- Stressed integrating food security into national planning instruments.

Livestock-related Intervention

- Highlighted that resilient and low-emission agriculture must reflect the diversity of food systems and livelihoods, including pastoralist and livestock systems.

Finance and Support Needs

- Participants stressed that no single financial instrument is sufficient.

• Some needs require grants, especially for social transition and vulnerability reduction.
• Others require concessional finance, public investment, technical assistance, diagnostics, and institutional support.

Key Messages from the Group
• Investment attraction should focus on quality and inclusiveness, not only quantity.
• Just transition principles should shape project design from the beginning.
• Scaling resilient and low-emission agriculture requires coordinated transition programs combining finance, safeguards, participation, and technical support.
• The Just Transition Work Programme can help capture lessons learned, implementation barriers, and practical policy and finance options.

Facilitator 2 – International Cooperation and Climate Finance

• Participants stressed that discussions on climate finance and just transition should be grounded in the Paris Agreement and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR).

Climate Finance Gaps and Accessibility
• Participants highlighted persistent gaps between climate finance reported, provided, and actually received on the ground.
• Calls were made for greater accountability and transparency, including through the Enhanced Transparency Framework.
• Some participants expressed concern regarding the shift from grants toward loans.
• Grant-based and non-debt-creating finance was emphasized as essential, particularly for vulnerable groups, small farmers, fisheries, and informal workers.
• Participants stressed the importance of preserving the additionality of climate finance in relation to Official Development Assistance (ODA).

Provision vs. Access to Finance
• Some participants argued that the main issue is not only access to finance, but insufficient provision of finance at the required scale.
• Participants noted that climate finance remains difficult to access, particularly at the local level.
• Need identified to strengthen local implementation capacity and support locally led solutions.

Food Systems and NDCs
• Participants observed that food systems remain significantly underfunded within global climate finance flows.
• Current NDCs were described as containing major mitigation gaps in the agri-food sector.
• Participants highlighted opportunities to strengthen food systems considerations in the next round of NDC updates.

Institutional Capacity and Programmatic Approaches
• Participants identified gaps between national planning and implementation as a major challenge.
• Need highlighted for stronger institutional capacity and technical assistance for project

preparation.
• Participants emphasized moving away from fragmented project-based approaches toward integrated programmatic pipelines linking climate, food security, and ecosystem health.
• Several interventions noted that siloed funding structures limit integrated responses to interconnected challenges.

Just Transition Principles and Sectoral Strategies
• Participants emphasized that just transition principles should be embedded from the outset of project and policy design.
• Sectoral strategies were highlighted as important tools for translating NDCs into investable projects.
• Participants noted that many countries already reference just transition principles in their NDCs, but fiscal constraints limit implementation.

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
• Some participants called for direct and simplified access to climate finance for Indigenous Peoples and local communities, alongside strong safeguards.
• Participants noted that definitions of “investable” projects may need to evolve to better reflect Indigenous-led approaches.

Subnational Governments
• Participants highlighted the important role of subnational governments in delivering food security and local climate action.
• Concerns were raised that few climate funds provide direct access to finance at the subnational level.
• Calls made for local and subnational actors to have more direct access to finance mechanisms.

Enabling Conditions and Diverging Views
• Participants exchanged views on enabling conditions for aligning financial flows with the Paris Agreement.
• Examples mentioned included:
o Repurposing subsidies
o Domestic carbon pricing instruments
o Blended finance approaches
• Different perspectives emerged regarding these approaches and their implications.

Trade-related Measures
• Participants exchanged views on trade-related climate measures and their impacts on developing countries’ just transition pathways.
• Different perspectives were expressed regarding implementation challenges and related capacity-building needs.

Monitoring, Accountability, and Scaling Up
• Participants stressed the need for analytical work to better understand the impacts and co-benefits of investments related to just transition.
• Calls made for stronger accountability through transparency reports and MRV systems capable of tracking progress and mobilizing additional finance.

