JTP Peers Experts

FAQ (FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS)

JTPeers Experts
Frequently Asked Questions

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Disclaimers

The information provided in the application form will be considered sensitive and confidential. Personal data will be processed in line with the applicable law on data protection in the European Union.

The JTPeers team reserves the right to adjust the timing of the delivery of support to selected beneficiaries to facilitate the workflow and the allocation of resources.

The JTPeers team reserves the right to follow-up with applicants to request specific clarifications on the application content.

JTPeers Experts

This FAQ document is about the Call for JTPeers Experts, an expert database where professionals, researchers and practitioners in just transition can be enlisted to offer their expertise to JTF regions.

Eligibility of applicants to JTPeers Experts

1. **Who can apply** *to be included into the JTPeers Experts Database?*
   Any individual who possesses specialised knowledge, skills, and practical experience related to just transition processes, can apply.
   We particularly encourage persons from public authorities, civil society, the private sector, and academia actively involved in the preparation and/or implementation of the Territorial Just Transition Plans (TJTPs) of eligible [Just Transitions Fund (JTF) territories within EU Member States](#).

2. *Do JTPeers Experts applicants need to be* **located within those defined JTF territories***?*
   Although we give preference to experts with direct experience in JTF territories within EU Member States, we still encourage individuals with expertise in just transition-related topics from outside these territories to apply as their expertise can be valuable assets for JTF regions.

3. *Are there* **any language requirements***?*
   Applicants to JTPeers Experts need a minimum English proficiency level of C1 or above for effective communication. They can demonstrate their proficiency through relevant work or study experiences in international environments on their CV. Other language abilities, including EU official languages, can be considered as an asset on a case-by-case basis. The default minimum language requirement is C1-level English.

Content within the application form for JTPeers Experts

4. *What are the most* **valuable skillsets** *that experts applying to JTPeers Experts should possess?*
   Support is given via the JTF to address the social, employment, economic and environmental impacts of the EU's transition to climate-neutrality. Therefore, priority expertise needed for the implementation of the JTF includes:

   - Project identification and development (e.g., pipelines, selection procedures, attracting private investors, state-aid issues);

   - Capacity building for regional and local administrations, key stakeholders, technical staff and policymakers;

   - Awareness-raising campaigns and improved communication on the ground;

   - Mobilisation of specific stakeholder groups to support project development and implementation at the local level;

   - Assistance in establishing a transparent, inclusive, and efficient governance mechanism for TJTP implementation;

- Support for cooperation across borders with other JTF territories, if needed for project development or TJTP implementation;

- Development or refinement of strategic documents in support of specific just transition processes.

5. *What types of **topic expertise** are considered valuable assets for JTPeers Experts?*
JTPeers Experts applicants should demonstrate expertise in one or more relevant fields. Examples include:

- Upskilling and reskilling of workers and jobseekers, vocational training, lifelong learning and formal education;

- Green economic diversification and the creation of new jobs/firms, including enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs, developing more sustainable revenue streams, supporting start-ups and establishing business incubators;

- Job-search assistance and active inclusion of jobseekers;

- Circular economy, including waste prevention, reduction, resource efficiency, reuse, repair and recycling;

- Clean and affordable energy, including the transfer and deployment of advanced technologies and infrastructures for greenhouse gas emission reduction, renewables, energy efficiency, energy storage, (district) heating & cooling, smart energy solutions and energy poverty reduction;

- Decarbonisation of industry, including smart and sustainable mobility, decarbonising transport, emission reductions and ETS activities;

- Regeneration and decontamination of brownfields, land restoration, nature-based solutions and site repurposing for new (sustainable) socio-economic activities;

- Research and innovation;

- Digitalisation, digital innovation and digital connectivity;

- Social inclusion, public participation and policies aimed at alleviating the transition process for communities, including the gender dimension.

Inclusion Guidelines for the JTPeers Experts Database

6. *Will inclusion in the JTPeers Experts database **guarantee participation in specific JTP activities**?*
No, inclusion in the JTPeers Experts database doesn't guarantee participation in specific JTP activities. Invitations are at the discretion of the JTP and the European Commission.

7. *Does inclusion in the JTPeers Experts database offer **financial support** from the European Commission?*
No, inclusion in the JTPeers Experts database doesn't guarantee financial support. Participation in JTP activities may or may not involve compensation, depending on JTP and the European Commission's decisions.

8. *Will selection for the JTPeers Experts database mean **an official endorsement** from the European Commission?*
   No, being selected for the JTPeers Experts database doesn't imply an official endorsement by the European Commission or JTP. The responsibility for vetting lies with those seeking expert services.

