



**PRESIDENTIAL
CLIMATE COMMISSION**
TOWARDS A JUST TRANSITION

A Presidential Climate Commission Report

Community and Stakeholder Engagement on a Just Transition in South Africa

May 2022

About the Presidential Climate Commission

The Presidential Climate Commission (PCC) is a multi-stakeholder body established by the President of the Republic of South Africa to advise on the country's climate change response and pathways to a low-carbon climate-resilient economy and society.

In building this society, we need to ensure decent work for all, social inclusion, and the eradication of poverty. We also need to protect those most vulnerable to climate change, including women, children, people with disabilities, the poor and the unemployed, and protect workers' jobs and livelihoods.

The PCC facilitates dialogue between social partners on these issues—defining the type of society we want to achieve, and detailed pathways for how to get there.

About this Report

The PCC—in collaboration with Trade and Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS) and the African Climate Foundation (ACF)—contracted OneWorld to undertake a series of community engagements as well as a multi-stakeholder conference to elevate the concerns and needs of affected people in the just transition process. This report presents a summary of these engagements, which were conducted between March and April 2022.

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1. Introduction

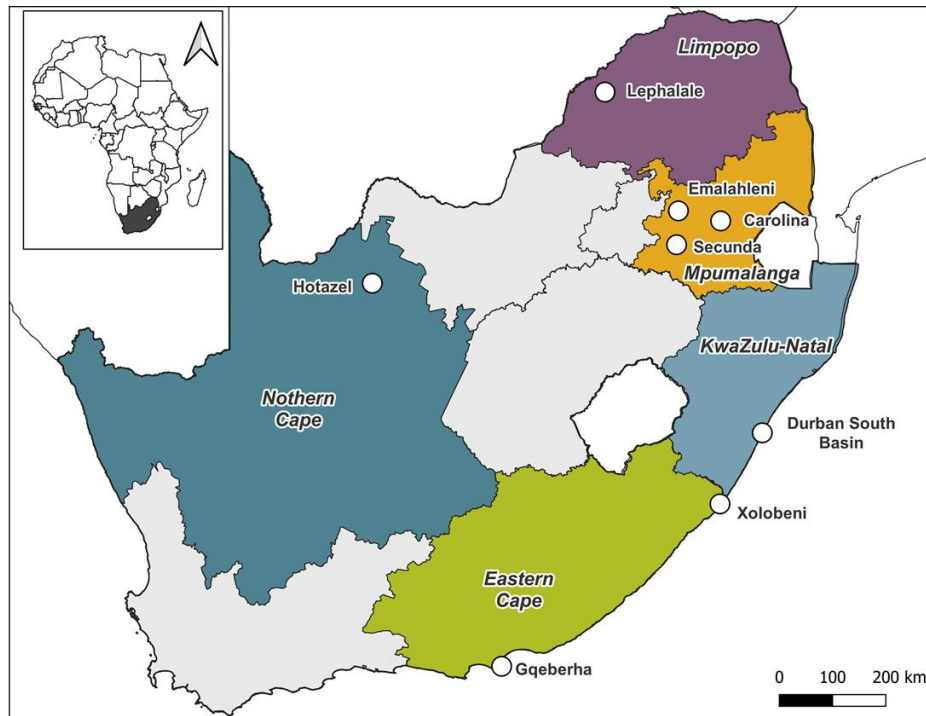
This report presents a summary of the community and stakeholder engagements on a just transition in South Africa, conducted between March and April 2022.

Eight consultations took place around the country (Figure 1) in communities that are experiencing the direct economic impacts in response to climate change, because of the global shift away from fossil fuels.

The objectives of the engagements were to:

- consolidate the views and concerns of affected communities and stakeholders regarding what constitutes a just transition;
- build trust and understanding between stakeholders; and
- establish a consensus regarding the elements of a just transition, to be incorporated in the national Just Transition Framework.

Figure 1: Community Consultations on a Just Transition



Area	Context	Language requirement	Key sectors
Lephalale, Limpopo	Peri-rural	Sepedi	Mining, energy, agriculture
Emalahleni, Mpumalanga	Peri-urban	IsiZulu	Mining, energy
Carolina, Mpumalanga	Rural	IsiZulu	Mining, agriculture
Secunda, Mpumalanga	Urban	IsiZulu	Mining, energy
Durban South Basin, KwaZulu-Natal	Urban	IsiZulu	Petrochemicals
Xolobeni, Eastern Cape	Rural	IsiXhosa	Mining, agriculture
Gqeberha, Eastern Cape	Urban	IsiXhosa	Automotive industry
Hotazel, Northern Cape	Rural	Setswana, Afrikaans	Mining, agriculture

2. Approach and Methodology

A rapid assessment of the target locations for the stakeholder engagement was carried out to identify issues that will be relevant to discussions consensus on the just transition (e.g., mine closures, environmental degradation, food and water security, unemployment, poverty, and alternative livelihood opportunities).

Stakeholder mapping was undertaken to identify key stakeholders who represent the affected communities. This included local community members, community representatives (e.g., forums, associations, councillors, youth and women groups and leaders, etc.), NGOs and other community-based organisations, as well as relevant district, regional or national government representatives. Care was taken with the stakeholder mapping to ensure that the community voices were well represented, with no single stakeholder group dominating a dialogue.

OneWorld sought guidance from the PCC and relevant Commissioners to support the stakeholder mapping process and ensure the identification of the right stakeholders to achieve the necessary depth of community reach and representation.

Figure 2 presents the representation of stakeholder groups to ensure a balance between representatives from government, business, and community groups.

Figure 2. *Balanced Representation of Stakeholder Groups*



Site visits were undertaken to consult and engage with key (pre-identified) local stakeholders; to publicise and communicate around the upcoming engagement, get buy-in; consult with stakeholders regarding identification of other/additional stakeholders not previously identified; and get consensus on the agenda for the engagement, including possible workshop hosting venues, etc. The outcomes of the site visits, in addition to the key insights from each of the community workshops, are discussed in more detail in the following sections.

3. Overall Messages Emerging from the Community Engagements

Several trends and themes emerged from the community engagements:

Communities understand the negative impacts of climate change. There is widespread acceptance that greenhouse gases and local emissions must be reduced. The impacts of climate change, such as more frequent and intense weather events, are also generally well understood. Communities, however, lack a clear understanding of the dynamics and details of what it means to achieve a *just transition* to a low carbon and climate resilient society.

Communities are willing to engage in and support a just transition but only if they are integral to the decision-making process. Communities want a say in their future and an inclusive role in making that future happen. Many community members expressed the need to be empowered through a seat at the decision table and to have ownership of the process of the transition.

Communities are willing to support a just transition, but they want to see meaningful economic benefit arising from its implementation. Not all communities want handouts or social grants development. Members want relevant and meaningful skills, appropriate to alternative development pathways in the transition, as well as access to ways to produce goods or services as the transition is taking place.

Communities expressed significant health concerns relating to the extraction and combustion of fossil fuels. All fossil fuel-based community cited significant health impacts because of local mining, energy operations and oil refining operations, particularly in respect of respiratory issues. Communities also lack access to adequate and affordable healthcare; members are calling for reparations and access to affordable and effective health services. Communities also calling for the closure of coal mines and oil refineries and the installation of clean technologies as a means of mitigating negative health impacts.

Water is understood to be significantly affected by climate change. Poor basic water service delivery and low maintenance of water systems is being exacerbated by climate change as well as by contamination from the mining and energy industry, for example through acid mine drainage (AMD) from unrehabilitated coal mine dumps. Communities clearly make the link between mining and water pollution.

The just transition is a complex and nuanced discussion around trade-offs perceived between development and climate change. Communities and individual stakeholders are concerned about the negative health and environmental impacts of mining and energy, but also concerned about the potential for job losses. The coal/oil value chain underpins livelihoods in many of these areas. If mines and power stations are shut down, then local livelihoods will be lost. There is little indication/confidence in the government's ability to manage the transition to a low carbon and climate resilient society to provide viable and timely alternatives.

A trade-off between health/social impacts of coal mining and potential job prospects affects the communities in different ways. Most community members who are responsible for the future of their children are very concerned about health impacts and unsustainable social effects of coal.

The youth and those without children are deeply concerned about their need to secure future jobs for themselves. They plead for some form of clean technology as a means of ameliorating the impact of coal rather than phasing it out, or even keeping coal mining alive for as long as the resource is available in South Africa.

Communities are combining the pain of climate change impacts with their experience of poor basic service delivery and governance. A successful just transition will therefore depend on integrated efforts to address the just transition and poor local government service delivery and governance across all spheres of government.

Lack of government engagement. The government is widely seen as being unresponsive and negligent in its engagement with communities, or in responding to their concerns. For example, one national union made a submission to government in 2017 regarding options for reducing pollution from power plants and have not seen a response to date. This lack of action on the side of government may hamper the just transition dialogue and implementation process.

Trust needs to be built with communities. Communities are universal in their demands for an early return date, regular engagements, and tangible outcomes from these engagements. Communities are frustrated by the low presence of national government and unkept promises of jobs and inclusive service delivery. The PCC is perceived as bringing welcome change in this regard, but trust still needs to be secured and sustained. Frustration and anger around low/no delivery against government promises is palpable in every community engaged.

Distrust in government is largely a result of corruption and poor governance. Communities are questioning how a just transition can be effectively implemented by a government that concomitantly does not seem to care nor effectively regulate itself.

Inclusive land use and access is seen as a significant factor in the just transition. Effective and ongoing rehabilitation (during and post mining operations) of affected land and areas is widely called for, with an emphasis on involving community-based enterprises in rehabilitation opportunities. This is seen as a significant small business and employment opportunity across mining affected areas in South Africa. Communities demand that the department responsible for mining and energy enforce its regulations and act according to its mandate.

Economic stability. Mining is perceived as currently important for creating jobs, enterprise opportunities and economic stability. However, many communities believe that currently they do not sufficiently directly benefit from these opportunities and that these opportunities do not make up for the negative impacts.

Communities are asking the question: “What is the scale of the economic impact of the just transition process if it is not undertaken with thoughtful and inclusive planning?”

Empirical evidence is needed to underpin and inform a just transition. There is a need for empirical evidence for moving away from coal and for how to transition to low emission vehicles. Evidence on the most effective way the motor industry in South Africa should participate in the global electric vehicle (EV) transition is not available, and it remains unclear as to how many jobs will be lost through phasing down/out coal and when, and where the major uptake of lost jobs will lie.

Renewable energy is often misunderstood. Several community representatives expressed misinformation and a lack of understanding of the costs of, resources for, and contribution of renewable energy to the just transition to a low carbon and climate resilient future in South Africa. Some communities perceive renewable energy as being too expensive, while others are concerned that renewable energy developments will not create sufficient jobs and enterprise opportunities to absorb coal phase down/out losses.

Gatekeepers protect mining interests. Within every community there are those who are employed in the mining sector and resort to violence to protect their interests. Environmental and gender activists are routinely targeted. There is no evidence that the government is protecting the interests of communities in this regard. This is creating the impression amongst communities that government is complicit in this gatekeeping and attacks on activists, and is a dominant interpretation that people are drawing. Along with this interpretation is the thus far unshakeable perception that the PCC, as a perceived arm of government, is paying lip service to the just transition while protecting its own interests.

Skills and capacity gaps. There are serious skills development/capacity development concerns amongst all communities. They are calling for access to training and reskilling, but it must be fit for purpose. If migration away from fossil fuels to more sustainable industries is what is required, then the communities directly affected by/engaged in the fossil fuel operations should be placed up front for reskilling. These communities should also be at the forefront of leading the repurposing and/or decommissioning of these operations. In other examples, such as Gqeberha, where the motor industry creates around 10,000 jobs, a potential industrial shift to EVs necessitates that skills development is essential, to effectively participate in the opportunities of the future (e.g., battery storage pack manufacture).

Language and accessibility. Communities experience various forms of climate change impacts, and they frame them in their own way. The just transition dialogue needs to consider the language and forms of communication in the way people are engaged with, and how communities communicate their knowledge/experiences of climate change. This also speaks to the need for integration of indigenous knowledge and on the ground experiences of the effects of climate change, such

as for rainfall and agriculture. It is essential to create a space for civil society to frame the challenges they are facing and collaborate in developing solutions.

Youth inclusion. For the most part, most of the youth feel excluded from decision-making and implementation. There is a large gap that needs to be bridged in terms of inclusivity with the youth across South Africa. Proposed solutions and implementation resource requirements must mirror the size of the gap to be bridged. For example, most youth are participating at the micro enterprise level, and resource assistance in the transition needs to be appropriately crafted.

Racial dynamics. Racial divisions and dynamics such as spatial development planning as a legacy of the apartheid era is evident in all communities, in differentiated ways.

Positioning the just transition. There is a lack of clarity as to the positioning of the just transition process within the provincial and district structures of South Africa. The mainstreaming of the just transition process within existing provincial, district and local governance frameworks needs to be urgently addressed to ensure coherent communication and action. Anchoring the just transition dialogue process in the office of the Premier of a high impacted province such as Mpumalanga, and using the district model to implement the dialogue, could be more effective than the current process. However, the most suitable approach is likely to be one that aligns with the District Development Model in which the President vests significant hope for energising South Africa's cooperative governance and for improving municipalities.

