



radio
workshop

FACT SHEET

SOCIAL PROTECTION

2024

"Coal mine", Unsplash, Albert Hyseni, 2020

INTRODUCTION

Social protection is an approach or intervention to support people who face different risks and vulnerabilities in their lives. The South African government already offers different social protections to people depending on their needs, including social grants, unemployment insurance, job creation and work programmes, medical services and housing subsidies. Other social protection measures may arise in response to more specific needs and circumstances, such as the temporary relief grants during the COVID-19 pandemic that helped vulnerable families survive in a time of extraordinary disruption.



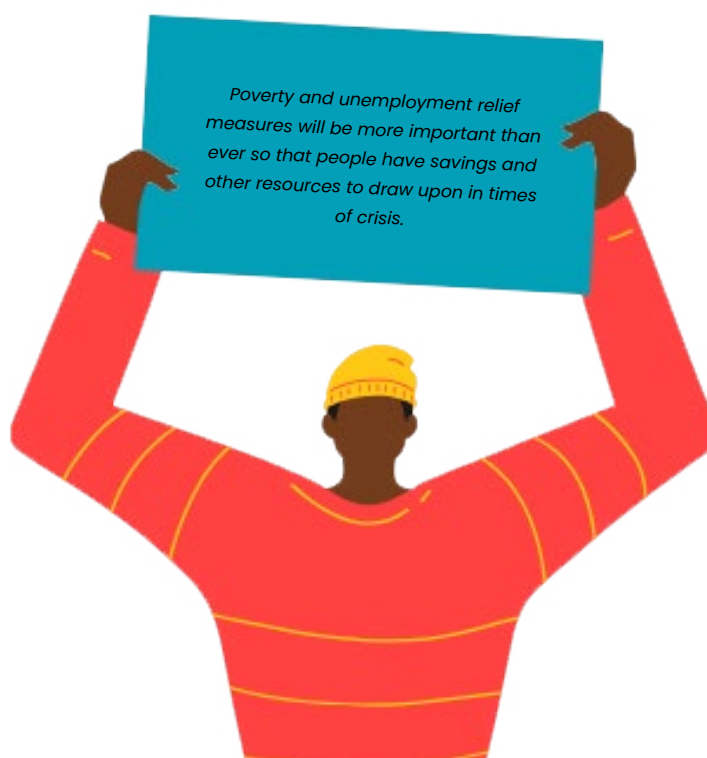
South Africa already faces a triple burden of poverty, high inequality and high unemployment, making the need for and challenges of social protection even greater. As people are exposed to more shocks and stresses from human-caused climate change, they will increasingly need different support systems and safety nets. This will put a huge strain on the government, whose resources and capacities for service delivery are already weakened from years of corruption and other constraints.

The needs are immense, and to many, it is not yet clear how the government plans to support the Just Transition in concrete terms. Thousands of workers retrenched from the coal industry require support to transition to new livelihoods in a Just Transition, including contract workers like cooks and cleaners in the worker hostels who may be falling through the gaps. Thousands more people in different communities and circumstances across South Africa need other kinds of assistance to deal with health problems, disease, and loss of their homes, livelihoods, and businesses due to floods, droughts, fires, and other climate change-related disasters. In 2022, for example, intense coastal flooding in areas of KwaZulu-Natal killed 500 people, destroyed 4,000 homes, and left 45,000 people without their livelihoods, with more than USD \$2 billion worth of damage to businesses and infrastructure like roads, bridges, schools and clinics. Other parts of the country have

been equally crippled by drought and fires.

In some cases, social protections are needed to help prevent disasters or strengthen people's resilience to them. For example, housing upgrades can help protect people living in informal settlements and floodplains from extreme flooding. In other cases, social protections could become necessary as part of the disaster response once a crisis happens.

Different people will need different kinds of social protection, both preventative and responsive, whether in the form of grants, skills development or other relief measures. Children and the elderly may need special healthcare provisions due to the effects of air and water pollution. Or children may need help accessing food when their schools are closed due to natural disasters. Workers who lose jobs will need upskilling and financial assistance as well as new job opportunities. Farmers with a high risk of loss or damage to crops will need affordable insurance.



All this underlines the importance of partnerships between the government, the private sector, NGOs, and communities to help prevent, build resilience, respond to, and recover from different climate disasters. It can take years for people and communities to recover from disasters, and sometimes they don't even have a chance to recover before the next disaster strikes.

