



European
Commission

Regional transitions in a time of uncertainty: perspectives and insights from coal and peat regions

Coal regions in transition virtual week

3 July 2020

Platform for coal regions in transition



A few rules before we begin

Participants are muted at all times

Questions are asked in the Q&A section

For social media: #CoalRegionsEU

Presentation

Activities of the Secretariat

Maria Yetano Roche

Secretariat of the Coal Regions in Transition Initiative

Paul Baker

Secretariat of the Coal Regions in Transition Initiative

Support materials

Development of transition-related support materials and tools



Support materials

- Currently available at ec.europa.eu/coal-regions-in-transition
- 12 case studies
- 4 toolkits:
 - Transition strategies
 - Governance of transitions
 - Sustainable employment and welfare support
 - Environmental rehabilitation and repurposing



Case studies

1. InnovationCity Ruhr: Model City Bottrop
2. Genk's ongoing transition
3. Oil & Gas Transition Training Fund, Scotland
4. Latrobe Valley Authority, Australia
5. Transforming the lignite-fired Matra power plant into part of a renewable energy cluster.
6. Information platform for post-industrial and degraded areas in Silesia (OPI-TPP)
7. Task force on Just Transition for Canadian coal power workers and communities
8. The Lewarde mining history centre
9. Wałbrzych special economic zone „INVEST-PARK“, Poland
10. RE-START Strategy for economic restructuring of Czech coal regions
11. Regional Development Agency Rhenish Lignite Mining Area
12. Rebuilding the Appalachian economy: Coalfield Development, USA

All case studies are available on ec.europa.eu/coal-regions-in-transition



Toolkits



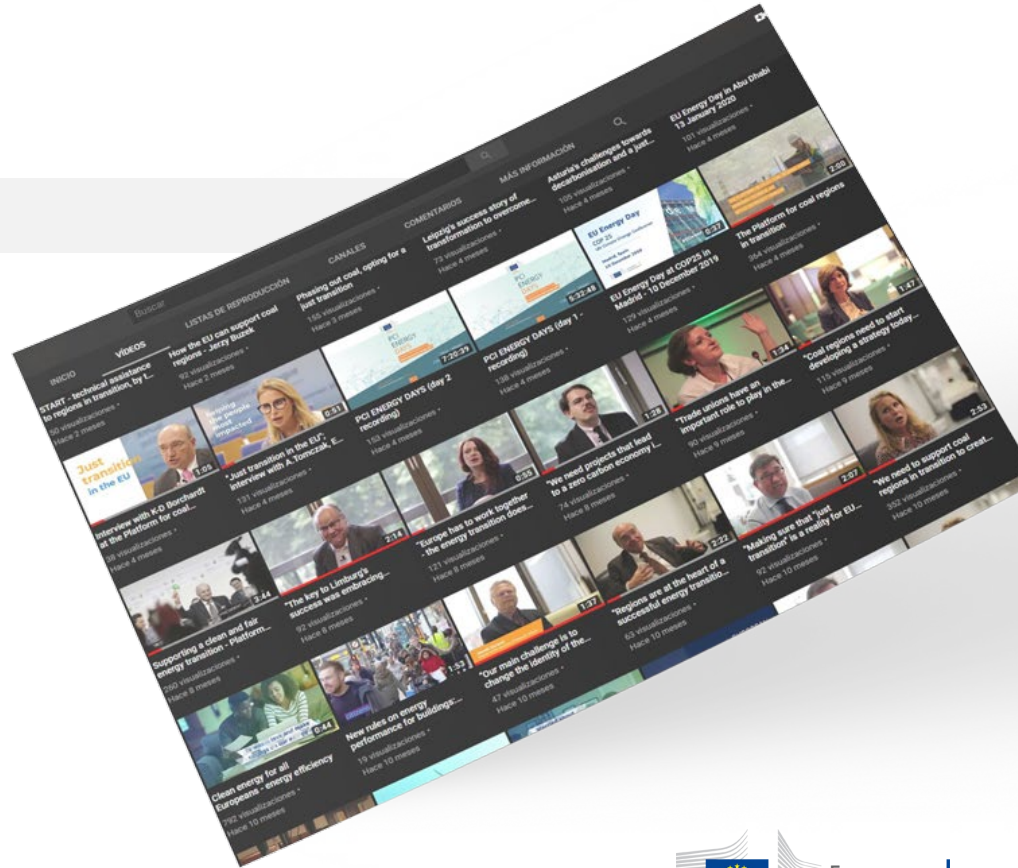
Support materials

Available for viewing

Transition strategies and governance of transitions - 26 May ([link](#))

