

# Just transition in the Western Balkans and Ukraine – a new initiative for regions in the EU's close neighbourhood

Coal regions in transition virtual week

*17 November 2020*



# A few guidelines before we begin

## Interpretation will be provided

### Step 1:

Download free Interprefy App  
From App store  
Or Google Play

### Step 2:

Enter the token: [CRITVirtualWeek](#)

### Step 3:

Choose your language. Then press  
CONNECT.

## We will use Slido for Q&A! To submit questions:

### Step 1:

Go to [Slido.com](#)

### Step 2:

Enter the code: [CRIT2](#)

### Step 3:

Submit your question, vote on other questions!

*Please note this meeting will be recorded  
If you have any technical issues, send a message via the chat to the  
host*

# Opening

## **Anna Sobczak**

Policy Coordinator for coal regions in transition in the context of EU Green Deal, DG ENER, European Commission

# Introduction

**Jasmina Trhulj**

Head of Electricity Unit, Energy Community Secretariat

# Snapshot on Ukraine

## Valentyna Moskalenko

Regional Policy Adviser to the Prime Minister of Ukraine

# Snapshot on Ukraine

**Ivan Lukeria**

Ministry for Communities and Territorial Development, Ukraine

# Snapshot on Ukraine

**Andrii Zalivskiy**

Mayor of Chervonohrad, Ukraine

# Snapshot on Ukraine

## Andrii Silych

Mayor of Vuhledar, Ukraine

Representative of the Donetsk Coal Town Platform in the Ukraine National Coordination Centre for the Transformation of Coal Regions



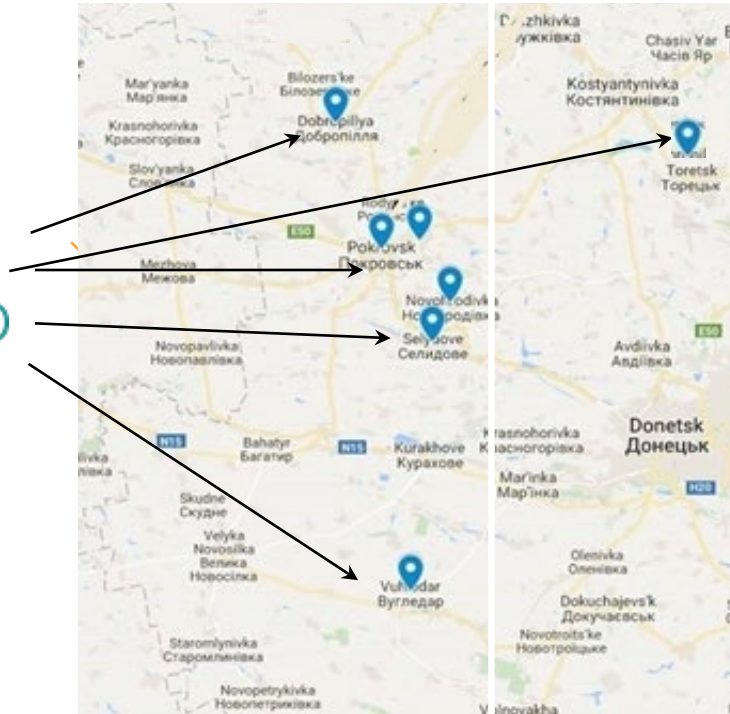


# Platform of Coal Towns of Donetsk Region for Sustainable Development

Andrii Silych, mayor of Vuhledar town, Donetsk  
region

JTP - CRIT Virtual Week, November 17th, 2020

# 7 Coal Towns in Donbas united to form a Platform for Sustainable Development



cumulative data:

- ~325 000 inhabitants
- 40-80% of budgets: coal company taxes
- close to contact line / armed conflict



# Memorandum: Signees and Goals

- Signees of the memorandum:
  - 7 mayors of coal mining towns
  - Chamber of Commerce of Donetsk Region
  - 3 NGOs from coal towns
- Approach: to address challenges through **intermunicipal, multi-actor and pro-active structural change policies**



# Lessons Learnt

<b>successes</b>	<b>challenges</b>
stable Platform based on: trust, coordinating organizations, structure	cooperation resource-intensive political changes
common project concepts & study - benefit to the whole region	financing 1 project in 1 town is easier for donors and government
CSOs provide ideas, contacts, public awareness	CSO scarce in own resources
national framework, government priority („Coal Comission“/Coordination Center)	integration in development plans on different levels

# Joint Transformation Strategy

- preparation of a joint Transformation Strategy for 7 Platform towns
- supported by 3 international projects (Germany, USAID, EU4Business)
- baseline, areas of intervention, inter-municipal pilot projects
- finalization: summer 2021





# Part of National Processes

- **May 2020** – creation of Coordination Centre for Transformation of Coal Regions (UKR «Coal Commission»)
- **October 2020** – 3 Platform representatives (heads of Myrnohrad, Vuhledar & Toretsk) were included into «Coal Commission»



**Let us search for sustainable, future-orientated solutions for coal regions!**

Andrii Silych, mayor of Vuhledar for the 7 Coal Town Donetsk Platform

Graphics/photos: google maps,  
Donetsk Platform, pixabay.com

# Roundtable discussion

on the new initiative for coal regions in the Western Balkans and Ukraine

01

**Anna Sobczak**

DG ENER, European Commission

02

**Andrea Liverani**

World Bank

03

**Sumeet Manchanda**

European Bank for Reconstruction  
and Development

04

**Marek Tabor**

College of Europe

05

**Artur Lorkowski**

National Fund for Environmental  
Protection and Water Management, Poland



# New Initiative for Coal Regions in the Western Balkans and Ukraine

**Dr Anna Sobczak**

Policy Coordinator for Coal Regions in Transition  
in the context of EU Green Deal, DG ENER

*17 November 2020*



# The main principals of the Initiative for coal regions in the Western Balkans and Ukraine



# Components of the Initiative for Coal Regions in the Western Balkans and Ukraine

**Open platform** for a region-wide, multi-stakeholder dialogue sharing experience, knowledge and best practices on transition-related issues

**Twinning**, exchanges and transfers of knowledge, experience and best practices on transition-related issues between EU, the Western Balkans and Ukraine

**Academy** on transition-related issues providing dedicated trainings on governance, community engagement, environmental reclamation, repurposing of land and assets for relevant stakeholders

**Technical assistance** (expert support) to pilot regions to develop transition roadmaps to be used and implemented by relevant public authorities

Access to **financing** for transition projects or programmes



# Tasks of the Secretariat of the Initiative for Coal Regions in the Western Balkans and Ukraine

## Stakeholder identification, management and engagement

- Database of stakeholders
- Communications plan

## Event organisation and logistical support to other events

- 3 Platform meetings (large events)
- Min 6 Local workshops (small-scale events in Ukraine and Western Balkans)
- Up to 3 Academy meetings trainings and capacity-building events (only logistical support)

## Design and implementation of a twinning programme

# EU-Ukraine Dialogue on Green Deal

- EU-Ukraine Summit, 6 October 2020

*‘Welcoming Ukraine’s ambition to approximate its policies and legislation with the **European Green Deal**, we stressed the importance of progress in Ukraine’s commitments in the areas of climate change, environment, marine ecosystem, education, **energy**, transport and agriculture, building on existing established sectoral dialogues, and agreed on a **focused dialogue** on the necessary steps in these areas.’*

*Kick-off meeting of EVP Timmermans and PM Shmyhal planned for 8 December 2020.*

- Memorandum of Understanding on a Strategic Energy Partnership from 2016

Ministerial meeting to take place on 3 December 2020 and agree on a Work Plan for 2021: *‘EU to support ‘just transition’ by continuing the **support for Ukrainian participation in the European Coal Mining Regions in Transition Initiative and in a dedicated initiative for coal regions in transition in the Western Balkans and Ukraine**, in order to further cooperate to promote the economic diversification of **coal mining regions**’.*



