



LEARNING
by **DOING**

The Learning by Doing Project

*Project Activities – 2021 –
2024*

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Executive Summary

“Learning by Doing” (LbD) Project Activities – 2021 – 2024

1. Introduction

In the “Learning by Doing” (LbD) project, country teams envision a desirable and feasible future, characterized as a “good life,” for the year 2050, that aligns with climate limits of a 1.5-2°C temperature increase. By exploring attractive and tangible scenarios for sustainable living, the project seeks to inspire groups within societies to adopt comprehensive strategies for addressing climate change, rather than relying solely on fear-driven narratives. The overarching objective is to encourage both transformation and preservation that fosters coexistence with the environment through imaginative and inclusive narratives and associated policies and actions.

2. Methodology

The project employs an iterative methodology grounded in “Scrum” and “Agile” principles. This involves the collaboration of diverse country teams working on interconnected climate initiatives. Each team is tasked with developing visions of a “good life” in 2050, rooted in sustainable development goals, and using these visions to backtrack to present-day strategies that inform policies and actions. The methodology integrates emission modeling and carbon budgeting, employing an interdisciplinary approach that encompasses technological, social, and economic dimensions, thereby avoiding the limitations of policies focused solely on emission reduction.

3. Visions of 2050

The project’s visions for 2050 articulate societies characterized by significantly reduced emissions and heightened resilience to climate change. However, these visions extend beyond mere sustainability, incorporating elements such as freedom, creativity, community engagement, spirituality, and a sense of agency. The proposed societies aim to be inclusive and sustainable, while providing a stable economic framework. The narratives developed by each country serve not only as predictive models but also as tools to broaden the understanding of possibilities that can emerge through localized adaptations.





4. Key Findings by Country

- **Dominican Republic:**

The analysis highlighted the potential energy deficits that could arise from increased demand for electricity due to the transition to electric transportation. The current government transition plans, when aligned with visions of a good life, indicate that there may not be sufficient energy to meet future needs, thereby impacting multiple sectors. This finding underscores the necessity for enhanced electricity supply planning and the implementation of co-management schemes to support vulnerable communities.

- **Mexico:**

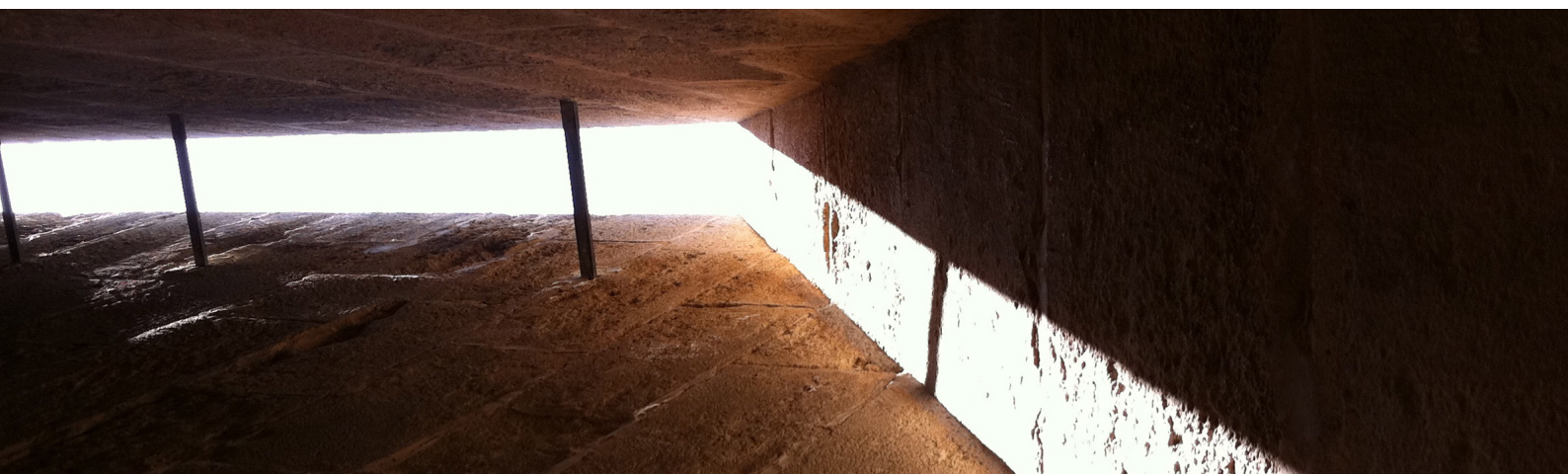
The investigation revealed that central policies focused solely on pricing and taxation are insufficient for achieving a sustainable transition aligned with the vision of a good life and a net-zero approach. A coordinated suite of sectoral policies and collective action at various levels is essential. Delays in implementing climate policies are likely to exacerbate opposition and undermine public support for necessary changes. Local governments play a pivotal role in delivering public goods and compensation to mitigate the impacts of these transitions.

- **Lebanon:**

Key findings emphasize the importance of establishing a sustainable agricultural system coupled with a comprehensive food security strategy. This approach has the potential to address various socio-economic issues, including health, water availability, and biodiversity. Promoting Lebanon as a “Land of Diversity” could enhance its tourism sector, while improved transport management strategies could facilitate alternative modes of transportation, thus reducing reliance on private vehicles.

- **South Africa:**

The collaborative dynamics among Scrum members emerged as a significant output of the project, reflecting a commitment to systemic thinking. The South African Baseline Report highlighted the need for a “just transition,” focusing on credible, fact-based narratives. Scenario modeling demonstrated that no single solution is adequate; rather, a combination of land-use and transport management measures is necessary to achieve significant emissions reductions while ensuring a good life for citizens.

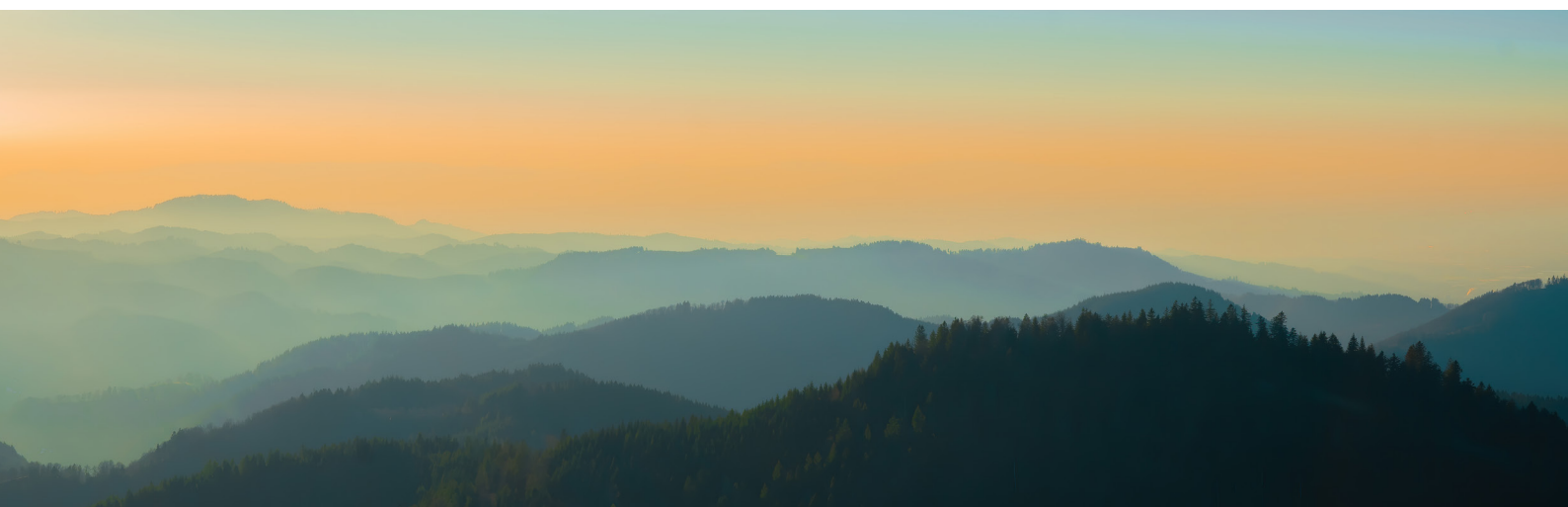




5. Cross-Project Findings

Several overarching themes emerged from the project, including:

- **Central Aspects of a Good Life:** The project identified elements crucial to a good life that inherently possess low-carbon and resilience attributes, such as creativity, interconnectedness, and opportunities for community engagement and reflection. These goals are appealing on their own and align with climate resilience and capacity-building objectives.
- **Policy Frameworks:** The integration of good life considerations transforms the discourse surrounding climate policies, emphasizing the importance of social, educational, and cultural dimensions alongside economic and technological factors.
- **Qualitative and Quantitative Methodologies:** There is significant potential for innovative solutions when qualitative and quantitative factors are considered in tandem, enriching the analysis and addressing issues of mitigation, adaptation, and collective action.
- **Narratives and Modeling Techniques:** Utilizing narratives and scenarios facilitates understanding complex interrelations while also providing quantitative measures that convey the significance of proposed actions.
- **Forecasting and Back-Casting Approaches:** These methods enable a dual perspective; forecasting identifies feasible pathways from the present to a sustainable future, while back-casting encourages imaginative thinking by envisioning the future and retracing steps to the present.
- **Sectoral Policies and Collective Action:** The findings indicate that effective transitions must be accompanied by central pricing and tax policies implemented alongside sector-specific strategies and collective action initiatives. This dual approach can mitigate resistance and ensure a more equitable transition.
- **Speed and Scale of Action:** The project highlights the urgent need for timely and expansive action to effectuate a transition towards a sustainable future, with an emphasis on orderly implementation to prevent adverse societal reactions.
- **Sectoral Synergies:** Successful climate action requires inter-sectoral collaboration, as actions in diverse sectors—such as energy, transportation, and agriculture—must complement one another to achieve shared climate goals and foster a good life.
- **Policy Coherence:** Insights from input-output analyses reveal the necessity for proactive planning to address increased demands across sectors, ensuring that interdependencies are managed effectively.





6. The Portfolio of Cooperative Actions and Projects

This portfolio emerged within the Project as a framework for addressing the challenges the country visions implied. These portfolios sought to advance through sub-national, national, regional, and multilateral collaboration. The project facilitated in-depth discussions and thematic spin-offs, enabling stakeholders to explore specific issues in detail and develop a comprehensive portfolio of climate initiatives. The focus has been on finding synergies among mitigation, adaptation, and multilateral support while identifying pathways toward a local 2-1.5°C society and understanding the expected emissions reductions alongside potential obstacles.

Key Areas of Focus:

1. **Energy and Electricity:**
 - Discussions in **Mexico** and **South Africa** highlighted critical insights into the energy sector. In Mexico, there is a shift back toward state support for the **Comisión Federal de Electricidad (CFE)**, reversing a two-decade trend of privatization. Meanwhile, South Africa is navigating a just energy transition, considering whether to unbundle **Eskom** or maintain it as a state-owned entity. The interactions emphasized the importance of renewable energy regulation and just transitions amid increasing energy demands.
2. **Land Use and Climate Change:**
 - In **South Africa** and **Lebanon**, the project explored the relationship between land use and climate policy, fostering cooperation among various stakeholders. Key insights revolved around communal land ownership, highlighting equity and sustainable agricultural practices as essential components of a just transition.
3. **Transport Solutions:**
 - Both countries initiated discussions on integrated transport systems. South Africa conducted surveys and modeling to inform a sectoral transport plan, while Lebanon's experts examined the interaction between public and private transport.
4. **Public Affluence:**
 - A concept that gained traction in South Africa, inspired by discussions involving the **Institute for Economic Justice (IEJ)**, emphasizing the necessity of public affluence for achieving sustainable development. The collaboration among labor federations and civil society aims to create a blueprint for a just transition.
5. **Co-management and Local Agency:**
 - The project explored how collective action can empower local agency rather than merely reacting to central incentives. This approach draws on the principles of co-management, allowing stakeholders to self-organize and manage shared resources.
6. **Adaptation Strategies:**
 - The project aimed to identify vulnerable communities in the Dominican Republic and develop strategies for low-carbon adaptation. Discussions with local leaders facilitated a deeper understanding of community needs and capacities.



Multilateral Actions:

In turn, the Project also examined how multilateral actions could support domestic policy, and viceverse. Project facilitated discussions, led to the establishment of the **Alliances for Ambitious Action (AAA)** initiative. This initiative supports key AILAC (the Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean) countries, and encourages collaboration among countries to strengthen their presence in the UNFCCC. The initiative has provided training and resources to enhance negotiation skills, improve multilateral cooperation, and outline pathways for achieving climate goals compatible with limiting global warming.

Capacity Building:

Over the course of the project, capacity-building efforts have reached over 1,000 individuals, including public officials, civil society representatives, private sector actors, and private citizens. This engagement has been vital for sharing knowledge, building networks, and fostering collaboration among diverse stakeholders.

Future Directions:

Looking ahead, the project plans to establish a **Good Life Policy Institute**, aiming to identify policies that enhance well-being while reducing emissions and increasing resilience. This institute will engage academics, policymakers, and students in developing innovative climate solutions that promote a good life. An initial seminar with the University of Cambridge will launch this initiative.

7. Conclusion

The “Learning by Doing” project and its associated portfolio of actions underscores the importance of integrating visions of a good life into climate action strategies.

Likewise, the Portfolio of Cooperative Actions and Projects represents a comprehensive approach to climate action, emphasizing collaboration, innovative solutions, and the importance of community engagement in achieving sustainable futures. By fostering collective engagement and emphasizing the necessity for intersectoral coherence, the project aims to build a foundation for sustainable living that aligns with climate objectives.

The methodologies developed and the narratives and portfolios generated, serve not only as valuable tools for policymakers but also as catalysts for community-driven change.





Presentation

*For the things we have to learn before we can do, we learn by doing
Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, 110332*

“Scaling up Ambitious Leadership” is a project involving teams from Mexico, South Africa, Lebanon, the Dominican Republic and the UK, and a regional component, initially covering Latin America and the Caribbean. The project objective was to establish foundations in learning by doing, using a methodology designed to learn on multiple levels throughout its implementation, while disseminating knowledge and creating learning opportunities. In doing this, it sought to foster innovation and build coalitions around them in different regional contexts.

