



GLOBAL  
ACCELERATOR

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions?

The Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions was launched in September 2021 by the UN Secretary-General and promotes a job-rich recovery, as well as just ecological, technological, and societal transitions to more sustainable and inclusive economies and societies. Three complementary and mutually supportive areas of work are envisaged under the Global Accelerator:

1. the in-country development of **integrated and coordinated employment and social protection policies and strategies** that facilitate just transitions.
2. the **establishment of integrated national financing frameworks** and the mobilization of public and private domestic and international resources to invest in universal social protection and inclusive, environment- and gender-responsive employment interventions with a view to creating quality jobs; and
3. the **improvement of multilateral cooperation** on jobs and social protection for just transitions, including with international financial institutions.

The Global Accelerator will be implemented in a number of pathfinder countries where there is considerable potential to amplify investments in jobs and social protection for just transitions and where there is a high-level commitment to do so.

### What is the purpose of the Global Accelerator?

The three interlinked pillars aim to increase the level and coordination of the multilateral system's efforts to help countries create at least 400 million decent jobs, including in the green, digital and care economies, and to extend social protection coverage to the 4 billion people currently excluded. A joined-up effort of this scale and nature is critically needed to eradicate poverty

and reduce inequalities, and thus pave the way for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

### How is the Global Accelerator different from other initiatives?

The Global Accelerator leverages a global joint commitment and a shared vision from the UN system, the World Bank, DFIs, development partners, the private sector, employers, and workers' organizations, to support pathfinder countries accelerate their reforms towards the creation of decent jobs and universal social protection for just transitions, in line with national priorities and development plans. This commitment and partnership approach is translated and articulated at the country level through a national roadmap, developed on the basis of a co-construction approach. It aims at addressing fragmentation through a more streamlined and coordinated approach among development partners, under a common results framework that is owned by the Government.

### What is required to become a Global Accelerator pathfinder country?

Rapid expansion of social protection and jobs requires cross-sectoral commitment and the highest level of political commitment. Accordingly, to become a pathfinder country requires commitment at a level of government that can ensure this leadership, for example at the presidential or prime ministerial level.

Becoming a **pathfinder country**<sup>1</sup> requires committing to:

- Developing national policies and integrated strategies for just transitions, leading to the creation of green jobs including policies for

---

<sup>1</sup> See Annex I of the Implementation Strategy: <https://www.unglobalaccelerator.org/sites/default/files/2023-06/Global%20Accelerator%20Implementation%20Strategy.pdf>

employment creation, reskilling, social protection, and through social dialogue;

- If not in place, formulating and adopting integrated strategies and policies on social protection and employment, and/or have started their implementation through tripartite social dialogue;
- Creating a dedicated and inter-ministerial initiative or board involving social partners, which has leverage for change;
- A political commitment to increase domestic resources available for social protection and jobs, with a record of extending social protection coverage;
- As relevant, allocating significant ODA to the objectives of the Global Accelerator, either through the thematic window of the Joint SDG Fund or other funding mechanisms;
- Advocating for a stronger multilateral cooperation, notably with international financial institutions, to implement the ambitions of the Global Accelerator (i.e. in the UN, international financial institutions, G20, and other forums).

Through these initiatives, **pathfinder countries** are committed to expanding social protection, creating decent jobs and promoting pathways for just transitions in partnership with UN Agencies, guided by the theory of change and monitoring framework of the Global Accelerator. This can include development and financing of new projects that support the implementation of national roadmaps on jobs and social protection, as well as inclusion of existing projects and adapting approaches where needed.

## What are the advantages of becoming a Global Accelerator pathfinder country?

- 1. On-demand access to dedicated specialised expertise:** Pathfinder countries who want to benefit from the support of the Technical Support Facility (TSF) of the Global Accelerator will have access to a dedicated global, regional, and national hub of experts, specialised in the field of social protection, decent job creation, financing and just transitions. The TSF will provide on-demand technical advisory services, harnessing existing expert hubs and building partnerships with other technical agencies to facilitate the mobilisation of multi-disciplinary expertise and responses. The TSF will provide support to the design of programmes and resource mobilisation and overall technical and management support to the portfolio of projects which will, in turn, support the implementation of the Accelerator at country level.
- 2. Access to new funding opportunities:** The Accelerator will be supported by new funding streams which will provide development cooperation support to implement the national

roadmaps and play a catalytic role in the effectiveness of the relevant national financing strategies. This includes a new Joint SDG Fund Window on Decent Jobs and Universal Social Protection, which should be launched in the last quarter of 2023, as well as additional financial resources provided by other development partners through existing or new funding instruments. It also includes the alignment of ongoing bilateral projects with the Accelerator and their potential replenishment.

