



National Development Plan: Pathways for a Just Transition

KwaZulu-Natal Stakeholder Dialogue Meeting

16 April 2019

Diakonia Centre, 20 Diakonia Avenue

Durban, KwaZulu-Natal

REPORT

Purpose of this report

This report provides a summary of the inputs and discussions that took place at the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial workshop on 16 April 2019. This workshop was part of a series of provincial workshops that the National Planning Commission (NPC) is undertaking to engage with key stakeholders across the country regarding a just energy transition for South Africa. The aim of these dialogues is to build a consensus on a vision and pathways for an equitable and sustainable South Africa in 2050.

Welcome and Opening

Peta Wolpe, from Sustainable Energy Africa, welcomed the participants. Gratitude was expressed for each participant taking time to contribute to this important dialogue. Commissioner Elias Masilela, from the NPC, was introduced and he opened with a question: “Do we know what we want to hand over to future generations?” The commissioner noted that about 40% indicated yes, indicating that the other 60% either don’t know or don’t care. He asked this question as the NPC’s internal discussions focus on “What is it that South Africa wants?” and “Where does South Africa want to be in 2030 and beyond?”

The NPC, the commissioner explained, is an independent advisory body, established by the President to provide recommendations to cabinet. The first Commission was tasked to undertake a diagnostic exercise of the country to understand the problems and identify ways to overcome them. Low growth, poverty, inequality and unsustainable production processes were all highlighted as challenges. It is clear therefore that if the country continues to do nothing about these challenges then future generations will be bequeathed with a situation that we would not be proud of. The Commissioner issued a call to action, that the nation must unite to identify how to respond to these problems and that everyone is responsible for achieving the envisioned South Africa. This means that it is no longer only government that is responsible as it becomes a collective responsibility of all South Africans.

The Commissioner went on to say that although people have the responsibility, they may lack the tools needed to do what they want. The NPC thus identified problems and solutions and mobilised resources to solve those problems. Following which, the NPC went back to communities, to business, to various



stakeholders and recommended a way forward. As such, the NPC relies on the people and entities they have dialogues with to implement the National Development Plan (NDP).

Commissioner Masilela indicated that one of the primary issues to implementation of the NDP is proper governance. The better the governance, the higher the chances are to solve these complex problems. Yet it isn't about government only, and similarly it isn't just about business – it is the responsibility of everyone. For instance, water wastage is the responsibility of everyone who consumes water to do so in a responsible way.

The subject of today is regarding how natural resources are governed and how this can be improved, so that we can hand over a sustainable, strong economy to future generations. If this is not done correctly then future generations have no chance. For instance if we allow soil erosion to occur at the current rate it is, it will be too late for the next generation to fix and they will have to live with the consequences.

This process began as a carbon transition initiative. However, it became clear very quickly that it can't be only be about carbon because if the discussion is limited to carbon emissions reduction then a lot of people will be disadvantaged in the short term. The bulk of South Africa's energy comes from coal and thus coal mining is integral for power generation and for the economy. The social implications are as important as what we are going to do with the cheap natural resources at our disposal. South Africa needs to balance employment, health and the environment.

This is not just of discussion in South Africa, this is a global issue. When South Africa went to The World Bank to fund the construction of Medupi and Kusile coal-fired power stations, the World Bank had said that they had stopped funding for coal stations. However, when it was explained how reliant South Africa was on coal power and the high risk the country faced without new coal power stations, the World Bank reluctantly agreed to aid the funding, however South Africa had to agree to reduce its coal dependency going forward. In that way, the country is trying to balance its energy needs with keeping people employed and healthy. The discussion is now about how we promote balance and ensure the transition to a low carbon future is an inclusive and just process.

Everybody must be involved in the spirit of the social compact to work towards a long-term solution. Commissioner Masilela ended with the question “What is my contribution to sustainability in the economy?” and asked that participants take this question to their respective constituencies and communities.

Comments from participants

1. There was no consensus in the country on building Kusile and Medupi. The government originally went against all concerns from civil society and other stakeholders to build those power stations. No efficiency interventions were implemented. Now future generations have to pay with their money and their health. Government was complicit in strapping South Africans.
2. How do we rescue energy from Eskom? Currently the country is financially in bad shape and cannot pay back the bonds. How do we take back the power and ensure power that is sustainable?

