TRACER
TRANSITION IN COAL INTENSIVE REGIONS

HORIZON 2020 PROJECT TRACER

SMART STRATEGIES FOR THE TRANSITION IN COAL INTENSIVE REGIONS

STAKEHOLDERS - INNOVATIVE ELEMENT OF THE TRACER PROJECT

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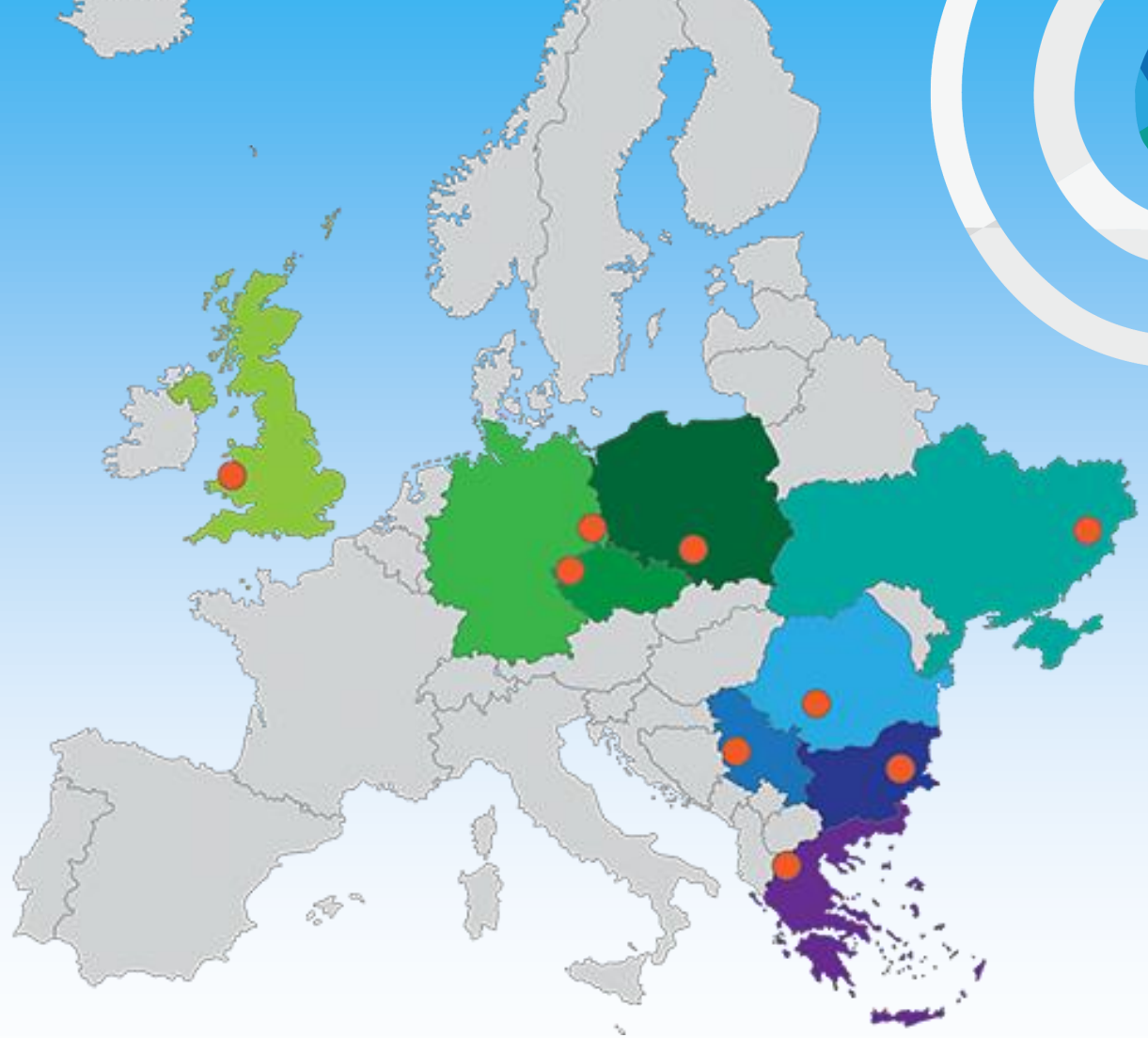
TRACER OVERVIEW

- Coordination and Support Action (CSA)
- Project duration: April 2019 – September 2023
- Project budget: 1.9 million EUR
- Co-financed by the European Commission, Horizon 2020
- Coordinator: WIP Renewable Energies, Germany
- 15 project partners from 11 countries
- 9 coal regions in transition (6 EU, UK, Serbia and Ukraine)



Southeast Region (BG34), Bulgaria
North West Bohemia (CZ04), Czech Republic
Lusatia Region, Brandenburg (DE40) and Dresden (DED2), Germany
West Macedonia (EL53), Greece
Upper Silesia (PL22), Poland
Jiu Valley / West Region (RO42), Romania
Kolubara Region (RS11&RS21), Serbia
Donetsk Region, Ukraine
Wales (UKL1, UKL2), United Kingdom

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TRACER CONSORTIUM

WIP Renewable Energies, Germany
www.wip-munich.de

Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving, Greece
www.cres.gr

Research Institute for Post-Mining Landscapes, Germany
http://fib-ev.de

University of Strathclyde, UK
www.strath.ac.uk

Black Sea Energy Research Centre, Bulgaria
www.bserc.eu

Güssing Energy Technologies GmbH, Austria
http://get.ac.at

The Association of European Renewable Energy Research Centres, Belgium
www.eurec.be

Institute for Studies and Power Engineering, Romania
www.ispe.ro

Energoprojekt ENTEL, Serbia
www.ep-entel.com

Coal Energy Technology Institute, Ukraine
www.ceti-nasu.org

University of Agriculture in Krakow, Poland
www.ur.krakow.pl

Welsh Government, UK
https://gov.wales

Charles University, Czech Republic
www.cuni.cz

Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Czech Republic
https://www.czu.cz/en/

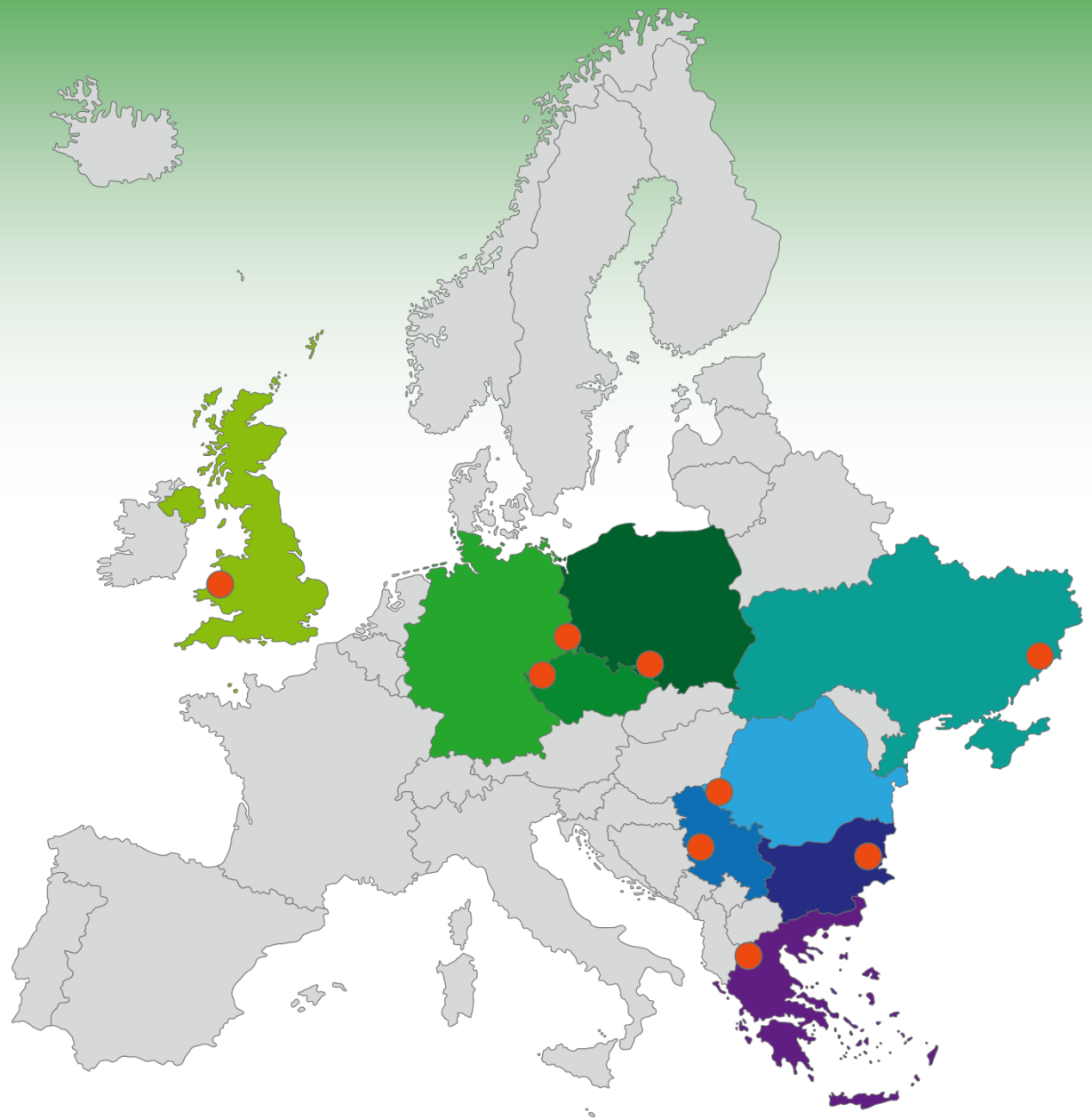
Jiu Valley Social Institute Association, Romania
www.institutulsocialvj.ro