Communities have solutions in mind. It is clear from the site visits and the workshops that communities have their own ideas for how the just transition, or elements thereof, can be achieved in their local context. Local colleges offering skills development for fit-for-purpose skills development are essential vehicles for reskilling communities. Many communities have recommended that climate change and the just transition be integrated into school and tertiary education curricula.

Financial support for local actors. There are several local actors already working with communities on climate change and the just transition across the country. The question therefore becomes: "Is it possible to leverage financial support for these actors as partners in and champions of the just transition?"

Gender-responsive interventions: Women are often at the forefront of adapting to climate change and economic shifts. The just transition needs to have gender-focussed interventions and a clear understanding of the gender issues on the ground in these communities. With this, women need to be equally empowered as men for jobs and pay in the just transition, this is seen as a critical means of combatting gender-based violence.

Mobilisation takes time. This process must build in sufficient time and space for stakeholders to prepare themselves to engage effectively. Additional engagement is required to build a basis from which stakeholders can engage effectively with the just transition process.

4. Overall Messages from Impacted Sectors

Key observations from impacted sectors are captured below, set against a series of themes that underpinned the selection of community engagement sites: the coal value chain, the auto value chain, agriculture, and tourism.

4.1. Coal Value Chain

The three project sites in Mpumalanga (Carolina, Emalahleni and Secunda) and the Limpopo site (Lephalale) were focused on coal mining and coal-based energy production industries, and therefore on the global climate change response to phase out fossil fuels.

The following observations arose from participants in site visits and workshops:

- Coal phase-down is perceived as more realistic than immediate phase-out, and there are some sections within communities that prefer to find ways of maintaining coal mining and energy production while also reducing emissions.
- Many community members called for technologies, such as clean production technologies, to reduce the impacts of coal, to enable prolonging the extraction of coal.
- Across all sites with poor air quality, there are calls for reparations and cleaner technologies and/or phase out of coal to mitigate the severe health impacts of coal mining and coal-based energy production.
- Careful mapping of coal value chains should take place to ensure that the proposed alternative value chains offer tangible opportunities for communities.
- More transparency and effective monitoring of regulations is needed in the coal mining and energy sector.
- There is a significant need to increase the understanding of the affordability and reliability of energy generation alternatives such as renewable energy, as community members lacked sufficient knowledge about the real dynamics, facts, and opportunities of the renewable energy industry.

4.2. Auto Value Chain

The Eastern Cape site, Gqeberha, is home to a significant component of South Africa's automotive industry, which is supported by the Motor Industry Development Plan (MIDP) and employs approximately 110,000 people across vehicle and component manufacturers.

Globally, the industry is in transition away from manufacturing high-emitting internal combustion engines toward electric vehicles (EVs). Europe, South Africa's primary vehicle export market, recently proposed legislated targets that will cut emissions from cars by 55 percent by 2030, and to zero emissions from cars by 2035 (EU, 2035). A significant increase in the uptake of EVs will be needed to achieve these targets, and South African manufacturers would need to gear up for EV exports to retain its market share in Europe—critical to sustaining the industry in South Africa.

The following observations arose from participants in site visits and workshops:

- The domestic market for EVs is shrinking. There has been a decline in local demand since 2014, concomitant with low economic growth and a shrinking middle class where the demand for cars lies.
- The auto export market is a mainstay of the South African automotive manufacturing industry. With this, European exports dominate.
- The auto industry incentive scheme requires a balance between domestic market production and exports. It is not a purely or primarily an export industry.
- The domestic market is likely to move into hybrid vehicles which demands a different production process from a purely internal combustion unit industry.
- The South African motor industry is unlikely to survive the transition to zero emission vehicles if it does not produce and export EVs and hybrid vehicles.
- Experts and analysts believe that South Africa will not be able to competitively produce battery packs, limiting the locally manufactured components of EVs.
- The small business community and some economic development officials in the Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality have a contradictory view and believe that South Africa can compete effectively and has the expertise and skills to do so.
- The motor industry (VWSA) and the Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber confirm the risk of not manufacturing EVs for the export market and are concerned about the uptake of EVs in the local market in the absence of government incentives that would increase the affordability and therefore the accessibility of EVs in the domestic portion of their market.

4.3. Agriculture

Agriculture is an important land use that many South Africans rely on for their livelihoods and food security. It is also a land use that competes with mining.

The following observations arose from participants in site visits and workshops:

- Agriculture cannot absorb all the jobs lost through the phase-out/down of coal and other industries, such as renewable energy, and in some areas tourism, would be needed to supplement job replacement opportunities.
- Agriculture is under threat by coal (and other mining activities) largely because of degraded land that in the main, is not being rehabilitated by the mining industry, and because of water pollution and serious water contamination, the latter from Acid Mine Drainage (AMD).
- Water security is further threatened by poor maintenance and by climate change impacts.
- The Department for Minerals and Energy is issuing mining permits without considering the agriculture (and health) impacts of mining activities and is not enforcing regulations that require miners to mitigate these impacts.
- Some communities prefer to maintain the quality of their agriculture land rather than allow mining activities to reduce fertility, with many seeing mining as something that both detracts from more sustainable activities such as agriculture and does not bring sufficient direct benefits to local communities.

4.4. Tourism

Tourism, although not a major feature of these community engagements, featured as an alternative to high polluting economic activities and as an opportunity for increasing jobs and enterprise development opportunities.

The following observations arose from participants in site visits and workshops:

- The Xolobeni community members that were vocal in the Imbizo in this site consider tourism development as a preferable alternative to the mining activities that have been proposed for the area.
- Many communities consider mining and poor air quality as a deterrent to tourism.
- Some Youth representatives perceive small business opportunities in tourism but need government support to enable this.

5. Overall Messages from Communities

Cross cutting community messages and observations from the community engagements emerged that must be considered in planning for a just transition:

- Skills exist within communities and skills development for various transitions must be supported by government and industry.
- Small business opportunities are often preferable to jobs in large companies, noting that many communities believe they have not sufficiently directly benefitted from the opportunities in large industrial developments.
- It is mainly the youth that perceive that their main job opportunities lie in large industry and in mining, whereas more seasoned community members, particularly parents and those looking after the aged, are more concerned with health issues and longer-term sustainability of, for example land that can yield longer term and healthier livelihoods.
- Skilling and empowering youth to drive the just transition will be critical. The youth are disadvantaged in skills and experience requirements to enter the job market.
- Communities wish to be part of the just transition decision making and implementation process and wish to be empowered to participate in and support the transition effectively.
- Communities across the board strongly expressed the concern that the PCC won't come back after this process with an implementable plan that is owned by and benefits their communities.
- Communities are not necessarily anti-development, rather they are against development that does not address their needs; is inappropriate for the local context; and which does not deliver tangible benefits.
- Women should be empowered and involved in planning for the just transition and should have equal job and pay opportunities as men. This is a means for them to addressing gender-based violence that is prevalent in many parts of the country.
- Poor basic service delivery and inequitable access to economic opportunities and social services such as health care, will hamper the just transition. Without rectification of these issues, the transition cannot take place in a just manner.

6. Learnings from Individual Community Engagements

Engagements were undertaken with eight communities around South Africa which represent those, dependent on, and/or directly impacted by fossil fuel and energy value chains. This section combines details from each preparatory site visit, with insights from the workshops and Imbizos conducted under this project.

Participatory engagements in the form of site visits, followed by workshops and Imbizos were held with vulnerable and affected communities and social partners in each project site as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Site Visits and Workshops

Site	Site visit	Workshop
Emalahleni, Mpumalanga	16–18 February 2022	07 March 2022
Lephalale, Limpopo	24–25 February 2022	15 March 2022
Durban South, KwaZulu-Natal	23–25 February 2022	23 March 2022
Xolobeni, Eastern Cape	23–25 February 2022	29 March 2022
Gqerberha, Eastern Cape	02–03 March 2022	06 April 2022
Hotazel, Northern Cape	01–03 March 2022	12 April 2022
Carolina, Mpumalanga	December 2021	21 April 2022
Secunda, Mpumalanga	16–18 February 2022	22 April 2022

Carolina, Mpumalanga was not visited during these preparatory site visits; however, OneWorld is currently completing an assignment to develop a model for the revitalisation of mining ghost towns for the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) and has adopted a just transition approach to developing and delivering the model. Carolina is one of the two case study towns that the IDC selected for this project and OneWorld therefore carried out field work and conducted workshops in this town in December 2021. Insights were drawn from the OneWorld project for the IDC to inform the community workshop in this town.

The high-level messages from the community consultations are presented in Figure 3, with more detail in the pages that follow.

Figure 3. High-level Messages from Community Engagements



6.1. eMalahleni

Overview

The eMalahleni Local Municipality is situated in the Mpumalanga Province within the Nkangala District. It forms part of the western regions of the province and borders onto the Gauteng Province. The municipality is strategically located in terms of the provincial context and transport network given its proximity to the three Gauteng Metropolitan Municipalities and the transport routes that connect Gauteng and eMalahleni with Mbombela, the provincial capital and a key gateway to one of South Africa's major tourist attractions, the Kruger National Park, and ultimately Maputo in Mozambique.

The southern areas of the eMalahleni Municipality form part of the region referred to as the Energy Mecca of South Africa, due to its rich deposits of coal reserves and power stations. eMalahleni and Middelburg (situated in the adjacent Steve Tshwete Municipality) are the highest order settlements in the Nkangala District. These towns offer the full spectrum of business and social activities, and both towns have large industrial areas. The towns fulfil the function of service centres to the smaller towns and settlements, as well as farms in the district.

Coal is a fossil fuel, the use of which is one of the main drivers of excess greenhouse gases in the atmosphere which are the root cause of global warming and the consequent global climate change crisis. Coal-based energy generation is also central to South Africa's contributions to global carbon emissions, while the country has, alongside the global community, embarked on a transition to diversifying its energy base away from coal toward alternate energy sources, including renewable energy sources such as solar and wind.

eMalahleni is among the municipalities in Mpumalanga that is in a coal transition, affecting both its coal mining and energy production. This places the municipality and its surrounds at the heart of the just transition questions facing South African society, such as: what will happen to coal-based jobs, skills, and livelihoods, and what are the opportunities for alternate job and livelihood pathways arising from the transition?

For these, and perhaps other reasons, eMalahleni is one of the eight sites representative of the just transition issues facing South Africa. The workshop is designed to elicit community voices, drawn from across society, on the fears and opportunities facing eMalahleni and to consider the key pathways and tangible actions believed necessary to ensure a positive and inclusive outcome from the coal transition.

Local perspectives

In this site, key learnings arose from both a provincial and a municipality perspective.

Mpumalanga perspective:

- Mpumalanga is leading in terms of thinking about the just transition.
- Mpumalanga is also the province that is likely to be the most affected by the just transition process and is the most affected by the negative impacts of mining and energy, e.g., water pollution, health.
- Trade-off decisions are necessary. Coal got the province through COVID and is the main source of GDP. Therefore, there is a pivotal need to balance the need for survival and jobs with the just transition. With this, one of the biggest perceived gaps is that case studies or demonstration sites are not available to prove that the alternatives proposed under the just transition are viable for communities (notably, such benchmarks are not readily available from elsewhere in the world yet either).
- Mpumalanga wants to provide a forum for provincial-led discussion on the coal transition it faces. In particular, the province needs to demonstrate concrete and tangible impacts to ensure uptake by communities.
- Consensus on the way forward for a just transition has not been reached at the provincial level, yet clear action and follow through on tangible solutions is both needed and desired.
- Engagement fatigue is prevalent, primarily because stakeholders do not always feel heard in these engagements and feel that engagements seldom yield tangible outcomes.

eMalahleni perspective

- There is a lack of understanding on climate change impacts and what the just transition is. At the same time, there is a need for accessible community language (practical and relevant examples are good) as well as evidence collection and knowledge management.
- Training will be needed, and a training-of-the-trainers model was proposed, preferably ahead of the workshops to ensure that communities are sensitised, and community voices are captured.
- Women are already undertaking green activities by necessity, with women likely playing a key role in the just transition; therefore their voice is very important.
- There is a perception that both the mines and government are not engaging meaningfully with communities, and that the negative impacts of mining (e.g., water and health) are not taken seriously.
- Communities are worried about the future and their survival. There are practical concerns around jobs, and access to basic services such as water.
- Communities cannot afford the current energy tariffs and want certainty that future energy tariffs from renewable sources will be affordable, e.g., need battery storage so could the costs of batteries be subsidised?
- There is a section of the population employed by the mines and are vigorous in their defence of the mines. This is driven largely by concern for their income, while it also has the potential to divide communities and block consensus on the pathways toward a just transition.
- Inclusivity is a major challenge.
- Engaging the youth is difficult and therefore can be easily done wrong.
- If youth don't see the benefit for themselves in the transition, they will not engage. If they don't engage, they will not be part of the solution. At the same

time, young people are thinking about their future, and the just transition pathways need to clearly locate the future of youth in those pathways. With this, youth (among other stakeholder groups) need life and technical skills training, while schools outreach initiatives will be important for raising awareness, sensitising communities, and ensuring a stronger foundation for the just transition in the future.

