



**PRESIDENTIAL
CLIMATE COMMISSION**
TOWARDS A JUST TRANSITION

Presidential Climate Commission Annual Review

01 APRIL 2023 – 31 MARCH 2024





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To achieve a just transition, we need to decarbonise our economy at a pace and scale that is sustainable and advances development outcomes such as jobs, livelihoods and human development.

”

Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa

*President of the Republic of South Africa
Chairperson of the Presidential Climate Commission
April 2024*



A Message from the Chairperson of the PCC

President Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa

Since I appointed the first Commissioners to the Presidential Climate Commission in December 2020, the Commission has made a significant contribution towards defining the country's development pathway.

Over the three years since the Commission's establishment, South Africa has experienced devastating extreme weather events, with flooding in KwaZulu-Natal, North West and Eastern Cape, heatwaves in Northern Cape, drought in Eastern Cape, wildfires in Western Cape and severe storms in Gauteng.

Lives were lost due to flooding, jobs and productivity were affected by drought and heatwaves, and wildfires caused extensive economic damage. Globally, this year is set to be the hottest on record, and the record-breaking temperatures are expected to continue. These extreme weather events clearly demonstrate how climate change affects all aspects of our lives.

As the world moves to lower its carbon emissions, there are profound shifts underway in the global economy, driven by the widespread adoption of low-carbon technologies. For emissions-intensive economies such as South Africa, this poses particular dangers, threatening to limit our international trade and depress even further the competitiveness of our economy.

We are also dealing with a highly vulnerable local population, partly due to historical inequities, exacerbated by a capital-intensive economy that is not inclusive. The risk of inaction in such a situation is that all of South Africa's development gains could be unwound as the energy transition unfolds and climate change gets worse.

South Africa is committed to pursuing a just transition, which means that the risks and opportunities associated with the transition need to be equitably shared. At the moment, it is workers and communities linked to the emission-intensive parts of the economy that bear a disproportionate burden, both in terms of current environmental impacts and in terms of threats to future livelihoods.

To achieve a just transition, we need to decarbonise our economy at a pace and scale that is sustainable and advances development outcomes such as jobs, livelihoods and human development. We need effective institutions that support an inclusive, growing economy and build people's capabilities to respond to climate change.

We need to put people at the centre of decision-making to adapt to climate change and its social and economic impacts. These are monumental tasks and no one institution is capable of delivering them on its own. We need to overcome the barriers between stakeholders and the misconceptions in society, and forge a collective path through the climate transition.

The Presidential Climate Commission conducts its work within this context. The Commission works with and relies on a wide cross-section of partners to achieve its objectives, and I remain deeply appreciative for the collective commitment we have encountered, across the board, in ensuring a just transition. All social partners value the advice the Commission provides in navigating the climate transition, and appreciate the way in which it has monitored implementation and enabled stakeholders to act on its recommendations.

The role of the Commission is more important than ever, and I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the Commissioners and the members of the Secretariat for taking on this responsibility.

Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa

*President of the Republic of South Africa
Chairperson of the Presidential Climate Commission
April 2024*

A Message from the Deputy-Chairperson

Valli Moosa

In its third year of operation, the Presidential Climate Commission has continued to monitor and critically evaluate progress with the climate transition and provide answers to some of the significant questions we are confronted with as a country.

How are climate risks changing as physical climate change accelerates? How do we build resilience to climate change in a highly vulnerable population affected by historical inequities? Are we doing our 'fair share' of mitigation effort, considering our particular development circumstances? How do we grow new economic sectors and create livelihoods as we decarbonise our economy? How can we best mobilise all our country's resources – human, financial and institutional – to work in alignment and achieve the objectives of the just transition? How do we involve ordinary South Africans in collective action around the climate crisis?

The findings of the first Global Stocktake at COP28 in Dubai showed that collectively the world is woefully off track to meet its commitments under the Paris Agreement. To have a reasonable chance of staying within the 1.5°C global warming target, we need to cut emissions by 43% by 2030, and 60% by 2035, from a 2019 baseline. This will involve massive changes in global energy systems and industrial and agricultural production, including in our economy.

In its three years of operation the Commission has critically assessed progress and provided advice with implementation of a just transition. We have conducted research into net-zero pathways, made recommendations on the future electricity mix, looked critically at the decommissioning process at Komati power station, provided an independent critique of the Just Energy Transition Investment Plan, tracked climate finance flows, worked on identifying job opportunities in Mpumalanga, made recommendations on skills development, and worked on measures to build long term resilience to climate change. In the coming year the Commission will continue to focus on tracking just transitions and develop recommendations to course correct. We will gear up to make recommendations on the emissions trajectory and the Nationally Determined Contribution 2025. As the focus increasingly shifts to adaptation and resilience, we will make inputs into the design

of the Climate Response Fund and the associated investment plans being developed by the DFFE. The Commission will finalise its recommendations on mobilising finance for the just transition. Employment, reskilling, upskilling, and social security strategies will also be a focus in the coming year. As always, the Commission will continue to promote inclusion and dialogue through its various social and conventional media platforms and through direct inclusive engagement with relevant stakeholders.

There is significant change on the horizon for the Commission as the Climate Change Bill nears finalisation. In addition to strengthening the climate governance regime, the bill will consolidate the institutional independence of the Commission and protect its impartial functioning. It is anticipated that the Commission will become a Schedule 3 public entity, with accountability to the Minister of DFFE for the expenditure and compliance aspects of its mandate.

In addition to the promulgation of the bill, there will be a number of significant transitions to navigate, including shifts in government after the 2024 elections, the expiry of the Executive Director's contract in March 2025, and the expiry of the term of the current Commission in December 2025. We are actively preparing for these transitions and have put in place a succession strategy to ensure continuity in the Commission's modus operandi and management.

It has been a privilege and an honour to be the Deputy Chair of this Commission. The Commission's achievements are largely due to the work of my fellow Commissioners, who bring varied but essential skills and expertise to the table, and I am deeply indebted to them. I am also grateful for the work of the Secretariat staff, ably led by Dr Crispian Olver, who has expertly managed the Commission since its inception and has overseen remarkable achievements over the past year.



While developing economies will transition somewhat later than advanced economies, there is a danger to transitioning too slowly and being left behind as technologies and trading regimes shift. This transition must be undertaken in the context of South Africa's development challenges, including poverty and unemployment, noting that both climate change and decarbonisation will have impacts that must be actively managed. As the President said in the State of the Nation address, we must continue to build an inclusive economy, empower black and women South Africans, advance workers' rights, intensify land reform, and pursue a just energy transition that leaves no-one behind. The Presidential Climate Commission has a vital role to play in ensuring that these imperatives are met, in an inclusive and just way.

Valli Moosa

Deputy Chairperson
Presidential Climate Commission
April 2024

Valli





Once the Climate Change Bill is promulgated, the intention is for the PCC to become a Schedule 3 public entity, similar to many other public sector science organisations.

