

Project title (Acronym)	CARPET: Corporate Accountability, Resilience and Participation for an Equitable Transition https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/from-us/carpet/
LA/CSO (type)	CSO
Implementing Partner(s)	Business and Human Rights Resource Centre (BHRRC)
Country/countries, region	Africa (Kenya and South Africa) and Asia (Indonesia and the Philippines) , and awareness-raising and advocacy activities taking place in Europe , mainly in Brussels.
Budget (specify EU funding amount, if applicable)	The total budget for the Action is € 3,505,263, including € 700,000 (20%) FSTP. Of this, 95% (3,330,000) is funded by DG-INTPA.
Is it a Global Gateway project?	No
Funding modality	Grant
Funding sources	95% EU funding, 5% co-funding from own sources
Implementation period	January 2025 - June 2028
Thematic development area (5 words)	Human Rights and Just Transitions
Short description, including target beneficiaries and their engagement/reactions thus far (300 words)	<p>The CARPET project supports a just and rights-based transition to a green economy in selected countries in Africa and Asia (Indonesia, Philippines, Kenya, and South Africa). Funded under the EU NDICI Global Europe programme (Human Rights and Democracy), the project responds to increasing global demand for transition minerals and renewable energy, which creates both opportunities and risks for human rights and environmental protection.</p> <p>The project aims to ensure that the shift to green economies is not only rapid but also equitable, by embedding human rights, environmental due diligence, and fair economic participation at its core. It focuses on high-risk sectors such as transition mineral mining, renewable energy, agriculture, and textiles, where the risk of social and environmental harm is significant.</p> <p>Target beneficiaries include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rightsholders and local communities (180 direct; 7,000 indirect), particularly those affected by industrial and energy transitions. • Businesses and investors (300 direct; over 5,000 indirectly), whose practices are influenced to align with international human rights standards. • Policy makers (85 direct; 340 indirect), supported to adopt and enforce robust regulatory frameworks. <p>Engagement to date has been strong. Civil society organisations and grassroots groups have shown increasing capacity and willingness to engage in dialogue, advocacy, and negotiation processes, including access to remedy and strategic litigation. Policymakers in target countries demonstrate growing openness to strengthening regulatory frameworks aligned with international standards such as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and</p>

	<p>Human Rights and the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive. Businesses are increasingly recognising the value of responsible practices and multi-stakeholder engagement to build trust and ensure long-term sustainability.</p> <p>Overall, the CARPET project builds a foundation for more accountable business conduct and inclusive green transitions that deliver shared prosperity and protect human rights.</p>
<p>Lessons learnt, key messages and results relevant for future EU programming (300 words)</p>	<p>The CARPET project highlights several critical lessons for future EU programming on just transition and business and human rights.</p> <p>First, capacity gaps among civil society and grassroots actors remain a major constraint, but targeted, sustained support can significantly strengthen their ability to participate in decision-making, negotiate with companies, and access remedy mechanisms. Early investment in capacity-building is therefore essential to ensure meaningful participation rather than symbolic inclusion.</p> <p>Second, multi-stakeholder engagement is key but requires deliberate facilitation. Building trust between rightsholders, businesses, and policymakers takes time and tailored approaches. Structured dialogue platforms, combined with clear accountability mechanisms, are crucial for translating engagement into concrete changes in business practices and policy frameworks.</p> <p>Third, operating in high-risk sectors and emerging green (transition) industries demands adaptive programming. Contexts such as transition mineral mining and renewable energy are rapidly evolving, with new actors and power dynamics. Flexibility in implementation and strong local partnerships are necessary to respond effectively to these changes.</p> <p>A central message is that a fast transition cannot succeed without being a fair transition. Embedding human rights and environmental due diligence, aligned with frameworks such as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, is essential to prevent the replication of past harms in new green value chains.</p> <p>For future EU programming, the CARPET project demonstrates the importance of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrating grassroots-led approaches as core, not peripheral, components; • Combining community empowerment, policy advocacy, private sector engagement, and community

	<p>empowerment within a single intervention;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocating sufficient resources for sub-granting mechanisms (FSTP) to reach local actors directly; • Ensuring coherence between EU external actions and regulatory frameworks. <p>Overall, EU programmes can maximise impact by prioritising inclusive, rights-based approaches that link local realities with global policy developments and corporate accountability standards.</p>
<p>Replicability (100 words)</p>	<p>CARPET demonstrates that meaningful progress towards a just transition requires sustained investment in grassroots capacity and participation, enabling rightsholders to engage effectively with businesses and policymakers.</p> <p>Multi-stakeholder engagement is essential but must be structured and trust-based to deliver concrete outcomes. Operating in high-risk and fast-evolving sectors highlights the need for flexible, context-responsive programming.</p> <p>A key lesson is that green transitions must embed human rights and due diligence from the outset.</p>