

# JTPeers Experts + Exchanges

**CALL TEXT** 

## JTPeers — A call for peer-exchanges and experts as part of the Just Transition Platform (JTP)

The European Commission is providing additional support for JTF territories through the JTPeers facility, comprised of two parallel streams:

- JTPeers Exchanges: Launching on May 2. A peer-to-peer programme with facilitated interactions between relevant practitioners from JTF territories and/or JTPeers Experts. Within these exchanges (some fully virtual, others designed as inperson visits), selected JTF regional stakeholders and/or JTPeers Experts jointly explore mutually experienced challenges and draw upon their own lessons learned and knowledge to collectively identify potential solutions and pathways forward.
- 2. JTPeers Experts: Launching later this spring. A database showcasing the wide breadth of just transition expertise held by professionals working across Europe. These experts will be available to help JTF territories in the implementation of the Territorial Just Transition Plans (TJTP) through the advisory support.

JTPeers is available to carbon-intensive and coal+ territories from all 27 EU Member States. Relevant public and private stakeholders playing a crucial role in implementing TJTP commitments and priorities are all encouraged to apply:

- Local, regional or national public authorities
- Civil society, NGOs, CSOs, trade unions or similar associations
- Development, innovation, energy or similar agencies
- · Research organisations or universities
- Businesses, SMEs or related associations
- Other key socio-economic actors

Interested parties <u>can apply</u> for the JTPeers Exchange programme from **2 May 2023 to 15 June at 12:00pm (noon) CEST**. Applications for the JTPeers Experts database will open later this spring, we will inform you on all application details for JTPeers Experts in due time.

### JTPeers Exchange: Co-learning and cooperation for the just transition

JTPeers Exchange focuses on responding to JTF practitioners' priorities by facilitating appropriate co-learning opportunities (online and offline). This call for JTPeers Exchange is designed to benefit institutions and organisations from a wide range of sectors contributing to the just transition of their respective JTF territories. Eligible institutions include (decision-making) public authorities, civil society, and socio-economic actors, and other types of relevant practitioners including individual experts, actively working on the just transition in an eligible territory.

The purpose is to share lessons learned (both positive and negative) to drive forward the just transition as effectively as possible. Through developing robust relationships, regional actors and individual experts can offer opinions and expertise to support the implementation of TJTPs, explore common challenges and co-create possible solutions.

We will facilitate up to 4 selected exchanges fully online and 4 others including in-person activities. Potential formats could include the following:

- Peer-to-peer review: several stakeholders interact to provide targeted feedback on rather distinct processes, projects and/or documents;
- Job-shadowing/mentoring: a practitioner from one territory benefits from intimate knowledge of operational work done by another counterpart;
- Inter-regional workshops: stakeholders intimately interact to discuss common challenges and brainstorm potential (mutually-)applicable solutions;
- Expert missions: international expert(s) engaged to provide insights and rather tailored advice to several stakeholders on a certain key topic.

The JTPeers Exchange programme also remains open to other formats proposed by applicants that lead to effective transfer of knowledge and experiences.

### Regions working together towards mutual needs!

The peer-to-peer programme is designed with a needs-based approach. In line with the JTF's thematic objectives, JTPeers Exchange is intended to shine a spotlight on challenges faced by JTF beneficiaries in the project implementation and governance of the just transition, especially in terms of enhancing TJTP implementation though cross-cutting topics such as the following:

- Project identification and development (including selection procedures, attracting private investors, state-aid issues, etc.)
- Capacity building for regional and local administrations and other key stakeholders
- Awareness-raising campaigns, communication about JTF in the territories
- Mobilisation of specific stakeholder groups (leading to project development or strengthened implementation and building community at local level)
- The establishment of a transparent, inclusive, and efficient governance mechanism for TJTP implementation
- Cross-border cooperation with other JTF territories (when needed to improve project development or TJTP implementation)

Furthermore, each JTPeers Exchange may also concentrate its activities towards a focused selection of topics aligned with the TJTPs of the participating territories. Though there are numerous themes which applicants might choose from (e.g., upskilling/reskilling, green economic diversification, support to jobseekers, social inclusion, community transitions, gender aspects, decarbonisation of industry, etc.), JTPeers remains a needs-based programme, thus it is up to applicants to propose topics and support agenda development.

## JTPeers Experts: Showcasing and mobilising Europe's just transition expertise

JTPeers Experts focuses on identifying, promoting, and expanding the deep and diverse knowledge about just transition held by professionals across Europe. Their expertise has

not been made fully and easily accessible to JTF beneficiaries working to turn their TJTPs into concrete action. In many cases, these stakeholders feel the need for professional expertise to **transform their TJTPs into concrete projects on the ground**. Others might require support in **setting up effective governance**, **monitoring and evaluation mechanisms**.

These are **only some examples of perceived gaps** that this programme intends to fill by providing key actors with a tool to find just transition experts. Experts will be selected based on how their expertise and knowledge profiles could potentially contribute positively to the just transition process in JTF territories through:

- Sharing and exchanging knowledge with expert peers and eligible JTF actors on topics relevant to just transition in the context of the JTPeers Exchange programme
- Sharing practical experience in shaping just transition on the ground
- Providing guidance and counselling for EU regions on how to support Europe's just transition to a sustainable, climate-neutral economy
- Contributing to technical assistance for the implementation of TJTPs' project delivery, monitoring and governance for eligible JTF territories
- Speaking at the JTP Conferences, or other events related to the JTP

#### Experienced expert profiles wanted!

The JTP aims to engage and leverage the most suitable set of professionals for the benefit of JTF regional stakeholders with whom to exchange. To guarantee a diversity of relevant profiles, JTPeers Experts will be open for professionals working in a range of sectors, especially from relevant research institutions, public bodies, socio-economic actors and civil society, as well as being open to others.

