

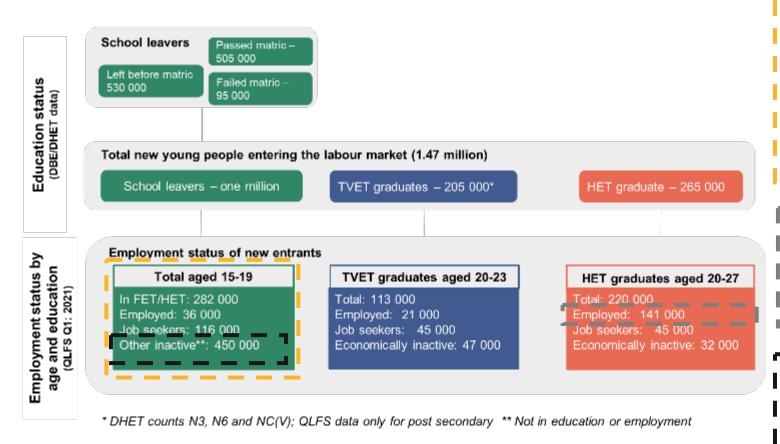


The role of skills in industrial development and in achieving a just transition

11 May 2023

# Too many young people are not transitioning from learning to earning!





Every year about 1 million young people leave school in South Africa — of these approximately 28% enter post-schooling education, another 15% find work or remain active in the labour market, whilst the remaining 57% sit outside the labour market.

There remains a strong relationship between the levels of education that young people have and the opportunities that they can access.

Many young people are no longer actively searching for opportunities and this number is highest among those with the lowest levels of educational attainment.

### Skills workstreams in PYEI priority growth areas



Advanced implementation

Digital skills and technology

Early stage implementation

Automotive

Early stage implementation

Agriculture

Purpose of the workstreams is to implement demand-led skilling, fill emerging skills gaps and enable individuals to access earning opportunities and workers to retain

employment.

Planning phase

Social services (incl. ECD)

Early stage implementation

Infrastructure: Installation, repairs and maintenance

JET Investment Plan

Just Energy Transition

### Opportunity for a new growth path that addresses climate challenges in the context of SA's socioeconomic situation



Extreme levels of poverty

55% of people living in poverty

### Untenable levels of unemployment

30% of the population unemployed, youth unemployed exceeding 65%

#### Most unequal country in the world

Alongside the highest GINI coefficient, the top 10% of the population owns 86% of the aggregate wealth

### Most carbon-intensive major economy in the world

Emitting 0.6kg CO<sub>2</sub> per dollar of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and the largest carbon emitter in Africa, driving 40% of the continent's total emissions

## Weak economy

Growth rates have declined over the last decade, post-Covid recovery is constrained by insecure electricity supply (amongst other constraints), and the optimal debt-to-GDP is under strain

#### Vulnerable to physical climate risk

Global warming and its effects will proceed twice as fast on the African continent, with rapid desertification, bush encroachment, extreme seaboard storms, and more frequent and intense fires and floods

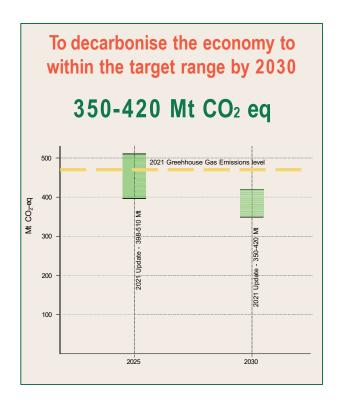
#### **Vulnerable to transition risk**

The country's trade systems are vulnerable because of the degree of carbon embedded in its commodities and products. Where trading partners are accelerating efforts to decarbonise, this directly affects demand for South African commodities, impacting the balance of payments and competitiveness

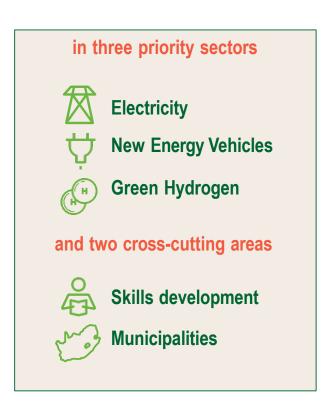
### South Africa's Just Energy Transition Investment Plan