Crispian Olver

*Executive Director, Presidential Climate Commission
April 2024*



Foreword from the Executive Director

Crispian Olver

The Presidential Climate Commission relies on its Secretariat to undertake the work that supports its deliberations and recommendations. We are a comparatively small team – 25 staff in all – and our work involves commissioning research, analysing policy options, organising stakeholder engagements, convening, and discussing findings with Commissioners, drafting, and submitting recommendations, and communicating with the public. Importantly, much of the PCC's work involves mainstreaming the just transition into the work of government and stakeholders.

Up until now the Secretariat has been organised into four functional areas – mitigation, adaptation, climate finance and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) – supported by corporate services and communications functions. Following a Cabinet decision, our team has been based at NEDLAC, which has provided us with an interim institutional home and incorporated us as Programme 4 within their budget structure. The way in which NEDLAC has taken care of many of the human resource, supply chain, financial management and compliance aspects has been enormously helpful, and we are very grateful to Lisa Seftel and her team at NEDLAC for all their support.

Once the Climate Change Bill is promulgated, the intention is for the PCC to become a Schedule 3 public entity, similar to many other public sector science organisations. Amongst others, the PCC will have statutory protection as an independent multi-stakeholder climate advisory body, mandated to give advice to government, social partners, and society at large on how to navigate the complexities of the climate transition. This will involve some changes to the functioning and accountability of the PCC, with the PCC accounting to the Minister of DFFE and Parliament for its statutory obligations and expenditure of its budget, while preserving the independence and impartiality of the Commission.

In line with the transition into the new structure, we are undertaking a reorganisation of our staffing structure, focused on policy research, implementation support, and outreach and communications functions. Now that we have some long term regulatory and financial security, we are also migrating staff into permanent contracts, which will give them long-term job security. The transition into the new structure will be a phased and carefully managed process, with capacities being built over time. We envisage that the PCC will continue to be incubated within NEDLAC for the next two years.

I would like to thank all of the PCC Commissioners and staff for their dedication and hard work in achieving the deliverables set out in this report and look forward to another year in which we take forward the work programme of the PCC.

Crispian Olver
*Executive Director, Presidential Climate Commission
April 2024*

Crispian

Acknowledgements

The PCC would like to thank the following partners who have made an enormous contribution to the success of our work:

INSTITUTION	CATEGORY	CONTRIBUTION
The Presidency of the Republic of South Africa	Government	Commission Chair and receiver of PCC recommendations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & Environment	Government	Principal inter-governmental relations focal point
Department of Employment & Labour	Government	Hosts NEDLAC budget vote
Department of Performance Monitoring & Evaluation	Government	Just Transition planning, monitoring and evaluation systems
National Treasury	Government	Partner on climate finance projects
National Economic Development and Labour Council	Host	Institutional host, partner on grid study
African Climate Foundation	Donor	Donor and Fiscal host (donor funds)
Agence Française de Développement	Donor	Tracking climate finance
Bloomberg Philanthropies	Donor	Core & programme funding
Initiative for Climate Action Transparency	Donor	Just transition tracking frameworks
German Embassy	Donor	Community engagement and radio support programme
Global Energy Alliance for People & Planet	Donor	Core & programme funding
Open Society Foundation of Southern Africa	Donor	Community engagement programme

INSTITUTION	CATEGORY	CONTRIBUTION
Rockefeller Foundation	Donor	Just Transition Financing Mechanism
Royal Danish Embassy	Donor	Electricity models and studies
UK PACT	Donor	Net-zero pathways
Yellowwoods	Donor	Employment strategy
European Union: Directorate-General (DG) Climate Action (CLIMA)	Donor	Communications, Awareness Stakeholder Strategy
Anglo-American South Africa	In-kind support	Partner on mining dialogues
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) – JustSA	In-kind support	Staff secondment
Johannesburg Securities Exchange	In-kind support	Partner and host of financial dialogues
SAPPI	In-kind support	Host of Business Dialogue
United Nations Development Programme	In-kind support	Coordinates JET programme
World Bank	In-kind support	Mpumalanga institutional support
World Resources Institute, via BMZ	In-kind support	Staff secondment



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Acronyms

ACF	African Climate Foundation
CBAM	Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism
CoGTA	Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
COP	Conference of Parties
CPI	Climate Policy Initiative
CRDS	Climate Resilient Development Strategy
DBSA	Development Bank of South Africa
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
DHET	Department of Higher Education and Training
DMRE	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
GW	Gigawatts
HRDS	Human Resource Development Strategy
HSRC	Human Sciences Research Council
IEA	International Energy Agency
IRP	Integrated Resource Plan
JAR-IP	Just Adaptation and Resilience Investment Plan
JET	Just Energy Transition
JETFP	Just Energy Transition Funding Platform
JETIP	Just Energy Transition Investment Plan
JSE	Johannesburg Securities Exchange
JTF	Just Transition Framework
JTFM	Just Transition Financing Mechanism
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
MSP	Master Skills Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NEDLAC	National Economic Development and Labour Council
NMB	Nelson Mandela Bay
PCC	Presidential Climate Commission
PMU	Projects Management Unit
SALGA	South African Local Government Association
SAREM	South African Renewable Energy Masterplan
SMMES	Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises
SORE	Social Ownership for Renewable Energy
UCT	University of Cape Town
UJ	University of Johannesburg
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme







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Ensuring a Just Transition: Overview of PCC activities in 2023 / 2024

This annual review provides a snapshot of the work undertaken by the PCC in the 2023-2024 financial year (April 2023 – March 2024).

It includes short human resources and financial reports for the last year, noting that the full audited financial statements for the PCC will appear in the NEDLAC Annual Report for 2023-24. The report also includes a brief look at the PCC's plans for the coming financial year.

The overall mission of the PCC is to build consensus between social partners around a just climate transition through an inclusive, transparent, action-oriented process informed by science.

The National Planning Commission has noted that *"without the participation of all stakeholders, especially workers, there will be no Just Transition."*

Inclusion and consensus-building is essential to laying the foundations for climate action and progress. Our function is essentially advisory, but we are mindful of the implementation challenge as well, and we craft our advice and follow up on it in ways that enable implementation by social partners.

In the past year, the PCC has continued to engage and give advice on measures to facilitate a just transition,

in line with its mandate, mindful of South Africa's particular developmental challenges.

Following the publication of the Just Transition Framework in 2022, the PCC has engaged with stakeholders across the board on the work that needs to be undertaken to implement the just transition.

We have also focused on some underdeveloped policy aspects, including the energy transition, employment strategies for declining regions, skills development, climate resilience, and financing for a just transition.



Central to this is the creation of enabling conditions for economic diversification, livelihoods, and job creation, informed by inclusive processes.

In our quest to operationalise work on the just transition, our outputs have included the publication of key reports and sector studies, conducting focused provincial studies, advice on finance and resource constraints and opportunities, hosting events for awareness-raising and information-dissemination, engaging with stakeholders locally, nationally, and globally, and securing buy-in from government and stakeholders.

