RESET Network FY 2025 Report

Overview

This report presents a summary of activities, outputs, and expenditure for the RESET Network over the financial year ending 30 September 2025. It includes projects that have been funded directly or leveraged by the Iles gift to the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). The report is organized as follows:

- Background information
- Highlights from the past year
- Progress under the work plan
- Financial report
- List of funded or leveraged projects.

Background information

The RESET Network brings together researchers and decision-makers across the Global South to accelerate just energy transitions tailored to local circumstances with tangible benefits for sustainable development and climate change mitigation. It achieves this through economic analysis, open-source tools, engagement with decision-makers, and the development of local research capacity. It does not lobby for specific energy transition pathways or regulatory change but provides impartial, evidence-based advice to help inform decision-making.

It will achieve this vision by:

- Developing frontier economic and policy solutions for energy transition that are evidence based, locally tailored, and aligned to shared visions for change
- Mobilizing local researchers in a supportive international network focused on knowledge sharing, collaboration, and engagement
- Connecting regional leadership to a global ecosystem of open tools and data
- Building technical and institutional capacity for effective decision-making to enable just energy and climate outcomes.

The RESET Network operates across energy and economic policy design, modeling and evaluation, with a particular focus on emissions pricing. It evolved from the MCET (Multi-Country Electricity Transition) Network, an energy-sector modeling initiative established by EDF in 2022. The MCET Network will continue its work within the broader framework of the RESET Network. EDF serves as the institutional convenor and coordinator of the RESET Network. The RESET Network is currently under development, with an intended launch in February 2026. Extensive work is already underway.

Highlights from the past year

We would like to highlight three key accomplishments that illustrate the breadth of RESET Network activities during the past year.

Dialogue and paper on just labor market transitions

EDF and Motu Economic and Public Policy Research convened an international dialogue on just labor market transitions, building on extensive preparatory work including over 30 expert interviews and scoping papers such as "A Global and Inclusive Just Labor Transition: Challenges and Opportunities in Developing and Developed Countries" (Rodriguez et al., 2024). The dialogue brought together labor leaders, academics, policymakers, and practitioners from both Global South and North across four focused sessions to address a critical but underexplored dimension of energy transitions: their impact on workers and labor markets. Participants examined how workforce vulnerabilities differ fundamentally between developing and advanced economies, where informal employment, limited social safety nets, and concentrated fossil fuel-dependent communities create distinct challenges requiring tailored solutions.

This initiative exemplifies the RESET Network's commitment to bridging technical energy modeling with real-world economic impacts, ensuring that decarbonization pathways deliver tangible benefits for affected communities. The collaborative process resulted in a *Nature Communications* publication (Fernández Intriago et al., 2025 – now accessed eleven thousand times) that synthesizes five key challenges, from informal sector integration to infrastructure gaps, and provides a comprehensive framework for policy interventions including reskilling programs, social protection mechanisms, and place-based development strategies. By prioritizing South-South knowledge exchange and locally informed solutions, this work demonstrates the RESET Network's core mission of supporting just transitions that are both technically sound and socially equitable, ensuring

no worker or community is left behind in the shift to clean energy. The work was highlighted in a blog post and public seminar.

Partnership between the Dominican Republic, World Bank, and Kinetic Coalition

In February 2025, the Climate Investment Funds in collaboration with the World Bank among others signed off on an $85 million investment plan for transforming the Dominican Republic's energy system. It is expected to bring in over $1.1 billion in co-financing and enable high-quality transition credits to incentivize the transformation. Successful implementation requires strong energy planning. The response by our MCET-Chile team exemplifies the South-led and cooperative approach focused on local capacity building that is core to the RESET Network.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM) of the Dominican Republic, the MCET Network supported the assessment of the Energy Transition Accelerator (ETA) mechanism, initially created under the leadership of John Kerry and now known as the Kinetic Coalition. A national power planning model was developed using the open-source Switch power system planning model, from which scenarios were built to estimate emissions from the electricity sector, evaluate renewable technologies, and analyze the operational applicability of the mechanism. This effort provided a robust technical foundation and strengthened local capacities in evidence-based energy planning.

The exercise led to a direct collaboration with the World Bank, including the preparation of a technical report developed exclusively for the institution and the participation of the MCET-Chile (Vinken) team as presenters in the workshop "Energy Transition Credits in the Dominican Republic," co-organized by MEM, the World Bank, and the Kinetic Coalition. The event served as a space to explore alternative transition pathways and assess their cost and credit generation potential, underscoring the strategic value of modeling tools like Switch for informed decision-making.

Finally, a nine-month capacity-building process was implemented with the technical staff and division heads of the National Energy Commission (CNE), focused on Switch model adoption. While MEM and CNE have not yet formalized its official use, the tool has been internally and externally validated for its accuracy, flexibility, and open-access nature, positioning Switch as a leading option for long-term electricity planning in the country.