Commissioner Masilela mentioned that he doesn't have all the answers, but the workshop would provide a framework for further discussion. One fundamental point is that the use and management of resources is determined by governance, and that whoever is given responsibility to distribute the resources of the nation must do so in a transparent way. The two coal plants were not commissioned through a transparent

process and this needs to be addressed. It is the responsibility of all stakeholders to minimise the impacts of the negative decisions and actions from the past and maximise the positive impacts. We need to emerge from these discussions in a collective way going into the future.

Peta Wolpe noted that this was a good start to the discussion and introduced Commissioner Tasneem Essop of the NPC who is leading the just transitions dialogue process.



Overview of the *Pathways for a Just Transition* process

National Development Plan Chapter 5: the framework

Commissioner Tasneem Essop informed the participants that this workshop is part of a project the NPC is conducting to facilitate provincial dialogues on a Just Transition, developing a Vision and pathways to 2050, in order to deepen the work on Chapter 5. Chapter 5 seeks to ensure “environmental sustainability and an equitable transition to a low carbon economy”. Within this context, the NPC is looking at what the country needs to do about its coal dependence, which has led it to being one of the top twenty carbon dioxide emitters in the world. There is also the important challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment which need to be integrated into our planning for a Just Transition. Given that inequality and poverty are so high, the impact of any transition will be felt by those who are most vulnerable especially the poor and the working class, and thus there is a responsibility to ensure that the transition and its impacts take into account the issue of fairness and equity. The Commissioner explained that the NPC is in its second term. During the first term, the NPC was tasked with drafting the National Development Plan. In this second term, the NDP is being reviewed with the goal of updating sections of

the plan as well as to deepen the Plan in order to facilitate implementation. This process of Dialogues will thus feed into the updating of Chapter 5 and the NDP as a whole.

In developing the National Development Plan, the first NPC undertook a diagnosis of the key problems the country faced through a year-long inclusive and evidence-based process via stakeholder engagements, research and interviews. The key problems identified were jobs, crumbling infrastructure, poor education, spatial divide, low economic growth and corruption amongst others, however key to this diagnosis were the challenges relating to poverty, inequality and unemployment. The plan itself intended to address each of these problem areas.



Figure 1: The diagnostic to be solved

Chapter 5 therefore seeks to provide high-level guidance to ensure that by 2030, South Africa is an environmentally sustainable society, with an expanded low-carbon economy and reduced emissions while at the same time reducing poverty, unemployment, and social inequities. Its guiding principles demand that the transition be just, ethical, sustainable, and transformative while taking a strategic, regional and ecosystems approach during a managed transition. Poverty and inequality is at the centre of the NDP, and will remain the centre of discussions to a low carbon economy. The benefits of building resilience are evident in the strides towards a flourishing and prosperous nation.

Pathways for a Just Transition: the project and process

When chapter 5 was developed, it wasn't intended to be a plan. Rather it was a guiding framework with a set of principles to guide the country forward. It was always recognised that there would be a second layer of work to identify the pathways needed for a Just Transition; this is the current phase of work which is underway. The concept of a just transition is hugely topical – both in South Africa and globally. The Paris Agreement includes a preamble that talks to the need for a Just Transition. We need to determine what a Just Transition means for South Africa. We recognise that there are transitions happening in our energy space, but whether those transitions are just, or not, and how we ensure that they are just, needs to be discussed and understood in order to be actioned.

Key guiding principles emerged, and we were able to achieve consensus between all of the social partners. Many of these principles, would they be implemented, could be transformative. For example, the full cost

accounting and internalising externality costs, could change the way that all business is conducted. Another principle is using an ecosystem based approach.

The aim of these engagements is to build a collective vision of an end state by 2050 and to provide guidance for the development of pathways that will ensure that the transition to this end state is a fair and equitable one. This framework, which is to be just, equitable, transformative, transparent and inclusive will include pathways and milestones. At its centre, the approach should identify and address trade-offs, build social cohesion and contribute to the eradication of poverty and inequality. It is envisaged that the consensus we build during our engagements will be the foundation from which a national social compact for the Just Transition can be developed.

