

15 October 2020

Save the date - Just Transition Platform Meeting – Coal Regions in Transition Virtual Week

Save the date for the upcoming Just Transition Platform Meeting – Coal Regions in Transition Virtual Week, taking place online from 16-20 November! During this week we will be welcoming new regions to the Initiative and host discussions on developments on the EU Just Transition, the current outlook of the Coal Regions in Transition Initiative, stories of regions from the EU and beyond, among many others. Please reserve these dates in your agendas, more information will be available soon!

Lessons learned from START

The START team has made good progress in the first half of 2020, particularly in regard to the Midlands in Ireland, Asturias in Spain and Karlovy Vary in the Czech Republic. From our work across the START regions, we have identified lessons regarding the conditions that are required for achieving a just transition: coordination between different levels of government; a shared plan for transition identifying both short and longer-term measures; engaging affected stakeholders and communities; leveraging and repurposing assets within local economies, and ensuring capacity for transition at the local and regional levels. [Click here](#) to read regional profiles for all START regions, which describe their key characteristics related to the decarbonisation process.

The START technical assistance to the Midlands, Ireland, concluded with a successful consultation process with over 150 project submissions. The START and the Midlands just transition teams continued their work in an online setting due to COVID-19, and they collected a comprehensive pipeline of projects reflecting both a bottom-up approach from the communities and a top-down approach from county, regional and national government. These projects can play a key role in the Midlands' path towards decarbonisation.

Fair Development Plan (Master Plan) for the lignite areas of Western Macedonia and Megalopoli

The Greek Ministry of Environment and Energy opened a public electronic consultation for the Master Plan for the Fair Development Transition Plan (SDAM) in the lignite areas of Western Macedonia and Megalopoli. Every social partner and interested party is invited to participate in this public consultation before Tuesday, November 10, at 16:00, submitting their proposals for any improvement of the Plan (in Greek).

[More](#)

New case studies

Regional Development Agency Rhenish Lignite Mining Area

The regional development agency for the Rhenish lignite mining area - Germany's largest lignite mining area - is the key intermediary to steer the transition process away from coal. Its approach to proactively shape the future of the region reaches back more than a decade. Today it serves as a key platform for managing the structural change in the region.

Rebuilding the Appalachian economy: Coalfield Development, USA

Coalfield Development is a US social enterprise focused on ending the intergenerational cycle of poverty in Appalachia's coal region. It follows a relationship-based, holistic approach to on-the-job training and incubating new businesses at the same time.

The Initiative's support materials, toolkits, guidelines and reports can be found in the [resources page](#).

Featured resources

- [Declaration for Just Transition across cities in the European Union, Ukraine and Western Balkans](#)
- VIDEO - [Street art in Petroani. Reinventing Jiu Valley](#)
- REPORT - [Modernising the European lignite triangle - Agora Energiewende](#)
- BRIEFING - [How \(not\) to Phase out Coal - E3G](#)
- [2020 International Conference on Coal Phase-Out & Response to Climate Crisis on 8 September 2020, at the Splas Resom, Chungnam](#)
- [Poland's Energy Policy PEP2040 \(in Polish\)](#)
- CASE STUDY - [Green jobs in coal regions. Case study: Bełchatów - Instrat](#)
- [European Skills Agenda - European Commission](#)
- VIDEOS - Development beyond coal in Serbia: [Where are we now?](#) / [Where are we supposed to be?](#) / [How do we get there?](#)
- ARTICLE - [Just transition in Serbia, off to a difficult start](#)
- CONFERENCE - [Discussions summary](#) from the [Move.Link.Engage conference](#)
- PROJECT - [ENTRANCES](#)
- PROJECT - [TIPPING[±]](#)
- ARTICLE - [EU energy boss hails coal's demise on path to carbon neutrality](#) - Financial Times
- PRESS RELEASE - [Coal Regions in Ukraine to Benefit from Poland's](#)

From the TRACER project

- [Report on social challenges and re-skilling needs of the workforce solutions in the TRACER target regions](#)
- [Technical concepts for the transition of the energy system into a smart, sustainable and renewable energy system in the TRACER target regions](#)
- [Best practice report on labour markets, social issues and tourism](#)
- [Best practice report: Smart Specialisation Strategies and SET plan implementation actions](#)
- [Best practice report on environmental protection and post-mining land reclamation](#)
- [Best practice on financing the transition from coal in European coal regions](#)
- [Factsheets on technologies and social issues](#)
- PRESS RELEASE - [Nine coal regions in Europe stand together for a just transition](#)
- EVENT - [Discussion of the possibilities for transition to clean energy in the Stara Zagora Region](#)
- EVENT - [Dialogue and Training dedicated to the transition of Stara Zagora region](#)
- EVENT - [“Just Transition” - Ideas, projects and finance for life after coal in Jiu Valley](#)

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