Outputs include technical documents, meeting deliverables, presentations, participation as speakers in events, and an EDF blog post: "Boosting the Energy Transition in the Dominican Republic"

RESET Network strategy design

Since July 2025, the EDF team has collaborated with Motu Economic and Public Policy Research and Shared Science to develop the first strategic plan for the RESET Network (attached). It has been an exciting process to transform an initial high-level concept into a concrete strategy for implementing a new international research and engagement network across the Global South that can support innovation in economics and policy research and modeling; help unlock climate finance, attract investment, and accelerate real change; and encourage more participatory, transparent, and empowered approaches to energy planning. The strategic plan is being shared with selected international experts for review and will be finalized in early 2026. More detail is provided below.

Progress under the work plan

The work plan has four workstreams: network management and communications, economics-based policy solutions, modeling for energy transition, and policy evaluation. Within each substantive workstream are research, stakeholder engagement, and capacity building activities. Activities and outputs associated with each workstream are summarized below.

Workstream 1: Network development and communications

RESET Network strategic plan

As highlighted above, the project team has developed the first strategic plan for the RESET Network. This has involved:

- Scoping the landscape of challenges and opportunities for just energy transition and examining how other entities are contributing
- Defining the initiative's name, purpose, vision, goals, values, and management structure
- Assessing uncertainties and risks
- Identifying characteristics, benefits, and requirements for members and partners
- Elaborating a work plan for delivery.

The strategy (in whole or in part) has been circulated for external review by MCET members and selected international experts. It will be finalized prior to the launch of the network in February 2026.

RESET Network communications

The RESET Network's communications activities are led by Shared Science, based in Aotearoa New Zealand. Since July 2025, Shared Science has developed a logo and key messages for the RESET Network, designed an initial website, mapped key stakeholders, and scoped a communications strategy and launch plan. One key focus has been on surveying communications capacity for the existing MCET Network and designing training for MCET members and the broader RESET Network. These activities have laid important groundwork for the planned launch of the RESET Network in February 2026. Shared Science is now undertaking planning for the RESET Network's post-launch ongoing communication needs.

Workstream 2: Economics-based policy solutions

Research

The potential of carbon pricing to mobilize finance globally

Early in 2025 we completed a simple analysis of the potential role of carbon pricing (taxes or emissions trading systems, and carbon markets created under international agreements such as the Paris Agreement or the CORSIA international aviation agreement) in addressing the challenge of getting sufficient clean investment in the Global South. This was published in a Nature journal. Many countries in the Global South are currently implementing emission pricing systems, a key tool to enable and incentivize mitigation. Implemented well, we found that emission pricing could help mobilize more than 50% of the investment needed to meet global climate targets over the next decade (Kerr and Hu, 2025). We are now working with a Harvard finance intern from Ghana to explore applying the approach to one specific country, Ghana, and a Tsinghua student to create an on-line tool and help explore future directions for the project.

Large-scale carbon crediting for effectiveness and credibility

A team at the University of the Andes in Colombia together with the Center Manuel Ramirez and EDF, made progress in developing an easy-to-use numerical tool to study carbon pricing in Colombia in 2025. The model considers scenarios where reduced deforestation may be funded by three different sources: the national budget, a national emissions trading system

(ETS) coupled with a high-integrity (jurisdictional) carbon forest offset mechanism (JREDD), and international sources of funding.

In 2025, the model was featured by the *Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action* in their Compendium of Modelling Tools under the title "Carbon Pricing in the Tropics: The CP+ Model." The team lead coauthored a paper entitled "Key issues in Carbon Markets and Lessons for Biodiversity Conservation and Financing" which emphasized the role of JREDD as a nature-based solution.

Engagement

A key approach to engagement under the RESET Network is facilitated stakeholder dialogue. This brings cross-sector stakeholders together for progressive, in-depth discussions of policy and modeling solutions to challenging problems. In addition to the Dialogue on Just Labor Market Transitions (highlighted above), the RESET Network conducted two further dialogue initiatives related to economics-based policy solutions.

Funding Mitigation Abroad (FMA) Dialogue

In September 2025, a project team from Motu Economic and Public Policy Research, European University Institute, and the University of Zürich convened the FMA Dialogue. This brought together 27 researchers, officials, and practitioners (in addition to project team members) from 14 advanced economies to discuss which public narratives currently dominate discussions on funding mitigation abroad (i.e., in the Global South), opportunities to shift narratives, and methodologies for future research through surveys, experiments, and interviews. The outputs included two meetings of the FMA Dialogue (supported by background papers, presentations and summaries), a draft Motu Note synthesizing key insights (planned for publication in December 2025), and a revised proposal for external funding to conduct the research.

