



EU initiative for coal regions in transition

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Brieuc Posnic, DG ENER

Introduction

Coal mine closure is not matter of EU competence

But EU legal and policy framework has a direct influence on the coal sector altogether

Environmental, safety standards
State aid rules
'Polluter pays' principle



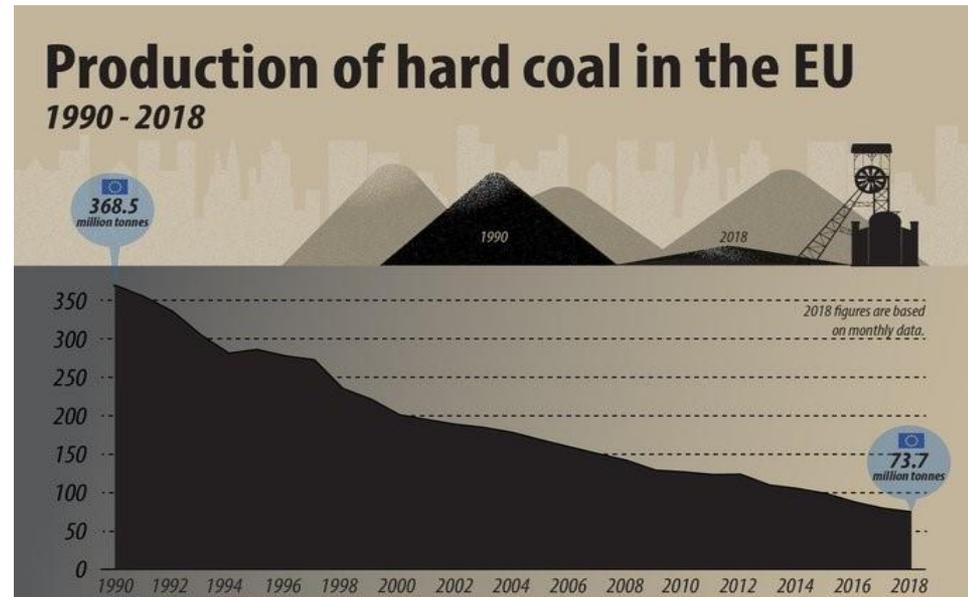
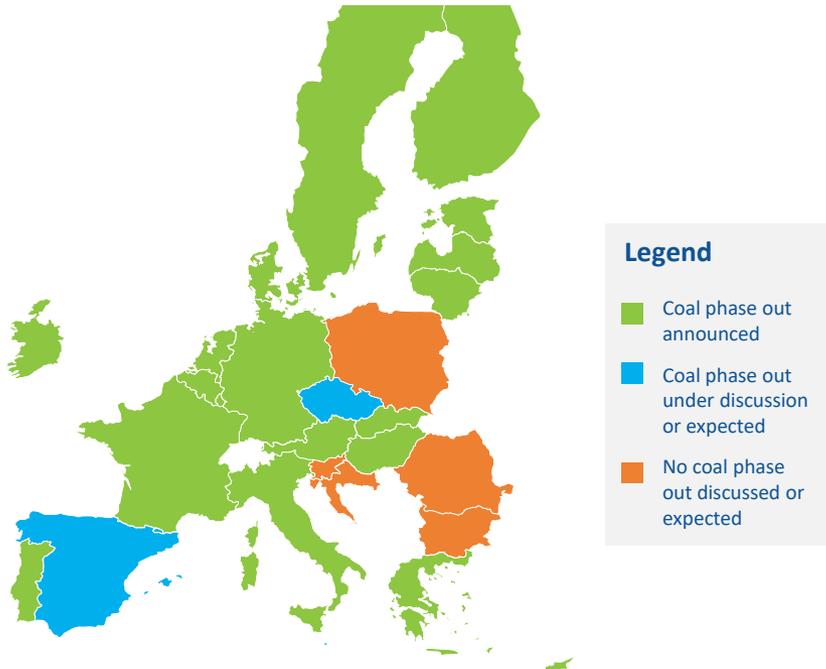
European Green Deal
Just Transition Mechanism
Climate Law (possibly)

EU policy and
legislative context

Overall context

Sharp decline of coal in the EU, both as regards mining and power generation

Member State coal phase out decisions in the EU



Initiative for Coal Regions in Transition

Objective

Not a 'coal phase out' initiative

'No EU region, no EU citizen left behind'

