



Welcome
Inter-regional network:
a way to bring different partners into discussion and action

Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

#CoalRegionsEU

Energy



Coal Regions in Transition Platform

Fifth Plenary and Working Group Meetings
15-16 July 2019 Brussels



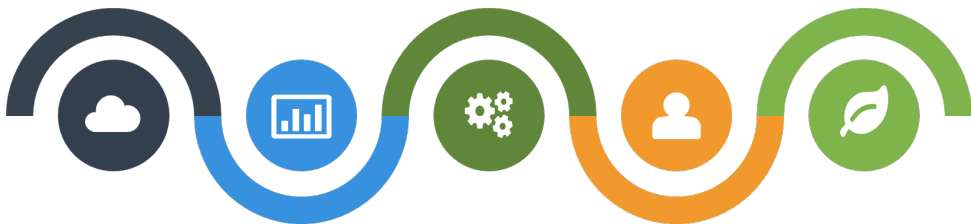
Ministry of Environment and Energy



Region of Western Macedonia



**Inter-regional network: a way to bring
different partners into discussion and action**



Dimitrios Mavromatidis

**Coordinator of Coal Platform Working Team
of Western Macedonia**

Basis of inter-regional dialogue

EU's Commitment

Transition to a clean energy is irreversible and non-negotiable.

No Region must be left behind.

EU , Strasburg , 11 Dec. 2017

Transition deals with local problems, which under the EU initiative and the inter-regional dialogue is foreseen to find common solutions in the extent of Regional similarities and common understanding.

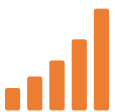
Transition is a multi-disciplinary process, in which Regional synergies and complimentary actions could avoid duplication of effort on :

- structure of transformation
- Technological innovation and new knowledge
- new growth models.

Inter-regional dialogue could act as supplementary / assisting tool for Coal Regions in Transition Platform initiative policies and activities

Proposed steps on inter-regional dialogue establishment

- Development of Regional profiles – Strength and weak points
- Communication of main transition policy items and goals
- Identification of stakeholders and their participation with specific roles and responsibilities
- Identification of Regional projects and policies synergies and collaboration opportunities
- Development of common activities on policy, project and technology upgrade towards job creation and sustainable growth
- Open access to citizens / public awareness increase on transition process



Possible items of inter-regional dialogue



Establishment of networking

- Identification of areas of common interest (policies, organisational issues, technological concepts etc) through questionnaire and meetings



- Voluntary participation of Regions in selected / all items of inter-dialogue aspects
- Identification of goals and final common achievements



- Establishment of quantified parameters for transition evolution and success



A task force is proposed to facilitate networking process



Possible items of inter-regional dialogue



Discussion on best ideas and practices

Selection in Regional basis of sound implemented / on – going projects with high possibilities of replication, as basis for discussion








In line with EU policies and targets, elaboration of ideas and projects development as well as exchange of knowledge



Development of a free access “data repository” on state of the art technological concepts facilitating transition process and job creation



 Region of Western Macedonia	Governor of Western Macedonia
 ΔΗΜΟΣ ΚΟΖΑΝΗΣ	Mayor of Kozani
 ΔΗΜΟΣ ΕΟΡΔΑΙΑΣ	Mayor of Eordaia
<u>Δήμος Αμυνταίου</u>	Mayor of Amyntaio
 ΔΗΜΟΣ ΦΛΩΡΙΝΑΣ 	Mayor of Florina

Working Team for Coal Platform of Western Macedonia (in alphabetic order)

Giannakopoulos Dionysios	Researcher B, Centre of Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH/CPERI), Dr. Mechanical Engineer
Karlopoulos Evangelos	Specific Technical Scientist, Centre of Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH/CPERI), Chemical Engineer MSc
Kiourtsidis Charalambos	Head of Regional Operational Program of Western Macedonia Management Unit.
Mavromatidis Dimitrios	Director of Regional Development Fund Unit of Western Macedonia, President of Technical Chamber of Greece/ W.M
Raftopoulos Stavros	Counsellor of the Ministry of Environment and Energy
Sidiropoulos Anastasios	Director of Programmes Dept, Regional Development Agency of Western Macedonia (ANKO), Economist Phd Cad.
Topaloglou Eleftherios	Director of the Regional Union of Municipalities in Western Macedonia, Dr. Political Scientist
Tourlidakis Antonios	Rector of the University of Western Macedonia, Dr. Mechanical Engineer



