



Organización
Internacional
del Trabajo

▶ Thematic Session 3 – Social Protection and Labour Inclusion in Green Transitions

Blanca Patiño

Just Transition and Green Jobs Specialist. ORLAC. patinob@ilo.org

John Bliiek

Sustainable Enterprise Development & Job Creation Specialist. ILO Office for the Caribbean, bliiek@ilo.org

Content

1. Climate Change challenges and opportunities for the world of work for a just transition
2. The Link Between Social Protection Policies and Climate Action
3. Examples of Our Work in the Caribbean Region

Although the LAC region accounts for a small proportion of GHG emissions, its vulnerability to climate change is high.

Regional overview



Green opportunity

15 million new green jobs by 2030, 7,5 mill could be lost (ILO-IDB),

Gender gaps

80/20 ratio of men and women in transition sectors (ILO-IDB)

Informality as a challenge

1 of 2 workers (IDB-ILO)

NDC incorporating just transition

50% to 75% with specific reference in LAC (ILO)

Heat stress affects the world of work

2 million jobs at risk of being lost (ILO)



Organización
Internacional
del Trabajo

Just transition in the decisions of the ILC and at the regional level

ILC 102nd Session (June 2013)

General discussion on Sustainable Development, Decent Work and Green Jobs

Tripartite Meeting of Experts (Oct 2015)

ILO Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all

ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work (June 2019)

Ensuring a just transition to a future of work that contributes to sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental dimensions

111th ILC Agenda: General discussion on just transition

Resolution concerning a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all

20th American Regional Meeting

Punta Cana Declaration

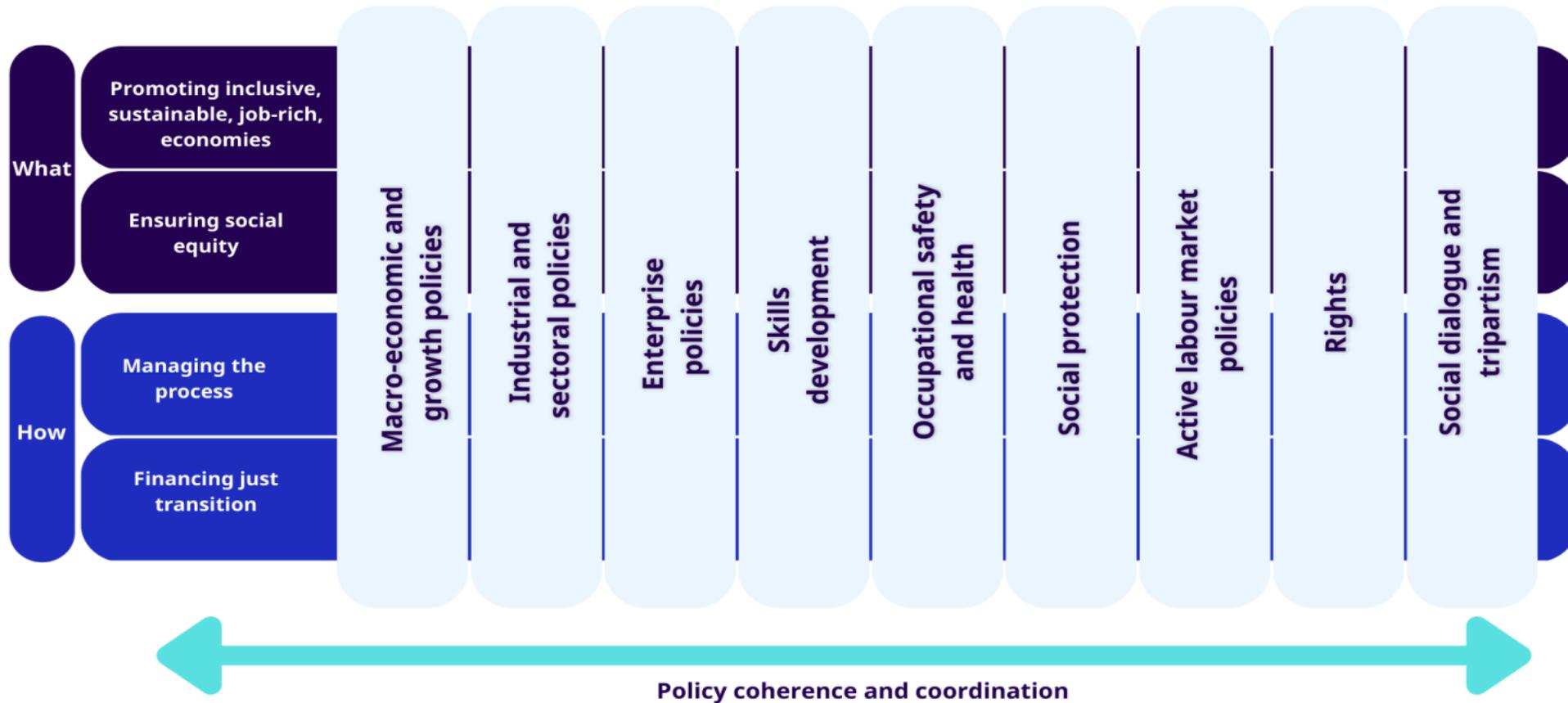
▶ Recap: What is a just transition ?