These issues were explored by outlining visions and transitions for 1.5°/2°C futures that can materialise by 2050, and illustrate the socio-economic, cultural and natural features of such societies. These visions provide country-specific portfolios of projects, activities, and outline skills and knowledge to support and advance them. They draw on previous in country work including comparative analysis of mitigation in developing countries. In the four partner countries and the region, the project worked with political partners, policy-makers - and, crucially, sought to advance learning with civil society actors, and academia.

The essential, outputs of the project are as follows:

- Prepare reports outlining visions of and transitions to societies compatible with a 2 – 1.5 degree future by 2050 and its socio-economic, cultural and natural aspects in each of the countries, and regionally; as well as a national portfolio of projects, activities and knowledge to support them

- Produce a report with multilateral opportunities for climate action and cooperation that can work in parallel with the visions and transitions outlined above

- A report and online media describing how knowledge and outreach have advanced with relevant stakeholders, including associated learning activities.

Project funding was provided by the German government’s International Climate Change Initiative (IKI). Two organisations, Energeia in the UK and CIES in Peru, lead and manage the project jointly. Dedicated teams in South Africa, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Lebanon are working currently on these issues. A Latin America wide component was been established in Chile and Peru. Five universities participated at different times during the Project, including University of Cape Town, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra, and Arizona State University. Two additional organisations served as hubs of university networks in Peru and the Dominican Republic. Detailed information is available on the project’s webpage: <https://www.learningbydoingproject.org>

The project advanced with a bottom up iterative approach, led by teams in each country, which contrasted results in each year. The country teams are the following:

Country Team Leads - Participants and Organizations

<i>Team</i>	<i>Members and organisations</i>
<i>Core</i>	<i>Jose Alberto Garibaldi, Energeia Gilberto Arias, Energeia Cuauhtemoc Lopez-Bassols, Energeia</i>
<i>Administration</i>	<i>Monica Alvarez, CIES Eduardo Durand, CIES Chiara Garibaldi, Energeia</i>
<i>Knowledge Management</i>	<i>Sonja Klinsky, Arizona State University (Lead) Snigdha Nautiyal, Arizona State University Cuauhtemoc Lopez Bassols, Energeia</i>
<i>Communications</i>	<i>Francisco de la Mora, R&dLM Daniela Rocha, R&dLM</i>
<i>Dominican Republic</i>	<i>Omar Ramirez, Energeia (Lead) Michela Izzo, Guaki Ambiente Rafael Beriguete, Brightline Institute Sara Tejada, Brightline Institute Claudia Morillo, Energeia</i>
<i>Lebanon</i>	<i>Soumar Dakdouk, Indyact (Lead) Dana Halwani, Indyact Wael Hmaidan, Indyact</i>
<i>Mexico</i>	<i>Juan Carlos Belausteguigoitia, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, (ITAM) (Lead) Vidal Romero, ITAM Alberto Simpser, ITAM Adrian Fernández, Iniciativa Climática de México, ICM Marisol Rivera, ICM Jorge Villareal, ICM Maria Eugenia Ibarra, Universidad Ibero Americana Alejandra Elizondo, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económica (CIDE)</i>
<i>South Africa</i>	<i>Harald Winkler, University of Cape Town (Lead) Andrew Marquard, UCT Natasha McDaid, UCT</i>
<i>Latin America</i>	<i>Luis Miguel Galindo, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) Eduardo Durand, CIES José Luis Samaniego, , Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL) Gilberto Arias, Energeia José Alberto Garibaldi, Energeia</i>
<i>Peer review</i>	<i>José Luis Samaniego, CEPAL Luis Miguel Galindo, UNAM</i>

Introduction

From the outset of the project, the starting point was the question of what a good life would look like circa 2050 in specific locations, within a carbon budget compatible with a 2-1.5°C temperature increase, and that recognises the associated climate impacts. To address the scale and speed required in responses compatible with the requirements of the Paris Agreement, there is a need for attractive inspiration to be positively pursued; fear of failed transitions may not be enough. For this reason, LbD explores a route with greater social appeal: what could a good life in 2050 compatible with a temperature rise limited to 2-1.5°C look like?

Rather than seeking how to override a diminished scope of considerations for action for the sake of efficacy or efficiency, the project aimed to examine how the imagination, in dialogue with experts based locally and others with knowledge of climate and economic policy and the humanities, can improve the understanding of how these societies might imply a good life. It seeks to find out how the pursuit of the good life and a good society may spur action on its own, and how analogically inspired narrative approaches can help inform and guide more univocal and analytical research while helping inspire more permanent changes for the good in the way the social sciences and political action advance. If successful, this project's outcome could help preserve, transform and improve critical aspects of the understanding of the human relationship with its environment on the national and regional levels. Such a process of preservation, transformation and improvement would be mediated by a knowledge that comprehensively includes but also goes beyond purely economic efficiency or social policy considerations.





Methodological issues

In seeking to respond to this question, the Learning by Doing project (LbD) explored new ways of developing climate action pathways. Traditionally, climate ambition centred on specific mitigation or adaptation outcomes, almost exclusively, looking to deliver a sort of efficiency of effort. However, often these approaches are politically or socially unfeasible; leading to a stop-and-start paradigm, support delivered through external experts, or indefinite subsidies; none of which are sustainable or scalable methods. LbD dealt with the reality of political and economic sustainability in a world that is not delivering the breadth of climate action at the speed required, leaving societies to simply suffer climate impacts with scarce opportunity for ambitious action.

The LbD's approach advanced with different methodologies and scope than the traditional path. LbD used Iterative Agile/Scrum methodologies to partner country-based stakeholder groups and experts ("country teams") to engage in joint climate activities ("scrums"). Scrums allowed participants to exploit long term synergies and learning between projects on multiple levels. Portfolios of multilateral actions are both enriched by and enhance domestic action. LbD also facilitated local Scrum stakeholders to work together in cross-sectoral coalitions and participatory-management schemes around particular sectoral aims ("co-management schemes") to pursue and finance low-carbon public services where they live. Country teams use all these in turn to simultaneously develop visions, technical and convivial options, and policy and financial pathways for a "good life" in 2050, with key sectors moving to net-zero, and resilience for impacts in a 2-1.5°C world. Country visions are back-casted to the present as a guide to further develop policy pathways and projects, while country team experts calculate associated carbon budgets and reductions through emissions and cost modelling and tracking systems. This process is built on the conviction, as Winkler *et al* (2023) argue, that accelerated mitigation can not only benefit from policies outside the domain of conventional emission-focused mitigation policies, but *require* such policies in large society and economy wide approaches. In this vein, LbD specific, appealing, and holistic visions of a good life become a central motive to enhance the speed and scale of transitions by wide ranges of stakeholders in key sectors.

