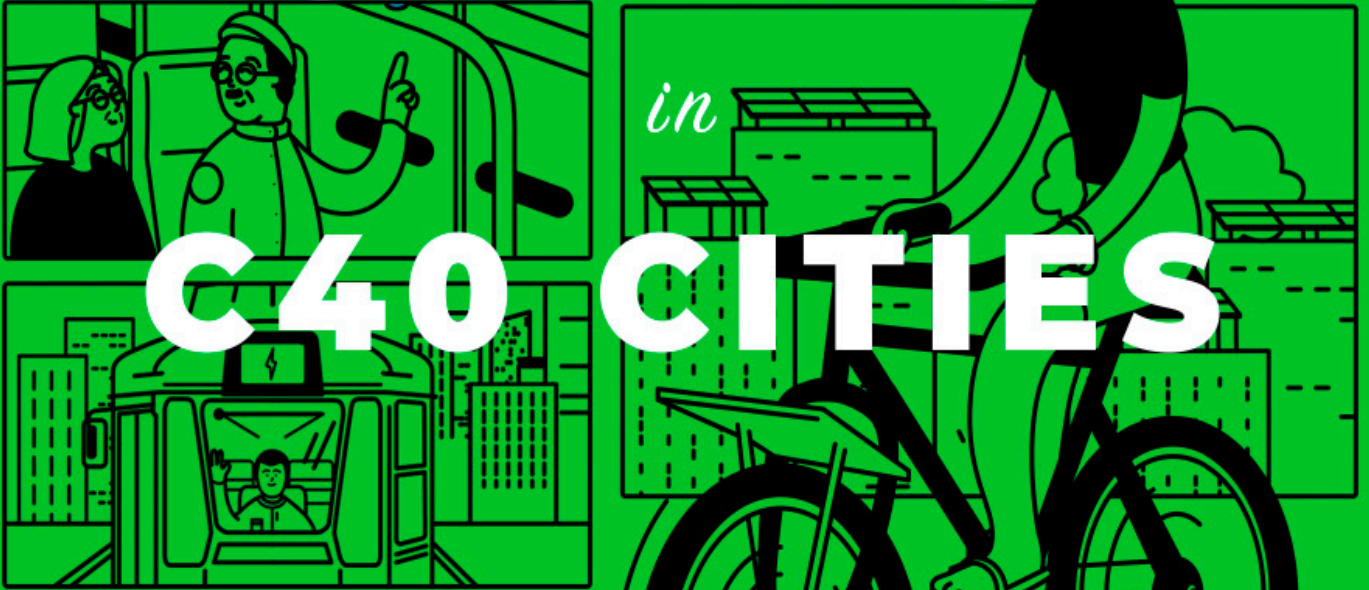


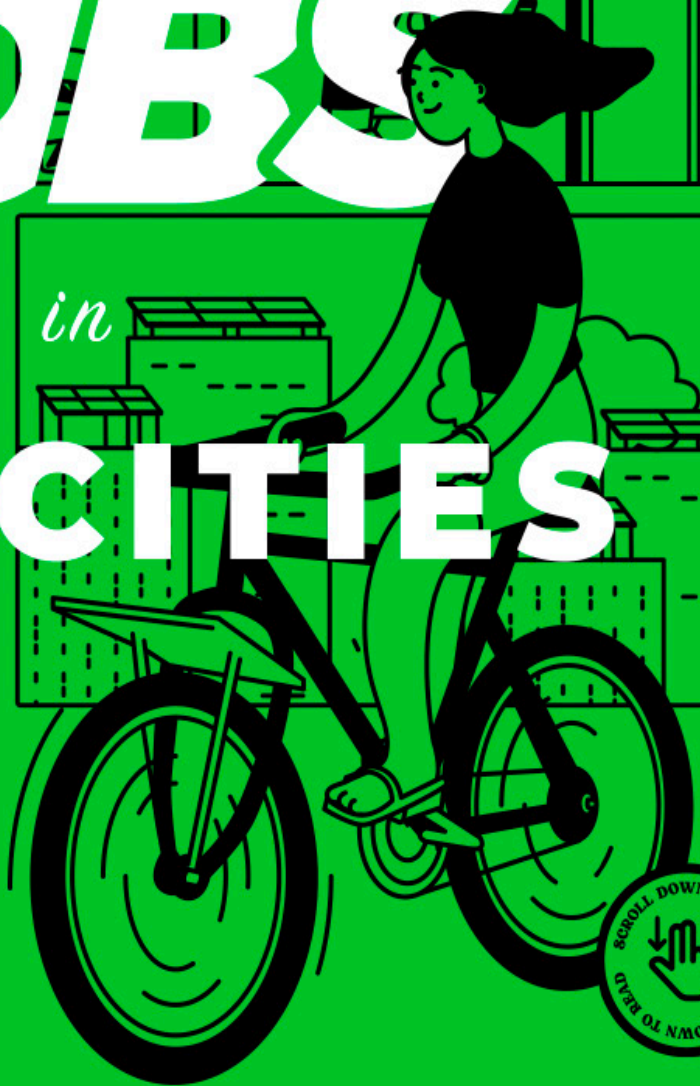
GLOBAL GOOD

GREEN JOBS



in

C40 CITIES



Nearly 16 million green jobs exist across global megacities, as investment in climate action pays off

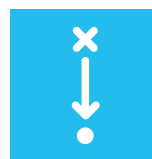
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June 2024

C40 Cities has unveiled the results of the world's widest analysis of green jobs across global megacities.

The conclusion: Investing in a just transition to clean and affordable energy is paying off, as it is driving transformative change way beyond city limits, creating green jobs and accelerating a just transition away from fossil fuels.

The first-of-its-kind analysis of green jobs in 74 global cities on five continents revealed that of the more than **168 million** jobs captured overall, nearly **16 million** can be classified as green jobs — this is around **10%** of total jobs. This includes nearly **10 million** direct