- Overall, language needs to be clear, accessible, easy to understand, and follow.
- Representation by local, district and provincial government was lacking at the workshop.
- Community calls on municipality to answer for lack of delivery of basic services, including electricity, roads, water, and sanitation.
- Sanitation is being farmed out to private companies that are using wetlands to process wastewater. This has profoundly negative effects on the wetlands, as well as on the downstream communities that make use of this water in the absence of piped municipal water.
- Perception that government, particularly DMRE and Minister Mantashe, are not willing to engage, listen or act on behalf of the community.
- Coal mines and power plants are having negative impacts on the health of communities, as well as the environment, but communities are dependent on these organisations for jobs and livelihoods based on the associated value chains.
- Understanding of the PCC, its structures and functions are lacking — this needs to be addressed before and during the workshop e.g., Who constitutes the PCC? How were the commissioners selected? What authority does the PCC have?
- The break-away group structure will not work in initial engagements where workshops need to be run as plenaries and the bulk of the workshop time is likely to be taken by communities communicating their challenges and frustrations with government processes. This is not surprising, as the workshops are a rare opportunity for community members, NGOs and CSOs to meet government representatives in an open forum. The limited representation by local, district and provincial government at the workshop was noted by the attendees, who expressed their disappointment, as this is further evidence (in their eyes) of the lack of willingness to engage on the side of government.

Potential solutions

- Decentralise alternative energy solutions to the community level.
- Build relevant skills among the youth.
- Government should engage with communities to develop solutions that are appropriate and wanted by the communities.

In conclusion, stakeholders feel the need to be involved at the policy and the action levels and are, in the main, strongly interested in aligning their efforts with the vision of government.

6.2. Lephalale

Overview

Lephalale Local Municipality is situated in the Limpopo Province within the Waterberg District. It lies immediately east of the Waterberg Coalfield, an area with very rich coal deposits. The town is located on a national road, the N11, which is on South Africa's route to Botswana. The town is also linked to important provincial routes, such as Thabazimbi and Mokopane.

The Lephalale municipal area comprises two urban nodes, namely Lephalale and Marapong. These in turn are surrounded by the rural area of Witpoortjie/Thabo Mbeki, which is where the commercial and communal farming takes place.

The economy of Lephalale is dominated by coal mining and coal-based electricity production. Tourism, agriculture, and game farming make up the balance of the economy. Lephalale is rich with coal, which is mined by Exxaro at the Grootgeluk coal mine. The Waterberg coalfield is home to 40% of the coal resources that remain in South Africa. Lephalale also houses two large coal-fired power stations, namely Matimba (4000 MW) and the much newer Medupi (4800 MW once construction is completed).

Lephalale economic growth has been heavily dependent on coal mining. Low grade coal is used locally for supplying coal fired power stations, whilst high grade ore is exported. It has large reserves of coal underground which have still not been mined but for which there appears to be a limited market. Lephalale is still locked into coal dependency, and the municipality has not yet confronted the challenges of the just transition, such as what will happen to coal-based jobs, skills, and livelihoods, and what are the opportunities for alternate job and livelihood pathways arising from the transition?

For these, and perhaps other reasons, Lephalale is one of the eight sites representative of the just transition issues facing South Africa. The workshop is designed to elicit community voices, drawn from across society, on the fears and opportunities facing Lephalale and to consider the key pathways and tangible actions believed necessary to ensure a positive and inclusive outcome from the coal transition.

Local perspectives

- Local communities do not feel they benefit from mining operations, are excluded from dialogues involving mining, are not provided with skills required for new mines, and are heavily affected by the negative impacts of coal mining and coal driven energy e.g., water shortages, acid mine drainage and water pollution, air pollution (including from the dust from mine dumps) and health impacts

- Trade-off decisions as the just transition proceeds in Lephalale are therefore necessary; there is a need to balance the need for survival and jobs with the just transition.
- Consensus on a just transition way forward for has not been reached at provincial or local level, yet clear action and follow through on tangible solutions is both needed and desired.
- Communities do not feel involved nor heard in engagements with the coal sector and political representatives, there is no public participation from the municipality and ward counsellors, and they say that engagements seldom yield tangible outcomes.
- Inclusivity is a major challenge.
- DMRE is not doing its job in issuing proper permits to mining companies, monitoring mine closures, and ensuring adequate mine land rehabilitation.
- There are no education/training centres for the youth and there is a mismatch between skills available and those required. Youth wish to be at the forefront of the just transition but feel marginalised.
- Agricultural land is destroyed by coal mining, while Medupi has destroyed land and seen the destruction of important cultural sites, such as cemeteries. The mines do not support local farmers anymore, and there is a lack of communication with farmers from the side of Exxaro and Sasol who own most of the land.
- Land in general is an issue, with some benefitting and many not. There are historical land issues that need to be redressed.
- Agriculture and game farms can play an important role in absorbing mine workers, but it is unlikely they can absorb the majority if the coal mines close.
- It is imperative that transport of coal shifts from road to rail.
- There is a lack of understanding in the community regarding climate change impacts, the importance of biodiversity, and what the just transition is about. There is also a lack of understanding of renewable energy dynamics, costs, and advantages.
- Women need to play a key role in the just transition and therefore hearing their voice is very important.
- There is a perception that both the mines and government are not engaging meaningfully with communities, and that the negative impacts of mining (e.g., water and health) are not taken seriously by the private and public sector.
- Communities are very worried about the future and their survival. There are practical concerns around jobs, and access to basic services such as water.
- There is section of the population employed by the mines who wish to protect their income, while this also has the potential to divide communities and block consensus on the pathways toward a just transition.
- Young people are thinking about their future, and the just transition pathways need to clearly locate the future of youth in those pathways. Schools outreach initiatives and well-aligned skills development will be important for raising awareness, sensitising communities, and ensuring a stronger foundation for the just transition in the future.
- Youth articulated some just transition solutions: perma-gardens, rainwater harvesting, biogas and solar as alternative energy sources, eco-tourism, life and

technical skills training and environmental literacy. If youth don't see the benefit for themselves in the transition, they will not engage.

- Overall, language needs to be clear, accessible, and easy to understand and follow.
- As in eMalahleni, representation by local, district and provincial government was lacking.
- Community calls on municipality to answer for lack of delivery of basic services.
- The community also points to unethical practices in the energy sector, for example, Medupi Power Station was built on ancestral graves.
- Coal mines and ESKOM must not close, the community is dependent on these organisations for jobs and the associated value chains.
- Huge amounts of money were spent on Medupi Power Station, why close it now? Do we understand the knock-on impacts of coal mine closures on the SA economy, including sectors beyond energy? New-born babies locally affected by coal mining pollution
- Local youth mentally affected by absence of opportunities, high levels of depression
- Senior citizens attacked by youth for pension pay-out
- Rural communities are the hardest hit by joblessness and loss of livelihoods because of climate change and service delivery issues. No skills. No jobs. No benefits.
- Young, skilled women are forced into prostitution to access limited opportunities
- Mining needs to be done differently to mitigate the negative health and environmental impacts. For example, retrofitting ESKOM's coal mines for blue gas, this proposed was submitted in 2017 but has not been implemented to date.
- There is a perception that the push for the just transition process is led by developed economies and is a threat to South Africa's economy, binding us to international funding and the whims of private landowners. What evidence is there that the just transition process can provide jobs and resilient economy?
- A question has been raised regarding the agenda behind the funders of environmental NGOs.
- As before, an understanding of the PCC, its structures and functions are lacking.
- We need to consider the economy-wide impacts of the just transition in terms of coal mine closures in South Africa and communicate to stakeholders that this will be done/is being done.
- We need to show communities demonstration cases to reassure them of the feasibility of renewable energy and other technologies considered under the just transition.
- This community wants to retain the mines and power stations to ensure that the value chains upon which their livelihoods are built remain in place; however, they want available technology to be used to improve these industries and reduce their health and environmental impacts. This position is reinforced by NUMSA.
- The community is calling for skills development, particularly for youth. But there must be a single, overarching plan at the national level, that guides skills development programmes at the local level.
- Some service delivery issues must be addressed urgently: DMRE needs to be answerable regarding licenses; Implementation of SLP in current coal mining operations; Water access issues for women in agriculture; Water license for

Tugela Water (9 years later); Mines to respond to dust pollution urgently, with community involvement; Moratorium on issuing new mining licenses.

- Use the district model to implement the just transition dialogue — expand the current consultation platforms in line with the IDP process.
- Note the space for indigenous knowledge and related life systems — they are a critical contribution to the just transition dialogue.

Potential solutions

- The consultation process has limitations regarding reaching more communities and stakeholders, employing the district model can make the consultation process more effective.
- Repurpose Matimba Power Plant for gas power station.
- Re-examine the South African energy mix plan to include 'clean coal'
- Carbon pollution challenges not limited to coal, include rural practices and lifestyle.
- Generate required energy and demonstrate the effectiveness of alternative energy before talking about closing anything — move from a position of strength.
- Reskill local youth with skills fit for purpose, relevant to local industries and future needs of local economy.

6.3. South Durban Basin

Overview

South Durban Basin is the industrial hub of Durban, KwaZulu Natal Province. In total, the area is home to over 120 industries. As such, the South Durban Basin (SDB) comprises a complex mix of large-scale industries and major transport networks. The industries located in SDB are mainly chemical and petrochemical industries, with the largest concentration of the country's petrochemical industries. The BP and Shell operated South African Petroleum Refinery (SAPREF) and Engen are the main petrochemical industries in the area. Mondi, the paper manufacturing company is another chemical industry in the SDB.

Durban is the largest city of the KwaZulu Natal Province. The city has a population of approximately 2,5 million, with African, Indian, and Coloured people (generically classified as black communities) comprising the majority, mostly living in rapidly growing informal settlements and formal low-income townships (the In Durban South, spatial planning during the Apartheid era resulted in black communities residing near SDB industries, facilitating easy access of industries to cheap labour.

The high concentration of industry coupled with the proximity of residential areas and the consequences of the Apartheid spatial planning legacy, disproportionately burdens low-income communities with environmental stress and public health problems and costs. People are living in poverty and work in hazardous environments. In addition to the industrial pollution challenges, the area also houses hazardous toxic waste landfill sites. A major concern in the area is the effects of air

pollution on human health that are caused by the emissions of unacceptable levels of toxins, chemical waste, and a large content of sulphur dioxide, which are characteristic of concentrated industrial processes and activities. The situation has been recognised by local Government, with the Durban Metro Council stipulating that the SDB is environmentally degraded, and experiences high levels of air pollution and waste disposal problems, and that the problems are additionally compounded by the loss of important natural resources (Jaggernath, 2011). The quality of life of the communities located in and around the SDB is understood to be severely compromised by frequent environmental problems that arise from industrial activities.

Air quality is the primary environmental concern. It is a complex issue owing to the range of high emitting industrial processes in the area (from boilers to much more complex industrial processes). The meteorological conditions of the area can exacerbate the level of emissions by retarding the dispersion of pollutants (and at times, assisting this process). Globally, the levels of pollution in the SDB are viewed as being the highest, while a report ranking all South African air pollution monitoring stations found that four of the most polluted are present in the SDB. Other serious environmental problems in the SDB are heavy transport invasions of residential roads, accidents caused by trucks, noise pollution and the illegal dumping of hazardous wastes in the area (Jaggernath, 2011).

Recent developments in the national environmental justice space as well as in the oil refinery industry have been taking place against this backdrop. A landmark judgment was awarded in favour of environmental justice on Friday, 18th March 2022 in a case purported to have far reaching consequences. In the judgement, the High Court recognised the poor air quality in the Mpumalanga Highveld region as a breach of the constitutional rights of residents to an environment that is not harmful to their health and well-being. This judgement is important for SDB residents and industries in that it recognises air pollution as a violation of Constitutional rights and as such, this is seen by the environmental justice movement as a victory for all affected communities fighting for their right to clean air. Furthermore, the judgement recognises that the measures taken by Government to address dangerous levels of pollution do not protect the rights of affected communities and are inadequate.

At the same time, BP and Shell recently announced that they will be pausing SAPREF operations by the end of March 2022, following consultations with government, unions, and employees. The pause in operations follows a decision to freeze spending and to sell the refinery — South Africa's largest crude oil refinery providing 35% of the national refining capacity. The pause in operations is stated by the operators as one that will not impact full-time employees, while safety is a primary consideration. Discussions have commenced with government to nationalise the refinery, with the KwaZulu-Natal provincial government engaging in talks with the energy department about buying Sapref. The provincial government leadership perspective is that retaining refinery operations in the province is key for economic growth and job creation rather than solely relying on importing refined oil. With this, the other major refinery operator in the SDB, Engen, is planning to convert its refinery to a terminal for importing cleaner by 2023. Upgrading South Africa's refineries to

enable them to produce cleaner fuels is an expensive transition, necessitating investments of billions of rands.

SDB is in the midst of a cleaner fuels transition which is set to take place in an environment fraught with environmental challenges, poverty, unemployment, and low levels of social inclusion. This places the SDB residents, the municipality and the KwaZulu Natal province and its surrounds at the heart of the just transition questions facing South African society, such as what will happen to fuel and chemical industry-based jobs, skills, and livelihoods, and what are the opportunities for alternate job and livelihood pathways arising from the transition?

