

Thank you for your attendance!

13.00 – 14.30

Lunch break

14.30 – 17.00

Plenary session

Room 0A

Platform for Coal
Regions in Transition



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



Platform for Coal
Regions in Transition

Report from breakout sessions

14.30 – 15.45

Platform for Coal
Regions in Transition

Presentation on current practices

15.45 – 16.15



Current practice case studies

Philipp Schepelmann, Kata Gyori
Wuppertal Institute

16.07.2019
Brussels

Energy

Current practice

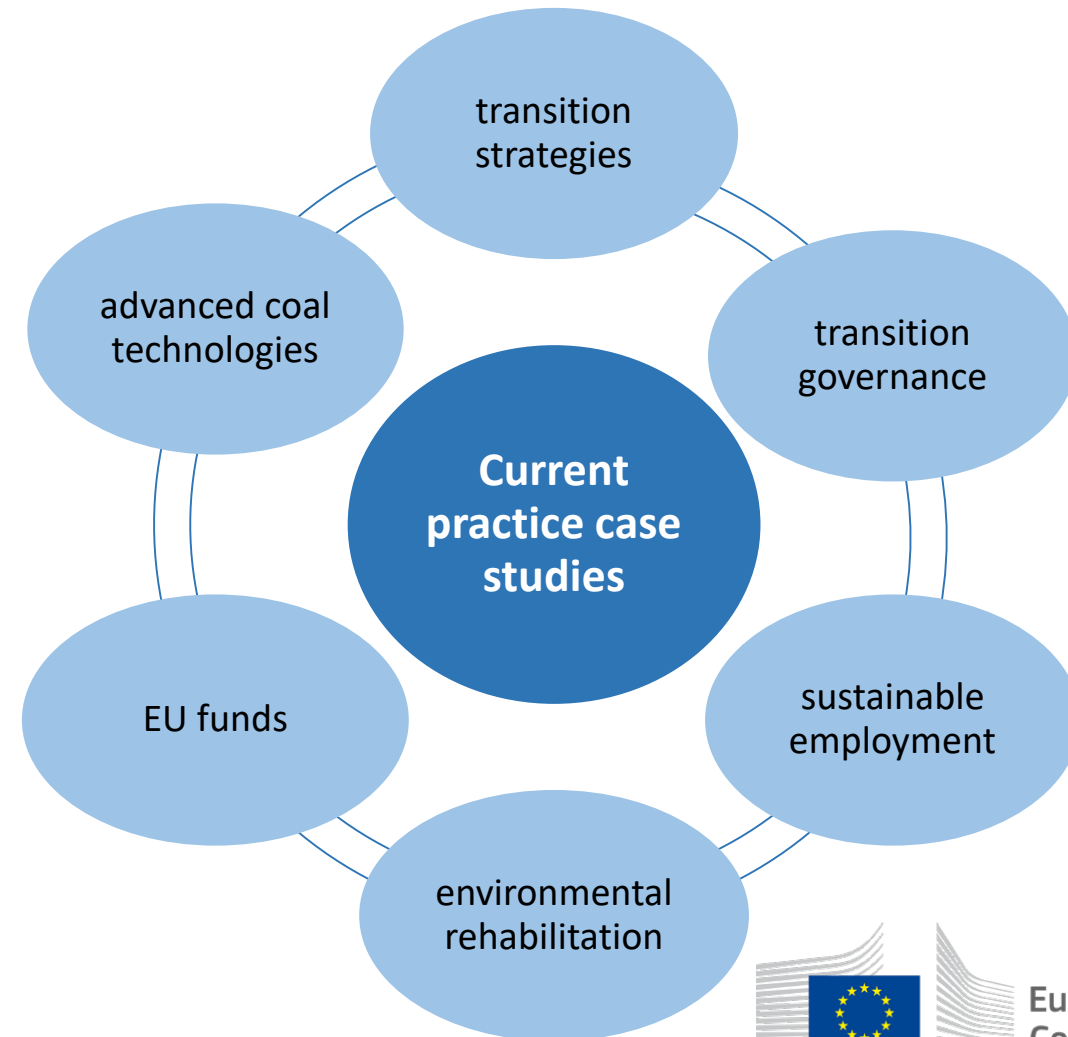
Aim: demonstrating current practice – inspiring practitioners