TRACER PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

- ✓ **Coordinator:** WIRTSCHAFT UND INFRASTRUKTUR GMBH & CO PLANUNGS KG (WIP), Germany
- ✓ **Partners:**
  - CENTRE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES AND SAVING FONDATION (CRES), Greece with East Macedonia region (EL53);
  - FORSHUNGSINSTITUTE FUR BERGBAUFOLGELANDSCAFTEN E.V. (FIB), Germany with Lusatian Lignite District;
  - UNIVERSITY OF STRATHCLYDE (STRATH), and WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT, UK with Walse region;
  - BLACK SEA ENERGY RESEARCH (BSERC), Bulgaria with Maritsa Est region;
  - GUSSING ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES (GET) GMBH, Austria;
  - EUREC EESV, Belgia;
  - ISPE PROIECTARE SI CONSULTANTA SA (ISPE PC) and Asociatia Institutul Social Valea Jiului (AISVJ), Romania with RO42 – Valea Jiului region;
  - ENERGOPROJEKT ENTEL A.D. BEOGRAD (Ep-ENTEL), Serbia with Kolubara region;
  - CETI NASU, Ukraine with Donetsk region;
  - UNIWERSYTET ROLNICZY IM. HUGONA KOLLATAJA W KRAKOWIE (Agriculture University), Poland with Silesian Voivodeship - Upper Silesian Coalfield (GOP);
  - UNIVERZITA KARLOVA (Charles University), and CESKA ZEMEDELSKA UNIVERZITA V PRAZE (CZU), Czech Republic with North-West Bohemia region (CZ04)

TRACER TARGET REGIONS

- **Southeast Region (BG34)**, Bulgaria
- **North West Bohemia (CZ04),** Czech Republic
- **Lusatia Region, Brandenburg (DE40) and Dresden (DED2)**, Germany
- **West Macedonia (EL53)**, Greece
- **Upper Silesia (PL22)**, Poland
- **West Region / Jiu Valley (RO42)**, Romania
- **Kolubara Region (RS11&RS21)**, Serbia
- **Donetsk Region**, Ukraine
- **Wales (UKL1, UKL2)**, United Kingdom



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COORDINATED BY WIP RENEWABLE ENERGIES

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WIP RENEWABLE ENERGIES

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TRACER OBJECTIVES

- **Assist regional actors** in developing **R&I strategies for smart specialization**
- **Identify and exchange "best practices"**
- **Investigate social challenges** in the targeted regions, including necessary re-skilling needs of the workforce
- **Provide guidance** to regional actors for the access to **European funds** and programmes, and on how to leverage additional national public and private co-financing

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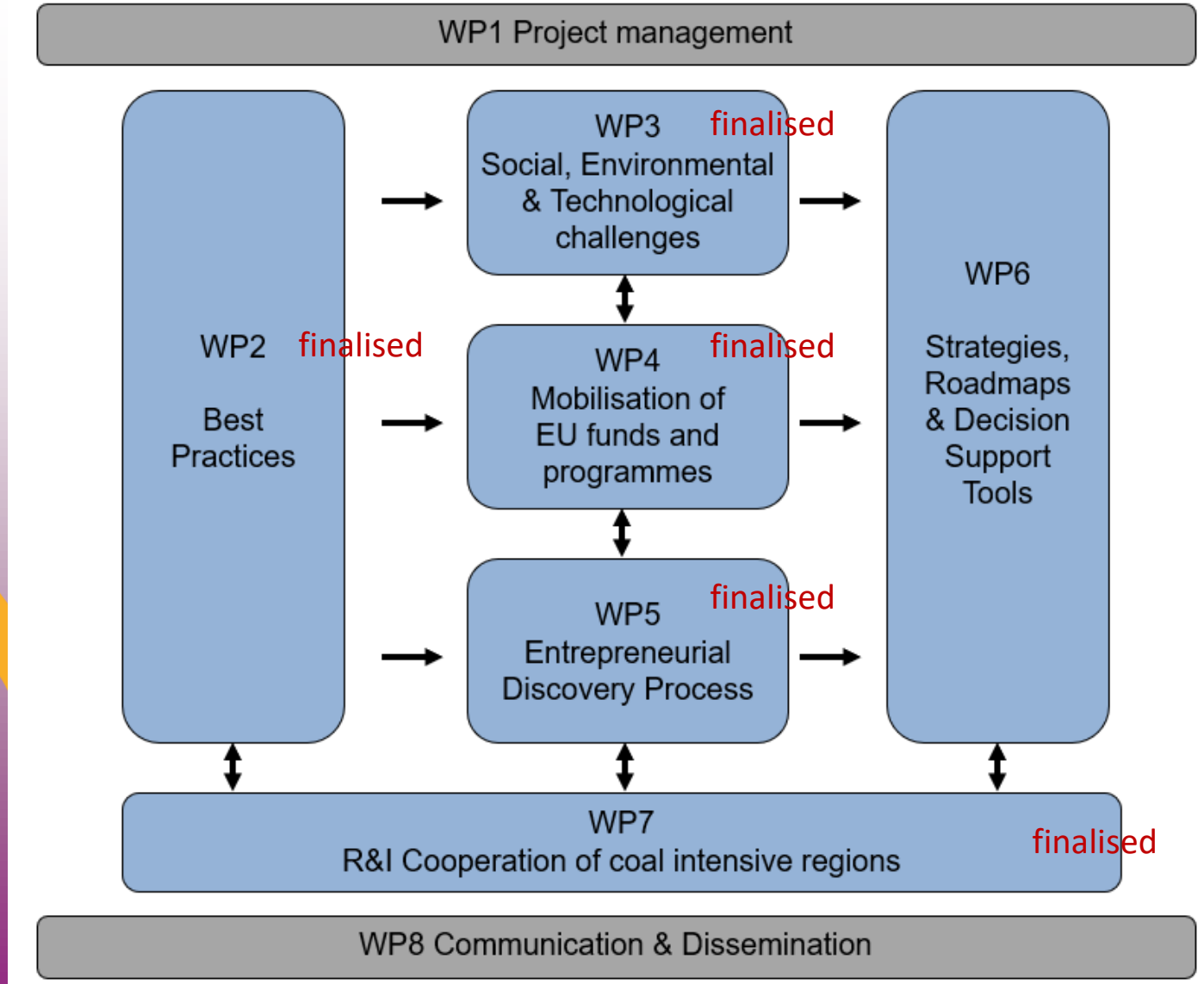
TRACER WORK PACKEGES



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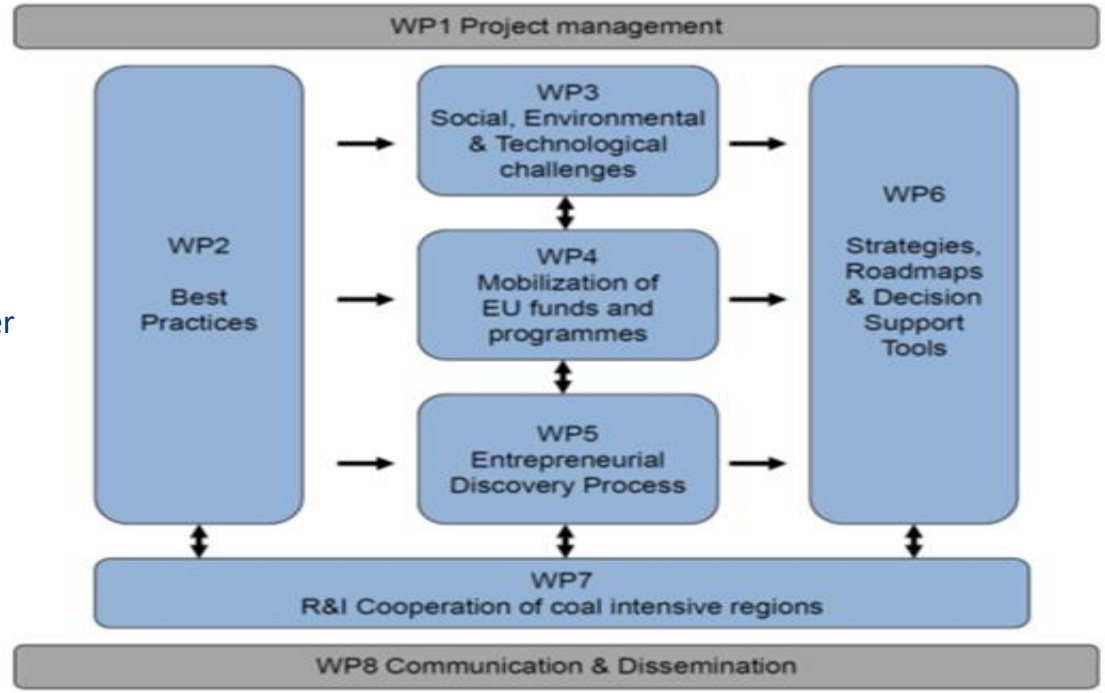
TRACER PROJECT STRUCTURE

- ✓ **WP1** “Project Management” and **WP8** “Communication & Dissemination” will be running throughout the entire project period.
- ✓ **WP2** on “Best Practices” will identify and analyse best practice examples of successful and ambitious transition processes in coal intensive regions. These will serve as guidelines for TRACER target regions and provide input to the other work packages on a broad range of aspects such as social, environmental and ecological issues, labour markets and tourism, financial instruments & subsidy programmes on regional, national and EU scale, stakeholder engagement, transition of regional energy production towards RES.
- ✓ **WP3** on “Social, Environmental and Technological challenges” will analyse the current role of coal as well as related policies in the target regions.

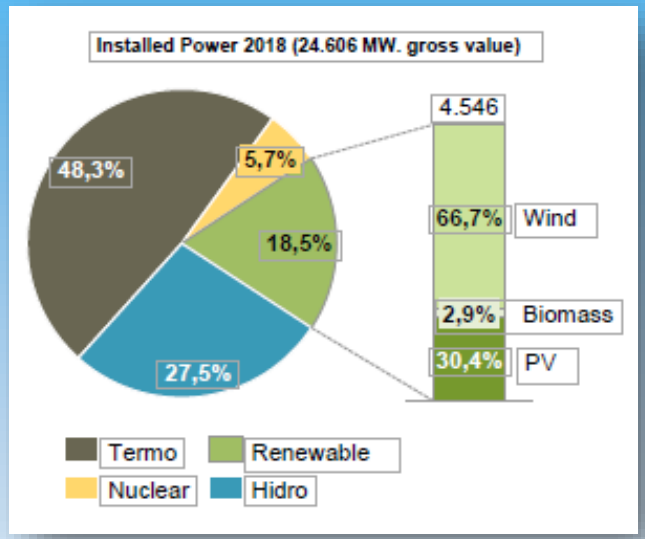


- ✓ **WP4** "Mobilisation of EU funds and programmes” is to guide regional actors from the target regions to facilitate their involvement in the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), Cohesion Policy funds, and Horizon 2020. Furthermore, additional national public and private co-financing will be mobilised.
- ✓ **WP5** “Implementation of EDP (Entrepreneurial Discovery Process)” will mobilise a wide range of stakeholders and develop an appropriate governance structure to discuss and agree on a shared vision and priorities for coal transition.
- ✓ **WP6** on “Strategies, Roadmaps and Decision Support Tools” will build on and continue the EDP undertaken in the target regions within WP5 and make use of all the work implemented in the framework of the previous work packages.
- ✓ **WP7** on “R&I Cooperation of coal intensive regions” will establish close cooperation contacts and synergies with the EU “Coal Regions in Transition Platform” and its working groups.

