

Smart strategies for the transition in coal intensive regions

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***Report on capacity building events on
European funds and programmes to
key actors of the target regions***

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Abbreviations

Black Sea Energy Research Centre, Bulgaria (TRACER partner)	BSERC
Coal Energy Technology Institute, Ukraine (TRACER partner)	CETI
Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving, Greece (TRACER partner)	CRES
Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Czech Republic (TRACER partner)	CULS
European Commission	EC
European Investment Bank	EIB
ENERGOPROJEKT ENTEL, Serbia (TRACER partner)	ENTEL
The Association of European Renewable Energy Research Centers (TRACER partner)	EUREC
Forschungsinstitut für Bergbaufolgelandschaften e.V., Germany (TRACER partner)	FIB
ISPE DESIGN and CONSULTING, Romania (TRACER partner)	ISPE
University of Strathclyde, UK (TRACER partner)	STRATH
Territorial Just Transition Plan	TJTP
University of Agriculture in Krakow, Poland (TRACER partner)	UAK
Welsh Government, UK (TRACER partner)	WG
WIP Renewable Energies, Germany (TRACER coordinator)	WIP

1 Introduction

This report summarises the findings, lessons learnt and outcomes of the 9 capacity building events that were organised in eight of the [Target Regions](#) by partners of the Horizon 2020 project [TRACER](#) on Smart strategies for the transition in coal intensive regions. Each of these regions is looking for strategies for a clean and fair transition out of coal.

The main aims of the events were to raise awareness and increase the capacity of local and regional actors to find funding for sustainable and innovative projects, with the objective to transition out of coal mining and coal-powered energy into future-oriented sectors that bring durable socio-economic development. The events have gathered experts in funding from public authorities and financing bodies at regional, national, European and international level, who have presented the latest opportunities for funding projects with a special focus on transitioning out of coal.

The Capacity Building events that were organised in the Target Regions of the TRACER project have brought together a wealth of information and differences in approaches on how to secure public funding from different sources and on attracting private investment. This report contains links to presentations and recordings for most of these events.

It is worth mentioning that while TRACER regions face similar challenges such as readapting their infrastructure and reskilling workers, at the same time their tools available vary significantly. To begin with all 9 countries have their own local, regional and national programmes, with varying levels of resources and focus to support the coal transition. In addition, 6 out of the 9 regions are in the EU, where they can benefit from funding opportunities such as EU Regional Policy funds and the Recovery and Resilience Facility. Still, other options are open in terms of funding for the TRACER target regions in the 3 countries outside of the EU. Lastly, some regions have already stopped coal exploitation and are trying to replace lost economic activity, while others are still active coal basins supplying large amounts of energy.

Transitioning out of coal is a long process that requires a common effort by many actors from the region and far beyond. The social fabric of vast areas in Europe its supply of energy depends on the success of this transition.

2 Common aims, format and limitations

Table 1 below gives an overview of the 9 Capacity Building events that took place in the 8 TRACER regions. All events were organised by TRACER partners responsible for their specific target region in the project. Partners were well placed to do this as they have good knowledge of the challenges and new projects being developed in their regions, as well as good contacts with local and regional stakeholders. Project partner EUREC has supported the organisers by either presenting EU and international sources of funding or finding speakers working with these funds like the European Commission and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Chapter 3 is composed of descriptions for each of the capacity building events mentioned in Table 1. The information was gathered from each of the event's organisers, it usually includes the highlights of the event and key recommendations, as well as links to most of the material presented and several recordings. The information on Chapter 3 about each of the events can be combined with "Annex I – Event agendas" and "Annex II - Photos and screenshots from events". Chapter 4 gives conclusions on the events that took place.

The main aim of the events was to inform and build the capacity of stakeholders to find funding to access financial support to develop economic activity and develop projects in coal regions in transition. The target audience of these events were local and regional actors active in the economic, social and cultural sphere of the target regions who may benefit from a variety of funding opportunities for sustainable innovative projects. Participants and presenters to the events included chambers of commerce, companies, local and regional levels of governments, public agencies providing funding, civil society, non-profit organisations and other actors. TRACER partners from other countries have also participated and contributed to the agenda, in some cases sharing lessons learnt from other countries, also contributing with expertise on available EU and international financing tools.