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

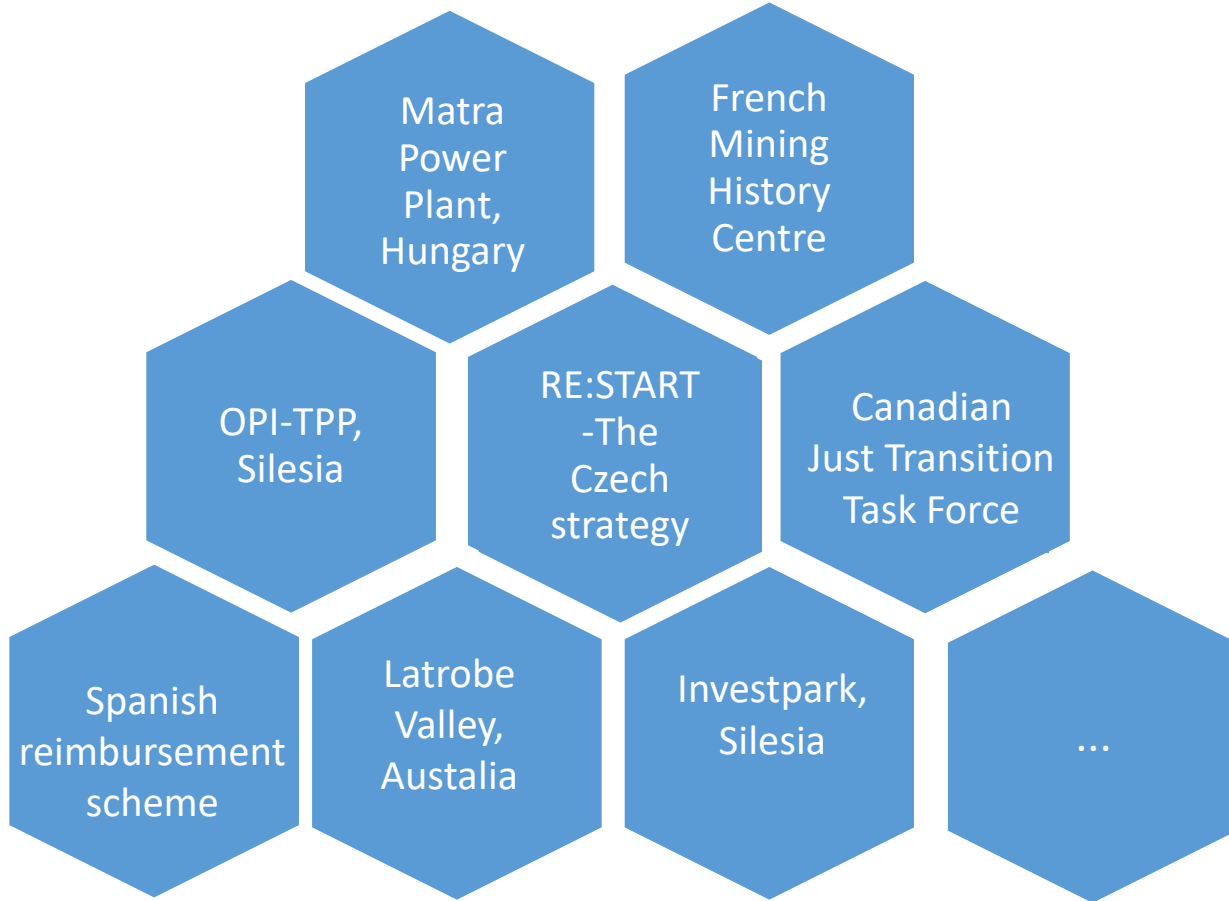
Key aspects: General description, Challenges, Enabling conditions, Achievements, Key learning points