Environmental rehabilitation and repurposing - 3 June ([link](#))

Sustainable employment and welfare support - 18 June ([link](#))





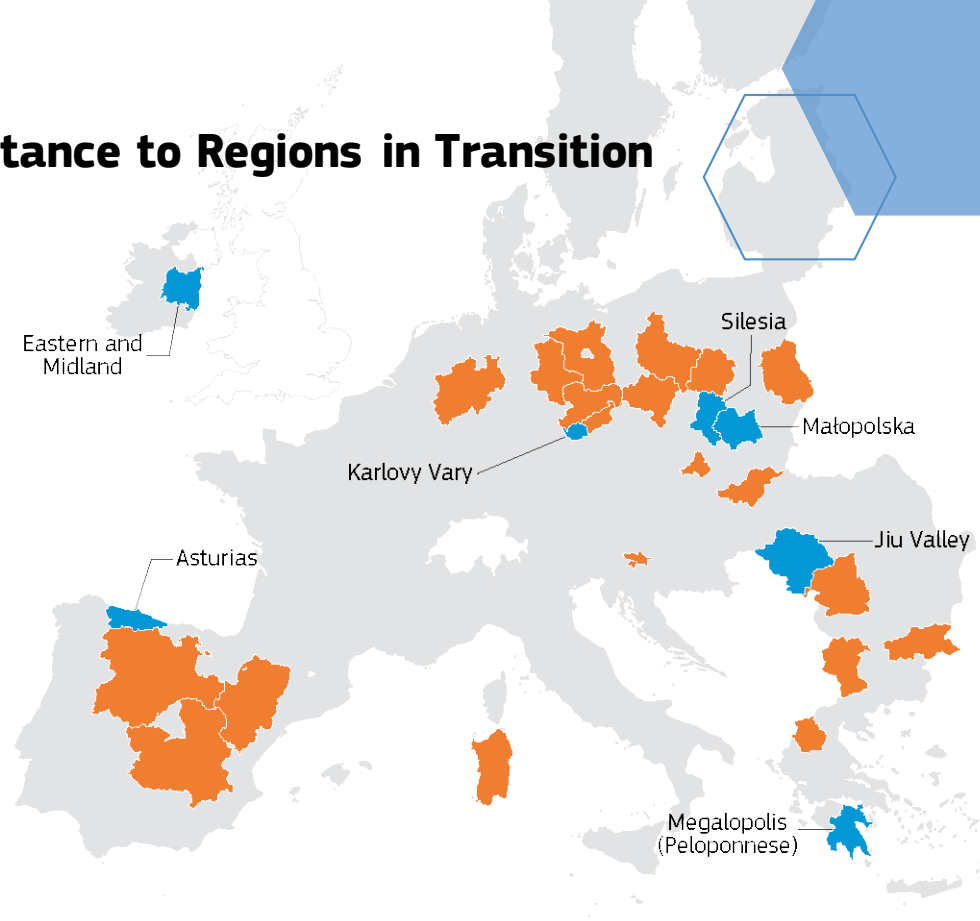
Technical assistance

Supporting strategy formulation, project development and governance in transition regions



START: Secretariat Technical Assistance to Regions in Transition

Asturias (ES)	Energy transition and post-coal strategy and project support
Midlands (IE)	Community engagement, project identification and transition plan
Karlovy Vary (CZ)	Strategy support, project identification and consultation
Malopolska (PL)	Project support and consultation
Megalopolis (EL)	Project analysis, identification and support
Jiu Valley (RO)	Project identification, selection and consultation
Silesia (PL)	Rehabilitation and repurposing of post-industrial area