# EU-Western Balkan Dialogue on Green Deal

- Declaration of Western Balkan Leaders on Green Agenda 10 November 2020 at Sofia Summit under the Berlin process

*Agreed to fully endorse the **Green Agenda** for the Western Balkans; commit to work towards the 2050 target of a carbon-neutral continent; strive to decrease and gradually phase-out of coal subsidies; actively participate in the **Coal Region in Transition initiative for the Western Balkans**;*



- Economic and Investment Plan & Green Agenda for the Western Balkans October 2020

*Economic and Investment Plan: Large investment package for economic recovery, a green and digital transition, regional integration and EU convergence; up to EUR 9 bio. for 2021-2027*

*Green Agenda: Mirrors EU Green Deal; strong focus on clean energy transition including associating the **Western Balkans partners with the Coal Regions in Transition EU initiative***



- Clean Energy Transition Statement for the Western Balkans 21 February 2019

*Western Balkan Energy and Environment Ministers reaffirm commitment to establish equally ambitious 2030 targets for decarbonisation, renewables and energy efficiency.*

# Thank you

[Anna.sobczak1@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Anna.sobczak1@ec.europa.eu)

[https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/oil-gas-and-coal/EU-coal-regions/coal-regions-transition\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/oil-gas-and-coal/EU-coal-regions/coal-regions-transition_en)

#CoalRegionsEU

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

[DG Energy's YouTube channels](#)



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National Fund  
for Environmental Protection  
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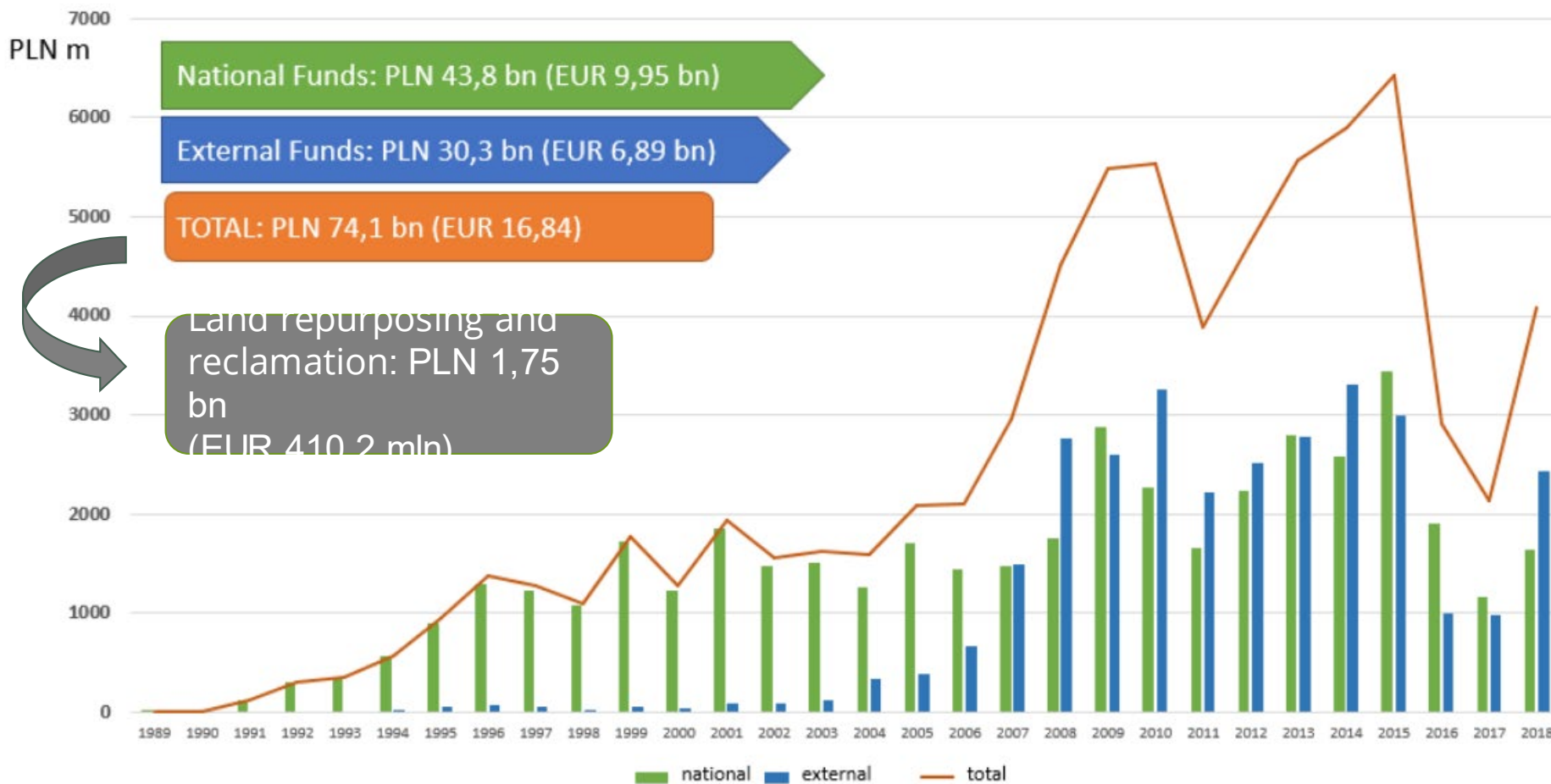
Invest in the environment together

