Platform for Coal
Regions in Transition

Thank you for your attendance!

13.00 – 14.30
Lunch break

14.30 – 17.00
Plenary session
Room 0A

European Commission

Welcome to the

5th Working Group Meeting

Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

#CoalRegionsEU

Energy

Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

Klaus-Dieter Borchardt

Deputy Director General, DG ENER

Hervé Martin

Head of Unit, DG RTD

European Commission

Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

Report from breakout sessions

14.30 – 15.45

European Commission

Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

Presentation on current practices

15.45 – 16.15

European Commission

Current practice case studies

Philipp Schepelmann, Kata Gyori
Wuppertal Institute

16.07.2019
Brussels

Energy

Current practice

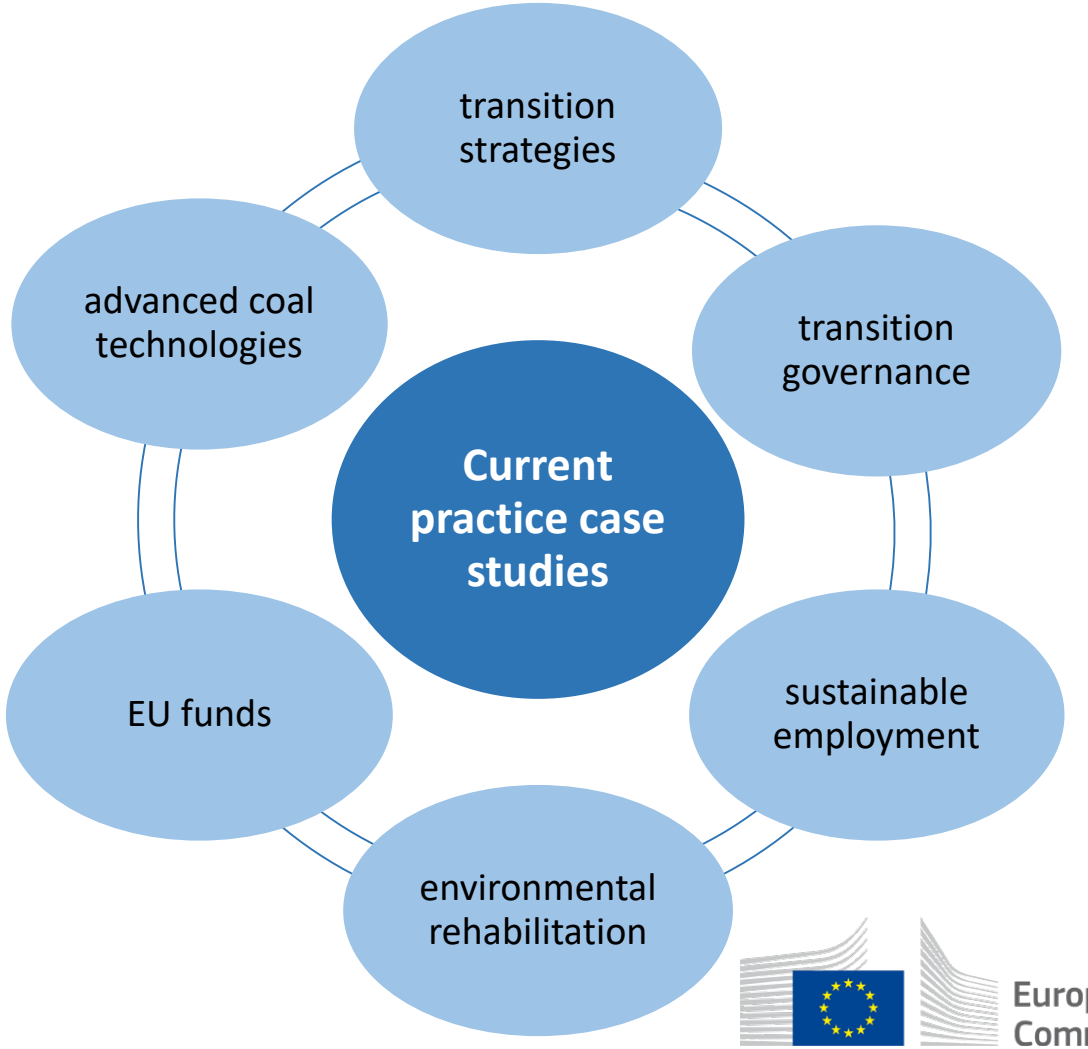
Aim: demonstrating current practice – inspiring practitioners