## Building a pathway towards a low carbon and climate resilient society



requires initial funding of ~ ZAR 1.5 trillion over five years 2023-2027 from multiple sources Developed countries Private sector investors Development Finance Institutions Government **Philanthropies** Multilateral Development Banks



### The Just Transition demands actions from each sector



PRESIDENTIAL
YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT
INTERVENTION

Without active intervention, coal-dependent and other regions will suffer significant social and economic impacts as South Africa responds to national and international shifts away from fossil fuels and carbon-intensive products







**Transport** 

Hydrogen

Energy poverty/ affordable access/ safety nets

Localised impact in

Mpumalanga: community and

worker support

Municipal models and readiness

Smart infrastructure planning

Reskilling for SAREM

Economic growth and investment

Green sustainable manufacturing

Enhanced public transport

Job protection and reskilling

Build out low carbon opportunities

Skills development and

localisation

Port development and upgrading



Research and emerging consultations show that benefits of establishing linkages to a range of value chains underpinning the low-carbon energy system and the impending challenges of the automotive and transport sectors



Hydrogen is critical for enabling post 2030 reductions

## Key investments for a just transition: The IP plans to Phase investments across priority areas to enable a just transition



## Repurposing mines and plant



- Repurposing of coal mines, including social investment to support local communities and supply chains
- Repurposing coal mining land to ensure repurposing of land for new use, making the region more attractive for new economic activity

### **Economic Diversification**



- Expand infrastructure to ensure that the foundation is in place to build new businesses, attract talent and enable new investment
- Support local livelihoods
   opportunities in surrounding
   communities through SMME
   development and through
   targeted employment initiatives
- Diversify local economies through investment in new sectors and support for incubators, accelerators, and early-stage ventures

### Workers and Communities



### **Enabling Conditions**



- Caring for the coal workforce to manage the direct and indirect workforce transition through redeployment, re-skilling, retraining, relocation support, and temporary income support
- Investing in future generations
   to to reduce youth
   unemployment in coal mining
   communities through education,
   soft skills training, and
   opportunities for work
   experience
- Plan for success by assessing coal power plant and related mine closures, including details of available financial provisions, social plans and labour plans
- Policies for post-mining redevelopment to enable policy alignment and ensure financing for responsible mine closures/ rehabilitation
- Monitoring for impact: establish necessary mechanisms, coordinate stakeholders, host Just Transition forums to raise awareness and support a several projects aimed at mobilizing stakeholders around the JET agenda

# Dimensions of skills development that are crucial to justice within the JET



Reskilling and upskilling: Focussed on existing adult workers so that they are better equipped to navigate the transition - involves skills analysis to identify demand, putting in place substantive short- and longer-term training programmes amongst others



Aligning the skills development system with the anticipated labour force needs of the future:

This is particularly focused on green jobs to support a just transition - anticipatory skills and labour market intelligence



adaptative capacity of the broader workforce - this involves curriculum transformation, and teacher capacity development in the schooling, and post-schooling system (especially also Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) educators competences)



Addressing gender, inequality, and social exclusion: This is required in both the provision of opportunities for women in education and training opportunities and accessing employment

## JET IP Focus areas for the period 2023-2027



Focus Area	Leads	Key stakeholders
Enable collaborative planning through a dedicated <b>Skills hub/platform for JT and the Future of Work</b> , focused on the coal, renewable energy, GH <sub>2</sub> , existing vehicle, and NEV value chains to map South Africa's skills supply in relation to current and future demand.	DHET and DSI	DTIC, Industry, SETAs, Academia, Labour, Civil Society organisations, Presidency
Establish, optimise, and scale <b>Skills Development Zones/ Centres of Specialisation</b> for greater alignment of skills supply and workplace demand, creating pathways for work integrated learning and new livelihood skills located in Mpumalanga (coal); Gauteng and Northern Cape (GH <sub>2</sub> ), and Eastern Cape (vehicles)	DHET and SETAs	DSI, DTIC, Industry, TVET management
Using skills intelligence and localised SDZs to leverage and strategically allocate available PSET funding to support a just energy transition.	DHET and SETAs	DTIC, DSI, Industry, Universities and TVET management