The process will result in a concluding conference. The concluding conference will take place in Gauteng on 29 May 2019. At the concluding conference a draft vision and pathways for a Just Transition will be presented for discussion, before final agreement at a summit later in the year.

This is the penultimate provincial stakeholder workshop before the concluding conference.



Figure 2: 'Pathways for a Just Transition' process flow chart

Defining a Just Transition

The original understanding of the Just Transition has been broadened to ensure that the widest scope of those who are vulnerable are protected. It includes more than those who are in employment and who may lose their jobs due to the transition; it includes people who are unemployed, disabled, poor and female. In this way the NPC is looking at building resilience of the poor and the working class because they will bare the brunt of the climate impacts.

Advancing climate science is providing more information and data in order to better prepare us to build resilience in our society and economy. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2018 report provided up-to-date climate research that has promoted a greater understanding of climate change

impacts and the impending sense of urgency to address those potential impacts. This report looks at the vast difference in the potential impact of a global temperature increase of 1.5 and 2°C, the latter which is particularly devastating. This new report shows that we need to reach net zero emissions by 2050 if we want to limit global warming to 1.5°C and minimise further serious and irreversible climate change impacts. Therefore, the timeframes have become more urgent – we have to act now in order to be able to reach the 2030 emissions target.

Comments from the participants

1. We can't go down the same route to allow multinational companies to run the country. We have good Integrated Development Plans (IDPs), but they are poorly implemented. We need to place before the president the problems and solutions with clear timeframes. We need to have binding agreements and policies and hold government accountable. I am concerned about giving government flexibility. We are now talking about shifting the NDP target from 2030 to 2050.
2. Where are the current levels or status of movement towards a low carbon economy? What are the models for that transition?
3. Commissioner Masilela said we need to correct things we see that are wrong. We have tried. We have had people come here and ask us to work with them and then they use that information against us. There was a statement that if we close coal plants then people will starve - but we didn't talk about the dirty water and the health problems that the people who live next to those plants experience. Why do we not talk about that? The only reason that the people want to protect jobs is to protect their money. The labour unions protect the rights of these workers but what about everyone else who is impacted?

Commissioner Tasneem Essop responded to the comments. She made it clear that timeframes are not flexible; rather the process is flexible to ensure it is as inclusive as possible. The NPC is open to looking at different ways of moving forward to ensure that. The 2050 goal post is for a vision but the pathways identified will have milestones that must be met in 2020, 2030, 2040 etc. in order to achieve that vision for 2050.

It was explained that the intention is to use this information from the dialogues as a basis for a social compact that is supported by all stakeholders. The NPC is not in charge of implementation, it is the responsibility of the various government departments and other stakeholders to implement the plan.

Commissioner Essop acknowledged the comments about this process, the experience of many from communities and various social movements who have been consulted before is that nothing has changed. The NPC plays an advisory role to government only, but its strength lies in its ability to convene conversations through thorough stakeholder engagement. This workshop is a platform for discussion and consensus building. The NPC is here to listen and reflect on what emerges from this process. Thus it's important to hear everybody's voices.

The Key Challenges and Opportunities of a Just Transition for KwaZulu-Natal

Peta Wolpe facilitated small group discussions around what the challenges and the opportunities of a Just Transition are for the province. The following section represents a synopsis of the broad challenges that KwaZulu-Natal faces and the opportunities which could help the province develop.



Feedback from groups on challenges

Spatial inequities and land misuse – a lot of land is currently being misused and there are many spatial inequities which create issues such as health problems. Additionally the spatial inequities mean that there is vastly unequal service delivery and many areas have poor public services and education.

High unemployment and inequality – many people are unemployed and poor. This creates huge socioeconomic problems as well as providing a challenge for any planning going forward.

Corruption – the current system is influenced by corruption and corporate capture. A new system needs to focus on putting communities and people at the centre of the system so that solutions are created for them which actually benefit many people, not just a select few.

Mining – mining is seen as one of the most important industries in the country, yet it has significant detrimental effects on society which are not considered. Mining should be replaced by other industries which have multiple and sustained positive effects on society (for instance coal mining for energy generation should be replaced by clean energy generation).