Approach: Description of cases on various issues relating to Transitions in Coal regions → critical assessment

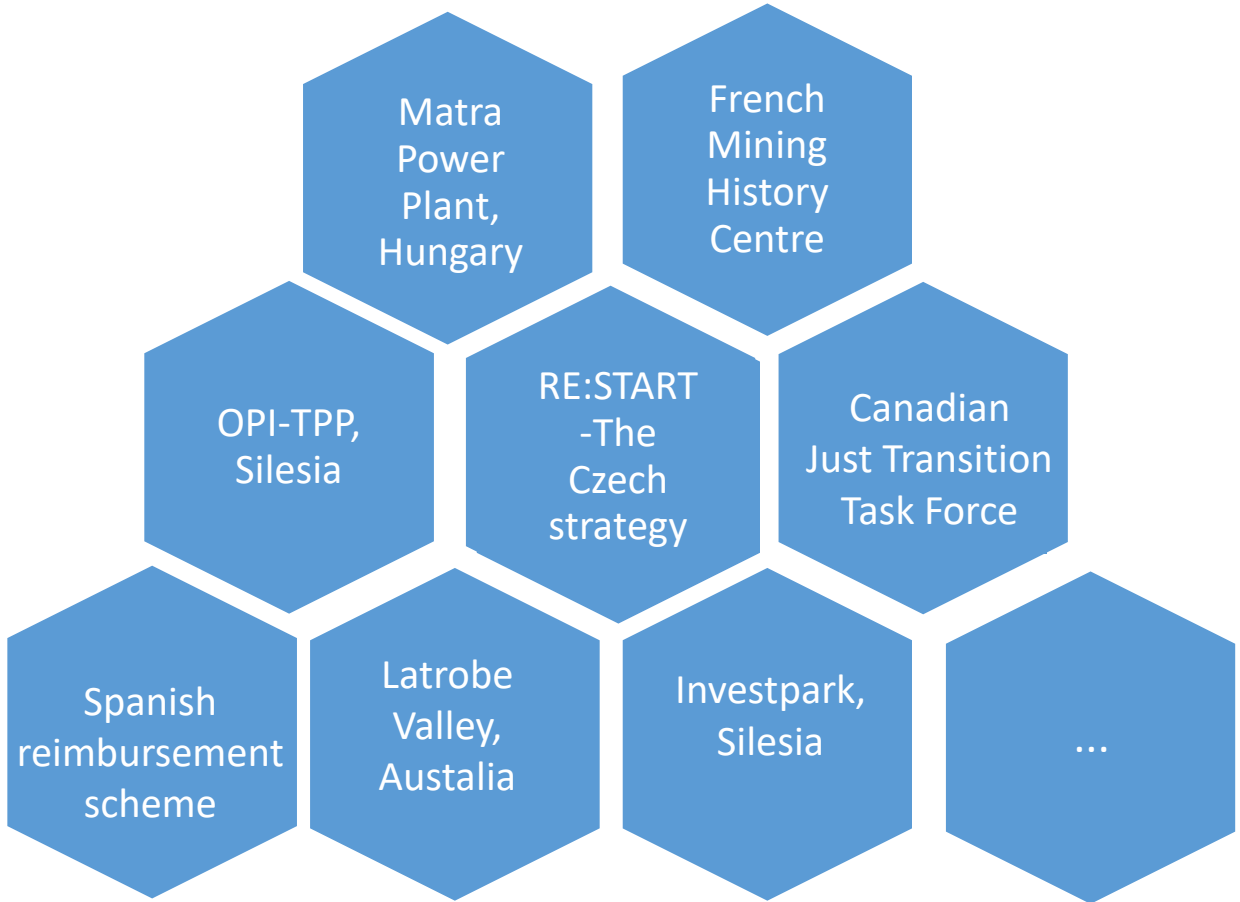
Key aspects: General description, Challenges, Enabling conditions, Achievements, Key learning points

