



Leveraging Just Transitions Across Adaptation, Mitigation and Trade Policies

UNFCCC Side Event: The Independent State of Papua New Guinea, Climate Strategies, Stockholm Environment Institute and Plataforma CIPO

Date: **Saturday 8th of June**

Place: **SB60, World Conference Centre Bonn, Germany (Room Bonn)**

Time: **14:45-16:00 (CEST)**

As climate-trade policies multiply, we must strive for an international trade system that enables ambitious climate action, boosts sustainable development, increases equity and builds resilience. In short, **we need to ensure that the transition to a climate-centric trade system is a just transition.**

Agenda

Time (CEST)	Session	Speaker
14:45	Welcome and Introduction	Adriana Chavarría-Flores , Climate Strategies
14:50	Keynote speech	Rensie Panda , Independent State of Papua New Guinea
14:55	Research Presentation	Dr. Mikael Allan Mikaelsson , SEI
15:05	Research Presentation	Maiara Folly , Plataforma CIPO
15:15	Panel discussion: Equity in climate-centric trade policies: Navigating transboundary impacts while fostering resilience and just transitions	Dr. Chantal Line Carpentier , UNCTAD Jennie Dodson , WBCSD Jacob Werksman , European Union Rensie Panda , Independent State of Papua New Guinea
15:45	Moderated Q&A and closing remarks	Adriana Chavarría-Flores , Climate Strategies

Background:

The outcome of the first Global Stocktake recognised the importance of pursuing an open international trade system to enable ambitious climate action.¹ Just transitions—which foreground participation and collaboration—provide a useful framework to ensure that new trade policies multilaterally accelerate climate action, support collective sustainable development and build just resilience.

As the pace of decarbonisation intensifies in interconnected systems, climate-centric trade policies can create unintended impacts that reverberate around the world, with acute implications for vulnerable regions with the lowest levels of wealth and resilience. Further cooperation and alignment on climate-

¹Decision CM.5 – Outcome of the First Global Stocktake (Art 154).



trade policies is needed to ensure that the transition to a climate-centric trade economy is just and equitable.

This event aims to demonstrate that taking an integrated approach to Just Transitions—including advancing adaptation and mitigation efforts and climate-trade policies and facilitating open discussion to foster cooperation and coordination—can enable ambitious climate action.

Over recent years, the intersections of climate change mitigation, adaptation and trade policy have intensified. The transition towards a climate-centric trade system is actively contributing to climate commitments by bolstering the trade of low-carbon materials, protecting domestic industries as they decarbonise, and frequently inciting exporting countries to strengthen their own climate efforts.

Yet as major nations ramp up their climate-trade ambitions, the impacts are increasingly felt beyond the places where these initiatives originate. The uncoordinated and unilateral implementation of climate-trade policies can engender considerable transboundary impacts: exacerbating existing vulnerabilities in developing nations, leaving people less resilient to climate change impacts, and impacting countries' overall decarbonisation and adaptation capacities.

As climate-trade policies proliferate, we need to seize this moment to build momentum for an international trade system that enables ambitious climate action, boosts sustainable development, increases equity and builds resilience. In short, **we need to ensure that the transition to a climate-centric trade system is a just transition**. A truly just and equitable transition recognizes transboundary impacts, which includes avoiding measures that redistribute risks unfairly or reinforce existing vulnerabilities.

In the context of rapidly accelerating climate-trade policies, a just transition in trade could enable ambitious action. There is significant momentum for Just Transitions, including new spaces—like the Just Transition Work Programme (JTWP)—that enable international dialogue and cooperation on topics related to just transitions². Seizing opportunities for real and impactful conversations on just transitions, such as the intersection with climate-trade and adaptation, is crucial in achieving the transformational and Just Transition needed. Importantly, doing so requires collective consideration, making use of these new spaces for difficult conversations that will help us to build trust, address historical inequalities, and meet restorative justice demands.

By grounding the discussion in a neutral knowledge base, this event will explore how just transitions can support climate-trade policy to address transboundary trade-offs, while amplifying the opportunities and co-benefits of low-carbon transitions and enhanced international cooperation on adaptation. The event will delve into a range of topics, including: just resilience and adaptation efforts for trade infrastructure and vulnerable export regions, carbon pricing initiatives (considering their cross-border impacts as well as possible co-benefits), and international cooperation and technology exchange for a just integration in green value chains.

² Climate Strategies submission to the UNFCCC “Lessons from international research and practice to enhance ambition and implementation in the Just Transition Work Programme”: [UNFCCC-JTWP_Climate-Strategies-Submission.pdf](https://climatestrategies.org/UNFCCC-JTWP_Climate-Strategies-Submission.pdf) (climatestrategies.org).



Official side event at the Bonn Climate Conference

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