- ▶ **Fair and inclusive way** of promoting environmentally sustainable economies
- ▶ **Maximizing the social and economic opportunities** of climate and environmental action, while **minimizing and carefully managing any challenges**.

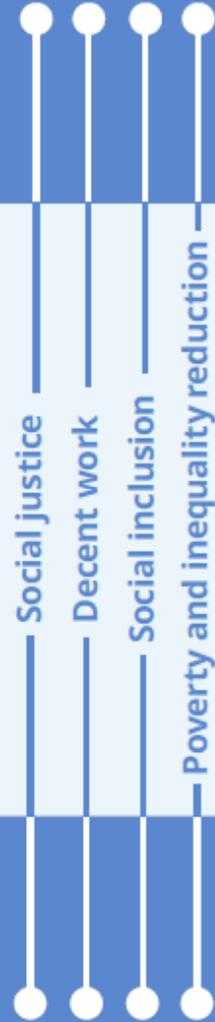


- ▶ It matters for **all economic sectors** – not only energy – and for **urban and rural areas alike**.
- ▶ There is no **“one size fits all”** approach to a just transition.

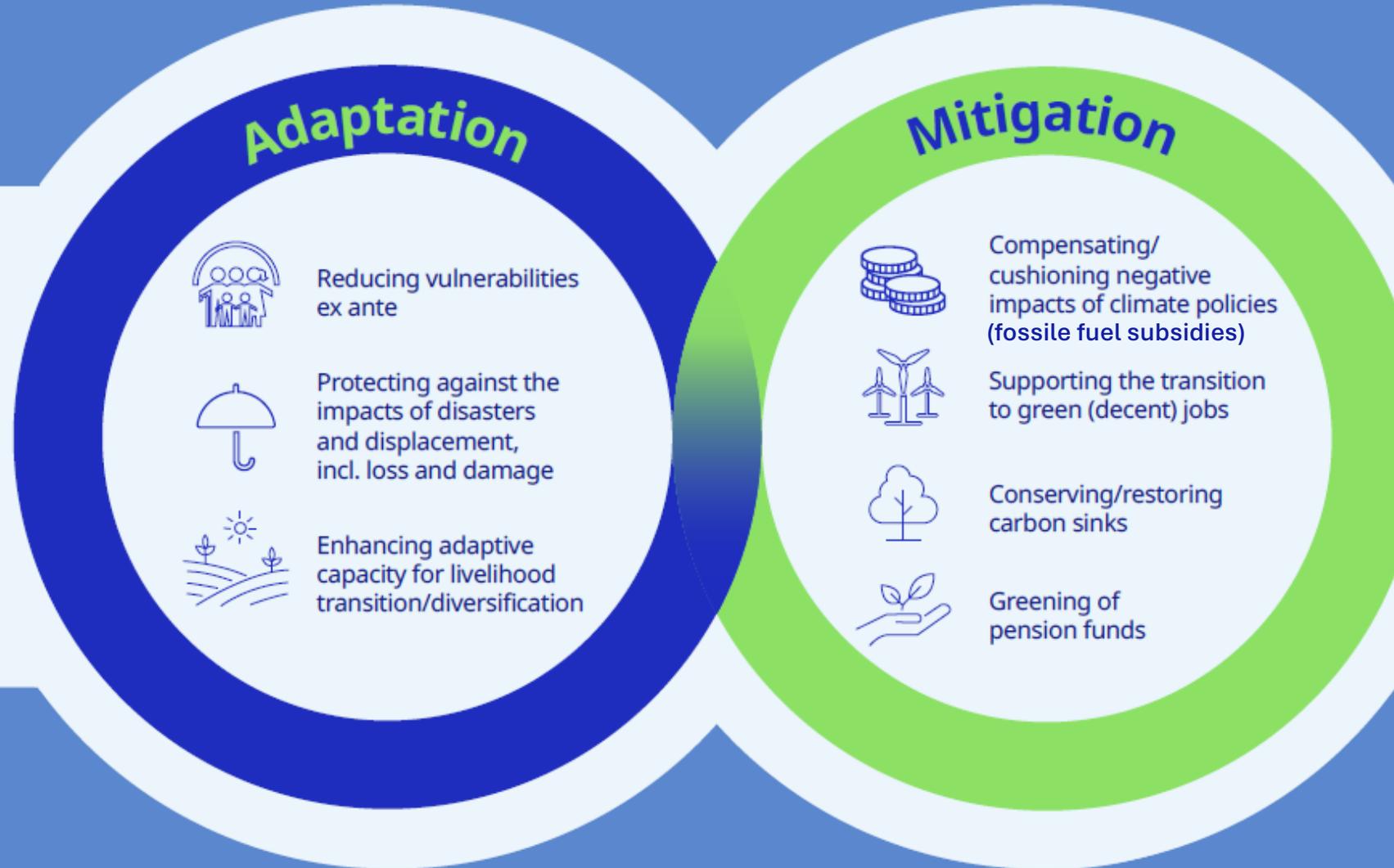
An action framework for a just transition



The still untapped symbiosis of social protection policies and climate action



Just transition



Social protection as part of
an integrated policy framework

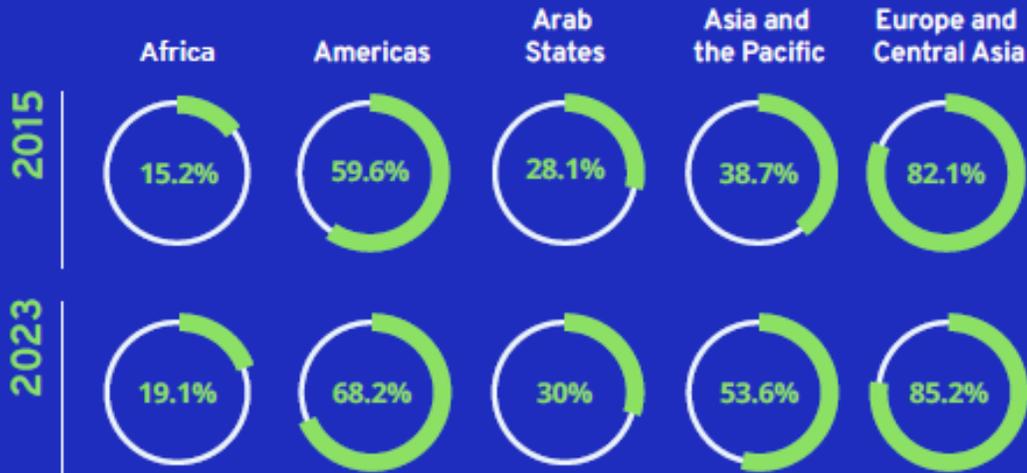
Effective social protection coverage (SDG 1.3)

Trends in global effective coverage rates 2015 and 2023

Share of the global population with at least one social protection benefit 2015 and 2023

