



[Radisson Blu Hotel, Addis Ababa | and online via Zoom](#)

09.00 – 17.30 (EAT, Addis Ababa) | 07.00 – 15.30 (BST, London)

Global climate policies towards a 'just transition' under the Paris Agreement should align with and support African states' national sustainable development priorities – in particular, the need for decent and fair job creation, as well as resilient and sustainable land, environment, and ecosystem management policies. They must also be cognizant of African nations' urgent requirements for sustainable and accessible energy to underpin economic development. Achieving green growth requires innovative and more accessible financing models, especially as wealthy nations' financial pledges have fallen short. It also requires clarity and cooperation to unlock investment in both renewable and transitional energy.

African countries face collective climate and employment related challenges. However, policymaking often remains regionally siloed according to differing political, energy sector, and ecological realities. There is a need for transformational strategic thinking and context-specific action from African governments, civil society, businesses, and financiers, in their green financing demands and national implementation plans.

At this hybrid conference in Addis Ababa, speakers will take stock of policy efforts and preparations ahead of the 'African COP27' in November and discuss the key priorities for streamlining continental cooperation on policy approaches to just transition, job creation and green financing.

This event is held in partnership with the UNDP, Chatham House's Sustainability Accelerator, and UNECA. It is the fourth in a series on Towards Just Transition: Connecting Green Financing and Sustainable Job Creation in Africa.

08.30 – 09.00 [Registration and Coffee](#)

09.00 – 09.30 [Welcome and Opening Keynote Address](#)

Keynote speaker TBC

Chair: **Bob Dewar**, Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

09.30 – 11.00 [Session 1: Regional Green Financing Innovation and Priorities](#)

- *What should the composition of blended green finance look like (e.g., public/private; international/regional/domestic; donor/commercial) – and what vehicles should such financing be drawn from (e.g., debt, equity, green bonds, compensation, official development assistance)?*
- *Are the anticipated linkages between green finance and job creation credible? Do African economies have the absorptive capacity for the suggested levels of finance required?*
- *How do we define success? And are there replicable examples of successful financing initiatives at continental, regional and national level?*

Dr Mallé Fofana, Africa Director and Head of Programme, Global Green Growth Institute

Dr Eugene Itua, CEO, Natural Eco Capital

Tomas Sales, Special Advisor for Private Sector and SDG Financing, UNDP

Kidanua Abera Gizaw, Senior Climate Finance Officer, Climate and Environment Finance Division, African Development Bank Group (*Virtual*)

Reuben Wambui, Africa Regional Coordinator, UNEP Finance Initiative (*Virtual*)

Chair: **Jean-Paul Adam**, Director, Climate Change, Natural Resource Management and Technology, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee Break

11.30 – 13.00 Session 2: **Job Creation in New Energy Supply Chains**

- *What are the priorities for financing sustainable energy infrastructure?*
- *Where natural gas is identified as a transition fuel, what measures can be implemented to encourage investment and mitigate the risk of stranded assets?*
- *Do sufficient mechanisms exist to facilitate regional and continental cooperation towards broad energy transition?*
- *Are human rights, including energy access and the right to decent work, appropriately recognised in regional and international just transition frameworks and proposals?*

Hon. January Makamba, Minister of Energy, United Republic of Tanzania (Virtual)

Darias Jonker, Africa Scenarios and Energy Transition Principal, Anglo American

Professor Carlos Lopes, Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House (Virtual)

Chair: **Robert Ondhowe**, UNDP

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 15.30 Session 3: **Valuing Africa's Ecosystems and Biospheres**

- *Is Africa's natural capital appropriately and accurately valued?*
- *Are there common factors of valuation or of value creation across ecosystems – forests, marine, savannah, and deserts?*
- *What are the priorities for increasing transparency in natural resource management?*
- *How can support for local livelihoods be better integrated into protection/ conservation/ restoration approaches?*

Frederick Kumah, Vice-President, Global Leadership, African Wildlife Foundation

Lalao Aigrette, National Technical Advisor for Mangrove and Blue Carbon, Blue Ventures

Dr Bowen Banda, Climate Adaptation Specialist, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

Bernadette Arakwiye, Manager, African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative, World Resources Institute (WRI) (Virtual)

Chair: **Christopher Vandome**, Senior Research Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

15.30 – 15.45 Coffee Break

15.45 – 17.15 Session 4: **Food System Resilience and Job Creation**

- *Where is there emerging best practice in reducing carbon intensive agricultural practices?*
- *What are the key areas for coordinated investments for improved agricultural labour?*
- *What role is technology playing in food systems and job creation?*

Helina Teklu, CEO & Founder, Seed Balls Ethiopia; Climate Change Africa

Alvin Munyasia, Fellow, Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI); Advisor, Panafrikan Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)

Dr Chimimba David Phiri, Sub-Regional Coordinator for Eastern Africa & Representative to AU and UNECA, FAO

Professor Lindiwe Sibanda, Professor, Director and Chair, African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) Centre of Excellence in Food Systems, University of Pretoria; Associate Fellow, Chatham House (Virtual)

Chair: **Tighisti Amare**, Deputy Director, Africa Programme, Chatham House

17.15 – 17.30 Closing Session: **In Conversation with the African Group of Negotiators (AGN)**

Speaker(s) tbc