



Issue: COP30 Presidency Roadmap for Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels in a Just, Orderly and Equitable Manner

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This submission was prepared by Plataforma CIPÓ, a Brazil-based non-governmental organization that holds observer status with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Introduction

This document sets out a proposal for the establishment of a **Regional Roadmap for a Just, Orderly and Equitable Energy Transition in the Amazon**, contributing to the advancement of the transition away from fossil fuels in line with the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the outcomes of the Global Stocktake (GST), particularly paragraph 28(d).

The proposed Roadmap provides a structured and regionally grounded framework to support Amazonian countries in advancing energy transition pathways aligned with sustainable development and responsive to national circumstances. It is organized around four interconnected pillars: **1. principles, 2. objectives and targets, 3. governance arrangements, and 4. technical and financial instruments**. These pillars are designed to define the normative foundations of the transition, guide implementation pathways, ensure institutional coordination, and enable the mobilization of means of implementation.

Building on this framework, the present document addresses three interrelated elements in response to the guiding questions of the COP30 Presidency: it identifies key barriers to the transition away from fossil fuels, outlines enabling conditions and potential levers to accelerate implementation, and examines how a just, orderly and equitable transition can reflect diverse national circumstances. Through this contribution, Plataforma CIPÓ seeks to support the efforts of the COP30 Presidency to advance a practical and implementable roadmap, highlighting the role of regional approaches in translating global commitments into context-specific and actionable pathways.

Key Barriers and Enabling Conditions for the Transition Away from Fossil Fuels in the Amazon

The Amazon region, one of the most biodiverse regions in the world and home to Indigenous Peoples and traditional communities, plays a critical role in maintaining global climate stability and ecological balance. However, this biome is increasingly under threat from the impacts of the climate crisis, largely driven by global greenhouse gas emissions associated with the production and consumption of fossil fuels.

At the global level, persistent difficulties in building consensus around transition pathways, combined with structural constraints related to access to finance, technology development

and transfer, and capacity-building, continue to hinder progress in advancing the transition away from fossil fuels. These challenges, which are particularly acute in developing countries, reflect gaps in the provision of means of implementation and underscore the need for strengthened coalition-building and regional approaches capable of fostering convergence and facilitating effective action.

Within the Amazon region, these systemic constraints are further compounded by structural and socio-economic conditions. Several countries remain significantly dependent on fossil fuels for energy generation and public revenues, while millions of people rely on energy systems that are costly, inefficient, and environmentally harmful¹. In some cases, this dependence has deepened with the discovery of new reserves and the continued centrality of fossil fuels in national development strategies. Notably, oil and gas concessions overlap with approximately 12 per cent of the territories of Indigenous Peoples and local communities² in the Amazon, exposing livelihoods and ecologically sensitive areas to heightened risks associated with extractive activities.

From an institutional perspective, while pan-Amazonian cooperation has gained renewed momentum, dedicated regional spaces to formulate and implement energy transition policies remain limited. National climate commitments also tend to lack ambition with regard to fossil fuel phase-out, often framing the transition primarily in terms of energy diversification rather than structural transformation.

In this context, the identification of an intermediate approach capable of fostering consensus across the region is essential. The **concept of a just, orderly and equitable energy transition** may serve as a gradual and pragmatic pathway for the Amazon, helping to ensure that political divergences around the transition away from fossil fuels do not hinder the advancement of energy transition policies and actions.

Important enabling conditions are beginning to emerge. Recent political declarations signal increasing recognition of the importance of the energy transition in the Amazon context. While the Belém Declaration³, adopted by Amazonian countries⁴ in 2023, addresses energy

¹ In the Amazon region, millions of people remain dependent on fossil fuel-based energy systems. In the Brazilian Amazon alone, around 3 million people in isolated areas rely primarily on diesel-based electricity generation. Brazil. Ministério de Minas e Energia. (2025). Amazon Energy, <https://www.gov.br/mme/pt-br/brazil-world-leader-in-energy-transition/social-inclusion/amazon-energy>

² Global Alliance of Territorial Communities (GATC); Earth Insight. Indigenous peoples' territories and local communities on the frontlines. November, 2025, <https://earth-insight.org/report/iplc-threats/>.

³ Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO). *Declaration of Belém*, 2023, <https://otca.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Declaration-of-Belem.pdf>

⁴ The Belém Declaration was adopted in August 2023 by the States Parties to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), namely Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela. Plataforma CIPÓ has developed the *Painel de Acompanhamento da Implementação da Declaração de Belém* to systematically and accessibly track progress in the implementation of the Declaration. Available at: <https://declaracaodebelemcipo.streamlit.app/>

transition only indirectly across some of its axes of action, including science, education and innovation; sustainable infrastructure; and the economy for sustainable development, the Bogotá Declaration, adopted in 2025, represents a significant step forward by explicitly referencing a just, orderly and equitable energy transition, in alignment with national circumstances and the outcomes of the GST.

In parallel, initiatives associated with what the COP30 Presidency has termed “two-tier multilateralism,” including calls for global roadmaps to transition away from fossil fuels and to halt and reverse deforestation, as well as the first Conference on the Transition Away from Fossil Fuels, to be held in April in Colombia, reflect a growing willingness to explore new coalitions and cooperative arrangements.

In this evolving context, the Amazon region represents a strategic opportunity to advance both political convergence and technical cooperation through a coordinated regional framework. Existing pan-Amazonian cooperation structures provide a strong foundation for such an approach. The Amazon Cooperation Treaty and its institutional framework, including the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) and the Amazon Cooperation Council, offer established mechanisms for political coordination and technical cooperation. These platforms can be further mobilized to support a regional energy transition agenda, enhance alignment across countries, and facilitate the implementation of shared objectives.

