

## WHAT IS THE MAIN GREEN ECONOMY ISSUE THAT WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON IN SOUTH AFRICA?

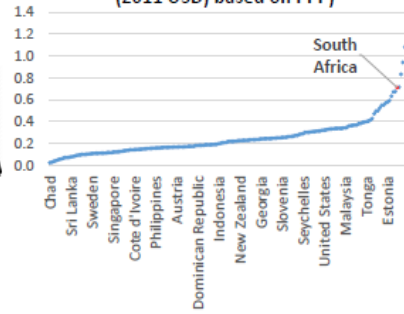
South Africa is one the most carbon-intensive economies in the world



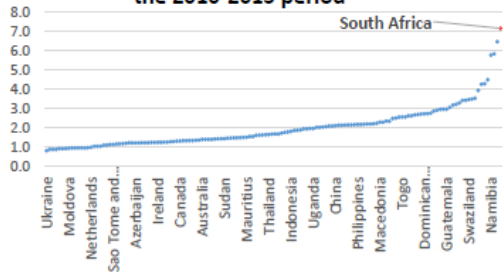
This is essentially due to the electricity system, which relies for 90% on coal



Carbon intensity in 2013 (in kgCO<sub>2</sub>e per GDP (2011 USD) based on PPP)



Palma ratio per country over the 2010-2015 period

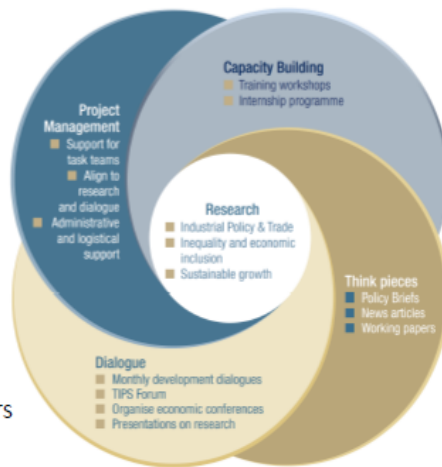


At the same time, South Africa is known as *the* most unequal society worldwide

As the country engages in a transition away from coal (to an inclusive green economy), the need for a Just Transition is paramount

## WHAT WORK HAVE WE DONE WITH MSMEs? AND WHAT IS HAPPENING AS A RESULT?

- Assessing the vulnerability of the South African economy and society
- Shaping the understanding of the Just Transition
- Developing resilience plans
- Investigating new opportunities for MSMEs
- Shaping public policies in support of an inclusive green economy
- Engaging vulnerable stakeholders (low-income communities, small businesses, workers), big business, and policymakers
- Disseminating our work in the media and to key stakeholders

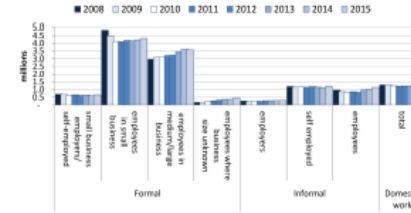


## WHAT IS THE ROLE AND STATUS OF MSMEs IN SOUTH AFRICA'S GREEN ECONOMY TRANSITION?

Small businesses are the primary employment creator

Earnings from small businesses lift people out of poverty

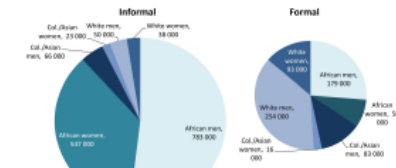
Private employment by sector and size of enterprise from 2008 to 2015 in South Africa



Small businesses contribute to intergenerational upliftment

Small business drive innovation

Formal and informal small business by gender and race in 2015 in South Africa



Small businesses play an even more important role in a green economy.

They contribute to

- greater inclusion and the reduction of inequality
- economic empowerment
- community and rural development
- the development social and green businesses



## WHAT POLICY CHANGES AND INVESTMENTS DO MSMEs SEEK IN SOUTH AFRICA?

- **Voice:** providing a voice to MSMEs by ensuring their meaningful participation in policy- and decision-making processes and their inclusion in public policy
- **Policy coherence:** recognising and enabling MSMEs through a smart regulatory and policy environment, particularly through a 'do no harm' attitude, the introduction of a simple legal form for social enterprises of all sizes and support for the self-organisation of informal and small businesses;
- **MSME networks:** actively assisting MSMEs, by supporting networks aimed at fostering learning and knowledge sharing in a non-competitive environment and providing training in business development
- **Markets & support:** opening the market space for MSMEs by championing their potential, and supporting the creation of market through procurement, promotion schemes, certification, eco-labelling, and reward mechanisms for green small businesses.

