



## 6th Working Group Meeting Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

Charlemagne Building &  
Albert Borschette Conference Centre  
Brussels / 16-17 October 2019

### Wednesday 16 October

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**08.15 - 09.00**     **Registration and welcome coffee.**

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**09.00 - 13.00**     **Morning plenary. Charlemagne Building, Gasperi room.**  
*Chaired by Klaus-Dieter Borchardt, Deputy Director General, DG ENER.*  
*Interpretation in EN-FR-DE-PL-ES-EL-CZ-SK-RO-UA.*

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**09.00 - 09.30**     **Introduction by the European Commission:**  
• *Klaus-Dieter Borchardt, Deputy Director General, DG ENER.*  
• *Introduction of the Annual Dialogue 2019 - Görlitz (25/26 November 2019).*

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**09.30 - 10.15**     **Recent developments in EU transition:**  
• *Torsten Pöttsch, Mayor of Weisswasser, Germany, Kamila Blahova, Mayor of Litvinov, Czech Republic and Juliette de Granpré, WWF.*  
• *Dr. Raphael L'Hoest, Deputy Director General Economic Policy, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, Germany.*

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**10.15 - 10.45**     **Coffee break.**

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**10.45 - 12.00**     **International perspectives:**  
• *Duduzile Sibiyi - Mpumalanga Province, South Africa*  
• *Iurii Bobrov - Executive Director, Association of the Ukrainian Cities*  
• *Kostyantyn Krynytskyi - Project Coordinator, Climate Department, Ecoaction*  
• *Andrii Silych - Mayor of Vuhledar, Platform for the Sustainable Development of Coal Towns of Donetsk Region*  
• *Rachel Perks - Senior Mining Specialist, World Bank.*  
*Q&A from the floor.*

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**12.00 - 13.00**     **Transition success stories:**  
• *Nicola De Michelis - Director, DG REGIO - Chair*  
• *Florian Woitek - Desk Officer, Saxon State Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labor and Transport*  
• *Chris McDonald - Policy Analyst, Regional Development and Tourism Division, OECD*  
• *Peter Portheine - Director, Brainport Smart District*  
*Q&A from the floor.*

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**13.00 - 14.30**     **Lunch. Charlemagne Building.**

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## Wednesday 16 October

**14.30 - 18.30**

Afternoon breakout sessions. Albert Borschette Conference Center.

*Interpretation in EN-FR-DE-PL-ES-EL-CZ-SK-RO.*

	Room 2A	Room 1A	Room 1D
<b>14.30 - 16.20</b>	Coal mine closure companies.	Transition success stories: public-private cooperation.	Interregional dialogue: key elements of transition strategies.
<b>16.20 - 16.40</b>	Coffee break.		
<b>16.40 - 18.30</b>	Social dialogue in transition.	Analytical approaches to regional transition.	International perspectives and experiences.
<b>18.30 - 20.00</b>	Networking cocktail		

## Thursday 17 October

**09.00-13.00**

**Morning breakout sessions. Albert Borschette Conference Center.**

*Interpretation in EN-FR-DE-PL-ES-EL-CZ-SK-RO.*

	Room 1D	Room 2A	Room 2D
<b>09.00 - 10.50</b>	<b>Just Transition Projects I: Energy transition and Heating.</b>	<b>Coal phase-out: Alternatives and Solutions.</b>	<b>Private sector investments.</b>
<b>10.50 - 11.10</b>	<b>Coffee break.</b>		
<b>11.10 - 13.00</b>	<b>Just Transition Projects II: Projects on Economic diversification, reskilling, environmental rehabilitation.</b>	<b>Cohesion policy funds in coal regions.</b>	<b>Coal Plant repurposing.</b>

**13.00 - 14.30**

**Lunch break.**

**Afternoon plenary. Albert Borschette Conference Center. Room 1D and 2D.**

*Interpretation in EN-FR-DE-PL-ES-EL-CZ-SK-RO (Room 1D) and EN-FR-DE-PL-ES-EL (Room 2D).*

**14.30 - 16.00**

*Chaired by:*

- Klaus-Dieter Borchardt, Deputy Director General, DG ENER
- Hervé Martin, Head of Unit, DG RTD

**14.30 - 15.15**

**Report from breakout sessions.**

**Update on the activities of Secretariat of the Platform.**

**15.15 - 15.35**

- Carlo Della Libera - Secretariat of the Platform for Coal Regions in Transition - Moderator
- Paul Baker - Secretariat of the Platform for Coal Regions in Transition
- Robert Pollock - Secretariat of the Platform for Coal Regions in Transition
- Maria Yetano Roche - Secretariat of the Platform for Coal Regions in Transition
- Martin Freire - Secretariat of the Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