For these, and perhaps other reasons, SDB is one of the eight sights representative of the just transition issues facing South Africa. The forthcoming just transition workshop is designed to elicit community voices, drawn from across society, on the fears and opportunities facing SDB and to consider the key pathways and tangible actions believed necessary to ensure a positive and inclusive outcome from the coal transition. To prepare for the workshop, a PCC and OneWorld team visited SDB in February 2022 to obtain key insights, discuss the workshop representation and venue, and to understand the challenges and obstacles facing communities in the transition, and for the workshop itself.

Local perspectives

- SDCEA has been active since 1995 (15 years of activism) when they first saw the warning signs that the refineries in their community were coming to the end of their lives and have been recording the incidences of explosions, fires, etc.
- According to SDCEA (and other community and environmental organisations) there is a common belief that the community is being fragmented intentionally, along racial, and socio-economic lines.
- Communities see themselves as the victims of Apartheid and now as the victims of their own votes.
- In terms of the closure of refineries, there is recognition that all plants have a sell-by date, that maintenance is lacking with pipes leaking, and that major industries are decommissioning without engaging with their employees or the communities around them, leaving communities surrounded by the refineries, because of poor town planning.

The following are among the key perceptions expressed:

- External people are brought in for jobs (Engen's top management is not from this community) and Engen is perceived to be excluding the community (those that speak out are blacklisted), with a court case between the community and Engen being ongoing since 2018.
- Workers are often employed on a seasonal basis and can get kicked out of plants at a moment's notice, with devastating effects on individuals and families.
- The refineries are not transparent and there is no way to force disclosure of practices and reports.
- Two thirds of the nation's fuel come through the SDB but there is no plan, no disclosure and likely there is corruption, while the refineries are unable to

demonstrate use of best available technology to safeguard jobs and protect the environment.

- There is a lot of nepotism in Engen which is dangerous because the people in positions of power do not understand the plants and equipment.
- Questions are raised as to why Engen is not investing in communities and employing them. At the same time, there is a law that bordering communities should receive CSI from refineries, but the community has spent decades trying to get CSI from Engen.
- Communities want a say in the contractors that access the refineries and ensure that the refineries make use of the skilled labour already present in the community, noting that a skills roster exists for this community, meaning that they have the skills to drive the just transition.
- Unions are not seen to be representing the casual workers, while it is important to not only look at jobs, but also at households and value chains.
- Engen has worked against CSOs in the past and this is on record, and they have only been doing as much as they legally must, while they also leverage fragmentations in the community; however, new leadership at Engen does seem amenable to discussion.
- SDB is at saturation point in terms of pollution, with profits coming before people and protests being the effective only route open to communities. With this, there is a strong perception that Government is not listening.
- Communities want their lives and futures protected, while there is also recognition that remediation of the environmental issues has the potential to create a lot of jobs.
- In terms of safety, there are no emergency plans in place communities, while the only safe space/green space left, the racecourse, has been sold off for a logistics plant without any consultation with the community.
- There needs to be a plan in place for the closure of the refineries, that includes the communities, noting that management of the plants during the COVID lockdown was not effective, with multiple explosions, damages to homes and no responsive action by industry or government, and no accountability of either group.
- Environmental issues are significant with biodiversity being decimated, extensive pollution of the beaches and ocean and waste not being reduced at source. Community members using polluted beaches are being poisoned and despite treatment processes, chemical leakages and sewage spills still occur and these worsen on the event of heavy rains and floods.
- There are concomitant health risks with the logistics parks, which also house hazardous chemical storage facilities, bringing heavy truck traffic, more pollution, more wear and tear on roads, and dangers for children. SO₂ is causing high rates of asthma among children, as well as cancers, and this is considered to all be entirely preventable. Communities believe they need a health fund that can provide medical supplies to address asthma, cancers, heart disease and fatalities. Notably, Chrome 6, produced by industrial processes and known to cause cancer target respiratory systems as well as kidneys, liver, skin, and eyes, has been found in the soil.
- The 300 schools in the area are frustrated with the municipality which bills them for energy at the same rates as business, placing the schools in debt, which is

transferred to the parents. Some schools see the just transition and renewable energy as a potential game-changer, taking them off the grid.

- Some stakeholders believe that the future lies in small business and not large industry, noting however that the children want to follow parents into industry. Container depots are taking over the area, businesses are being lost and job creation is non-existent in container depots. There are ~60 small businesses in the area although some are not formally registered.
- History of spatial manipulation and apartheid planning that housed people alongside industry, cemented class and culture differences.
- Legacy of this spatial planning and zoning schemes beginning in the early 1900s.
- In 2004 the South Durban Basin Area Based Management (ABM) office released a South Durban Spatial Development Framework without public participation.
- SDCEA opposed the plan and suggested an alternate community vision for the area supported by 14 000 signatories.
- No effort from the eThekweni Municipality to engage on spatial development of the area since that time.
- EIA applications for new and mostly industrial developments in the area.
- Major incidents in the South Durban basin from 2000 to December 2021, including fires and explosions. More than 65 major incidents in the South Durban area since 2000, averaging ~3 major incidents per year. The SDB area is highly hazardous and lacking an emergency response plan. Although residents have been asking for a proper emergency evacuation plan and communications procedure since 1997, they have still been left unattended.
- There are voices which will dominate the dialogue, these need to be sensitively managed.
- Engagements must be undertaken in the dominant local language with support for other languages in the room.
- A clear understanding of the PCC function and just transition process is needed.

Potential solutions

Noting that the meaning of the just transition may change in time, the following solutions were put forward:

- Green economy opportunities should be targeted but inclusively. A large solar plant is not necessary; it is preferable to spread solar power out to every roof in a community and to let the community profit by selling power back to the grid, or through reduced tariffs etc. and noting that it is possible to repurpose existing manufacturing plants to manufacture solar panels locally.
- Carbon offsetting should be considered, while economic activity through venture capitalists or exchange funds should be encouraged.
- Reparation mechanisms need to be integrated into policy.
- Government needs to play a stronger role and engage with the community and listen to them. The mayor and local government are seen to be entirely absent in engaging with this community, while there are no responses to problems that are reported to the municipality.
- Training of local communities by industry, particularly among the unemployed in the 9 hostels in the area, should take place to redress prevalent social issues (the hostels, designed to house migrant and casual workers, have become ridden

with crime and violence as unemployment rises and violence spills out of the hostels and drives away business.

- Redevelop existing infrastructure and balance environmental goals — this balance is possible.

In conclusion, stakeholders consulted appear to accept that the just transition must happen but believe that communities cannot be left behind as they have been in the past. The prevailing perception (among those consulted) is that a transition is happening, but there is no justice.

6.4. Xolobeni

Overview

The area being referred to as Xolobeni is a wider community—the Umgundlovu community—which has been settled in the area since 1700-1800s. Xolobeni (which should be spelled Xholobeni) is one of five main villages in the area occupied by the community. The Umgundlovu community has been largely remained under traditional governance and resisted the authority of the colonial government. A key value of the community is self-determination, the freedom to make their own decisions about their natural resources and to protect their interests.

The community aligned themselves strongly aligned with the ANC in the 1980s and through the 1990s there was perception that good progress had been made jobs, services, tourism and leveraging private sector partners.

For example, in the 1980s and 1990s Richards Bay Minerals owned the mining rights to the area. However, a shift occurred in the early 2000s when the Australian group Mineral Commodities Ltd started looking into mining ilmenite along 22km of the coast. The push for coastal mining by Mineral Commodities Ltd has resulted in a hotly contested divide within the community, as has the proposed toll road. The toll road was planned in the 1950s–1960s to integrate the Transkei region with the rest of the national highway network, the route planned in the late 1990s was to start at the WildCoast Sun and cross the Umgundlovu community land. There is a perception that the construction of this road is supporting by the mining sector, as it would intersect with where the mining by Mineral Commodities Ltd would take place, allowing the company to use the road to ship their minerals. SANRAL has denied their intention support mining through the proposed route. There are also reportedly plans in place for the construction of a 'smart city' in the area, as well as considerations for offshore oil and gas exploration.

Division within the community, particularly in those that are resisting mining and the construction of the toll road has at times resulted in violence, with frequent reports of intimidation and one related murder to date. Members of the Umgundlovu community, aided by Richard Spoor Attorneys, have gone to court several times in the last decade to prevent mining being undertaken in the area without the consent of the community has a whole.

There is consensus that consultations with the community have been lacking and/or wholly ineffective to date. A general sense of disappointment and distrust in the government and any related process or project is clear.

Local perspectives

- Engage with both District and Local Municipal structures as well as the traditional authority structures when planning engagements.
- It is strongly recommended to plan the community engagements as community dialogues or an imbizo, rather than a workshop — given that there is a need for substantial preparatory work before this community will be willing to engage in any sort of planning.
- Plan engagements to take place on a neutral ground where all community factions can have equal footing and opportunity to speak. There are nuances here regarding the perceived 'territory' of various factions, holding a meeting in a particular area could prevent full participation.
- Understanding will need to be built regarding the PCC, its function, authority, and intentions with the community.
- The community will need to see tangible steps being made should the just transition consultative process continue in the area.
- The absence of a large proportion of the commissioners, and the absence of the ministers, did not sit well with the community, adding to prevailing sense of distrust.
- The local municipality has been ineffective in engaging with this community. They need to be involved in these discussions and held accountable and they should have been in the 'room'.
- Government interventions have not always been appropriate for the community context. An example is given of an agricultural project that relied on extensive use of pesticides. The community does not want to 'poison' their land and water.
- There is concern about misalignment within the government, conflicting actions, and programmes.
- The planned toll road should run north of the community; it would be more useful there. Why does it have to cut across their land between them and the sea?
- The government has done little for community, in their eyes. They do not trust that the PCC process will yield anything.
- The community has not benefitted from projects and programmes that promised them jobs.
- There is the potential for developing eco-tourism within this community.
- There is a need for improved water services.
- There is a need for access to education for the community, particularly tertiary education.
- The community lacks access to healthcare services.
- Corruption results in promised money for road improvements etc. not materialising.
- Overall feeling is that the community has been looking after itself up until this point. There have been promises, but no action.

- Key is that the community prefers not to be dependent on government and perceives that this is what government is attempting to achieve. The community prefers to be empowered.
- Understanding of the PCC, its structures and functions are lacking — this needs to be addressed before and during the workshop. Who constitutes the PCC? How were the commissioners selected? What authority does the PCC have?
- The project team did obtain a sufficient understanding of the dynamics within this community ahead of the Imbizo. A key insight from the Xolobeni engagement is that it is likely better to delay community workshops in areas where a full and comprehensive understanding of the dynamics within the community had not yet been established.
- Key voices were missing, for example from the youth, thus limiting a comprehensive view of the issues and proposed solutions.
- Additional time is therefore needed to engage with the district and local municipalities, as well as with traditional leadership structures.
- Trust needs to be built with the community, they are looking for an early return date and tangible outcomes from this engagement.

Potential solutions

- Allow community to take part in small-scale fisheries operations, to date licences have not been granted to community members.
- Develop tourism, making use of undisturbed coastline and archaeological sites.
- Establish schools and colleges in the area so that young people do not have to travel far to receive a quality education.
- Construct clinics in the area to ensure that the community can access healthcare.
- Ensure that financing granted to improve roads etc. reaches the community and is not side-lined by the municipality.
- Engage the community to develop appropriate water supply solutions.
- Engage with the community to develop improved agricultural programmes that are based on local knowledge and do not rely on chemical pesticides and fertilisers.
- Improve education curriculums to include climate change.

6.5. Gqeberha

Overview

The Eastern Cape site, Gqeberha, is home to a significant component of South Africa's automotive industry. Around 10,000 jobs depend on the motor industry in Gqeberha, with VWSA and Isuzu being the lead firms in motor vehicle manufacturing in the municipality. With this, there are many component manufacturers and other small business that support the lead firms.

The industry in Gqeberha has already experienced job losses because of the disinvestment of General Motors in South Africa in 2017. This resulted in the sale of

GM's Struandale plant in Port Elizabeth to Japanese commercial company, Isuzu, meaning that only the Isuzu of three brands manufactured by GM was retained.

Gqeberha is also significantly affected by climate change, with increasing water scarcity resulting from intense and frequent droughts. With this, local government's ability to deliver basic services has deteriorated, a situation that has been exacerbated by the coalition government that came into being following local government elections in 2021.

Local perspectives

- The domestic market for EVs is shrinking (there has been a decline in local demand since 2014, concomitant with low economic growth and a shrinking middle class that is where the demand for cars lies) and the export market is a mainstay of the South African manufacturing industry. With this, European exports dominate.
- The South African motor industry is unlikely to survive the transition to zero emission vehicles if it does not produce and export EVs.
- Experts and analysts believe that South Africa will not be able to competitively produce battery packs, limiting the locally manufactured components of EVs.
- The small business community and some economic development officials in the Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality have a contradictory view and believe that South Africa can compete effectively and has the expertise and skills to do so.
- The motor industry (VWSA) and the Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber confirm the risk of not manufacturing EVs for the export market and are concerned as to the uptake of EVs in the local market in the absence of government incentives that would increase the affordability and therefore the accessibility of EVs in the domestic portion of their market.
- The NYDA is highly active in Gqeberha and is working toward promoting and supporting entrepreneurial activities among the youth.
- Civil society is active but fragmented, with organisations proliferating across various interest groups, including environmental justice and economic development. Care must be taken in engaging civil society and civic organisations to ensure comprehensive representation.
- The lack of and continued deterioration of basic service delivery and poor governance and maintenance is negatively affecting economic development and compromising jobs and livelihoods in the area. The coalition government is a major concern, with problems including constantly changing leadership and officials, slow recruitment processes in local government and inability to agree on selection of key officials and on city budgets.
- Community members and small businesses want to be actively engaged in local government tenders and protests and violence is rife when they do not get awarded local tenders.
- Basic service delivery is an issue in the city.
- There is a general lack of trust in the municipality.
- Lack of response from both government and PCC when sending emails is eroding confidence of community actors.