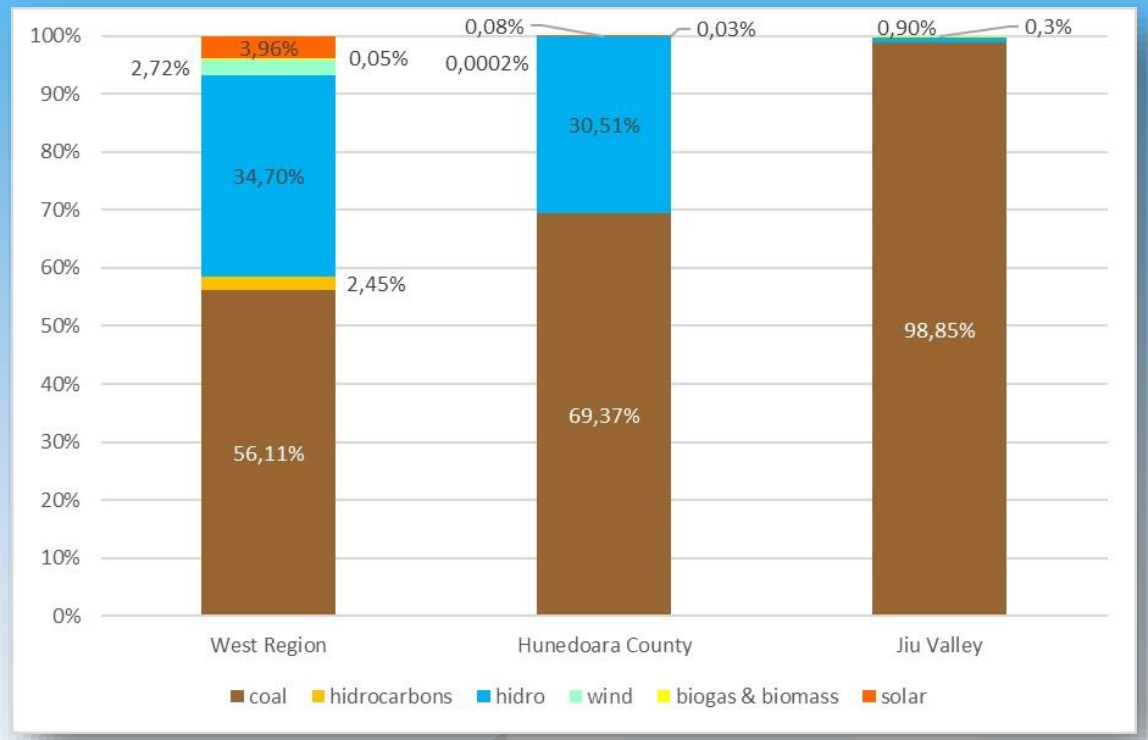
TRACER CORE ACTIVITIES

- **Mobilization** of a wide range of **stakeholders** in **9 European regions** to discuss and agree on a shared **vision** and priorities for coal transition
- **Joint development** of **9 regional R&I strategies**, industrial roadmaps and decision support tools
- **Elaboration** of **best practice examples** of successful and ambitious transition processes in coal intensive regions
- **Assessment** of social, environmental and technological **challenges**
- Elaboration of **guidelines** on how to mobilize **investment**
- Fostering **R&I cooperation** among coal intensive regions in Europe and beyond

ENERGY PARK/MIX OF THE JIU VALLEY MICRO-REGION



National



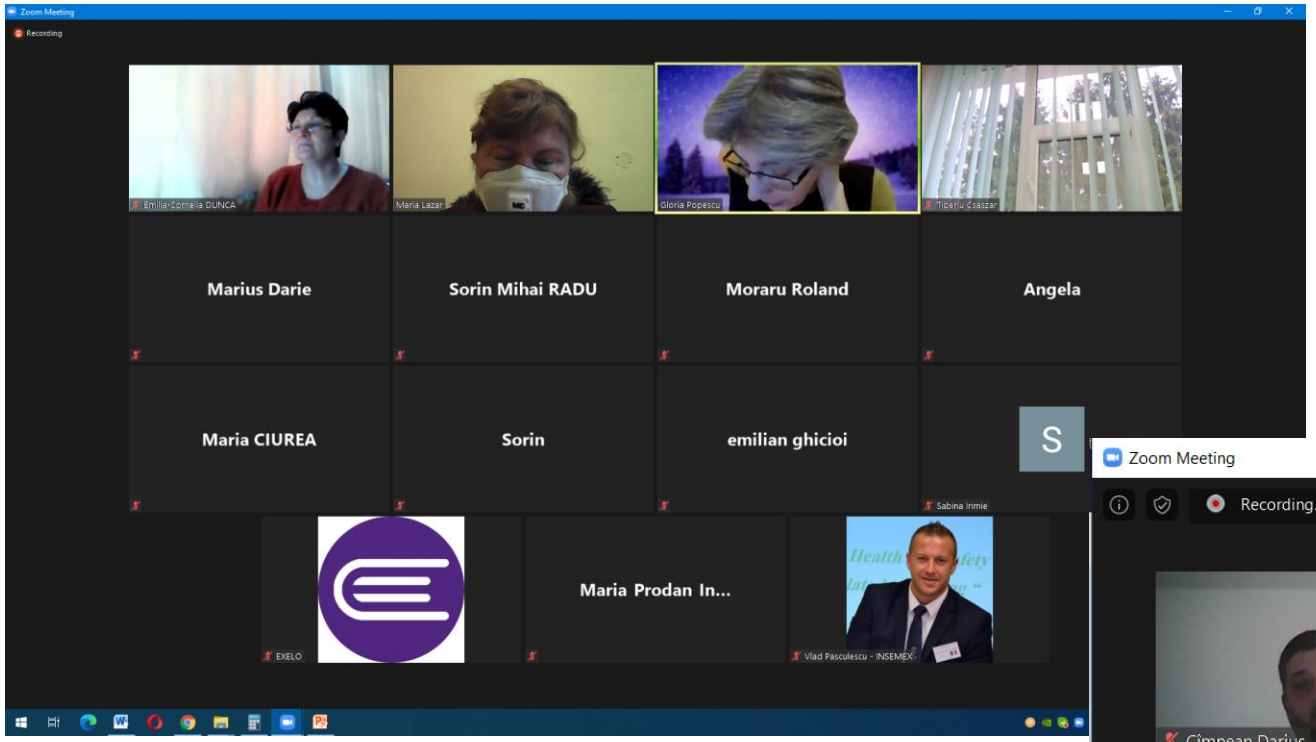
Source: Transelectrica, ANRE, Apa Serv Valea Jiului, AFM

Owner	Name- Type of technology		Capacity (MW_i)	Location
Hidroelectrica	Livezeni	MHC	0,24	Aninoasa
	Buta	MHC	0,49	Campu lui Neag
	Valea de Pesti	MHC	0,2	Uricani
ApaServ Valea Jiului	Polatistea	MHC	0,2	…
	Valea de Pesti	MHC	0,2	Uricani
	Brazi - Vulcan	MHC	0,034	Vulcan
	Donutoni microCOGEN	Biogaz	0,38	Petrosani
Consiliul Local	microCOGEN	Biomasa	NA	Aninoasa

TRANSITION

ENTREPRENEURIAL DISCOVERY PROCESS (EDP)

- **Smart Specialisation Strategy approach (S3)** - innovation depends on cooperation, which can allow underused knowledge and innovation capacities to be identified and used more effectively. The S3 approach is therefore based on an inclusive process of stakeholder involvement centred on an **“entrepreneurial discovery” process (EDP)**
- Mobilization of a wide range of **stakeholders** in the target regions
- Consultation with stakeholders
- Set up of appropriate **governance structure**
- Developing **shared visions of transition and identifying priorities** in the target regions