**15.35 - 16.00**

**Conclusions and recommendations for future meetings.**

- Klaus-Dieter Borchardt, Deputy Director General, DG ENER
- Hervé Martin, Head of Unit, DG RTD

## Coal mine closure companies

**Room 2A** / 16th October, 14.30 - 16.20

### Purpose

The aim of this session is to showcase and discuss the systemic legal and organisational practices in planning and management of the coal mine closure processes that can be used across Europe to accelerate the transformation of coal regions. Advanced and applied practices will be presented and discussed serving as a pool of ideas for decision-makers and stakeholders.

### Moderator

- **Jan Bondaruk** - Deputy Director for Environmental Engineering, Central Mining Institute

### Speakers

- **Michael Haschke** - Manager Research and Development, DMT
- **María Belarmina Díaz Aguado** - Director General, Energy, Mining, Repurposing, Government of Asturias
- **Zbigniew Stępniewski** - Advisor, ZE PAK Management Board
- **Thorsten Diercks** - General manager, DEBRIV
- **Renata Eisenvortová** - European Affairs Manager, Se:ven Energy

## Transition success stories: public-private cooperation

**Room 1A** / 16th October, 14.30 - 16.20

### Purpose

This breakout session is a follow-up to the transition success stories that were presented in the plenary session in the morning. It will give an opportunity for speakers to dive deeper into their respective cases, to provide more detail and in-depth analysis of the challenges faced and the reasons for successful regional and local transition. The session will also provide an opportunity for delegates to discuss and ask questions.

This session brings in different perspectives in regard to the determinants of successful transition in differing regional contexts. The cases will provide practical insights on successful transition processes. Issues to be explored include creating a vision and strategy, successful partnership working between the public and private sectors, and successful co-ordination between national and regional governments.

### Moderator

- **Carsten Rothballe** - Secretariat of the Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

### Speakers

- **Florian Woitek** - Desk Officer, Saxon State Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labor and Transport
- **Peter Portheine** - Director, Brainport Smart District
- **Chris McDonald** - Policy Analyst, Regional Development and Tourism Division, OECD

## Interregional dialogue: key elements of transition strategies

**Room 1D** / 16th October, 14.30 - 16.20

### Purpose

The development of regional transition strategies towards the new era of decarbonisation, is demanding in effort and time. It is a multi-level process, where current problems of job losses and energy sector shrinkage should be solved in parallel to the creation of new technological concepts, new economic activities and workforce skills. Sharing of gained experiences and use of available tools are vital in this stage to increase understanding and synergies among Coal Regions in Transition, bringing forward key elements to be discussed and obstacles to be resolved.

How can interregional dialogue improve the development and implementation of transition strategies? What collaborative actions can be initiated to improve strategy development and delivery at regional and local levels?

To stimulate discussions, short inputs will be provided on toolkits for strategy development and governance and recent research on regional transition strategies in Europe.

### Moderators

- **Birgit Urban** - Desk officer, Representation of the Land Brandenburg to the EU
- **Dimitrios Mavromatidis** - Director of Regional Development Fund, Western Macedonia Region

### Speakers

- **Martin Schön-Chanishvili** - Senior Advisor, South-Eastern and Eastern European Partnerships, Germanwatch
- **Maria Yetano Roche** - Research Fellow, Future Energy and Industry Systems, Wuppertal Institute

## International perspectives and experiences

**Room 1D** / 16th October, 16.40 - 18.30

### Purpose

This session aims at providing at deeper insight at the topics and the cases touched during the plenary. Context, challenges and potential lessons learned from transition experiences from outside the EU will be at the core of this session: from South Africa to the Western Balkans, including experiences in Ukraine and in Australia, with the final aim of sharing knowledge, experience and potential solutions to common issues.

### Moderator

- **Aleksandra Tomczak** - Policy Coordinator, Coal Regions in Transition, DG ENER

### Speakers

- **Dudzile Sibiya** - Mpumalanga Province, South Africa
- **Iurii Bobrov** - Association of the Ukrainian Cities
- **Kostyantyn Krynytskyi** - Project Coordinator, Climate Department, Ecoaction
- **Rachel Perks** - Senior Mining Specialist, World Bank
- **Chris McDonald** - Policy Analyst, Regional Development and Tourism Division, OECD

## Analytical approaches to regional transition

**Room 1A** / 16th October, 16.40 - 18.30

### Purpose

The aim for this session is to present recent research conducted by selected institutions and how it can be of help to people driving regional transitions in European regions. Research case studies covering regional roadmaps, policy implications after the Paris Agreement, and examples from South East Asia will be discussed.