# Supporting just transition of coal regions

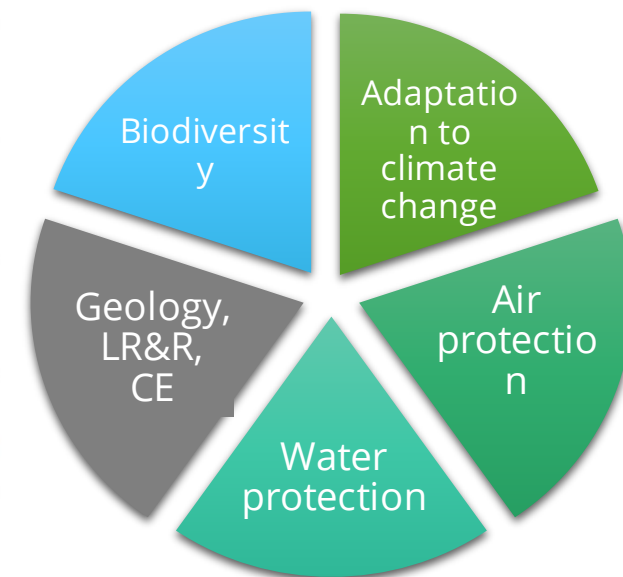
Artur Lorkowski, Deputy President

Warsaw, November 2020

# 30 years of experience in financing environmental and energy projects

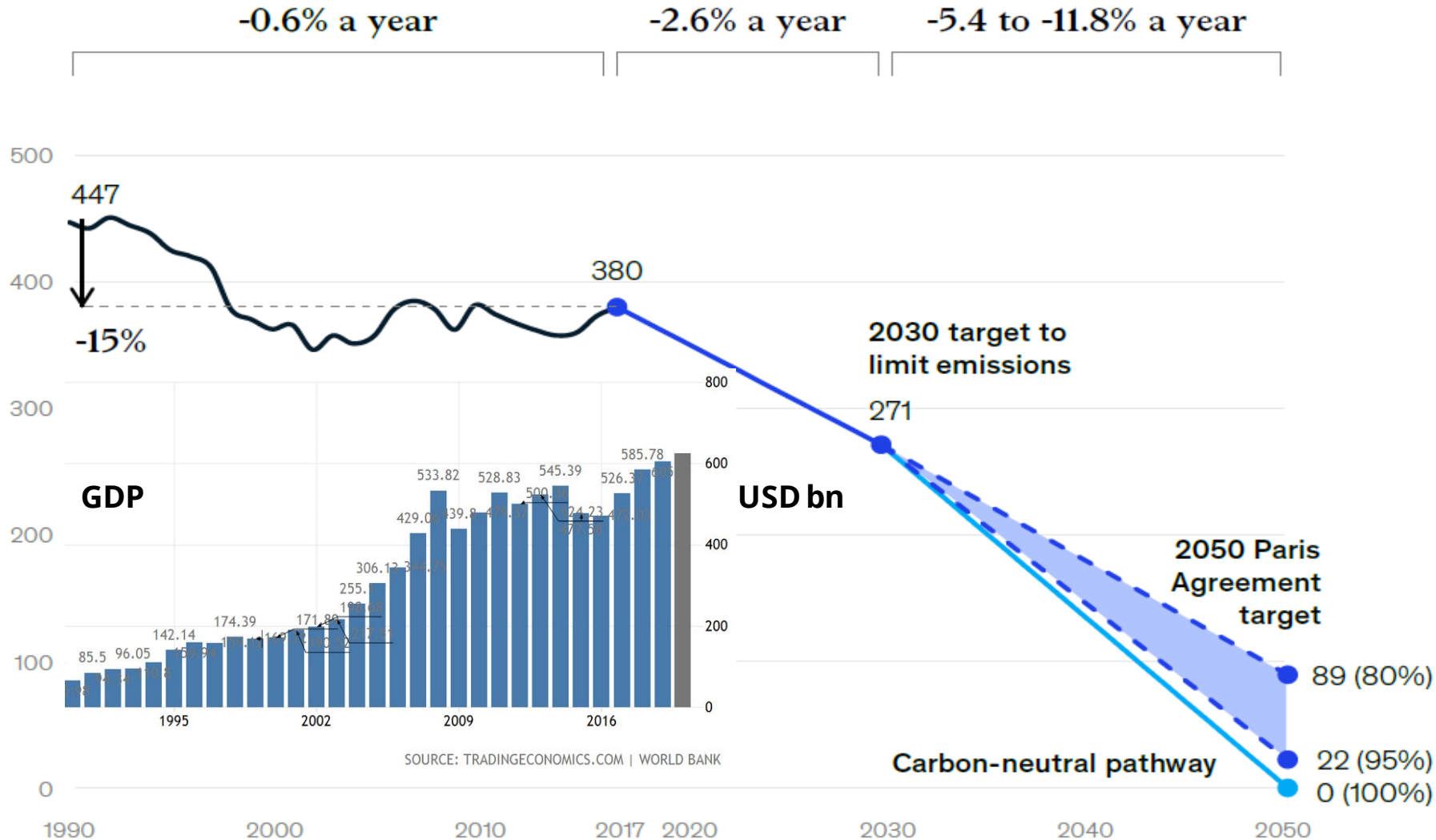


## Priorities of the Fund:



# Poland's emissions levels vs GDP

MtCO<sub>2</sub>e



# COP24 · KATOWICE

UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

## POLAND 2018



## Legacy of Polish COP24 Presidency

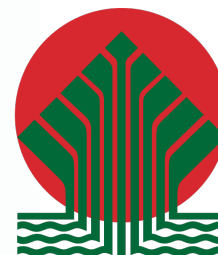
- *Solidarity and Just Transition Silesia Declaration* supported by 56 countries
- *Workshop Solidarity and just transition for all to ensure ambitious climate action* (Bonn, June 2019)
- *Conference People and Climate. Solidarity and Just Transition* (Warsaw, July 2019)
- *Summary Report Solidarity and Just Transition* presented at the UNSG Climate Summit (UNGA 2019)