The discussions often focused on public strategies and financing tools to reinvest into local industry and infrastructure. Topics of high interest included training and reskilling for workers, carrying out land-recovery activities, developing renewable energy projects, attracting new industry, developing tourism among other transition strategies. Each region tried to capitalise on its existing strengths and untapped potential or resources.

The events were organised between 2020 and 2021, a period marked by severe travel and meeting restrictions due to the Covid-19 sanitary crisis. This made organising in-person events unfeasible in many cases and in others only possible under strict limitations. As a result of this, 2 events were organised in-person, 3 were hybrid and 4 were mainly digital. Although it was not possible in most cases for stakeholders to meet in-person with decision-makers, the digital-hybrid format allowed for more participants to join from the target regions and for international speakers to dial-in.

Despite the restrictions, the organisation of these 9 events was successful. The programmes mobilised dozens of speakers and moderators to discuss how to finance a fair transition in coal regions. Several hundreds of participants have joined these events, exchanged contacts and contributed to the debate. The ongoing conflict in the Ukrainian-Russian border has impeded the organisation of a capacity building event in the ninth TRACER region, the important coal region of Donetsk in the Ukraine. The TRACER partners hope first and foremost for peace and then for a fair, clean and forward-looking reconstruction.

Table 1: Overview of 9 Capacity Building events that took place in 8 TRACER regions

Region	Title of event	Date	Organiser	Format	Links
Northwest Bohemia, Czechia	Grant opportunities for towns and municipalities	11.02.20	CULS	In-person	Presentation link
Northwest Bohemia, Czechia	Research and Education Platform of the Economic and Social Council of the Ústí Region	21.10.20	CULS	Digital	Event link
Southeast Region, Bulgaria	Opportunities to finance projects supporting the transition of the Stara Zagora region to a low-carbon economy	29.09.20	BSERC	In-person	Event link
Upper Silesia, Poland	Capacity Building Event on European Funds and Programmes	06.10.20	UAK	Hybrid	Event link
Jiu Valley, West region, Romania	Just Transition – Ideas, projects and finance for life after coal in Jiu Valley	22.10.20	ISPE	Hybrid	Event link
Lusatian Lignite District, Germany	Funding opportunities for Lusatia	07.06.21	FIB	Hybrid	Event link
Kolubara Region, Serbia	Transitioning out of coal in the Serbian region of Kolubara – Capacity Building event on funds and programmes	07.07.21	ENTEL	Hybrid	Event link
Western Macedonia, Greece	Clean energy transition of the Region of Western Macedonia: Funding Opportunities	02.12.21	CRES	Digital	Event link
Wales, United Kingdom	Energy transition in Wales: Commitments, partnerships and priorities	01.12.21	STRATH	Digital	Event link

3 Reporting on findings for each of the events

This chapter presents the findings and available material for each capacity building event individually. The organisers have provided information on the events, including slides, links and summaries that were adapted to fit in this report. The sub-sections give a brief overview of the key elements and conclusions for each capacity building event. More material from the events can be found under Annexes I and II.

3.1. Southeast Region, Bulgaria

This event took place in the morning of the 29th of September 2020. It was one of the few events that could be organised in-person at the regional library in Stara Zagora city, Bulgaria. The event was structured to be a training course for regional actors on funding with the following title: “Opportunities for financing of projects supporting the decarbonization of Stara Zagora region”. The event was not recorded and was in-person, with two speakers participating online from the EIB and the FLAG Fund.

The objective of the event was to present and discuss all key opportunities for financing projects contributing to the transition of the region away from coal. The main instruments discussed were the Just Transition Fund and upcoming Regional Policy’s Operational Programmes for the programming period of 2021-2027. Other topics of interest included funding opportunities linked to the European Investment Bank and the [FLAG fund](#).

The target audience for the training course were public authorities, the energy industry, businesses, entrepreneurs, development agencies, and civil society organizations. There were 7 speakers, with 5 sets of slides. The event’s agenda and the two online presentations can be accessed [here](#). It was organized by BSERC.