Thank you



Inter-regional Network:

a way to bring different partners into discussion and action

Coal Regions in Transition

Platform Meeting

15-16 July 2019

Energy



Secretariat Support Materials

Paul Baker and Robert Pollock
Senior Advisors, Secretariat

Update:
Secretariat
Support Materials

Lead Partner: Wuppertal Institute

- Good practice case studies for transition
 - Summer 2019
- Guidelines on transition strategies
 - Summer 2019
- Toolkit on transition governance
 - Autumn 2019

Update: Secretariat Support Materials

- Toolkit on sustainable employment and welfare
 - End 2019
- Toolkit on environmental rehabilitation and clean strategies
 - End 2019
- Compendium of EU funds and programmes
 - Spring 2020
- Report on transition technologies
 - Spring 2020

Collecting regional data

- Regions recognise the benefit of sharing regional data for networking, sharing of experiences, project development etc
- Secretariat recognises the value in a more detailed understanding of differing regional contexts to further develop its support and offering
- A draft template has been developed and circulated in advance

Collecting regional data

- Are the key issues addressed in the template?
- Is the template too detailed or insufficiently detailed?
- To who and how should we circulate the template for completion?
- How do we encourage completion?
- What could be the end uses of completed data?

Template sections

- General information

Background information

- Regional socio-economic profile
- Regional coal industry and coal power plant profile
- Coal Communities

Template sections

Transition information

- Transitions strategies
- Transition challenges
- Transition opportunities
- Key regional assets to support transition
- Current / planned projects and initiatives
- Good practices and innovative approaches for coal transition

Collecting regional data

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Platform for Coal
Regions in Transition

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"Supporting the green energy transition of the EU's coal-producing regions"

South West Oltenia Regional Development Agency

Laura Buzatu- project expert
laura.buzatu@adroltenia.ro

Brussels, July 15 -16 2019

GENERAL PRESENTATION

INTERREG EUROPE 2014-2020 Program - call no. 3 (2017)

Priority Axis 3: "Low-carbon savings".

Specific objective 3.1: "Improving the implementation of regional development policies and programs, in particular investment programs for growth and jobs and, where appropriate, European territorial cooperation programs aimed at the transition to a low-carbon economy, especially in the framework of smart specialization strategies "

The INTERREG Europe Program 2014-2020, aims to improve the implementation of regional development policies and programs, mainly the programs under the Investment for growth and jobs and, where appropriate, the programs of the within the European Territorial Cooperation objective by promoting the exchange of experience and learning new policies among regional actors.

INTERREG Europe is active in 30 countries: the 28 member states of the European Union, Switzerland and Norway.

The managing authority of the program is the Nord-Pas de Calais Regional Council (France).

Interreg Europe: a unique programme

- At the heart of the EU cohesion policy:
 - Dedicated to improving regional development policies in particular Structural Funds programme;
 - Mix between more and less advanced regions;
 - High participation of peripheral regions.
- Based on local needs: importance of stakeholders
- Focused on results: 2 phases implementation
- Innovative programme: lump sum for phase 2

INTERREG



**an accelerator for regional
development**

Study on INTERREG IVC results

Early 2018:

- 117 projects;**
- 200 completed responses from 27 countries**

- 80 % policy change took place in their region**
- 71 % their project lead to an implementation of a new initiative**

Emphasis on improving regional policies & programmes

Interreg Europe improves the implementation of regional development policies and programmes, in particular **Investment for Growth and Jobs** and European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) programmes.

Four topics were selected in order to make the best use of limited funds. The more focused the actions, the higher the chances they deliver effective results.



