Welcome
Interregional dialogue : key elements of transition strategies

Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

#CoalRegionsEU

Energy

Shaping regional stakeholder dialogues for a transition of coal regions

Empirical and practical findings

Martin Schön-Chanishvili
Germanwatch
Brussels, 16th of October 2019

Why stakeholder dialogue?

- you need **ownership** of different stakeholders to make the **transition** work
- ownership comes from
  - being part of change at an early stage
  - shaping the outcomes

Your experiences. Some conflicting pairs...

- **efficiency vs. effectiveness**

  a) systemic approach, broader cooperation

  b) focused group of multiplicators

- **process vs. output**

  a) using time to work on relationships

  b) using time to work on projects

- **structure/strategies vs. content/projects**

  a) developing differentiated structures and strategies
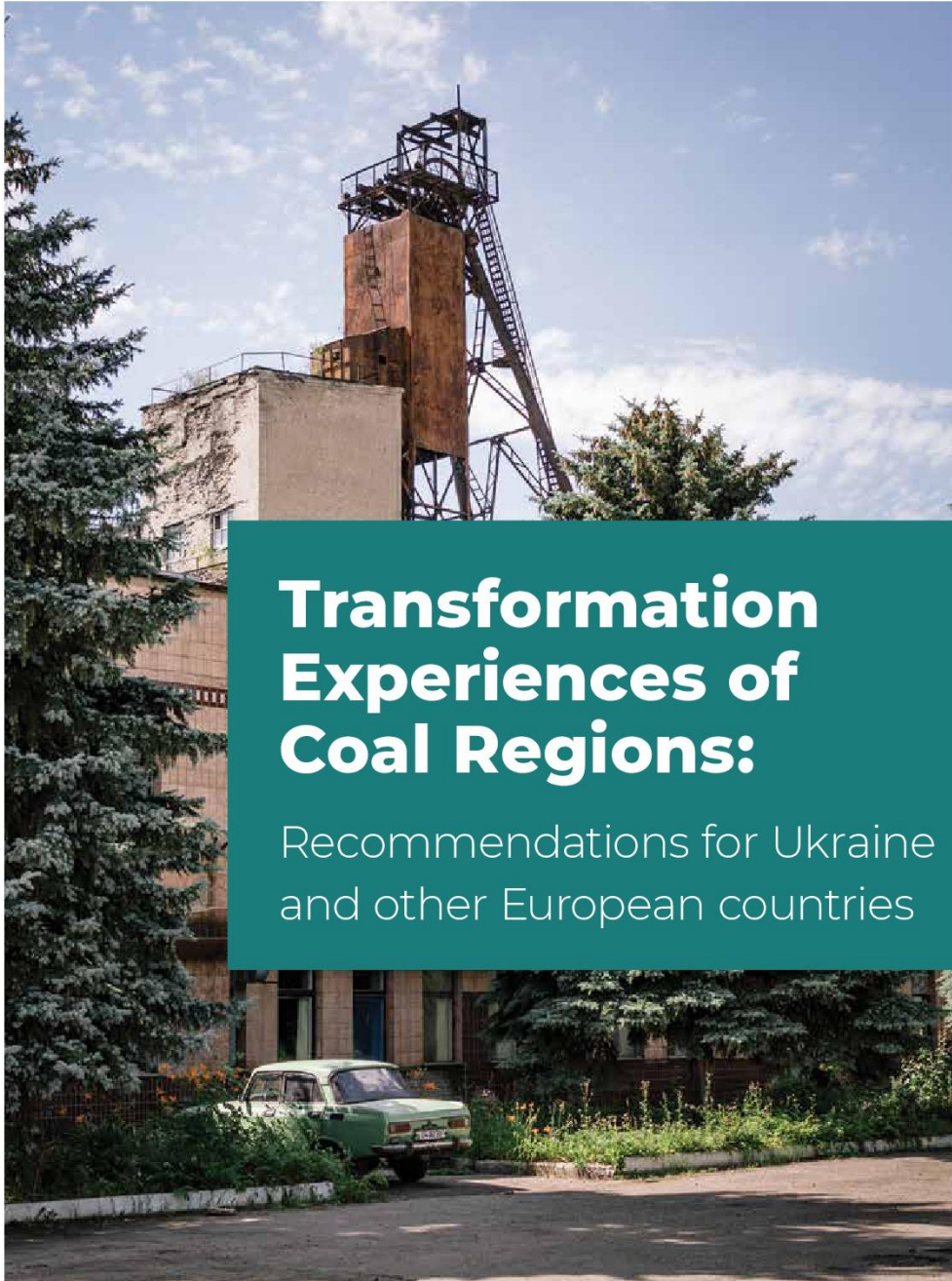
  b) focusing on implementation

