HOW TO AVOID RUNNING BEFORE WALKING

A HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE ON THE TENSIONS BETWEEN ENERGY TRANSITION AND TERRITORIAL TRANSFORMATION.
The major issue arises from Colombia not being prepared for the energy transition and running the risk that energy transition turning out to be unfair (that is, not just). Colombia lacks strong public policies that support the effective enjoyment of human rights and address the impacts on people living in the territories where the transition is taking place. Global development goals and targets to end poverty are not being considered on the path towards clean energy.

**Recommendations**

- The stakeholders share responsibility for managing the energy transition.
- Communication must be clear, timely, and ongoing.
- Dialogues that engage civil society to discuss the impacts, peaceful coexistence, and opportunities during and after the transition must be promoted.
- The regulations regarding the transition must go beyond within-sector policy perspective of mining and energy, reduce risks, and conceive the “do no harm” principle.
- Mayoralities and governorships must prioritize the transition agenda in the Territorial Development Plans and promote effective participation.
- Oversight agencies must rely on existing regulations, doctrine, and current standards to deepen into the issues that citizens face regarding the energy transition.
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- The government must promote dialogue among all sectors and empower various stakeholders to collaborate on the mine closure plan, as they engage new investment and employment opportunities in the regions.
- The standards and public policies generated by the national government for a just transition must be guided by effective participation criteria.
- Companies must publicly commit to a just transition, and as such, they must define and build their goals and action plans to prevent and mitigate impacts.
- The reflection with communities reiterates the need for coordinated action, with a rights-based approach, by all actors at the global, national, and local levels.
- Incorporate the principles for a just transition with a rights-based approach into their actions. These principles must be embodied in territorial-focused development plans. This way, negative impacts from both the exit from coal and the introduction of new energies can be reduced.

**Methodological Approach**

- **Between 2020-2022**
- CREER explored with the communities what is needed to transform the territories and promote new livelihoods and employment alternatives in La Guajira and Cesar, beyond the closure activities.
Would you like to learn more details about this publication? Access the full document using the following QR code.

www.creer-ihrb.org/transicion-energetica

Explore additional insights from CREER’s work on the energy transition in this QR code—Principles of the transition, the concept of ‘just’, testimonials from La Guajira and Cesar, compared cases at the international level, and the current legal framework on mine closure and energy transition from a human rights perspective—.

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