¹ NPC (2019) 2050 Vision and Pathways for a Just Transition to a low carbon, climate resilient economy and society, 8: <https://www.nationalplanningcommission.org.za/assets/Documents/Vision%20and%20Pathways%20for%20a%20Just%20Transition%20to%20a%20low%20carbon%20climate.pdf>



The PCC performs three primary functions in terms of its mandate:

- We provide an evidence base to support better decision making by social partners about the climate transition.
- We promote inclusion and build consensus between stakeholders and social partners to enable policy and action for a just transition.
- We advise on means of implementation (e.g. finance, capacity, technology), critically assess progress of implementation, and give advice where action falls short.

We perform these functions to achieve the following outcomes:

- Knowledge and evidence inform planning and implementation of the transition by social partners.
- Awareness and engagement, improving collaboration and consensus on the just transition.
- Mobilising finance, capacity, and technology to enable partners to implement measures to achieve a just transition.

Ultimately the impact we hope to achieve is collective action by social partners to achieve a just transition based on an inclusive process. It is important to note that achieving a just transition requires collective commitment by many players from different sectors, and the PCC is a small albeit influential cog in the system.



The Energy Transition

Given the emissions intensity of South Africa's energy system, the energy transition has been an immediate focus of efforts to decarbonise the economy and protect jobs. During the 2023/24 financial year the PCC made recommendations on the future electricity mix, the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and on social ownership models for renewable energy. As a follow up to these recommendations, the PCC is undertaking detailed studies into electricity pricing and grid investment requirements to achieve our climate goals.

2.1 RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ELECTRICITY MIX

In April 2023, the PCC Commissioners shared their electricity recommendations report with the President and the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy. These recommendations focused on a just energy transition and highlighted key technical options and barriers to decarbonising electricity systems. This included recommendations that government:

- Align short- and long-term goals for electricity planning with the Just Transition Framework and seek to enable additional job creation.
- Incentivise green industrial development, economic diversification, and the localisation of key low-carbon value chains, particularly in regions that are at-risk.
- Invest in human resources and skills development linked to electricity transitions.
- Support those most impacted by load shedding, particularly small, medium, and micro enterprises (SMMEs), indigent households, workers, and communities impacted by the coal transition by enhancing social protection measures.
- Invest in a least-cost electricity mix of variable renewable energy, peaking support and storage and exploit opportunities to accelerate the energy transition.

- Invest in upgrading and expanding the grid (both transmission and distribution).
- In the short term, to avoid load shedding as much as possible, accelerate the build out of variable renewable energy.

The PCC recommended that a policy adjusted IRP should include approximately 50 to 60 gigawatts (GW) of variable renewable energy by 2030, supported by co-located storage, and between 3 and 5 GW of peaking support (e.g. gas running at low utilisations to support balancing and peaking). These recommendations describe what would be needed to end load shedding as quickly as possible, provide enough energy to grow the economy in line with the NDP and achieve the bottom, more ambitious, end of the NDC.

The PCC recommendations were only partially addressed in the draft IRP, released in January 2024, as the draft IRP only ends load shedding in 2028 and assumes low levels of economic growth. Two further study areas were recommended, on market design and pricing (including a focus on affordability) and on grid design, which have now been commissioned.

2.2 COMMENTS ON INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN

Following the publication of the draft IRP at the beginning of 2024, the PCC consulted with commissioners, the public and with social partners as the PCC and through the National Economic Development and Labour Council (NEDLAC) to prepare comments on the IRP. The IRP has enormous significance as a roadmap for the country's electricity needs and strategies as well as having broader national development implications. The IRP is a framework that guides investment decisions, infrastructure development and regulatory measures

in the electricity sector and plays a crucial role in facilitating a just transition.

Drawing on the earlier Electricity Recommendations Report, stakeholder feedback, engagement with the DMRE at Commission and technical level, and some further modelling and analysis, the PCC submitted its comments on the IRP to the DMRE and the President, focusing on the extent to which the draft IRP 2023 is aligned with the country's climate and economic development goals and just transition.



2.3 SOCIAL OWNERSHIP OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

The Just Transition Framework which was published in 2022 calls for affordable, decentralised, diversely owned renewable energy systems and the broadening of ownership of productive assets in support of the just transition. When the PCC consulted stakeholders on its electricity recommendations last year, labour and civil society constituencies in particular raised concerns regarding the predominance of private ownership of energy generation. The Electricity Recommendations specifically proposed a diversity of public, private and social ownership models for renewable energy. The PCC has followed up these recommendations with research into forms of social ownership, undertaken by a team from the Nelson Mandela University. In addition to enabling social ownership and having broad community buy-in, models need to be replicable, financially viable and aligned with policy frameworks in South Africa. Four potential models have been proposed.

- The Community REIPPPP model is linked to the REIPPPP programme run by DMRE, in which communities have part ownership of renewable energy projects. In addition to profit share or dividends, communities can earn rental income from leasing communally owned land to the plant.
- Worker owned models are usually linked to industries that aim to lower their emissions through renewable energy installations and want to empower their workers in the process e.g. auto or mining sectors. Workers' pension funds are a potential source of funding for such projects.

- Mini-grids are off-grid solutions, best suited to rural and informal settlements, which can provide affordable energy and promote local ownership and development.
- Township or Tenant Co-operatives are grid-tied solutions, best suited to urban townships, which involve residents in addressing their own energy security. There is an excellent project already functioning in Kwaakhele township in Gqeberha.



The report has recommended steps to take socially owned renewable energy projects to scale. This includes mobilising financing – the JETIP already has a section dedicated to supporting such projects – and future just transition financing mechanisms should include social ownership projects in their design.

Various policy and regulatory interventions are needed, particularly to enable municipalities to contract with community projects, implement feed-in tariffs, allow for net-metering and channel Free Basic Electricity subsidies to community projects.

Measures are also needed to build capacity for socially owned renewable projects – such as building generic financial models which can be adapted to local circumstances, a toolbox for prospective developers, training programmes and setting up a community of practice for collaboration between communities and projects.

The final recommendations on the social ownership of renewable energy were adopted by the Commission on 16 February 2024 and handed over to the President as a policy recommendation.

The policy recommendations will be piloted through a partnership, steered by the PCC, that will include community members, worker organisations, government, and the private sector.

The recommended social ownership models will be based on the principles of financial and operational sustainability linked to markets, and will partner with local government to create the enabling environment.



2.4 FUTURE STUDIES INTO GRID AND ELECTRICITY PRICING

A key topic raised in discussions on the energy transition is the degree to which variable renewable energy can be sustainably integrated into the grid.

The PCC with the University of Cape Town (UCT) and Eskom convened a conference with grid operators from around the world to share their experience with variable renewable energy penetration and grid operation and design.

The conference included grid operators and practitioners from Ireland, the United Kingdom, Europe, Australia, Denmark, California, the International Energy Agency (IEA) and National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). Importantly discussants considered the level of variable renewable energy recommended in the PCC's electricity recommendations as technically feasible.

The PCC will follow this engagement with two further studies, which will be conducted during 2024, including:

- Building open-access geo-spatial grid, cost production, static and dynamic power flow models, the use of which can give practical guidance to developers and planners wanting to integrate higher levels of generation capacity onto the grid.

Specifically, the research programme will seek to answer the question: considering timelines to 2030, 2035 and 2050, what skills, capital equipment, investment, market structure, standards and regulatory changes would be needed to integrate and maintain varying levels of variable renewable energy in South Africa's transmission and distribution grids.