Zoom Meeting
Recording
Emilia-Cornelia DUNCA
Maria Lazar
Gloria Popescu
Tiberiu Csaszar
Marius Darie
Sorin Mihai RADU
Moraru Roland
Angela
Maria CIUREA
Sorin
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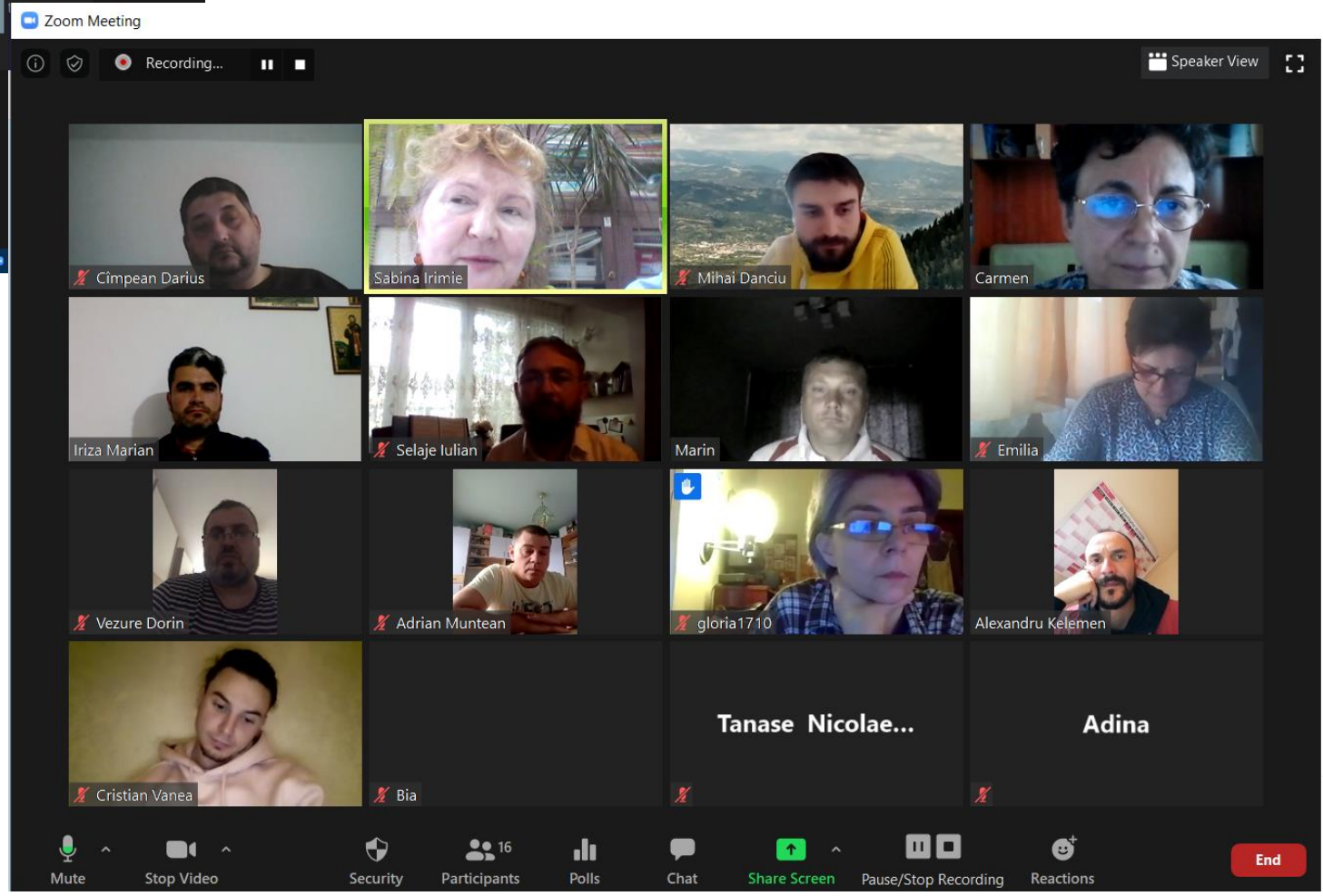
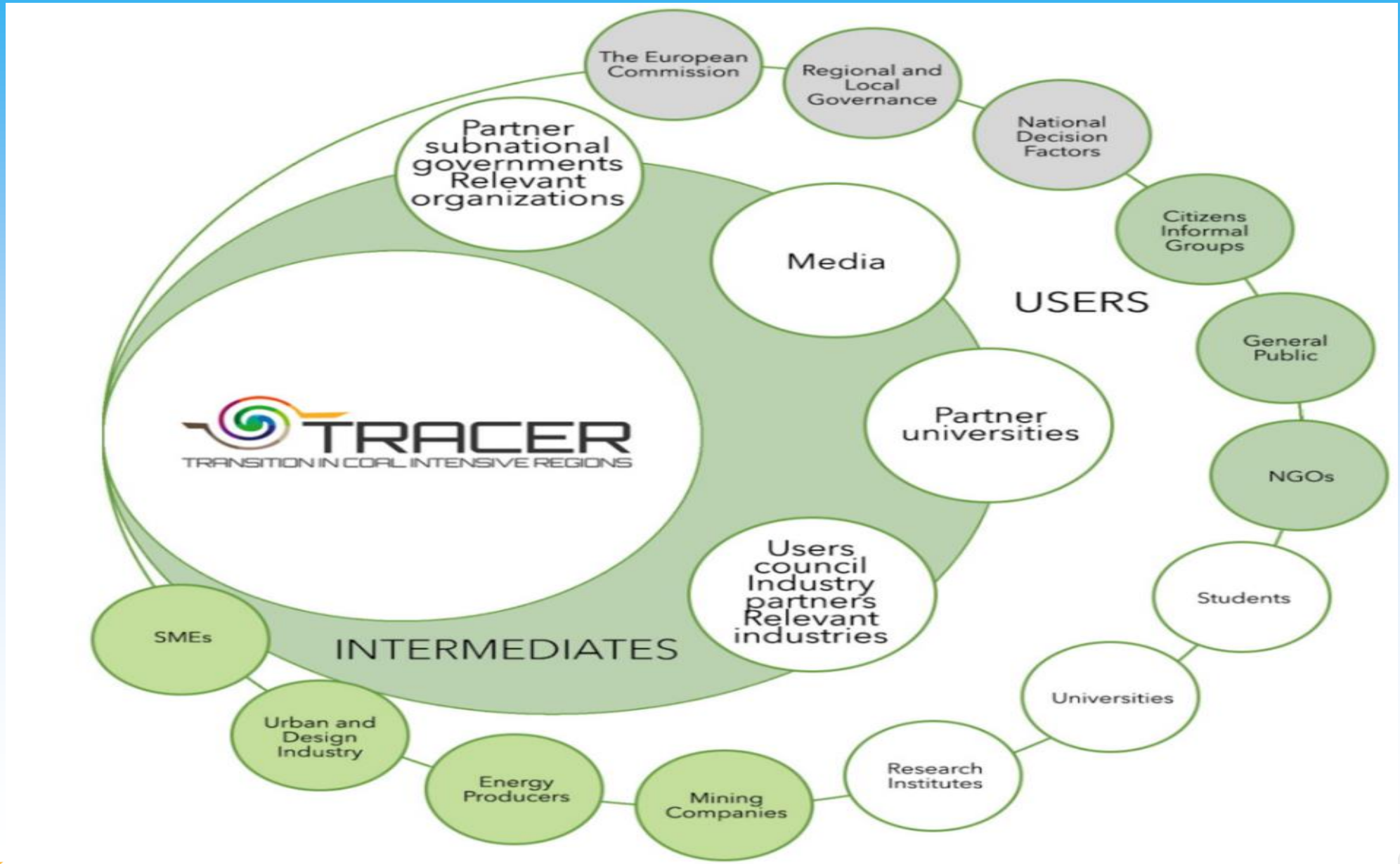
Sabina Irimie
EXELO
Maria Prodan In...
Vlad Pasculescu - INSEMEX


Zoom Meeting
Recording...
Speaker View
Cimpean Darius
Sabina Irimie
Mihai Danciu
Carmen
Iriza Marian
Selaje Iulian
Marin
Emilia
Vezure Dorin
Adrian Muntean
gloria1710
Alexandru Kelemen
Cristian Vanea
Bia
Tanase Nicolae...
Adina
Mute
Stop Video
Security
Participants
16
Polls
Chat
Share Screen
Pause/Stop Recording
Reactions
End

JIU VALLEY STAKEHOLDERS' MAPPING



JIU VALLEY QUADRUPLE HELIX STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Group 1 = Public Authorities

MIPE, ME, MMAP, CJH, ADR Vest, 6 Local Councils

Group 2 = Civil Society

Valea Jiului Implicata, Bankwatch Romania, Greenpeace Romania, ACIVJ, Muntele Union, former miners, priests, mass-media, individuals