The information on funding opportunities was well received by private and public stakeholders from Stara Zagora. It was highlighted that the EIB is an important lender in Bulgaria, where it’s financing represented 4.5% of Bulgaria’s GDP in 2019. Over the coming years the bank would focus in rolling out InvestEU and making all its lending Paris compatible.

A key message was that the Just Transition Fund would be a central piece in the region’s transition out of coal. The fund’s focus will depend on the Territorial Just Transition Plan of Stara Zagora, that was under development at the time of the event. It was emphasized that regional stakeholders should get involved in the plan’s development.

3.2. Upper Silesia, Poland

On October 6, 2020, a capacity building event was organized focusing primarily on European funds and programs. Due to the sanitary situation, the event was organized in hybrid format, with attendees both at the venue in Katowice and online. Experts in European and national funds were invited to speak at the event about the energy transition and the region’s socioeconomic development. Among the invited speakers there were civil servants and politicians from several levels of government.

The event was in Polish and was broadcasted live. The recording can be viewed here: [part I](#); [part II](#). Four of the six presentations and photos of the events can be views on the event’s [website](#).

The event was organized and chaired by TRACER partner UAK. There were six speakers split into two sessions (as seen in recordings). In the first part, experts have presented opportunities to obtain funds from EU and national sources, including recent or upcoming calls, as well as recommendations for applicants. In the second part, the administration from municipalities and cities shared the experiences and challenges that they had encountered while applying for funding; they have also shown some examples of the investments made with the funds obtained. No speaker from the Ministry of the Environment Ministry was able to join as had initially been planned because the Minister had resigned on the eve of the conference.

The event was well attended, particularly by local and regional stakeholders from Upper Silesia. Most participants knew about available funds and used the opportunity during the coffee break and lunches to talk with the experts.

3.3. Jiu Valley, West region, Romania

On October 22 of 2020, a hybrid capacity building event was organised with the following title: “Just Transition – Ideas, projects and finance for life after coal in Jiu Valley”. The event was organised in Petrosani, a city located within the Jiu Valley coal basin that gathers 3 cities and 3 municipalities in the Western Region of Romania. The programme was rich in information on funding sources and assistance for coal regions in transition, offering the opportunity to make contacts and form project consortia. The languages spoken were Romanian and English. The event was co-organised by TRACER partner ISPE, together with the University of Petrosani and the Social Institute of the Jiu Valley (ISVJ).

This full-day event had 23 panellists and chairpersons split into four sessions. A brochure with the event’s agenda can be accessed [here](#). The panellists brought together key decision-makers from the local, regional and national administration, from EU institutions, as well as businesses and civil society active in the region. The first session covered ongoing projects and initiatives in the Jiu Valley with a variety of speakers from consortia and civil society. The second session dealt with the policy framework in the field of energy and the environment, with panellists from the national administration. The third session focused on current and future international/EU financing opportunities, with speakers from the European Commission, the EBRD and other bodies. The fourth and last session featured advice from municipalities on how to attract investment.

Audio recordings for the conference sessions can be found here: [Part I](#), [Part II](#) and [Part III](#). Several of the speaker presentations can be found on the event’s website [here](#).

The number of in-person attendees was capped at 25 due to sanitary restrictions. In addition, there were over 260 viewers who watched the event online on Youtube, Facebook and via Zoom. The event was promoted by University of Petrosani (UPET), the Hunedoara Chamber of Trade and Industry and other local actors. This evidenced the significant interest among regional stakeholders on this event. Moreover, a year later in 2021 the TRACER consortium has met for a [study visit in Petrosani](#) and met several of the organisers and local stakeholders that were at the event in 2020.

3.4. Lusatian Lignite District, Germany

On 7 June 2021 a capacity building event in digital format was organised for the Lusatian Lignite District in Germany, near the Polish and Czech border. Its title was “Capacity Building Event - Funding options for Lusatia - especially within the Federal State of Brandenburg”. This half-day gathering was organised by TRACER partner FIB, the Research Institute for Post-Mining Landscapes.