Urban focus– the focus is always on eThekweni and there is a lack of focus and engagement on new ways of addressing issues that include other areas of the province. This perpetuates and deepens existing differences between rural and urban areas.

Fossil fuel investment – the investment in fossil fuel is still high in the province which is environmentally counterintuitive.

Top-down decision making – this top-down approach to decision making ignores community needs. The government does not listen to people and is not promoting a people centred economy. The developments that come through from government are not uplifting communities. Decision makers not making decisions for the environment as their interests do not align with the environment.

Poor planning – community planning is not currently community based, thus decisions are made for communities from people who don't necessarily know what communities need. Furthermore there are no emergency response plans in place.

Implementation of policies – there are lots of credible policies and plans but they are not being implemented due to misalignment, local government capacities, corruption and funding. We need targets for all sectors and better coordination between municipalities in each province.

Lack of sustainable food and agriculture – this jeopardises access to nutritious food and exposes people to potential food borne disease.

Fishing livelihoods are being jeopardised – communities dependant on fishing as a primary economic activity are put at risk as their local fishing spaces are being protected, thus preventing them from fishing for their livelihoods. However large fishing trawlers who are causing the environmental destruction as not regulated.

Environmental monitoring – air quality monitoring is poor leading to poor data and reporting and does not give a proper status quo.

Access to information – why does one need a lawyer to get information from public institutions such as Eskom?

Economic development vs environment – the economy is weighted too strongly and does not see the long term impacts on the environment and people. The current perception of economic growth being the best solution to reducing inequality and poverty is skewed. Recent reports show that green growth is a fallacy and will still result in increased emissions unless strong resource caps are placed and there is even distribution of resources.

Feedback from the group on opportunities

Sustainable use of natural resources – there is an opportunity to use the renewable resources such as the sun and many other natural resources that we have in abundance in an ecologically sustainable way so that the environment is not harmed and people can still benefit from it.

Food sovereignty – creating the conditions for food sovereignty would allow people to grow healthy, organic food that is produced sustainably.

Develop a climate change protocol – this protocol should be established which all future development must pass before it can be started. Also, all actions and developments need to have a climate change review mechanism.

Bottom up water management – KwaZulu-Natal is a water reliant province, both in terms of their focus on the sea and on rivers. There is thus an opportunity to ensure that all water actions are bottom-up in terms of their management and protection so that these resources are protected for the people that need them most. Furthermore there is a strong civil society base in the province.

Climate focussed disaster planning – climate change will lead to an increased number and increased intensity of these disasters. As such there is an opportunity to improve disaster planning and management aligned with climate science so that the effects of potential disasters can be better minimised.

Environmental policies – opportunity to create policies that are not just profit-driven but also account the environment.

Land audit – a proper land audit should be undertaken to understand who owns what land, the land that people want and if land is being used effectively.

Provide agricultural skills and knowledge – training and education around nutritious food and efficient farming techniques will rectify the current poor farming techniques and lack of skill communities have. This would enable these communities to be able to grow nutritious food, improving food security and providing a livelihood for people.

Development of a green economy – Areas of sufficient land can be brought into the green economy for ecotourism. Land could also be given back to communities (along with providing education and training to these communities) so that it could be used for activities in the green economy.

Hands on community development – activities to improve communities need to be sustainable and community members need to be involved in the solutions so that once the implementer leaves the solution continues.

Public participation processes – Public participation processes and some structures remain in place to promote inclusiveness and empower citizens. Dialogue to discuss real solutions with government to support community members to enable them to properly express their rights

Government awareness on environmental problems – if decision makers and leaders within government were trained and educated about environmental problems and climate change then they would be more incentivised to act in the environments best interests.

Partnerships and capitalising on experience – there is an opportunity to use experiences, both positive and negative, within eThekweni and other cities in South Africa, and with business, academia and civil society to assist smaller cities in the best course of action.



The Journey Thus Far

Commissioner Tasneem Essop provided an overview of the process that has been undertaken thus far with the project. The project began with a high-level social dialogue in Gauteng, during which the recommendation was to rather perform a bottom-up approach, to understand “on-the-ground” opinions and views which could feed into the pathways. Therefore, the NPC shifted to a provincial stakeholder dialogue to expand the viewpoints and concerns about climate change.

