

5, 6, 7, 8. 'Green' and 'Fair' Industrial Policy in the Global South

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Summary

The Transnational Institute (TNI) will produce three studies in different regions of the Global South: Southern Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The three case studies will be integrated into a report on the prospects and challenges of green industrial policy in the Global South. One key focus of the report will be the European Union's trade, investment, and energy strategies for its engagement with other regions of the world.

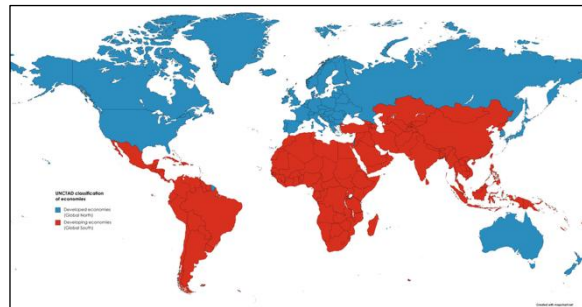
These case studies will integrate innovative theoretical insights, empirical evidence, and practical guidance for the implementation of green and fair transformative policies

worldwide by partnering with research organisations in Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, and South and Eastern Europe. In the context of its research plan for these studies, TNI has organised a series of regional workshops and seminars in Rio de Janeiro, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Bangkok between October 2024 and May 2025. The ongoing research takes place in the framework of the recently launched TNI’s Global Green Industrial Policy Lab (GGIPL), which has been conceived as an open, collaborative and non-extractive platform for knowledge production that will connect researchers, progressive government officials, trade unionists and civil society activists to work together to improve the design and implementation of democratic, ecological and just industrial policies in Europe and the Global South.

Drawing from the GreenPaths analytical framework, TNI and GreenPaths’s supporting partners will investigate the *economic and social impacts* of EU interventions on the prospects for *industrial policy* in the Global South. The case studies will pay particular attention to *governance/policies* and *labour*. The GreenPaths main project-level concept that informs these case studies is *sustainable growth*.

Key data points

- The climate crisis and ecological breakdown require a fundamental transformation of the current economic system, particularly in countries that are still building their industrial base. However, most recent research and policy design on (re)industrialisation primarily focuses on the advanced economies of Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific, leaving a significant gap in understanding how the needed transformations can be achieved in Global South contexts.
- Recent policy initiatives such as the Inflation Reduction Act in the United States and the Green Deal Industrial Plan in the European Union, as well as the rise of China as a global manufacturing powerhouse and the prospects of new and more impactful trade wars, have reignited interest in industrial policy all over the world. These frameworks, however, do not translate well to African, Asian and Latin American national contexts.
- Policymakers and practitioners in the Global South face immediate pressures to design and implement industrial policies that can simultaneously address climate change, create decent jobs, reduce poverty, and build endogenous technological capabilities.



According to UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Global South broadly comprises Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia (excluding high-income countries such as Israel, Japan, and South Korea, among others), and Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand).