

Powering Progress: From coal to clean

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The Just Energy Transition in Coal Regions Interregional Platform Information Note

The world is at a crossroads, where the timely shift to sustainable energy is an urgent necessity to mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change. Moving away from coal, the largest CO₂ emitter, demands more than just a technical transition; it requires a deep commitment to justice and a strategic approach. Sharing the burden and benefits of energy transition is key to ensuring that no one is left behind in the shift to cleaner energy and enabling the political feasibility of fossil phase-out.

The "Innovation Regions for a Just Energy Transition" (IKI JET) project aims to support coal-dependent regions as they tackle the socio-economic challenges associated with energy transitions. The emphasis is on social dialogue, setting the course for the necessary structural change at an early stage, developing concrete socio-economic perspectives outside the fossil economy and a positive alternative narrative for the regions.

As one of its key components, the project has created the **Just Energy Transition in Coal Regions (JET-CR) - Interregional Platform**. This international network of coal regions facilitates peer-to-peer exchanges, strengthens policy dialogue, (co-)creates and shares knowledge.

Other components of the project include in-depth support to Indonesia and Colombia. This note focuses solely on the workstreams under the JET-CR Platform.

The IKI JET Project is commissioned by:

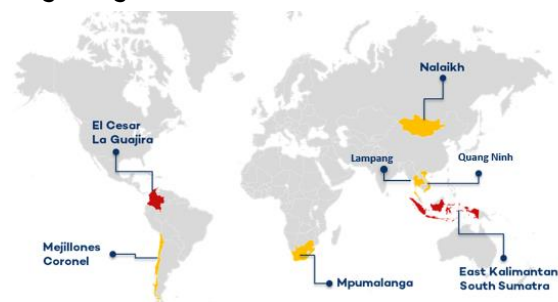
- German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) under its International Climate Initiative (IKI);
- Directorate General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA) of the European Commission (EC) for the JET-CR Platform.

Implemented by:

- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH;
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- International);
- International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD);
- International Labour Organization (ILO);
- Solidarity Center;
- Union Abroad - APHEDA;
- Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment, and Energy.

Target Regions:



Aligned with international frameworks, particularly the ILO just transition Guidelines, IKI JET focuses on addressing key themes like participatory JET strategies, economic diversification, green and decent jobs, community-based regional development, energy systems, and coal mine closures. Gender equality is integrated as a cross-cutting, intersectional priority.

I. International Network

A goal of the JET-CR is to establish an international network of coal regions. Central to this effort are the **peer-to-peer exchange** formats called the **Communities of Practice (CoPs)**, operating on both thematic and regional levels (e.g., CoP South America, CoP Green and Just Economy). These exchanges foster direct learning and collaboration among key actors, enabling them to share experiences, challenges, and successes.

To achieve this goal, stakeholders also witness firsthand the situations in other coal regions through **study visits**, such as the [2023 visits to](#)

[Germany and Poland.](#)

II. Capacity building

The JET-CR emphasizes capacity building through targeted **training courses** for stakeholders. In Indonesia, a course focused on labor market impacts and social justice in the energy transition, reinforcing inclusive planning for coal phase-out. In Colombia, another course emphasized integrating labor market and social justice considerations into energy transition planning, enhancing participants' skills and aligning with national priorities.

III. Technical assistance to partner countries

The project offers **targeted technical assistance** tailored to the specific needs of each coal region. A notable success is the development of a JET strategy for the Nalaikh Region in Mongolia, which has been integrated into the regional development plan. Additionally, initiatives like the transfer of best practices for qualifying line workers in Chile, underscore the project's commitment to practical, on-the-ground assistance to coal regions.

IV. Policy Dialogue

The project aims to strengthen **policy dialogue** at both national and international levels.

[The International Forum for Coal Regions in](#)

[Transition](#), held in Berlin in 2023, along with several **Expert Exchange** webinars on various topics surrounding JET, have brought together international experts and policymakers to exchange ideas and develop cohesive policies that encourage the adoption of innovative solutions across different regions.

V. Knowledge (co-)creation and sharing

The [JET-CR Knowledge Hub](#) serves as a central platform for **producing, collecting, and disseminating knowledge and tools** related to JET. One example of a tool developed is the [Assessment Tool for JET Plans](#), which evaluates the effectiveness of JET plans against internationally recognized sustainability criteria. Additionally, the project has contributed to knowledge generation through a series of practical [case studies](#) conducted across the project regions. For instance, a case study conducted in Thailand explored the crucial role played by local communities in preventing coal expansion. The Knowledge Hub also publishes regular news round-ups, guest commentaries, publications, videos and events on the topic of just transition.

Note: The project is still being implemented, with activities ongoing. This publication reflects the current state of implementation and does not reflect its final outcomes.

Find more results, publications and videos in www.jetknowledge.org

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