Research & innovation



SME competitiveness



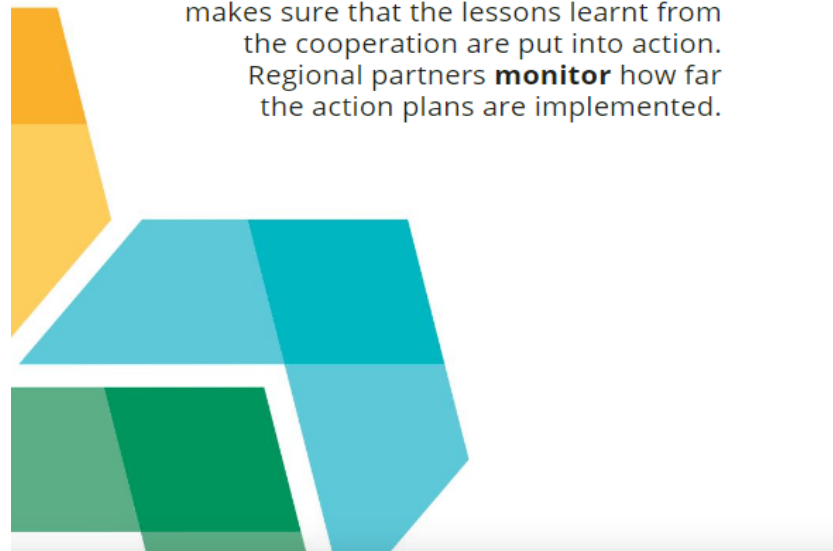
Environment & resource efficiency



Low-carbon economy

Public organisations from different regions in Europe work together for 3 to 5 years on a shared policy issue.

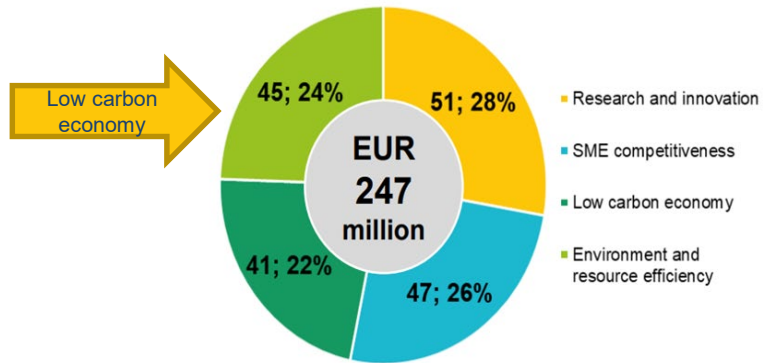
An **action plan**, specific for each region, makes sure that the lessons learnt from the cooperation are put into action. Regional partners **monitor** how far the action plans are implemented.



258 projects work on the four topics and provide inspiration to all regions in Europe.

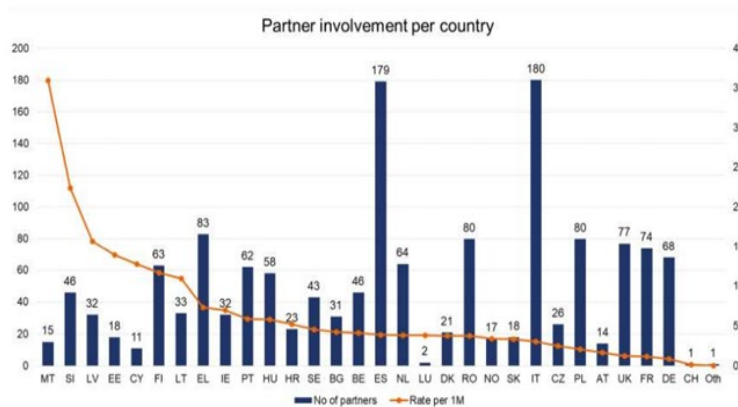
Projects overview

Three calls



➤ High participating of lagging behind/ peripheral regions

Projects: country involvement



➤ Mix of less and more advanced regions

DeCarb - SUPPORTING THE CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION OF COAL-INTENSIVE REGIONS