Structure

1. Study & Findings
2. Practical experiences
3. Discussion

Study

Transformation Experiences of Coal Regions:

Recommendations for Ukraine and other European countries

Study

- ✓ 4 countries
  - Czech Republic
  - Germany
  - Romania
  - Ukraine

- ✓ Analysis of
  - national policies
  - concrete regional cases (coal regions)

- ✓ authors from academia, consulting, expert community

- ✓ recommendations, check-lists for regional, local and national authorities

Part of project "New energy, new possibilities for Donbas", funded by BMZ
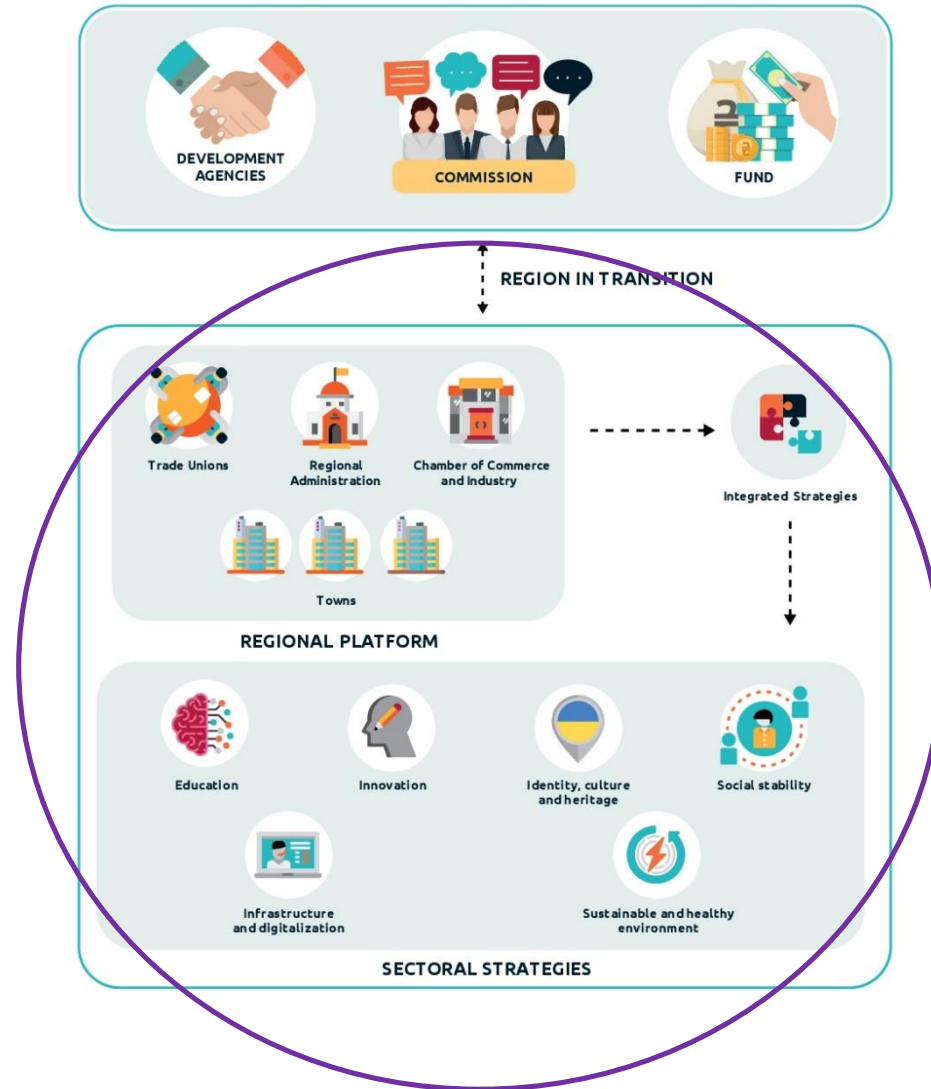
✓ Interested in the executive summary? You can get your copy from me / or
download it (bit.ly/ttansformation-coal-summary)

