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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto
on behalf of the European Commission
(19.12.2024)

1. In the political guidelines of the Commission for 2024-2029, the Commission President committed to significantly increasing funding for just transition across the next long-term budget and to proposing a more focused, impactful and simpler budget.

2. To further ensure that the transition is just and sustainable, the implementation of the Just Transition Fund¹ in 2021-2027 will need to be further enhanced through reinforcing administrative capacity and ownership at territorial level in a multilevel governance model and with strong partnership. Implementation should be enhanced by taking into account more data, including on demography to enhance policy learning.

These regions are also supported through the Just Transition Platform², which provides a single access point to support and share knowledge on the implementation and impact of the Just Transition Fund, in the context of the transition to a sustainable, climate-neutral and fair economy.

3. The support of the Just Transition Fund is conditional to the effective implementation of a transition process in a specific territory. All activities supported by the Just Transition Fund need to be pursued in full respect of the climate, environmental and social commitments and priorities of the EU. Investments need to be sustainable in the long-term. In addition, investments in regeneration and decontamination of brownfield sites should respect the 'polluter pays' principle.

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/just-transition-fund_en

² https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/funding/just-transition-fund/just-transition-platform_en