

Towards a Just Transition: Financing Africa's move from Coal to Sustainable Energy Sources

12 November 2025, 15:00 - 16:30

COP30 Blue Zone, Room 9

Partners

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
Anthropocene institute

Short description

This event will explore innovative ways of mobilizing the requisite financing to help African countries attain just transitions as they navigate the move from fossil fuel-based energy systems to more sustainable energy sources, including nuclear energy, in such a way as to meet their urgent development imperatives.

The event will explore innovative financing pathways for a Just Transition from fossil fuels to sustainable energy sources in Africa and other emerging regions. Speakers will discuss national best practices for unlocking clean energy, including nuclear energy to meet urgent development imperatives. A proposal to use carbon credits to fund nuclear power plants in developing countries will be discussed and its consequences explored, and how to do this under the frame of Article 6.

The event will further facilitate discourse on financing pathways, including assistance needs, and social and economic benefits of transitioning to sustainable energy technologies.

Objectives

- Transitioning Energy, Industry, and Transport: transitioning away from fossil fuels, in a just, orderly and equitable manner.
- Fostering Human and Social Development: education, capacity-building, and job creation to address climate change.
- Cross-cutting issues – Enablers and Accelerators: climate and trade, governance, state capacities and institutional strengthening for climate action, planning and preparedness.

SDGs of Focus

- SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG 13: Climate Action
- SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Panel

Moderator: Ethiopia/Yacob Mulugetta (TBC)/AUC

Panelists:

- Taisiya Afanasyeva, Energy Economist, IAEA
- James Murombedzi, Coordinator, African Climate Policy Centre, UNECA
- Guido Núñez-Mujica, Director of Data Science and Senior Policy Advisor, Anthropocene Institute
- A national government
- Safa Abdo, Leader, Nuclear4Climate (N4C) initiative and Executive Secretary, Women in Nuclear (WiN) Global Young Generation

Format

The event will consist of a high-level panel discussion with representatives from governments, UN agencies, civil society, and the private sector. Each speaker will provide concise, action-oriented interventions (5–7 minutes), followed by a moderated dialogue. Interactive elements such as live audience input and targeted Q&A will allow participants to contribute ideas on enabling conditions, policy innovations, and multi-stakeholder cooperation.