- 3. Guidance, tools, and capacity development support for integrated strategies:** The mutually reinforcing effects and virtuous cycle of integrated job creation and social protection strategies is at the heart of the Accelerator's approach. Often there is a lack of awareness and practical knowledge among policymakers, social partners, development and financial partners, UN agencies, and the public of the potential impacts and multiplier effects of well-designed, integrated and adequately financed social protection and employment policies and strategies in line with relevant international standards. The Accelerator proposes to support policy action from several ministries, social partners, and private sector enterprises, with support from the UN and other development agencies. New tools will comprise for instance of integrated diagnostics, expenditure budget reviews, fiscal space analysis, as well as capacity development opportunities.
- 4. Development of integrated financing strategies:** By harnessing Integrated [National Financing Frameworks](#) (INFFs) or supporting the development of financing strategies, the Accelerator will promote public resources by expanding the tax base, actively shaping new fiscal space, as well as mobilizing further Official Development Assistance (ODA) and international support, alongside engagement with providers of private capital, including different types of investors and funds for employment generation. The Accelerator will support the development of coordinated streams of funding and financing (ODA; public resources; loans from MDBs, PDBs; investments from private sector).
- 5. Knowledge sharing** will play a key part in showcasing different country experiences and results; we have much to learn about policies that can integrate employment and social protection, facilitate just transitions and increase domestic resources.

## What is the process for becoming a Global Accelerator pathfinder country?

Some key elements need to be put in place, for a country to become a pathfinder country. The process could be initiated by the Resident Coordinator, members of

UNCTs, or directly by the government. In all cases, the process should be led by governments at the national level in close collaboration with the UN. The following elements are required:

- **Engagement with the TSF:** In countries with interest in exploring becoming a pathfinder country, a discussion should first be initiated with representatives of the TSF at global and country levels and with the Resident Coordinator's office.
- **Pathfinder Criteria:** A general set of criteria for becoming a pathfinder country has been agreed through an extensive inter-agency process overseen by the Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General. These criteria, as outlined above, should be reviewed and discussed with the TSF<sup>2</sup>.
- **Initial country review** should be undertaken to identify priorities through which a country may most effectively achieve results and serve as a reference point for further consultations.
- **Cross-ministerial and national consultations and the roadmap development:** A number of consultations should be organized, with support from the UN. The process would vary by context, but with an objective of developing a national roadmap for the Accelerator. This would include in the following areas with clear leadership:
  - Development of an inter-ministerial coordinating body with high-level leadership if not already in place; Establishment of a high-level inter-ministerial coordination group
  - Constitution of Global Accelerator country team which is composed of Government representatives, UN agencies, development partners, and social partners at the executive or technical level
  - Policy mapping and analysis which includes assessment of existing national policies on jobs and social protection, and identification of existing policy, programme, and financing gaps to expand social protection and create jobs
  - Developing a roadmap to have appropriate policy and programme expansion; an integrated financing strategy or other mechanisms to raise domestic and international resources. The roadmap development process should follow the below steps:
    - Conducting a participatory diagnostic and prioritisation workshop to collect information on existing enablers and disablers for policy reform, promising sectors of the economy, and integrated policy approaches and confirm the entry points and recommendations for the

implementation based on the evidence gathered in the earlier stages

- Participatory development of the roadmap by the GA country team based on the outcomes of the participatory diagnostic workshop,
- Agreement on the roadmap in a validation workshop including government representatives, social partners, CSOs, and all the other relevant stakeholders
- Development of a monitoring and evaluation framework and process to track progress.

---

<sup>2</sup> The set of criteria can be found in the [Implementation Strategy of the Global Accelerator](#).

Find out more:  
<https://www.unglobalaccelerator.org/>

Contact us:  
[contact@unglobalaccelerator.org](mailto:contact@unglobalaccelerator.org)