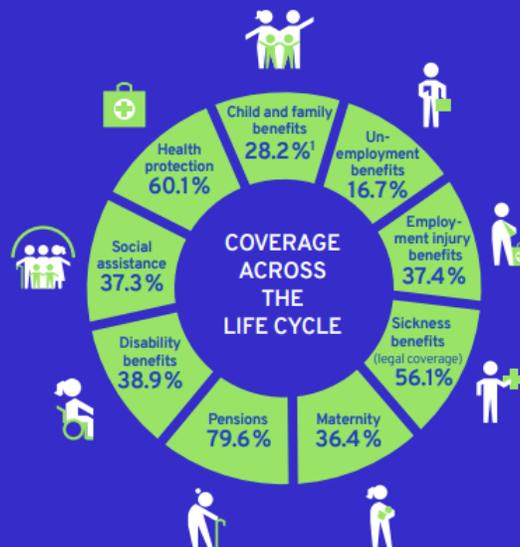


Population covered by at least one social protection benefit (SDG 1.3) by region – 2015 and 2023



Coverage rates vary by life-cycle risk

Social protection coverage across the life cycle (SDG 1.3), 2023



Informe Mundial sobre la Protección Social 2024-2026

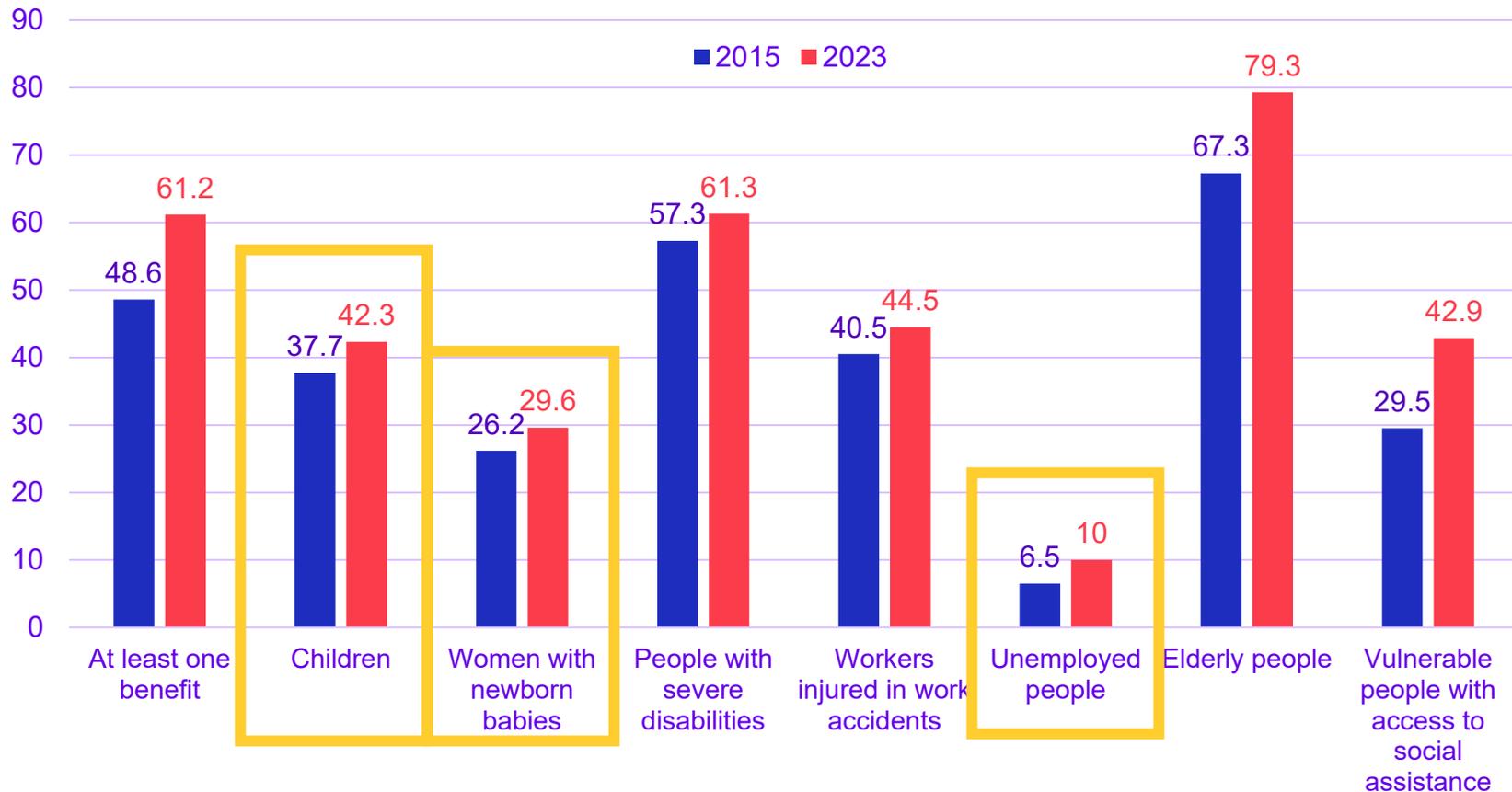
Protección social universal para la acción climática y una transición justa