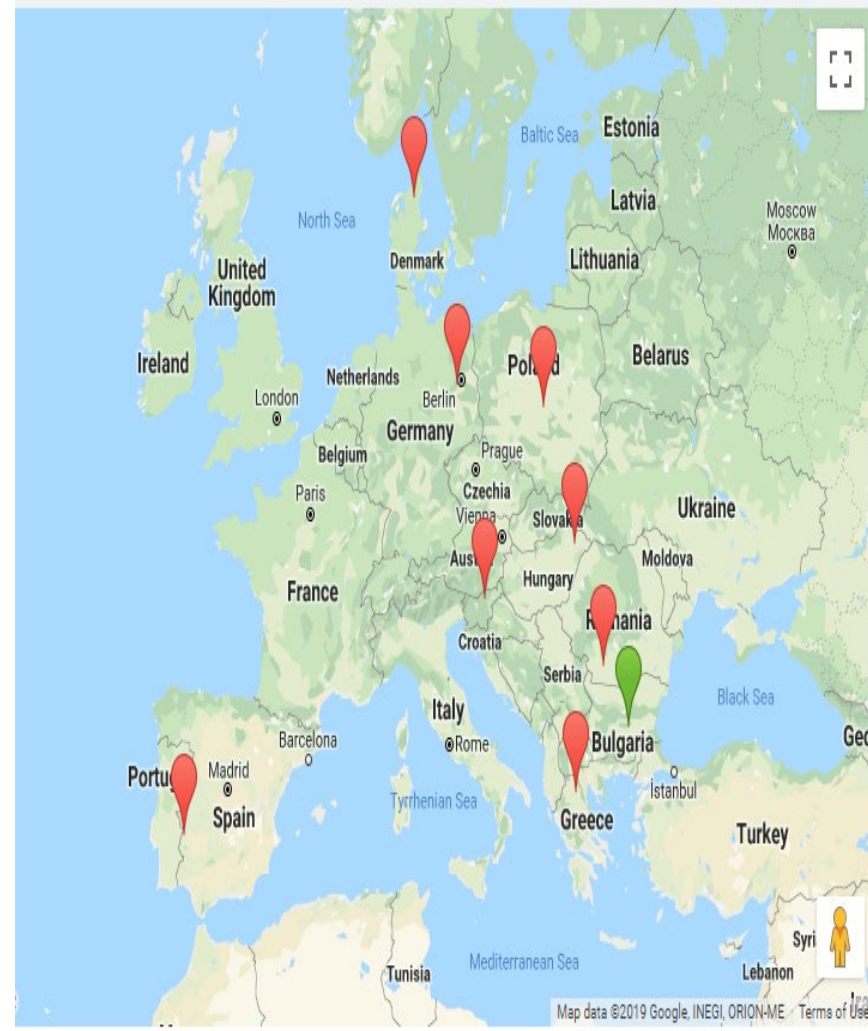
The low-carbon energy shift of EU economies will have a profound economic & social impact on regions extensively involved in coal value chains. It is however acknowledged that this transition needs to be fair; EC's "Clean Energy For All Europeans" package was set in place to speed the clean energy transition and growth & job creation. To this end, DeCarb will support public authorities to initiate efforts, join forces and exchange experiences to:

- a) identify growth strategies to mitigate the impact of decarbonisation,
- b) make the most of EU funds & financing tools, and
- c) promote public dialogue on conflicting interests.

9 Regions – 1 Goal

DeCarb brings together 9 partners, to exchange experiences & transfer knowledge on how to transition from the carbon-intensive era towards the clean energy future.

It will support regions to secure sustainable development, economic & societal stability, and a role in the 2030 energy mix.



1. **Leading partner:** Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency

•**Partners:**

2. Lodzkie Region- Poland

3. ENEREA Eszak-Alfold Regional Energy Agency Nonprofit Ltd.- Hungary

4. South-West Oltenia Regional Development Agency- Romania

5. Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, State of Brandenburg- Germany

6. House of Energy DK-Denmark

7. Regional Association of Local Governments of Western Macedonia- Greece

8. Energy Agency of Savinjska, Saleska and Koroska Region- Slovenia

9. Extremadura Energy Agency-Spain



The overall objective of the DeCarb project

The project aims to support the coal-intensive regions to:

- a) pass through the transition of ecological energy without having a negative impact on economic and social stability;
- b) assess regional specificities (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) innovation policies to stimulate growth, and
- c) to meet its CO₂ emissions targets and to play its role in the 2030 energy mix.

Specific objectives:

- assess and analyze the territorial impact and increase the knowledge and capacities of public authorities in exploiting the opportunities for territorial growth;
- to support the development of private investment plans in the green energy sector and public subsidies, as well as investment in green solutions for coal mining;
- to ensure public dialogue on conflict resolution, building consensus and raising awareness on how to implement the transition of green energy at regional level.

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

The project is to be implemented over a 60-month period, run in two phases.

Phase 1, lasting 36 months, involves an interregional learning process that will be completed by developing a mobility plan (action).

Phase 2, with a duration of 24 months, will monitor the implementation of the Plan.



Project budget :

	Partner	FEDR	Partner's Contribution	TOTAL
P1 (LP)	SZRDA	206.066,35	32.364,65	242,431
PP2	Lodzkie Region	142.762,60	25.193,40	167.956
PP3	ENEREA	147.465,65	26.023,35	173.489
PP4	SWO RDA	131.279,10	23.166,90	154.446
PP5	MWE Branderburg	208.647,80	36.820,20	245.468
PP6	House Of Energy	209.238,55	36.924,45	246.163
PP7	Regional Association Of Local Governments Of Western Macedonia	133.407,50	23.542,50	156.950
PP8	Energy Agency Of Savinjska	154.450,10	27.255,90	181.706
PP9	Extramedura	203.260,50	35.869,50	239.130
TOTAL BUDGET		1.536.578,15	271.160,85	1.807.739

EXPECTED IMPACT

- Increase the capacity of 200 public administration employees to effectively support new growth paths and energy security
- ~ 19 million euros unlocked to support renewable energy projects, re-qualification of workforce and land use after exploitation
- Raise awareness and strengthen consensus between the energy sector, workforce and citizens to support clean energy transition measures (over 1000 individuals).

