**MEDIA BRIEFING INVITATION:**

 11 November 2021

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 **CLOSING THE CORPORATE 1.5 AMBITION – JUST TRANSITION ASSESSMENT 2021**

*On 10 November 2021 at 11:00 GMT the* [*African Climate Foundation*](https://africanclimatefoundation.org/strategic-framework-2021-2025/) *(ACF) and the* [*World Benchmarking Alliance*](https://www.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org/) *(WBA) has the pleasure to invite you to attend a COP26 virtual media briefing – drawing attention to the findings of the recently launched* [*World Benchmarking Alliance Just Transition Assessment Report*](https://www.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org/research/2021-just-transition-assessment/)*. Register* [*here*](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Oxj0wr9ESc6xnrLyFWmmdQ)*.*The abovementioned report assessed 180 globally influential companies on their role to respect workers’ rights, communities and the most vulnerable as they work towards low-carbon goals, covering oil and gas companies from related sectors. From an economic and social perspective, the reliance of countries on fossil fuels has the potential to ignite or hamper the transition to a low carbon future.

 WBA key findings, in short include

1. **LACK OF ACTION:** Assessment of company contributions to a just transition shows a striking and systemic lack of action by high-emitting companies to identify, prepare for and mitigate the social impacts of their low-carbon strategies (only 9 out of 180 companies assessed score above 50%).
2. **PEOPLE AT RISK:** At present only 2 of 180 companies assessed meet all the fundamentals for just transition planning.
3. **STRANDED WORKFORCE:** Only 23% of the assessed companies have a public commitment to reskill or upskill workers displaced by the low-carbon transition.
4. **HUMAN RIGHTS:** The 180 companies assessed employ around 11.5 million people and millions more in their supply chains are likely to be affected because of their low-carbon transition plans.
5. **UNUSED INFLUENCE:** None of the 180 companies were found to meet all four fundamentals of social protection and social impact management for a just transition.

Drawing on the just transition process in South Africa and developments around the just transition framework led by the [Presidential Climate Commission](https://www.climatecommission.org.za/), this media briefing aims to showcase a real-world example that can be used to engage with decarbonisation policies both regionally and globally. As the COP Presidency moves from Scotland to Africa, the just transition debate must be at the core of political COP negotiations to raise Africa’s ambition.

The media briefing will also focus on the following key highlights:

* Closing the corporate 1.5 ambition and performance gap in the low-carbon transition
* Corporate accountability and influence in a just transition
* Why the African continent important in this regard? Looking ahead to COP27

The speaker line-up will include:

* ***Saliem Fakir,*** *Executive Director,**African Climate Foundation*
* ***Vicky Sins,*** *Climate and Energy Benchmark Lead, World Benchmarking Alliance*
* ***Olumide Abimbola,*** *Executive Director, Africa Policy Research Institute*
* ***Dipak Patel,*** *Head: Climate Finance and Innovation, Presidential Climate Commission*
* ***Moustapha Kamal Gueye,*** *Global Coordinator, Green Jobs, International Labour Organisation\**

Register for the Zoom Webinar briefing here:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_Oxj0wr9ESc6xnrLyFWmmdQ

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For more information kindly connect with:

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