Resumen ejecutivo

**For the first time, more than half of the population in the world
(52.4%) is covered by at least one benefit**

...Coverage increases in all age groups, particularly among older adults...



Fuente: Informe Mundial sobre la protección social 2024-2026: Informe regional complementario



Brazil – Social protection response to the 2024 floods

Social Assistance and Pensions

- ▶ Advance payments and suspension of conditionalities
- ▶ 61,000 new families enrolled
- ▶ One-time transfers for reconstruction (547,000 families)

Job and income protection

- ▶ +2 months of unemployment insurance (100,000 people)
- ▶ Extraordinary withdrawals from severance funds (more than 1 million workers)
- ▶ Wage subsidies for 2 months in affected companies (112,000 workers)

Support for micro-entrepreneurs

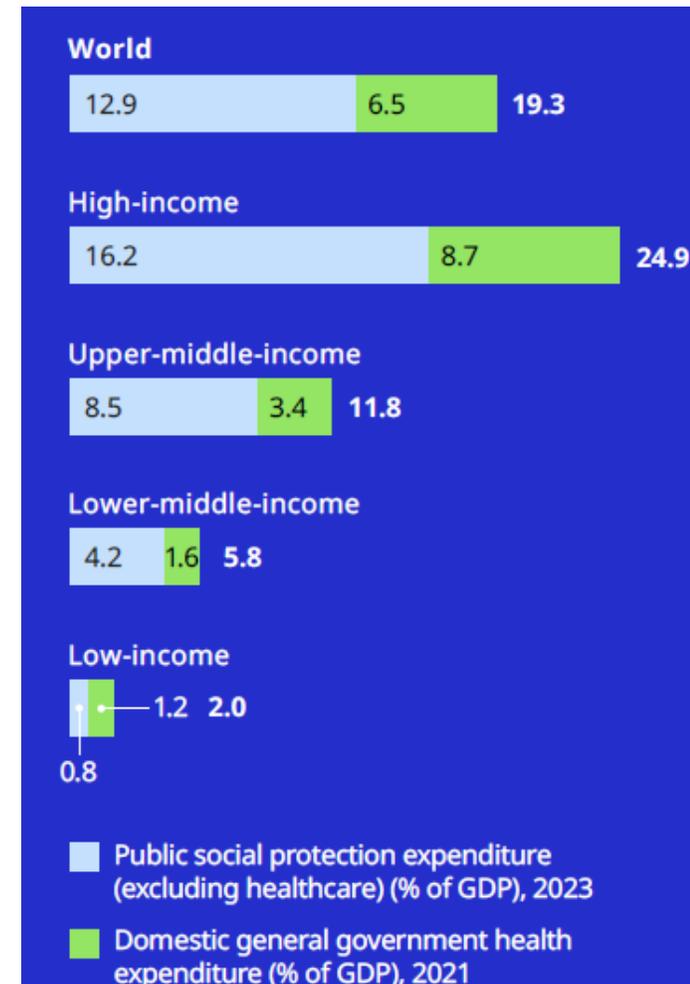
- ▶ Emergency transfers and business training (29,000 workers)