✓ Interested in the full study? You can download it (bit.ly/transformation-coal)

Findings

National level

SUCCESSFUL STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION.
OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS

DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES

COMMISSION

FUND

REGION IN TRANSITION

Trade Unions

Regional Administration

Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Integrated Strategies

Towns

REGIONAL PLATFORM

Education

Innovation

Identity, culture and heritage

Social stability

Infrastructure and digitalization

Sustainable and healthy environment

SECTORAL STRATEGIES

REGION IN TRANSITION

Trade Unions

Regional Administration

Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Integrated Strategies

Towns

REGIONAL PLATFORM

Education

Innovation

Identity, culture and heritage

Social stability

Infrastructure and digitalization

Sustainable and healthy environment
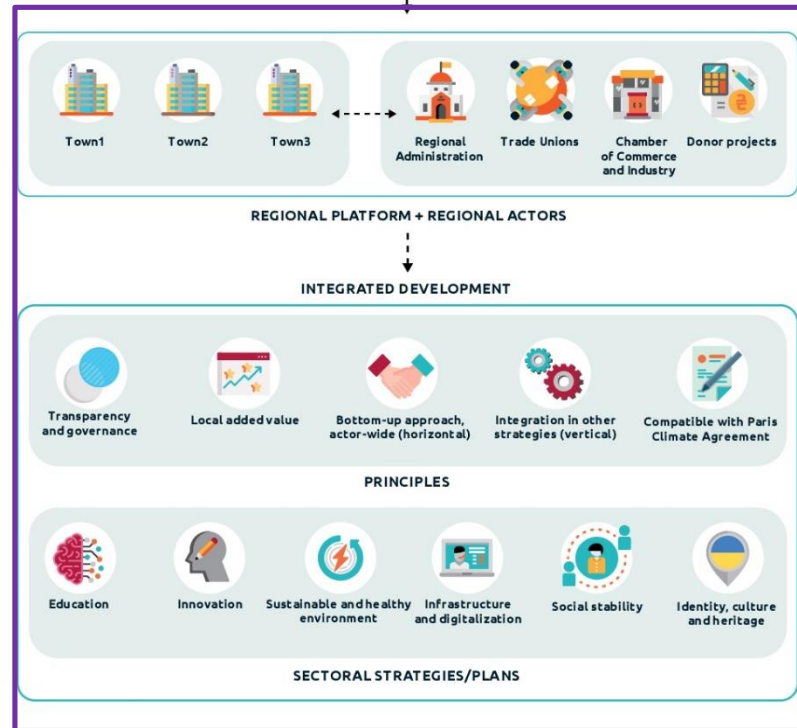
SECTORAL STRATEGIES