Visions of life in 2050

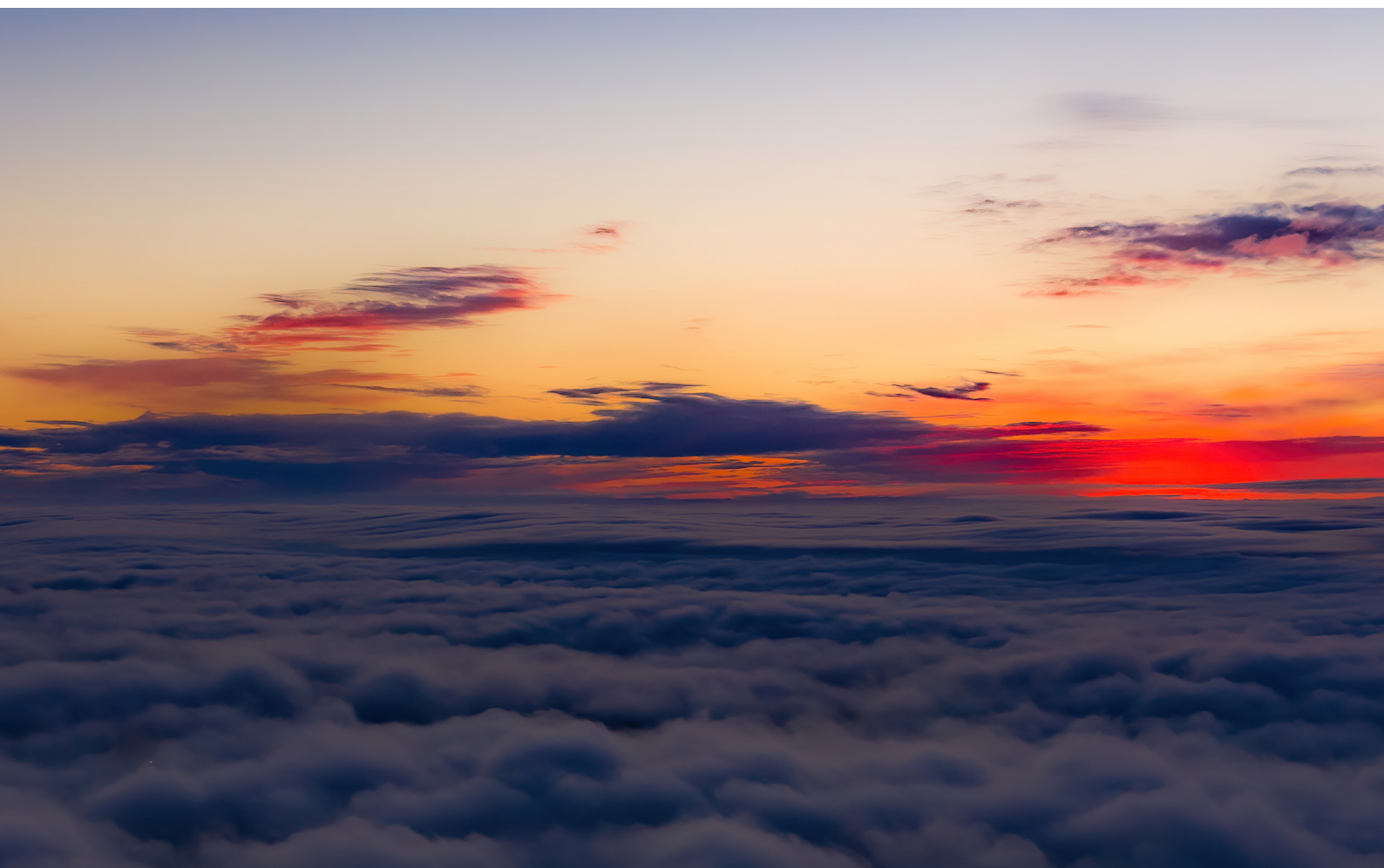
The project sought first to produce a vision of a society compatible with a 2-1.5°C increase in temperature as a tentative goal. This purposeful end serves as a good endpoint towards which to strive allowing participating teams and researchers to both examine and test the internal consistency of the vision in a specific time and place, as well as of the trajectories that might lead to it.

The project's proposal of a vision of a 2-1.5°C society has some common minimum elements. It is one in which a society has emissions aligned with the Paris Agreement's target that seeks to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals of greenhouse gases as soon as possible in the second half of the century. Crucially, the project is also taking this vision as one that fosters free human flourishing in society while being capable of operating within a stable economy and polity. Country teams have added additional, associated, more specific elements—such as compatibility with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), inclusivity in socio-economic development, husbandry of natural resources and biodiversity, adoption of innovative socio-economic aspects including nature-based services, elements



of circular economies, sustainable development. A key cross-cutting consideration is that this society must not only technically deliver the targets the teams identify, but must also be a society that may be seen as appealing: a society with attributes that can be characterised as free, useful, pleasant, and-or honourable; by definition, attractive to a broad swathes of the population to functionally support as a destination in the transition to net-zero emissions and adaptation to climate impacts in the next thirty years.

Good life and key project discourses: The visions outlined above led the project to start discussing how to characterize a good life in a low carbon context. The idea was to characterize a good life in a way that was at the same time appealing, low carbon and resilient. The project advanced this task through a series of project meetings with a group of academics, researchers and policy makers. This group produced a characterization with 4 notes: a sense of relations and conviviality; creativity, with nature and with each other; contemplation of nature and surrounding and spirituality, i.e. an appreciation that does not necessarily seek to modify or control what is contemplated; and a sense of agency and influence. These aspects, in addition to the diminished emissions and increased resilience, were taken as appealing on their own, and capable of being the objectives or policies and actions within the project. They were compatible with the aspects which had emerged for society in the initial round of consultations. i.e. *a society with attributes that could be characterised as free, useful, pleasant, and-or honourable*. The different country teams would define narratives of the good life in each country within these range of views, as well as the policies and actions associated with them. Country teams could develop and pursue them as they saw fit in their own circumstances.





Synergies, complementarities and target groups: The pursuit of such a “good life” in specific areas involved policies and actions to align services, infrastructure and finance with low-carbon futures and resilience, while considering local culture and interests. Following LbD, research on collective action and finance will incentivize partner countries to engage in multilateral action, fostering synergies and enhancing financial sustainability. The project connected these efforts across civil society, including local associations and user groups, using context sensitive co-management models.