A recent report on Just Energy Transition financing found that eMalahleni and other municipalities affected by coal plant closures will need stronger capacities to absorb the funding for a Just Transition and use it effectively. Many municipalities around the country struggle even with basic service delivery like clearing storm drains, filling potholes, and maintaining buildings like clinics that will be more important than ever as climate change bites. Communities will be in a stronger position if they can organise themselves and partner with other community and non-profit groups already working in the area to demand accountability from the government.



GET THE FACTS/BUST THE MYTHS

MYTH

There is no help coming to eMalahleni from the government. We are on our own.

FACT

Policy documents across national, provincial and municipal government call for a range of social protection measures targeted towards meeting the specific needs of different groups of people in a just transition. But so far, it is not clear how these policies translate into actions on the ground. Implementing concrete measures in the communities where they are needed will be a major test of government efficiency.

DID YOU KNOW-

- Women and children are often more vulnerable in disasters. A 2019 study explored the adaptation and vulnerability experiences of women after flooding events in South Africa – finding that girls and women were at risk of increased abuse and discrimination in some instances.
- A study in Indonesia found that cash grants combined with advisory services to vulnerable households in Indonesia helped people to protect their livelihoods and assets and develop greater resilience to climate-related disasters.



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CASE STUDY:

RESPONDING TO THE DURBAN FLOODS

In April 2022, coastal areas of Kwazulu-Natal were inundated with heavy rainfall – more than 300mm of rain fell in less than 24 hours. It was the worst natural disaster in the province's recent history. 500 people were killed, more than 4,000 homes were destroyed, 40,000 people were left homeless and 45,000 people temporarily lost their jobs, with some US \$2 billion in damage to infrastructure and businesses.

Such events show how important it is that communities and the government are better prepared, both in terms of their disaster readiness through efficient service delivery and early warning systems, and in their response to disasters when they arise.

The KZN floods also showed how severe the impacts of disaster can be for those who are already vulnerable. For example, many of those displaced were living in informal settlements prone to flooding and had limited savings or other resources to fall back on. Many women and children especially remained for months in temporary shelters without housing or employment. The lessons showed the importance of tackling many social issues at once in order to increase peoples' resilience to disaster: food security, quality of housing, unemployment and emergency response systems.



"Durban Landscape", Unsplash, Joshua Glass, 2020

RADIO PRODUCTION GUIDE

PREPARING FOR THE SHOW

ANGLES: DIFFERENT WAYS TO TALK ABOUT SOCIAL PROTECTION

- What is social protection?
- Who will be affected by the energy transition?
- What type(s) of social protection might be needed for the energy transition to be more just?



SOCIAL PROTECTION

CHOOSE AN ANGLE

What type(s) of social protection might be needed for the energy transition to be more just?

WAYS TO TALK ABOUT (SUB-ANGLES) “WHAT TYPE(S) OF SOCIAL PROTECTION MIGHT BE NEEDED FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION TO BE MORE JUST?”.

- How will the reduction of coal mining affect my community's economy?
- How will it affect the people of my community?
- What can be the role of the 'Social Dialogue for Just Transition' in my community?
- How will the reduction of coal mining affect the natural environment in my community?
- What will be the consequences of the reduction of coal mining on undocumented migrants and underaged workers in my community who rely on jobs in mining?

FORMATS FOR TELLING THE STORY



AUDIO COMMENTARY



AIM:

This is a way to get people's opinions about a topic they care deeply about. You don't just talk to ordinary members of the community – you choose a person who has first-hand experience of the issue you're exploring.



WHO DO YOU TALK TO?

Anyone in the community that has been thinking deeply about the topic of the energy transition and wants to share their opinion.



EXAMPLES OF QUESTIONS FOR AUDIO COMMENTARY:

Considering all the challenges faced by the community of eMalahleni in the transition away from coal. What type(s) of social protection might be needed for the energy transition to be more just?



VOX POP



AIM:

To get many opinions on one topic.



WHO DO YOU TALK TO?

A large number of community members.



POSSIBLE VOX POP QUESTION FOR THE GENERAL COMMUNITY:

"Who is (or will be) affected by the energy transition away from coal? And in what way?"



INTERVIEW



AIM:

To source information from someone who has expertise or experience in the topic.



WHO DO YOU TALK TO?