Green transition with inclusion: protect to transform

- ▶ Green Transition with Inclusion: Protecting to Transform. The climate transition makes social protection a strategic infrastructure for resilience and cohesion.
- ▶ The region has achieved 61.2% coverage, but with structural gaps between countries and groups, in a context of high informality (~51.8%).
- ▶ Productive reconversion generates green jobs and labor displacement: without adequate protection, vulnerability and inequality increase.
- ▶ Deficits persist in income protection (unemployment, maternity, working age), gender, and health segmentation.
- ▶ The consolidation of universal minimum income levels requires closing a financing gap of approximately 2.7% of GDP and expanding fiscal space.
- ▶ Priority: integrating social protection, employment, and climate policy for a just, sustainable, and rights-based transition.

Public spending on social protection (including health) as a % of GDP





▶ **Just Transition in the Caribbean**

► Cases in the caribbean: Guyana, Jamaica/Belize, Barbados and Suriname

Guyana: Green skills development studies plus Guide on how to improve TVET Curriculum

Jamaica/Belize: Rapid Rural Assessment to identify opportunities for a just transition, complemented by other knowledge products (value chain studies, social protection studies)

Barbados: Pilot on Greening Businesses, General Awareness Raising on specific high impact elements of climate change (for instance heat stress at the workplace)

▶ Suriname

- Country with highest forest cover in the world
- Country on the crossroads of strong oil exploration
- High informality, limited diversification, low productivity and increasing impact of climate change
- Commitment to Just Transition, but at the starting line

Some ambitions of Suriname

Development of the Green Development Strategy
and NDCs

▶ Creation of institutional committee to discuss on Just
Transition implementation

Development of Just Transition Policy



Some gaps:

Awareness of broader public on Just Transition

Knowledge of constituents

▶ Driving role of private sector, predominantly MSMEs

Participation



ILO efforts in Suriname to support these ambitions; 5 domains of a pathway to a double transition

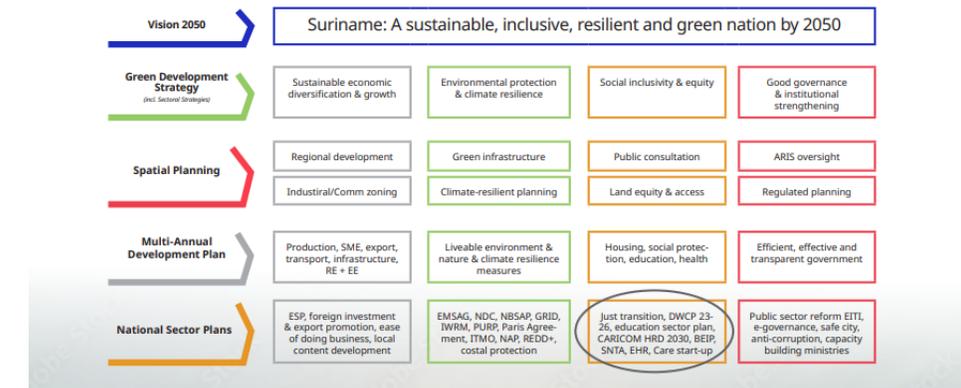
- knowledge creation and data – evidence based decision
- social dialogue enabled
- tripartite discussion started
- macro-meso-micro framework (effective participation)
- MSMEs prepared and with potential finance.



Some results

- Decent Work Country Program (including JustTransition)
- MyGreenEnterprise Approach: training existing and potential entrepreneurs.
- Bridging the financial gap (supply and demand); working with financial service providers as National Development Banks and Entrepreneurs/Cooperatives/Communities
- Strong reference to Just Transition in Green Development Strategy and NDC
- Communities and Constituents are able to participate and contribute effectively

Green development strategy (GDS) framework





Organización
Internacional
del Trabajo

▶ Thank you

Blanca Patiño

Especialista en transición justa y empleos verdes. ORLAC.

patinob@ilo.org

John Bliiek

Especialista en Desarrollo Empresarial Sostenible y Creación

de Empleo. Oficina del Caribe, OIT bliiek@ilo.org