



Facilitation Guide

Just Transition

How Can We Use A Just Transition to Build Power in Our Communities?

This facilitation guide is designed to encourage meaningful, community-rooted discussions around community solutions that are visionary and oppositional to the systemic status-quo. Together, we will address the bad in order to intentionally and strategically build the new in our neighborhoods – ensuring that power and resources are redistributed to and invested in our very own local communities. We hope that this workshop grounds you in the mindset of community-power and community-growth.

Materials Needed

- Climate Justice Alliance (CJA) [Just Transition Principles](#) (print)
- Just Transition Alliance's (JTA) [summary of a Just Transition](#) (print)
- Reading Rockets [Concept Maps](#) templates
- Paper
- Poster paper
- Markers
- Tape

Facilitation Steps

A. Introduction: Who are we? Who's all here (name/neighborhood)? Goals for today [10 min]

B. Defining a Just Transition [20 min]

1. Have participants grab a chair and make a large group circle. Work as a large group to collectively define a Just Transition. If participants are unsure of where to begin, set the tone by sharing your own working definition (i.e the transition from an extractive economy to a regenerative economy; co-existing between a healthy environment and healthy economy).
 - a. Does anyone have a working definition of a Just Transition that they would like to share?

- i. Prompt one participant to share their definition; after they've shared, ask another participant what they liked about the definition; ask a different participant how they can build on this definition, continue until all participants have shared.
2. Set up 4 stations for a gallery walk activity. Supply each station with a large poster paper taped to the wall and markers. The posters should have the following prompts written on them:
 - a. Define a Just Transition [to you] using a song or movie, explain why this is an example of a Just Transition.
 - b. Name issues you believe are connected to a Just Transition, explain how these issues are connected.
 - c. Name a country or city that has demonstrated a Just Transition, explain how this country or city demonstrated a Just Transition.
 - d. Define a Just Transition in your group's own words.
3. Assign participants to each station in pairs or small groups. Explain that the posters at the stations have questions on them in order to get them closer to their collective definition of a Just Transition. Allow ~3 minutes at each station for discussion and writing their group's response on the poster.
4. After each group has responded, rotate stations. Instruct participants to read the station's response and build onto their answer by writing what they agree or disagree with, and what they want more information on. Continue rotating stations until every group has visited and responded to each station.
5. Following the gallery walk, prompt participants to consider common themes they noticed on the poster papers; ask a few participants to share their updated definition of a Just Transition.
6. Document the common themes, phrases, and words on a large poster paper, and stick it in the front of the room to be referenced for the remainder of the workshop.

C. Strategies towards achieving a Just Transition [15 min]

1. Emphasize that a Just Transition will look different in different places, but it is important to have an understanding of the core shared principles that exist among communities. Hand out [CJA's Just Transition Principles](#) and instruct them to flip to page 3, focused on strategy.
2. Give participants a couple of minutes to read the page; instruct them to annotate and write or draw ideas, concerns, or needs that come to mind.
3. Ask for volunteers to now read the three paragraphs aloud for the large group, after each paragraph is read, prompt a participant to walk us through the illustration at the bottom of the page.
4. Encourage participants to reflect on the principles and strategies reviewed:
 - a. What does the illustration mean generally?
 - b. What does the illustration mean to you/your community?
 - c. What would your community look like if the right side of the illustration was reality?
5. Instruct participants to continue reading through pages 4 and 5, focused on the principles. While they read, pass out JTA's [summary of a Just Transition](#).
6. Encourage participants to continue to annotate and write or draw ideas, concerns, or needs

that come to mind as they read the shared resources. Allow ~5-7 minutes for reading and annotating.

D. Collective visioning: idea maps [25 min]

1. Encourage participants to close their eyes and visualize the current state of their neighborhoods:
 - a. Where are they standing? (their yard, the boulevard, a local park, etc.)
 - b. Who do they see? (neighbors, young children, elderly, etc.)
 - c. What do they see? (types of buildings: schools, senior homes; roads, sidewalks; fog/haze from nearby industrial sites, etc.)
 - d. What do they hear? (doors slamming shut, brakes screeching, horns honking, neighbors chatting, etc.)
 - e. What do they wish they would see and hear?
2. Prompt participants to turn to their left and describe what they had just visualized in their neighborhood's current state, and their vision for what they wish their neighborhood could be. Allow ~5 minutes for sharing.
3. Referencing our collective definition of a Just Transition at the front of the room, CJA's and JTA's Just Transition Principles, note that our neighborhoods have the potential to transform, and as a community, we have the power to transform them. Explain that we will be working as a large group to work toward a collective and cooperative vision for a local neighborhood.
4. Have participants volunteer which neighborhood/city they would like to focus on for collective visioning and action.
5. Once a neighborhood/city has been selected, tape a large poster paper to the front of the room for note-taking as participants work together through the following questions:
 - a. (Where) What local neighborhood are we focusing on and what does it look like?
 - i. Who are the residents? (general demographics: race/ethnicity, age, income-levels)
 - ii. What are the conditions like? (physical conditions: trash, street and sidewalk conditions, street lighting, trees, storefronts, proximity to highways or industrial sites, housing, overall safety)
 - b. (Concerns/Needs) What are the environmental justice issues and/or risk factors affecting this neighborhood?
 - i. What affects you? Your family? Your neighbors?
 - ii. Do these issues affect other neighborhoods?
 - iii. What might this neighborhood have in common with the other neighborhoods facing similar issues? (e.g population demographics, physical conditions)
 - c. (Issue Selection) What is the local issue we are going to focus on?
6. (Issue Solving) Pass out paper and markers to all participants. Instruct participants to draw their "[Idea Map](#)" detailing their action plan for how they may solve the selected issue:
 - a. Draw a circle in the center of the page. In this center circle, write the selected issue.
 - b. Draw lines to connect the center circle to new, surrounding circles. In the surrounding circles, write how you may solve the issue to stop the bad, and

ultimately build the new. Pull guidance from our collective definition, CJA's and JTA's Just Transition Principles (and your annotations on the pages). Allow ~15 for issue-solving and conversation with neighbors.

7. Give participants a couple of minutes to summarize their action plans for the larger group. Going one-by-one, have participants share their plans for how to solve the issue with the large group. Encourage the large group to solicit their comments: if they agree, how they see the solution playing out, action steps to consider etc.

E. A Just Transition for our neighborhood

1. Pulling from the Idea Maps and naming the groups various solutions, work together to collectively decide on a solution that feels like the *first step* in addressing the issue. Encourage them to question one another and consider important plays, such as communication needs, timelines, individual responsibility vs. policymakers, etc.
2. As participants share, write phrases and keywords on the board. Once the group reaches a consensus, write the first step in moving the selected neighborhood towards a Just Transition on the board. Encourage participants to take this first step home with them, to act on it, and continue the momentum with their friends, neighbors, and family members.

F. Reflections & Closing [10 min]

1. Wrap-up; what did participants learn? What will they be sharing with community members? What remains unanswered?
2. Thank participants for their time and participation; we hope that they learned something new and are energized to continue conversations like today's.