Current practice examples

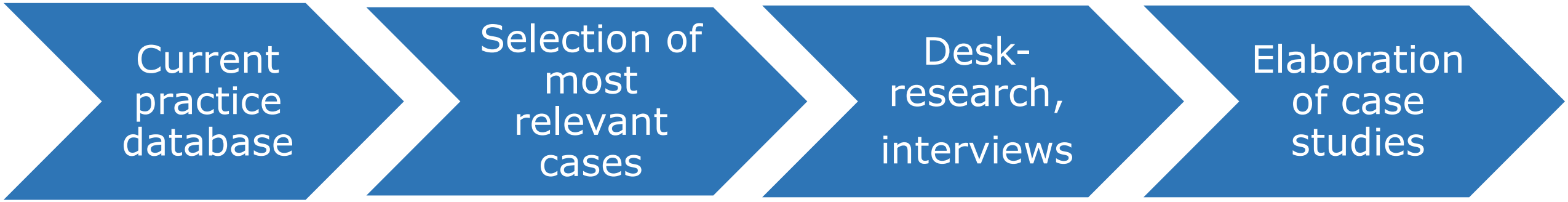
background information for support material



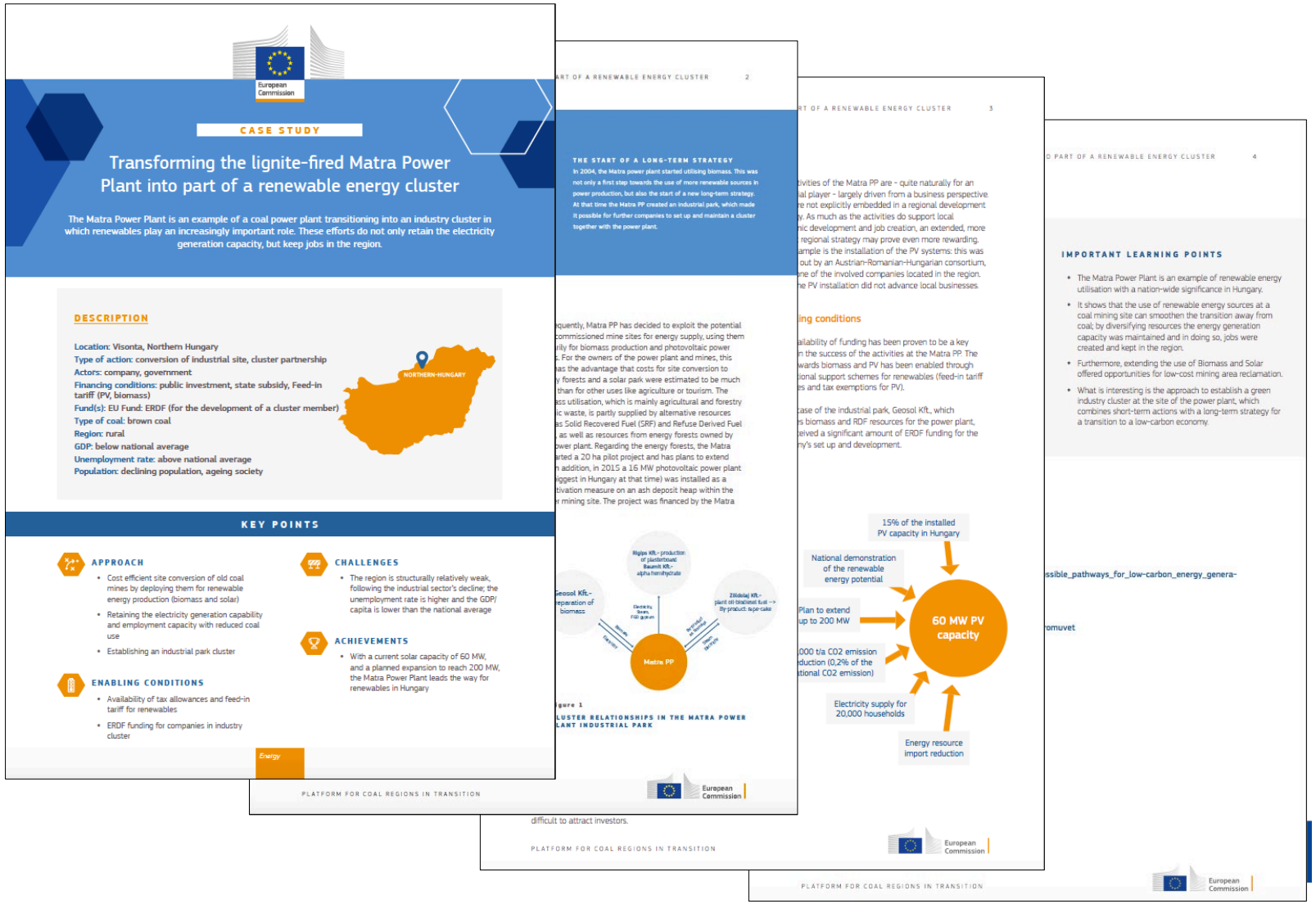
12-15 case studies covering different transitional approaches from all across the world