Deliver technical assistance support to regions in transition

Resources and approach

7 regions supported

Circa 50 to 120 days of support per region

Complementary to other EC (and other) support efforts

Co-creation - engaging closely with recipients of support

Process to date

5 regional field visits (meetings with over 100 regional actors)

Workplans developed

Now delivering support (adapted to Covid-19 circumstances)

Close co-operation and co-ordination with EC (Ener, Regio, Reform etc) and regional and national departments / ministries



Available deliverables

■ Regional profiles

Outline of the situation of the coal sector, transition plans, challenges and opportunities in each START region ([link](#))

■ Midlands Engagement Process document

Guidance on project identification

Information on emerging economic activities in rural communities and examples of innovative and community-led rural development projects ([link](#))

■ Regional survey: impact of Covid-19

Survey of START and other regions regarding pandemic's impact ([link](#))



ROUNDTABLE

Regional transitions in a time of uncertainty: perspectives and insights

Moderator: Robert Pollock

Secretariat of the Coal Regions in Transition Initiative

María Belarmina Díaz Aguado

Director General for Energy, Mining and Reactivating, Principality of Asturias, Spain

Kieran Mulvey

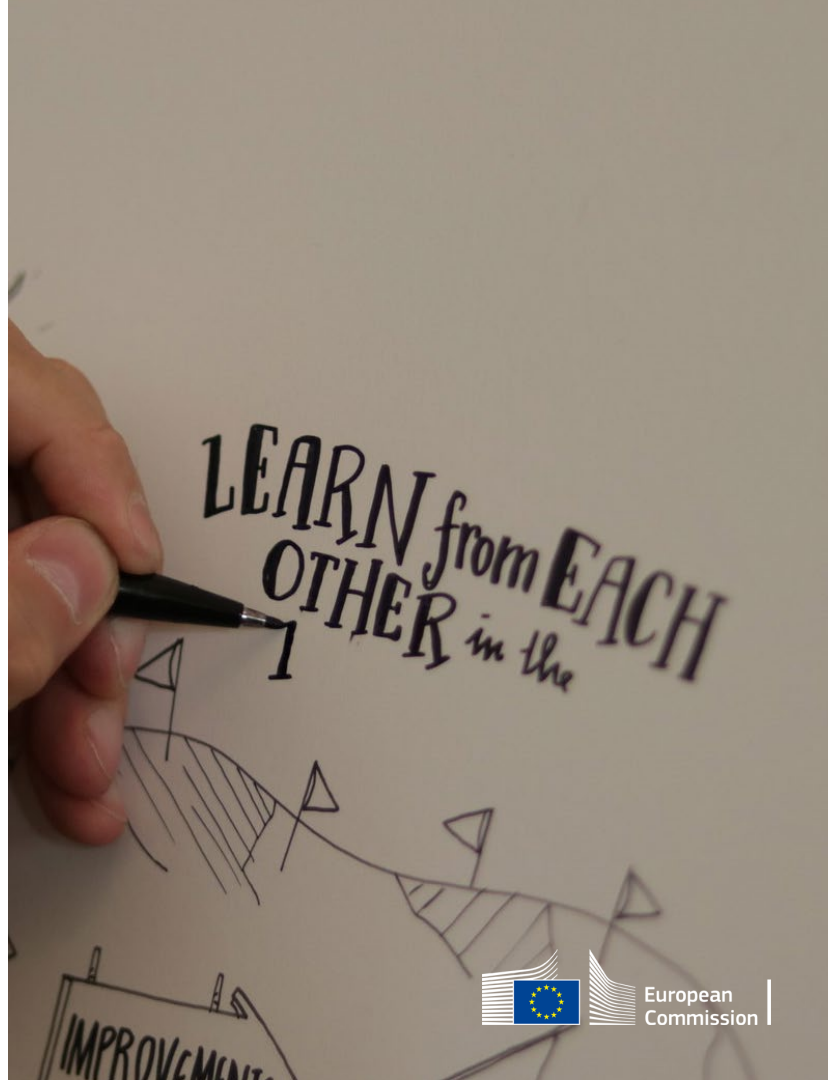
Just Transition Commissioner, Ireland

Jiří Štěřba

Deputy Assignee to Karlovy Vary Region Governor for RE:START and Coal (CRiT) Platform

