



## exchangeEU – Executive Summary

The transition to make the European Union (EU) climate neutral, as stipulated in the European Green Deal strategy, offers great potential for the European economy. However, coal, lignite, peat and oil shale (“coal+”) regions in the EU are also facing challenges in their economic and social transition due to the shift away from fossil fuels. Representatives from coal+ regions have expressed interest in a closer exchange with their peers, to give them the possibility to deep dive into specific topics, address technical details of successful approaches and tailor them to the situation in their own region.

exchangeEU is the exchange programme for EU coal+ regions in transition that aims to establish an inter-EU exchange to address exactly these needs of practitioners in coal+ regions and to facilitate an innovative exchange programme for peer-to-peer learning between regions. It matches stakeholders from different coal+ regions from across the EU and creates a unique opportunity for sharing insights and learning from others. The exchange programme is part of the [Coal Regions in Transition \(CRiT\) initiative](#) and is implemented by the European Commission.

Participants of the exchangeEU programme will benefit from:

- A demand-driven programme design tailored to the participating regions
- Innovative and customized solutions for every participating region
- Hands-on learning opportunities and tangible results to take meaningful actions together
- Creating a community and network of practitioners with a lasting impact

For each exchange, regions will be matched based on their respective situations to initiate effective pairings. A facilitator from the exchangeEU team will support the hosting regions in preparing and implementing the exchange. Financial support for participants includes accommodation and travel for up to four delegates depending on the exchange format.

To apply for the exchangeEU programme, the application form in EU Survey needs to be completed by **7 November 2022**. If there is a region with which you would like to apply as a pre-established pairing, please use the form for joint applications.

For further information (in English), please refer to the exchangeEU programme website ([here](#)), including FAQ and other available information material.

The executive summary of the exchangeEU programme is also available in Bulgarian, Czech, Finnish, German, Greek, Polish, Romanian and Spanish.