## Ramping up local Manufacturing Capacity



-ocal Content

**Current Situation** 

Expansion of existing capacity

Development of new capacity

**Frontier** 

Solar: BOP (civil & electrical), structures & trackers, some modules, some cables, some inverters

Wind: BOP (civil & electrical), towers

Storage: assembly, BMS/EMS, some mineral

refining

Solar: BOP (civil & electrical), structures & trackers, modules, cables, inverters

Wind: BOP (civil & electrical), towers

Storage: assembly, local component (excl. cells), mineral refining

Solar: cells

Wind: blades, nacelles,

hubs

**Storage**: cells/stacks

<u>Baseline</u>

Source: Gaylor Montmasson-Clair, Senior Researcher (TIPS) Policy focus

Market demand

Policy clarity and certainty

Policy focus

Manufacturing expansion

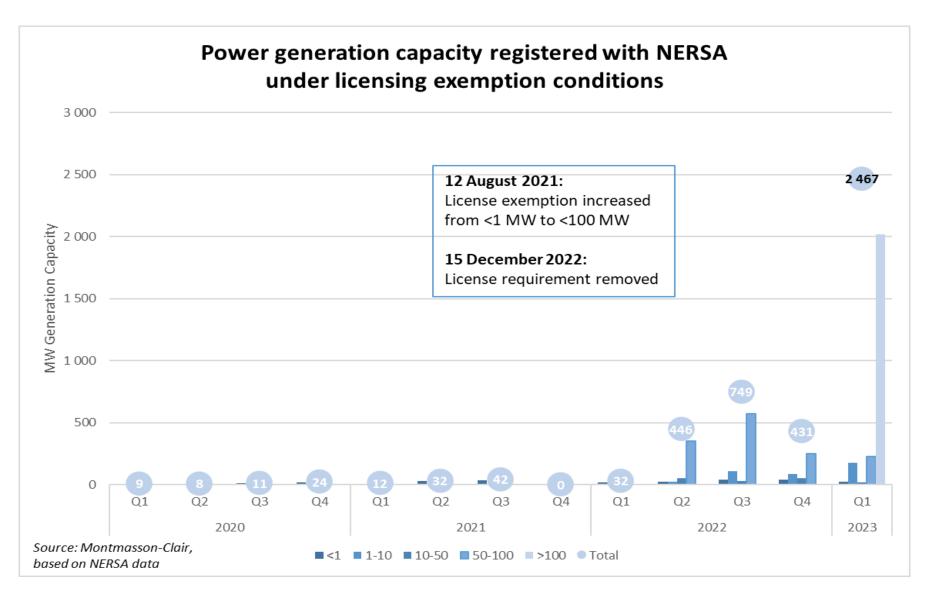
Skills development

Policy focus
Consolidation
New capability development

Time

# Opportunities for Growth: Exponential increase of private investment in generation projects





± 2500 MW of new generation projects have registered with NERSA in the first three months of 2023.

This includes 1100 MW registered in Jan-Feb, and more than 1300 MW registered in March alone.

Projects registered with NERSA have completed all other approvals and are expected to proceed to financial close and construction.

Source: Trade and Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS) from NERSA data, 2023.

### Just Energy Transition: Critical Next Steps



- Important to start identifying the skills required and build a skills development **roadmap** as it can take between five and 10 years to 'ready' the skills system for new value chains and competences
- Cross-cutting nature of skills interventions for the JET, means we must establish strong coordination and planning mechanisms
- Unpack **skills in extended and connected value chains**, including the coal, renewable energy and the GH2 value chains including the value chains associated with vehicles, and interlinked value chains such as platinum mining and manufacture
  - Skills identification, anticipation, planning, and implementation for JET requires both national level strategic support and local level alignment
  - Complexity, extended value chains and the need to work across the education and training ecosystem requires that many departments within government and many stakeholders in civil society, business and labour will need to work together to plan for and implement skills for a just transition