green jobs and nearly **6 million** indirect green jobs — a clear indication that in addition to creating direct green jobs, green investments are also increasing demand for materials and inputs, increasing jobs in [supplier industries](#).

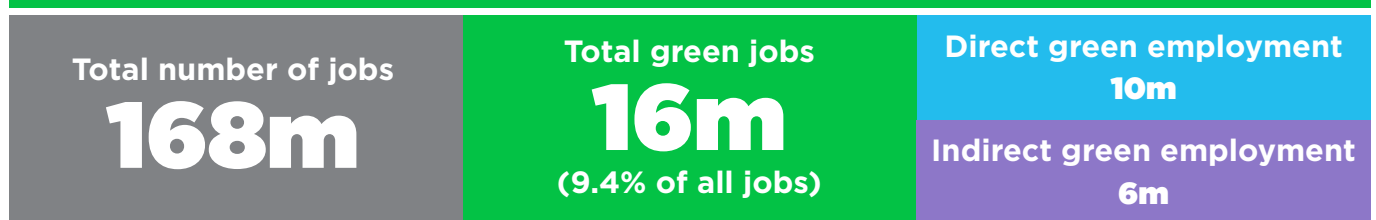


Direct green jobs produce the goods and services needed for the green economy, eg. in waste collection, recycling or the repair sector.



Indirect green jobs produce all other goods and services needed by workers with direct green jobs, e.g. in supply chains or education.

Distribution of Green jobs in global megacities Direct and indirect green jobs in 74 C40 member cities



Source: Publicly available data (2019-2022) compiled by Circle Economy for C40 Cities

While jobs can and will be created as a result of greening key sectors and moving away from fossil fuels, it is imperative that cities also ensure a just transition for those affected by the phase out.

