

## **SUBMISSION BY COP30 COMMITTEE TO THE ROADMAP FOR TRANSITIONING AWAY FROM FOSSIL FUELS IN A JUST, ORDERLY AND EQUITABLE MANNER**

The COP30 Committee is a Brazilian coalition that brings together nearly 100 organizations, most of them grassroots, founded and working in the Brazilian Amazon. We welcome the COP30 Presidency's initiative to invite Parties, observer organizations, and other stakeholders to contribute to the development of the roadmaps on the transition away from fossil fuels in a just, orderly, and equitable manner, as well as on halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030, in line with the outcomes of the Global Stocktake (GST1) and with efforts to accelerate the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

In response to the COP30 Presidency's invitation to submit inputs to the Roadmap for the Transition Away from Fossil Fuels in a Just, Orderly, and Equitable Manner, we acknowledge the progress achieved under the Global Stocktake (GST1), which reaffirmed the need to accelerate the global energy transition while respecting different national circumstances and ensuring that decarbonization pathways are socially just and economically viable. GST1 consolidated the understanding that the transition away from fossil fuels must take place in alignment with the principles of the Paris Agreement and with the strengthening of means of implementation, including finance, technology, and capacity-building. In this context, the Just Transition Work Programme (JTWP) becomes a central space to translate this consensus into concrete implementation pathways that recognize the diversity of realities across countries and territories.

The concept of Just Transition, consolidated within the framework of the UNFCCC and the International Labour Organization, already upholds essential principles such as social dialogue, decent work, and the protection of workers and communities in the face of climate change. **However, this framework remains insufficient for the complex reality of Latin America**

and the Global South, where structural inequalities, dependence on commodity-based economies, and social vulnerability demand more than compensation: they require holistic transformation.

In this regard, we advocate that the COP30 Presidency's Roadmap for the Transition Away from Fossil Fuels explicitly recognize **the importance of differentiated transition pathways**, especially for countries and regions in the Global South. This implies considering not only energy trajectories, but also the **social, territorial, and historical dimensions that shape the possibilities for economic transformation**. A just transition must be capable of addressing accumulated social and environmental debts, promoting economic diversification, social inclusion, and the strengthening of territorial economies.

Latin American experiences, whether in forests, local communities, urban peripheries, or agroecological communities, already demonstrate viable pathways for a just transition. However, these initiatives need scale and concrete support. This requires appropriate means of implementation, such as financing, technology, capacity-building, and cooperation, as well as alignment between climate policies, sustainable development, and the strengthening of local communities through participation, inclusion, and equity.

Thus, **we defend that the justice of this transition must adjust to territorial realities and historical debts**. More than changing the energy source, it is necessary to break with the colonial and capitalist patterns that have laid the foundations of inequality and the impoverishment of our territories. It also means shifting power dynamics toward the most affected people through consultation, shared governance, accountability, recognition, and reparation.

In Brazil's urban peripheries, for example, initiatives such as the Cooperativa Revolusolar [Revolusolar Cooperative] in Morro da Babilônia (Rio de Janeiro) and the solidarity economy circuits of the Rede Favela Sustentável [Sustainable Favela Network] (São Paulo) demonstrate how distributed clean energy generation, social currencies, and local markets can strengthen neighborhood economies, reduce emissions, and create decent jobs.

In the forests, extractive reserves and the associations connected to these territories, such as the Reserva Extrativista Chico Mendes [Chico Mendes Extractive Reserve] (Acre) and the Associação de Mulheres Extrativistas Sementes do Araguari [Seeds of Araguari - Association of Women Extractivists] (Amapá), care for the forest by making it the foundation of a living and regenerative economy. Communities collectively manage products such as rubber, vegetable oils, Brazil nuts, and açaí, generating income without deforestation. This forest-based economy reduces emissions by preventing fires and degradation, conserves biodiversity, and reinforces the role of conservation areas as means of implementation for a just transition, bringing together environmental conservation, economic autonomy, and social cohesion.

In rural areas, local communities have found in agroecology a path for soil restoration and ecosystem revitalization through agroforestry systems that integrate trees, crops, and livestock in harmony with nature. Initiatives such as those of the Instituto Mapinguari [Mapinguari Institute] in Amapá and the Rede de Agroecologia do Semiárido [Agroecology Network of the Semi-Arid Region], which operates across several states in Brazil's Northeast, exemplify how agroecology offers a concrete pathway for a just transition, uniting social justice, environmental regeneration, and cultural appreciation.

In terms of financing, it is essential to prioritize concessional or non-debt-creating investments, ensuring that the transition does not generate new debt or fiscal vulnerability. It is necessary to establish specific financing windows for the Just Transition, aimed at the retraining of workers, the economic diversification of fossil-dependent regions, and the support of associations and cooperatives rooted in local communities.