- Indigenous knowledge systems have not been adequately considered, skills and knowledge related to natural resource management (for example) are being lost.
- More education and awareness-raising are needed regarding waste management, as well as champions and partnerships to mainstream sustainable approaches.
- There is a lack of clarity regarding the commitments and/or contributions to be made to the just transition process by companies and industries that contribute to carbon emissions in South Africa.
- The quality and quantity of water accessible is a problem. The area is struggling with droughts, reducing the availability of water. Furthermore, the quality of available water poses a health hazard to local communities.
- The automotive industry is subject to weaknesses within the value chain, which includes a skills shortage.
- SMEs struggle with compliance issues.
- Not all minority groups are accommodated and included, leading to important voices not being heard. Furthermore, participant in stakeholder meetings lack a comprehensive understanding of the problems discussed, which leads to a lack of engagement and responsiveness in the meeting, and the following up of meetings.
- Communities need to be part of the just transition process from the beginning. Especially part of decision making. They don't only want to be consulted, and the community is tired of being on the side-lines. They will meet every day if they need to.
- The PCC should work with CBOs, NPOs, and communities continuously, beyond just formal meetings.
- Additional consultations will be needed; many people were not represented.
- Invest more time in building understanding of what the just transition process and framework is about.
- The PCC should fulfil its promise to return in a timeous manner.
- PCC should involve communities, facilitating regular stakeholder engagement meetings and supporting municipal business models.
- Youth, women, people with disabilities, and other minority groups, should be present in stakeholder meetings. Similarly, municipalities should also have an IDP manager present in stakeholder meetings. SALGA can assist in ensuring this, by having a ward councillor reporting to SALGA.
- Stakeholder meetings should be specific about issues to ensure that relevant stakeholders are identified.
- Meetings should be accessible and understandable to all. Meeting attendees should understand what they should do after the meeting, and there should be follow up from what they did (after 6 months).
- "Nothing for us, without us"
- Involve spiritual leaders, as well as community leaders in the consultation process.

Potential solutions

- Need to reduce the demand of water per capita and introduce behavioural interventions to reduce water waste at consumer level (like addressing taps constantly running).
- SMEs require the creating of bursary or grant opportunities to access funding, as well as receiving continuous support from the PCC.
- The manufacturing (automotive) sector requires political support, improved infrastructure, and skills development.
- Climate change actions should be institutionalised on municipal level to enforce compliance.
- Urban food projects should be elevated that prioritizes localized market and production whilst ensuring income is generated.
- Skills can be developed with close cooperation with educational facility support.
- Community ownership of power supply system should be examined as a model.
- Solutions include grey water recycling, which would benefit both water systems and job creation whilst providing opportunities for empowering women.

6.6. Hotazel

Overview

The community engagements in the Northern Cape were undertaken in the broader mining complex encompassed by Kuruman, Hotazel and Kathu. Mining in the Northern Cape is estimated to employ ~15,000 people and contribute ~18 percent to the provincial economy (Minerals Council South Africa, no date). Manganese, iron ore and diamonds are the dominant mining products. Mining companies have reportedly invested over R700 million in development projects in the province over the last five years (Minerals Council South Africa, no date). Nonetheless, poverty remains rampant as there are limited job opportunities — even within the mining sector. Access to water and electricity, as well as health and education services is a continual struggle, particularly for communities on the edge of mining towns or dispersed within the broader arid landscape. There is little public transport available, and roads are in poor condition.

In recent years, several renewable energy companies—mostly solar power—have started developments in the Northern Cape. Communities remain divided over the future benefits of these operations as they feel they have yet to have any meaningful engagements with the largely foreign companies or see any benefit from the projects they are running. In terms of the just transition, there is a need to invest additional time and resources into building a baseline understanding of the process, its governance and framework before meaningful consultation can be undertaken with a broader range of stakeholders.

Local perspectives

- Of all the stakeholders consulted only one (Gopolang Nels from Ga-Segonyana Local Municipality) exhibited a meaningful understanding of a just transition, the imperatives behind it, and what it means in practice. There is a clear gap in

understanding at the local level regarding the just transition, which will require intervention going forward.

- Sending out documentation ahead of the visit to inform stakeholders about the just transition and the role of the PCC may have enabled more pertinent discussions to take place.
- It is recommended that the initial section of the programme on the day of the workshop focus on apprising stakeholders of what just transition is, the need for a framework to guide national action and the role of the PCC.
- This is particularly pertinent as stakeholders from different social partners have very different levels of capacity and competency to participate meaningfully in the planned workshop.
- As it stands, the just transition appears too technical. It needs to be simplified and communicated to communities in a relatable format, preferably through community organisations and leadership structures which are trusted.
- Further consultation and the site visit highlighted that the catchment area for the workshop should include the broader mineral complex that encompasses Hotazel, Kathu and Kuruman (JTG District Municipal area)
- There is a very low density of stakeholders within this complex. Many of these are concentrated around mines in Hotazel, Kathu and Kuruman, but there is a larger area of rural and arid lands which houses a community dependent on subsistence agriculture. This broader, low-density community is vulnerable to climate change impacts, as well as downscaling or shifts in the mining sector.
- Representation of the Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union (AMCU) is very low in the Hotazel-Kathu-Kuruman complex.
- AMCU lost their recognition at Kumba's Sishen Mine and is not very active in the area.
- Both the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and Solidarity remain active in the complex.
- The just transition implies a loss of jobs in mining and power sectors, how will this be managed? These sectors create many jobs and there is no immediately obvious alternative.

Renewable Energy:

- There are solar/renewable energy operators in the complex and this is a sector where more job opportunities are emerging.
- These companies have license obligations to support socio-economic development, but there has been limited activity in this area according to anecdotal reports.
- We need to establish a baseline understanding of the technologies we have in South Africa that can support a just transition at this time.
- Communities lack expertise in terms of renewable energy technologies, and this is an area that will require investment in skills building etc.
- There is little to no alignment between recently launched Northern Cape Green Hydrogen Strategy and national policies.
- Can we invest in technology to reduce the impact of coal, as well as — or in some cases instead of — phasing out coal?
- How will the just transition compensate for the loss of jobs in the mining/energy sectors?

- Lack of alignment between policies, plans and programmes at all levels of government.
- Inclusivity needs to be built through long-term relationships and cannot adequately be achieved in the short term.
- Conversations around inclusivity need to take place outside of politics and provide a balanced perspective.
- Small, local, and black-owned businesses should be promoted as part of inclusive practices.
- The voices of women and youth need to be explicitly captured in the Just Transition Framework.
- Solutions are often presented to communities with inadequate consultation and do not address the needs and wants of the community.
- Communities have lost faith in local government and do not trust them to act in their best interests.
- Communities struggle to access water and power.
- The roads are in poor condition.
- There are few schools available within a reasonable distance.
- There are few or no health facilities servicing communities outside town centres.
- Communities lack expertise in terms of renewable energy technologies, and this is an area that will require investment in skills building etc.
- There is little to no alignment between recently launched Northern Cape Green Hydrogen Strategy and national policies.
- Communities have not seen any benefit from the new solar companies arising in the area.
- There is a perception that renewable energy companies will not create a significant number of jobs in the complex.
- There is a skills gap that foreign experts are being brought in to fill, and there is little, or no skills transfer being done with local communities
- Access to water and water quality is a considerable problem for communities in the complex.
- Mines need to start working with surrounding communities on environmental activities, such as rehabilitation.
- Mines are seen as the only career option for young people.
- Retired mine workers have no social or financial support available, they depend on under-funded community organisations and family for support.

Potential solutions

- Solar/renewable energy operators are an emerging sector where job creation is possible.
- Kumba Mine is reportedly working with surrounding communities and the agricultural sector on a circular economy approach. This kind of effort could be expanded to other mines in the area.
- There needs to be a focus on skilling youth for the new economy and that should start now, at a young age.
- The just transition should be grounded in LED strategies at the municipal level. We also need to see alignment and consistency in policies and plans for the just transition across all levels of governance.

- Simplify the core messages of the just transition and avoid technical language when reaching out to stakeholders.
- Establish baseline knowledge of the technologies we already have in South Africa that can support the just transition.
- Invest in building skills of local communities, particularly youth, so that they can engage in renewable energy and other opportunities under the just transition.
- Invest in technologies to reduce impact of mining industry.
- Address service delivery (water, electricity, health, and education) so that communities are not left behind.
- Ground the just transition in LED strategies at the municipal level and ensure consistency and alignment across all levels of government.
- Invest additional time and resources in building a baseline understanding of all processes, plans, technologies etc. being considered as part of the just transition process.

6.7. Carolina

Overview

Carolina is the centre of the Chief Albert Luthuli Municipality (CALM) within the Gert Sibande District Municipality (GSDM). The economy of the district is driven by mining, petrochemical industries, energy generation and supply, agriculture, forestry, and some manufacturing. Notably, four of the country's 10 operational coal-fired power stations are located within the GSDM, and their potential closure threatens embedded supply chains, sectoral linkages, and job and economic security in the area. The economy of Carolina, and the CALM, is linked to the community services sector such as government departments, job creation/welfare programmes, as well as the retail sector. It is the mining sector that underpins the economic and social structures of Carolina, yet it contributes relatively little to the local economy and provides limited employment. There is a clear understanding among community members that there is a trade-off between the negative impacts of coal mining on infrastructure, health, and the environment on one hand, and the need for job creation and income from coal mining on the other. The negative impacts of mining are extensive, coal trucks moving through the town contribute to crime and prostitution and constrain tourism.

Small scale mining tends to take over and break up farmlands. Mine rehabilitation has not been conducted, and mine dumps continue to leach toxins into arable soils rendering it sub optimal or useless. Acid mine drainage leaks from empty pits and seeps into the water table disrupting agricultural activity and contaminating drinking water. Although a Mining Forum was established to facilitate discussions with the local community about mining operations, the members of the Forum do not collaborate on drafting social and labour plans (SLPs) or related projects. Their focus has been on avoiding duplication of effort, rather than a holistic plan which considers the just transition and the wellbeing of communities.

There is a desire to increase tourism sector in Carolina, given its strategic position on routes to Mozambique, eSwatini and Kwa-Zulu Natal Province. However, there are several barriers to achieving this growth. From an organizational perspective, the tourism sector does not have a functional centre for coordination, and activities are dispersed and fragmented. The existing tourism association has a limited membership base and does not collaborate with commercial tourist operators. A similar problem exists in the agricultural sector, with a lack of a robust and effective organization guiding agricultural development in the CALM.

Given the competency of the local municipality, there is a good basis of understanding among Carolina stakeholders of the just transition and the need for a comprehensive strategy to guide future development. Most of the municipal resources have been focused on poverty alleviation and there is an urgent need to address infrastructure and service delivery issues, particularly considering the ambition to increase tourism through the area. The institutional conditions for a just transition already exist in Carolina, but that an enabling environment will need to be established to realise this. There is considerable work needed to build working relationships and trust between sectoral actors before a consensus can be reached on the way forward.

Local perspectives

- Air and water pollution by mining/energy companies is having negative health impacts for communities.
- Houses are often damaged by blasting and there is no compensation from the mines.
- Mines remain insensitive to the need for rehabilitation and the negative impacts that failing to undertake this process has on the environment and communities.
- Too many coal trucks on the road are causing damage to road infrastructure.
- Transportation is a huge challenge in Carolina, and this makes the cost of business go up.
- Carolina is a ghost town but has considerable potential for development, particularly given its position on routes to Mozambique, eSwatini and Kwa-Zulu Natal.
- There is a pervading concern that fourth industrial revolution might replace people, increasing job losses. Unemployment is already high and social problems like drugs and crime are on the rise.
- Access to mines by locals is not supported by government and there is a fair amount of illegal mining taking place.
- Gender issues in the mining and energy sectors must be dealt with. Women are not being hired by mines and there are extensive problems with gender-based violence which is directly linked to mining.
- The existing SLP undertaken by mines is not aligned to community needs. There were also allegations of SLP money being misused by the municipality, with funds not serving community needs.
- Youth are not able to access opportunities for skills development. There are no TVETs for students beyond matric, so locals are forced to travel to access education and training.

- There are considerable issues with access to basic services such as water and electricity. Both are seen to be unaffordable for a large portion of the community. There are also ongoing issues with quality and delivery of these.

