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CALL FOR
PROPOSALS

Financial Support for Third Parties (FSTP)
Strengthening Workers' Active Participation
in South Africa's Just Transition

Background

The Strengthening Workers' Active Participation in South Africa's Just Transition (SWAP) project, implemented by Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) South Africa in partnership with the Sam Tambani Research Institute (SATRI) and co-funded by the European Union, seeks to advance a Just Transition that is equitable, gender-just, and worker-centred.

At its core, the project recognises that workers, women, and communities in coal-affected regions must not be passive recipients of transition policies, but active agents shaping the transition process.

The project contributes to an overall objective of advancing decent work and sustainable livelihoods through inclusive participation of trade unions, workers, communities, and women.

One delivery mechanism for this is the provision of Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP) to enable community-based organisations to facilitate structured consultation processes.

Objective of the Call

This call aims to select three (3) CBOs/NGOs to implement community-based consultation processes that:

- Bring together workers and community representatives with a participation of at least 40% women in coal-affected areas;
- Explore the participants' experiences with and expectations of a Just Transition;
- Generate gender-just demands and policy proposals for the Just Transition;
- Collaborate with SATRI on co-designing the consultation programmes, the composition of consultation participants, consultation locations and other relevant elements to allow for research and data collection (key informant interviews, focus group discussions etc).





Scope of Work (FSTP Intervention)

Selected organisations will:

- Organise and facilitate community consultation workshops (a minimum of 3 workshops per province spread between the 3 CBOs/NGOs)
- Mobilise participation from workers, women, youth, and affected communities
- Document community consultation proceedings and worker insights in the form of workshop reports

Expected Results & Indicators

FSTP-supported activities are expected to contribute to the following:

- Development of gender-just demands and policy proposals
- Submission of community-driven proposals to authorities
- Ensuring women's participation in consultations
- Strengthened organisational capacity of participating CBAOs

These indicators will be monitored through workshop reports, participant data, and submission records.

Geographic Focus

Activities must be implemented in one or more of the following provinces:

Mpumalanga

KwaZulu-Natal

Limpopo

These regions are prioritised due to their high exposure to coal transition risks. Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate strong community presence and engagement within coal-affected and energy-transition regions, particularly in the above-mentioned communities and surrounding areas. The list is indicative and not exhaustive.



Province

MPUMALANGA

KWAZULU-NATAL

LIMPOPO

Priority Communities / Places (Suggestive, Not Exhaustive)

eMalahleni (Witbank, KwaGuqa, Ogies, Phola)
Steve Tshwete (Middelburg, Komati, Hendrina)
Msukaligwa (Ermelo, Breyten)
Govan Mbeki (Secunda, eMbalenhle),
Victor Khanye (Delmas, Sundra)

Richards Bay
Esikhawini
Empangeni
Newcastle
Madadeni
Osizweni
Vryheid,
Utrecht and communities along the N2 freight and logistics corridor

Lephalale
Onverwacht
Marapong
Steenbokpan
Waterberg coal belt communities
Medupi–Matimba corridor
Grootegeeluk mining communities



Eligible Participants

Applicants must:

- Be registered NGOs or community-based organisations (CBOs);
- Be operational in target provinces;
- Demonstrate experience in:
 - ◇ Just Transition / climate justice
 - ◇ Worker or labour rights
 - ◇ Community mobilisation and facilitation
 - ◇ Gender or social inclusion programming

Preference will be given to organisations with strong local legitimacy and community reach.

Funding Support

Through this call, the SWAP project will provide financial support to selected organisations to implement community-based consultation activities.

- Maximum grant per organisation: ZAR350,000.00
- Number of organisations to be funded: Up to 3

Each selected organisation will be expected to implement a minimum of three (3) community consultation workshops within their target area.

The grant is intended to support all costs directly related to the organisation and delivery of consultation workshops, including:

- Workshop costs (venue hire, catering, materials)
- Participant support costs (e.g. local transport, stipends where appropriate)
- Facilitation and coordination costs
- Community mobilisation and outreach
- Documentation and reporting of workshop outcomes

Funding may also cover reasonable administrative costs necessary for implementation.

Selection Criteria

Criterion Category

What We Are Looking For

1. TECHNICAL QUALITY

A clear, relevant, and well-structured proposal that aligns with the objectives of a worker-centred and gender-just Just Transition.

A feasible and practical approach to delivering consultation workshops.

A strong and appropriate methodology for facilitating inclusive consultations.

2. FINANCIAL PLAN

A budget that is realistic, clearly justified, and aligned with proposed activities.

Demonstration of value for money.

A clear and transparent budget breakdown.

3. SOCIAL INCLUSION

A strong commitment to inclusive participation, especially of workers, women, youth, and marginalised groups.

Meaningful inclusion of women in line with project targets.

Inclusive and safe participation processes.

4. ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY

Demonstrated experience in community engagement, facilitation, or related work.

Ability to manage the project effectively.

Capacity to manage funds and reporting requirements.

Ability to monitor and document results.

5. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

Strong presence in coal-affected or high-risk communities.

Ability to reach underserved or underrepresented groups.

Local legitimacy and networks.

Timeline & Dates

The indicative timeline for this call is outlined below. Applicants are encouraged to plan accordingly and ensure availability for key milestones.

- **Application Window:** 19 May 2026 (12:00pm) - 12 June 2026 (23:59pm)
- **Anticipated Feedback Date:** Feedback to successful CBOs/NGOs will be provided by the 26th of June 2026

Timeline and Dates

- Applicants should ensure they have the capacity to implement activities within the proposed timeframe.
- Successful applicants will be required to attend mandatory training on the consultation implementation, reporting and compliance process.

Application Requirements

Applicants are required to submit a complete application consisting of the following:

1. Concept Proposal

A short proposal that includes:

- **Organisational Overview** | Brief description of your organisation, including your mission, location, and relevant experience.
- **Proposed Approach** | Description of how you will organise and facilitate the consultation workshops, including:
 - ◇ 3 target communities in which the consultations will be conducted
 - ◇ Workshop format and methodology
 - ◇ Key themes or issues to be discussed
- **Inclusion Strategy** | Explanation of how you will ensure meaningful participation of:
 - Workers
 - Women
 - Youth
 - Marginalised groups
- **Implementation Plan** | A simple timeline outlining when and how activities will take place.
- **Expected Results** | What you aim to achieve through the consultations (e.g. number of participants, key outputs, community inputs).

2. Budget Proposal

- A clear and detailed budget breakdown aligned with proposed activities
- Costs must be reasonable, justified, and directly linked to the project
- Budget should be submitted using the provided template (if applicable)

3. Organisational Documents

Applicants must provide:

- Proof of legal registration
- Banking details (or confirmation of organisational bank account)
- Brief organisational profile or CVs of key team members



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How To Apply

Applications must be submitted electronically via email.

Submission Email: info.sa@fes.de

Subject Line: FSTP Application – [Name of Organisation]

Please ensure that:

- All required documents are submitted in one email as pdf document;
- Documents are clearly labelled (e.g. Proposal_OrganisationName.pdf);
- The application is submitted on time.

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.