Absent such coordination, national efforts are likely to remain fragmented and insufficiently ambitious. Conversely, a strengthened regional approach can support the development of common frameworks, enable knowledge-sharing and resource mobilization, and help drive progress even in countries with historically lower levels of ambition. In doing so, it can play a critical role in translating global commitments into actionable, context-specific pathways for transitioning away from fossil fuels in a just, orderly and equitable manner.

A Regional Roadmap for a Just Orderly and Equitable Energy Transition in the Amazon

The proposed Regional Roadmap for a Just, Orderly and Equitable Energy Transition in the Amazon should be supported by political and technical leadership within the framework of pan-Amazonian cooperation, in particular the ACTO.

The Roadmap should be structured around four integrated pillars, as set out below, which together provide a coherent and actionable framework.

1. Principles

The Roadmap should be guided by a set of core principles consistent with the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement, as well as relevant outcomes under the Just Transition Work Programme (JTWP), including Decision 2/CMA.7. These principles include:

- The principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC), in light of national circumstances;
- The promotion of energy sovereignty and the eradication of energy poverty;
- Addressing structural asymmetries related to the energy transition, including technical, infrastructural and financial gaps;
- The promotion of renewable, decentralized and sustainable energy systems that protect ecosystems and biodiversity;
- The strengthening of inclusive and participatory decision-making processes, with particular emphasis on the effective participation of affected groups, including formal and informal workers, people in vulnerable situations, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, Afro-descendants, women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;
- The upholding of human rights, including the rights of Indigenous Peoples, traditional and local communities and Afro-descendants;
- The promotion of just transition outcomes, including decent work and social protection;
- The promotion of technology development and transfer, co-development and innovation, including through enhanced access to affordable and context-appropriate technologies;
- The strengthening of international cooperation and support, including financial approaches that do not exacerbate debt vulnerabilities.

2. Objectives and Targets

The Roadmap should support the formulation of common regional objectives and targets aligned with the transition away from fossil fuels and the outcomes of the GST, while remaining responsive to national circumstances and development priorities. It may be structured in different phases to reflect the diverse starting points, capacities and transition trajectories of Amazonian countries.

To ensure effective implementation, the Roadmap should incorporate robust mechanisms for monitoring, reporting and verification, as well as periodic stocktake processes to assess progress and inform adjustments.

To operationalize these regional objectives, the Roadmap should be anchored in two complementary instruments, namely pilot projects in priority areas and Life Zones, in a manner that enables the integrated articulation of bottom-up and top-down approaches.

a. Pilot Projects in Priority Areas

Pilot projects in priority areas are envisaged as territorially grounded initiatives, identified in accordance with national priorities and socio-environmental contexts, to test, adapt and scale up sustainable energy solutions. Such initiatives may foster technical cooperation among

governments, research institutions, the private sector and local communities, and may also serve as integrated investment portfolios to mobilize financing and reduce risks associated with low-emission transitions.

b. Life Zones

Life Zones are understood as ecologically critical areas whose integral protection is essential to sustaining life systems. Within such areas, the expansion of fossil fuel activities would be excluded and existing activities progressively phased out. These zones may encompass different territorial scales, including Indigenous territories, protected areas and other priority regions, and may serve as strategic instruments to align climate action with biodiversity conservation and the protection of human and customary rights.

3. Governance Arrangements

The governance of the Regional Roadmap should integrate political leadership, technical coordination, and intergovernmental validation within the existing framework of pan-Amazonian cooperation.

Political leadership may be provided by the Special Commission on Environment and Climate of the Amazon, a ministerial-level body related to the ACTO, with support from ACTO's Permanent Secretariat and relevant technical coordinations, including the Environment Coordination and the Climate Change Coordination, with a view to ensuring strategic coherence, regional alignment and effective coordination of implementation.

Operationalization of the Roadmap should be undertaken through these institutional arrangements, including through the development and implementation of projects, in particular pilot initiatives, in line with intergovernmentally agreed priorities.

The Roadmap should be submitted for approval and validation by the Amazon Cooperation Council, with a meeting anticipated in 2026, or by the Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Member States scheduled for 2027, ensuring high-level political endorsement and legitimacy.

4. Technical and Financial Instruments

Technical and financial instruments required for the implementation of the Roadmap should build on and strengthen existing pan-Amazonian cooperation frameworks. Monitoring and data systems could be supported through existing platforms, such as the Amazon Regional Observatory (ORA), while technical cooperation could be enhanced through the establishment of dedicated thematic networks within ACTO.



A central component of the Roadmap should be the development of structured project pipelines, coordinated by the Permanent Secretariat of the ACTO, in collaboration with relevant technical bodies, with a view to facilitating access to financing from multilateral, regional and national development banks, including the World Bank, the Development Bank of Latin America, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES).

In this context, the Amazon Mechanism for Cooperation and Action (MACA), launched at COP30, may play a key role as a platform for mobilizing resources and supporting the implementation of pilot projects aligned with the principles and objectives of the Roadmap.

Concluding Considerations

The proposed Regional Roadmap provides a structured framework to advance a just, orderly and equitable energy transition in the Amazon, aligned with the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the outcomes of the GST. Existing pan-Amazonian cooperation structures, including the ACTO and its institutional framework, offer a strong foundation to support its implementation and to enhance regional alignment and coordination.

A strengthened regional approach will be critical to fostering political convergence and translating global commitments into context-specific, operational pathways. In this regard, advancing a Regional Roadmap for a Just, Orderly and Equitable Energy Transition in the Amazon can support the development of common frameworks, facilitate knowledge-sharing and resource mobilization, and promote inclusive and participatory processes. It can further help ensure that the transition away from fossil fuels contributes to sustainable development, the protection of ecosystems and biodiversity, and the realization of human, customary, and environmental rights in the Amazon.