

Tripartite constituents and national stakeholders are getting prepared for COP29 and extensively discussing the Just energy transition agenda

24-25 July 2024, Baku, Azerbaijan: Over 50 Government, employers' and workers' organizations participated in "Promoting a gender responsive just transition towards environmental sustainability in the Republic of Azerbaijan: a knowledge sharing and peer learning workshop". The workshop was organized under the United Nations 29 Climate Conversations: The Road to the [COP29](#) and the [ILO EUROPE and Central Asia](#) Regional Network on Enterprise Development and Just Transition.

The main objectives of the workshop were: (i) promotion of social dialogue for preparing for COP29 and sharing of experiences; (ii) equipping tripartite constituents and national stakeholders with ILO's Enterprise development, productivity, and green innovation tools, (iii) familiarization with and practical application of the [Resolution concerning a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all | International Labour Organization \(ilo.org\)](#), and [Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all | International Labour Organization \(ilo.org\)](#); (iv) discussion of the role of National Determined Contributions (NDCs) as a primary way to communicate plans to address climate change and as a critical entry point to bridge decent work and climate change considerations; (v) facilitation of continuous engagement between Government, employers and workers' organizations for practical implementation of country-specific action plans for contributing to COP29, including the ILO Policy Guide on gender, equality and inclusion for a just transition in climate action; and (vi) increasing South-South Cooperation ability and peer learning with a view to bridge COP 29 and COP 30 contributions.



In his opening remarks **Mr. Anar Aliyev, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Azerbaijan** highlighted: *"In the context of climate change, the transition to a green economy and renewable energy paves the way for new opportunities. COP29 is an event aimed to unite the globe for the sake of a green world"*.

Mr. Ziya Hajili, Adviser to the president of the National Confederation of Entrepreneurs (Employers) Organizations of Azerbaijan (ASK) noted: *“All the entrepreneurs face a lot of issues when thinking how to implement green economy requirements. Green transition is a priority now and alignment with just transition principles requires awareness raising among national and regional business entities, investments, infrastructure, among others. He thanked the workshop organisers for enabling regional representatives of ASK to take part in such an important event as messages need to be spread across regions”.*

Workshops participants were briefed about the ILO's planned and ongoing initiatives at the COP 29 Just Transition pavilion, including projects under SSTC and PAGE Global aimed at improving national constituents' awareness and capacity to develop national agendas and integrate Just Transition/decent work dimensions in the global climate negotiations and Nationally Determined Contributions.

Mr. Javanshir Alkhasov, Assistant Director, Trade unions confederation of Azerbaijan addressed the participants: *“Our globe is facing different challenges and severe ramifications of climate change. In tackling climate change challenges, we need to have adaptive mitigating programs. Social dialogue among industry partners is a key prerequisite of realistic Just Transition planning, whilst the Government should create - and enforce - an enabling legal and regulatory environment. More and sustained social dialogue at the workplace is needed, with a lead role for trade unions; efforts should be undertaken to overcome barriers for active workers' participation”.*



National ministries shared information about the preparations to COP29 to ensure the synergy of actions and to better mainstream gender equality and inclusion concerns. Workshop participants were provided with international best practices of engagement for COP preparations and investing in regional and local areas, with the ILO tools on just transition, gender-related tools, South-South and Triangular Cooperation tools, enterprise development tools, productivity and green innovation tools. These tools provided practical guidance on

integrating just transition and supporting enterprises considerations into strategies and operations for climate plans. The knowledge and skills obtained will be further used for elaboration of joint position papers for the COP29 and update of the NDCs, climate action programs.

During the group work foresight - scenario planning exercise, government, workers' and employers' organizations elaborated on key messages related to COP29 and climate plans, possible future scenarios and priorities for planning to navigate shifts towards renewable energy and green jobs, how energy production/ use in different parts of the economy might affect a just transition in terms of enterprise development, green jobs opportunities, gender equality, and regional and local development.



Participants requested ILO support for regional foresight-scenario planning dialogues, as well as a possible replication of the SCORE4Climate tool.

The workshop was supported with technical assistance of the ILO project *“Promoting a gender-responsive just transition through knowledge-sharing and peer learning under South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) for COP29 (Azerbaijan) and COP30 (Brazil)”*.