• Participants recommended bundling projects into larger cross-sectoral programs and investment pipelines to facilitate scaling up finance.

Integrated Development Approaches

• Participants emphasized that just transitions should not be addressed in silos.
• Called for integration of just transition considerations into broader development and climate programs.
• Participants stressed the importance of closing infrastructure gaps and strengthening productive capacity along food value chains.

Key Message

• Most participants reaffirmed that multilateral cooperation and climate finance remain essential for enabling just transition pathways

Facilitator 3 – Innovation, Technology Transfer, Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing

• Reflected that, in three words, the discussions could be summarized as: access, finance, and implementation.
• Noted that despite focus on food security, the topic was highly cross-cutting and relevant to broader climate technology transfer discussions.

Nature of Technology and Context

• Emphasized that technology must be context-specific, not one-size-fits-all.
• Technology was described as not only machinery or infrastructure, but also as having social dimensions and impacts.
• No single best technology solution; approaches must be adapted to local realities and community needs.
• Technology choices should balance trade-offs between productivity, equity, resilience, and employment.
• Policies should avoid top-down imposition of solutions and instead reflect farmers' priorities and local contexts.
• Local authorities, municipalities, and communities were highlighted as essential actors in identifying appropriate solutions.
• Technology should support people and livelihoods, not replace local systems or labor.

Food Systems, Resilience and Energy Links

• Highlight that food systems must become more resilient to climate shocks while reducing dependence on fossil fuels.
• Noted that agriculture in many countries still relies heavily on fossil fuels, creating vulnerabilities.
• Climate-resilient technologies should support sustainable agriculture, circular economy practices, and reduction of food loss and waste.
• Example mentioned of refrigeration and storage solutions for informal markets.

• Emphasis that food security and nutrition must remain central, particularly for vulnerable populations.

Just Transition, Jobs and Skills

• Just transition must include creation of green jobs and decent work opportunities.
• Access to clean energy (including decentralized solar solutions) was highlighted as important.
• Training and reskilling are necessary to enable workers and communities to participate in emerging green sectors.
• Just transition should ensure that workers, including in informal sectors, are not left behind.

Infrastructure, Implementation and Systems Capacity

• Participants highlighted that capacity building alone is insufficient without corresponding infrastructure and systems to enable implementation.
• Need for stronger systems to translate capacity-building efforts into real-world implementation.
• Communities and sectors require support to overcome barriers to adopting sustainable technologies.

Social Innovation and Participation

• Emphasized that innovation includes not only technical innovation, but also social innovation.
• Social dialogue and participation were identified as key to improving legitimacy and effectiveness of implementation.
• Farmers and local communities must be involved in the design and application of solutions.
• Social innovation helps integrate economic, social, environmental, institutional, and industrial dimensions of just transition.

Access, Technology Transfer and Finance

• Access to technology must be affordable, appropriate, and context-relevant.
• Technology transfer must include finance, capacity building, knowledge sharing, maintenance, and implementation support.
• Regional organizations were highlighted as important facilitators of cooperation and access.
• Intellectual property frameworks were noted as a remaining barrier to local adaptation and implementation.

Finance and Capacity Constraints

• Finance was repeatedly identified as the main barrier across discussions.
• Many countries face difficulties accessing climate finance and demonstrating impact to secure funding.
• Challenges also exist at the project design stage, including developing bankable proposals.
• Existing funding mechanisms could be better utilized to support capacity building and implementation.
• Financial support is particularly needed for farmers, local governments, and adaptation/resilience actions.

Capacity Building and Implementation Gap

• Capacity building must go beyond theory and focus on practical implementation.
• Strong institutional capacity is needed for planning, coordination, and execution.
• Importance of knowledge sharing, best practices, and cooperation networks was emphasized.

Key Overall Message

• Just transition in food systems must be:
Locally driven
Socially inclusive
Financially supported
Built on technology adapted to real community needs
• Success depends on combining technology, finance, social inclusion, and implementation capacity in an integrated way.