Timon Wehnert

Secretariat of the Coal Regions in Transition Initiative





Launch of the Just Transition Platform

Coal Regions in Transition virtual week &
Carbon Intensive Regions seminar

June 29 - July 3 2020

#JustTransitionPlatform

#CoalRegionsEU



GOBIERNO DEL PRINCIPADO DE ASTURIAS

Regional transitions in uncertain times: insights and perspectives from regional stakeholders



María Belarmina Díaz Aguado

Director General Energy, Mining & Reactivation

Government of Asturias

July 3th, 2020





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Just transition in coal regions: Asturias

SCENARIO BY 2030 COMPARED TO 2017

- Power capacity (MW): -26,4 %
- Energy generation (MWh): - 54,2 %
- CO₂ emissions (t CO₂/year): -96,5 %

Uncertainty + certain risks: *VERTIGO*

Who?

What?

Why?

When?

How?

Economic diversification
and transformation

Technological disruption

Sustainability





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Perspectives



GOBIERNO DEL PRINCIPADO DE ASTURIAS

- **Identifying opportunities from our roots:**
*Natural resources, sea, wind, experience
as miners and energy producers*
- ▶ Improve cooperation between local, regional,
National and European Authorities
- ▶ Public-private partnerships: **social dialogue**
- ▶ Pipeline of projects and Flag projects with
added value: no magic solution
- ▶ To give our territories their own tools
to diversify



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Perspectives



GOBIERNO DEL PRINCIPADO DE ASTURIAS



- LAUNCH OF COAL PLATFORM. VOICE OF ASTURIAS TO BE HEARD.
- LAUNCH OF JUST TRANSITION PLATFORM. TO REMIND OUR VOICE

Support from the UE



Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaíthe
ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil
Department of Communications,
Climate Action & Environment



MidlandsIreland.ie
gateway to growth

**Regional Enterprise Plan
to 2020**
MIDLANDS

Just Transition

Kieran Mulvey
Commissioner

My Terms of Reference....

Help ensure a coordinated and effective approach to Just Transition, focusing initially on communities and workers affected by the ending of peat harvesting for power generation in the Midlands region.

A coordinated, long-term, and multi-pronged response involving social partners, industry, and Government, whilst taking account of relevant existing plans and programmes by the State as well as provisions made in Budget 2020 to support a Just Transition

To engage with all relevant stakeholders

To make recommendations on the essential elements of a Just Transition for workers and communities most affected, including through:

Delivery of the Just Transition measures provided for in Budget 2020,

Implementation of other actions underway, or planned, by Government Departments, Agencies, and Companies, including the four competitive funds under Project Ireland 2040;

Optimal structures or processes to support co-ordinated and effective delivery of a Just Transition in the Midlands, including developing liaison channels between institutions in the region and central