[Ensuring a just transition](#) that is fair to workers is an opportunity to achieve decarbonisation at the rapid pace needed, and cities are already taking action. It must be deliberate and well planned through policies and participatory governance

to ensure that those most impacted – workers, unions, and communities – have access to good, green jobs and skills, and can actively shape the decision-making process. Investments in training will be critical to prevent job displacement and ensure workers are equipped with the transferrable skills needed for green jobs. These actions must also be complemented with social protection measures to safeguard people from adverse impacts of the transition. [Find out more here.](#)

Green jobs are high in sectors that are strongly influenced by local public policy measures, including transport and waste management.

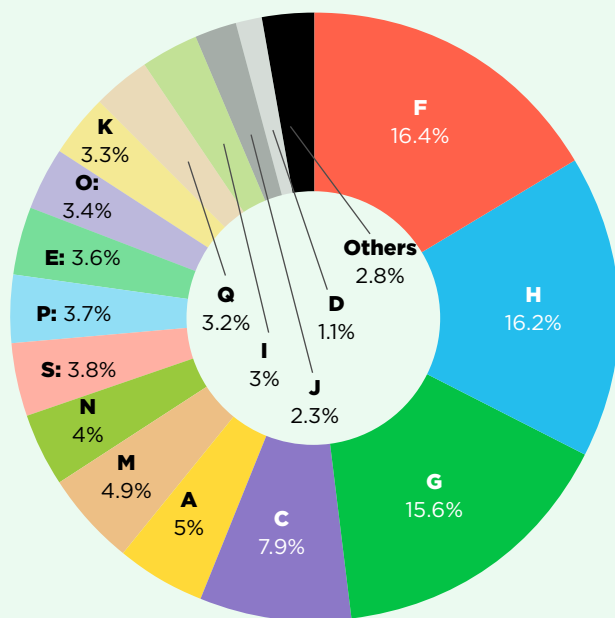
Sectors that are already more than 25% green include:

- Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
- Transportation and storage
- Electricity generation, steam and air conditioning supply
- Construction and Buildings

Encouraging signs were found in the electricity and energy sectors: 30% of the jobs in the generation, distribution and supply of electricity were found to be

green, between direct and indirect jobs, amounting to around 180,000 jobs in the 74 cities analysed.

Distribution of green jobs across sectors of the economy
Direct and indirect green jobs in 74 C40 member cities



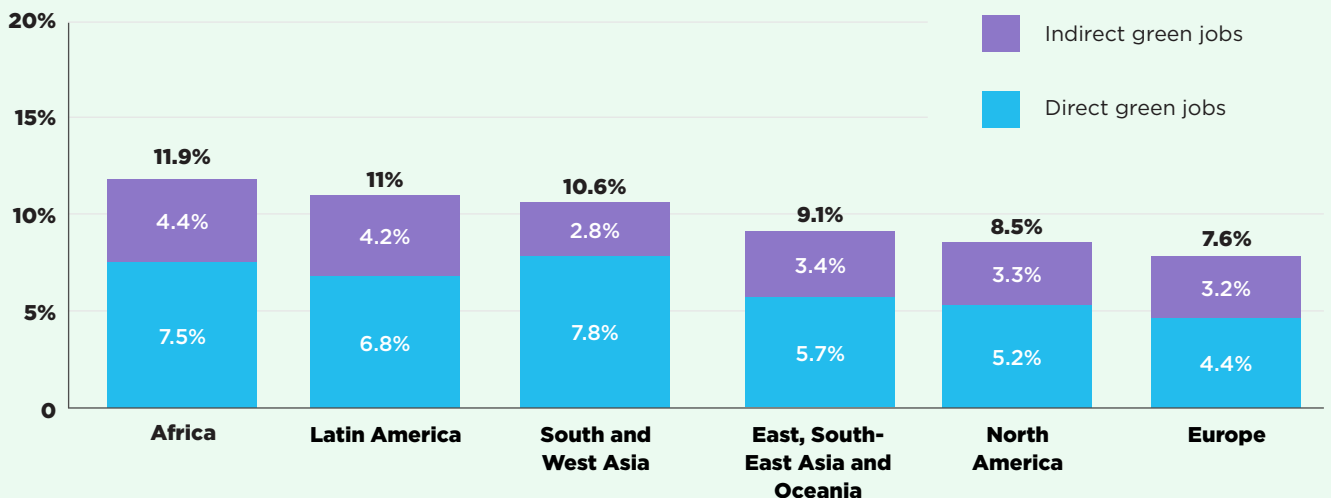
This chart represents how green jobs distribute across the sectors of the economy studied (for example, 16.4% of the total green jobs in these cities come from the Construction sector).

