



In 2022, the **IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL)** created the Plastic Pollution Task Force to provide insights and support to the Treaty negotiation process. The following is one of a series of ten targeted legal briefs that are part of the present IUCN Submission for the third Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.

Contact:

Karine Siegwart, IUCN Head of Delegation, IUCN Senior Policy Advisor, International Policy Centre, karine.siegwart@iucn.org

Alexandra R. Harrington, Lancaster University Law School and Chair, IUCN WCEL Agreement on Plastic Pollution Task Force, a.harrington1@lancaster.ac.uk

IUCN WCEL Briefings for Negotiators for INC-3

These are updated briefings



1. Basic background on Just Transition

Just transition is most often equated with labour rights movements. This is with good reason, since the origins of just transition philosophies are firmly rooted in labour union efforts to counter impacts of coal mine closures in the United States during the 1980s and 1990s. From that point onward, just transition has spread and moved beyond one country or industry. While it is still tied to the coal sector, it has been diversified to include fossil fuels generally, and to balance efforts at transitioning away from high-carbon fuels. Just transition is a larger concept, however, and can be translated across a variety of sectors and issue areas with thorough legal and regulatory measures.¹

Just transition should also be understood as a necessary legal and policy tool through which to facilitate labour and employment transitions at all levels of an industry or entity produced. In the context of the ILBI negotiations, there has been an emphasis on the need to include waste pickers and members of the informal sector. These workers are critical to the implementation of a ILBI