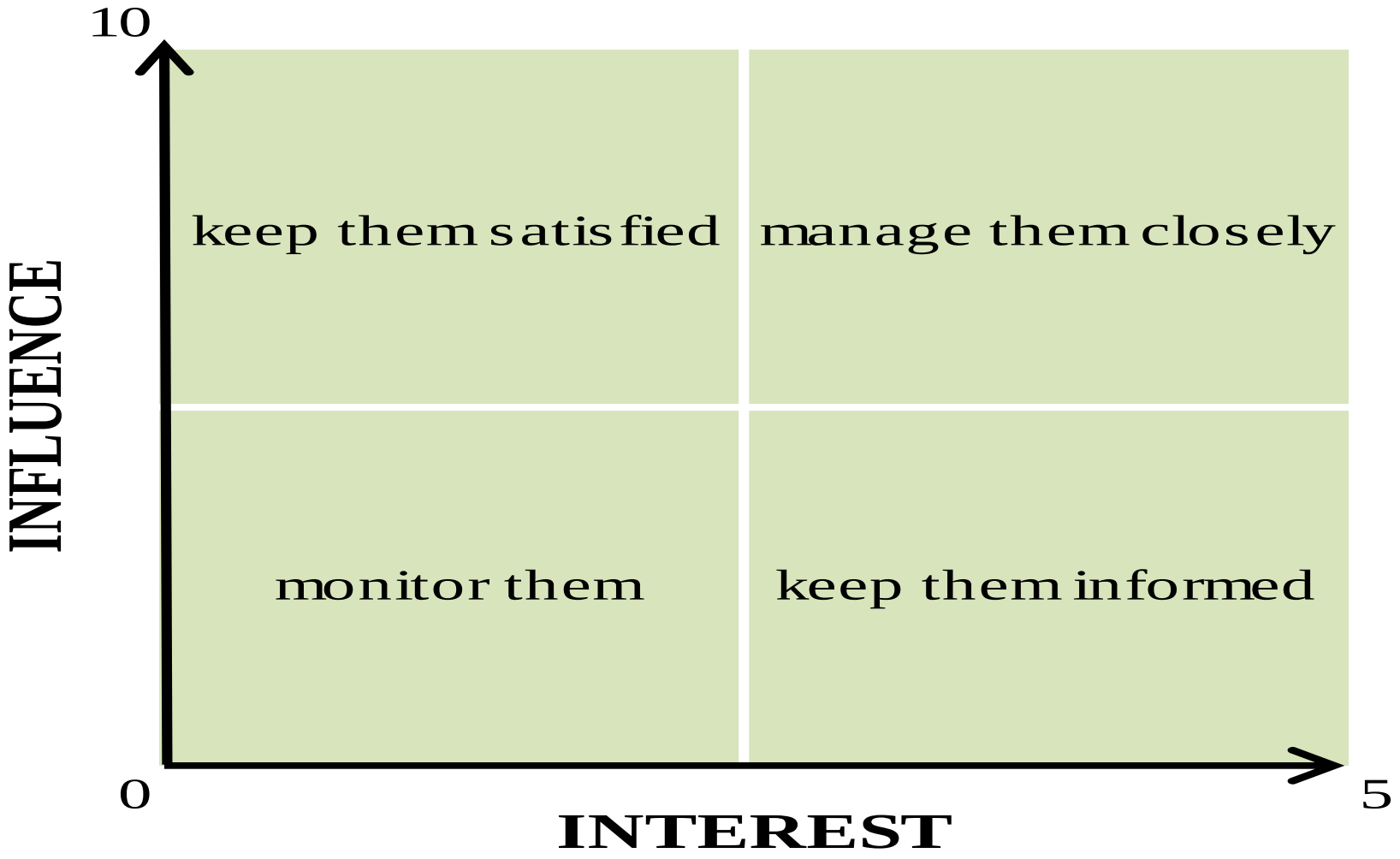
Group 3 = Research and Academia

students, teachers, University of Petrosani, INSEMEX

Group 4 = Business Environment

CEH, SNIMVJ, Apa Serv VJ, ENEL Distributie Banat, Delgaz Grid, SMEs

JIU VALLEY – STAKEHOLDER POSITIONS GRID



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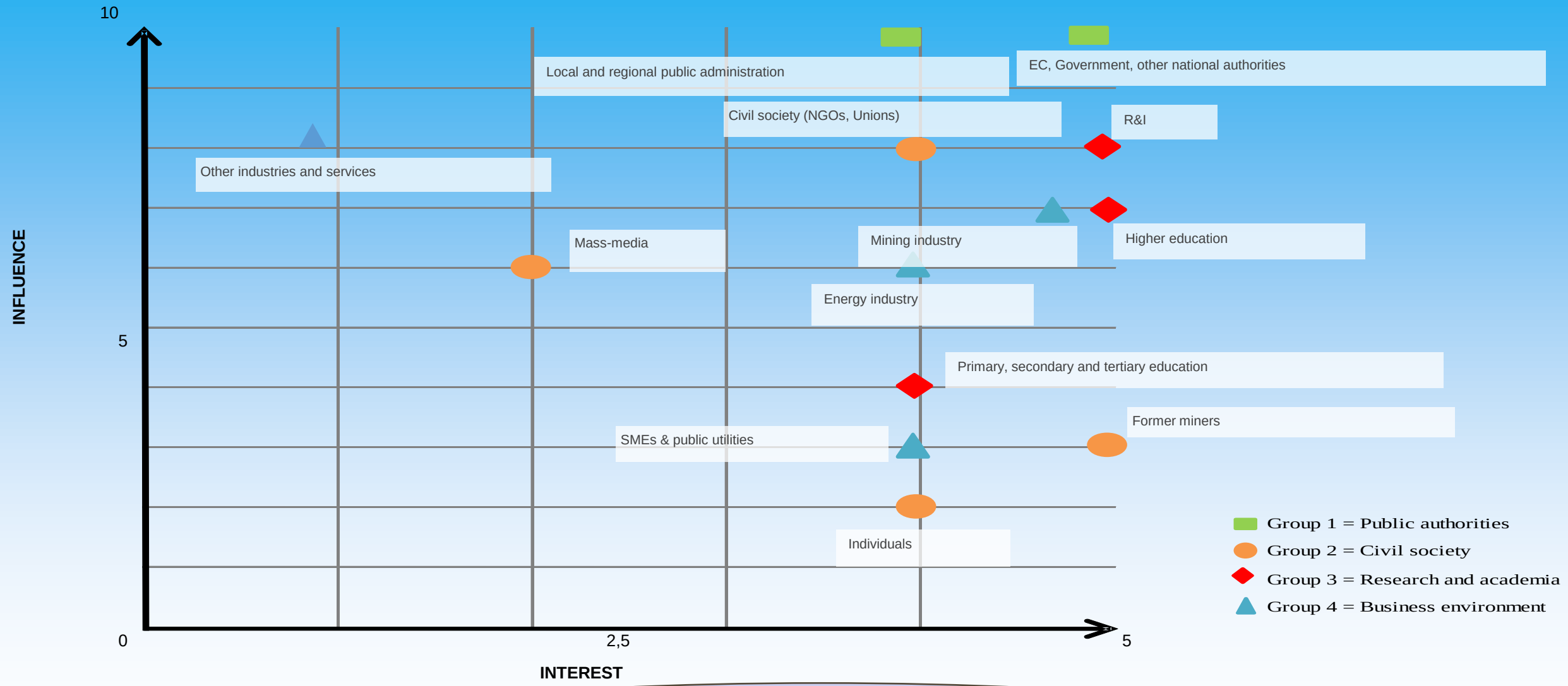

Jiu Valley – SPD (Stakeholder Prioritization Diagram)

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Outcome of the EDP in Jiu Valley

What key findings/priorities for energy transition did the TRACER stakeholder engagement process help to identify

1. **Step-by-step approach** using NG as transition/bridge fuel from coal to RES;
2. **Integrated approach at JV micro-region level**, synchronised and in connection with the economic & social transformation planning at regional levels (NUTS3/CJH/RO423 and NUTS2/ADR Vest/RO42), under the coordination of a new governance structure representing VJ common voice;
3. **Investing in human potential** (education, health, spirituality and morality); CVET - adults training (reconversion, re & up-skilling, institutional capacity & competences building) correlated with the strategic transition axes/pillars and with the current and future labour market demand;
4. **Agreement on the main strengths of VJ micro-region** (research & higher education expertise, biomass resources, tourism potential, cultural heritage and local specificities, zoo-technical and agricultural micro-farms, ITI mechanism)
5. **Attractive local fiscal system/regime** (i.e. incentives/subsidies and additional policy measures) to ensure a sustainable business environment for existing SMEs and for potential future investors and new start-ups.

Common vision for the future

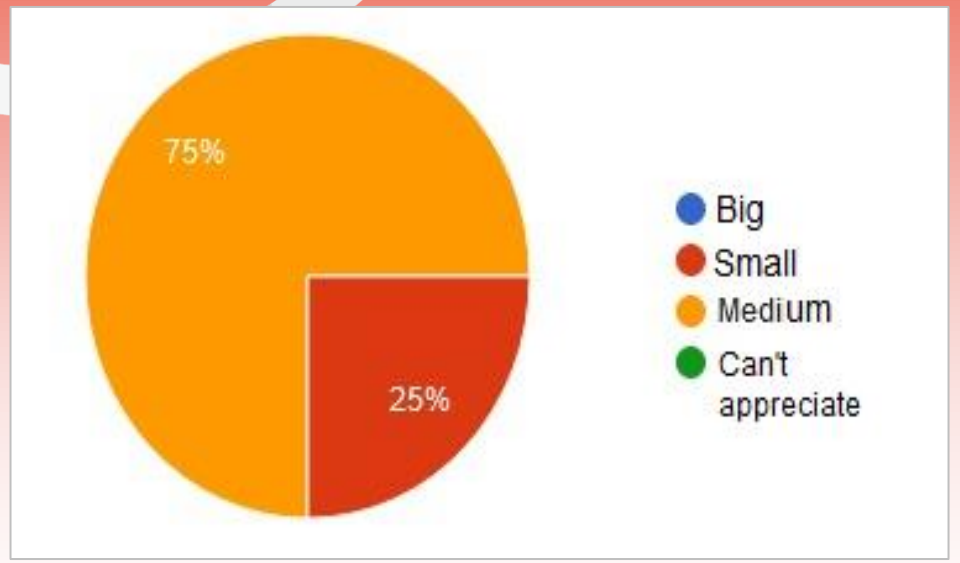
- Jiu Valley micro-region revitalised from a social point of view, with a sustainable development, interconnected with the major regional, national and European networks, and having a competitive economic environment.
- The integrated transition of Jiu Valley micro-region will be implemented by investing in human's potential, education, spirituality and morality, thus creating the right environment and generating the necessary force for the human capital, able to develop the local economy by implementing innovative ideas.

1. Increasing life quality and creating a healthy and sustainable environment for future generations
2. Economic diversification, innovation and entrepreneurship
3. Sustainable capitalisation of the local specificity
4. Accessibility, mobility and connectivity

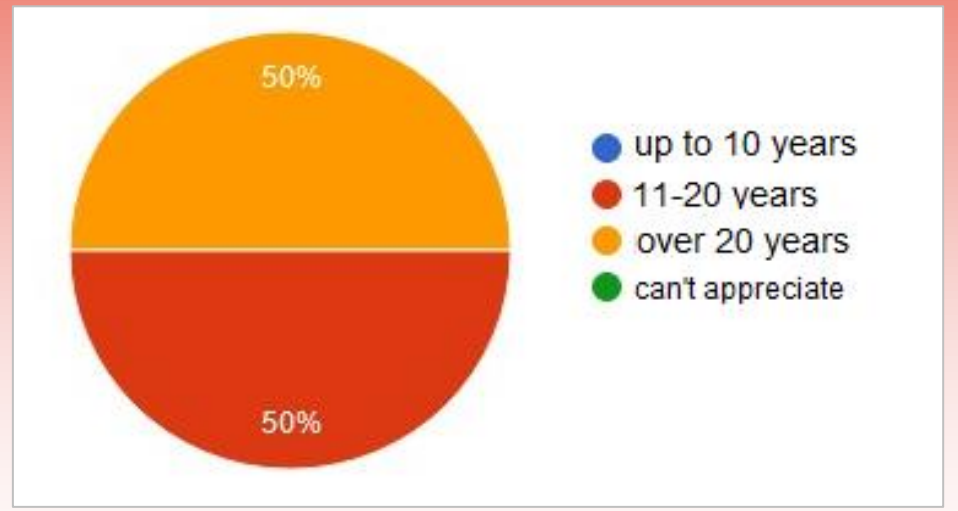
Common vision for the future

- Even though, the energy issues in Romania have political color, the legislation is vast and uncorrelated, and related responsibilities are spread between several ministries, causing many blockages in the transition process, however „this type of community can reinvent itself by learning to use alternative sources of energy and “alternative” industry.”
- A successful transition process in Jiu Valley micro-region, with a positive impact, will depend on the increasing involvement of all 4 helix stakeholders’ categories. Thus, observing stakeholders attitude during the EDP activity, starting from a slight initial skepticism, we will be able to coagulate constructively and pragmatically their ideas and to set-up a citizens' energy community in Jiu Valley micro-region.

Common vision for the future



In your opinion, what are the chances of sustainable energy development in Jiu Valley, in mining absence?



What is the period in which you see feasible the development of Jiu Valley, in the absence of mining?

