EU coal+ regions exchange programme

Individual application form

Before you complete the application form, please refer to all available information on the EU coal+ regions exchange programme ("exchangeEU") on its website and FAQ and reach out to exchangeEU@coalregions.eu in case of further questions.

exchangeEU is part of the EU initiative for coal regions in transition. Learn more about the initiative here.

To apply for the exchangeEU programme, please complete the application form in EU Survey (here) by **31 January 2022, noon at the latest**.

If there is a region with which you would like to apply as a pre-established pairing, please use the form for **joint applications** (here in EU Survey).

For your application to be processed, you must confirm that you have read the privacy statement and consent to the processing of personal data as described therein. The privacy statement is available here (link to follow).

☐ By checking this box, you confirm that you have read the privacy statement and that you consent to personal data provided in this application being processed as described in the privacy statement.

Please answer the questions below. You are encouraged to provide answers in bullet points where suitable.
Fields marked with ** are mandatory.

Part A – General regional profile

A1. Member State **
[   ] *{max 300 characters}*

A2. Name your region **
[   ] *{max 300 characters}*

A3. What is the status of coal, oil shale and/or peat extraction in your region? **
- ☐ *Ongoing extraction*
- ☐ *No longer extracting*
- ☐ *Never had any extraction*

A4. If extraction is still ongoing, when is the planned phase-out date, if any? If already no longer extracting, when did operations cease?
[   ] *[max 300 characters}*

A5. Select all fossil fuels extracted in your region (even if no longer ongoing). **
- ☐ *None*
- ☐ *Hard Coal (Anthracite)*
- ☐ *Black Coal (Bituminous)*
- ☐ *Brown Coal (Lignite)*
- ☐ *Oil Shale*
- ☐ *Peat*
- ☐ *Surface mining*
- ☐ *Deep mining*
- ☐ *Other:* [   ] *{max 300 characters}*

A6. Mark below which of the following end-uses intensively exploit any of the above fossil fuels in your region, if any. **
- ☐ *None*
- ☐ *Electricity-only power plants*
- ☐ *CHP power plants also supplying (district) heating*
- ☐ *District heating from smaller power plants*
- ☐ *Individual heating systems in many buildings/private households*
- ☐ *Non-energetic industries relying on direct fossil-fuel use (e.g., steel, cement, chemicals)*
- ☐ *Other:* [   ] *{max 300 characters}*

Part B – Details about the main applicant

B1. Type of applicant. Please note that applicants, which are not themselves public authorities, are strongly recommended to submit one or more letters of support from suitable public authorities under question B4. For questions about public authorities and letters of support, please refer to the FAQ. **

- ☐ *Regional public authority*
- ☐ *Local public authority*
- ☐ *Development or energy agency*
- ☐ *Trade union*
- ☐ *(Business) association*
- ☐ *Non-governmental organisation*
- ☐ *Business or company*
- ☐ *Vocational school*
- ☐ *University or academic/ research institution/ Think tank*
- ☐ *Other:* [   ] *{max 300 characters}*

B2. Name of your applicant institution/ entity (in English and local language) **
[   ] *{max 300 characters}*

B3. Primary contact person for this application ** *{max 300 characters each}*
- o Full name [   ]
- o Function/ job title [   ]
- o Division/ department [   ]
- o email address [   ]
- o Phone number [   ]

B4. If you are not a public authority: To demonstrate regional commitment to this application, I have uploaded one or more letters of support from a regional or local public authority's leadership, supporting the submission of this application for my region. **
- ☐ *Yes*
- ☐ *No*
- ▪ If yes, please clarify from which level(s) the letter(s) is/ are from: municipal, city, metropolitan, regional and/ or *other* [   ] *{max 300 characters}*

B5. If applying on behalf of (other) public authorities in your region, please provide their relevant information. ** *{max 1000 characters}*
- o Name, in English, of each (other) public authority in your region involved in your application to this programme, clearly indicating at which level: municipal, city, metropolitan, regional or other
- o Main contact person for this programme for each (other) public authority, including their: full name, function/ job title, division/ department, email address

[   ]

Part C – Applicants' proposed personnel roles, capacities and motivation

The exchangeEU programme encourages the participation of all actors relevant to the just energy transition of your region. If you prefer a group format for your exchange, we recommend convening a delegation of representatives from different sectors, and ideally with a meaningful balance of gender, ethnicity and age groups. Please note further details provided in the FAQ.

C1. Please indicate if you wish to take part in the exchange as mentor, mentee or both. **

- ☐ *Mentor*
- ☐ *Mentee*
- ☐ *Both*

C2. Please indicate if you would like to be hosting, visiting or have no preference. **

- ☐ *Hosting*
- ☐ *Visiting*
- ☐ *No preference*

C3. Please list names, entities and roles of the persons to be potentially engaged in your exchange delegation. Please note further details on delegations and the financing limits by the programme provided in the FAQ. ** *{max 1000 characters}*

C4. List the languages in which your delegation is comfortable cooperating, including your own. Please note that this is primarily for our information only, and there is not necessarily a language prerequisite. ** *{max 300 characters}*

C5. Explain – in as specific terms as possible – how you can contribute to the exchange (e.g., dedicated personnel, expertise, interpretation, other services, venues, catering). ** *{max 1000 characters}*