- A youth activist in eMalahelni
- A community activist in eMalahelni
- A community development person in eMalahelni



EXAMPLES OF QUESTIONS FOR INTERVIEW:

- How long have you been living in eMalahelni ?
- What do you see as the major challenges of transitioning away from coal?
- In what way can people build resilience in facing this transition?
- (follow up question) What else needs to change?
- What type(s) of social protection might be needed for the energy transition to be more just?
- Who's role is it to build resilience and put social protection safety nets in place.
- (Follow up question) What is the role of Government? What can the community? What can individuals do?



SOCIAL PROTECTION is an approach or intervention to support people who face different risks and vulnerabilities in their lives.

HOW TO PRESENT YOUR SHOW

SAMPLE SCRIPT

[INTRO:]

Host 1: It's just gone [TIME] and you're just in time for the [NAME OF SHOW] on [RADIO STATION]. My name is [NAME].

Host 2: And my name is [NAME]. On today's show, we will be talking about building resilience and what type(s) of social protection might be needed for the energy transition we are facing to be more just?

Host 1: Yes! eMalahleni is facing a lot of change in the coming years, and we need to understand and prepare for it.

Host 2: We want to hear today from community members how the transition away from coal is affecting them.

PLAY VOX POP

Host 1: Let's talk about social protection.

Host 2: *"The South African government already offers different social protections to people depending on their needs, including social grants, unemployment insurance, job creation and work programmes, medical services and housing subsidies. They offered*

temporary relief grants during the COVID-19 pandemic" (fact sheet).

Host 1: The needs are immense in South Africa and as we have heard the transition away from coal will bring further hardships. *"Thousands of workers retrenched from the coal value chain require support to transition to new livelihoods in a just transition. And people will also be exposed to more shocks and stresses from human-caused climate change, they will increasingly need different support systems and safety nets. This will put a huge strain on the government, whose resources and capacities for service delivery are already weakened from years of corruption and capacity constraints."* (fact sheet).

Host 2: We spoke to [name of person that did audio-profile], working in Emalaheni for [number of years] to understand his experience of the new challenges emerging from the energy transition away from coal in Emalaheni, and how they are currently being addressed?

PLAY AUDIO-PROFILE

Host 2: [Comments on the audio-profile to provide closure and transition]

Use your produced radio features, your research and the suggested script and questions to write your own script.

Host 1: "Different people will need different kinds of social protection, both preventative and responsive, whether in the form of grants, skills development or other relief measures. Children and the elderly may need special provisions". (fact sheet)

Host 2: "Workers who lose jobs will need upskilling and financial assistance as well as new job opportunities. Poverty and unemployment relief measures will be more important than ever so that people have resources to draw upon in times of crisis."

Host 1: Considering all the challenges faced by the community of eMalahleni in the transition away from coal. We asked **[name person that did audio-commentary + short intro to who he/she is]** what type(s) of social protection might be needed for the energy transition to be more just?

PLAY AUDIO –COMMENTARY

Host 2: **[Comments on the audio-profile to provide closure and transition]**

Host 1: "Policy documents across the levels of national, provincial and municipal government call for a range of social protection

measures targeted towards meeting the specific needs of different groups of people in a just transition. But so far, it is not clear how these policies translate into actions on the ground."

Host 1: It makes me wonder what can we do at an individual and community level?

Host 2: We asked some of these question to **[name person that did interview + introduction to who they are]**.

PLAY INTERVIEW

(if live you can do it in studio)

Host 1: **[Comments on the audio-profile to provide closure and transition]**

Host 2: Let's hear now from our listeners... **[share ways in which they can comment and participate in the show]**

HOW TO PRESENT YOUR SHOW

SAMPLE SCRIPT

OPEN LINES FOR LISTENERS WEEDBACK

Host 1: Yes, that if the topic for many conversations and shows! But remember, we are all in this together!

[OUTRO:]

Host 2: Please send us your thoughts, ideas, and feedback and add your voice to the conversation

on **[add all ways listners can engage : Call, SMS, WhatsApp, Social media....]**

Thank you to everyone who called in and shared! But now it's time for us to go. Catch us next week on **[DAY]** at **[TIME]** where we'll be talking all about **[NEXT WEEK'S SHOW TOPIC]**. Until then, it's bye from us!

SAMPLE SHOW OUTLINE

General Intro
Intro Vox Pop
Vox Pop
Outro Vox Pop
Music transition
Intro audio profile
Audio audio profile
Outro audio profile
Music transition & jingle
Intro audio commentary
Audio commentary
Outro audio commentary
Intro interview
Audio interview
Outro interview
Music transition & jingle
General outro
Music end