The aim of the event was to give an overview of available funding opportunities to support structural change towards a green economy and to help stakeholders to make contacts with the people in charge in funding agencies. The organiser sought to bring in contact local and regional stakeholders with public authorities and other providers of funding. The main target groups to speak and attend were:

- municipalities and districts across Lusatia, in particular their contact points for business development agencies,
- regional companies, trade associations and other interest groups,
- contact persons from the ministries of the Federal States of Brandenburg and Saxony on the topic of regional structural development and transition of coal intensive regions
- members of the federal state parliaments representing Lusatia,
- various contact persons/representatives of the federal states at EU level.

The programme had 8 speakers from public agencies, foundations, regional authorities and companies. The agenda and all presentations are [here](#). The event had 36 online participants, in addition to the FIB team present at the office in Finsterwalde.

From the contributions, it was evident that there are various funding opportunities in the federal states of Brandenburg and Saxony. For Brandenburg funding opportunities are presented here: <https://foerdernavigator-brandenburg.de>. The distribution of funds from the Structural Strengthening Act in Brandenburg is carried out by Wirtschaftsregion Lausitz GmbH (WRL). Innovative project ideas can be submitted here in short two-page profiles at any time. The evaluation and selection of qualified projects takes place in a swift, multi-stage and transparent process. Commercial enterprises are only eligible to apply indirectly for funding under the Structural Strengthening Act.

Barriers to the region's development were identified. Lusatia has a shortage of skilled workers and trainees, there is also a need for innovative ideas and business models. This is related to the region's negative demographic trend, as well as to the perception of the area as not being open. The rather low Immigration to date has not been able to compensate for the shortage in terms of labour force. Moreover, the proportion of returnees, native people who left the region after the political changes in the 1990's, has been marginal. Significant efforts will be needed to establish Lusatia as a region that attracts talent in green industry, innovative products and future-oriented technologies.

Speakers and participants have also pinpointed opportunities for the region. Lusatia borders with regions in the Czechia and Poland that are facing similar challenges in their transition out of coal. More could be done to partner up and work at the regional and EU level. Lusatia has strong energy infrastructure and expertise, with a good number of engineers and technicians that could be reskilled in new green sectors.

3.5. Kolubara Region, Serbia

A capacity building event was held on the 7th of July 2021 with the title: "Transitioning out of coal in the Serbian region of Kolubara - Capacity Building event on funds and programmes". This event was organised by TRACER partner Energoprojekt ENTEL based in Serbia. Due to sanitary restrictions, this was a hybrid event with some attending in person at the head office of ENTEL and most participants joining online. The languages used were mostly Serbian, except for English during the presentations and questions to the two international speakers.

The half-day event was dedicated to discussing how to finance the energy transition, both in the energy field and more generally for the development of the Kolubara region's economy in central Serbia. The agenda (see [here](#)) had three speakers in the conference room, one from Brussels and another from Sofia. There were 35 online participants and 10 more participants and speakers in the conference room, totalling 45 attendees.

For context, indigenous coal-lignite generates three-quarters of the country's electricity. Moreover, the Kolubara coal region is the largest source of coal-lignite, amounting to 75% of national coal production (see region's description [here](#)).

The event sought to provide information on funding opportunities to local and regional actors, including politicians, decision-makers, administrative personnel, SMEs, and the industry. The key themes presented by the speakers included an overview on EU funds available for Serbia, particularly for accession to the block, as well as national and regional financing opportunities for Energy projects. For context, Serbia is a candidate country for EU membership and therefore the country's energy transition is linked to chapters of its EU Accession process and related agreements. In addition, the country also benefits from some EU programmes that can have an impact on the Kolubara region, including Horizon 2020, certain loans and financial instruments from the European Investment Bank and the Interreg Danube Transnational Programme.

It was mentioned that Serbian authorities have already aligned to a significant degree national legislation with EU legislation in the areas of energy, environment, and competition. So far, Serbia's energy transition has been driven in good part by EU energy legislation and strategies for 2030. Recently, national legislation was adopted by the Serbian Parliament in line with said EU energy priorities. As way of example, at the time of the event Serbia was developing its integrated national energy and climate plan (NECP) for the 2021-2030 period, in the same way that EU member states were also preparing theirs. It is expected that this new plan will take into consideration the need for a fair transition in the Kolubara Region as well as the national security of supply, in view that more than a half of the country's electricity supply comes from coal mined and burnt in this region.