COP24 · KATOWICE



# Acting together for greener future



National Fund  
for Environmental Protection  
and Water Management



# Our path towards just transition

1



Targeted training

2



Skills development

3



Social protection

4



Impact  
assessment

5

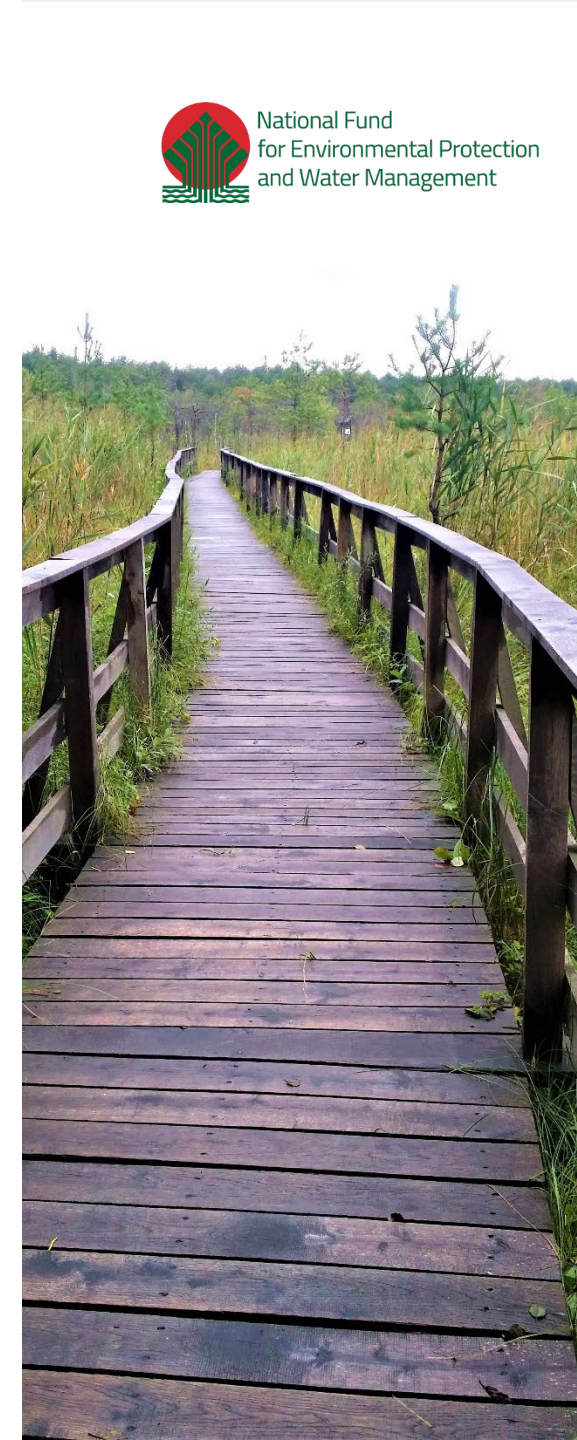


Better resilience

6



Multi-actor  
dialogue



## Polish-Ukrainian twinning

- Study visits, conferences and meetings in hard-coal or lignite mining and post-mining regions (including Silesia)
- First online study visits in December 2020
- Organized by the Institute for Ecology of Industrial Areas (IETU) and the Central Mining Institute (GIG)



## Main beneficiaries in Ukraine



Stakeholders from mining regions :

- Regional and local governments
- NGOs
- Trade unions
- Scientific community
- Industry





# Thank you

MORE INFORMATION:



[www.nfosigw.gov.pl](http://www.nfosigw.gov.pl)



NFOŚiGW



Narodowy Fundusz Ochrony Środowiska i Gospodarki Wodnej

slido

## Audience Q&A Session

 Start presenting to display the audience questions on this slide.

# Conclusion

## **Anna Sobczak**

Policy Coordinator for coal regions in transition in the context of EU Green Deal, DG ENER, European Commission

# Thank you

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