



ONLINE

RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS CONDUCT

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A PATHWAY TO ACHIEVING A JUST TRANSITION

2 – 13 DECEMBER 2024

 20 HOURS

Information Note



International
Labour
Organization



Funded by
the European Union



International Training Centre

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

Since the adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015 - whose preamble explicitly refers to the just transition - countries are striving to manage the transition to environmentally sustainable economies in a fair and productive way. Reconciling decarbonisation of the economy and other environmental issues with social justice is a complex challenge. While the greening of economies brings many opportunities to achieve social objectives, the necessary economic restructuring also presents considerable challenge for enterprises, workers and the economy at large.

Well-designed just transition policies can bring jobs and social inclusion and foster an enabling environment for sustainable enterprises that provide decent work. Poorly designed policies, at the other hand, can increase unemployment, exacerbate inequalities and lead to unattained social disruption. Urgent action to bring all partners together in advancing a just transition is essential to achieve social justice and decent work.

Enterprises are at the forefront of the transition towards environmentally sustainable production and consumption. Whether they are multinational corporations or local SMEs, enterprises can positively contribute to economic, social and environmental progress, as well as to the realization of decent work for all through creating more and better employment opportunities, providing good working conditions, contributing to skills development, and in other ways. At the same time, they are expected to address the challenges that arise from their operations, especially in the context of a shift towards a low-carbon economy.

The ILO plays a leading role in facilitating a just transition to low-carbon economies and societies and in promoting responsible business conduct (RBC) for the realization of decent work. Its work in these areas is guided by two key instruments:

- **The ILO Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all:** This central reference guides governments, workers and employers worldwide in promoting environmentally sustainable economies in a way that is fair and inclusive to everyone concerned – workers, enterprises and communities – by creating decent work opportunities and leaving no one behind.
- **The Tripartite declaration of principles concerning multinational enterprises and social policy (MNE Declaration):** The MNE Declaration is the only ILO instrument that provides direct guidance to enterprises on social policy and inclusive, responsible and sustainable workplace practices. Its principles are addressed to multinational and national enterprises, governments of home and host countries, and employers' and workers' organizations providing guidance in such areas as employment, training, conditions of work and life, industrial relations as well as general policies. This guidance is founded substantially on principles contained in international labour standards.

The 111th ILC Resolution and Conclusions on Just Transition adopted by the ILO Labour Conference endorses the 2015 ILO Just Transition Guidelines. It calls on governments in consultation with social partners *“to foster inclusive and sustainable trade and investment frameworks, value chains and supply chains that contribute to a just transition and decent work; and effectively implement the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights”*, highlighting the role and relevance of the MNE Declaration in a just transition context.

WHO ATTENDS THIS COURSE?

This course is particularly tailored to:

- Representatives of government ministries and agencies (Labour, Employment, Environment, Planning, Finance, TVET, Economy) as well as from subnational tiers of government;
- Representatives from employers’ and workers’ associations with a particular interest and/or involved in activities in the spheres of just transition and responsible business conduct;
- Public and private sector enterprises;
- UN staff, including but not limited to ILO;
- National and international development agencies;
- Professionals from universities and civil society organizations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this course are to strengthen the capacities of participants to:

- Promote the just transition and responsible business conduct, by developing a deep understanding of the relevant concepts, instruments and principles;
- Maximise the contribution of enterprises to a just transition by applying the principles and guidance provided by the ILO MNE Declaration and the ILO Guidelines for a Just Transition;
- Support enterprises in managing the social and environmental dimensions of responsible business conduct and effectively linking these dimensions through social dialogue;
- Foster inclusive and sustainable trade and investment frameworks, value chains and supply chains that advance a just transition and decent work for all.

COURSE STRUCTURE AND METHODOLOGY

The course will run over a period of **2 weeks**. Throughout the entire course participants will have access to ITCILO's e-campus and interactive learning activities and case studies, background reading material and key information on the course.

In various interactive, live online sessions, delivered by ITCILO trainers, participants will have the opportunity to learn and exchange with experts and professionals from international organizations, research institutions as well as governmental and nongovernmental organizations on the various course topics. Recordings of the session will be available on the e-campus.

During the sessions, participants will also have the possibility to further enhance their skills in interactive group learning exercises.

Week 1 02 December – 06 December 2024

Monday 02 December 2024 13.30-15.00 (CET)	Webinar 1. Setting the stage – frameworks, concepts and recent developments
Wednesday 04 December 13.30-15.00 (CET)	Webinar 2. Opportunities and challenges for the realization of decent work
Friday 06 December 13.30-15.00 (CET)	Webinar 3. The relevance of the guidance offered by the ILO MNE Declaration for a just transition

Week 2 09 December – 13 December 2024

Monday 09 December 2024 13.30-15.00 (CET)	Webinar 4. Re-skilling and up skilling for a just transition: role and responsibilities of the different actors
Wednesday 11 December 13.30-15.00 (CET)	Webinar 5. Moving towards a just transition: sectoral perspectives
Friday 13 December 13.30-15.00 (CET)	Webinar 6. Creating an enabling environment for JT and RBC and localizing action

LANGUAGE

This training programme is offered in English. However, the self-guided learning modules will be made available in English, French and Spanish. Additionally, during the six webinars, simultaneous interpretation from English to Spanish and from English to French will be offered for French and Spanish speakers.

COSTS AND CERTIFICATE

This training programme is offered free of charge. Interested participants are encouraged to complete the registration form provided below. Selection will be based on the applicant's profile, and those accepted will receive a notification within a few days after registration. To register, please follow this link: <https://oarf2.itcilo.org/MIN/A9718192/en>

After following/completing all course activities, participants will obtain the digital certificate of participation from the ITCILO. These activities are:

- the initial knowledge test;
- the 6 webinars (or recordings);
- one self-guided learning module;
- the four assignments on the forum;
- the final knowledge test.

WHY JOIN THIS TRAINING PROGRAMME?

This course will provide participants with state-of-the-art knowledge, tools and skills to engage effectively in strengthening the role of the private sector in promoting a just transition to environmentally sustainable economies that are inclusive, fair and leaves no one behind. It will offer an opportunity to connect with experts across the globe and to become part of a community of engaged practitioners within the UN system and beyond.

INFO

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT**

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COURSE CODE: A9718192