



ANNEX I

6th STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

DeCarb & TRACER project

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Venue: [The Green Hill](#), Stara Zagora

11/02/2021

When?	What?
09:30 – 10:00	Registration and coffee
10:00 - 10:15	Opening panel Achieved results, upcoming activities, new projects on the topic <i>Moderated by:</i> Dr. Rумыana Grozeva, Executive Director of SZ REDA <i>Featuring:</i> Mrs. Mihaela Dineva, DeCarb project manager Mr. Angel Nikolaev, TRACER project manager
10:15 – 11:30	Panel 1: Territorial Plans for Just Transition – the experience of Central and Eastern Europe (<i>purpose of the panel is to present to stakeholders the experience of similar regions in the EU</i>) <i>Moderated by:</i> Dr. Rумыana Grozeva, Executive Director of SZ REDA <i>Featuring:</i> Mr. Karel Tichý, Usti Region, Czech Republic Mr Tomas Burdych, Ministry of Regional Development, Czech Republic Dr. Lefteris Topaloglou, Local Government Association of in Western Macedonia (Kozani) and University of Western Macedonia, Kozani, Greece Dipl. Eng. Niko Natek, Energy Agency of the Savinjski, Šaleški and Koroški regions, Slovenia
11:30 - 11:45	<i>Coffee and discussion</i>
11:45 – 12:45	Panel 2: The Territorial Plan for Just Transition of the Maritsa Basin - Opportunities, Alternatives, Challenges (<i>the purpose of the panel is to be presented to stakeholders, alternatives for socio-economic development of the region, EU legislation in this direction, energy prospects, funding opportunities</i>) <i>Moderated by:</i> Dr. Rумыana Grozeva, Executive Director of SZ REDA





	<p><i>Featuring:</i></p> <p>Mrs. Dessislava Kraleva, EIAH, European Investment Bank</p> <p>Mr Sebastian Hyzyk, Head of Project Advisory Support Unit, EIB</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Neli Grozeva, Vice Rector of the Thracian University, Stara Zagora, Bulgaria – to be confirmed</p> <p>Mr. Brieuc Posnic, DG Energy, EC</p> <p>Prof. Hristo Vassilev, Technical University, Sofia, Bulgaria</p> <p>Mr. Julian Popov, Chairman of the Board of the European Institute for Building Efficiency, Brussels</p> <p>Representative from Electricity System Operator EAD – to be confirmed</p>
12:45 - 13:15	<p>Q & A session</p> <p><i>Moderated by:</i> Dr. Rumyana Grozeva, Executive Director of SZ REDA</p>
13:15 – 14:30	<p>Lunch</p>

The meeting will be held on **11.02.2021 (Thursday)** from **10:00 am**.

LINK FOR ONLINE PARTICIPANTS:

The platform for the meeting will be ZOOM.

A link will be sent the day before the meeting.



De Carb: "Supporting the clean energy transition of coal-intensive EU regions" is a project within the scope of specific objective 3 of INTERREG Europe Program: Improvement of policies for low-carbon economy. DeCarb and is the only approved project of a Bulgarian leading organization out of 53 approved projects for the entire program. The partner consortium also

includes: Ministry of Economy and Energy, Brandenburg (Germany); Department of Energy (Denmark); Regional Association of Local Governments in Western Macedonia (Greece); Extremadura Energy Agency (Spain); Regional Energy Agency (Hungary); Lodzkie Region (Poland); Southwest Oltenia Regional Development Agency (Romania) and the Savinjska, Šaleški and Koroška (Slovenia) Energy Agency.

The transition to low-carbon energy puts the EU economy in a new phase and has a profound economic and social impact on coal-intensive regions. This transition must be fair, thus, one of the fundamental goals of DeCarb is to support this process. The EU's "Clean Energy for All Europeans" Package has been set up to accelerate the transition to clean energy, growth and job creation. In this sense, DeCarb aims to help public authorities initiate the necessary efforts, boost their capacity and exchange experiences.

More information about the DeCarb project can be found on the project [website](#), as well as on all social networks.



TRACER: "Transition in coal intensive regions", funded by the EU Horizon 2020 program, aims to establish and deepen the cooperation in research and innovation between coal mining regions, which will facilitate their transition to a more sustainable energy system. Currently, 41 regions in 12 EU Member States are actively mining coal. This provides direct employment to nearly 185,000 people in the EU and additional jobs in related industries. Taking into account the difficulties faced by these regions, it is necessary to envisage and propose an appropriate energy policy. Coal-producing regions need an effective roadmap to ensure that the transition to a more diversified economic base and a more sustainable energy system takes place by maintaining the social cohesion of coal-dependent communities and regions.

The specific objectives of TRACER are to:

- Assists regional stakeholders (in the target regions) in developing smart specialization strategies in line with the EU Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET);
- Research and exchange "best practices", including industrial roadmaps for replacing coal with new technologies, as well as strategies for the transition from combined





heat and power from coal to low-emission electricity and district heating;

- Study the social problems in the target regions, incl. the need to retrain the workforce;
- Provide guidance to regional stakeholders on available European funds and programs and the use of additional national public and private co-financing.

More detailed information about the TRACER project can be found on the project [website](#), as well as in all social networks.