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

- **Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan** - research and innovation pillar of the EU's energy and climate, coordinating low-carbon research and innovation activities

- SET Plan Implementation Plans bring together SET Plan countries, industrial and research stakeholders to identify R&I activities to accelerate energy transition

- Potential synergies with TRACER project

RESULTS: CURRENT ROLE OF COAL REGIONS AND POLICIES

- **Coal-related businesses** take a serious share of the employment and gross value added (GVA), especially in the Bulgarian, Greek, and Serbian regions
- The most striking examples are **Germany and Romania**, where the **jobs in coal mining decreased 10 times for one or two decades**
- The current employment in the sector consists predominantly of people close to retirement age, especially in the mines approaching their end-of-life. **Education level is rather low in many regions – this calls for education, research & innovation in the coal regions in transition**
- Coal mining and burning cause serious **environmental and health problems** in all regions. Health problems are often not "counted" in terms of economy
- The **land damaged** by coal mining **increases in some regions**, due to **untimely recovery**
- Countries have **different vision and priorities regarding coal sector** (**Wales** closed the last remaining coal-fired power station in 2020, **Germany**, **Romania, Greece**, and the **Czech Republic** have committed to substantially reduce or eliminate coal mining and use, although coal will continue to play an important role in the next two decades)
- In **Poland** 60% of the electricity is expected to come from coal and there are no plans for its role after 2030. In **Serbia** and **Ukraine**, the indigenous coal resources will continue to be a pillar of the electricity system in the next decades
- The situation in **Bulgaria** has changed: the agreement is that after 2025 the use of coal will be gradually replaced by RES and nuclear energy. Bulgaria already decided to join "Coal regions in transition platform" but will keep declaring its intentions to use coal by 2050 and beyond
- Most countries have indicated potential public financial sources to support some aspects of the regional transition, but the financing is still not arranged

RESULTS: BEST PRACTICE ON TECHNOLOGIES

- 12 factsheets on technologies

1. Wind park “Klettwitz”& Vestas blade factory Lauchhammer

2. Chemistry park “Schwarzheide” Conversion of a lignite-based refinery into a showcase for industrial transition

3. Innovative electric energy storage “BigBattery Lausitz”

4. Decentralised Electricity Production

5. Greening the Gas

6. Heat Storages

7. Industrial park “Schwarze Pumpe” Conversion of a lignite processing industrial site

8. Power-to-X

9. Photovoltaics and Wind Power

10. Smart Cities

11. Solar-Park-Meuro

12. Usage of Surplus Heatplus-Heat

RESULTS: BEST PRACTICE ON S3

- Most effective way to deliver innovation and ultimately regional or national economic development, is to **concentrate public and private interventions and resources on a limited number of priorities, based on national/regional strengths**
- Having in place a **specialisation strategy has proven to be effective** (e.g. transition in the Flemish region of Limburg, Polish Wielkopolska region, or the Netherlands´ 'Brainport')
- South Limburg (the Netherlands), Asturias (Spain) and North-Rhine Westphalia (Germany) show that **long-term national support for the region**, different levels of **stakeholder engagement**, and **new strategies in the areas of renewable energy**, **knowledge economy and cross-border cooperation** are key components to **'catch up' in economic terms**
- **Strategies may cross administrative borders** and priorities have to be aligned at different levels of governance

RESULTS: BEST PRACTICE ON FINANCING

- **Setting aside money for facilitation** has turned out to be very important. One of the first things that a coal region will need to pay for is its strategy, which should be produced as a collaborative exercise with the local population
- **Leeson learned**: target financial resources on some **well-chosen industries** (e.g. the JASPERS technical assistance facility screens projects for their contribution to a region's Smart Specialisation strategy)
- Regions are using available money but still find that they **lack manpower** as shown by feedback from Czech Republic, Poland and Germany and other countries
- Private financing can take over within a decade or two if the public money has been well spent: **on general purpose infrastructure, effective land reclamation or education facilities**
- Streams of funding for technical assistance are available: JASPERS of the European Investment Bank, the Work Bank's Energy Sector Management Assistance Program (ESMAP) and the EC's Structural Reform Support Service)

RESULTS: GUIDELINE ON EUROPEAN FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

- Just Transition Mechanism
- European Investment Bank -> *Invest EU Programme*
- Modernisation Fund
- Interreg Danube Transnational Programme
- European Economic Area Grants and Norway Grants
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development EBRD
- Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe
- National funding including EU funds managed at national level (EU's Cohesion Policy Funds, European Structural and Investment Funds - ESIF)

Available in English and in national languages

https://tracer-h2020.eu/financing-opportunities/

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RESULTS: BEST PRACTICE ON SOCIAL ISSUES, TOURISM AND LABOUR MARKET

- Most of the training programs do not have a real calculation of impact. Feedback includes setting measurable goals: **thousands of people in intensive coal mining areas have been trained, and retrained, but how many have been hired and are using the new skills?**

- **Lessons learned:**

✓ the successful transition processes (Lusatia, Germany; Limburg, Netherlands, etc.) show an unanimous agreement, involvement, collaboration and coherence in actions of all stakeholders

✓ the model matters, but it is more important **how the stakeholders see the change** and it will be successfully **implemented only when the stakeholders will be part of this process**, participating and presenting their opinions

✓ to facilitate a successful and **socially acceptable transition** the strategic step-by-step approach to the labour market and the social transformation process is presented in the report

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RESULTS: FACTSHEETS ON SOCIAL ISSUES

1. Urban of silver mining in Freiberg, Germany
2. Health and leisure in salt mines, Romania
3. Abandoned clay quarry vs. Ecotourism in the Eden Park
4. Closed mine vs. Landscape with wind farms, Wales, UK
5. Urban Park – Closed mining areas revitalization, Missouri, USA
6. Green ideas for creative leisure time of Rio Tinto Mining Park, Huelva, Spain
7. The horizontal Eiffel Tower of Lusatia, Germany
8. Petrila Planet-steps towards reactive art, Jiu Valley, Romania
9. Cooperative Training Program at Coal Sites, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany
10. Apprenticeship in Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone, Wales, UK
11. From mining to dream vacation “Lusatian Lake District”, Germany

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RESULTS: SOCIAL CHALLENGES AND RESKILLING NEEDS

- Major concerns across TRACER target regions are the **rising rate of unemployment** (worsened by current Covid-19 restrictions) generating higher poverty and **social exclusion**, **entrepreneurs' reluctance in taking risks** and **reduced attractiveness of previously coal-intensive regions**
- Unemployed population has been left **with little to no professional options**
- **Regions need to be prepared to respond to demographic and economic changes**: regeneration strategies for transition, holistic policies and socially innovative practices and programmes, adequate management in diversifying the local economic base and exploiting local resources, integrated socio-economic approach tailored to the local specificities
- **Social and labour policies are of great importance**, since they may strengthen **social cohesion** during the transition period. Political response is usually lagging behind the negative social impact of transition, which leaves deep wounds in changing societies
- It is necessary to take into account various aspects, including sustainable development, preservation of economic and social vitality and cultural and historical heritage of the region
- **Educational infrastructure**, training and long-life education through **workforce upskilling and reskilling** are playing an important role for the redirection of the work force. Having an awareness of **gaining skills for a sustainable future** would firmly **motivate the youth to pursue new career challenges linked to their regional setting**

RESULTS: SOCIAL CHALLENGES AND RESKILLING NEEDS

- Educational institutions and training contexts will have to **update their educational offers to suit a labour market** that requires more versatile skills. Learning to learn is very important
- The potential of TRACER coal intensive regions for **tourism** should be used more significantly, correlated with the offer of **new industrial centres**. Other business sectors gain an increasingly higher share in total businesses in these regions, reflecting the **shift from coal-intensive activities to a more sustainable economy model** (the importance of service branches, manufacturing industry, automotive industry will increase)
- **Opportunities** have to be identified in order to strengthen and stimulate the economic activity in TRACER regions, creating conditions for businesses to be supported by regional and municipal authorities focusing on emerging activities especially in high-tech and knowledge-based activities. **Digitalisation** brings considerable job creation potential, especially in innovative, high productivity businesses and for well-educated, highly skilled people
- **The regeneration of the target regions depends on national and European objectives in terms of social, economic and political sustainability. For many of these regions it is a last chance to "take the train of change" and revitalise economy and society for the benefit of all people, of each country and the EU overall**

RESULTS: BEST PRACTICE ON POST MINING AND RECLAMATION

- Apply the **risk-spreading precautionary principle** when **conclusive information on long-term ecosystem** development is **missing** in detail
- Necessary **crop rotation in agriculture** calls for a **diversified biomass utilisation combining material and energy use**
- Concrete **guidelines for ecological restoration** should be an **integrated part of the mine resource management** through the life of a mine, always **regional specific** and considering the **available scientific information**
- **Degree of uncertainty remains** when looking at the **long-term ecosystem development on new ground** - the climatic conditions are changing rapidly thus overlapping endogenous soil and ecosystem forming processes
- Economic framework conditions for **innovative biomass processing chains**
- There must be **detailed conceptual descriptions** and **assessments of all reclamation activities** including target criteria that have to be achieved in definite time, like soil target values in agriculture or biomass growth and biodiversity indicators for afforestation
- **Mosaic of different land use categories** is promising the **highest economic and ecological value** but also **stakeholder acceptance**

RESULTS: BEST PRACTICE ON POST MINING AND RECLAMATION

Agricultural reclamation

- **Agricultural reclamation of suitable arable mine spoils** may contribute significantly to assure the continued **existence of agricultural enterprises affected by mining activities**, especially in times of an increasing shortage of fertile agricultural land worldwide

- The **application of organic materials** (composts, solid and liquid manure, digestates, etc.) with a balanced ratio between carbon and plant available macronutrients is **stimulating soil development**. But equally important is a **soil fertilising** and **structuring crop rotation** with nitrogen-fixing legumes in a key position

- **Scientific preliminary studies** and **monitoring of the soil and yield development** are **necessary for the elaboration and adaption of all restoration procedures**

- On **humus- and nutrient-poor raw soils the first yields do not reflect the real cropping potential**. Improving soil fertility is a **long-term, biological driven process taking 60 to 80 years** until the site-adapted and sustainable yield production potential is achieved