This is the eighth provincial stakeholder workshops, with only the Free State outstanding, with whom there is an engagement scheduled for 22 May. Alongside these workshops there have been bilateral meetings with the Energy Intensive Users Group (EIUG), the South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI), and the youth.

So far the vision for 2050 which has been developed so far is one where working people, and in particular the poor and vulnerable, are protected and do not have to shoulder the burden of shifting to a low carbon, cleaner and more climate resilient economy and society. Additionally, inequality and poverty have been eradicated, there is universal access to good health and education, informality is no longer a permanent feature in our landscape and employment and livelihoods are sustainable, inclusive and equitable with women, disabled and youth included. In terms of land-use, urban areas are more compact and densified, with green, accessible public transport, local circular economies, easy access to job opportunities, health opportunities and education institutions and leisure facilities open to all. There is food security (sovereignty) in the country, achieved through agricultural practices that are more sustainable and

resilient, which protect ecosystems. Lastly water is no longer polluted, and everybody has access to clean and safe water.

There are a number of challenges to, and opportunities for this vision, with the major of these identified in the table below.

Table 1: Opportunities and Challenges of the Just Transition identified in Provincial Dialogues thus far

Challenges for People	Challenges for Business	Opportunities	Immediate Actions Needed
Water and air are polluted	South Africa is no longer industrially competitive	Base SA new energy system on social owned renewables with jobs in manufacturing, construction and operations and support SME	Policy alignment
Health issues related to climate change and pollution	Power too expensive to attract investors	Rehabilitate closed mining land for agriculture, renewable energy and solar parks	Insufficient political will
Access to land for agriculture and livelihoods	SA energy future is uncertain, resulting in low rates of investment	The voices of youth need to be integrated into the vision for the future	Improved governance and accountability
Access to affordable and safe energy	Predictability and strong policy direction is required from government	Decentralisation rather than centralisation	Capacity building
Unemployment	The Eskom energy transition requires a solution	Education, awareness and information sharing is required	Awareness and education
Jobs and need for reskilling		Huge potential for job creation and cheaper power	
Safety is a priority			
People and communities want to be engaged, consulted and involved in decision making			
Lack of acceptance of responsibility- largely government			

Pathways

While there is agreement in many areas, there are also areas in which there is disagreement. There are contradictory views and hard questions regarding trade-offs which need to be answered. South Africa needs to shift its energy source. The South African economy is dependent upon energy intensive industries, but we have committed to reducing emissions. There are those who want coal to remain an important aspect of the economy and those who would like to see a zero carbon economy.

Breakaway groups: Developing A Vision 2050 With Reference To Energy, Water and Land-Use

The afternoon saw further break-away sessions to focus on the three key thematic areas of water, land-use and energy. Participants were offered opportunity to choose which group they would like to participate. The groups focussed on answering the following questions:

- What vision do you have for energy / water / land-use to 2050?
- What do we need to get there and by when?
- Who are the key actors in making these shifts happen?
- What do we need to do to ensure a Just Transition?
- What are the hard decisions we need to make?
- What climate targets should be established?

Group 1: Energy

Facilitated by Peta Wolpe

2050 Vision

The group had the vision that there would be access to stable, safe and clean energy for all people, with more people off the grid and that the energy sector would have no carbon emissions by 2030.

What vision do you have for energy to 2050?

- Access to affordable energy for all. A lack of access to electricity is most prevalent in rural communities. This is the first step to reducing inequality and supporting economic development
- Clean zero emissions energy
- Decentralised energy system
- Zero emissions by 2030 from the energy sector to reach 1.5°C increase limit
- Immediate actions with profound middle and long term actions

What do we need to get there and by when?

- Immediate and large scale action with clear targets for short and medium term
- Energy efficiency should be exploited to its full potential and should be a first step to achieving emissions reductions due to ease and low cost of achieving energy reductions compared to renewable energy technologies.
- Upscaling and reskilling of jobs - creating an enabling environment so that those in the fossil fuel industry (such as coal miners or workers in coal fired power stations) can work in renewable energy or other green economy sectors.

