

Steve Tshwete Local Municipality

SUPPORTING A JUST TRANSITION TO A LOW-CARBON AND RESILIENT ECONOMY

Local governments have an integral role in the Just Transition.

The Steve Tshwete Local Municipality (STLM) sets an example for cities through their service delivery, technical ability, demonstration of leadership, and commitment towards **bold climate action.**

STEVE TSHWETE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



242 031
citizens



4.4%
population
growth



86 713
households



19%
unemployment

Statistics for the Steve Tshwete, Nkangala District and Mpumalanga regions
(Source: Urban Econ, 2019-2022)

WHAT IS A JUST TRANSITION?

A just transition done right can be transformative, and the project team harnesses the three dimensions of a just transition to achieve this.

At the heart of the just transition will always be people.

DISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE speaks to what are the costs, who is bearing the costs of the transition, what are the benefits, and who can access them.

PROCEDURAL JUSTICE relates to inclusive decision-making and making sure those affected and often excluded in society are heard and can assert their rights.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE is about improving the conditions for those historically marginalised.

WHY THE NEED TO UNDERTAKE THIS PROJECT



**climate change
emergency**
limiting the
global
temperature rise
to below 1.5°C



**unsustainable
reliance on coal**
which leads to high
carbon emissions
and acceleration of
coal peak



**decommissioning
of coal fleets**
due to infrastructure
life cycle and the
Integrated Resource
Plan (2019).



**socio-economic
factors**
unemployment,
poverty, lack of
economic
diversification, etc.



other factors
promoting good
governance,
international market
trends incl. global
decline in coal, etc.



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WHAT THE PROJECT AIMS TO ACHIEVE

- **WORK WITH** Steve Tshwete Local Municipality (STLM) on action planning and catalytic project identification.
- **CO-DESIGN** a local just transition roadmap to ensure the future competitiveness of STLM, including pathways for sustainable development and local economic diversification.
- **IDENTIFY** Just Transition projects, develop criteria, and select and package projects together with STLM and key partners.
- **SHOWCASE** how chosen projects contribute to low-emissions and local economic development, promote service delivery, and address socio-economic upliftment.
- **SUPPORT** the building of strong institutions and enabling frameworks for market certainty to bring in investment; a crucial step towards achieving transformation through the Just Transition.

“ The debate is not whether to transition or not, it's how - in a just or in an unjust way. ”

Trade & Industrial Policy Strategies, 2022

HOW WE ARE GOING ABOUT IT

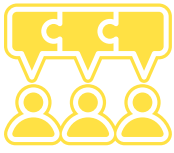


LEARNING LABS are one of the main tools used in this project to build capacity in STLM and neighbouring municipalities; foster stakeholder participation; ensure multi-level governance; as well as cultivate experiential and collaborative learning. This is particularly appropriate in the context of the Just Transition, which is a layered, complex issue that needs to be explored from a variety of angles given the lens through which different stakeholders view the transition. This is done through several learning labs, focused on either technical or finance themes, where each uses a goal-oriented approach and is designed with its own objectives; but that collectively reiterate learning and build the necessary capacity to anchor the Just Transition.

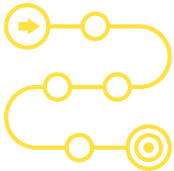


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CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL PLANNING AND COLLABORATION is another key method we are using in order to accelerate the planning and implementation of the Just Transition in Steve Tshwete. This is being done through capacity building, breaking silos, and using more collaborative ways of planning at the municipality. The Just Transition cuts across departmental mandates at the local, provincial, and national levels and needs a multi-governance and partnership-based approach for the implementation of the best results.



PIPELINE DEVELOPMENT FOR JUST TRANSITION PROJECTS is important for the unlocking of finance and bringing in investment to the region. Having feasible projects that can be put forward for finance is important for the implementation of the Just Transition. We are providing support to STLM with the identification, conceptualisation and assessment of projects, and using an Investment Summit for further match-making with investors to take the projects forward along the project development cycle.

IMPLEMENTED BY ICLEI Africa

ICLEI is a global network working with more than 2500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. **ICLEI Africa**, one of ICLEI's regional offices, works with cities and regions on their sustainability journeys, across the various development agendas, aligning with African and global policies, and contextualising our work within the realities of our continent. **We influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development.**





FUNDED BY the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Group

AFD supports and accelerates the transition to a more equitable and sustainable world. In South Africa, AFD's total commitments are approximately **EUR 2,5 billion** with a **climate change and sustainable development mandate**. Interventions relate to improving urban service infrastructure, supporting the energy mix and Just Transition, and reducing unemployment and inequalities. AFD has appointed ICLEI Africa to implement this project until 2024.

For more information on the project, please contact:

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