- An in-depth study into Electricity Pricing in the context of the energy transition, addressing the costs implications of decarbonisation of the electricity grid, the changing nature of municipal electricity business models and how subsidies to low-income households can be more effectively targeted.



In the future, wholesale market reform will underpin the energy transition.

Energy production will be competitive, and if this is not well understood, could prejudice poorer communities and less capacitated local government.

Furthermore, full cost recovery for each player in the electricity value chain is dependent on accurate costing and pricing mechanisms.

This reform requires far greater understanding of what is happening at each part of the grid including the investment, skills, and capacity shortfalls.

Understanding these factors will enable better more effective market design and pricing reform.

2.5 BUILDING LONG TERM RESEARCH AND MODELLING CAPACITY

The PCC's analytical work needs to be rooted in a strong, vibrant research and science community, and the PCC has been seeking to strengthen links with research institutions. For instance, we have worked with the natural system, energy, and economic modelling communities to bring their expertise to bear on key transition research questions.

The goal is to build collaboration and promote the sharing of expertise between research institutions, connected to specific policy questions; as well as to build a shared research platform of models and data.

Funding and support for a range of modelling efforts across a range of universities (UCT, Stellenbosch, UJ, Pretoria) has been sourced.

A two-day conference brought together local and global modellers to discuss the availability of information and structures for future research collaboration. In addition, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in partnership with the PCC, established the JET Platform with various South African universities to build their capacity on the energy transition.

Building Livelihoods and Skills in the Climate Transition

The climate transition is driving profound changes in the global economy – some sectors such as renewable energy, battery storage, electric vehicles, green hydrogen, and critical minerals will expand dramatically, while other sectors such as those based on fossil fuel technologies and internal combustion engines will peak and inevitably decline. In advancing a just transition we need to proactively develop new sectors and jobs in the economy in advance of sectors downscaling. To do so, the PCC has been investigating the labour market, industrial policy and social support policies that are required to navigate this transition.

3.1 RESEARCH INTO THE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN MPUMALANGA

A central plank of the just transition strategy component is identifying and unlocking economic opportunities in Mpumalanga to inform planning and implementation. The aim is to proactively address high levels of unemployment and mitigate further job losses that may be caused during the energy transition. The PCC has conducted research and engaged widely with stakeholders on short-term (up to 2030) private sector opportunities to create jobs in Mpumalanga. The research has identified seven areas with the highest job-creation potential. The opportunities are in two categories – growing existing economic sectors in Mpumalanga; and building new sectors of the economy. The existing economy initiatives include the wood, citrus, and tourism value chains. Emerging or new opportunities include hemp, sustainable aviation fuel value chains and business processing and agrivoltaics in high value farming.

3.2 BUILDING BOTTOM-UP PARTNERSHIP MODELS

As a follow up to the employment strategy work, the PCC has initiated two pilot projects to test a bottom-up approach to unlocking partnerships and identifying viable economic opportunities. The Partnership Implementation Model is being tested in the Nkangala and Gert Sibande Districts in Mpumalanga. The aim is to develop a common agenda amongst stakeholders, including business, government, community, and labour, and to promote economic diversification of the region through a bottom-up, social partnership approach. Typically, no single organisation has all the resources or ideas necessary to address the socio-economic challenges in the environment, and the model focuses on cross-sector partnerships between public sector, business, academic, labour and community to co-design and co-implement solutions for economic diversification. The outcome of the pilots will be a pipeline of bankable 'livelihood' projects that have local involvement and support.

The PCC hosted a series of multistakeholder consultations in Mpumalanga to share research findings, ensure alignment with government and business and create awareness within communities and academic institutions. To further socialise the research findings and test investment appetite for the opportunities identified, the Deputy Chairperson of the PCC hosted a meeting with the CEOs of the top 20 companies in Mpumalanga, as well as State-Owned Entities, financial institutions, and leaders of government. The meeting also explored other interventions required to grow the Mpumalanga economy and increase employment. The recommendations for employment opportunities will be finalised by June 2024, and integrated into regional economic planning processes and the update of the Mpumalanga Provincial Growth and Development Strategy.

To initiate the pilots, a series of workshops and engagements have been held with various stakeholders (government, organised labour, and civil society) to discuss their transition 'pain points' and build collaboration. This has led to the development of steering committees of relevant stakeholders to guide implementation of the pilots.

Linked to the above initiatives, during 2024 the PCC will host a workshop with relevant stakeholders to identify medium- and long-term green industrialisation opportunities that can be leveraged through SAREM in Mpumalanga. A follow-up workshop will identify the skills needed to support the green industrialisation opportunities identified. It is envisaged that this will lead to a roadmap to facilitate the growth of the green economy in the province.

3.3 JUST TRANSITION CONSORTIUM FOR RESEARCH ON EMPLOYMENT AND WORK

The PCC and JETIP PMU jointly made inputs into the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) draft Reconceptualised Human Resource Development Strategy (HRDS) and Master Skills Plan (MSP). A workshop with DHET will take place to align the strategies with the Just Transition Framework and JETIP Implementation Plan and agree on common definitions, concepts, and policy interpretation.

The PCC has launched a long-term research programme with a consortium of universities led by the University of the Witwatersrand. The Just Transition Consortium for Research on Employment and Work aims to identify changes to the future labour force due to shifts within and between economic sectors as South Africa transitions to a low carbon economy. The study will include an analysis of future skills required for the economy and social protection measures required to protect workers in the just transition.

Building Adaptation and Resilience for a Just Transition

The importance of adaptation and resilience is often overlooked in planning for a just transition.

This is short-sighted, as the physical effects of climate change will result in profound challenges to water security, food security and infrastructure services, all of which affect low-income communities and workers hardest.

The PCC has therefore sought to analyse climate risks and disaster preparedness, map out climate-resilient pathways for water, agriculture, and the built environment, and feed these findings into work that is being led by DFFE on an Adaptation and Resilience Investment Plan.

4.1 UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE RISKS

During the 2022/23 financial year the PCC undertook a collaborative assessment of the KwaZulu-Natal floods in 2022 both in terms of impact and responses. This enabled the PCC to issue a report with policy recommendations.

In order to follow up the recommendation related to early warning systems, in 2023 the PCC engaged a consortium of climate science Institutions (South African Weather Services (SAWS), the University of Limpopo, University of Pretoria, and the University of the Witwatersrand), led by the South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON) to conduct a more detailed examination of South Africa's Climate and Weather Information System and provide an update of the Climate Risk Report.

Initial work on forecasting the impact of the current El Nino phase was presented to the PCC in November 2023. The project will gather pace in 2024, with a more detailed update on physical climate risks as per the South African Risk and Vulnerability Atlas (SARVA), and engagement with stakeholders on observations, impacts, and projections.



The consortium will also examine the institutional capacities and resource limitations of the public-facing climate science institutions in South Africa, including an assessment of capacity in the science community for climate services, observation and computational infrastructure, data and digital platforms relevant to climate impacts and long-range resilience planning.

