

Terms of Reference for Consultancy

Financing Just Energy Transition in Asia and Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs)

Background:

The climate crisis demands global ambition in the fight against harmful CO2 emissions. While consumer and emitting countries primarily in the global North bear the brunt of the responsibility, initiatives are underway to assist countries around the world to transition to renewable energy systems and decarbonisation.

Since COP26 in 2021, Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs) have been concluded with countries - South Africa (2021), Indonesia (2022) and Vietnam (2022); and recently with Senegal (2023) - whose energy production is heavily reliant on the use of fossil fuels, especially on coal.

JETPs are primarily financial policy instruments. The partnerships' objectives are to support a "just" pathway to energy sector decarbonisation. They are also new and untested models with implications for communities. Some of the key concern, however, include underfunding, lack of transparency and meaningful civil society engagement, inadequate investment priorities, and lack of internal and external coherence from national policy makers on what constitutes a 'just transition'.

The donor pool includes the International Partners Group (IPG) and the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ) Working Group. The IPG consists of Japan, the USA, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, the EU, and the UK. The GFANZ Working Group comprises multilateral and national development banks.

Some key points we would want the consultant to consider:

1.) As Global Witness, we are particularly interested in

- a. What is the relative importance of JETP financing compared to other initiatives financed through IPG and GFANZ, in terms of resource allocation? How much funding is being allocated to JETP in comparison to other financing projects, and how widespread is the expansion of JETP anticipated to be across countries?
- b. Clarity on whether and how human rights issues are included in JETPs, how they are understood, designed and engaged with by donors, and how they differ between private finance and country donors.
- c. How and whether JETPs can be a tool for empowering land and environmental defenders in partner countries, how they have been involved in the development of JETPs and how their work can be best supported.

- d. What kind of advocacy is needed in donor countries and what kind of entry points for advocacy exist, in particular the EU?
- e. Highlight cases of violations of defenders' rights in implementing JETPS with Indonesia and Vietnam and examining accountability mechanisms in donor countries like the EU, in such cases. Note that full scoping of violations is not required, a few examples will suffice.

2.) Focus: Due to Global Witness' existing partnerships, we are particularly interested in the JETPs with Indonesia and Vietnam, as well as possible upcoming JETP with the Philippines. Given Global Witness' capacity in the EU, we are interested in how we can effectively engage in the EU space to support the demands, rights and safety of our partners.

3.) While JETPs are an important tool, we are also interested in considering the wider landscape of financing for a just energy transition in Asia from the EU to partner countries such as Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Myanmar, India and Mongolia. The consultant may make recommendations which countries and partnerships (beyond JETP) to prioritise.

Key Questions for the consultant to explore:

1. What are the consultant's key recommendations and priorities for an organisation like Global Witness in relation to JETPs with Indonesia and Vietnam?
 - a. Consider the nature of what Global Witness is: investigative, advocacy-driven, with staff capacity in Asia and the EU.
 - b. Consider the challenges of restricted civic space and government interests (e.g. vested government interest in coal industry in Vietnam)
2. What are the different types of just transition funding that EU countries and the EU itself are involved in in Asia beyond JETPs, and how do they relate to JETPs?
 - a. Investigate the largest initiatives of EU/individual member state funding (e.g. Germany and Netherlands) to individual Asian countries (those as mentioned above) for just energy transition, explore partnership dynamics and opportunities for Global Witness advocacy, vested interests of donor and recipient countries, and the situation of defenders and civil society in recipient countries
 - b. If any, what are the common human rights standards for just transition finance by donor countries such as the EU? Where are the gaps?
 - c. Examine the relationship between JETPs and other relevant EU trade agreements and economic partnerships in this context.
 - d. Which NGOs in the EU space are working on JETPs and just transition financing, and what is our value added in this space?

Notes: We encourage the consultant to develop specific advocacy opportunities for Global Witness that take into account the questions above, using the focus points above, but with the option to

exclude issues that don't seem feasible or recommendable for Global Witness advocacy. Should this be the case, any exclusions will need to be discussed and agreed by Global Witness staff.

Logistics:

Project deliverables: The consultant is required to actively engage with Global Witness staff, participate in meetings to discuss project goals and adjustments, provide updates on report progress, deliver a 10-page mid-term report, and a final report of 20-35 pages. If possible, visualisation of project findings is also encouraged.

Budget: 10,000 GBP

Report Length: Final report should be 20-35 pages with a 1-page summary and key recommendations for Global Witness.

Timeline: Consultation process begins in mid-October 2024 with consultant selection. Implementation will be from October to December 2024, with findings presented in two phases in November (mid-term findings) and December 2024 / January 2025 for final report.

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis, with a possible cut-off date of October 13th. Interested candidates are encouraged to apply promptly.

To apply, submit the following documents:

- Cover letter expressing interest and suitability for the project (1 page)
- CV
- 2-3 page outline of proposed project execution approach

Send applications to bbeller@globalwitness.org and rcox@globalwitness.org with subject line: [Your last name] - Just Energy Transition Consultancy.