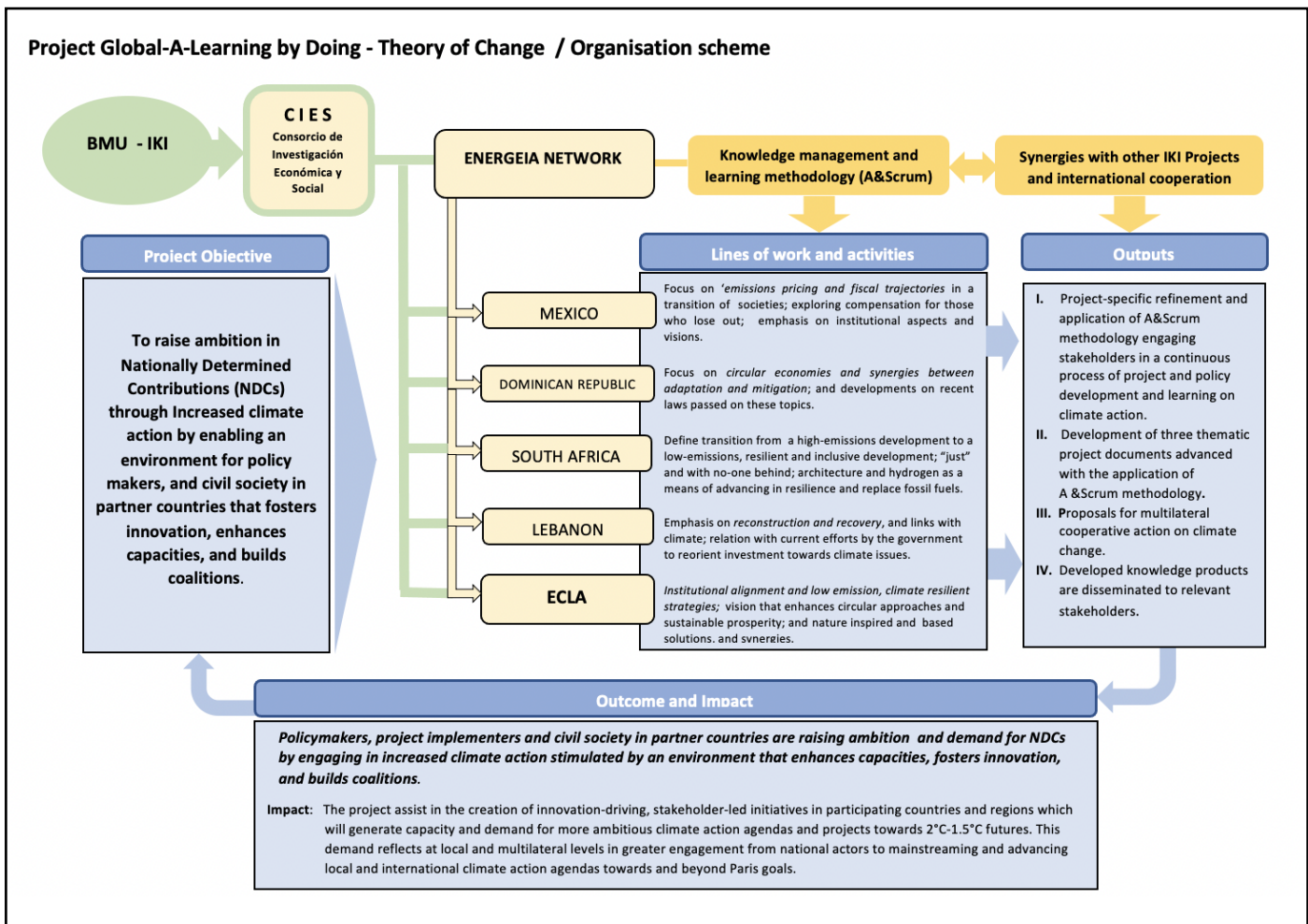
The project contended that climate change presents an opportunity for all to pursue a good life, if addressed in solidarity. While climate impacts worsen, addressing climate change offers a chance for improved livelihoods and public life. Comprehensive action, including early and scaled-up mitigation and smart finance, is cost-effective and enhances adaptation efforts. LbD’s approach encourages collective reductions and strengthens adaptation effectiveness, while increasing policy capacity, and enhancing reciprocity, solidarity, and hope.

The project targeted through its iterative scrums three key groups: private sector, civil society, and central, subnational and local government officers, fostering new coalitions. Stakeholders operated as strategic thinkers, activists, and academics, expanding to include private, civil society and government officer members. Youth were engaged for local policy support and UNFCCC participation. Local communities and governments contributed resilience and adaptation knowledge. Together, these efforts address diverse challenges and opportunities, advancing climate action locally and globally.

The LBP project also produced additional outputs on portfolios of i) projects and ii) policies -domestic and multilateral- required to enable them. These may include “low hanging fruits”, but also those on the hard to abate sectors, taking into account the technical aspects of the equation. Various learning opportunities, knowledge management, and dissemination are used as a way of transmitting to society at wide, a better understanding of what is feasible, how it can be achieved as a whole, where challenges lie, and how would life would look like, even in sectors that people would typically say are hard to decarbonize.

In this vein, the LbD project methodology was designed to avoid the temptation of thinking that the solution and/or best fit option to problems are already known. To do so, it explicitly starts from the presumption that the solution is unknown, and the project is designed to generate the capacity, and change and adapt, to seek potential solutions. This entails outlining in advance the process but not the proposed outputs: rather than saying it has them in advance, it follows a learned ignorance instead. There are a series of tools that LbD is using: the process of interviewing people, creating draft mental maps and draft portfolios of the process and potential solutions, in order to build storylines. In a similar vein, graphic novels are being designed to illustrate these visions and findings so as to spread the word. Finally the need to be inclusive and bring people and disciplines that are not usually included in these discussions is crucial for the project.

The Project found that framing successful examples within flexible policy and finance frameworks, and participative co-management schemes helped to create conditions for demand. Sectoral transfers, policy packages, and co-management schemes also provide participants with models, know-how and shared interests to supply reductions with potential service synergies. The iterative methodology helped to match supply and demand at scale, while shared visions and objectives help disseminate, inspire, and press for further action in society and govt. LbD modelling and tracking, and organization to enhance NDCs for a 1.5-2°C maximum global warming.



The attached graphic illustrates how the Project worked:

Results and findings

The project continued advancing and developing its own public and research philosophies, as well as a methodology that was compatible with them, exploring and examining their climate and public policy implications. The project also outlined the core of scrum activities to be advanced in the various countries,

The relevance of different levels of conversation (philosophy, political economy and political and economic modelling) and that of different places and regions (Latin America, Africa, the MENA region) were both acknowledged. This entailed interaction between the social sciences, the humanities and different geographical and political contexts. Advancing the project along these lines aimed to answer both technical and political questions, as well as explore the deeper philosophical ideas that are necessary to ensure that the envisaged life is not only survivable but good. It was thought that an interdisciplinary approach to this subject would help to avoid certain climate modelling and policy making pitfalls, and avoid ultimately unhelpful shortcuts and wasted resources. For example, it considered that removing agency from the individual for the sake of collective efficacy would not be part of the good life; nor would seeking to increase the wealth and power of a party to influence outcomes, or relying mostly on the dangers that may



come from a warmer climate to motivate action. Instead, it hoped that its ‘solutions’ rather than appearing as impositions, may emerge instead as opportunities and means to enhance collective action from the bottom up in the places where the project advanced.

In Country Activities

In-country activities had a dual focus. On the one hand, teams developed visions that explored what it meant to lead a good life in local circumstances, within the general outline of what a good life is, as described above. These visions were accompanied by analytical narratives meant to illustrate both what such a good life would look like by 2050, but also describe how it may be achieved collectively. On the other hand, country teams explored how would sustainable development pathways would look like if a just transition in the country pointed towards achieving those visions. In doing so, not only do technologies and financial and business models become relevant, but also the convivial, institutional, and social aspects of well-being. The understanding and development of these aspects were deemed to be supported in turn by policies across sectors which were deemed to be interrelated with the narratives. These narratives were not taken as predictions; instead, they are examples to learn from and expand the sense of the possible and feasible in the search for a good life in specific places compatible with 2-1.5°C temperature increase by 2050.

In what follows, key findings from the in country teams are presented below:

Dominican Republic

In the Dominican Republic, the teams used the countries own published long-term transition plans and those that emerged from the country’s NDC to see how these overlapped with the narrative of the good life. In addition, the project calculated 100 year national climate scenarios with municipal level resolution. Replacement cost and emission calculators examined the costs of the transitions in the key sectors as these narratives outlined. In addition, a more specific input output analysis was advanced in key sectors, particularly considering the relation between energy and transport. The team discovered in doing this that there is barely enough electric energy for the Dominican society to address its growth. Demand for electricity would grow further if the transport sector becomes increasingly electric, as it is likely to do. Likewise, it map vulnerable communities at national level. Thus, ne key finding is that if a good life is pursued, the transitions which the government was planning would result in damaging deficits in required electric energy, with several deleterious effects in multiple supply chains and sectors. The situation gets worse if the full gamut of measures considered in the narratives are advanced. In addition, the range of vulnerable communities implies wider use of co management schemes to address vulnerabilities. These findings are now being discussed in the new government planning and tracking tools, so as to expand the electricity supply beyond current planning levels.