Scope

31 coal regions in 11 EU Member States

230,000 jobs in the coal industry EU-wide

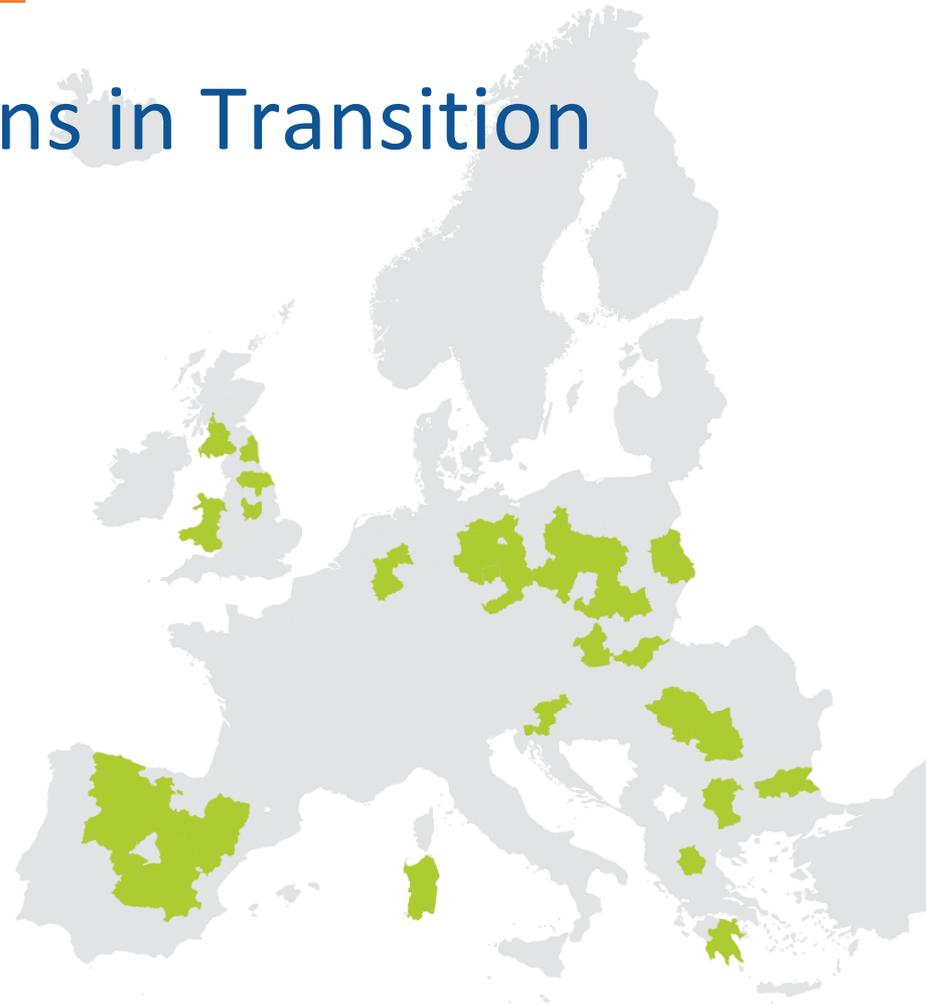
Now also covers peat and oil shale regions,
with priority on Ireland and Estonia

Tools

Platform

Country teams

Secretariat



Platform

Provides an **open forum** for:

- **Stakeholder dialogue:** strategies and projects are discussed with a wider stakeholder community including NGOs, trade unions and industry.
 - **Collective brainstorming:** exchange on best practices and experiences from other sectors and project ideas are brought into the discussion.
 - **Guidance on available EU funds:** Commission services provide information on funds and programmes to support transition in coal regions
 - **Monitoring progress** made by pilot regions
 - **High-level political dialogue:** policy-makers provide recommendations on how to ensure an enabling policy framework, including the new MFF.
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- **Platform Meetings:** 1-2 April 2020, October 2020 (Brussels)
 - **Annual Political Dialogue:** November 2020, Oviedo (Spain)

Country teams

Structure and organisation

National administration

*Incl. possibly: Ministry of Energy,
Regional Development, Finance
or EU Funds, Social Affairs,
Environment, etc.*



Regional and local administration



Social partners, CSOs



**Regular meetings
In Brussels or in the
country**



European Commission

All relevant services
ENER, REGIO, EMPL, CLIMA,
ENV, REFORM, etc.



Country teams

Currently 9 operational country teams

Country	Regions	Country	Regions
Poland	Silesia Lower Silesia Greater Poland Lesser Poland	Germany	Brandenburg Saxony Saxony-Anhalt North Rhine Westphalia
Czechia	Moravia-Silesia Karlovy Vary Usti	Spain	Asturias Castilla-y-Leon Aragon
Slovakia	Upper Nitra	Greece	Western Macedonia
Slovenia	Savinjsko-Šaleška Zasavje	Romania	Jiu Valley
Ireland	Midlands		

Country teams

Examples of achievements (sample of 3 Member States)

EUR 100 mln reprogrammed in **Poland** to invest in transition planning tools, environmental rehabilitation and air quality measures.

> ENER to finance technical assistance to be provided by the World Bank, Secretariat

EUR 250 mln reprogrammed in **Czechia** to invest in support to SME, health and education.