Current practice examples

background information for
support material



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



Process of development

Current
practice
database


Selection of
most
relevant
cases

Desk-
research,
interviews

Elaboration
of case
studies

Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

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 actor: 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



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

THE START OF A LONG-TERM STRATEGY

In 2004, the Matra power plant started utilizing 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.

sequently, Matra PP has decided to exploit the potential commissioned mine sites for energy supply, using them primarily for biomass production and photovoltaic power. For the owners of the power plant and mines, this has the advantage that costs for site conversion to forests and a solar park were estimated to be much higher than for other uses like agriculture or tourism. The biomass utilization, which is mainly agricultural and forestry waste, is partly supplied by alternative resources as Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) and Refuse Derived Fuel as well as resources from energy forests owned by the power plant. Regarding the energy forests, the Matra started a 20 ha pilot project and has plans to extend it. In addition, in 2015 a 16 MW photovoltaic power plant biggest in Hungary at that time) was installed as a mitigation measure on an ash deposit heap within the mining site. The project was financed by the Matra

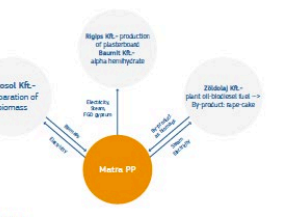
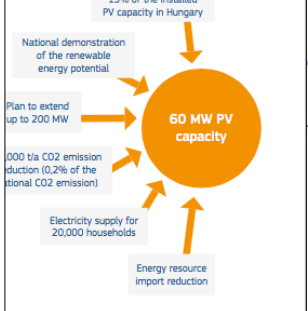


Figure 1
CLUSTER RELATIONSHIPS IN THE MATRA POWER PLANT INDUSTRIAL PARK

ACTIVITIES OF THE MATRA PP ARE - quite naturally for an industrial player - largely driven from a business perspective and are not explicitly embedded in a regional development strategy. As much as the activities do support local economic development and job creation, an extended, more regional strategy may prove even more rewarding. An example is the installation of the PV systems: this was initiated by an Austrian-Romanian-Hungarian consortium, one of the involved companies located in the region. The PV installation did not advance local businesses.

ENABLING CONDITIONS

The availability of funding has been proven to be a key factor in the success of the activities at the Matra PP. The introduction of biomass and PV has been enabled through national support schemes for renewables (feed-in tariffs and tax exemptions for PV). The biomass utilization, which is mainly agricultural and forestry waste, is partly supplied by alternative resources as Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) and Refuse Derived Fuel as well as resources from energy forests owned by the power plant. Regarding the energy forests, the Matra started a 20 ha pilot project and has plans to extend it. In addition, in 2015 a 16 MW photovoltaic power plant biggest in Hungary at that time) was installed as a mitigation measure on an ash deposit heap within the mining site. The project was financed by the Matra



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

🐦 [@Energy4Europe](https://twitter.com/Energy4Europe)

Thank you for your attention!

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Presentation on platform communication tools