Mexico

In Mexico, one of the key findings has been the discovery that central policies alone, focusing on pricing and taxes, may not be enough for a transition that pursues the vision of a good life compatible with a net zero approach. Instead, a coordinated array of sectoral policies and different means to advance collective action at various levels may also be needed. As Mexico considered its transition analysis examining carbon prices and taxes, it became obvious that even in the most orderly cases, the impact of large-scale climate policy is substantive as imposed through these means. In case there are delays, the situation worsens considerably. This implies that substantive opposition is also likely to emerge the more a transition takes to start. Consequently, more specific sectoral policies, compensation schemes, and additional public goods may be needed early on to compensate those which are most impacted. The role of local governments also becomes central. The provision of these public goods and compensation points both by local and central governments, becomes closely aligned with the emergence of a good life as the project public philosophy has outlined.

Lebanon

Lebanon had a series of interesting findings. The need for a sustainable and/or organic agriculture system with a specific food-security strategy. This will benefit other socio-economic issues in health, water availability, biodiversity, education, technology. These multi-sector benefits originating in the agricultural sector can also aid the tourism sector by branding Lebanon as a 'Land of Diversity' to celebrate its natural assets, diversity in culture, heritage, biodiversity, culinary etc. These advances can be compounded with gains in a transport sector that could flourish with a transport demand management strategy, aiming to reduce the length, frequency and time of land trips and reduce the use of private passenger cars. This could be achieved by reinforcing and supporting alternative modes of transport - walking, biking, motorcycles, mass public transport etc.)



South Africa

The scrum members, their interconnections, and the creative thinking developed in the LbD project in SA are, in our view, one of the most important ‘outputs’ of the project.

Scrum members thinking about systems and sectors might translate into an unexpected and important legacy of LbD. The several spin-off groups facilitated by scrum members, on diverse issues such as land, electricity sector reform, and place-based action, have showed that members are now taking the thinking from scrums into further discussions. In terms of content, the South African Baseline Report highlighted the importance of the concept of a “just transition” (JT) within the development, in order to build a credible fact-based narrative. Areas of investigation are malleable and used as a starting point. These areas were revised and refined along the way by the scrums. Specific attention has been paid in this work to sector contributions towards reaching the country’s greenhouse gas emissions targets, while a good life is created for its citizens. In advancing this work, the scenario modelling results indicate that no single ‘silver bullet’ type of solution exists and that combinations of land-use, as well as transport energy management measures (representing avoid, shift, and improve measures) will be required to reduce emissions sufficiently.





Cross Project findings

- **Central Good life Aspects identified:** The project identified aspects which may be considered central of good life that simultaneously have low carbon and resilience aspects. In this vein, the project found that inter-relationship, creativity with other and nature, and opportunities for conviviality and contemplation, together with sense of agency and the struggle for a just transition to make these possible. These goals are deemed to be appealing on their own and associated with a good life, as well as with low carbon, climate resilience, and capacity building. They also cut across the visions the country teams identified.
- **Changes in policy settings:** A key finding of the project is that the consideration of a good life along these lines sheds new light and frames differently what needs to be considered in climate policies, and why. Rather than solely considering economic, technological and financial aspects advanced from a central policy making process. When taking into account good life considerations, other aspects become more salient, e.g. those that consider the character and impact of the (just) transition, the associated capacity, education, and cultural aspects, the expected role of key economic sectors associated with these pursuits, the associated transformation and preservation of urban and local settings and the build environment to support them, the objectives of sectoral policies, and how and by whom is collective action to deploy them is advanced.
- **Public Philosophy and Collective Action:** As a result of the above, the policy emphasis and the expected outcomes and delivery changes when the pursuit of a good life is included in the mix, beyond those aspects that focus solely in reducing emissions or increasing resilience and capacity. The public philosophy and the collective action aspects that the project has been developing points in this same direction.
- **Quantitative and qualitative methodologies, together:** Another important finding is that there is a wide scope for thinking new solutions if qualitative and quantitative aspects are not considered in isolation from one another when examining the objectives, content and delivery of climate policies. The discovery of methodologies that allow to both take into account good life considerations, side by side with more conventional climate policy issues, uncovers large aspects of mitigation, adaptation, collective action and capacity building which otherwise will not be acknowledged, let alone addressed if only mitigation issues are addressed.
- **Narratives and Modelling:** The project has also identified different means to showcase these different aspects, which operate in interrelation with each other. Thus, the use of narratives, of scenarios (in words and numbers) to handle complexities, and the use of models, to handle the complicatedness aspects. Together, they provide a setting, sense of purpose and character, and a content in which quantitative indicators provide a sense of magnitude and explain both complexities and complications. In this, again the project methodological discoveries provide a mean to both enquiry and present queries and findings, a sense of magnitude, of the purpose of actions, and what is deemed valuable in different ways that in the purely quantitative.
- **Back and Fore casting:** Likewise, this different approach also entail changes in how the modelling of the trajectories considered advance. These consider both forecasting and back-casting approaches. Forecasting methods address feasibility by starting from the present to move towards accumulative progressive changes leading towards expected future with less emissions, and more resilience. In contrast, back casting addresses creativity by starting from the future and moving back to the present. This provides more degrees of freedom to imagine options for the future.



- **Prices and taxes with sectoral policies:** As policy aspects are considered in this context of feasibility and imagination, the project has identified that any transition needs to advance with some central price and tax policies applied from the outset, but deployed side by side with accompanying sector specific policies and (collective) actions considerations focused on the end point. This allows to address feasibility while not leaving aside good life and just transition aspects. If only central policies of tax and pricing are addressed, the magnitude of the economic impact makes it very likely that there will be massive opposition if centrally imposed. Delays may increase the size of the impacts. Sectoral and compensation policies may help address these transition issues.
- **Speed and Scale crucial:** The project has also found that there is a relatively short window of opportunity, with the speed and scale of action requiring to advance promptly and continuously to both transform and preserve what is needed in a transition to a 2.15 compatible future. In most cases, the possibilities of adverse reactions become even worse if the transition, rather than advance early on in an orderly fashion, becomes more disorderly one, with large sets of actions delayed until later.
- **Sectoral policy aspects:** Six sectors have emerged as central un various aspects as the project moves from its considerations of a good life towards sectoral policies. These sectors include energy, transport, agriculture, tourism and costal zones, waste and circular economies. These are in turn affected by aspects emerging from economy, infrastructure and the built environment, and the cultural and political economy aspects.
 - **Policy Road Maps:** The project has also been developing roadmaps. These road maps cover 5 period sequences, and have been developed for energy, transport, land use, interalia. The focus both on transformation as well as in preservation, as participants mentioned they want to preserve aspects such as common spaces and cultural traditions, as well as natural resources and key aspects of the environment.
 - **Transformation and preservation:** T Ghis has been a consequence of the road map design, In all project scenarios something changes, and something else is maintained. Sectoral policies designed specific steps embodied within plans for action and sectoral costs. Roadmaps thus feed into collective action considerations – i.e. an examination of how various actors may come together to deliver the actions required in a specific place, and gain form it, on the one hand; but also what conditions need to be maintained and preserved for these actions to happen, and for aspects of the good life to be pursued to continue.
- **Synergies across sectors:** The country and project findings have also pointed out towards the need for actions in the various sectors to synergise and complement with each other if a good life is to be considered. This is so not only because they support each other to achieve climate goals, but also because their interaction may also be central for a good life to emerge in specific places, and thus make those climate objectives more likely.
- **Policy coherence:** The project more specific input output analysis has revealed the importance of planning for increased demand in one sector as expanded demand advances in another. The case of the relation between electric energy.