- Supporting large scale green economic development which provide jobs e.g. mine rehabilitation and solar water heater industry
- Increase the percentage of renewable energy supply – such that there is zero/ no pollution from the electricity sector. No new coal/gas/oil. Renewable energy should be at the centre of decision-making
- Enhancing policy environment to promote RE and reduce dependence on fossil fuels. Improving legislations in order to create an enabling environment for free and fair service delivery.
- Prohibit banks and investment institutions from providing loans for new fossil fuels developments
- Remove subsidies for fossil fuels
- Amend the IRP to exclude new nuclear
- Increased monitoring and enforcing of existing environmental policies.
- No extension on environmental compliance issues
- Increase community awareness and education.
- Municipalities/ cities should lead by example, e.g. government buildings should have solar photovoltaic cells for electricity, electric buses for public transport should be provided, encourage use of solar geysers, etc.
- Municipalities should be able to be independent of Eskom, which would allow them to produce their own energy that is emission free.
- Incentivise solar PV on commercial buildings.
- Support agri-ecology.
- All cities should have well developed, reliable and integrated public transport systems e.g. BRT and rail.

Who are the key actors in making these shifts happen?

- The President, national government (all the DG), provincial MEC, local government (mayors, municipalities), the public protector
- NERSA, Eskom and Transnet
- Civil society, including academia
- Business sector (intensive energy users)
- The residential sector (citizens)

What do we need to do to ensure a Just Transition?

- Socially owned decentralised renewable energy systems
- Communities should be at the centre of planning for people.
- Improve climate communications – promote the accessibility of climate science through the use of radios, televisions, social media and public Imbizos.
- Inclusive platforms which includes rural areas.
- Education and awareness
- Access to information
- Reskilling of labourers employed in the fossil fuel industry
- Building entrepreneurial skills in disadvantaged communities
- Increase economic/manufacturing zones near disadvantaged communities

What are the hard decisions we need to make?

- South Africa needs to agree on a climate target(s) and make sure that target is enforced at all levels of government and penalties applied to parties which act oppositely to the target. At the moment there is no consensus on a climate target, thus government departments and businesses act in their own interests, a target would align these interests, either by providing incentive to change or for penalising those who act out of line of the target.
- Applying carbon budget as a constraint to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or maintaining the peak-plateau-decline constraint as in IRP 2010 – 2030 will not change the energy mix by 2030.
- Accept that there will be trade-offs and compromises will need to be made. A participant stated that he would rather have intermittent electricity supply (load-shedding) than exceed emissions targets.
- Remove special dispensation on electricity prices for big businesses which cause harm to the environment.

What climate targets should be established?

- There was no consensus among the group on targets. Some felt that it was impossible to attain zero carbon by 2030 but rather 2050 should be the goal, while others strongly felt that the timeframe should be 2030 to limit global warming.



Group 2: Water

Facilitated by Belynda Petrie

2050 Vision

The idea for a vision by this group was for there to be clean water available to all as water is essential for food and human consumption. Part of this vision is that water polluters, of which coal mining is the largest contributor, must be held accountable. There was also an emphasis on rain water harvesting and ensuring that ground water reserves and aquifers are used sustainably and have time to recharge, with an understanding that water is everybody's responsibility to conserve. The vision ended with the ocean being cleaned and kept clean as it is a huge provider of clean oxygen, as well as providing livelihoods for many people and communities.

What do we need to get there and by when?

- Build more dams however these must be sustainable and not interfere with the dry climate
- Eliminate corruption in government. Councillors have been known to steal pumps.
- Review the current tendering processes and evaluate which tasks should be performed in-house.
- Investment in decentralised water technologies such as grey-water systems and rain water collection systems.
- Provide decentralised water systems to those who cannot afford them e.g. indigent households.
- Education on water conservation, change the current mind set regarding the use (and misuse) of water.
- Ensure sustainability of wetlands to promote healthy ecosystem.
- Eradicate water intensive alien vegetation
- Mines, especially coal mines must be held responsible for rehabilitating abandoned mines and cleaning up water systems they have polluted.
- Maintenance of waste water treatment facilities should be prioritised.
- Transition from conventional agriculture to agro-ecology to reduce the amount of water being used by the agriculture sector.
- We need to include the ocean in all water policies and actions as it plays a major role for humans and businesses. In particular fossil fuel exploration should not be allowed as it contributes to climate change and deteriorates the ocean conditions which affect all ocean users.
- Develop and implement training to those on the ground e.g. train trainers within communities, such that those community members are then responsible for training other members within their communities.
- Water prices must be cost reflective and signal the true value of water.