Potential solutions

- Limit issuance of mining permits for coal until the corruption within mining companies and DMRE is addressed.
- Alternatively, issue licences to local communities to create jobs, rather than large mining companies.
- Prioritise economic growth of Carolina to prevent the increase of crime and other social ills through job creation.
- Grant the community access to land so that they can revitalise agriculture in the area to increase food security.
- Revitalise public transport systems for Carolina.
- Invest in skills development for youth to enable them to participate in the just transition.
- If mines are unwilling to undertake rehabilitation, pay communities to undertake rehabilitation on unused mining land, which can then be used for agriculture etc.
- Improve alignment and coordination across all levels of government.
- Hold mining companies accountable for lack of compliance with regards to rehabilitation and environmental restrictions.
- Empower communities to take on the challenge of sustainable mining and agricultural practices.
- Invest in skills development for women and youth to increase their participation in the economy and reduce social ills associated with poverty and unemployment.

6.8. Secunda

Overview

Secunda lies within the Gert Sibande District Municipality and is governed by the Govan Mbeki Local Municipality (GMLM). The economy of the district is driven by mining, manufacturing, trade, and construction (Municipalities of South Africa, no date). GMLM encompasses mainly agricultural land, with Secunda being one of the main urban centres and the seat of the municipality (Govan Mbeki Municipality, 2021). The economy of the GMLM is dominated by the petrochemical industry (namely, the SASOL II and III complexes), as well as coal and gold mining. The population continues to grow as more people seek opportunities within these sectors, constraining the ability of the GMLM to provide basic services. Notably, ~56% the population can be classified as poor, with average monthly household incomes reaching a maximum of R3,200 (Govan Mbeki Municipality, 2021).

The skyline and local economy of Secunda is dominated by the activities of energy giant Sasol (Sguazzin, 2020), which operates five mines in the area, as well as Secunda power station (Sasol, no date). This station has been identified by national and international actors as the world's largest single-site emitter (Sguazzin, 2020). As

with several of the other sites examined under this project, these operations are critical to the local economy and employ a significant number of the local population. Sasol has also made considerable investments into Secunda and is in the process of setting targets for emissions reductions. Nonetheless, the pollution from the energy and mining activities in the area are having negative impacts on the health and wellbeing of surrounding communities, as well as the natural environment. A balanced approach is needed to address the concerns of the community and plan for sustainable future development, while safeguarding health and wellbeing.

Local perspectives

- The Secunda/Vaal area was declared a high priority area in terms of air quality in 2008. Nothing has happened since then. The community wants to see resources to actively resolve the problem. Sasol compliance must be enforced by Government. Community based organisations who are working on these issues must be resourced with office space and affected people must be targeted and community work must be incentivised.
- There is a perception that Sasol, as one of the major industries in the area, does not support communities and is not giving their concerns (particularly those related to health, labour deployment and skills development) due consideration. Sasol is not giving back to the community, while the Govan Mbeki Municipality is a “corner to corner dumping site and scrapyard municipality”. Perceptions are that the Municipality won't benefit and that is why they are not here, once again demonstrating low levels of cooperation and commitment.
- The just transition is a double-edged sword: “It is inevitable that that we will lose jobs.”
- Issues were raised as to how Sasol will absorb youth into their programs—are there plans to create jobs or provide training for youth?
- Trust has been damaged as stakeholders report that Sasol provides training with promise of employment, then shifts the goal posts for employment, requiring additional experience or training.
- The justice system is failing communities and favours the rich.
- There is a lack of service delivery in informal settlements, the roads, for example, are in very poor condition.
- DMRE not sensitive to gender parity when giving opportunities for mining.
- The just transition process will need to address inequality to ensure that people are not left behind and that the process is truly just.
- Retrofit houses with solar solutions and decentralise production of renewable energy products and systems to create jobs within communities.
- Revitalise the public transport system at a local level (trains and busses).
- Empower relevant officials to police implementation of SLPs.
- Existing groups such as South African Women in Mining Association (SAWIMA) have plans and programs to address the needs of communities but lack funding support. There is also the challenge of relevant officials not coming to the party (e.g., Mintek/NQA).
- Community members expressed the need for a balance between environmental preservation and development. There is a need development for jobs, but at

same time there is a need for sustainability. How do we get this balance, particularly in energy given that Eskom is also culprit in terms of pollution? Who will hold the SOEs to account? Government is also part of the pollution issue, and the Green Scorpions initiative seems to have disappeared. With this, there are underground water and mining issues. Landfills are not being managed to standard and national government is not doing anything about this. Important to the balance is taking care of local communities. They are not benefitting from companies causing the pollution. Local people are unemployed and sick and are not benefitting from job and business opportunities. Penalties don't work as these just allow business to continue with business as usual. Rather, business licences must be taken away if they don't comply.

- Sasol 2 and 3 is biggest industry in the world. Profitable and big but not investing in cleaning air pollution (and clean technology).
- Climate change is an issue already and affects local people. Communities will support CC but want action and accountability
- Sasol should take responsibility but oppresses black people, systematically. SLPs don't help and are not done consultatively. The Mining Charter is not being implemented effectively. Govan Mbeki municipality is surrounded by mines and therefore this is a mining community, but head office employs and leads / manages from Joburg without engaging the CBOs and NPOs.
- "Localisation is null and void"
- People need a clearer understanding of the just transition.
- "We are in trauma as a people, we participate in this journey whilst in trauma — we are NOT fighting anyone, we just ask for honesty from business and government."
- The real impact of the just transition process must be quantified and transparently communicated before communities are asked to commit to the process e.g., Who sets the agenda? What is the expected cost of the just transition? Can we quantify the risk of job losses? What are the expected impacts on youth? What are the expected impacts on existing value chains?
- Communities in South Africa do have a wide skills base. Can the manufacturing sector in this country be revitalised?
- There was a suggestion that just transition ambassadors be identified from among workshop attendees.
- Avoid the use of bottled water in workshops, avoid plastic pollution and "walk the talk".
- Clear recognition that climate change is an issue and must be addressed — but there are perceptions that this can be addressed through different avenues to getting rid of coal, as there are also opportunities for clean coal.
- The lack of understanding plus misinformation on renewable energy abounds suggesting anti RE campaign.
- Governance trumps. Without this the transition will not be just.
- Decisions about the transition must involve the community through the procedural justice element and through reflecting all the view raised and delivering to highest level of Government.

A key takeaway message is that this transition must go hand in hand with economic transformation in South Africa. We can't ignore that we are coming off a low base

and extremely unequal society with high sky-high unemployment. There can be no (just) transition unless we create jobs, enable broad economic ownership, and address redistribution of land.

Potential solutions

- Institute a capacitated committee in Mpumalanga that is skilled and empowered to consider what must be done (and execute/oversee implementation). Sasol (and Eskom) must be involved in the committee.
- Remove corrupt judges, law enforcement and other officials. If a task team is instituted, those people must be dedicated.
- Retrofit houses with solar solutions and decentralise production of renewable energy products and systems to create jobs within communities.
- Water solutions and better disaster preparedness. Climate change is happening now and the negative effects of it are felt every day. Need more resilient infrastructure and more sustainable human settlements. Recognition that it is not possible to move all shacks immediately, but the process must be better planned and managed
- Revitalise the public transport system at a local level (trains and busses).
- Empower relevant officials to police implementation of SLPs.
- Existing groups such as South African Women in Mining Association (SAWIMA) have plans and programs to address the needs of communities but lack funding support. There is also the challenge of relevant officials not coming to the party (e.g., Mintek/NQA).
- Land is needed for various youth programs and agriculture programs.
- Ownership and entrepreneurship – doors opening for young people in energy production, but they don't have enough resources and skills and information. Research to rather use our coal (better) rather than move to renewable energy is an option.
- Need local innovation and building on intellectual property of young people's ideas. Restorative justice is important in terms of social health (crimes and drugs).

7. Learnings from the Process of Engaging Communities

In addition to the above-mentioned messages from the community engagements, there are also important process lessons to take on board in both planning for and convening future community engagements.

Understanding of the PCC, it's structures and functions, is lacking; this needs to be addressed early in the just transition process. The following questions need to be addressed in consultations: Who constitutes the PCC? How were the commissioners selected? What authority does the PCC have? How will the PCC drive the just transition process in South Africa?

Visibility of Commissioners. Commissioners need to be more visible in the just transition process and in community engagements. On average, four to five commissioners participated in each engagement under this project, whereas the

commissioners total 23 (with an additional 10 government ministers). Commissioners represent different constituencies, therefore if only a handful are in the room, only a handful of constituencies are seen to be represented.

Plenary sessions, at least in the first round of workshops/Imbizos, are preferable. The break-away group structure was found to be impractical for the first round of workshops, which had to be run as plenaries, not least because this was a rare opportunity for different social partner groups to be in the same room. With this, the experience has been that the bulk of the workshop time will be taken by communities communicating their challenges and frustrations with government processes and low economic development. The use of break-away groups or other meeting structures should be re-evaluated for follow-up consultations.

There are voices which will dominate the dialogue, these need to be sensitively managed, with careful facilitation. Some social partner groups are likely to be mobilised more than others, creating imbalanced representation in the room during consultations. During this project, this was likely a function of both the site visits where some social partners were engaged and not others, allowing those that were engaged plenty time to prepare, and of the activities of commissioners highly active in specific locations, resulting in mobilisation of some constituencies and not others. As a result, we have at times missed key voices and have not succeeded in leveraging a comprehensive view of the issues and proposed solutions.

Engagements must be facilitated in the dominant local language with support for other languages in the room.

Local and district municipalities and traditional leadership, where appropriate, must be in the room. Additional time than this process has allowed is required to engage with the district and local municipalities, as well as with traditional leadership structures to ensure that they are available and prepared to participate.

Accessible venues. It is essential to use accessible venues such as the workshop held in the central city hall in Emalahleni, and the Imbizo held at Komkhulu in Xolobeni, both of which allowed for more people to attend (in terms of logistics and travel) than would otherwise have been the case. This is particularly important as most attendees will be relying on public transportation. Furthermore, community-oriented venues, such as the Austerville Community Hall in South Durban Basin, help to create a space for community voices as they are not intimidating in any way.

8. Conclusion

There is little doubt that communities represented through this project understand the negative development impacts of climate change and the just transition. This is even though they lack a clear understanding of the dynamics and details of the just transition to a low carbon and climate resilient society. Communities are experiencing the pain of climate change impacts, combined with poor basic service delivery and governance, and their anger and frustration over low/no

delivery against government promises is palpable. Apart from the obvious interventions around job creation, security and skills development that are directly related to the just transition, the overall take away from this process is that the transition cannot be 'just' if people do not experience equitable and adequate basic service delivery (water and sanitation, electricity, and waste management) and do not have inclusive access to usable land.

There are three key issues that will clearly impede buy-in to South Africa's just transition and will therefore potentially impact its effective implementation. These are corruption (often combined with perceptions of lack of caring by government), coupled with poor governance (largely expressed in terms of poor municipal management, dysfunctional coalition local governments, and a DMRE that is widely perceived as not delivering its mandate), and industry neglect (articulated as not adequately investing its gains back into enabling the development of local communities).

President Cyril Ramaphosa's recent emphasis on implementing government's planned District Development Model (announced at the South African Local Government Association conference in March 2022) which aims to improve the country's municipalities is timely for the just transition process and should be explicitly integrated in the Just Transition Framework. The District Development Model aims to improve coordination between national, provincial, and local governments, and between government and its social partners. Given many of the barriers raised to an effective just transition by communities, this coordination (if given the necessary teeth) will be a critical success factor to its implementation. In particular, the model seeks to bring coherence to planning and implementation, and in turn is expected to bring clarity of understanding across the three spheres of government as to what is needed, where it is needed, how and by whom it will be done, and exactly what the costs will be. This approach is aligned with a just transition that is tailored to community needs, including an effective enabling environment, skills and skills development requirements, job and enterprise development opportunities, and incentives appropriate to inclusive community participation.

