

**Call for Submissions from Baku Climate Conference 2024****United Arab Emirates Just Transition Work Programme****Submission from WMO****15 February 2025****Views on work to be undertaken and possible topics for dialogues under the Just Transition Work Programme****Introduction**

As a UN Specialized Agency to advance meteorological, climatological, hydrological, and related environmental services, to improve the well-being of all, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on the work to be undertaken under, as well as possible topics for the dialogues under, the Just Transition Work Programme (JTWP) under Decision 3/CMA.5.

WMO highlights the importance of integrating water considerations into the JTWP, based on the recognition that water is an essential resource for sustainable development and leaving no one behind. Ensuring water availability for social and economic equity supports food security, public health, and economic resilience. Achieving a fair and equitable transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient economies requires ensuring water availability for climate mitigation measures, as many strategies, including renewable energy production and carbon sequestration, require substantial water resources¹. Without effective management, these measures could exacerbate water scarcity, undermining both mitigation and adaptation goals.

Climate change disproportionately affects marginalized and vulnerable populations, necessitating equitable access to water, especially in water-stressed regions. A just transition to clean energy must consider water dependencies to prevent unintended trade-offs for water security. Sustainable water resource management is crucial to integrating water needs into climate mitigation and adaptation strategies, particularly within Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Many countries have not integrated water sustainability into their NDCs² and other climate strategies, creating risks of unintended consequences.

Climate change is also intensifying water cycle disruptions through extreme weather, droughts, and shifting precipitation patterns, directly impacting just transition efforts. Strengthening early warning systems is essential to building resilience against climate-related disasters, enabling vulnerable communities to prepare and adapt effectively.

¹ [UN-Water Analytical Brief on Water for Climate Mitigation | UN-Water](#)

² UNECE, 2024: “Mainstreaming water supply, sanitation, transboundary water management and cooperation into NDCs and NAPs”

Work to be undertaken under the Just Transition Work Programme

To that end, WMO proposes **"Integrating Water Sustainability into Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies"** as a key area of work for the JTWP of the UNFCCC. This initiative would focus on ensuring that the water needs of climate mitigation measures, such as renewable energy production and carbon sequestration are managed in a way that promotes equity and prevents exacerbating water scarcity or undermining adaptation efforts, particularly for vulnerable communities. The work would involve preparing guidance for water-efficient management, ensuring that water resource considerations are included in NDCs, and facilitating the exchange of best practices to ensure water management is integrated into climate planning. A critical aspect of the program would be supporting the development of robust early warning systems to protect marginalized and vulnerable communities from water-related disasters like floods and droughts, especially in water-stressed regions. Above all, the initiative would prioritize equitable access to safe water for all, making sure that no one is left behind in the transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient economies, and that the just transition principles are fully embedded in water sustainability efforts.

Possible Topic for the Dialogues under the Just Transition Work Programme

To support the effective implementation of the work programme, WMO proposes as a topic for the upcoming dialogue on **"Water Sustainability in the Just Transition to Climate Resilience"**. This topic would centre on how water management can support a fair and inclusive transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient economies, ensuring that no community is left behind. It would explore the water-energy-climate nexus, emphasizing the need to consider water availability in clean energy transitions and climate mitigation strategies, particularly in vulnerable regions. The focus would be on ensuring equitable access to water resources and integrating water sustainability into NDCs to ensure that water limitations do not hinder climate commitments. It would also promote cross-sectoral coordination to align water resource management with just transition goals, supporting marginalized communities in accessing clean water and climate resilience. Additionally, the topic would address the role of early warning systems and disaster preparedness, ensuring vulnerable populations are protected from climate-related water risks. Finally, assessing water use in climate actions ensures that water sustainability is integrated into the entire transition, promoting a fair and inclusive process that leaves no one behind.

Conclusion

The WMO reiterates its commitment to ensuring that water sustainability is a central consideration in the JTWP. Achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement and ensuring a fair and equitable transition requires that response measures do not compromise freshwater availability for essential social and economic needs. Furthermore, strengthening early warning systems and international cooperation will be crucial to addressing climate-related risks and ensuring resilience. We look forward to engaging in discussions that will shape a just, water-secure, and climate-resilient future.