JTWP Angela Liang

5th dialogue under the United Arab Emirates Just Transition Work Programme (Just transition pathways for holistic approaches to food security, including with a focus on agriculture and oceans, in the context of element c) paragraph 2 of decision 3/CMA.5)

Concept note/Agenda: Concept note and agenda for the fifth dialogue under the United Arab Emirates Just Transition Work Programme

Live link: 5th dialogue under the UAE Just Transition Work Programme

UNFCCC Secretariat opening remarks: JT is a catalyst to all forms of climate actions. This section we are going to focus on food security.

COP31 Presidency (Brazil): Decision 2 CMA7 specifically mentioned human rights, labor rights, women rights, indigenous people's rights. Building on this and agriculture, we recognize rural economy and small business farmers.

Chair - Explained the discussion format

SBSTA Chair opening: we (SBSTA & SBI) selected this topic after considering many parties/inputs.

Each group facilitator shared their groups' discussion:

- ILO who facilitated table 1: locally driven based on local priorities; labor right safety discussion; extending social protection for operating workers; blending local knowledge and science; holistic & systematic approach; discussion co-benefits & trade-offs
- Table 2: policies need to be integrated; particularly in agriculture - no protection, no contract, no formal job, so protection and how to protect is important; skill development; concerns of being re-skilled
- Table 3: labor rights & social dialogues; community-based models; discussion of local best practices, such as: value chain approach in informal economy, supporting local markets through diversification, local mandates ocean stewardship, food-water-energy integration, education/training/upskilling, accessible content specific people centered, life-long support for labor mobility & resilience
- Table 6: human rights, gender equality, and social inclusion; governance coherence; approach human right in a balanced & un-prescreptive manner; some mentioned inequalities in food system is not only national but global in nature; unequal access to finance & tech would marginalize; discussion on making participation to intentionally designed to balance the power; approaches: bottom-up social & government approach; subnational government driving public procurement for inclusive outcomes;

- Another table: Women experience on national/regional content; food security - human right based approach could provide helpful framework; addressing structural barrier; some discussion to continue ensure food after natural disasters;
- Another table: discussion of integration of human rights & just transition; food sovereignty & land rights; different definition of justice; discussion of translating of human rights into real implementation
- Table 7: indigenous & local depend on healthy land & food; must recognize indigenous knowledge as foundation in food for just transition;
- Another table: indigenous, small scale farmers, fisherman communities; examples: indigenous parliament could also review policy documents; discussion on data centers growth;
- Online table: mostly on practicality/on how to do it/on what's already happening; specific discussion on certain words, when used, are actually excluding the communities we're trying to serve (i.e., structural exclusion); holistic approach not only to economy & biodiversity & nature;

Appendix: Notes on other sessions of Climate Week 3 (Angela Liang)

Background of Climate Week 2026:

- Started 2025; twice a year
- Bring together parties & non-parties on discussions on unfccc meetings/high-level dialogues
- A place for capacity building, dialogues, showcasing innovative solutions etc
- April 21-25, 2026: Climate Week 3 in Republic of Korea

Schedule of Climate week 3:

- Mandated and other events at Climate Week 3 | UNFCCC (pdf version here)
- Another highlight from host country: Implementation Forum - focusing on GST (April 23-24)
- Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work progamme: day 1-2
- Response measure: day 1-2
- LCIPP biregional gathering: day 1-2, day 3 afternoon
- Bélem Gender Action Plan: day 2
- Sharm el-Sheikh work programme: day 3
- COP31 presidency event: day 3 afternoon (my note see subtab)
- L & D: day 3 & 4 (morning)
- High-level ceremony: day 4 morning (my note see subtab)
- NDC related: day 4 & 5
- UAE JTWP: day 4 & 5 (my note see subtab)

High-level ceremony Day 4

Day 4: Climate Week High-Level Ceremony

UNFCCC Simon Stiell opening:

- Thank Korea for leadership & commitment
- Call for climate actions from nations, naming war in middle east has shown fossil dependency
- UNFCCC/Paris Agreement framework is working for climate & humanity. Without it, projected climate heating is 5 deg; with it, projected is 2.5 deg
- Work together & deliver real implementation

Vice Minister of Ministry of Climate, Energy, and Environment of Republic of Korea speaking:

- Climate urgency
- Call for implementation & actions
- Korea investing renewable
    - Mentioned sovereignty

UNFCCC Noura Hamladji (Economy, Trade, Industry)

- Collaborations, more jobs, and energy security
- Climate impacts still outpacing our progress as electrifying, investment, financing etc
- This climate represents a shift to implementation

COP31 Presidency (Turkey rep, HE Fatma Varank)

- Prepping COP31 for dialogues and implementation
- Thematic areas are identified based on developing/developed countries, cop31 visions, GST etc: zero waste/circular economy, clean energy, ocean & seas, food security, sustainable food, climate resilience, youth participation, cross-sectoral actions
    - 3 highlights: climate finance for implementation capacity; zero waste (particularly from methane landfill) for practical and scalable solutions; green industrialization (reduce emission while economy develops)

Host, vice governor of jeollanam-do:

- Green transition & carbon neutrality
    - We are currently: planting trees, blue carbon, hydrogen
- Our own exhibition meanwhile dedicated for island theme since ocean is at the front of climate change

Vice Mayor of the Yeosu city

- Protecting nature is protecting our future
- Our own exhibition shows our ambition

Video playing for jeollanam-do:

- Committed to reducing 40% emission by 2030 & net zero by 2050.

Panel:

Q1: how can non-party actors deliver goals (ideally align with parties)?

- Samed: bring people together
- Ingrid: acknowledge indigenous people lands; this year we are particularly collaborating with Brazil, Pacific islands, etc; decisive actions are important to keep Paris agreement alive; call for energy transition
- Mohamed: climate plans need to be investable;
- Monique: COP30 to COP31 is a significant shift from negotiations to implementation - so non party stakeholders important

Q2: What do you think is the most important thing for non-parties for the next 12 months?

- Monique: Focus on deliverable & show results
- Mohamed: Climate finance results
- Ingrid: Partnership
- Samed: mobilizing non-party stakeholders & organizing local meetings to listen

<u>Youth Champion rep from Australia (PYCC):</u>

- Growing up in farmer community
- Youth people already actively shaping the future & we want to be the process

COP 31 Presidency Event 1

COP 31 Presidency Event: Powering Climate Action: Financial and Institutional Boost

COP 31 Presidency Event: Powering Climate Action: Financial and Institutional Boost

- Planned to publish detail agenda at SB64 (6 themes & 9 priorities)
- Stress persistent gap (goal vs implementation)
    - Proposed architecture/model in finance & banking & investing

Panel 1:
Q: What are the issues in translating commitment into implementation?

- Turkey: referring to our proposed framework/pipeline for more practicable & binding results
- Papua New Guinea (PNG): we are departing away from Paris Agreement obligations but from Art 12.5 & 9.1, these financial things still apply to us. Stressed these energy projects have to be bankable & de-risked. Moving forward, mentioning historical footprint (accountability). Stressed procurement & financial access - need to find institutions or organizations who have experience.
- NDC Partnership: pushed for political push can scale up NDC

Q for Climate Compatible Growth: How do you see the intersection of data modeling & climate finance?

- We are a British government funded project. From what we have seen, gap of funding available, lots of political will is needed & lack of policy coherence.
- Example: We developed a fleet ownership model, and then go to the energy department for solar, and then to finance ministry and then … → then there's a flow of coherency

Panel 2: connecting project pipeline with finance
Q: Banks play an important role - how must the infrastructure shift to unlock private investment at scale?

- Asian Development Bank: Understanding risks first in which market before addressing gaps (upstream market creation/advisory). Governments need to involve the banks. Bankable pipelines - understanding what bankable mean first is important

Q: What are the gaps to transfer countries' needs into fundable projects?