Chile-New Zealand Workshop on Exploring International Indigenous Climate Cooperation

In September 2025, Climate Action Teams (CAT) and Motu Economic and Public Policy Research convened a workshop that brought together six people of Indigenous heritage in Chile and New Zealand. The workshop used a dialogue format. The main goals of the workshop were to allow these participants to meet one another, and to explore together the value of future collaboration on climate change mitigation. This workshop was an outcome of previous work by CAT and Motu to explore implementation agreements for international climate cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Facilitation support was provided by the Consensus Building Institute (CBI).

Workstream 3: Modeling for energy transition

Research

One of the pillars of MCET's work has been the development and strengthening of open-source electricity planning models, adapted to national realities. This has enabled not only the generation of robust evidence for decision making, but also the promotion of high-level technical cooperation among institutions of the Global South. A key example was the South-South cooperation between the MCET-Chile technical team and the Dominican Republic (highlighted above). Additional examples are provided below.

- In China, with support from Climate Imperative, an MCET team from Beihan University has modeled the energy transition for Lvliang, Shanxi, a city heavily dependent on coal. Their results and subsequent discussion with local officials highlighted the labor market and economic challenges facing Lvliang and have led to a new project focused on finding innovative solutions. In addition, the team from the China Energy Modeling Forum has used the Switch-China version to model different electricity system transition paths, combining applied research with seminars, training, and dialogue spaces with public actors, researchers, and energy policy makers.
- In Colombia, the team at Universidad de los Andes has calibrated the Switch 2.0 model to accurately reflect the Colombian electricity system in its base year (2023). This model allows for the simulation of capacity expansion scenarios and has been compared with official scenarios from UPME through 2037, providing a solid tool for analyzing optimal generation portfolios and evaluating the impact of different energy policies.
- In Bangladesh, nine energy scenarios to the year 2050 were developed and evaluated using official data from the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) and the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB). Using the Switch model, optimal paths for generation and transmission expansion were analyzed, with emphasis on costs, emissions, and technical feasibility. The results were systematized and made available to key sector stakeholders to facilitate the design of policies aligned with decarbonization goals and were presented at an international conference.
- In Vietnam, the team from Fulbright University adapted the Switch model to project possible pathways toward carbon neutrality by 2050. The project has strengthened partnerships with governmental and academic actors, and has promoted technical

knowledge exchange initiatives, aiming to strengthen local capacities in energy planning.

Small grants program

In 2025, the MCET network launched a competitive small grants program to support the practical application of open-source energy models in real-world decision-making processes in developing countries. Five projects were selected, led by institutions in Vietnam, Chile, Honduras, and India, addressing key topics such as electricity retail pricing, energy transition strategies, territorial justice, and demand response mechanisms. These studies built upon existing modeling frameworks to generate new scenarios, deliver policy recommendations, and strengthen engagement with government stakeholders through presentations and technical feedback sessions.

Each initiative produced replicable, technically rigorous outputs, contributing to a more effective integration of modeling in energy policy design. All studies are currently undergoing peer review, and a joint publication is planned in the coming months as part of a technical series by MCET and EDF.

Engagement

All researchers involved in MCET are encouraged to develop their skills and networks to more effectively engage with the decision-makers their work can inform. Engagement was required as part of participating in the small grants program. Through our combined networks, we are also able to better connect researchers to local and global decision makers. Participation of a Honduras MCET researcher in an event at COP30[1] in Belém in November 2025 is one example; the Dominican Republic engagement highlighted above is another. Engagement activities explicitly organized through MCET include pre-COP workshops and a bilateral workshop between modelers informing government in Chile and New Zealand.

Pre-COP workshops

As part of its pre-COP30 technical agenda, the MCET Network organized two regional online seminars focused on Latin America and Asia, designed to consolidate technical progress and align country efforts around just and feasible electricity transitions. The events brought together MCET partner institutions to present applied studies developed using the Switch model in Chile, Colombia, Honduras, Vietnam, and India. These studies

[1] The 30th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

explored topics such as demand response, electricity pricing, and territorial justice, demonstrating how open-source modeling can support policy design and equitable energy planning. The structured agenda included a project overview, technical presentations, and a diagnostic session on barriers to scaling modeling tools and integrating them into policy cycles. Beyond showcasing outputs, the seminars generated strategic insights into institutional gaps, capacity needs, and coordination challenges. This activity reinforced MCET's value as a platform for high-level South-South technical cooperation and laid the groundwork for a broader collaboration agenda linking energy modeling with institutional strengthening, regulatory design, and investment planning in the Global South. Outputs also included an EDF blog post: "MCET Pre-COP30 Seminars: Shared Pathways Toward a Just Power Sector Transition" and a post on our MCET LinkedIn account.

Chile-New Zealand Workshop on Mitigation Modeling

In April 2025, Climate Action Teams (CAT) and Motu Economic and Public Policy Research jointly convened a two-hour online workshop with modelers from Chile and New Zealand with the objectives of: (i) providing updates from each country; (ii) exchanging experiences and ideas around using modelling to support decision-making around mitigation targets and international cooperation; and (iii) strengthening connections and motivation to keep advancing, despite contextual challenges. Facilitation support was provided by the Consensus Building Institute (CBI). Outputs included one Dialogue meeting (with an agenda, country presentations, and a summary) and an EDF blog post: "From model to policy: Building a climate connection between modelers across the world."

Capacity building

Capacity building is central to MCET work. We currently run two series of monthly workshops, one scheduled for Asia and another for Latin America. Local researchers take turns presenting – and receiving feedback on – their work and share ideas on how to make the network more effective. The small grants program requires collaboration across teams to deepen their mutual understanding and support. We support some more experienced members of the network to support other teams who are earlier in their journey. Top global modelers provide 'ask an expert' sessions to help address sophisticated modeling challenges, and we operate a Discord channel to facilitate real-time, shared problem solving.

Case study: Supporting demand response modeling in Vietnam

As part of MCET's efforts to build technical capacity across the network, the Vinken team – based at the Department of Electrical Engineering of Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile – provided targeted support to Fulbright University Vietnam to strengthen their demand response modeling using the Switch platform. The collaboration focused on adapting and expanding an existing module to assess Time of Use and Critical Peak Pricing schemes, including methodological refinements, joint testing, and technical exchange.

This applied support was delivered through MCET's small grants program and enabled the Vietnam team to incorporate more realistic and policy relevant pricing structures into their national electricity planning analysis. The Vinken team delivered working code, provided hands-on guidance, and helped ensure methodological alignment with broader MCET studies. The work is now informing a multi-country comparison on electricity pricing strategies and will contribute to peer reviewed outputs planned for publication in 2026.

In parallel, Vinken also supported the US team in expanding the Switch model to address emerging modeling priorities. The collaboration focused on incorporating hydrogen production pathways – covering both green and blue hydrogen – into the model structure, as well as addressing constraints on renewable generation deployment and demand procurement strategies. Preliminary functional codes were delivered and are currently under review, with further developments progressing based on technical feedback. These improvements aim to strengthen Switch's capacity to inform decarbonization strategies in complex power systems and will be available throughout the network.

Workstream 4: Policy evaluation

To better inform international audiences about the China Emissions Trading System and as a first step toward creating a dialogue and research process to shape its future evolution, we worked with an author from the International Carbon Action Partnership to write a report documenting the history of the system so far. This is an area of work we aim to strengthen in the coming year, with particular focus in China and India.

List of funded and leveraged projects

Year ending 30 September 2025

Implementing entity	Country	Project name	Work plan objective(s)	Status
Modeling				
EDF/RFF	US (but relevant)	Carbon taxation, green jobs, and sectoral human capital	Modeling	Ongoing
Climate Action Teams/Motu/CBI	Chile, New Zealand	Chile-New Zealand Modelers Workshop	Modeling Engagement	Complete
Fulbright University Vietnam	Vietnam/Chile/India	Clean power transition	Modeling Engagement	Ongoing
Fulbright University Vietnam	Vietnam	Electricity retail pricing	Modeling Engagement	Ongoing
Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee	India	Modelling demand-responsive pricing for India's power sector	Modeling	Ongoing
Sustenta Honduras	Honduras	Integrating territorial justice into long-term national energy planning models for Honduras	Modeling Engagement	Ongoing
Vinken (Consulting) - PUC	Chile	Demand-response implementation	Modeling	Ongoing
Economics-led policy solutions				
EDF/Motu	Global	Just Labor Markets Transition Dialogue	Policy solutions Engagement	Complete
EDF/CBI	Global	Global Equity in Carbon Markets Dialogue	Policy solutions Engagement	Ongoing

Implementing entity	Country	Project name	Work plan objective(s)	Status
EDF	Global	Filling the global climate finance gap – focus on use of carbon pricing	Policy solutions	Ongoing
EDF	China	Long-term vision for China ETS	Policy solutions Policy evaluation Engagement	Ongoing
EDF/Conservation International	Global	Permanence of crediting	Policy solutions	Ongoing
EDF	Global/ Ethiopia	Pricing and selling with and without corresponding adjustments	Policy solutions	Ongoing
EDF/RFF/ Sustainable Futures	India, China, US, EU	CBAMs from diverse perspectives	Policy solutions	Ongoing
Climate Action Teams/Motu/CBI	Chile, New Zealand	Chile-New Zealand Workshop on Exploring International Indigenous Climate Cooperation	Policy solutions Engagement	Complete
Motu Economic and Public Policy Research	Global	Funding Mitigation Abroad Dialogue	Policy solutions Engagement	Ongoing