

On behalf of:



of the Federal Republic of Germany



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025

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Dear Just Transition leaders

Welcome to our second TIPS JUST SA newsletter and the final edition of 2025!

As we close another productive year, we are proud to share the progress made through the hard work, commitment, and collaboration of our project team.

Despite challenges and shifting priorities, the TIPS JUST SA team has driven the successful implementation of key project activities – from training on the green economy to (on-going) research on labour market policy for coal workers in transition, economic diversification, and key aspects of Just Transition finance. Expect to see the publication of many more policy briefs, reports, and working papers in all these areas over the coming months. This year also witnessed the launch of the JUST SA Community of Practice, including the launch of our e-learning platform. We are also in the early stages of planning our international study tour to India, scheduled for October 2026 (more on the study tour below).

This newsletter highlights the year's most significant achievements and looks ahead to the opportunities that the coming year will bring. Thank you for being part of this journey and for your continued support as we build on this foundation and ensure that the work we do contributes to a just transition in South Africa!

JUST SA GREEN ECONOMY AND JUST TRANSITION TRAINING DURING 2025

It was a pleasure to meet you and spend two days in your province to better understand your unique Just Transition challenges and opportunities. Each one of you brought so much energy to the workshop. We feel confident that your province has strong leaders to take on the challenges that lie ahead in your province.

Training workshops were hosted in the following provinces in 2025:

- Free State (Bloemfontein – February)
- Western Cape (Cape Town – April)
- Eastern Cape (Gqeberha – May)
- Northern Cape (Kimberley – October)
- Limpopo (Polokwane – November)

We will be in Northwest province in February 2026 for our last provincial training on the green economy and Just Transition. If you would like to join us in Rustenburg, please contact our Project Coordinator, Natasha Du Plessis (natasha@tips.org.za)



KOMATI COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE SESSION

TIPS is preparing an economic diversification strategy for the area around the Komati power station. A first draft has been completed and key findings were shared with community representatives and stakeholders on 27th November 2025 in Blinkpan, Mpumalanga. The engagement hosted an estimate of 100+ attendees from various communities in the area. A second draft of the report is underway and will be submitted to the PCC early next year.



MPUMALANGA TOURISM STUDY

With the planned decommissioning of Eskom coal-powered generators in the region, alternative economic opportunities in this area must be supported, where feasible. As part of our research on economic diversification, we commissioned research on tourism in the Coalfields region of Mpumalanga. The study reviews the state of tourism in the area, lessons from post-mining tourism elsewhere in the world, and potential development pathways for tourism in the Coalfields.

[Click here - Research Report](#)

[Click here - Policy Brief](#)



JUST SA CoP EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

Beyond knowledge transfer, the JUST SA CoP serves as a catalyst for transformative practice at the local level by generating new insights and co-developing solutions that will enable South African municipalities and provinces to navigate the complex socio-economic and environmental dimensions of the Just Transition.

Ultimately, the JUST SA CoP seeks to empower government officials to lead with confidence, strengthen institutional capacity, and deliver sustainable, inclusive outcomes for communities across South Africa. How can you get involved? We would like to hear from you! Let us know on the online form what you would like to gain from being part of our CoP activities!

[Sign up here to become a practitioner](#)

JUST SA INTERNATIONAL STUDY TOUR FOR LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN 2026

We are excited to reconnect with you as a valued alumnus of the JUST SA Green Economy and Just Transition Training Programme. Building on your commitment to a just, inclusive, and sustainable transition in South Africa, we are pleased to invite you to apply for a unique opportunity to participate in our International Study Tour to India in 2026.

About the International Study Tour

The primary objective of the JUST SA International Study Tour (IST) is to equip South African local government leaders, planners, and policy advisors with practical knowledge, comparative insights, and tools from global best practices in implementing a Just Transition at the municipal level.

The tour will provide selected local and provincial government officials the opportunity to learn firsthand from international best practices in Just Transition. Through site visits, policy dialogues, and peer exchanges, participants will engage with other national and subnational practitioners in the green economy and just transition space in another country.

The study tour is planned for **mid-October 2026** (final dates to be confirmed). One representative from either local or provincial government will be selected from each of South Africa's nine provinces. JUST SA will cover participants' travel and accommodation expenses. Non-financial support will be provided to assist with the visa application process (visa requirements, letters of support, etc.) but successful applicants will be expected to arrange (and pay for) their own visas.

We look forward to receiving your application and to providing participants with an action-orientated learning experience.

Applications are now open! Application closing date: 15th January 2026

[Apply here](#)



ACCESS THE E-LEARNING PLATFORM

The e-learning platform is free to access. Currently, the e-learning platform includes a course on the green economy and Just Transition, similar to what was presented during the two-day workshop you attended. Additional courses will be added to the platform next year so watch this space!

You are encouraged to make the JUST SA CoP circle bigger and share this capacity building opportunity with your colleagues who were not able to join our provincial training programme!

[Click here](#)



JUST SA WEBSITE

The JUST SA project website is live!

In addition to publications produced by the project, you will also be able to access the JUST SA Digital Knowledge Portal, which contains summaries of (and the option to download) reports, strategies, videos and podcasts on the Just Transition in South Africa.

[Visit Website](#)



TIPS JUST SA PROJECT WEBPAGE

Please visit the JUST SA project webpage on the TIPS website, which contains links to TIPS research supported by JUST SA as well as the provincial podcasts and other project information you might find useful.

[Go to Webpage](#)



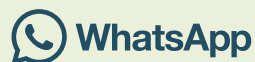
JUST SA PROVINCIAL PODCASTS

Learn more about the challenges and opportunities that other government officials are facing in different provinces by listening to our podcast series;

- Eastern Cape
- Western Cape
- Free State
- Western Cape

[Listen here](#)

Connect with us:



As we move toward the close of 2025, we will carry forward the momentum we have built this year. In 2026, we are not only striving to grow—we are determined to elevate our work, deepen our impact, and help shape a future we can all be proud of.

TIPS office will close on 24th December and re-open on 5th January 2026.

The TIPS JUST SA team would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year!

PARTNERS:

