

MINISTERSTVO PRO MÍSTNÍ ROZVOJ

Ministry of Regional Development of the Czech Republic

Strategy of Economic Restructuring of Usti, Moravian-Silesian and Karlovy Vary Regions

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EVROPSKÁ UNIE
Fond soudržnosti
Operační program Technická pomoc



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Structurally affected regions



- **Relatively high unemployment rate** (long-term higher than the national average)
 - Jan 2014 – country average 8,6 %, Moravian-Silesian 10,9 %, Usti region 11,9 %
 - April 2018 – country average 2,4 %, Moravian-Silesian and Usti region 5 %
- **Insufficient structure of education** of the people living in these three regions not meeting the needs of job market.
- **Social tension** – extensive social exclusion, a great number of distrains.
- Shortage of **areas ready for investors**, lack of R&D activities and investments.

Structurally affected regions



- **Many old burdens** (large after mining areas, damaged environment), decay of traditional industrial fields, supply chain bound to heavy industry (now minimized or closed down).
- **Outflow of population** for better conditions, arrival of socially weak inhabitants, thus higher concentration of socially excluded areas
- **Low GDP ratio and long-term lagging of development** in comparison to other regions of the Czech Republic, situation getting worse (in 2016 Usti region ranking 13th and Karlovarsky 14th from 14 regions in the Czech Republic)

Starting points for restructuring



Example of the brown coal landscape in the North Bohemia showing also the example of initiated reclamation

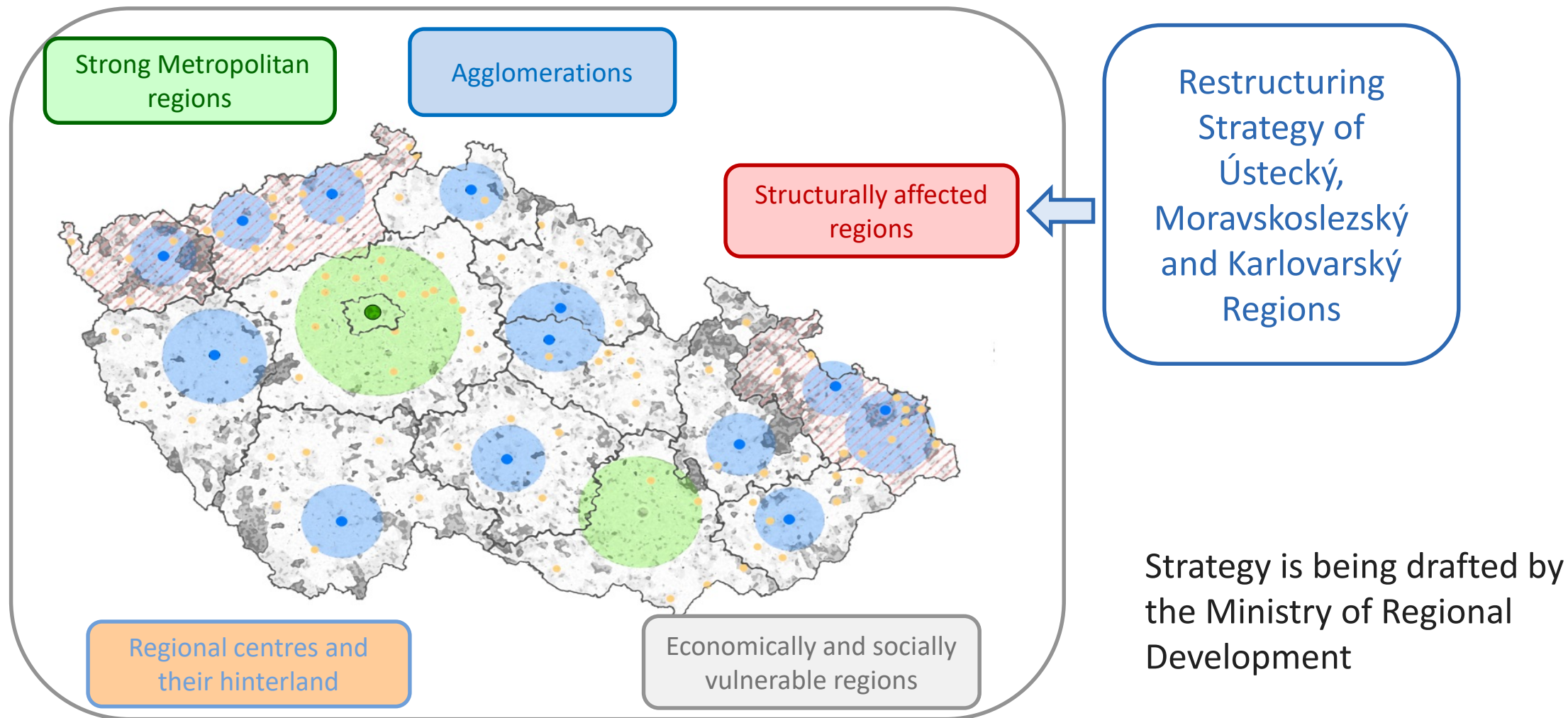


Main features of the strategy

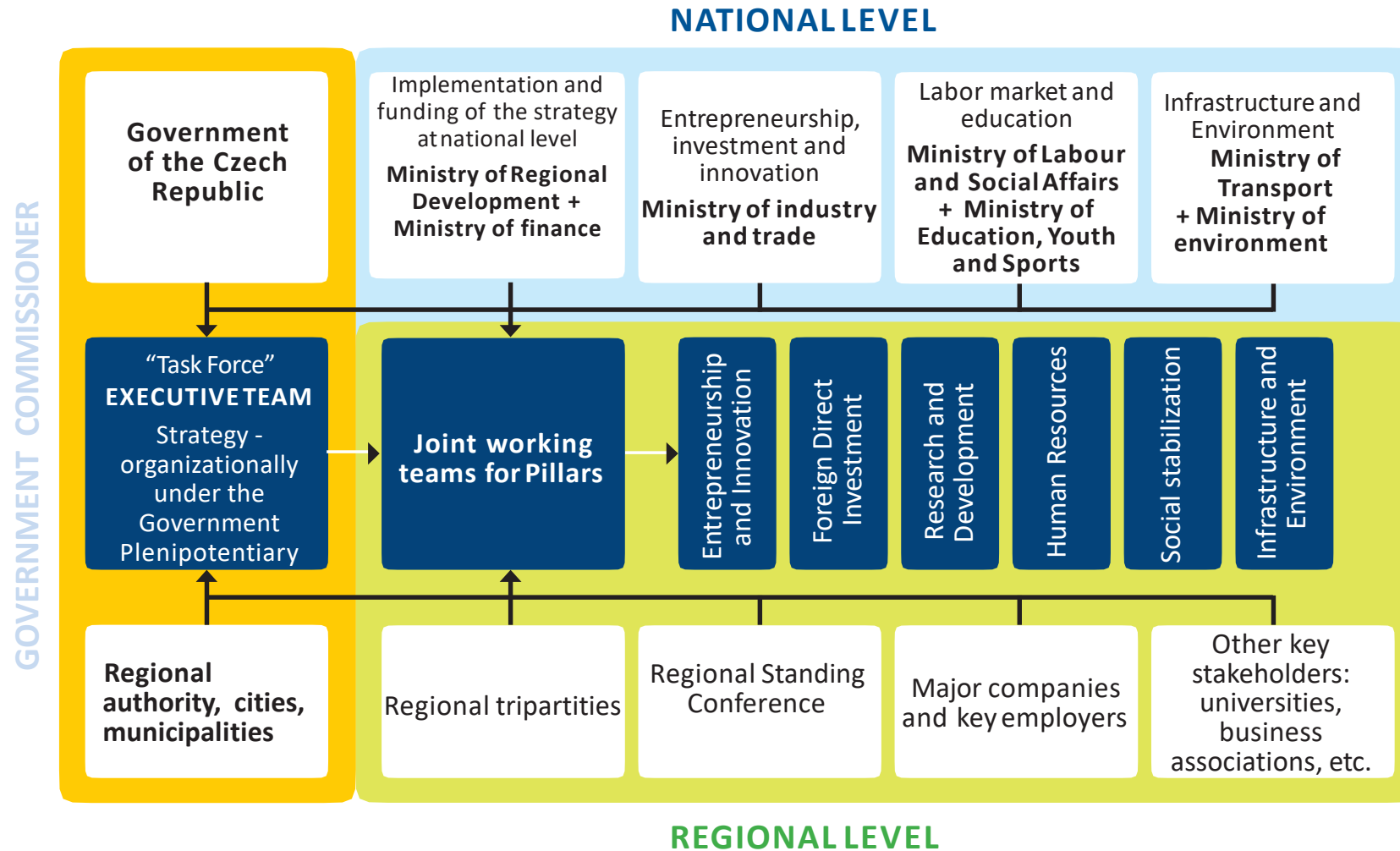


- **Three regions included** - Moravskoslezský, Karlovarský and Ústecký region
- **Aims**
 - » Economic restructure
 - » Accelerating the economic growth
 - » Stop lagging of the regions
- **Identity** – Strengthening of the identity and self-confidence of the people.
- **Image** – Improve perception of regions by visitors, investors, talents.
- 2015 – Czech Government approved Strategic Framework of Economic Restructuring of Moravian, Silesian, Usti and Karlovy Vary Regions
- 2017 – first action plan with 65 activities approved by the government

Regional Development Strategy of the Czech Republic 2021+



Implementation of the strategy



Pillars and targets



Change of economic structure, faster economic growth and cease of regions lagging

Identity – enforcing solidarity and self-confidence of inhabitants
Image – improved perception of regions by the neighbours: visits, investors, talents

Pillar Business and innovation

Growing business capable to cope with changes in global markets.

Pillar Direct investments

More direct investments with higher added value.

Pillar Research and development

Research and development with higher benefits for economy..

Pillar Human resources

Competent people for industry, services and public authorities.

Pillar Social stabilization

Remove barriers of development related with social instability..

Pillar Environment

Better quality of environment. Revitalized and regenerated area for better business and healthier life of inhabitants.

Pillar Infrastructure and public administration

Better quality infrastructure for business, attracting investments and addressing social exclusion.
Better quality services of public administration for businesses and citizens.

Pillar Implementation

Multilevel cooperation of public authorities; use of existing programmes and funds, complemented in case of need with new ones; Special management of implementation and responsibility for results.

Action plan 2017/2018: 65 different measures in progress

- **Development of the universities and the quality of tertiary education**
 - financed from the complementary calls from ERDF and ESF (est.1.6 billion CZK / 62,5 million € from ERDF and 600 million CZK / 23,4 million € from ESF)
- **Regeneration and use of brownfields** (est. 2 billion CZK / 78,1 million €)
 - financed from the state budget
- **Feasibility study for testing of autonomous vehicles** in real traffic in the city of Usti nad Labem.
- **Acceleration of projects for Environmental Damage Program** for Usti and Karlovy Vary regions
 - extending the existing program with 3 billion CZK / 117,2 million € (used e.g. for activities connected with reclamation of the closed coal mine near the city of Sokolov for BMW test-field for autonomous vehicles)

Annual evaluation and update of the Action plan:

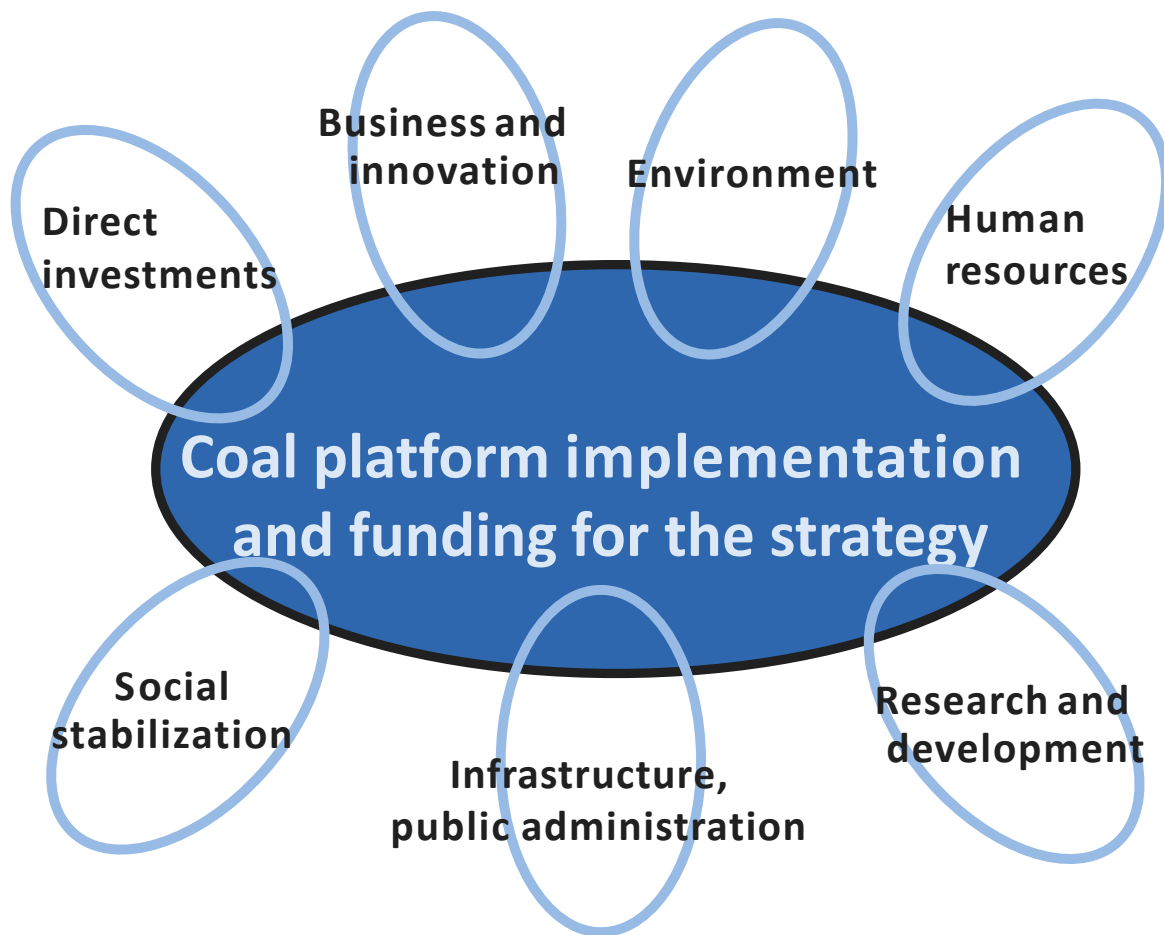
- possibility to suggest new measures / projects,
 - participative approach of various stakeholders and general public,
 - update organized based on the existing implementation structure
 - **27 new different actions / measures on the level of all the defined strategic pillars**
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- **SOME MEASURES FROM BOTH ACTION PLANS ALREADY COVER INTENTIONS OF THE COAL REGIONS IN TRANSITION PLATFORM**

Challenges in the process of restructuring



1. scope of possible restructuring activities
2. linking the strategy with existing strategies
3. integrated approach to development
4. strategic approach to preparation of projects
5. activation of regional stakeholders / communities / companies...
6. multilevel governance coordination

Relationship of RE:START and the Coal Platform



PROJECTS

1 – existing within current RE:START

2 – NEW within current RE:START

3 – NEW in new/updated RE:START

PRINCIPLES – incorporating existing projects/initiatives in the Coal Platform and opening doors to multifund raising for new operations

Cooperation with the platform



- 1) Support to discussions over the possibilities of reallocations within the current operational programs in Czech Republic
- 2) Support to the search for opportunities within the specific programmes and tools from the level of European Commission (Structural Reform Support Service, LIFE programme, Cooperation with Joint research centre)
- 3) Consultation and expertise in setting up new programs for the programming period 2020+
- 4) Consultation, expertise and support to implementation of specific measures of the RE:START Strategy incl. exchange of best practices

Examples of projects relevant for the coal platform



- Program of resocialization of reclaimed areas and areas after mining
- Utilization of Potential of Pumping Power Plants
- Utilization of the potential of geothermal energy
- Program of regeneration of specific brownfields
- Increasing the quality of education, addressing the social needs of the regions - specific calls for projects for the structurally lagging-behind regions
- Waste management
- Adaptation to climate change
- Improving air quality

Some examples of specific projects from the short list will be presented in detail in the working groups.

Looking forward to further cooperation..

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