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Annex 1: Stakeholders Engaged During Site Visits

Site	Organisation	Representative
eMalahleni	Mining Affected Communities United in Action (MACUA): Womxndla Community Development	Nomonde Nkosi
	Mining Affected Communities United in Action (MACUA): Greater Phola Ogies Womens Forum	Millicent Shugube
	COSATU Provincial Secretary, Mpumalanga	Thabo Mokoena
	VUKANI Environmental Management Movement	Promise Mabilo
	NUM — General Secretary (online engagement)	William Mbada
Secunda	NYDA	Lovington Buthelezi Charlotte Mashiloane
Lephalale	Women of Change	
	Bopanang Organisation	
	Matsoba Organisation	
	Dithukeng	
	Waterberg Women Advocacy Organization (WWAO)	
	Enviro-vito Mokopane	
	Waterberg Biosphere Reserve	
	Lephalale Wilderness School	
	Steenbokpan (WAU)	
	Earthlife Africa	
	Traditional Leadership	
	Agri-Lephalale	
	MACUA-Lephalale	
Durban South Basin	South Durban Community Environmental Alliance (SDCEA)	Desmond D'Sa Shanice Firmin Kershni Ramreddi
	Merebank Alliance Forum (MAF)	Paul Naidoo
	MRA Industrial Park	Tony Kistan
	Community members	Vuzi Terence Ogle
	Local Business	Jerome Schoonberg
	African Arc Engineering	Quincy Fynn
	St Mary's Primary School	Roshan Ramdheen (Principal)
Xolobeni	Amadiba Crisis Committee (ACC)	Sididi Mdatye Bekela Xolobeni Mpindweni Mtentu Moscow

	Xolobeni Youth for Sustainable Development	Xolobeni
	Richard Spoor Attorneys	Johan Lorentzen
Gqeberha	NMBM	Dawn McCarthy (COO and Chief Director, Strategic Planning, Office of the City Manager) Amelia Buchner (Chief Directorate, Economic Development) Jeremy Dobbin (Assistant Director: General Manufacturing & Renewable Industries Trade & Investment sub-directorate) Wandisile Makwabe (Acting head, automotive sector) Mpho Jonas
	Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber	Denise Van Huyssteen (CEO)
	Volkswagen South Africa (VWSA)	Robert Cisek (CEO)
	SANGOCO	Kholiswa Makalima
	Coego Development Corporation	Graham Taylor (COO)
	National Youth Development Agency	Camilla (Branch Director) Kyle (Lead, youth entrepreneur development)
	NBM University	Janet Cherry Russell Phillips
Hotazel	MeerCup — Kuruman, Former Secretary of Gamagara Corridor Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI)	Bebe Kgware
	General Secretary of National Union of Mineworkers (NUM)	William Mabapa (General Secretary)
	John Taolo Gaetsewe District Office, Director of Planning (Responsible for IDP & LED) (Joe Morolong Local Municipality)	Oupa Phiri
	LED Manager - Ga-Segonyana Local Municipality	Gopolang Nels
	Progressive Association of Women	Thandi Motsaathebe Thato
	Solidarity	Adele Rossouw Jorge Santos
	MACUA	Boitumelo Tshetlho
	South32 (via Zoom)	Noleen Dube Talitha Molweni Lee Butcher

Annex 2: Workshop Agendas

eMalahleni

Date: 07 March 2022

Venue: eMalahleni Civic Centre, 29 Mandela Street, eMalahleni

Time	Description	Lead
OPENING SESSION: PROGRAMME DIRECTOR BLESSING MANALE, PCC SECREATRIATE		
09:15 – 09:30	Welcome and Opening Remarks Macro Local Economic Outlook of eMalahleni Local Municipality	Executive Mayor: eMalahleni Local Municipality
09:30 – 09:45	Introductions and Participant Expectations Consultation Objectives	One World
09:45 – 10:00	Introduction to the Presidential Climate Commission and Just Transition Framework Development Process	Commissioner Bongani Mwale
10:00 – 10:20	Provincial response to Climate Change in the context of the Just Transition	Mpumalanga Provincial Government
10:20 – 11:00	Plenary 1: Q&A on the role of the Commission and how everyone else fits in and expectations from the consultations	
11h00 – 11h30	TEA BREAK	
11:30 – 12:00	PLENARY SESSION 2: KEY EMERGING ISSUES FACILITATOR: MAC MAKWARELA, PCC SECREATRIAT	
	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy — Just energy Transition Perspective	DMRE
	What we have learned from eMalahleni — Briefing on Breakaway Groups approach.	OneWorld
12:00 – 13:15	BREAKOUT GROUPS — BUILDING BLOCK OF A JUST TRANSITION	
	Each group to discuss both of the following questions: Question one: What would a just transition for eMalahleni stakeholders entail? Question two: What support do eMalahleni stakeholders need to ensure this just transition outcome?	One World
13:15 – 14:15	LUNCH	
14:15 – 14:45	Plenary report back	Rapporteurs
14:45 – 15:00	Synthesis of workshop outcomes and way forward	OneWorld
15:00 – 15:15	Closure and Vote of Thanks	PCC

Lephalale

Date: 15 March 2022

Venue: Mogol Club, Wells Street, Lephalale, 0557

Time	Description	
SESSION 1: SETTING THE SCENE: PROGRAMME DIRECTOR BLESSING MANALE, PCC SECRETARIAT		
09h15 – 09h30	Welcome and Opening Remarks District Municipality	Executive Mayor: District Municipality
09h30 – 09:45	Introduction to the Presidential Climate Commission and the Just Transition Framework development process	Presidential Climate Commission
09h45 – 10h00	Overview of the Just Transition and Climate Change	Presidential Climate Commission
10h00 – 10h15	What we have learned from stakeholders and previous workshops	OneWorld
10h15 – 11h15	PLENARY SESSION: Q&A on the role of the Commission and inputs from key stakeholder groups on their key expectations and issues around the Just Transition in Lephalale and Limpopo	
11h15 – 11h30	TEA BREAK	
11h30 – 12h45	PLENARY SESSION: Facilitated discussion on the Just Transition Framework: Question one: What would a Just Transition for Lephalale stakeholders entail?	
12h45 – 13h45	LUNCH	
13h45 – 14h45	PLENARY SESSION: Facilitated discussion on the Just Transition Framework: Question two: What support do Lephalale stakeholders need to ensure this Just Transition outcome?	
14h45 – 15h00	Synthesis of workshop outcomes and way forward	Presidential Climate Commission
15h00 – 15h15	Closure and Vote of Thanks	Presidential Climate Commission

Durban South Basin

Date: 23 March 2022

Venue: Austerville Civic Centre, 6 Percy Johnson Road, Austerville, Durban, 4052

Time	Description	Lead
SESSION 1: SETTING THE SCENE		
09:15 – 09:45	Welcome and Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KZN Government • eThekweni Municipality 	TBC
09h45 – 10:00	Introduction to the Presidential Climate Commission and Just Transition Framework Development Process	Commissioner Bobby Peek, PCC
10:00 – 10:15	Overview of the Just Transition and Climate Change	Mac Makwarela, PCC Secretariat
10:15 – 11:15	PLENARY SESSION: Q&A on the role of the Commission and inputs from key stakeholder groups on their expectations and issues around the Just Transition in SDB	
11:15 – 11:30	TEA BREAK	
11:30 – 12:45	PLENARY SESSION: Facilitated discussion on the Just Transition Framework Question one: What would a just transition for SDB stakeholders entail?	
12:45 – 13:45	LUNCH	
13:45 – 14:45	PLENARY SESSION: Facilitated discussion on the Just Transition Framework Question two: What support do SDB stakeholders need to ensure this just transition outcome?	
14:45 – 15:00	Synthesis of workshop outcomes and way forward	PCC
15:00 – 15:15	Closure and Vote of Thanks	PCC

Xolobeni

Date: 29 March 2022

Venue: Xolobeni Komkhulu

Time	Description	Lead
SESSION 1: SETTING THE SCENE Blessing Manale (PCC, Head of Communications)		
10h15 – 10h45	Welcome and Opening Remarks	TBD
10h45 – 11:00	Introduction to the Presidential Climate Commission and the “Just Transition Framework” development process”	Ms Ayakha Melithafa, PCC Commissioner
11h00 – 11h10	Overview of the Just Transition and Climate Change	Dr Brian Mantlana, PCC Commissioner
11h10 – 14h30 (Including time for a comfort break)	Open discussion: Q&A on the role of the Commission and inputs from community members on issues around, and expectations for, a decent life in Xolobeni Framing questions for discussion: Question one: What does a decent life for your community entail? Question two: What support does your community need to ensure a decent life? Question three (optional): What do you expect prospective fossil fuel developments to bring to Xolobeni?	
14h30 – 14h45	Synthesis of discussion outcomes and way forward	Presidential Climate Commission
14h45 – 15h00	Closure and Vote of Thanks	Presidential Climate Commission

Gqeberha

Date: 06 April 2022

Venue: ETC Conference Centre

Address: Spondo Street, Struandale, Gqeberha

Time	Description	Lead
SESSION 1: SETTING THE SCENE		
09h15 – 09h45	Welcome and Opening Remarks Introduction to PCC Secretariate	<i>Blessing Manale</i>
09h45 – 10:00	Introduction to the Presidential Climate Commission and the "Just Transition Framework" development process"	<i>Makoma Lekalakala Joanne Yawitch Princess Tsakani Mbulaheni Mbodi</i>
10h00 – 10h15	Overview of the Just Transition and Climate Change Commission	Mr Mac Makwarela, Interim Secretary at PCC
10h15 – 11h15	PLENARY SESSION: Q&A on the role of the Commission and inputs from key stakeholder groups on their key expectations and issues around the Just Transition in Gqeberha	
11h15 – 11h30	TEA BREAK	
11h30 – 12h45	PLENARY SESSION: Facilitated discussion on the Just Transition Framework: Question one: What would a Just Transition for Gqeberha stakeholders entail?	
12h45 – 13h45	LUNCH	
13h45 – 14h45	PLENARY SESSION: Facilitated discussion on the Just Transition Framework: Question two: What support do Gqeberha stakeholders need to ensure this Just Transition outcome?	
14h45-15h00	Synthesis of workshop outcomes and way forward	Presidential Climate Commission
15h00 – 15h15	Closure and Vote of Thanks	Presidential Climate Commission

Hotazel

Date: 12 April 2022

Venue: Thabo Moorosi Multi-Purpose Centre

Address: Mothibistad, Kuruman

Time	Description	Lead
SETTING THE SCENE		
09h15 – 09h45	Welcome and Opening Remarks	<i>Blessing Manale</i>
09h45 – 10:15	Introduction to the Presidential Climate Commission and the “Just Transition Framework development process”	<i>Makoma Lekalakala Ayakha Melithafa</i>
10h15 – 11h15	PLENARY SESSION: Q&A on the role of the Commission Open discussion from the floor	
<i>11h15 – 11h30</i>	TEA BREAK	
11h30 – 12h45	PLENARY SESSION cont.: Open discussion from the floor	
<i>12h45 – 13h45</i>	LUNCH	
13h45 – 14h45	PLENARY SESSION cont.: Open discussion from the floor	
14h45 – 15h00	Synthesis of workshop outcomes and way forward	Presidential Climate Commission
15h00 – 15h15	Closure and Vote of Thanks	Presidential Climate Commission

Carolina

Date: 21 April 2022

Venue: Chief Albert Luthuli Municipality, Carolina Town Hall

Address: 28 Kerk Street, Carolina

Time	Description	Lead
09h15 – 09h45	Welcome and Opening Remarks Introduction to PCC Secretariat	<i>Blessing Manale</i>
09h45 – 10:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Introduction and background to the Commission ii. Just Transition Overview iii. Process being followed by the Commission in developing the Just Transition Framework iv. Commission's dialogue and stakeholder's engagements, including the process beyond the Just Transition Framework development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) <i>Lebogang Mulaisi</i> ii) <i>Mac Chavalala</i> iii) <i>Happy Khambule</i> iv) <i>Bongani Mwale</i>
10h15 – 11h15	PLENARY SESSION: Q&A on the role of the Commission and inputs from key stakeholder groups on their key expectations and issues around the Just Transition in Carolina	
11h15 – 11h30	TEA BREAK	
11h30 – 12h45	PLENARY SESSION: Facilitated discussion on the Just Transition Framework: Question one: What would a Just Transition for Carolina stakeholders entail?	
12h45 – 13h45	LUNCH	
13h45 – 14h45	PLENARY SESSION: Facilitated discussion on the Just Transition Framework: Question two: What support do Carolina stakeholders need to ensure this Just Transition outcome?	
14h45-15h00	Synthesis of workshop outcomes and way forward	Presidential Climate Commission
15h00 – 15h15	Closure and Vote of Thanks	Presidential Climate Commission

Secunda

Date: 22 April 2022

Venue: Boesies Functions and Events Venue


Address: Lake Umuzi Waterfront, Secunda

Time	Description	Lead
09h15 – 09h45	Welcome and Opening Remarks Introduction to PCC Secretariat	<i>Blessing Manale</i>
09h45 – 10:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Introduction and background to the Commission ii. Just Transition Overview iii. Process being followed by the Commission in developing the Just Transition Framework iv. Commission's dialogue and stakeholder's engagements, including the process beyond the Just Transition Framework development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bongani Mwali ii. Shamini Harrington iii. Happy Khambule iv. Enos Mbodi
10h15 – 11h15	PLENARY SESSION: Q&A on the role of the Commission and inputs from key stakeholder groups on their key expectations and issues around the Just Transition in Secunda	
11h15 – 11h30	TEA BREAK	
11h30 – 12h45	PLENARY SESSION: Facilitated discussion on the Just Transition Framework: Question one: What would a Just Transition for Secunda stakeholders entail?	
12h45 – 13h45	LUNCH	
13h45 – 14h45	PLENARY SESSION: Facilitated discussion on the Just Transition Framework: Question two: What support do Secunda stakeholders need to ensure this Just Transition outcome?	
14h45 – 15h00	Synthesis of workshop outcomes and way forward	Presidential Climate Commission
15h00 – 15h15	Closure and Vote of Thanks	Presidential Climate Commission

Annex 3: Knowledge Products for Community Engagements

Flyers in English and isiXhosa prepared for the Xolobeni workshop

The Presidential Climate Commission (PCC)



Chairperson:
President Ramaphosa

Deputy Chairperson:
Valli Moosa

Commissioners

10 Ministers

21 representatives from labour, environment, health, education and other sectors

Work with South African communities to map out a sustainable future.

The road to the future must be fair and leave no one behind.

What is the Just Transition?

We want a future society and economy that is resilient to climate change and sustainable

*Decent work for all
Inclusive action
Less poverty, protect jobs
Opportunities for women
Opportunities for youth
Protect children, disabled and elders*


HOW DO WE GET THERE?