A Portfolio of Cooperative Actions and Projects

The elements for sub-national, national, regional or multilateral cooperative action emerged through the project. Ideas for projects and policies were discussed at thematic spinoffs. This allowed to explore specific issues more in detail and develop a portfolio of projects, while learning in the process. Some initial views as to the coherence between potential synergistic lines to take across between mitigation, adaptation, and/or multilateral support, including a view to pathways and projects towards a local 2-1.5°C society, and expected emissions reductions, as well as observed and noted obstacles.

In all the countries, these discussions have tended to emerge in similar areas: Energy and Electricity (Mexico and South Africa), Transport (South Africa and the Dominican Republic) Land use (South Africa and Lebanon) -and interestingly, on the role of public affluence (South Africa, Dominican Republic). We will deal with each starting from last. Successful and discarded cases and options for increased ambition of projects and for further capacity building, development, were outlined above.

Public affluence was inspired by scrum discussions. In South Africa, Harald Winkler held a spin-off meeting on this concept, after it had emerged in scrum 1, together with Julia Taylor, who brought in other colleagues from the Institute for Economic Justice (IEJ). The IEJ has assisted the labour federation COSATU with a new blue-print for workers in a just transition that resulted in an explicit narrative, which was then included within the more comprehensive South African narrative. This draft would be subsequently used in country work in SA, the Dominican Republic, and regionally. Public affluence was seen as one of the project core basis, and indeed purpose, of cooperation at multi-lateral, national and local scale.





Electricity and Energy spinoff were advanced in Mexico and South Africa and resulted in findings and recommendations. They were led in both cases by colleagues from civil society with some participation by public utilities in South Africa and regulators in Mexico. Participants provided insight on the issues such as the advances (or retreats) on the regulation to promote renewables, on renewing debt, and on the just transition & increased energy demand. In the case of Mexico, the focus was on the shift away from the support to the promotion of renewable production by private parties, and a move towards further state support to the state-owned utilities (Comisión Federal de Electricidad, CFE). In South Africa, the focus was on the funding of Eskom and the just transition away from coal. Both developments have continued to be a major issue not only in energy, but affect the countries' economy and society as a whole. Mexico had been moving in the last two decades away from the state provision of electricity towards the provision through private parties. The current government has reversed the trend, and is now limiting opportunities for private entry into electricity markets, while increasing funding for CFE. In South Africa, the case is the reverse. The national utility has been the dominant player in South Africa's electricity supply industry (ESI). It has historically been dominated by coal-fired power, but in recent years started consider a just energy transition (JET). Yet views diverge, in particular whether Eskom should be unbundled and more private firms participate in the ESI, with the contrary view being that a developmental state must retain control over Eskom as a state-owned enterprise. In Mexico, discussions advanced as to potential ways in which more renewables could be advanced within the changed framework; in South Africa, these activities have been overtaken by events: there is a JET Partnership between SA, four developed countries and the EU being announced in Glasgow, and an investment plan presented at COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh after approval by Cabinet.

Land and climate change emerged in South Africa and Lebanon. An innovative element of the LbD scrum has been on cooperation between different communities of practice in a spin-off on land and climate change. In South Africa, it involved groups that oppose mining in communal land, on coal dependence and water quality, and academics working on the environment and climate change nexus. In Lebanon, people working on climate policy and land use researchers. Key takeaways related to understandings of communal land ownership as a spectrum of rights that allowed for various uses, and went beyond ownership. This was all referenced in the narratives, as well as reaffirming that equity in access to land a crucial part of achieving a just transition. Ecological understandings of land use in regards to agriculture, was also mentioned in order to enhance sustainability.

Place-based solutions discussions and initiatives were completed in South Africa, and the Dominican Republic. Business and NGOs interaction emerged in both places as a way forward to bridge the gap between corporate social responsibility and actual community needs. In the Dominican Republic, a business model comprising participation from civil society communities and government and international support has also been very effective in deploying site specific renewable energy solutions.

Transport as a system connected to others has advanced both in South Africa and Lebanon. In South Africa, Harald Winkler multiple spin offs were advanced. Surveys and modelling in transports provided elements for a sectoral transport plan for the country within the transport development pathways – in a manner that connects to broader systems. In Lebanon, the country team coordinated a meeting with country experts. Their conversations focused on the relation between public and private transport.



Co- Management and agency as a collective action problem. LbD has been advancing work on how may collective action be considered in way that enhances proactive local agency, rather than solely respond to central incentives. This emerged initially from activities of the project advanced with the Minister of Environment, Dr. Miguel Ceara Hatton, and senior staff at the Ministry of Economy, Mr. Delio Rincon. The emphasis of the project on agency led the conversation upon the development of *co-manejo* schemes, where stakeholders self-organized to cooperate with government agencies in managing shared resources. These approaches were quite similar to those which Elinor Ostrom “Governing the Commons” approach had highlighted. They also contrasted sharply with approaches to collective action following the lead of Mancur Olson, with a more centralized use of incentives and the control of group size. This was further discussed in Latin America sessions, and in the South Africa activities.

Impacts and Adaptation: The project has also been advancing work on impacts and adaptation as part of the 2-1.5°C future. Again, this emerged from the work done in parallel and within the scrums in the Dominican Republic. The president of the Dominican Council of Climate Change, Dr. Max Puig and his staff, Delio Rincon, from the Ministry of Economy, among Omar Ramirez, Michela Izzo and Jose Alberto Garibaldi participated. As a consequence of the project work on long-term climate projections (see below), discussions at the scrum and with the Ministry of economy focused on means to identify communities with higher levels of vulnerability and their characteristics and location. In this context, the project explored means to facilitate enhanced action in terms of low carbon adaptation in a sub group of communities with high levels of vulnerability. The methodology was used to identify a wider range of communities and a more general methodology to enhance collective action in underserved communities.





The Project Just Transition Findings and areas for further engagement

Some broader reflections on these insight allowed to identify in more detail exactly how a Just Transition (JT) is included in the pathway and the vision for a good life in 2050 that is compatible with limiting global warming to well below 2-1.5°C, in terms of mitigation, adaptation, and its synergies. Multi-lateral cooperation on the Just Energy Transition Partnership has the potential to show how multi-lateral cooperation (at least among some countries) can address decarbonisation in electricity while also supporting social justice. Whether this potential is realised depends on whether this is implemented in a transformative manner. While some individual scrum members are involved in further work, the scrum as a group has continued focusing on just transition to a good life. The work in the LbD scrum has raised broader issues, around electricity, supporting public affluence, the land issue and co-management (co- manejo) – and ultimately, whether the JETP contributes to a ‘good life under 2-1.5°C in South Africa’.