The innovative character of DeCarb comes from the following:

1. It addresses a problem for the first time in contextual terms EU-funded interregional cooperation (phasing-out of coal-based energy production)
2. **Reacts to a very recent EC regulatory package (November 2016), which is also not covered by previous calls from Interreg Europe;** in addition, at the national, regional and local level, the responses to the Clean Energy for All European Package are still being developed, thus placing DeCarb at the heart of emerging pressures that have not been addressed before

3. The link between clean energy transition and growth and employment trajectories in an integrated approach that goes beyond the definition of objective emissions and policies for the introduction of renewable energies
4. Early contributions are looking forward and expanding to the energy mix of the next three decades.
5. Previously relevant thematic projects did not address the territorial particularities of the intensive coal regions

BENEFITS OF INERREGIONAL COOPERATION

The pressures faced by DeCarb regions are common in economic, social and environmental terms.

However, in present, DeCarb partners have progressed decarbonisation at a different level and have focused on the different aspects of this transition.

This reality forms a favorable cooperation policy for learning, sharing experiences and jointly exploring solutions and developing plans, maximizing the dissemination of political, operational and technical knowledge, saving both effort and time.

BENEFITS OF INERREGIONAL COOPERATION

The most advanced will benefit by learning policies on different paths followed by other partners; those who are left behind will begin their transition by developing capacities based on the most effective practices.

In turn, this cooperation and harmonization of the partners' political approach is expected to make a significant contribution to the achievement of emission targets in a larger EU area.

PREPARING FOR THE 2020 STRATEGY

DeCarb is directly linked to the EU 2020 climate and energy strategy because it is driven by the requirement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to increase the role of renewable energy in the energy mix of partners.

DeCarb also focuses on how to promote smart, sustainable growth during the transition to clean energy for territories that most need it.

Project activities

- Develop stakeholder groups and stakeholder meetings;
- Exchange of experience through joint interregional activities;
- Identifying good practice and development strategies;
- Elaboration of guidelines and roadmaps for advancing the transition of clean energy;
- Elaborating regional action plans to improve and/or reorient policy tools to address decarbonisation;
- Defining the social policy actions needed to address employment issues;
- Monitoring action plans and policy tools in implementing changes to support decarbonisation;
- Dissemination activities.

DeCarbonisation the energy sector is one process with multiple social ramifications, requiring a integrated planning to avoid unsustainable social pressures. Coal regions have historically played a key role in many countries economic and social development. Consequently, they have a strong political and societal influence, which makes structural change processes difficult. For these countries, coal regions are not only significant political powers in themselves, but also major economic assets, which they will not give up lightly.



Interregional cooperation is about finding better solutions. Through the project, the regions will be able to keep informed, discover what works, learn from each others, and identify valuable approach.

Four research activities aim to explore the field and providing the basis for policy planning.

Partner countries will collect data from their territories, the process finalizing with the development of four studies:

- Analysis of economic and social impact of decarbonisation;
- Good practices on decarbonisation and clean energy transition;
- Identifying ways to increase decarbonisation;
- Restoring environmental resources and analyzing land restoration needs.



Public Dialogue and Policy Learning

DeCarb will organize interregional workshops, information days, on-site visits and social dialogue events to promote synergies with stakeholders and ensure public consensus and social acceptance



Action plans

Each partner will develop an action plan to promote the clean energy transition by putting in place policies to boost growth and meet CO2 emissions targets and ensure the role of regions in the EU's energy mix for 2030.

DeCarb project provides for the organization of regional meetings with stakeholders from all project partners. Regional stakeholder meetings will provide forums for discussion between project partners and key stakeholders in the DeCarb regions in order to receive information on specific measures and incentives to be planned to support sustainable development in the clean energy era.

So far, two interregional meetings have been organized, one in **Stara Zagora Bulgaria-the kikoff meeting**, and one in **Badajoz, Extremadura, Spain**-whose total energy comes from renewable energy sources, and in October 2019 it will have the third meeting in **Germany in the Lusatia** area, a real model of good practice for post-mining land restoration.

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www.adroltenia.ro**

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Thank you!

Laura Buzatu – proiect expert



Project smedia