Findings: National level through regional lense

- generally: put local needs and ownership first!
- regions and local authorities should be represented in national transition bodies
- societal dialogue: phase-out date, re-allocation of subsidies
- restructuring funds for regions, re-training programs, adaption pension system
- option: merger of coal companies and setting up of environmental fund
- adaption of secondary and higher education
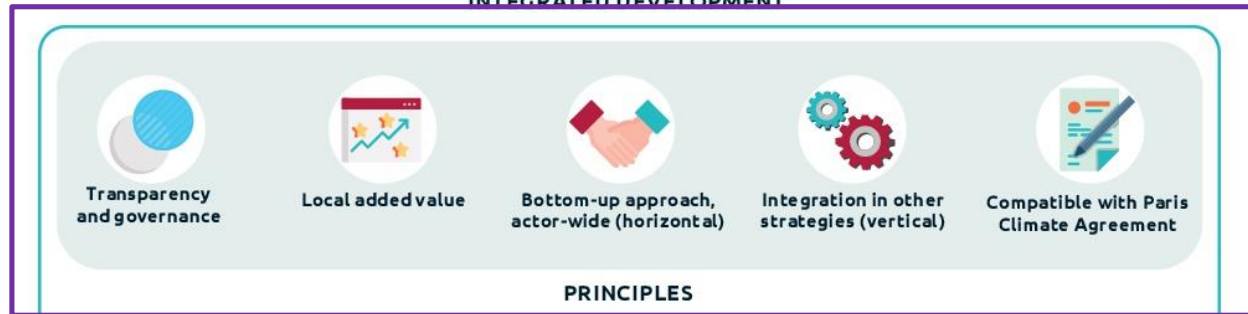
FOCUS ON THE REGIONAL AND LOCAL LEVEL

DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES

COMMISSION

Phase-out date   Roadmap

FUND

Town1   Town2   Town3   Regional Administration   Trade Unions   Chamber of Commerce and Industry   Donor projects

REGIONAL PLATFORM + REGIONAL ACTORS

INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT

Transparency and governance   Local added value   Bottom-up approach, actor-wide (horizontal)   Integration in other strategies (vertical)   Compatible with Paris Climate Agreement

PRINCIPLES

Education   Innovation   Sustainable and healthy environment   Infrastructure and digitalization   Social stability   Identity, culture and heritage

SECTORAL STRATEGIES/PLANS

REGIONAL PLATFORM + REGIONAL ACTORS

Town1 · Town2 · Town3 · Regional Administration · Trade Unions · Chamber of Commerce and Industry · Donor projects

INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT

PRINCIPLES

Transparency and governance · Local added value · Bottom-up approach, actor-wide (horizontal) · Integration in other strategies (vertical) · Compatible with Paris Climate Agreement

SECTORAL STRATEGIES/PLANS

Education · Innovation · Sustainable and healthy environment · Infrastructure and digitalization · Social stability · Identity, culture and heritage

Findings: focus on local and regional levels

1. Creation of local and regional **programs for economic and social development**
2. **Diversification of economic activities** (creation of industrial and technological parks etc.)
3. Shifting to **sustainable energy generation** (installation of RES capacities, energy efficiency etc.)
4. Creation of new local and regional **educational institutions, research and innovative centers**

Findings: focus on local and regional levels

5. Improvement of local **infrastructure** (transport, digital etc.)
6. Creation of a **regional planning agency**, which has a mandate for the specific mining area
7. Establishment of regional **participation events** (workshops, conferences) for municipal actors, **strategic planning session**s engaging all stakeholders