9. *How can individuals or organizations **contact a specific expert** listed in the database?*
   To contact a specific expert listed in the database, individuals or organisations can use the provided contact form. They need to fill in their contact details, briefly explain the purpose of their contact, and send an email directly to the expert. The JTPeers support team receives a notification of the contact, but the communication remains between the interested parties. In some cases, however, facilitators may follow-up on the contact requests to assist in establishing communication between the parties involved.
   Please note that experts have no obligation to respond or offer support. However, the database's main purpose is to facilitate connections and collaborations between experts and stakeholders for JTF-related projects and consultancy services. Being part of the database should encourage experts to respond to meaningful requests and offer their services and support.

Personal data and information

10. *Which content provided during the JTPeers Experts application process will be **visible to the public**?*
    - Your full name, your profile picture, your just transition skillsets, topic expertise, your spoken languages, your country of residence, and the territorial experience you have acquired. If you would like to include links to your LinkedIn or ResearchGate profiles, that is possible, but not a requirement.
    - The JTPeers Experts team will contact you before publishing any information about you online.

11. How can you request an **update to the information or personal data** that you have provided to be displayed publicly on the database?
    - If you would like to request changes to the publicly displayed information about you, i.e. if you would like to add a new publication, or you would like to update personal data, you can do so by sending an email to JTPeers@justtransitionplatform.eu. In your email, please indicate the changes as explicit as possible.

12. *How long will an **expert's profile be visible** on the website and how can it be withdrawn?*
    - A selected JTPeers Expert's profile is meant to stay within the database for the entire duration of the JTP, unless withdrawn by your request, and occasional updates may be coordinated by the JTPeers team.

Procedures for submitting the JTPeers Experts application form

13. *When is the **deadline for submitting** an eligible application form to the JTPeers Experts database?*

- All applications for the JTPeers Experts database must be submitted by 29 September 2023 at 23:00 CEST via the JTPeers Experts EU survey form
- It is highly recommended to submit your application form well ahead of the deadline to ensure no technical problems arise in the process.
- PDF versions are available for download here, but are only meant to serve as a convenient offline document to facilitate your application process, and are not valid as official applications.
- For any technical difficulties, please contact us directly and in a timely manner: JTPeers@justtransitionplatform.eu.

14. *Is it possible to **save my work in progress** within EU-Survey?*

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Save as Draft

- Yes, there should be a button on the right side of the screen that saves your indicated answers up to that point. Instructions then follow about how to re-access your provided content.
- Nonetheless, it is still highly recommended to save your own text answers within a separate file of your own as a precaution in case you cannot access your draft.
- Please note that using EU-Survey's "Save as Draft" feature is not the same as submitting it. An application which is only saved will neither be automatically transferred to our servers, nor be considered an eligible application until it has been properly submitted.

15. *Are **letters of support** required as part of the JTPeers Experts application process?*
- No, though you may choose to indicate any political support or commitment behind your application.

16. *Can a particular applicant **submit more than one application to JTPeers Experts**?*
- No. We can only accept a single submitted application from each applicant for JTPeers Experts. If we have multiple submissions in our system, we will not evaluate them.

Next steps after JTPeers Experts submissions

17. *What are the **next steps after submitting** an application for the JTPeers Experts database?*
The JTPeers team will pre-assess all submissions for eligibility and quality. In some cases, applicants may be contacted for clarification.
- Final evaluations will be conducted by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy.
- If selected, you will need to sign a data protection and confidentiality agreement. You will also be asked to provide a brief profile summary highlighting your main field experience and relevant expertise, which will be published within the online JTPeers Experts database after approval.

18. *Which **evaluation criteria** are being used?*

- Evaluation criteria ensure comparable assessments for all applications. Only applicants whose work experience is aligned with just transition goals and strong potential to support JTF regions will be selected and invited by the European Commission and JTPeers team.
- Applicants will be assessed based on their potential contribution to effective TJTP implementation in relevant JTF territories and their relevance to various stakeholders benefiting from the JTF.
- The evaluation focuses on relevant just transition expertise, a minimum of three years of work experience, and language skills (English at C1 level and any other languages). Alignment with JTF/TJTP objectives and potential added value to JTF territories will also be considered. Priority may be given to applicants with legal ability to work in the EU and intimate experience within specific JTF territories.

19. *Is it possible to **withdraw** my application for the JTPeers Experts database?*
- Yes, you may withdraw your JTPeers Experts submission at any time.
- For any further questions about withdrawing from JTPeers Experts, please contact us via email: JTPeers@justtransitionplatform.eu

20. *Which advice do you have for **answering questions** on the JTPeers Experts form?*
- All answers should be clear, demonstrate strong logic and provide us (only) those details that are needed to understand your context as concisely as possible.
- Please indicate "not applicable" if there is no valid response in your case.