Who are the key actors in making these shifts happen?

- Broader civil society in terms of changing their water habits, as well as becoming more informed and involved (e.g. community ownership of water resources).
- Government as main player to provide policies and monitor.
- The youth.
- Scientists can play a role in determining what best solutions there are for water, helping spread information and scientific research to inform everyone.
- Multinationals need to curb their water exploitation.

What do we need to do to ensure a Just Transition?

- Community involvement and community based planning. Communities should be in control of their own water consumption.
- Inclusive platform which includes rural areas.
- Education and public campaign on water conservation, particularly targeting the youth. There should be education of people on how to appropriately build capacity to allow them to be subsistence farmers as well as learn to trade through agro-ecology.
- Monitoring and enforcement of all water protection policies and regulations – there is a role for communities to potentially do this.
- Water saving efforts – the unequal access to resources has to frame the discussion as people who don't have access to water can't be asked to save water.

What are the hard decisions we need to make?

- Just policies in terms of local versus international allowances for fishing need to be established and enforced.
- Stop funding fossil fuels and start funding renewable energy.
- People must start to appreciate water and be willing to pay high prices if they consume excessively

What climate targets should be established?

- Zero carbon emissions.



Group 3: Land-use

Facilitated by Christina Nomdo

2050 Vision

The vision is that all South Africans would have safe shelter in inclusive, safe and healthy cities which receive adequate services. Planned densification would replace urban sprawl, with planned conservation areas and planned rural development would allow people to live together in harmony. Conservation areas should include carbon sequestration areas, rural development and urban development. Resources should however be highly concentrated in urban areas where most people live. Cities would also be greened, which would include rooftop gardens, green open spaces, etc. The population would be informed on settlement planning. Land would also be used for solar as electricity moves to zero emissions and zero carbon.

The mobility of people would be planned for. This would include an accessible, carbon emission-free public transport system (based on subsidisation of zero-carbon transport and disincentives against carbon-intensive transport) which would be safe and inclusive and would ensure access to affordable routes. Additionally there would be pedestrian and cycle lanes, with green public spaces for all. Furthermore freight would be moved off the road with a dedicated freight network.

What do we need to get there and by when?

- Need to act decisively so that there is room to respond to failure.
- Need to establish proper monitoring and evaluation of land-use.
- Incentives should be given to increase waste reuse and waste processing. Non-packaged goods should be given zero rated good status (i.e. incentivise non-packaging of goods). Plastic and plastic bi-products should be banned.
- Use landfill sites efficiently to improve land-use. Divert organic waste away from landfills.
- Ensure agriculture is being ecologically sound (permaculture) and teach these methods to the youth.
- The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) should be used as a mechanism of integrating the youth into the Pathways for a Just Transition Project and creation of more job opportunities.
- Farm dwellers who do not own the land: Ensure that they grow from being subsistence farmers to commercial farmers through agro-ecology.
- Protect land from big corporations and industries that want to develop specific areas that protect humans and nature.
- Planned Greening for the cities and conservation and developing open spaces, parks and roof-top gardens are required.
- Forests and ecosystems must be protected in terms of holistic natural resource management and ecosystems services should form part of healthy cities. Rehabilitative and restorative measures should be monitored.
- Management establishment of an independent regulatory body, bringing new thinking and planning practices to land-use.
- Improve the efficiency of the transportation sector through non-motorised transport, electric vehicles and effective public transport systems. Need to implement a “one car, one family” policy.

- Zero carbon public transport vehicles should be subsidised. Create free public transport for all.
- Freight should be moved from road to rail.
- The government should focus on proper planning for mobility that is inclusive.
- Acknowledge informality and plan for it. Embrace the opportunities provided through the informal sector. Encourage entrepreneurship through allocating trading spaces.
- People are being moved from their houses to unhealthy places (for instance next to landfills) in order to develop malls and other developments. As such they are unable to grow their own food or sell food in the area. This forced migration needs to stop for these communities health and livelihoods.
- There needs to be an understanding that our wellbeing is dependent on healthy flourishing ecosystems. Thus people will inherently want to protect the environment.
- Take an integrated approach to understanding climate response: land, water, cultural resources, animals are all integrated and need to be seen holistically.
- Structural changes of the food production and distribution to ensure people can trade it easily and safely.

What are the hard decisions we need to make?

- A question of “how do we solve the problems of tomorrow with the thinking of yesterday when the problems of today originate”, was raised. We need to learn from past decisions and abandon the decisions which failed in the past, not keep on trying to implement them.
- All vehicles must not contribute to carbon emissions (transport system must be carbon zero).
- Reduce meat consumption through increasing prices.
- One car per family limitations and provide free public transport
- Ban single use of plastics
- Return of land to the rightful owners
- Educate small farmers and finance them
- All vehicles must be zero emitting, including freight (Toyota, Volkswagen be liable).
- Promote eco-agricultural and indigenous knowledge systems.
- Protect the land from the capitalist
- Stop underground mines and open cast
- Miners must rehabilitate the land after mining
- No landfill sites

What climate targets should be established?

- Zero carbon emissions by 2050 with incremental targets and milestones.



Wrap Up and Closing Remarks

Commissioner Essop wrapped up by feeding back themes that arose from the breakaway groups. All groups had a zero emissions target, but there isn't consensus on a time frame, either 2030 or 2050. The second area was a call for much stronger monitoring and evaluation and enforcement of environmental protection laws. Education, awareness and community involvement was also a common theme among the groups. Lastly, there was a message about respecting people no matter what happened.

Commissioner Essop then went over some of the logistics and the path forward. All the participants would be added to a database that has been developed and expanded since the first workshop. Once the provincial reports are finished, they will then be sent to all the people who have participated in the dialogue – with an opportunity for people to review and send responses. Additionally a draft vision and a draft pathways document which pulls together the whole discussion from all of the dialogues will be generated and distributed before the concluding conference so that it can be reviewed and workshop participants can provide their feedback. The stakeholder engagement process will end with a concluding conference in Gauteng, and any conclusions which arise from that will be sent to all the workshop participants.

In closing Commissioner Essop thanked everybody for their participation and contribution in the process. She reassured everybody that this information will only be used in a way that respects each participant's agency, their contribution and their voice. She emphasised that there were some very strong positions that were taken in the meeting and that these views will be respected.



End.



Pathways for a Just Transition Briefing Note

The National Development Plan (NDP) envisages that, by 2030, South Africa will have made headway in transitioning to a society that is just, inclusive, sustainable and resilient. Chapter Five of the NDP sets out a framework and guiding principles to ensure that by 2030 South Africa's transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient and sustainable economy and society will be well underway.

Transitioning to a sustainable and resilient economy and society will require systemic and structural changes that should also see the use of South Africa's natural resources, including water and energy, resulting in appropriate economic and social development that addresses our country's triple challenges, namely, inequality, poverty, and unemployment.

The National Planning Commission's (NPC) work is now in its second phase, which intends to ensure the implementation of the Plan by engaging relevant stakeholders. In its plan for ensuring the implementation of Chapter 5 of the NDP, the NPC has designed a process to facilitate a series of dialogues culminating in a social compact – an agreement on what the best pathway for a Just Transition to a sustainable society would be as well as agreements on the modalities for implementation.

The dialogues include building consensus on a vision for an equitable and sustainable South Africa in 2050, as well as determining the best pathway for a Just Transition towards that vision. The discourse will also consider, and address current crises impacting on our ability to ensure a Just Transition, such as energy sector job losses and the growing water crisis, amongst others.

The vision for 2050 will be built through an iterative process of engagements and will be presented at a final concluding conference in May 2019.

The current political discourse frames this process and the implementation of the Plan. President Ramaphosa in the State of the Nation Address 2018 highlighted the need for South Africans to work together *"by getting social partners in our country to collaborate in building a social compact on which we will create drivers of economic recovery"*. He further stated that *"Our country has entered a period of change. While change can produce uncertainty, even anxiety, it also offers great opportunities for renewal and revitalisation, and for progress"*.

