

WGC Submission on Just Transition pathways to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement through NDCs, NAPs and LT-LEDs

Core components of a gender-just transition expected within NDCs

NDCs should... pursue an ambitious scope that shifts power, embeds a collective human rights framework, and considers redistributive justice.

- NDCs must outline countries' ambitious paths for reducing emissions and centering social and economic justice, which inherently has strong links to the JTWP and its goals in facilitating the transition to a new economy and understanding the Just Transition as a vehicle for social, economic and ecological transformation.
- NDCs should maintain and include an intersectional approach in outlining measures that recognise historically and systematically marginalised groups, including through gender-disaggregated data, in their approaches to promote equality. In order for a transition to be just, it requires provisions for intra-intergenerational and gender equity, racial justice, respect for the rights of Indigenous peoples, impacted communities and migrants, and promotes and protects human rights and ILO fundamental labour rights.
- We expect to see NDCs articulate clear mechanisms for monitoring and implementation, and also to indicate how right-holders have been meaningfully involved in the formulation of the NDC. NDCs should include gender-disaggregated data on public participation in the formulation of the NDC and include information around the participation of workers, people with disabilities, youth, Indigenous Peoples, and other vulnerabilised or affected groups.
- NDCs must sign a clear shift from a consensus based on a corporate transition towards a sufficiency paradigm where the needs of the people - not capital - are met. This by challenging and ending extractivist practices, overconsumption, and commodification of nature over a just transition.

NDCs should... outline gendered dimensions to economic and labor-related components.

- Any inclusion of labor and economic related planning and language in an NDC must have clear considerations of gender and social equity, including but not limited to: labor rights and protections, including the rights to freedom of association, peaceful assembly, and collective bargaining as trade unions.
- A transition to a care economy should be present across NDCs through recognizing, redistributing and reducing unpaid care¹ work. This requires strengthening social protection infrastructure and increasing budgets dedicated to the well-being of communities in sectors such as education, health, sanitation, and transport - key sectors for their contribution to addressing multiple crises, including the climate emergency.
- NDCs must outline investment plans towards the creation of decent work² conditions in the care sector and popular/ informal³ economies. They must also outline plans to remove barriers to work,

¹Care at work: Investing in care leave and services for a more gender equal world of work; ILO, March 2022, <https://www.ilo.org/publications/care-work-investing-care-leave-and-services-more-gender-equal-world-work>

² According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), decent work involves opportunities for work that are productive and deliver a fair income, security in the workplace and social protection for families, better prospects for personal development and social integration, freedom for people to express their concerns, organize and participate in the decisions that affect their lives and equality of opportunity and treatment for all women and men.

<https://www.ilo.org/topics/decent-work#:~:text=it%20involves%20opportunities%20for%20work,that%20affect%20their%20lives%20and>

³ Women and men in the informal economy: A statistical update; ILO, March 2023 <https://www.ilo.org/publications/women-and-men-informal-economy-statistical-update>

particularly those that are gendered. Investments should include paid parental leave, universal childcare, domestic and work violence support programmes, and transforming gender-based stereotypes.

NDCs should... specify how climate finance will support gender-just transition planning and implementation.

- NDCs should include strong climate finance commitments, specifically from the highest historically emitting countries. We urge all governments to make clear how climate finance will be directed towards gender-just transition planning and implementation across all sectors. Without intentional resourcing, just transition measures risk entrenching existing gender inequalities.
- Climate finance flows must be informed by intersectional gender analyses to determine the differing needs and interests of communities, as well as their accessibility to finance mechanisms. As the climate crisis intersects with and negatively affects various aspects of human life, including food systems, water, health, and other critical areas, climate finance must support integrated and holistic solutions, advancing gender equality across sectors.
- Women and girls in all their diversity should have greater access to high-quality, new, public, and additional, debt-free, grant-based climate finance that is also free from economic conditions. This includes disbursing grants to women-led organisations in local communities⁴ with a grassroots approach.

NDCs should... examine the social and ecological impact of renewables and other "green" technologies across the supply chain.

- NDCs must take into consideration the impact on territories, ecosystems, and communities -particularly Indigenous people, women⁵ and local communities- of extracting and processing critical minerals (e.g. lithium, copper, cobalt, and other processed products like polysilicon) for the production of renewable energy and other "green" technology products (batteries, EV - electric vehicles, etc.).
- Free, Prior, and Informed Consent must be embedded into any process to site and operate renewable energy projects or mine for critical minerals, alongside best practice environmental and social safeguards and ensuring communities' access to independent grievance mechanisms.

Reporting on Gender-Just Transition Commitments

- In the latest NDCs, section 4(d)(i) of Annex 1 of Decision 4/CMA.1 (*Information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding of nationally determined contributions*) is often left blank, or described as "N/A". Section 4(d)(i) speaks to Just transition by asking Parties to submit information on "how the economic and social consequences of response measures have been considered in developing the nationally determined contribution". This is a clear avenue for articulating the Just Transition elements of NDCs, with the expectation of robust answers to 4(d)(i) even when not in an annexed table.
- The latest NDC synthesis report has no specific paragraph analysing the inclusion of references to Just Transition. We recommend this inclusion for the next synthesis report.

⁴ Achampong, L. (2023) "Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective" <https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2023-11/achampong.pdf>

⁵ https://endughurforcedlabour.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/EUFI-Coalition-CFDaw-Submission_2023-04-18.pdf

<https://womenandmining.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/10-DOs-To-Uphold-Womens-Rights-in-Mineral-Supply-Chains-for-Renewable-Energy-Technologies-1-1.pdf>