C6. Why are you interested in joining this programme? What do you wish to learn and/ or share with your pair about the just energy transition? ** *{max 1000 characters}*

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Part D – Priority challenges, transition opportunities and proposed actions

D1. Please rank the following thematic clusters from 1 to 6 (or 7 if including an additional topic under "Other"), which you would like to address in your exchange, with 1 being the top priority for your region and each number being applied once. Please note that these rankings are primarily used for matchmaking purposes and may evolve during the implementation of the exchange (see FAQ). **

Thematic cluster	Examples (non-exhaustive)	Rank (1-6 or 7)
Clean energy transition	renewable energies, energy efficiency, energy storage, centralised vs. decentralised energy systems, green hydrogen, natural gas, etc.	
Economic diversification and regional development	fostering entrepreneurship, supporting innovative start-ups and research parks, smart specialisation, opportunities for digitalisation, green and clean energy economy/ jobs, decarbonisation of industry, re-skilling/ upskilling workers, long-term improvement of the educational and innovation system, etc.	
Transition governance and strategy	effective institutional set-ups, optimising administrative capacities, improving participatory processes and intra-regional cooperation, alignment with local to national strategies, etc.	
Project implementation and finance	project planning/ prioritisation, feasibility/ assessments, innovative finance options, blending funding sources, etc.	
Effects on social fabric and community	community cohesion, heritage, energy poverty, individual/ community identity challenges, deterritorialisation, social challenges, gender dimensions, effects on un-shifted workers, etc.	
Infrastructure and site sustainability	closing/ repurposing mines or power plants, environmental rehabilitation, commercial spaces and sites, transport infrastructure, etc.	
Other	*If 'Other' is included in your ranking, please specify.*	

D2. Elaborate on the top 2 priorities which you marked in question D1, providing further insights regarding, e.g., more specific sub-topics. ** {max 1000 character per priority}

D3. Has your region already started planning, processes and/ or concrete measures to facilitate the just energy transition? **
   - ☐ *Yes*
   - ☐ *No*
   - ▪ If yes, please explain your planning, processes and/ or measures, as well how advanced they are.

   [   ] *{max 1000 characters}*

D4. Indicate the type of cooperation you believe would be most suitable for your needs. Elaborate on the intentions and possible elements or specific actions to explore in the exchange (e.g., site visits, outreach to specific stakeholder groups) in the text box below. Please refer to the FAQ for more information on the possible formats. **
   - ☐ *Group workshops*
   - ☐ *Peer-to-peer learning (e.g., job shadowing or mentoring)*
   - ☐ *Other (please specify)*

   [   ] *{max 2000 characters}*

D5. Please explain how you plan to engage different actors in your region beyond those entities in your proposed delegation. *{max 1000 characters}*

   [   ]

D6. Do you plan to foster social inclusion (e.g., energy poverty, gender dimensions) through your actions proposed above?
   - ☐ *Yes*
   - ☐ *No*
   - ▪ If yes, please describe.

   [   ] *{max 1000 characters}*

D7. In case you have expressed your preference for a fully in person exchange format, please confirm your commitment to participate in the exchange in case it is implemented (partially) virtually. **
   - ☐ *Yes*
   - ☐ *No*

Part E – Previous experiences

E1. Does your entity have existing ties (e.g., previous/ ongoing exchanges or projects) with other regions, within the EU or otherwise, in fields related to the just energy transition and/ or those you have mentioned above? **
- ☐ *Yes*
- ☐ *No*
- ▪ If yes, please briefly outline these activities, the partners involved and specify if connected to any EU programmes. *{max 1000 characters}*

E2. Explain your experience liaising with (other) public authorities, including at different levels, in your country, especially related to just energy transition. *{max 1000 characters}*

E3. What successful experiences do you have cooperating with others in the industry/ business sector, the research/ academic community, civil society groups and/ or citizens on just energy transition? *{max 1000 characters}*

E4. Mark below any of the following medium-/ long-term strategies in place for your region (even at national or local levels), which are relevant for just energy transition issues and/ or serve as a basis for inspiring your proposed actions. **
- ☐ *Coal+ Transition*
- ☐ *Energy and climate (e.g., renewables, efficiency, adaptation, SEAP, SECAP…)*
- ☐ *Environmental (e.g., air quality, biodiversity, land use, LEAP, GCAP…)*
- ☐ *Transport and mobility (e.g., SUMP)*
- ☐ *Digitalisation or Smart Cities*
- ☐ *Business, economic, investment, innovation or regional development (e.g., Smart Specialisation)*
- ☐ *Social (e.g., health, poverty, inclusion, gender, cohesion, culture, education…)*
- ☐ *Other:*   *{max 300 characters}*
- ☐ *None so far*

Part F – Other

F1. If there is a region in the EU with which you would prefer to work on an exchange, please describe your suggestions (up to 3) and explain why you find them appropriately matched to your region. Please note that it is not possible to guarantee that your preferences will be fulfilled. Furthermore, if there is a region with which you would like to apply as a pre-established pairing, please use the form for **joint applications**. *{max 1000 characters}*

F2. Please provide other relevant information or comments, if any, that you consider useful for your application. *{max 1000 characters}*