### Moderator

- **Andrzej Blachowicz** - Secretariat of the Platform for Coal Regions in Transition

### Speakers

- **Paola Parra** - Decarbonisation Strategies Team Lead / Climate Policy Analyst, Climate Analytics
- **Stavros Mavrogenis** - Energy and Climate Policy Leader, WWF Greece
- **Vlad Catuna** - Energy campaigner, Greenpeace Romania
- **Csaba Vaszko** - Independent consultant
- **Rebekka Popp** - Researcher, Climate and Energy Policy, E3G

## Social dialogue in transition

**Room 2A** / 16th October, 16.40 - 18.30

### Purpose

The purpose of this session is to present concrete cases of social dialogue with trade union participation in anticipating change and negotiating agreements on structural change in Coal Regions in Transition, especially by focussing on finding effective solutions for the workforce faced with restructuring and employment shifts.

Finding compromises that are able to secure the support of all stakeholders is important if to manage change in a responsible way, ensure a wide societal acceptance of structural change and providing for a Just Transition. Trade unions, representing the interests of the workers, are crucial stakeholders and partners in the transition process and can successfully contribute to finding responses to the employment challenge in regions undergoing transition. The session will explore how social dialogue mechanisms on all respective levels (national, sectoral, company) can provide for comprehensive solutions in managing employment shifts and restructuring.

### Moderator

- **Jörg Tagger** - Head of Unit A.2, Social Dialogue, DG EMPL

### Speakers

- **Luc Triangle** - Secretary General, IndustriAll - scene setter
- **Ralf Bartels** - Head of department Economy and Sustainability Policy, IG BCE
- **Klaus-Peter Heinrich** - Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy, Land of Brandenburg
- **Jean-Pierre Damm** - Secretary General, FO Mines-Energies
- **Victor Fernandez** - Secretary of Mining Sector, UGT-FICA
- **Jesus Crespo Torres** - CCOO Industria

### Comments from

- **Lucie Studničná** - CCMI Chair, European Economic and Social Committee;
- **Pedro Iglesia Gómez** - President, Carbunión.

## Just Transition Projects I: Energy transition and Heating

**Room 1D** / 17th October, 09.00 - 10.50

### Purpose

The purpose of this session is to present and discuss examples of energy projects proposed by stakeholders in coal regions.

The objective of the session is to discuss what constitutes a 'just transition project' based on earlier work of the Country Teams under the Coal Regions in Transition Initiative. This session will feature presentations of plans in the Ústí region in Czech Republic to use the post-mining landscape for energy storage, the "Green Hydrogen Power" project, the Polish energy company ZE PAK and PGG.

### Moderator

- **Catharina Sikow-Magny** - Head of Unit B.3, Retail Markets, coal and oil, DG ENER

### Speakers

- **Martin Klika** - First deputy governor, Ústí region, Czech Republic
- **Thomas Neuenhahn** - lead "Green Hydrogen Power" Project, Siemens AG
- **Zbigniew Stępniewski** - Advisor, ZE PAK Management Board
- **Tomasz Rogala** - President of the Management Board, PGG

## Private sector investments

**Room 2D** / 17th October, 09.00 - 10.50

### Purpose

This session will provide insights into leveraging private finance to fund a transition. It will provide three perspectives. First, the perspective of governments, focussing on how governments can bring together private investors and civil society to fund a just transition. Second the perspective of investors, giving an overview of the institutional investor role in enabling a just transition from coal power, working with invested utilities to engender inclusive change in their business models. Third, the perspective of businesses, looking at how businesses using private finance work with local communities to provide alternative job and training opportunities.