16.15 – 16.35



Platform communication tools

July 2019

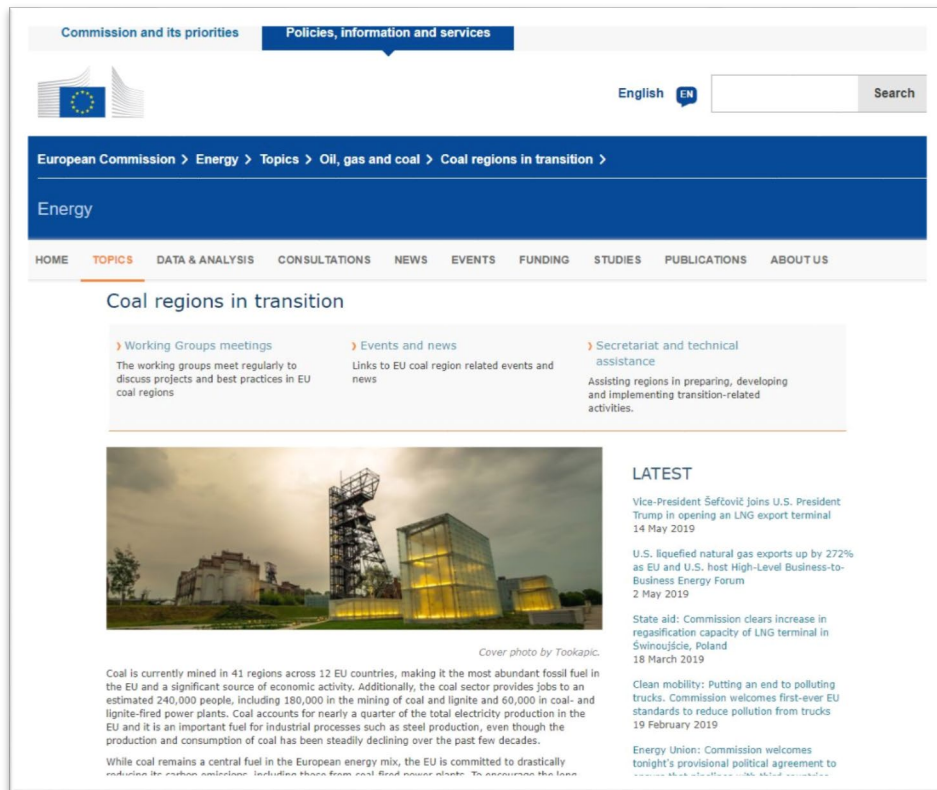
Energy



Videos

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

Promotional video – Dec. 2019



The screenshot shows the European Commission website page for 'Coal regions in transition'. The page features a navigation menu with 'Energy' selected, and a sub-menu with 'Coal regions in transition'. The main content area is titled 'Coal regions in transition' and includes three columns of links: 'Working Groups meetings', 'Events and news', and 'Secretariat and technical assistance'. Below this is a 'LATEST' section with three news items: 'Vice-President Seifovic joins U.S. President Trump in opening an LNG export terminal', 'U.S. liquefied natural gas exports up by 272% as EU and U.S. host High-Level Business-to-Business Energy Forum', and 'State aid: Commission clears increase in regasification capacity of LNG terminal in Swinoujście, Poland'. A cover photo by Tookapic shows a coal mine at dusk.

Commission and its priorities | Policies, information and services

English EN Search

European Commission > Energy > Topics > Oil, gas and coal > Coal regions in transition >

Energy

HOME TOPICS DATA & ANALYSIS CONSULTATIONS NEWS EVENTS FUNDING STUDIES PUBLICATIONS ABOUT US

Coal regions in transition

- Working Groups meetings
The working groups meet regularly to discuss projects and best practices in EU coal regions
- Events and news
Links to EU coal region related events and news
- Secretariat and technical assistance
Assisting regions in preparing, developing and implementing transition-related activities.

LATEST

- Vice-President Seifovic joins U.S. President Trump in opening an LNG export terminal
14 May 2019
- U.S. liquefied natural gas exports up by 272% as EU and U.S. host High-Level Business-to-Business Energy Forum
2 May 2019
- State aid: Commission clears increase in regasification capacity of LNG terminal in Swinoujście, Poland
18 March 2019
- Clean mobility: Putting an end to polluting trucks. Commission welcomes first-ever EU standards to reduce pollution from trucks
19 February 2019
- Energy Union: Commission welcomes tonight's provisional political agreement to...

Cover photo by Tookapic.

Coal is currently mined in 41 regions across 12 EU countries, making it the most abundant fossil fuel in the EU and a significant source of economic activity. Additionally, the coal sector provides jobs to an estimated 240,000 people, including 180,000 in the mining of coal and lignite and 60,000 in coal- and lignite-fired power plants. Coal accounts for nearly a quarter of the total electricity production in the EU and it is an important fuel for industrial processes such as steel production, even though the production and consumption of coal has been steadily declining over the past few decades.

While coal remains a central fuel in the European energy mix, the EU is committed to drastically reducing its carbon footprint. This includes phasing out coal-fired power plants. To encourage the transition...

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>

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*

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Platform for Coal
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Conclusions and recommendations

16.35 – 17.00



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for your attendance!

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