The project also advanced with ideas for national projects through desk activities of the country and core teams. These activities comprised education, including contexts and proposals for activities with universities, nature-based solutions. Themes that had initially been identified in agriculture and circular economies were not developed further. Considerations of carbon pricing and policy packages associated with the transition of energy, and commercial and industrial inputs, were advanced explicitly, particularly by the Mexico team. These spinoff discussions helped to further advance desk work on the interphase between narratives, modelling, and policy.

As a result of the portfolio of projects these activities generated, the project has been selecting some specific areas for further project proposals.

In Lebanon, the project worked closely with local experts and groups, including the ministry of Environment and UNDP, working towards the economic reconstruction of the country. Its work has become one of the central aspects of Lebanon’s new Long Term Low Emission development strategy, which will be developed further during 2024, which included aspects related to energy, transport, and land use.

Additional projects were also developed in the Dominican Republic. These include the development with CIES of IKI project proposals for the country. These included biodiversity and adaptation proposals, particularly as they included aspects related to land and marine use, and which included participatory *co-manejo*. Other IKI projects were developed and advanced with ITAM and other Mexican universities (inter-sectoral arrangements), to develop in-country capacities.

As mentioned, there was also a project in the Dominica Republic with the CATHALAC, the Central American intergovernmental organization, on adaptation and resilience for the Dominican Republic and Caribbean region. This project was the first project in the DR which included detailed temperature and precipitation projections and associated climate impacts for 2100 in the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean region. The report details drop in precipitation of 5-15%, with the greatest deficit in the central part of the country in the medium term, much greater in the longer term. This implies changes in land use projections, which



affects the country's long-term planning, and is being taken up by discussions of the Council on Climate Change and other Ministries. At the time of writing, the results for this project were in discussion with Ministries about next steps.

In a similar vein, LbD also developed a proposal for the Dominican Republic to develop in-country capabilities with regards to Low carbon innovation and private sector participation as refined with the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Economics and Planning, and the Council on Climate Change. These focused particularly in schemes to explore systems of *co-manejo* of public resources as a way to develop bottom-up ambition for sustainable development policies and projects.

In addition, the Mexico project team, led by ICM, advanced consultations with Mexican experts and civil society, so as to develop a more ambitious NDC alternative, to illustrate how to overcome government policy backtrack on Mexico's current NDC. The ITAM team calculated initial net zero scenarios for 2050. LbD completed with Mexican national country team a nation-wide student competition for ideas and concepts and open enquiry for a future sustainable and resilient Mexican society; and developed a civil society and academia contest of ideas and open inquiry on future society (Mexico) run by Mexico team in 2022.

Portfolio of Multilateral Actions

Multilateral actions have continued advancing. From the portfolio considered initially, activities with AILAC have now advanced further. The Project achieved in creating a support project for selected countries within AILAC and for AILAC as a whole. The project has included a cooperative scheme co funded by various sources. Which is expected to last beyond the initial LbD time frame, and has been one of the most interesting and fruitful outcomes of the LbD project.

The project created by LbD, called Alliances for Ambitious Action (AAA) entails both support to AILAC as well as to other like-minded proactive groups within the UNFCCC. This includes project proposals for regional capacity building; lines to take for United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); coalition building and/ or regional cooperation initiatives; and other activities at the UNFCCC. This initiative will provide negotiation and multilateral support to AILAC, the Dominican Republic and the Cartagena Dialogue during COPs. It will also advanced side events inter sessional support.

The initiative has already agreed recurrent funding from other donors (the Climate Emergency Cooperation Group (CECG), and the UK CASA program) for it to support the AILAC group. The initiative will:

- Explain its methodology, findings and approaches to AILAC countries, with a particular emphasis on the existing negotiation teams;
- Support existing negotiation teams to coordinate positions and views, including through meetings and support to produce submissions
- Build-up the capacity of new members within the negotiation teams
- Outreach and support beyond Latin America through multilateral fora in which AILAC or LbD partners are active.



The initiative cooperative approach will have the following components:

- Increase cooperation between LbD countries and AILAC, and particularly between the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica and Guatemala, who will be AILAC president during the 2022-23 period.
- Provide in situ support for AILAC countries at the UNFCCC SBs.
- Help provide initial and/or additional support for coordination of UNFCCC negotiation positions, drafting of submissions, continuous creation of capacities in AILAC countries, and expansion of UNFCCC outreach in the second half of 2022 and for 2023. This may include activities to mobilise these resources and through local and international means. It may also cover support to organise in-person meetings at the UNFCCC and associated fora (e.g., Cartagena Dialogue).
- Help create in interested partner countries' 2050 visions of a good life in societies compatible with 2-1.5°C temperature goals, with a capacity to respond to associated climate impacts, and identify both trajectories leading to them as well as approaches to increase capacity in these societies so as to continue developing these visions and achieving these trajectories in the long term.
- Help AILAC countries to calculate the costs of the transitions to 2035 and 2050 futures, outline required capacities and the associated adaptation and impact costs, using integrated climate and economic modelling from LbD teams and research, and contrast these costs with existing literature and UNFCCC estimates.
- In addition, the project has already started supporting those those participant countries that so wish at the UNFCCC process. It has already advanced capacity building meetings with Guatemala, Dominican Republic, and Costa Rica. At this point, a first stage, this will entail the Dominican Republic which may serve as a pivot with the AOSIS group; and with Costa Rica, which will serve as a pilot with AILAC countries. Initiatives to engage other countries will also be launched.



Capacity building

Following its own learning by doing philosophy the project involved the participants in a learning progress through the scrum process. The project 16 scrums, 6 spinoff meetings, two regional meetings, a public “in street” festival, and several UNFCCC side events were used to advance research, build capacity, and disseminate the project philosophy, finding and methodologies, at local regional, and multilateral context. These activities provided support to more than 1000 people. The table below disaggregates the numbers of those supported.

Type of actor	Unit	Cumulative total	2020	2021	2022	2023
			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
			Public officials	#	171	15
Civil society representatives	#	333	15	32	208	78
Private sector actors	#	139	0	22	68	49
Private citizens	#	393	0	19	64	310

A Good life Policy Institute and further 2024 activities

Last but not least, the project also developed a proposal for a Good Life Policy Institute emerging from project.

This institute would comprise academics, policy makes and participants from the project countries, and seek to identify how policies be deploys that at the same time improve wellbeing and aim towards a good life while also reducing emissions and increase resilience. The institute will also develop a model to engage students from the humanities, architecture, engineering and the social sciences into the search for the climate solutions which at the same time will lead to a good life withing the LbD public philosophy.

As part of this initiative, the Project has organized a seminar with Corpus Christi College in Cambridge University with academics and researchers following the project findings. The Seminar called The Politics of the Good life will be advanced at the McCrum Lecture Theathre in Corpus Christi College in Canbridge. Participants from the Scotland Process, Country Teams, and other Academics will participate. Previous remote and hybrid meeting with project participants will help prepare and develop further discussion themes in advance.

The success of the project can be seen in the fact that subsequent work under the spinoffs has continued, advanced by members of the scrum, other than country teams and Energeia. This speaks to ownership of the LbD process by scrum members, and of the success of learning and knowledge activities related to the project. Some scrum members have particular expertise in modelling sectoral action, in various ways, and this may also reach out to other strategic thinkers (beyond the excellent scrum members themselves.).