RESULTS: BEST PRACTICE ON POST MINING AND RECLAMATION

Forest reclamation

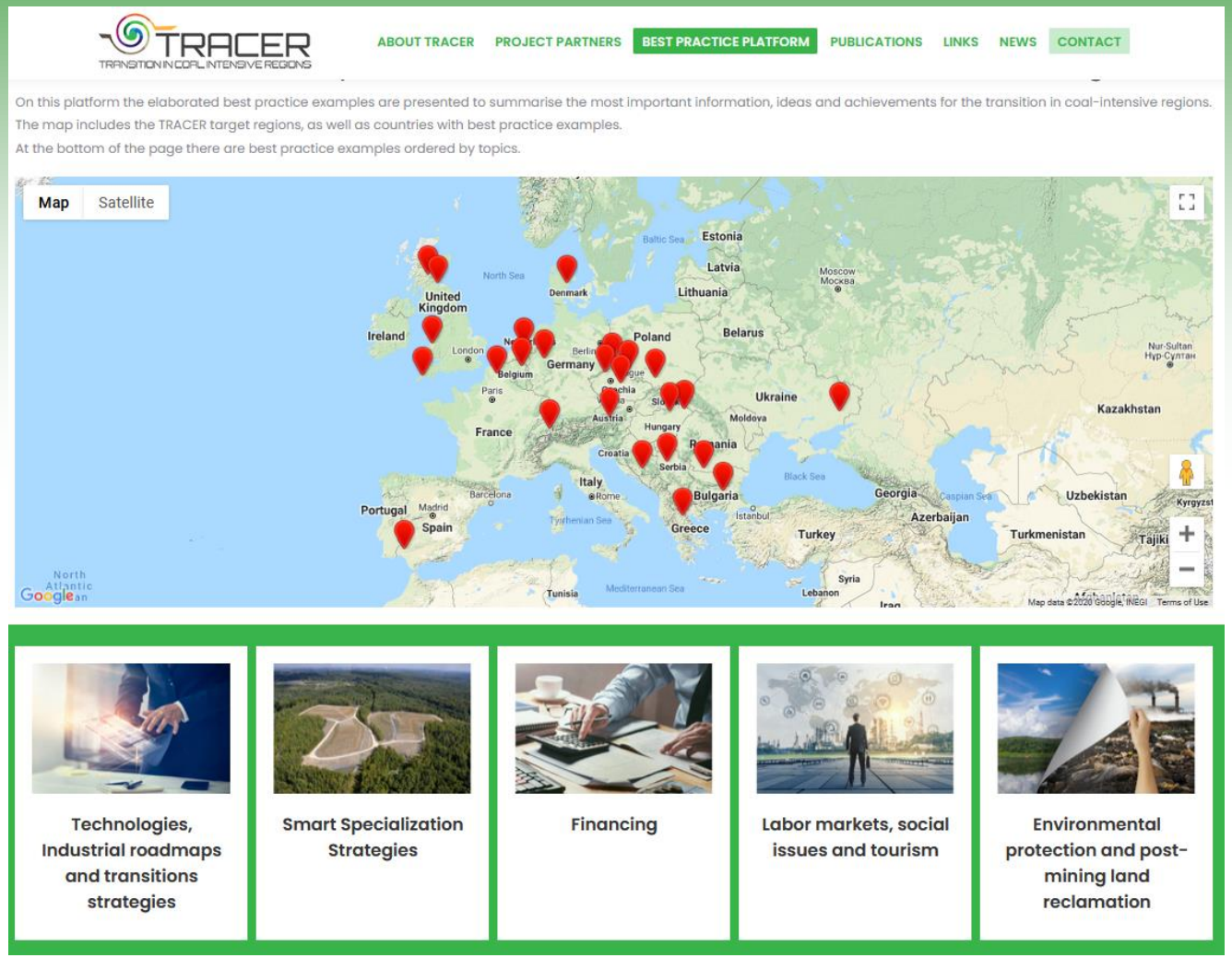
- In the temperate climate zone **afforestation and natural reforestation** of stripped land are the most obvious and promising solution for revegetation
- Biological self-organisation of forests can follow technical reclamation and natural succession, depending on the **landscape planning objectives**, i.e. the **requirements of the society** and subsequent **users of the reclaimed land**
- The overall **challenge** is to establish **diverse**, **low-risk**, **forward-looking** and **sustainable forest ecosystems** for multifunctional use options
- Even though **successional tree species** cannot replace commercially valuable crop trees in an economic sense, they are most **important for wildlife and early soil revitalisation**
- As for all long-living and **complex ecosystems** it makes sense to **assess the reclamation quality** by a combined growth evaluation and **biodiversity check**

RESULTS: BEST PRACTICE ON POST MINING AND RECLAMATION

Nature conservation

- **Dilemma** from the **ecological point of view**: intensification of mining operation and **standardised good reclamation practices** are in general **leading to a more productive but also uniform, artificially smoothed post-mining landscape**
- **Better-yielding cropping systems correspond with a loss of biodiversity** as compared to human-undisturbed sites. In contrast, many comprehensive **studies reveal**, that both **natural self-development** and **guided succession** lead to **better ecological values as compared to one-way technical reclaimed areas**
- Different plans in the active mining and mine closure should **always take into account the management requirements to ensure biodiversity values** and **ecological variety** in the developing post-mining landscapes
- Establishment and conservation of **sparsely vegetated**, **nutrient poor** and dry bare substrates, **dunes** and **wetlands plays a key role**
- **Nature conservation measures** should contribute **to improve biodiversity** upon the pre-mining conditions, **even if there is no concrete legal obligation**

RESULTS: BEST PRACTICE PLATFORM



https://tracer-h2020.eu/best-practice-platform/

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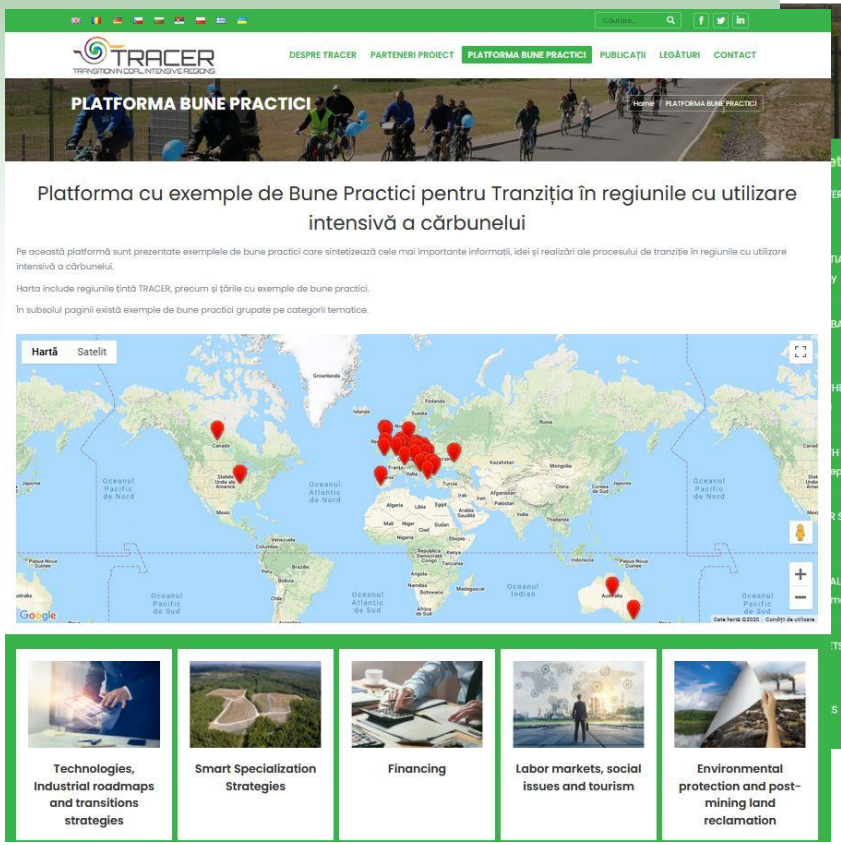
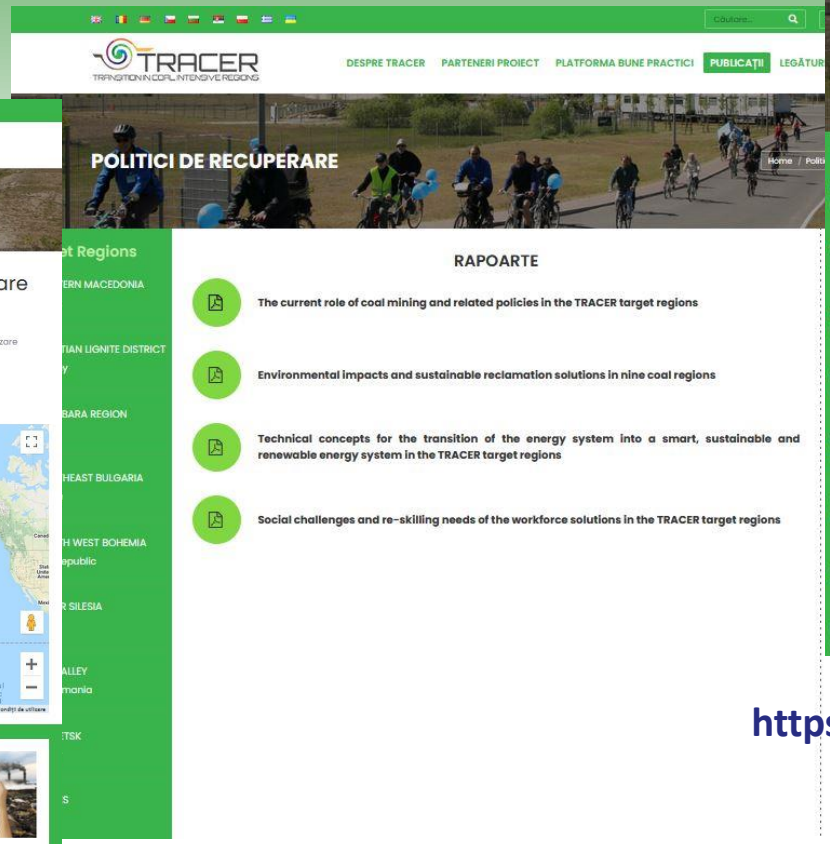
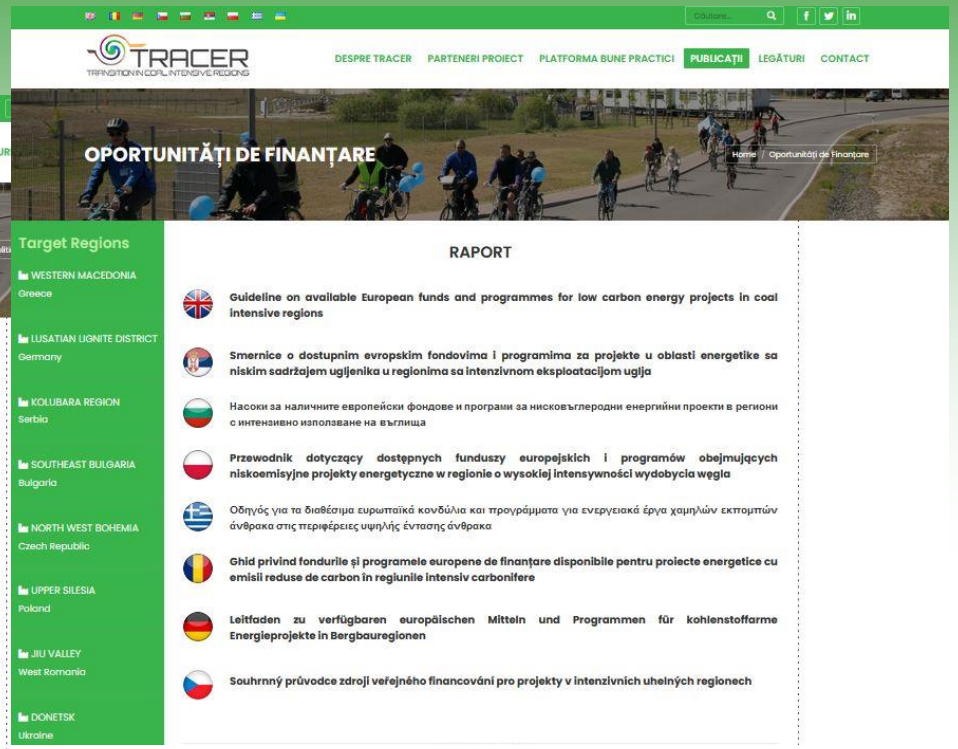
TRACER RESULTS (1)