Just Transition

Wider Midlands can be defined as

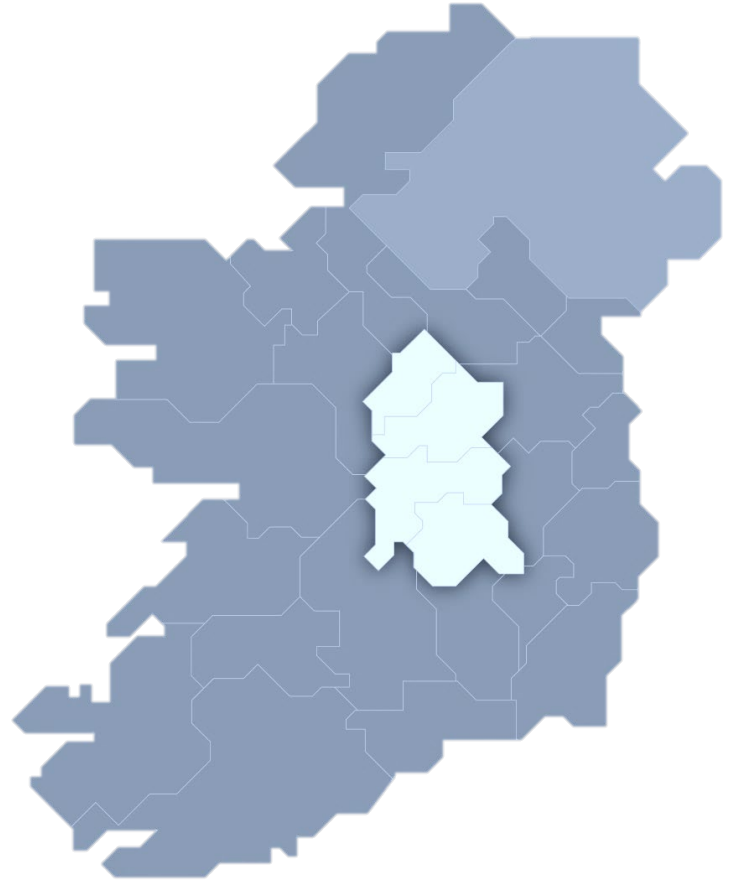
Laois
Longford
Offaly
Westmeath

Together with impacted communities in adjoining regions

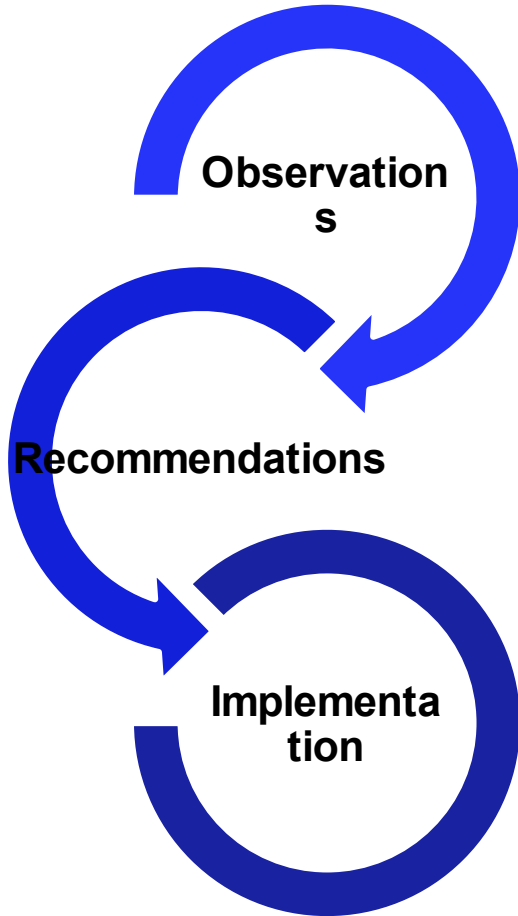
West Region –Roscommon & Galway (East Galway)

Mid East Region - Kildare

Mid West Region - Tipperary (Littleton)



Progress Report November 2019 – April 2020



- Willingness within the region to collaborate
- Identifying Alternative Employment Opportunities
- Inhibitors: availability of commercial property
- Key enablers for the wider Midland Region
- Accessing additional funds in midst of Covid-19
- Diminishing rate base

Restructure the MRTT, to reflect wider Midlands
Establish working groups, initial guidance offered, but indicative in terms of membership

- Education & Training/Research
- Employment generation committee
- Employment Continuity Pathways
- Community Assistance Programme/ Social Enterprise Interventions

Budget 2020 Funds – JTF, Retrofitting, NPWS Rehabilitation Programme
Governments Detailed Implementation Plan – June 2020
Carbon Tax Revenues – request of additional €25M – Incentives to go green
Infrastructure – broadband, EV charging
Whole of Midlands Strategic Approach
Strategic Partnerships of State Assets
Climate Change Centre/ Eden Project

Stage 1 – Just Transition Fund

Sectors of opportunity identified:

- Tourism / Culture and Heritage
 - Greenways
 - Shannon Masterplan – Irelands Hidden Heartlands
- Green and clean technologies
- Remote / co-working / locationless jobs
- Agriculture
- Circular economy
- Training / Upskilling

Deadline to register projects of interest:

Friday, June 12th

w/c June 15th DCCAE set to issue JFT Criteria

Midlands Engagement process



This process is supported by the START technical assistance activities from the European Commission's Platform for coal regions in transition.