The PCC plans to use this analysis to develop a set of recommendations on how to improve Early Warning capabilities.



4.2 CLIMATE RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS

In the 2022/23 financial year, the PCC concluded a research project to contextualise the IPCC concept of climate resilient development pathways for South Africa.

This resulted in a scientific, risk-based approach to identifying opportunities and risks associated with a changing climate in a specific locale and build a framework within which investment plans can be developed and implementation occur.

The approach is informed by rigorous stakeholder engagements. The PCC subsequently sought to apply this work in three sectors and three locational settings.

At a national level the PCC initiated a programme of consultation and research into three priority adaptation sectors, focusing on the built environment, agriculture (food security), and water security.

The sectoral climate resilient development strategies is examining the risks these sectors face, their readiness to adapt to climate change in a transformative manner, and the investment requirements to undertake the transition.

Literature reviews for all three sectors have been completed, sector reports have been drafted and a stakeholder dialogue convened to examine Climate Smart Agriculture. Further stakeholder dialogues

will be conducted for the built environment and water sectors and concluded through a multisector dialogue across the three sectors.

These dialogues will shape proposed sector responses to achieve just climate resilience outcomes across the three sectors. The aim is to have climate resilient development strategies for these three priority sectors completed by March 2025 to inform decision makers planning investments and implementing measures to build resilience.

The PCC is also supporting climate resilient development strategies in three sub-national regions – Nelson Mandela Bay (focusing on auto sector and water security issues), eThekweni (building disaster response capability to floods) and Mpumalanga coal belt (understanding climate resilience in context of energy transition).

The programme in Nelson Mandela Bay was launched on the 24 January 2024 and it is expected to be completed in March 2025, while the other two regions are being scoped and will be launched during 2024.

It is also anticipated that the sector and regional strategies will feed into an overarching Just Adaptation and Resilience Investment Plan, being developed by DFFE, and providing the basis for investments made by the Climate Response Fund.

4.3 MOBILISING RESOURCES FOR ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

As physical climate risks continue to rise, investments in building long-term resilience need to be carefully planned and aligned with the various potential sources of funding.

To provide a sense of the order of magnitude for such investments, the World Bank *Country Climate and Development Report for South Africa (2022)* estimated that R900 billion would be required for adaptation sectors by 2030, rising to R2,5 trillion by 2050. Such funds will need to be mobilised from a range of public and private investors.

As a starting point, the PCC developed a concept note on Innovative Resourcing Mechanisms for Adaptation & Resilience. This concept note has been used to inform work that is being led by DFFE on an Adaptation & Resilience Investment Plan. The DFFE

anticipates a draft plan within the next quarter.

Following its publication, the PCC will assist with stakeholder engagement on the plan and provide critical commentary and input into the plan during course of 2024/25.

An important component of this was announced by the President in the February 2024 State of the Nation Address in the form of the establishment of a Climate Change Response Fund.

The PCC is preparing recommendations on a preliminary design of such a fund, based on a partnership between public and private sectors, and drawing on PCC work on innovative financing mechanisms for adaptation.

Mobilising Finance for the Just Transition

In the 2022/23 financial year, the PCC supported the development of the Just Energy Transition Investment Plan (JETIP) by conducting two rounds of stakeholder consultations on the plan and providing critical reflections which were incorporated into the subsequent implementation plan.

During the 2023/24 financial year the PCC has taken forward its work on climate finance in a number of ways. Firstly, we have conducted independent tracking of climate finance flows into and out of the country and published findings in the first State of Climate Finance report.

Secondly, the PCC has investigated ways of unlocking finance at scale for the just transition, an underexplored area of climate finance. Lastly, the PCC has been working closely with a core team of municipalities to create a pipeline of bankable energy transition projects that can go to market. This section concludes by looking at some new areas of work that are emerging.

5.1 TRACKING CLIMATE FINANCE FLOWS

In 2023, the PCC released the *South African Climate Finance Landscape Report*, which was produced in partnership with the Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) and GreenCape.

The climate transition will require considerable financial resources from multiple sources – the *Country Climate and Development Report for South Africa* (World Bank 2022) estimated the total cost of decarbonisation, adaptation and just transition measures up to 2050 at approximately R8,5 trillion.

It is important to understand current financial flows in order to know where the blockages are and what components need to be scaled up.

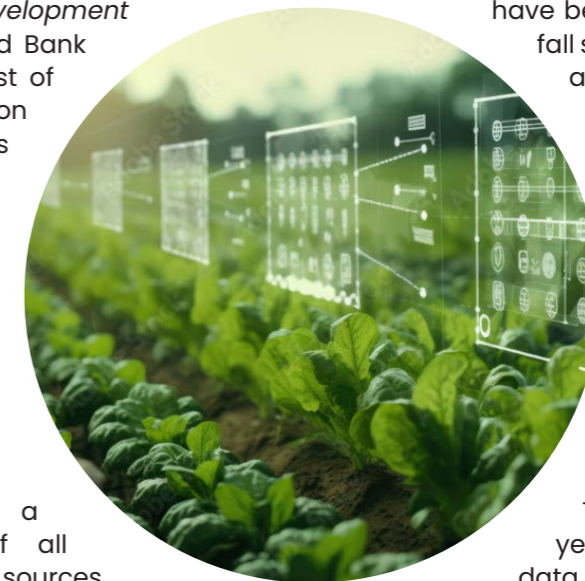
This report provides a comprehensive overview of all climate finance flows, from sources through intermediaries and financial instruments to target sectors. The methodology has combined global best practice in climate finance mapping with local climate finance expertise to reach the findings.

The Climate Finance Landscape report is the second evidence-based survey of South Africa's climate finance landscape which highlights obstacles to scaling up finance and market gaps in terms of sectors covered.

The report found that climate finance flows have been growing significantly, but still fall short of what South Africa requires annually to reach its climate targets.

Finance would have to increase from an average of R131 billion per annum to an average of R334 billion per annum to meet the net-zero emissions goal by 2050, and R535 billion annually to meet its nationally determined contribution (NDC) targets.

The PCC will spend the coming year refining the methodology and data collection process to including just transition finance flows, and work with key partners to improve data collection processes and reporting methodologies.





5.2 A JUST TRANSITION FINANCING MECHANISM

Financing the just transition is a comparatively new area of climate finance, and as such it faces particular challenges. Understanding of what constitutes just transition projects vary widely. Community based development projects have small ticket sizes, and high perceptions of risk.

There is also a dearth of appropriately structured finance for such projects, and an inadequately developed pipeline of projects to match the available finance. Consequently, the PCC been investigating what functions are required for the financial ecosystem to channel funding toward South Africa's just transition, and the appropriate mechanism/s to perform these functions.

The research has compared the interventions needing finance with the available funding streams, and addressed the barriers to directing existing funds towards viable just transition projects. Draft PCC

proposals have been published for public comment in December 2024, which propose that a just transition financing mechanism is initially focused on matchmaking and tagging, but over time evolves to perform project development, capacity building and finance structuring functions.