Practical experience

6 Coal Towns in Donbas united to form a **Platform for Sustainable Development**
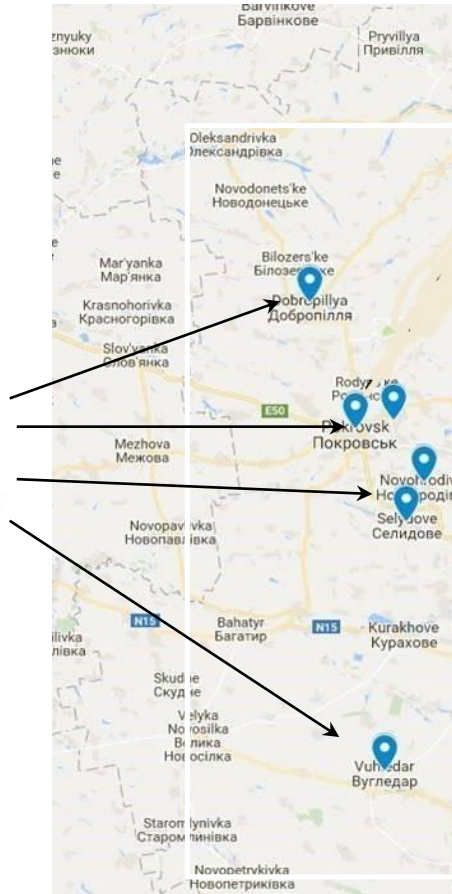
cumulated data:

- 265,000 inhabitants

- 40-80% of local budgets from coal company taxes

6 Town mayors / councils

Civil society: 3 local NGO

Business: Chamber of Commerce

academia/education: universities, colleges

6C4SD

Approach

Addressing challenges of Coal towns **pro-actively** and **Paris-compatible**:

- economic diversification & innovation;

- energy efficiency & renewables;

- social safety, education & innovation

- environmental safety.

Approach

- intermunicipal cooperation

    ○ at least 4 from 6 Coal towns take part in project implemenation

    ○ implementation on basis of intermunicipal enterprise

- multi-stakeholder cooperation

    ○ local NGO, businesses, education facilities as cooperation partners

- business for sustainability

    ○ Cluster formation with local businesses, direct cooperation with Chamber of Commerce

    ○ creation of new jobs, production, services on the basis of business initiative

General list of project ideas

Sector	Project idea
Renewable Energy Sources (RES)	▪ solar PV on municipal buildings ▪ energy cooperative
Economy and infrastructure	▪ technology hub / start-up development ▪ industrial park ▪ electromobility / public and private transport ▪ museum of technology / industrialization
Education	▪ vocational education ▪ retraining
Ecology	▪ household waste management / sorting ▪ recycling facility on closed coal mine ▪ mine water for reuse. Creation of wastewater treatment system ▪ installation of mine-based heat pumps ▪ biogas production on the basis of landfill sites and silt lakes

First Lessons Learnt

- regional cooperation resource-intensive
- cooperation with other levels (national, inter-regional): possible conflicts, challenging
- quick wins (projects) needed
- coordinating figures & structure needed
- synergy, specific roles:
    - businesses can help with ideas, job creation
    - CSO can help with ideas, public awareness
- helpful: external facilitation by national CSO

Discussion

Your experiences. Some conflicting pairs...

- efficiency vs. effectiveness

  a) systemic approach, broader cooperation

  b) focused group of multiplicators

- process vs. output

  a) using time to work on relationships

  b) using time to work on projects

- structure/strategies vs. content/projects

  a) developing differentiated structures and strategies

  b) focusing on implementation

Thank you!

BACKUP

Findings: focus on local and regional levels

8. Development of a **unique marketing campaign** for the area, relying on the potential for innovation, economic development and cultural heritage/tourism
9. Early **re-cultivation and revitalization** of the lands located in the areas that have been affected by mining activities, management of waste, water etc.
10. Creation of **business-friendly economic environment** (through local legislation etc.), promotion of the region as such

Strategy Development and Governance

Guidance and case studies

Secretariat for the Platform for

Coal Regions in Transition

Energy

Platform's support materials

The Platform secretariat is developing guideline documents, reports and toolkits on the following key themes:

- ✓ Collection of **Good practice** case studies

- ✓ Guidelines on **Transition Strategies** and KPIs

- ✓ **Governance** of Transition toolkit

- ✓ Sustainable **employment and welfare support** toolkit

- ✓ **Site rehabilitation and repurposing** toolkit

- ✓ Guidance on **EU funds and programmes** (2020)

- ✓ **Technology solutions** for transition (2020)

European Commission

Responding to need of regions

A lot of information already exists but is <u>fragmented, or not tailored</u> to needs of practitioners in regions.