CONTACT

Midlands Regional Transition Team

justtransition@mrt.ie

Next Steps

Detailed JTF Criteria from DCCAE on June 15th

Projects to commence in late July/ early August

Ensure draw down of Budget 2020 measures dedicated to the Midland Region

Government Detailed Implementation Plan due end of June 2020

European Just Transition Fund

Convene MRTT Working Groups

Risks – must acknowledge and ask for your support in terms of identifying a mechanism to enable the spend of funds identified in Budget 2020 to be permitted spend into 2021, however an inability to spend in 2020, does not bode well for Budget 2021 ask of €25M





Thank You

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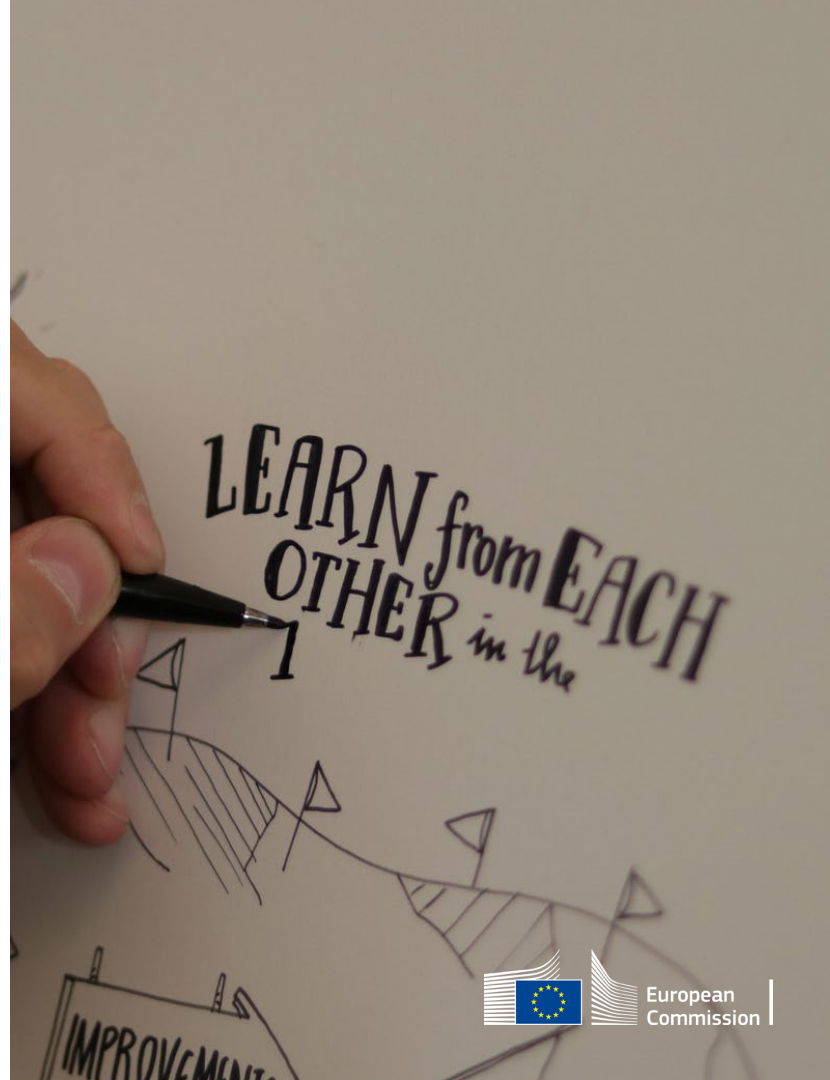
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Q&A



ONLINE POLL

Future Initiative activities and support

What format would you prefer the coal regions in transition initiative to use for future Working Group Meetings? (single answer)

Which communication tools do you consider most useful to inform about the Platform related activities and outcomes? (2 answers)

Which of the following themes would you like to see covered in our next Working Group Meeting? (2 answers)

Online questionnaire

What format would you prefer the coal regions in transition initiative to use for future Working Group Meetings? (single answer)

Which communication tools do you consider most useful to inform about the Platform related activities and outcomes? (2 answers)

Which of the following themes would you like to see covered in our next Working Group Meeting?(2 answers)

Conclusion and next steps for the Initiative



Thank you

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#CoalRegionsEU

