

TCR 2025 Track 2 Proposal:

Just Transition in Resource Deprived Communities: Bridging Stakeholder Insights for Climate Equity

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Transitioning to a green society should be fair to all populations, including vulnerable groups experiencing the privations of resource scarcity and poverty. Yet the benefits of decarbonization fall unevenly on different communities (Galgóczi, 2020). This has prompted calls for a *just transition* on climate action, broadly defined as “ensuring no one is left behind or pushed behind in the transition to low-carbon and environmentally sustainable economies and societies” (UN CDP 2023). Respecting human rights while promoting sustainable development, the eradication of poverty, and the creation of decent work, a just transition can enable more ambitious climate action and provide an impetus to attaining the Sustainable Development Goals.

Social inequities diminish people’s consumption adequacy (Hill, 2022; Martin and Hill, 2012), as well as their ability to participate in opportunities that will accompany the world’s transition to a lower-carbon, more resource-efficient, and more socially inclusive green economy (Rahman et al., 2022). Consumer researchers have recently advocated for dignity-centred solutions in nature dependent communities (Venugopal et al 2024), in addition to the necessity of examining economic scarcity and natural resource/ecological scarcity both independently and interactively (Harati and Talhelm 2023; Sachdeva and Zhao 2020).

Advancing a just transition is a priority area for the UN Global Compact who have developed guidance for organizations to start planning for change ([Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact](#)). Based on social dialogue, stakeholder engagement and partnership which minimizes social and economic harms, they emphasize the importance of inclusivity on the journey to net-zero emissions and environmental sustainability. Yet climate and environmental policies are often shaped without reference to their impact on people whose

lives are particularly marked by poverty and scarcity (Bray et al. 2020; 2019; ATD Fourth World).

Our proposed Track 2 will empirically examine how organizations and communities interpret and define a just transition for climate equity, leveraging existing conceptual insights developed at the intersection of resource scarcity and poverty (Blocker et al. 2023), deep deprivations and resource discrepancies (Cannon, Goldsmith, and Roux 2024; Hutton et al. 2022). To intensify our analysis of just transition in resource scarce and deprived contexts, we will adopt an integrated relational engagement approach (Ozanne et al. 2017), researching *across stakeholders* working at different levels of interaction on these issues.

To realize this objective, we have the agreed participation of two international organizations working on:

- i) *Climate action at an institutional level*; **UN Global Compact (USA & UK)** drive business awareness and action in support of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
- ii) *Poverty/scarcity at a community level*; **ATD (All Together in Dignity) Fourth World**, an international human rights NGO with general consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

Editors and scholars currently call for new paradigms connecting consumption inequalities, market actors, human rights, and the SDGs (Lamberton et al. 2024). By focusing on joint collaborations with organizations and communities to define socially responsible policies (Huang et al 2021), our track will generate one or more academic papers foregrounding societal impact transitions (Ozanne et al. 2024). Our overarching aim is to contribute new understandings of social and ecological inclusiveness, as constitutive of a just transition.

Please see next page for proposed timelines and track plans.

Proposed Timeline and Activity Plan for TCR 2025

October 2024*	Pework: Organizing, shared resource drive/structure, team kick-off
November 2024	Literature gathering, iterative team discussions, IRB for data collection
December 2024	Empirical/data collection preparations (Plan, Schedule, Recruit)
January 2025**	Interviews with UN Global Compact and ATD Fourth World Forums
February 2025**	Data collection continues plus team discussions
March 2025	Literature expansion, iterative team discussions/findings debrief to stakeholders
April 2025	Conceptualizing, iterative team discussions
May 2025	Pre-conference writing in teams, (background literature, methods)
June 2025**	TCR June 12-15, 2025, American University
July 2025	Writing in Teams, conceptual model, discussion ideas
August 2025	Writing, Assembly, First edit
September 2025	Team Editing, Friendly Review
October 2025	Copy Edit/Final Polishing
November 2025	Final manuscript due end of January 2026

* Subject to track acceptance

** Subject to stakeholder input/availability at these times

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