Platform support materials are fine-tuned to needs, based on:

- Needs assessment at workshops and expert interviews

- Peer-review of draft materials in platform meetings

Knowledge hub for relevant transition-related resources

Contribute to peer-to-peer learning

Good practice cases

Providing key lessons and examples in key dimensions (e.g. strategy, finance) as well as holistically

1 Transforming the lignite-fired Matra power plant into part of a renewable energy cluster

2 Information platform for post-industrial and degraded areas in Silesia (OPI-TPP)

3 Task force on Just Transition for Canadian coal power workers and communities

4 The Lewarde mining history centre

5 Wałbrzych special economic zone „INVEST-PARK", Poland

6 RESTART-Strategy for economic restructuring of Czech coal regions

European Commission

Guidelines on transition strategies and KPIs

- Tools for assessing starting point

- Methods for selecting projects

- Role of indicators and examples

- Governance and stakeholder participation at the heart of the policy cycle

European Commission

Building the right governance model

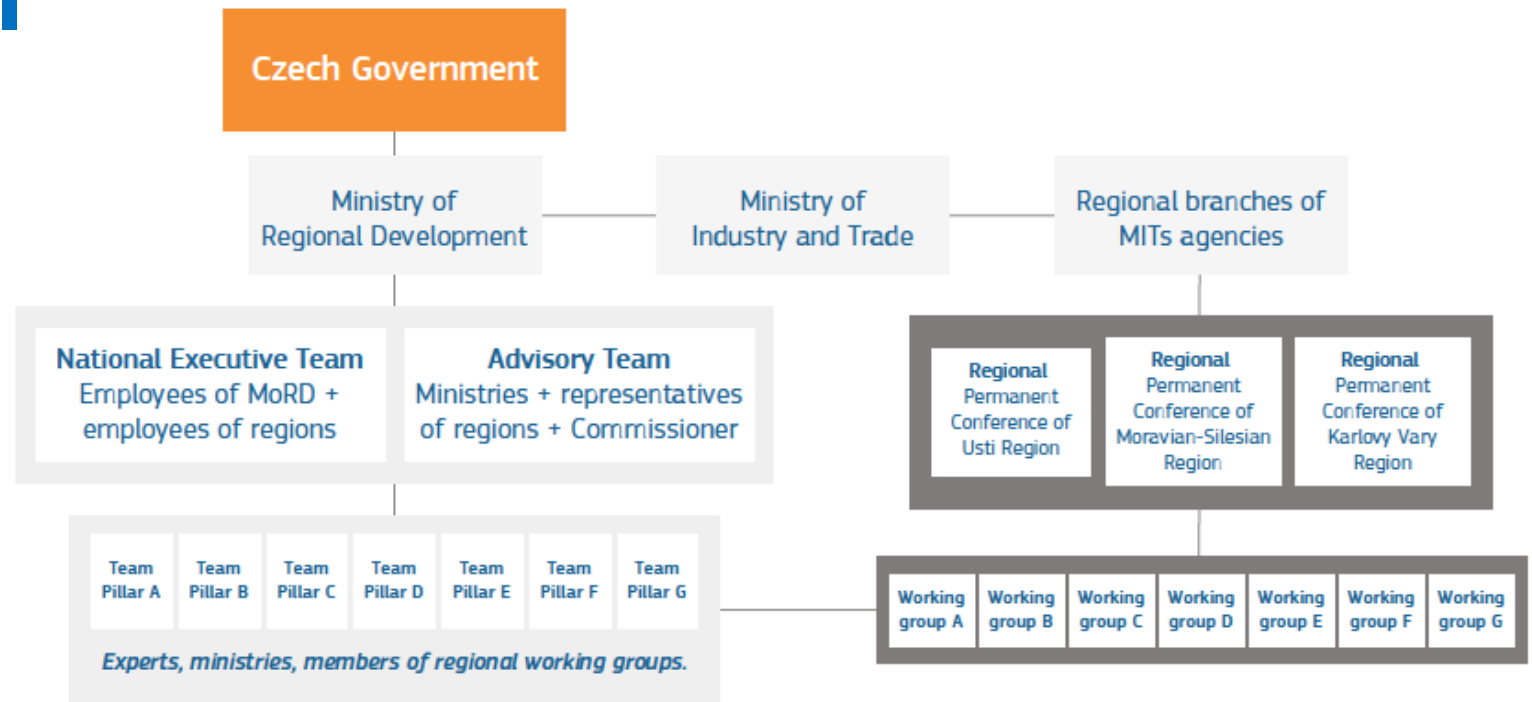**Making the process participatory**

Activating civil society

Toolkit on governance of the transition

- Key concepts: leadership, power balance, link to policy cycle

- Step-by-step:

  1. Understand the existing governance structure

  2. Addressing resistance

  3. Identify the levers, windows of opportunity

  4. Assign responsibilities for key decisions

  5. Legitimise and make transparent

- Assessment of existing tools

- Examples from coal regions

- Links to further resources

European Commission

Building right governance model

Example: Czech RE:START strategy

- RE:START example: governance structure that matches national institutions with regional counterparts

- Combines integrated national strategic planning with expert knowledge and advice from regions (thematic working groups)

European Commission

Cooperation

Some form of shared decision-making e.g. through Partnerships, public representation in governing bodies or negotiations.

Consultation

Survey, townhall meetings, other forms of public enquiries.

Information

One way flow of information, depending on the level of transparency.

Making the process participatory