Note
 Graph includes data for 74 cities, date ranging from 2019-2022. For visibility purposes, 'Others' includes all other employment sectors (from the ISIC-4 classification).

Source: Publicly available data (2019-2022) compiled by Circle Economy for C40 Cities.

Green jobs share per region

Share of direct and indirect green jobs across 74 C40 member cities



Source: Publicly available employment data (2019-2022) compiled by Circle Economy for C40 Cities

Cities with more than 20% of total green jobs include Freetown, Nairobi, Accra, Lima and Bangkok.

It's important to bear in mind that [more than 50% of jobs](#) in many Global South countries are in informal sectors and this may not be captured in official statistics. Many urban jobs in sectors like health or care are under-recognised as jobs that are essential to support a green economy.

Job distribution and equity

Many green jobs exist in industries such as transport, construction, energy and others that are transitioning. In this transition to the green economy it is important to **ensure that workforce development and just transition policies are implemented in ways that guarantee that these jobs are good quality jobs with decent working conditions**, inclusive and accessible to all.

For example, for the countries where data was available for industries that are currently moving to a green economy, we

see that women occupy less than 10% of the jobs in the construction sector, and around 12% of the jobs in the transport and storage sector, on average. Similarly, young workers (under 24) occupy around 12% of the jobs in the construction sector, and 10% of the jobs in the transport and storage sector, on average. As sectors that are large employers across all regions, and with a great green job creation potential, the green transition also presents an opportunity to address existing inequalities and create more diverse and inclusive workforces.

Study methodology

The research was conducted by [C40 Cities](#) and [Circle Economy](#). The [methodology](#) to analyse green jobs in cities was adapted from a methodology developed previously by Circle Economy using [International Labor Organization](#) (ILO) definitions and in partnership with the [United Nations Environment Programme](#) (UNEP) to measure circular jobs, aligned with C40's definition of [good, green jobs](#), as follows:

- New green jobs or existing jobs transformed into green ones and sustained by transformative climate action
- Jobs that enhance our health and well-being, preserve or restore the environment, and help to limit greenhouse gas emissions
- Jobs that occur across a range of urban sectors, including construction, transport, energy, resiliency, health care and more
- Good quality jobs for sustainable economies, aiming to provide living wages and safe and stable working conditions

The analysis focused on C40 member cities with available employment sub-sectoral data: 74 cities across 5 continents. Data sources include publicly available city data and nationally available data down-scaled to the city level.

Cities and local governments often have limited capacity to document and measure jobs over time and in some cases depend

on national statistical data collection and support from international organisations. More capacity for local data collection, disaggregation and monitoring is needed across many regions to also capture informal sector jobs that are a key source of livelihoods for many people.

The methodology was initially tested with a subgroup of 10 cities across regions, and reviewed by external experts.

Next steps

This research is part of an effort by C40 Cities to develop an open, universal and replicable methodology to measure green jobs in all sectors of the economy across its network of nearly 100 cities. C40 plans to expand its research to more cities and track data across time.

No universally accepted definition of green jobs exists, with descriptions varying widely in scope, industry focus, skill sets included and/or basis on local and regional context.

While it is not the aim of our analysis, it can help to build consensus on how to define green jobs.

For more information on C40's work on good green jobs visit our dedicated [website](#).



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