- Green Climate Fund: We see a lack of data provided to those needing countries. We have funding for direct access and accreditation.

Q: From your perspective, translating NDC to workable pipelines, what is the biggest challenge?

- UNEP: We might need to change our narrative when speaking about climate in different dimensions (energy, health, etc sectors) to other stakeholders. Another thing is we see a lot of fragmentation - better alignment is better. Lastly, NDC is ok, but it is missing the national translation plan detailing the implementation mechanism. And better connection between science & data. (Speaker highlighted here even if we follow everything, the projected warming is 2-2.5 degree C). We also need to separate mitigation & adaptation (cited adaptation fund is mostly needed from public, national & international)

- The facilitator cited the most recent **Adaptation Gap Report**.

Q: Institutional readiness - based on the work you have done, where do you see the gap in the capacity, and how the NDC & NAPS translate into the pipeline?

- Global Capacity Building Coalition: we were founded in COP28, funded from UNDP & other UN members (UNPFI, MDBs, philanthropies etc). Increase efficiency/reduce redundancy, increase institutional capacity for financial institutions, and increase capacity of governments - linking all these three is important.

Q: From your experience, what is the gap preventing global vulnerable communities from directly accessing the capital?

- Pacific Resilience Facility: gap is in different narratives. For example, talking to private sector people is about “de-risking”; And for small island states, the issue for them is not about building a project, but accessing finance

COP 31 Presidency Event 2

COP 31 Presidency Event: Green Industrialization

Turkey

- If done right, it solves energy security through diversification (talking about Strait of Hormuz)
- Given examples of the US, China, and the EU as major players. Turkey imports 70% of energy so it's a survival test.

Q: What do you see as the most impactful approaches/projects driving transformation? (from NGO views)
Net-Zero Partnership for Industrial Decarbonization: all initiatives tackle different parts of the problem, the thing is to coordinate and target the areas that are not targeted yet.

Q: What do you see that could further drive transformation in your region?
Ministry of Trade Korea: Climate Club - better transparency in carbon accounting system.
UNIDO & Climate can help connect countries to access resources in finance & tech. For Korea, it will move faster when the industry sees the credible market and stronger international cooperation.

Q: As Australia prepares for COP31, how do you see integrating green industrialization into the UNFCCC framework?
Australia: green industry is the bridge for mitigation, sustainable development, and industrial competitiveness. Call for the COP process to integrate and not restrain industrial development. Emission reductions need to be paired with an economic prosperity plan and energy resilience plan. We see these new tech not only as a reduction pathway but also to economic prosperity.

Q: How do you see Turkey's industrialization looking ahead of COP31? How do you see Climate Club as a player?
Turkey: We try to develop sector specific low-carbon plans and transition timelines (such as steel & cement sectors).

Turkey: We should be aware that green industrialization could be a Berlin wall for those who can afford it and those who can't. We will be launching the COP31 Business Forum. COP31 will mark a new era for public-private relationships.

Q: How do you view the Belem agenda/declaration and green industrialization together with other components such as the Climate Club?
Net-Zero Partnership for Industrial Decarbonization: these are about enhancing multilateral cooperations.

Q: How's the green industrialization progressing in Asia and how do you see the challenges?
Korea: transition is under way, it's more of an implementing phase. We view ourselves as a more developed country in terms of industrialization. Challenges in Aisa: uncertainty, access to affordable economies, and increasing fragmentation. The key is how to move faster - credible

long-term signals, appreciating financing instruments, deploying technology pathways that reduced fragmentation and combine with supportive policies.

Q: How can the mitigation work program contribute to green industrialization & decarbonization?
Australia: moving from dialogues –> implementation. For example we need to understand more low-emission tech & supply chain, infrastructure, skills, finance, etc. We are focusing on critical mineral and low-emission supply chains. To summarize, the Belem Declaration could help us on COP31 shared action rather than fragmentation.