In line with the JTF's own objectives, the JTP is particularly looking for just transition experts with the following skills and experiences:

- Experience in supporting just transition processes, especially in directly preparing and elaborating TJTPs;
- Prior engagement with the JTP and/or participation in other relevant EU programmes and initiatives;
- Proven track-record of technical assistance, peer-exchanges, capacity building or advisory work, especially related to eligible JTF territories, or other carbonintensive and coal+ territories;
- Demonstrable experience in supporting the delivery and governance of just transition projects through the development of project pipelines, monitoring/evaluation mechanisms, stakeholder engagement procedures or similar.

In addition to such expertise, professionals with extensive experience in at least one of the following topical areas would be considered as bringing added value:

 Upskilling and reskilling of workers and jobseekers, vocational training, lifelong learning and formal education

- Green economic diversification and job creation (including SMEs, start-ups, business incubators, etc.)
- Job-search assistance and active inclusion of jobseekers
- Circular economy (including waste prevention, resource efficiency, repair, etc.)
- Clean and affordable energy (including efficiency, storage, heating & cooling, energy poverty, etc.)
- Decarbonisation of industry (including mobility/transport, emission reductions, ETS activities)
- Regeneration and decontamination of brownfields, land restoration, nature-based solutions and site repurposing
- Research and innovation
- Digitalisation and digital connectivity
- Social inclusion, the gender dimension and policies aimed at alleviating the transition process for communities

While selecting the applications, the European Commission will focus primarily on strong qualifications and relevant professional experience, while also striving to ensure gender balance.

### Benefits of joining JTP's peer-exchange programme and/or expert database

There are multiple benefits when joining JTPeers Exchange and/or Experts, both to individuals and organisations:

- Make an impact supporting successful transformations in carbon-intensive and coal+ territories in the EU
  - Once included in the JTPeers Exchange programme and/or JTPeers Experts database you become part of a renowned network of experts and practitioners on just transition in the EU. Within a JTPeers Exchange you can make an impact not only for your own territory, but for other JTF counterparts as well. Meanwhile, as a JTPeers Expert you may have the opportunity to help guide stakeholder' just transition through your own tailored advice.
- Be on top of current just transition trends across the EU
  - By joining JTPeers, experts and practitioners get the chance to learn more about the topics that they are already passionate about and/or struggling with. If requirements are met, you may even be invited to share your experiences within a JTPeers Exchange or at the JTP's own high-level events, where you could share knowledge and gain in-depth insights on the current implementation status and actionable tools in the just transition processes in JTF territories. Similarly, as a JTPeers Exchange participant you can learn first-hand from peers and counterparts about trends they are applying to deal with challenges similar to your own.
- Access to an extended community of thinkers, shapers, and doers all over Europe

As a participant in JTPeers Exchange and/or JTPeers Experts, doors will open to a wide community of practitioners, researchers and other professionals. Participants will exchange knowledge with fellow experts or provide/gain technical support for their own territories to tackle current transitional challenges, including building relationships with decision-makers from the local level up to EU institutions.

• Increase your visibility in the EU

As an eligible JTPeers Exchange and/or JTPeers Expert, active organisations can easily find your profile within the JTP's database of high-quality fellow experts and online content about the associated peer exchanges. Being part of such a high-profile platform could potentially translate into further opportunities for you to demonstrate your own expertise, benefit from others' knowledge and make a real impact for just transition in your country, across Europe or even beyond.

#### How does the JTPeers application process work?

The deadline for application for the JTPeers Exchange Programme is 15 June at 12:00pm CEST (noon). Applications for the JTPeers Experts database will open later this spring and we will inform you on all application details in due time.

Apply by answering the appropriate EU Survey questionnaire above:

- a. To propose a JTPeers Exchange please fill out the <u>JTPeers Exchange EU survey questionnaire</u>. This questionnaire focuses on similar aspects as above: trying to understand the top needs for your territory's just transition, what kind of expert knowledge your stakeholders would benefit from through a peer-exchange, and the experiences you have worth sharing with other regional actors.
- 2. After we review your application, and if selected, you will receive an email with further information and instructions for all required steps you need to undertake:
  - a. JTPeers Exchange programme: Proposals from selected candidates will be compared to other selected candidates to find suitable matches. If your application is successfully matched, you will each need to confirm your willingness to exchange with those peers paired with you, and then will be introduced to an exchange facilitator. The facilitator will guide through the entire exchange preparation and implementation process, including support on logistics and relevant expenses.

You can withdraw your application at any time. For any questions about JTPeers Exchange, please refer to the <u>FAQ</u> or contact us via email: <u>JTPeers@justtransitionplatform.eu</u>.

#### Disclaimer:

Please note that being included into the JTPeers Experts database does not automatically guarantee that any specific individual has been or will be selected for a specific activity organised by the JTP, including exchanges or technical assistance, nor that they are eligible for any remuneration by the JTP. Furthermore, inclusion within the database does not equal any official endorsement of any listed expert or their expertise by the JTP, European Commission or otherwise.