Over the long term, the PCC recognises the need to shift the overall financial ecosystem to support just transition projects. Just transition portfolios should be reimagined as a strategic imperative to reduce multifaceted risks. The integration of indicators into climate finance and the creation of incentives to mainstream just transition project development and finance is essential moving forward.

Based on public comments and further consultation, the PCC will finalise its recommendations on a just transition financing mechanism by June 2024, and support the JETIP PMU in implementing its findings.

5.3 BUILDING THE MUNICIPAL JUST ENERGY TRANSITION PIPELINE

The South African Local Government Association and the PCC have initiated a programme of support to develop city-level energy transition plans and projects, aimed at addressing the challenges of energy access, energy security, and energy poverty.

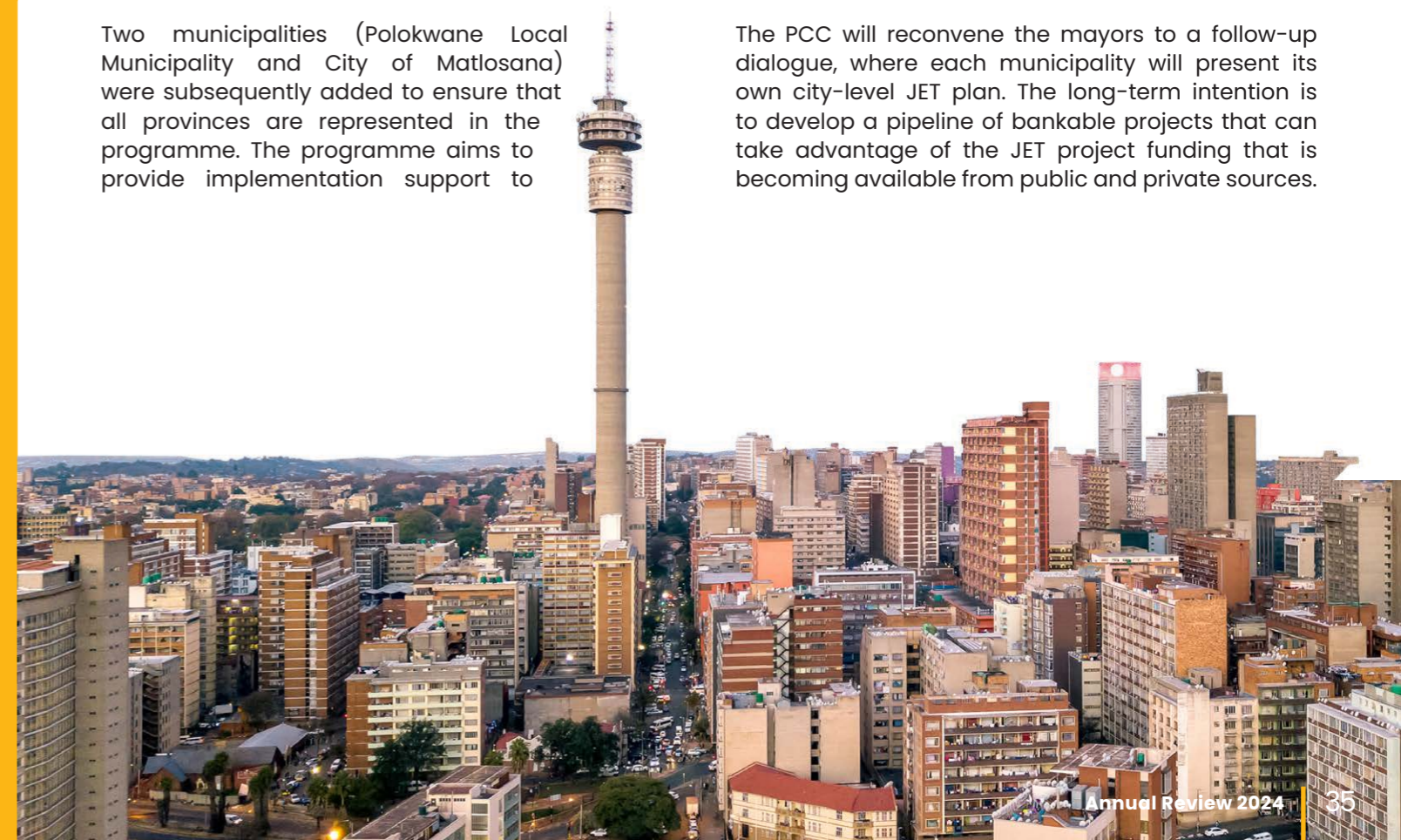
The programme was inaugurated on 23 August 2023 at a gathering of the Mayors from Cape Town, eMalahleni, eThekweni, Govan Mbeki, Hantam, Johannesburg, Nelson Mandela Bay, and Tswelopele.

Two municipalities (Polokwane Local Municipality and City of Matlosana) were subsequently added to ensure that all provinces are represented in the programme. The programme aims to provide implementation support to

ten municipalities as they navigate their role in the energy transition and embrace new business models for municipal energy services.

Phase one of the programme successfully kicked off in February 2024 and will conclude at the end of August 2024. During this phase a state of readiness assessment will assess energy plans, identify regulatory gaps and implementation challenges, as well as develop an initial project pipeline.

The PCC will reconvene the mayors to a follow-up dialogue, where each municipality will present its own city-level JET plan. The long-term intention is to develop a pipeline of bankable projects that can take advantage of the JET project funding that is becoming available from public and private sources.



Tracking the Just Transition

As an independent advisory body, the PCC has an important role to play in tracking and reviewing progress with the climate transition and the extent to which it constitutes a just transition. The PCC does this in a number of ways. Firstly, it is undertaking a comprehensive State of Climate Action report which is in the final stage of expert reviews and will be released in the first quarter of the new financial year. Secondly it conducts ad hoc monitoring and evaluation in particular areas. In the past year, the decommissioning of Komati power station was the priority focus. Lastly, the PCC is developing a set of indicators and an overall monitoring, evaluation and learning framework for the just transition, which can be applied by all stakeholders.

6.1 THE STATE OF CLIMATE ACTION IN SOUTH AFRICA

This *State of Climate Action in South Africa* report is the PCC's first comprehensive assessment of climate action in South Africa. The report will present a snapshot of South Africa's progress towards the achievement of key indicators that support South Africa's pathway to limiting warming to 1.5°C, enhancing climate resilience, and improving the lives and livelihoods of all South Africans – particularly those most impacted in the climate transition. The report provides an overview of the socioeconomic and governance issues impacting climate action in South Africa, the results of South Africa's first representative survey on public perceptions on

climate change and the just transition, an appraisal of adaptation measures already implemented and required in the country and an overview of South Africa's progress towards net-zero emissions by 2030. The report also looks at existing climate policy and gaps that may need to be filled by new or revised policy and programmes. The report serves both as an assessment of the country's current climate change response, and baseline for future reports – to monitor progress hereon. The State of Climate Action in South Africa will be released in June 2024. It is planned to publish such reports every two years.