### Moderator

- **Adam Abdulwahab** - Policy Analyst, Financial Instruments and International Financial Institutions Relations, DG REGIO

### Speakers

- **Representative from DG FISMA (TBC)**
- **Vicky Bullivant** - Group Head of Sustainable Business, Drax
- **Helen Wildsmith** - Stewardship Director, Climate Change, CCLA
- **Russell Bishop** - Principal Economist, Economics, Policy and Governance, EBRD

## Coal phase-out: Alternatives and Solutions

Room 2A / 17th October, 09.00 - 10.50

### Purpose

This session will discuss the technology mixes and pathways that offer a viable transition for countries that rely on coal to deliver a significant share of their power supply. The first part of the discussion will focus on the near to medium term opportunities for zero-carbon technologies to replace substantial amounts of coal generation, and the implications for system costs, flexibility and security. The second part of the discussion will focus on the technology mix that is most suited to deliver full decarbonisation in the long term, acknowledging that a dispatchable zero-emission power source is needed to power the system during extended periods of low solar and wind generation. In this context, we will discuss the roles and opportunities for different energy sources and technologies.

### Moderator

- **Katherine Poseidon** - Policy Analyst, Bloomberg New Energy Finance

### Panel participants

- **Paola Parra** - Decarbonisation Strategies Team Lead / Climate Policy Analyst, Climate Analytics
- **Ruud de Bruijne** - Project leader, Offshore Wind Energy, Netherlands Enterprise Agency
- **Representative from PGE**
- **Aleksandra Gawlikowska-Fyk** - Head of the Power Project, Forum Energii

## Just Transition Projects II: Projects on economic diversification, reskilling, environmental rehabilitation

Room 1D / 17th October, 11.10 - 13.00

### Purpose

Ensuring a 'just transition' requires a substantial effort by EU coal regions. It implies investing in the restoration of the post-mining environment, in training, retraining and education policies as well as diversifying the local economy. Citizens and communities directly affected by the transition should be the ones benefitting from such projects and programmes.

The purpose of this session is to present and discuss examples of economic diversification projects proposed by stakeholders in coal regions, and to discuss what constitutes a 'just transition project' based on earlier work of the country teams under the Coal Regions in Transition Initiative. The session will reflect on 'just transition projects' and display examples from Poland and Czechia.

### Moderator

- **Lucie Zackova** - Deputy Head of Unit, Poland, DG REGIO

### Panel participants

- **Karsten Ivan** - Project Manager, HBP
- **Bartłomiej Szewczyk** - Director, Coal Mining Museum in Zabrze
- **Janusz Michatek** - President, Chairman of the Board of the Katowice Special Economic Zone Co.
- **Marcin Wilk** - Vice-President, Upper Silesian Fund
- **Zdeněk Karásek** - Deputy Governor, Moravian Silesian region, Czech Republic
- **Roman Szełemej** - Mayor of Wałbrzych, Poland
- **Tomasz Senyk** - Vice President of the Board of Directors, Wałbrzych Municipal Waterworks and Sewage Systems Company



## Cohesion policy funds in coal regions

**Room 2A** / 17th October, 11.10 - 13.00

This session will highlight the role and investments of the Cohesion policy in EU's coal regions (in particular through the European Regional Development and Cohesion Fund). A number of cases from several Member States will be presented more in detail. It will especially look at the way these funds can support and accompany the transition of coal regions, recent developments, key learning from the past years and possible good practice. This will feed the exchanges with participants bridging also with the on-going preparations of the 2021-2027 cohesion policy programmes.

### Moderator

- **Mathieu Fichter** - Policy Officer, Smart and Sustainable Growth, DG REGIO

### Panel participants

- **Gabriela Nekolová** - National Manager, RE:START Strategy
- **Jaroslav Straka**, Programme officer Poland, European Commission, DG REGIO
- **Krzysztof Wojcik**, Programme officer Slovakia, European Commission, DG REGIO

## Coal plant repurposing

**Room 2D** / 17th October, 11.10 - 13.00

The purpose of this session is to discuss different case studies on the repurposing of coal plants for alternative uses.

The transition requires significant changes in the energy mix as well as continued efforts to ensure security of supply via alternative, low-carbon sources of energy. The session will explore different possibilities of repurposing coal plants. It will further shed light on financing possibilities for such endeavours. The session will reflect on different examples of repurposing of coal-fired power plants.

Examples from Germany, France, and Hungary will be presented.

### Moderator

- **Catharina Sikow-Magny** - Head of Unit B.3, Retail Markets, coal and oil, DG ENER

### Panel participants

- **Christoph-Peter Bartsch** - Referent for regional initiatives and projects, RWE
- **Dominique Ganiage** - Head of sustainable development, EDF Power Generation
- **Joszeif Magyari** - CEO, Vértesi Erőmű Zrt

## How to reach the Albert Borschette Conference Center (Rue Froissart 36, 1040 Brussels) from Charlemagne Building (Rue de la Loi 170, 1000, Brussels)

