

TRADE HOUSE PAVILION SESSION DETAILS

Host: ITC
Partners: NA
Type: Stakeholders' dialogue
Date and time: 3 December 12 to 1 pm
Contacts: ITC's Trade and Environment Team, environment@intracen.org

Session Title

It is time for action: Putting small business first for a just and inclusive green transition

Themes Type:

2. Using trade for an inclusive and low carbon transition

Session Description

Small businesses make up 90% of businesses and two-thirds of all jobs – making them pillars of their communities and economies, and key drivers of the climate transition. They suffer disproportionately from climate change, especially those led by women, youth and indigenous people. If there is to be a truly Just Transition, that addresses issues of equity, economic development, social and labour inclusion, the voice of small businesses has to be an integral part of trade and climate discussions. Highlighting the role of small businesses and trade in the path towards to sustainable trade they have been doing to make the transition to low-carbon production. To bring reality from the ground into a discussion that can easily become disconnected from reality.

Building a just transition in the context of small business development requires that we look into the realities of local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity.

Speakers and Moderator

Keynote: **Txai Suruí**, Brazilian indigenous, environmental activist

Panel:

- **Pamela Coke-Hamilton**, Executive Director, International Trade Centre (ITC)
- **Celeste Drake**, Deputy-Director General, International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- **Ali Sarfraz Hussain**, Ambassador/ Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the WTO
- **Rayana Edwards**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Sari for Change, South Africa

Moderator: **Victor Menotti**, Senior Fellow, Oakland Institute & Interim US Coordinator, Global Campaign to Demand Climate Justice (DCJ)