6.2 LESSONS FROM KOMATI

In late 2023, the PCC released its report *Early Lessons and Recommendations from Komati's Decommissioning and Repurposing Project*. The PCC undertook the study on request of the Chairperson of the PCC, President Ramaphosa. This report provided lessons from the decommissioning of the Komati Power Station (the last unit was decommissioned in 2022). The study found that the lag between the decommissioning, repurposing, reskilling, and economic diversification components were compounded by a lack of communication and engagement with workers and communities. Komati communities believe that the power plant was decommissioned due to international pressure instead of domestic policy – a view reinforced by some inaccurate public pronouncements. Access

to information and transparency was lacking during the decommissioning process, which led to unequal engagement between communities. Involvement by local and provincial governments was limited, and they did not take responsibility for basic infrastructure and community services when Eskom exited these responsibilities. At an innate level, communities did not understand all the implications of the just transition and requested more accessible language to explain it, along with practical and relevant demonstration of deliverables. The PCC report with recommendations was handed over to the President, government and Eskom, and the PCC has committed to continue monitoring progress and report back to the community.



6.3 MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING SYSTEM

Following the publication of the Just Transition Framework in 2022, much work has been done by state departments, stakeholders, and the PCC to implement or mainstream the just transition into workplans.

A key issue has been how to track implementation of the just transition. The PCC has initiated work on a monitoring, evaluation and learning framework to monitor the outcomes of implementation, evaluate the successes and gaps in implementation and to course-correct, where necessary.

The monitoring, evaluation and learning framework uses a theory of change as an organising frame, recognising the complex systems and dynamics under which implementation of the just transition will occur.

The framework is in an advanced stage of development, with the framework report complete

and a core set of indicators for measurement defined. In the coming financial year, the PCC will pilot the framework, tracking outcomes to feed back into and revise just transition implementation strategies.

In this financial year, the PCC will meet with relevant government departments and other stakeholders to assess the steps that they have taken to ensure the implementation and/or mainstreaming of the just transition, successes in this process and gaps or limitations that require course correction.

It is hoped that this process can assist with the development of a monitoring tool for just transition implementation that can be refined in the coming years regulatory gaps and implementation challenges, as well as develop an initial project pipeline.



Building Awareness, Fostering Dialogue and Forging Consensus

Communications and outreach are important pillars of PCC work. The sections below describe the work we have undertaken in terms of understanding public perception, engaging stakeholders, building awareness and sharing progress and insights.

7.1 PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS AND ATTITUDES ON JUST TRANSITION

Access to knowledge and information is a foundation for a just and equitable transition, and enables stakeholders to craft appropriate responses to climate risks and act in a concerted fashion. The PCC is therefore critically interested in the extent to which the public is aware and / or supportive of the just transition, climate policies and action, in order to inform guide PCC and social partners' communications efforts. In 2023 the PCC partnered with the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) to conduct a national survey on perceptions of climate

change and the just transition in South Africa. The survey aimed to assess awareness of and concern about climate change; personal experience with extreme weather events; perception of responsibility for addressing climate change; awareness of the concepts of the energy transition and just transition; support for decarbonisation; support for various policy measures to mitigate against negative impacts of the transition; and perceptions of who should be involved in and responsible for the transition.

The survey found, amongst others, that:

- About half of respondents reported that they know a lot or a fair amount about climate change, indicating a steady improvement in knowledge levels since 2007. However, it also means that half of respondents reported knowing little to nothing about climate change.
- A significant minority (10%) of South Africans display scepticism regarding the existence of climate change.
- Very few South Africans are familiar with the term just transition. However, South Africans are more likely to have heard about the move away from coal to other forms of energy like solar or wind (31% know quite a bit and 41% have at least heard about it) and the majority (61%) say they approve of this transition.
- Less than one-third of South Africans reported knowing a lot about the country moving away from coal to renewable energy.
- South Africans are most likely to associate the transition with energy and economic impacts.
- Over half of respondents believe shifting away from coal will reduce load shedding; 41% say it will cause electricity prices to decrease and/or the economy to grow; and roughly one third are concerned they will have to pay more for electricity and/or it will result in the loss of a job or income source
- There is strong national support for proposed policies that could be enacted to help mitigate potential negative impacts from the transition away from carbon intensive energy.
- Institutions that are considered to bear the most responsibility for dealing with climate change were environmental groups, large companies, and the national government – in that order.

This study is an important baseline for tracking awareness and opinions on climate change and the just transition. The PCC will aim to use its findings to inform our policy recommendations and communications and outreach work, and we encourage other stakeholders to make use of the findings as well.

7.2 OUTREACH AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Embedded in the PCC's work is the principle of procedural justice. The PCC actively consults labour unions, civil society organisations, and communities in the development of our recommendations and research outputs, not only to ensure that stakeholders are included in the planning and decision-making processes, but also to ensure the justness of the transition. Essential to a just transition is insight into perspectives of different constituencies – to ensure engagement and transparency in the work of the PCC and to inform the PCC's outputs and findings.

Over the past year the PCC has consulted widely with the public, communities, and social partners around the implementation of the Just Transition Framework and the Just Energy Transition, amongst others. Community consultations were held in Gqeberha, Lephalale, Emalahleni, Middleburg, Mbombela, Ermelo, Upington and Secunda. Engagement has taken place with various sectors including business, labour, women groups, civil society organisations and institutions of higher learning through workshops and conferences. The PCC sought to inform, empower and raise awareness amongst stakeholders and the broader public about issues relating to the implementation of the just transition. Through these

There were calls for more environmental education awareness campaigns, simplification of the core messages of the just transition and a recognition that English was not a universal language that is understood by all.

7.3 MEDIA AWARENESS AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The PCC is continuously reaching out to stakeholders and communities through innovative interventions such as live streaming PCC engagements on various social media platforms, investments in community radio stations, youth engagement programmes (e.g. the Youth Essay series), exhibitions and public lectures and the distribution of reports and information in various official languages.

The PCC continues to build relationships with the media and has increased its reach through improved media relations and increased spend in editorial content in the form of live broadcasts, and interviews with radio stations across the country. The PCC has ensured that our public communications are widely available and have been improving the content on our digital platforms.

7.4 SHOWCASING PCC WORK INTERNATIONALLY

South Africa's engagements in terms of climate diplomacy are led by the DFFE, working in conjunction with the Department of International Relations and Cooperation. The PCC has a domestically focused mandate, but it does seek to promote domestic work on the just transition on an international stage. The PCC showcased its work on the just transition internationally at the Africa Climate Week and Summit

engagements, strong partnerships and networks have been built in line with our consensus-building objective.

To complement and deepen the above work, the PCC has also undertaken an in-depth analysis of stakeholders' views on the just transition and just energy transition investment plans. Unsurprisingly there are divergent opinions on the just transition, but also several common concerns and priorities. In engaging with communities, there were divergent understandings of the correlation between environmental degradation, physical climate change and the energy transition. Communities were most concerned with seeing tangible deliverables, particularly relating to job creation, enterprise development, basic services and health care. They were also concerned about environmental education, skills development, awareness raising, youth and gender issues, improved governance and coordination, inclusion at the decision-making table and trust-building. Importantly consultations across all communities raised the concern that they are not fully engaged in the processes that impact them.