We need a plan that is fair and leaves no one behind

The Just Transition Framework is the roadmap towards this future

The Presidential Climate Commission (PCC)


Meeting with communities around South Africa to understand what a fair and sustainable future looks like



Building blocks of a sustainable future?

- Mining
- Agriculture
- Water
- Education
- Energy
- Environment

The Presidential Climate Commission (PCC)



uSihlalo:
President Ramaphosa

USehla Sihlalo:
Valli Moosa

Oomkhomishinari

10 Abalungiseleli

21 abameli: zabasebenzi, okusingqongileyo, impilo, imfundo kunye namanye amacandelo

Sebenzisana noluntu lwaseMzantsi Afrika ukwenza imephu yekamva elizinzileyo.

Indlela eya kwixesha elizayo kufuneka ilungile kwaye ingashihi mntu ngasemva.

Yintoni Just Transition?

Sifuna uluntu lwexesha elizayo kunye noqoqosho olukwaziyo ukumelana nokutshintsha kwemozulu kunye nozinzo

*Umsebenzi ofanelekileyo kubo bonke
Isenzo esibandakanyayo
Ubuhlwempu obuncinci, khusela imisebenzi
Amathuba kwabasetyhini
Amathuba olutsha
Khusela abantwana, abakhubazekileyo kunye nabantu abadala*

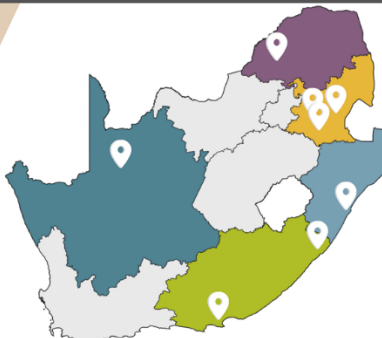
SIFIKA NJANI APHO?

Sidinga isicwangciso esifanelekileyo kwaye singashihi mntu ngasemva

I-Just Transition Framework yimephu yendlela eya kwelikamva

Presidential Climate Commission (PCC)

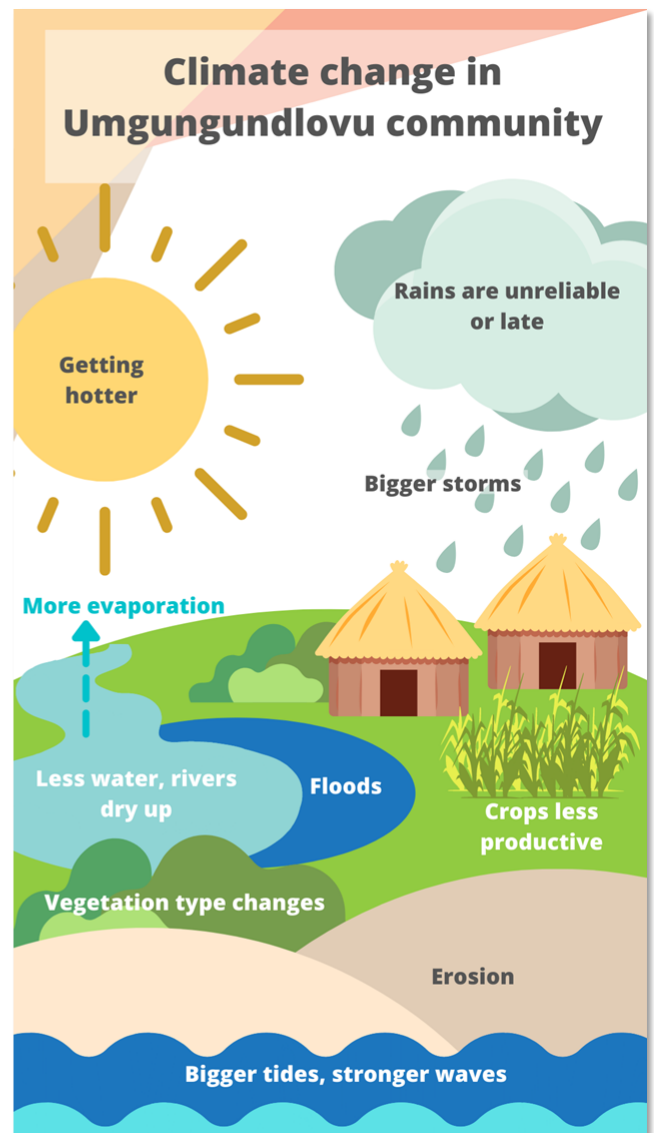
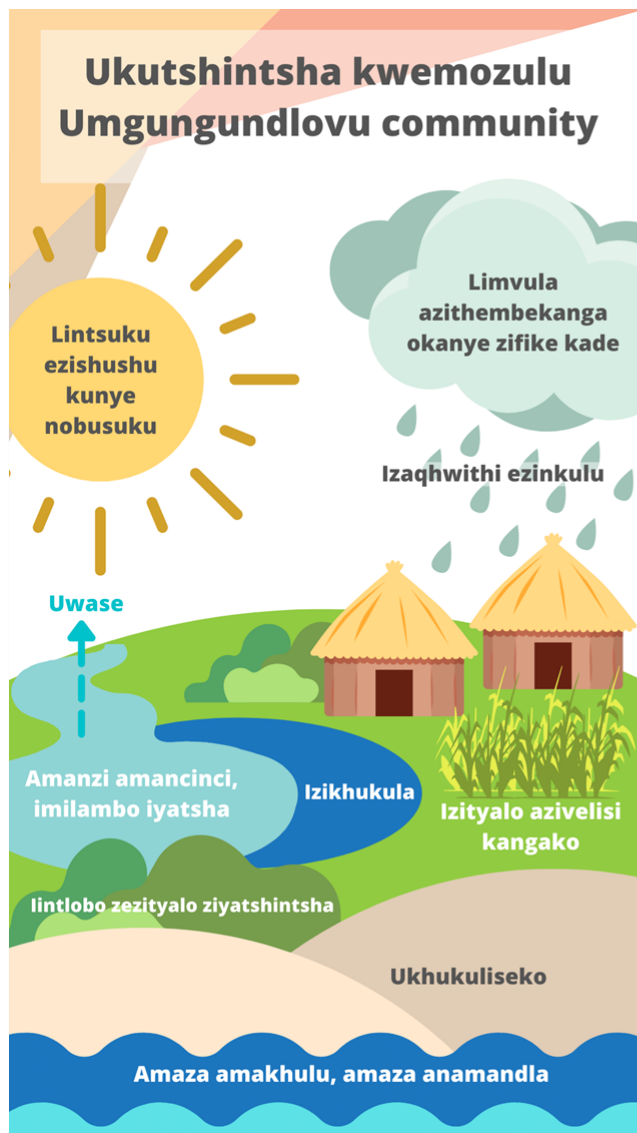
Ukudibana noluntu kuMzantsi Afrika jikelele ukuqonda ukuba linjani ikamva elinobulungisa nelizinzileyo



Iibhloko zokwakha zekamva elizinzileyo?

- Ukwembiwa kwemigodi
- Ezolimo
- Amanzi
- Imfundo
- Amandla
- Okusingqongileyo

Flyers produced to discuss climate change impacts in Xolobeni



Bifold brochure produced to introduce the PCC

What does the PCC do?

Our purpose is to oversee and facilitate a just and equitable transition towards a low-emissions and climate-resilient economy.

Our work is guided by robust research and analysis. We engage in a transparent manner with all stakeholders in our efforts to build social consensus around what will constitute a Just Transition for South Africa.

PCC Programmes

- Just Transition Framework
- Just Energy Transition
- Climate Finance
- Mitigation
- Adaptation
- Communications and Outreach

Learn more at
www.climatecommission.org.za

Contact us at
info@climatecommission.org.za



**PRESIDENTIAL
CLIMATE COMMISSION**
TOWARDS A JUST TRANSITION

Introducing the PCC

The Presidential Climate Commission is an independent, statutory, multi-stakeholder body established in 2020 by President Cyril Ramaphosa

Who is the Presidential Climate Commission (PCC)?



Chairperson:
President Ramaphosa



Deputy Chairperson:
Valli Moosa

Commissioners

Ministers




Barbara Crecy
Minister of Forestry & Fisheries & Environmental Affairs



Fikile Mbalula
Minister of Transport



Enoch Godongwana
Minister of Finance




Pravin Gordhan
Minister of Public Enterprises



Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma
Minister in The Presidency: Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation




Ebrahim Patel
Minister of Trade & Industry



Senzo Mchunu
Minister of Water & Sanitation



Blade Nzimande
Minister of Higher Education, Science & Technology



Gwede Mantashe
Minister of Mineral & Energy Resources



Thoko Didiza
Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development

Non-Ministers

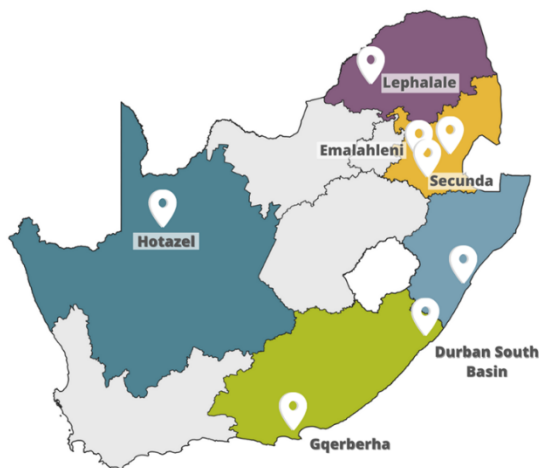
- Happy Khambule: Policy & politics
- Bobby Peek: Director of groundWork, Friends of the Earth, South Africa
- Bantu Holomisa: Former Deputy Minister of Environment & Tourism
- Setlakalane Molepo: Professional Engineer
- Mbulaheni Mbodi: National Secretary, NUMSA (Eskom)
- Mac Chavalala: President of South African Federation of Trade Unions (SAFTU)
- Makoma Lekalakala: Director, Earthlife Africa JHB
- Mandy Rambaros: General Manager, Just Energy Transition for Eskom Holdings
- Louis Naudé: Climate Portfolio Senior Manager, WWF South Africa
- Melissa Fourie: Executive Director, Centre for Environmental Rights
- Brian Mantlana: CSIR Holistic Climate Change Impact Area
- Mapaseka Lukhele: General Manager, Corporate Sustainability, Corporate Legal, Transnet
- Joanne Bate: COO, Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa
- Tsakani Nkambule: Entrepreneur, community builder, motivational speaker, author
- Shamini Harrington: Climate legal expert
- Bongani Mwale: Community activist & philanthropist, Mpumalanga
- Ayakha Melithafa: Founder, Ayakha Melithafa Foundation
- Lebogang Mulaisi: Labour Market Policy Coordinator, COSATU
- Jaques Hugo: Member, FEDUSA National Executive Committee
- Nikisi Lesufi: Senior Executive, Environment, Health & Legacies, Minerals Council South Africa
- Joanne Yawitch: CEO, National Business Initiative (NBI)

Secretariat

<p>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DR CRISPIAN OLVER</p> <p>HEAD: MITIGATION STEVE NICHOLLS</p>	<p>CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER DR THULI N KHUMALO</p> <p>HEAD: COMMUNICATIONS BLESSING MANALE</p> <p>CLIMATE CHANGE SPECIALIST NEOKA NAIDOO</p>	<p>INTERIM SECRETARY MAC MAKWARELA</p> <p>CLIMATE ADAPTATION LEAD DHESIGEN NAIDOO</p> <p>MEDIA & STAKEHOLDER LIAISON RORISANG MOSELI</p>	<p>PROJECT COORDINATOR DUMISANI NXUMALO</p> <p>HEAD: CLIMATE FINANCE & INNOVATION DIPAK PATEL</p>
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Bifold brochure produced to introduce the just transition process

The PCC is Meeting with communities around South Africa to understand what a fair and sustainable future looks like



Working with South African communities to map out a sustainable future.

The road to the future must be fair and leave no one behind.

Learn more at
www.climatecommission.org.za

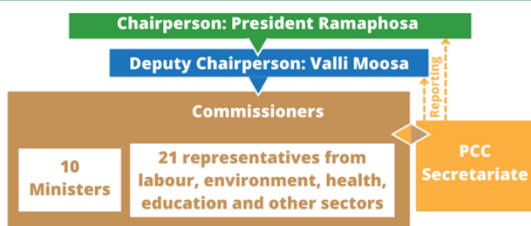


**PRESIDENTIAL
CLIMATE COMMISSION**
TOWARDS A JUST TRANSITION

**Framework for a
JUST TRANSITION
in South Africa**

Who is the PCC?

The Presidential Climate Commission is an independent, statutory, multistakeholder body established by President Cyril Ramaphosa



What does the PCC do?

Our purpose is to oversee and facilitate a just and equitable transition towards a low-emissions and climate-resilient economy.

Our work is guided by robust research and analysis. We engage in a transparent manner with stakeholders in our efforts to build social consensus around what will constitute a Just Transition for South Africa.

The Development of a Just Transition Framework for South Africa is one of the main programmes of the PCC

What is the Just Transition?

We want a future society and economy that is resilient to climate change and sustainable

*Decent work for all
Inclusive action
Less poverty, protect jobs
Opportunities for women
Opportunities for youth
Protect children, disabled and elders*

HOW DO WE GET THERE?



The Just Transition Framework is the roadmap towards this future