In the field of technology, it is essential to promote its transfer and adaptation to the local contexts of the Global South, ensuring that it is low-carbon, accessible, and can be operated and maintained by the communities themselves. Distributed renewable energy, agroforestry systems, ecosystem restoration, and urban social technologies are examples that combine innovation, autonomy, and emissions reduction. Finally, capacity-building must be understood as infrastructure for justice: investing in the technical and political training of workers, managers, and community leaders; strengthening local institutions and channels for social dialogue; and supporting subnational

governments, municipalities, and territorial collectives, those who are, in practice, implementing change on the ground.

**A Just Transition must serve the eradication of poverty and the promotion of shared prosperity, understood as forms of economic growth and social development that broadly benefit the population, rather than only specific groups that concentrate wealth and power.** We believe that our conservation areas and local communities are concrete examples of shared prosperity, as they combine, in their ways of life and social organization, environmental conservation, the creation of decent jobs, and expanded access to education, social protection, health, and infrastructure. Brazil itself carries, within its own history, a concrete and inspiring example of a Just Transition: the Extractive Reserves. Born from the struggle and collective organization of forest peoples, they show that it is possible to reconcile environmental protection, decent work, and the reduction of inequalities.

The Reserves were not imposed from the outside, but conceived by the very workers affected by the model of Amazon exploitation that is also responsible for the climate crisis. Their idea emerged from the same ground that held the needs, knowledge, and experiences of those who live and work in the forest. They represent a break with development models that exclude and exploit, and a concrete pathway toward climate justice.

When we look at the Extractive Reserves, we see that a Just Transition must be, above all, participatory, place-based, and diverse. There is no single possible transition. Each territory has its own realities, cultures, economies, and ways of life, and it is from this plurality that true justice emerges. This means recognizing and strengthening existing forms of organization and governance, ensuring that Indigenous peoples, traditional communities, and peripheral populations have voice and power in the decisions that shape the present and the future.

The Standing Forest and sociobioeconomy embody these principles in action by recognizing that the forest is a productive and political space, not an empty zone for conservation. Supporting community-based management, strengthening sociobiodiversity value chains, and investing in forest schools means remunerating those who care for and regenerate the land, turning

conservation into development. **Decentralized climate funds, green cooperative incubators, and agroforestry training programs are pathways that unite income generation with emissions reduction.** This is an act of just transition because it shifts economic power toward the communities that keep the forest alive, balancing social justice and ecological integrity.

Looking toward peripheral realities, whether in favelas or in any geopolitical context distant from major centers of economic power and access, expands the reach of the Just Transition to all territories. In favelas and urban peripheries, where infrastructure deficits and unemployment coexist with social innovation, investment must generate clean energy, decent housing, and dignified work. Community retrofit projects, popular solar energy networks, recycling cooperatives, and urban agriculture initiatives demonstrate how fighting the climate crisis also means fighting poverty.

Resilient agriculture envisions an agro-food transition grounded in the reconciliation between production and the land. By supporting agroecology, agroforestry systems, and the productive inclusion of youth and women, it strengthens food sovereignty and restores dignity to rural labor. Agroecological training programs, low-carbon credit lines, and women-led food cooperatives are examples of how climate investment can sustain economies that regenerate the soil and reduce poverty. This is a pillar of the Just Transition because it combines autonomy, food security, and intergenerational justice, transforming the countryside into a territory of resilience and hope.

The experience systematized by the Just Transition Letter of CC30 offers elements that can contribute to the development of this roadmap, by highlighting principles such as **effective social participation, redistribution of the benefits of decarbonization, strengthening of sustainable territorial economies, and recognition of the rights and knowledge of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and peripheral populations.** These principles indicate that a truly just transition does not consist merely of replacing energy sources, but of reconfiguring the structures of power, governance, and production that have historically sustained inequalities and environmental degradation.

In light of the COP30 Presidency's invitation to submit contributions to the roadmaps that will guide the implementation of the Global Stocktake decisions, **we recognize and value the effort to promote an open and participatory process that encourages listening to diverse stakeholders and expands social participation in shaping responses to the climate crisis.** This openness creates an important opportunity to bring the global debate closer to local realities, recognizing that many of the solutions for a just and effective transition are already being developed in territories by communities, workers, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and local governments.

We hope that the process of developing the Presidency's Roadmap can strengthen pathways that connect international commitments with concrete experiences emerging from forests, urban peripheries, and territorial economies. Valuing these initiatives means recognizing that the transition away from fossil fuels is not limited to technological or energy transformations, but also involves building new social, economic, and institutional arrangements capable of reducing inequalities, expanding participation, and strengthening sustainable forms of production and ways of life.

We believe that this dialogue across scales can contribute to consolidating global climate leadership that recognizes the diversity of transition pathways and the centrality of solutions built from the territories. **When local experiences are considered as part of the architecture of international climate action, a just transition ceases to be merely a guiding principle and becomes a concrete process of transformation, grounded in cooperation, diversity, and the shared construction of a more sustainable and inclusive future.**

With hope,

*COP30 Committee*