In October 2023, the PCC's media flagship event was held, a Community Media Capacity Building workshop, to empower community journalists with tools for climate change and just transition reporting and to enhance collaboration with community media. This was followed by a 3-month broadcast partnership with community radio stations for content development, production, and broadcast on key topical issues on climate change and the just transition (November to January 2024).

The PCC has reimagined outreach, communications, and stakeholder engagements and approved a broad framework for a national awareness campaign on the just transition, which will be implemented with various partners over the next three years

in Nairobi, and the Conference of Parties (COP 28) in Dubai in December 2023, which was well received by regional and global stakeholders. With support from its partners and the DFFE, the PCC hosted several side-events at the COP that looked at monitoring and financing mechanisms for just transitions; managing the socioeconomic consequences of just transitions; and presented.



Corporate Management

Corporate services provide the basic support infrastructure that enables the PCC to operate effectively. These services are performed in conjunction with NEDLAC, on whose shared corporate services the PCC relies. A brief summary of pertinent finance and human resources issues is set out below.

8.1 FINANCE REPORT

During the 2023/24 financial year, the PCC recorded revenue from two sources: Government, through NEDLAC; and donors, managed on behalf of the PCC by the African Climate Foundation. All amounts are reported in South African Rands (ZAR) unless

indicated otherwise. All figures presented below are unaudited and preliminary. Final audited figures will be reported in the annual reports of NEDLAC and the African Climate Foundation (ACF).

Table 1: PCC Revenue and Expenditure for the 2023-2024 Financial Year

EXPECTED REVENUE TO MARCH 2023	NEDLAC (ZAR)	ACF (ZAR)
Government Allocation	21 500 000	
Retained surplus funds allocated from NEDLAC's budget	10 919 023	
Bloomberg		23 400 000
ECF		774 851
German Embassy		548 000
Total Revenue received for the year	32 419 023	24 722 851
Donor funds carried over from the prior year		24 326 000

Donor funds rolled over from previous financial year include donations from Open Society Foundation (SA), European Climate Foundation, Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet, Rockefeller foundation and African Climate Foundation. At the end of the 3rd quarter of the 2023/24 financial year, the PCC had expended R17,2 million of donor funds and R22,2 million of NEDLAC funds. The final audited expenditure figures will be included in the NEDLAC Annual Report.

8.2 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

Operationally, the PCC filled all funded vacant positions within its organogram, which has allowed the organisation to focus on delivering on its mandate and achieve its strategic objectives. The PCC engages in structured strategic planning processes each year, at the level of the Commission and the Secretariat, and rigorously reports on and evaluates its progress. This has created a strong performance culture within a young and dynamic team. The PCC has a staff complement of 25 persons, all of whom

are on contract. We have been actively recruiting in the past year and have now filled all vacant positions in the organogram. The gender breakdown of our staff is 44% male and 56% female. One member of staff is disabled (4%). The racial breakdown of PCC staff is 52% African, 4% coloured, 20% white and 24% Indian. There are eight (8) staff members at Executive Management level, of whom two are white males, one is African female (Chief Operating Officer), one is African male and three are Indian males.

Looking Ahead

In the 2024 – 2025 financial year, the PCC plans to build on the work that it started in the past financial years to ensure impact and outcomes from these projects. This will include, amongst others, a much greater focus on adaptation and resilience, particularly in terms of how to finance investment in these sectors; mitigation modelling and the exploration of pathways to net-zero emissions; development of employment, economic diversification and reskilling strategies; awareness and outreach on climate change and the just transition; and monitoring and evaluation of the work undertaken by social partners on the just transition.

The recommendations on the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) will be an important bringing

together of our work across mitigation, adaptation, just transition and climate finance. A revised NDC is due to be submitted by DFFE in 2025, in line with the requirements of the Paris Agreement. The NDC sets out South Africa's decarbonisation pathway, and targets must be both economically and technically feasible, and optimised for development outcomes (e.g. job creation and impact on the triple challenges of poverty, inequality, and unemployment). The PCC is currently working with a range of institutions to generate insights into what these targets should be. After compiling this analysis, consultation will be undertaken with stakeholders and Commissioners before submission of recommendations to the President and DFFE.



We anticipate that the PCC will be releasing recommendations and publishing technical reports in the following areas:

Quarter 1 (Apr – Jun 2024)

- Recommendations on Mechanisms to Finance the Just Transition.
- The inaugural State of Climate Action report

Quarter 2 (Jul – Sep 2024)

- Short term employment opportunities in Mpumalanga
- Recommendations on design of Climate Response Fund

Quarter 3 (Oct – Dec 2024)

- Recommendations on Nationally Determined Contribution and possible carbon budgets in terms of Climate Change Bill

Quarter 4 (Jan – Mar 2024)

- Recommendations on an adaptation & resilience investment plan
- Review of JET-IP implementation

As the Climate Change bill moves closer to promulgation, the PCC is preparing for its migration to a Schedule 3 public entity. The Climate Change bill enshrines the PCC's role in law, establishes it as a permanent advisory body, and protects its independence and impartiality.

The primary function of the PCC is to advise on South Africa's climate change response, including mitigation & adaptation, for a just transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy & society.

The Climate Change bill also provides for the continuation of the current Commission, whose terms expires in December 2025. Before the end of the term of the Commission, public nominations will be called for, and after consideration the President will appoint up to 25 Commissioners from government, organised labour, civil society, traditional leaders, SALGA, and business.

As the PCC we remain deeply appreciative of the wide-ranging participation and support from across society in matters relating to the climate transition and our collective response to the climate crisis.

We understand that this transition provokes deep seated anxieties because it has potentially major implications for the lives and livelihoods of workers, communities and the youth.

Stakeholders are diverse and vary in terms of their perceptions and engagement, with some fundamentally opposed to any climate transition measures, and many cautious but hopeful.

Regardless of one's perspective, being engaged is an important starting point, and we thank everyone for their willingness to be in the conversation, and urge those not yet on board, not to be left behind



Links

LINKS TO RELATED PRESIDENTIAL CLIMATE COMMISSION DOCUMENTS:

- [Early Lessons and Recommendations from Komati's Decommissioning and Repurposing Project \(2023\)](#)
- [Social Ownership Models in the Energy Transition \(2024\)](#)
- [Just Transition Framework for South Africa \(2022\)](#)
- [Recommendations for South Africa's electricity system \(2023\)](#)

TECHNICAL REPORTS:

- [South African Climate Finance Landscape \(2023\)](#)
- [Scaling Finance to Support a Just Transition: The Potential of a Just Transition Financing Mechanism \(2023\)](#)
- [Report Supporting the Recommendations for South Africa's Electricity System \(2023\)](#)

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT REPORTS:

- [Stakeholder Perspectives on the PCC's Recommendations on Electricity Planning in South Africa.](#)
- [Stakeholder Perspectives on South Africa's Just Energy Transition Investment Plan](#)
- [Stakeholder Report: PCC Energy Dialogue Series](#)

OTHER USEFUL PARTNER DOCUMENTS:

- [South Africa's Just Energy Transition Investment Plan \(2023\)](#)
- [Country Climate and Development Report for South Africa \(World Bank, 2022\)](#)



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