> ENER to provide technical assistance through the Secretariat

> LIFE project for environmental rehabilitation of former mining sites in Moravia-Silesia

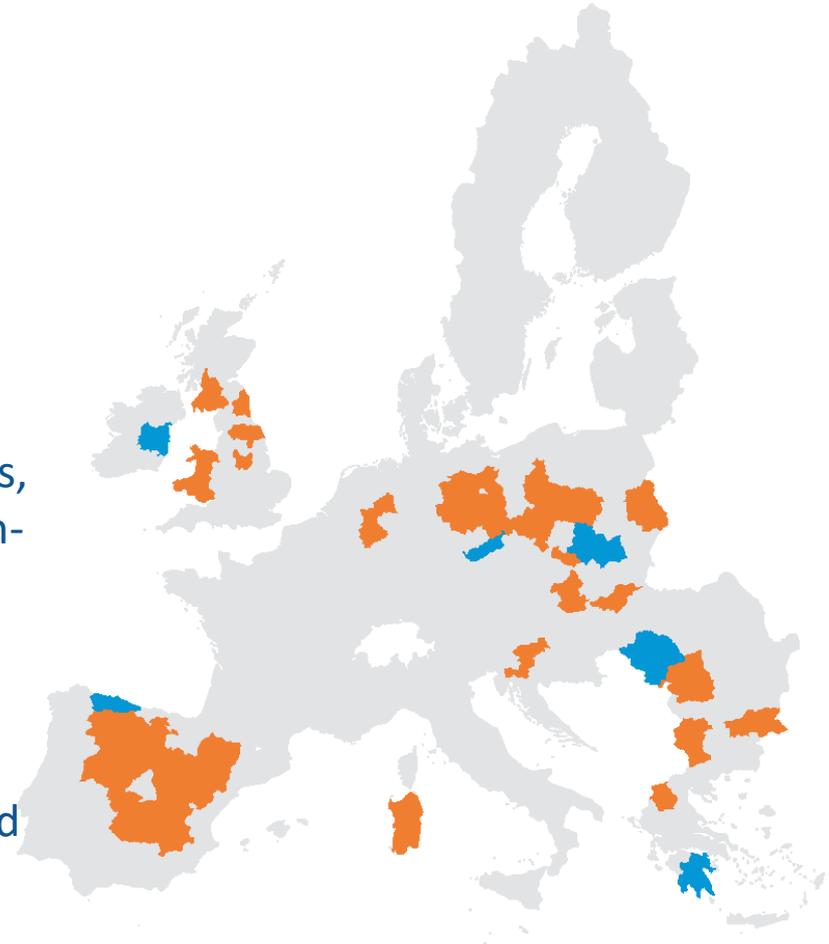
EUR 100 mln to be reprogrammed in **Slovakia** to invest in road infrastructure, mining site repurposing and human capital in the local administration.

> Follow up technical assistance to be provided by DG REFORM

Secretariat

Established 1 February 2019

- Assists the European Commission in the operation of the Platform
- Develops **guidance materials** (methodologies, reports, toolkits, best practices) on transition-related issues
- Performs targeted **capacity building** and **technical assistance** to pilot regions (7)
- Set up a **knowledge hub** on transition-related issues



Just Transition Mechanism

EC proposal, published on 14 January 2020

1. Just Transition Fund

EUR 7.5 bln, allocated to Member States according to industrial GHG emissions and employment in extractive industries

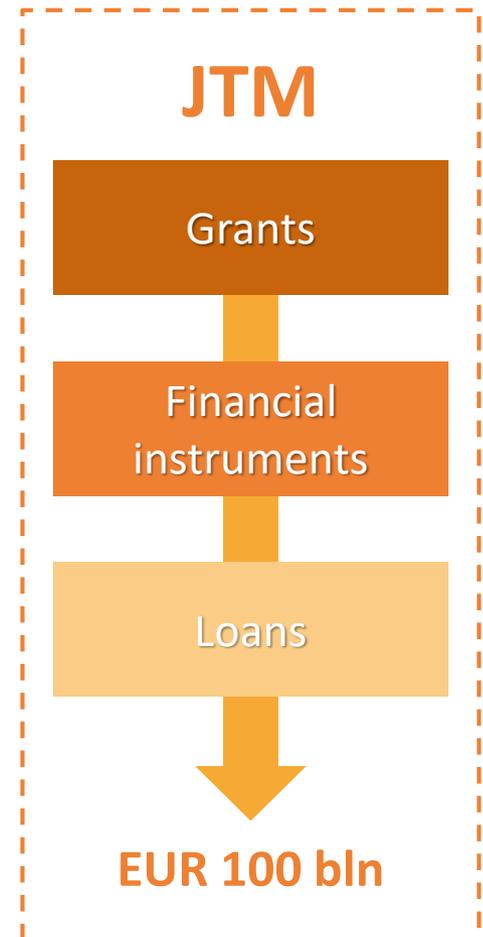
2. Dedicated window under InvestEU

Allowing to de-risk investments in 'just transition' regions, with a guarantee mechanism

3. Public loan facility

Helping projects with lower leverage effect, operated by the EIB

With a potential to generate EUR 100 bln in investments over the next decade



Just Transition Fund

Implementation phase (as per EC proposal)



Select **beneficiary regions** at NUTS 3 or inferior level

Develop **transition plans**

Spend funds according to plan



Energy



Recommends **beneficiary regions** through European Semester

Adopts **transition plans** after assessment

Monitors spending and respect of plan



European
Commission

Thank you for your attention

#CoalRegionsEU