Process of development



Case study lay-out



CASE STUDY

Transforming the lignite-fired Matra Power Plant into part of a renewable energy cluster

The Matra Power Plant is an example of a coal power plant transitioning into an industry cluster in which renewables play an increasingly important role. These efforts do not only retain the electricity generation capacity, but keep jobs in the region.

DESCRIPTION

Location: Visonta, Northern Hungary
Type of action: conversion of industrial site, cluster partnership
Actors: company, government
Financing conditions: public investment, state subsidy, Feed-in tariff (PV, biomass)
Fund(s): EU Fund: ERDF (for the development of a cluster member)
Type of coal: brown coal
Region: rural
GDP: below national average
Unemployment rate: above national average
Population: declining population, ageing society

NORTHERN-HUNGARY

KEY POINTS

APPROACH
- Cost efficient site conversion of old coal mines by deploying them for renewable energy production (biomass and solar)
- Retaining the electricity generation capability and employment capacity with reduced coal use
- Establishing an industrial park cluster

CHALLENGES
- The region is structurally relatively weak, following the industrial sector's decline; the unemployment rate is higher and the GDP/capita is lower than the national average

ACHIEVEMENTS
- With a current solar capacity of 60 MW, and a planned expansion to reach 200 MW, the Matra Power Plant leads the way for renewables in Hungary

ENABLING CONDITIONS
- Availability of tax allowances and feed-in tariff for renewables
- ERDF funding for companies in industry cluster

Energy

PLATFORM FOR COAL REGIONS IN TRANSITION

THE START OF A LONG-TERM STRATEGY

In 2004, the Matra power plant started utilising biomass. This was not only a first step towards the use of more renewable sources in power production, but also the start of a new long-term strategy. At that time the Matra PP created an industrial park, which made it possible for further companies to set up and maintain a cluster together with the power plant.

Matra PP

60 MW PV capacity

15% of the installed PV capacity in Hungary

National demonstration of the renewable energy potential

Plan to extend up to 200 MW

Electricity supply for 20,000 households

Energy resource import reduction

IMPORTANT LEARNING POINTS

- The Matra Power Plant is an example of renewable energy utilisation with a nation-wide significance in Hungary.
- It shows that the use of renewable energy sources at a coal mining site can smoothen the transition away from coal; by diversifying resources the energy generation capacity was maintained and in doing so, jobs were created and kept in the region.
- Furthermore, extending the use of Biomass and Solar offered opportunities for low-cost mining area reclamation.
- What is interesting is the approach to establish a green industry cluster at the site of the power plant, which combines short-term actions with a long-term strategy for a transition to a low-carbon economy.

Matra Power Plant

Transition strategy based on:

- Cost efficient site conversion by use of biomass and solar
- Retaining electricity generation and employment capacity with reduced coal use
- Establishing an industrial park cluster

Photo by Civertan (CC BY-SA 4.0).

Key learning: The use of renewable energy sources at a coal mining site can smoothen the transition away from coal; by diversifying resources the energy generation capacity was maintained and in doing so, jobs were created and kept in the region.

Mining History Centre, Lewarde

Transition strategy based on

- Heritage preservation combined with further cultural activities
- Foundation of the cultural centre co-financed by the former mining company
- Synergies with other sites in the UNESCO heritage area

Photo by Pierre Cheuva / Centre Historique Minier.

Key learning: Although the number of jobs directly created by the centre itself is fairly small, in synergy with other tourist attractions in the region, the centre has become an economic factor with a sustainable long-term business model.

Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

The Platform for Coal Regions in Transition is an initiative by the European Commission.

ec.europa.eu/coal-regions-in-transition
secretariat@coalregions.eu
twitter @Energy4Europe

Thank you for your attention!

European Commission

Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

Presentation on platform communication tools

16.15 – 16.35

European Commission

European Commission

Platform communication tools

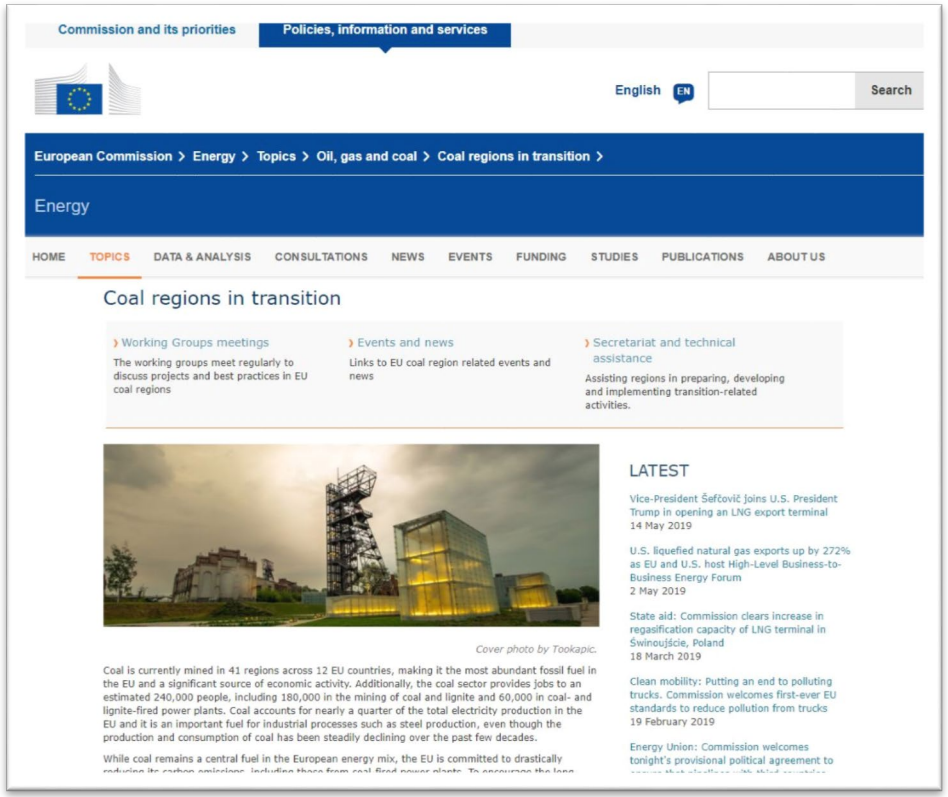
July 2019

Energy

Videos

- Interviews with: regions, EC, Ministries, stakeholders, Secretariat.
- Used for media articles, quote collection, interview transcriptions.
- Shared in YouTube, newsletter.

Promotional video *– Dec. 2019*



Webpages

- Resources database
- START Application
- Working Group Meeting outcomes
- Partner initiatives
- Newsletter subscription
- Contact

https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/oil-gas-and-coal/coal-regions-in-transition

European Commission

Knowledge transfer

- Case studies - 2019
- Guidelines: transition strategies and KPIs – 2019
- Deliverables on webpage
- Webinars

Events

- Reach out to potential partners
- Invite people to meet the regions on the WG meetings
- Present outcomes, case studies, succes stories, etc.
- EUSEW, Resilient Cities, European Week of Regions and Cities

Keep in touch

- Sign up to the newsletter: https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/ener/subscription-quick-generic-form-fullpage.cfm?service_id=1348
- Hashtag #CoalRegionsEU
- DG Energy Twitter: @Energy4Europe
- Spread the word

Platform for Coal
Regions in Transition

Martín Freire

Officer, Communication and Member Relations

ICLEI, on behalf of the Secretariat of the Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

martin.freire@iclei.org

European Commission

Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

Conclusions and recommendations

16.35 – 17.00

European Commission

Thank you for your attendance!

Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

#CoalRegionsEU

Energy