https://tracer-h2020.eu/ro/financing-opportunities-2-ro/

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WEBSITE
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RESULTS: STUDY TOURS








https://tracer-h2020.eu/cooperation-of-coal-intensive-regions/

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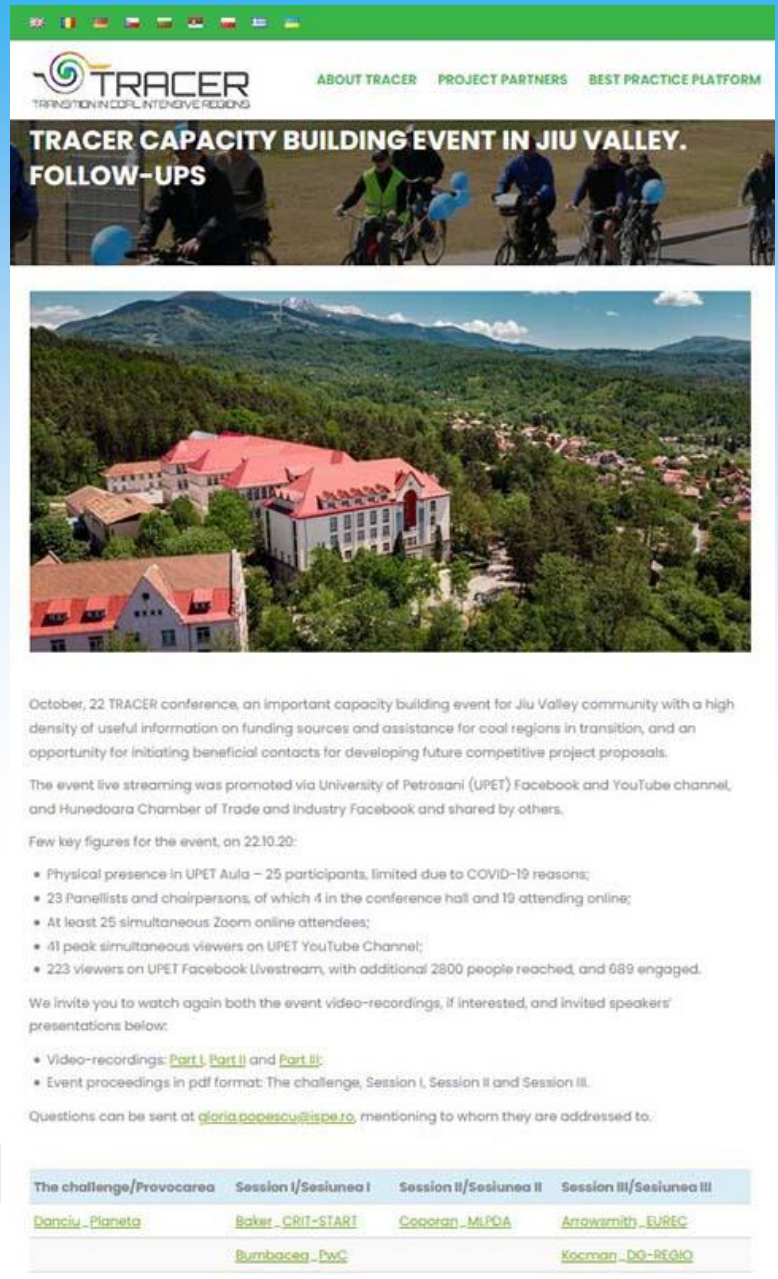
TRACER RESULTS (2)

https://tracer-h2020.eu/2020/11/01/tracer-capacity-building-event-in-jiu-valley-follow-ups/



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ABOUT TRACER PROJECT PARTNERS BEST PRACTICE PLATFORM

TRACER CAPACITY BUILDING EVENT IN JIU VALLEY. FOLLOW-UPS

October, 22 TRACER conference, an important capacity building event for Jiu Valley community with a high density of useful information on funding sources and assistance for coal regions in transition, and an opportunity for initiating beneficial contacts for developing future competitive project proposals.

The event live streaming was promoted via University of Petrosani (UPET) Facebook and YouTube channel, and Hunedoara Chamber of Trade and Industry Facebook and shared by others.

Few key figures for the event, on 22.10.20:

- Physical presence in UPET Aula – 25 participants, limited due to COVID-19 reasons;
- 23 Panellists and chairpersons, of which 4 in the conference hall and 19 attending online;
- At least 25 simultaneous Zoom online attendees;
- 41 peak simultaneous viewers on UPET YouTube Channel;
- 223 viewers on UPET Facebook Livestream, with additional 2800 people reached, and 689 engaged.

We invite you to watch again both the event video-recordings, if interested, and invited speakers' presentations below:

- Video-recordings: Part I, Part II and Part III;
- Event proceedings in pdf format: The challenge, Session I, Session II and Session III.

Questions can be sent at gloria.popescu@ispe.ro, mentioning to whom they are addressed to.

The challenge/Provocarea	Session I/Sesiunea I	Session II/Sesiunea II	Session III/Sesiunea III
Danciu , Planeta	Baker , CRIT-START	Cooperan , MLPDA	Arrowsmith , EUREC
	Burnbaceg , PwC		Kocman , DG-REGIO

https://tracer-h2020.eu/ro/cooperation-of-coal-intensive-regions-2-ro/

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RESULTS: STUDY TOUR IN LUSATIA

- Reclamation of post-mining areas is a **long-term process taking decades** which needs to be planned carefully right from the beginning of mining activities. It is always important to have the later land use in mind - **what will be done when the mining activities are finished? how to reclaim the land in a proper way? how should look like the land use after the reclamation process is finished?**

- **Forest reclamation, agriculture, energy cropping and nature conservation concepts** are in the focus of the sustainable "solution" for the revitalisation of the disturbed landscape after mining

- **Innovative ideas** that did not exist before can be created when **coal mining company cooperates with universities and scientists**. For example, in the postmining landscape Welzow Süd a vineyard was the output of successful cooperation between coal mining company and scientists

- **Innovative small-scale energy concepts using biomass** can be created on the local level as a trendsetting contribution to energy transition in coal intensive regions

- Creation of the **lake landscape** on the former open-pits offers a new opportunities for energy production (**floating PV**) and nature tourism (**floating houses for holidays**)

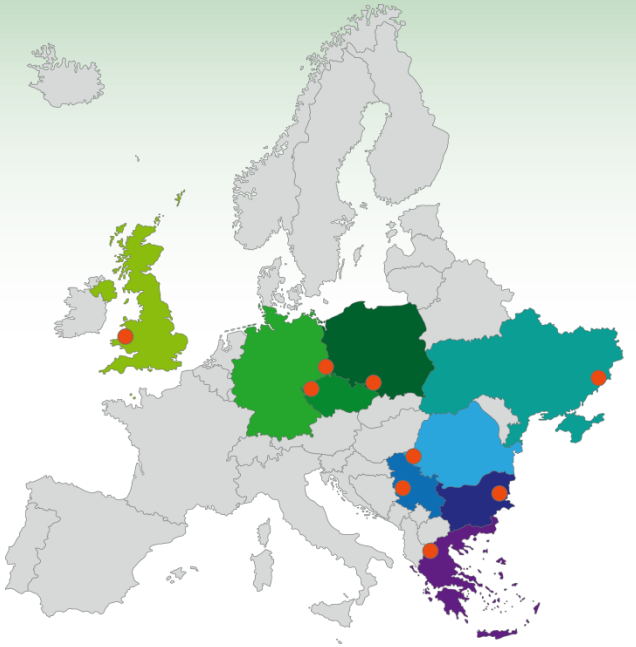
RESULTS: STUDY TOUR IN WALES

- Phasing out coal should be planned, and **infrastructure needs to be improved first before phasing out coal**
- **Lack of strong regional policies have long-term impacts for the coal regions**
- **Leadership of both the National and regional government is essential** to overcome the challenge as usually there is no Plan B for the communities that were created for coal production
- **Social care and education** are important issues in the coal regions
- **Innovative projects and research is a good opportunity for coal regions to look for new solutions**. The knowledge gained from investment in innovation in coal regions will benefit all shrinking high employment industries which will fail to be sustainable or economic in the future
- The **challenges** are access to new places for work and study, or virtual highways like internet, to **get more skills and new employment**
- **Attracting new funds** (regional and EU) is crucial to **implement innovative ideas in the region**. Once added-value ideas are identified, the application for funding is the next step. Welsh European Funding Office helped to mobilize the needed funds

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- 9 **R&I strategies**
- 9 **Roadmaps**

Final Policy Conference and Investor's Workshop in Brussels in september 2022



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R&I COOPERATION

- **Study tours to best practice regions**
- **Summer school**
- **Cooperation with the European Commission's Smart Specialization Platform on Energy**
- **Cooperation with SET Plan Implementation Working Groups**
- **Cooperation with the EU's Coal Regions in Transition Platform**
- **correlating with other EU support initiatives** (EC-DG Reform – SRSS and SRSP; and EC-DG Ener – START/CRIT) and H2020 projects (Tipping Plus, CINTRAN, ENTRANCE); to this aim, some stages of the EDP process were assimilated with events organized by START or MIPE (Ministry of Investments and European Projects) or by local initiatives as ACIVJ – Jiu Valley small business Association;

SUCCESSFUL JUST TRANSITION IN JIU VALLEY

1. Enhanced local institutional capacity and competences for a constant and transparent communication with key 4helix stakeholders;
2. Governance structure's (ADTIVJ) commitment for an integrated cooperation and active engagement in the micro-region;
3. Ability of ADTIVJ for connecting the micro-region to R&I HUBs, transnational value chains and business networks;
4. Local stakeholders and mainly citizens willingness and interest to be pro-actively engaged and co-create;
5. Political consensus [not least].

WHAT WE NEED

to invest in human's potential, education, spirituality and morality, thus creating the right environment and generating the necessary force for the people, able to develop the local economy by implementing innovative ideas

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- LINKEDIN

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THANK YOU!

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