- Are you informing or are you involving? Lessons on what has worked best at each stage

- Success factors: e.g. stakeholders committed to the process rather than to a specific outcome

- Facilitating, budgeting, monitoring.

- Common barriers:
  - Resource-intensive
  - Certain groups dominating discussion
  - Hard to sustain momentum

- Ready-to-implement tools

European Commission

Making the process participatory

Example: Upper Nitra

Consultation process and update of action plan is done in several stages

Seeking informal feedback from stakeholders

Release of the first draft

Stakeholder comments

~150 comments from ~20 stakeholders

Updated draft

Participative approach

Presentation and feedback from public

4 public hearings in towns in Upper Nitra

Public hearings

Final draft is being prepared

Final draft

Final comments

Approval by the end of June

Official public consultations

Final action plan

Government approval

- Sep 2017: Round table about the future of Upper Nitra

- Jan 2018: four local working groups start preparing Action Plan (Economy / Transportation / Tourism / Social infrastructure), results followed up by experts

- Consultation process and updates of action plan included public presentations, hearings and comment rounds

Source: Consultation process of Action plan in region of Upper Nitra (Slovakia).
Presentation by Ondrej Seban (PwC Slovakia) at Coal Regions in Transition Platform, Brussels, 16 July 2019

European Commission

Activating civil society

- What is civil society?
- Principles, strategy, resources, incentives
- Examples of different roles played by NGOs (international, national, grassroots) in coal regions
- Civic and community engagement tools for different scales and purposes, including from non-coal context

Source: www.playthecity.nl

Closing ideas

Role of Platform for Coal Regions in Transition to make relevant knowledge accessible

Potential for strengthening peer-to-peer exchange of experiences and knowledge among coal regions

Questions to spur the discussion:

1. What knowledge needs would render themselves better to one-to-one exchanges between regions vs. multi-lateral exchange among regions?

2. How do you decide whether to involve or to inform?

3. What is the one thing that would help you deliver meaningful participation of civil society in your region's transition process?

European Commission