The European Commission acknowledged good progress in several negotiation chapters in the accession process including climate and transport, although the energy chapter was only recently opening in 2021. It was stated that this included suspending the construction of new coal power plants. In terms of financing, the EU Instrument for pre-accession has a pot of 14.2 billion €, split among candidates in the EU Balkans and Turkey, out of which 9 billion € are for productive investments for infrastructure, energy, transport and industry. In addition, a new guarantee facility was expected to mobilise 20 billion € of private investment. The speaker also mentioned other programmes that can help to transition out of coal, in particular: the Green for Growth Fund; the Coal Regions in Transition Initiative for the Western Balkans and the Ukraine; Horizon Europe. It was suggested that Serbia fixes a coal phase out date to give economic and legal certainty to green industries, as well as to help diversify Kolubara's economy. It was said that it is unlikely that one single sector could replace coal on its own.

An energy expert from BSERC talked about the experiences that Bulgaria had over the past years in transitioning out of coal, with a focus on its South-Eastern coal basin. It was explained that coal had been declining steadily over the past decade, in part due to the increasing carbon price and also due to the unprofitability of the coal sector. With the increase in demand from electrification, the country intended to offset this by deploying PV, other renewables and some gas infrastructure. He advised to keep stakeholders engaged throughout the whole process, but not to try to get a consensus as some actors will only keep repeating that coal should be exploited indefinitely. Also, developing several pathways for the energy system based on scientific evidence is essential to enable public authorities to make informed decisions.

National energy experts said that Serbia's electricity consumption was in constant growth. In view of this, access to funds for new installed capacity were essential. Moreover, in addition to renewables, it was expected that nuclear power would be deployed. It was said that foreign consultants were involved in creating strategies for a new energy system, where it was considered that national and regional experts should be approached as well since they better understand the national context. Serbia imported all renewable energy equipment and technology, where it was expected that at least part of this technology should be produced and developed nationally. It was said that the large challenges faced in this transition should be taken in a stepwise approach, ensuring an orderly and fair energy transition towards an efficient carbon-free energy sector. In the process it was essential to maintain the country's security of supply and the region's social structure. Experts thought it realistic and desirable to gradually replace coal with natural gas and renewable energy sources.

Experts agreed that a fair transition in the Kolubara region was necessary, and at the same time new cleaner energy sources had to be developed to meet the country's increasing demand for energy. To achieve this, it was necessary to step up the financing of clean energy projects with the help of the EU and other international partners. At the same time, national authorities were expected to continue working on a national framework for a clean transition.

3.6. Western Macedonia, Greece

A capacity building event for the Region of Western Macedonia in Greece took place on Thursday the 2nd of December 2021. The online event had the following title: “Clean energy transition of the Region of Western Macedonia: Funding Opportunities”.

The main aim of this event was to present available funding tools at national and European level necessary for the support of a just transition out of coal for Western Macedonia. The event targeted local and regional stakeholders from the public sector, as well as companies, SMEs, Accademia and civil society. There were 105 registrations to this online event and 72 people have attended including the speakers and moderators.

A full agenda of the event can be found [here](#) and the event’s presentations can be accessed [here](#). A full recording of the event in Greek can be viewed [here](#).

The event was divided into seven sessions with presentations addressing funding opportunities and initiatives. The following EU-level subjects were presented and discussed: Horizon Europe, the Just Transition Fund, the Innovation Fund and the EU Initiative for Coal Regions in Transition. At national/regional level, speakers have presented the new Business Plan for the Region of Western Macedonia under the new Corporate Regional Development Pact (NSRF) 2021-2027, the Territorial Just Transition Plan (TJTP) for Western Macedonia and the emblematic Important Project of Common European Interest (IPCEI) “[White Dragon](#)”. The event closed with a Round Table discussion.

The event has attracted significant interest from a wide range of stakeholders from the local community and region even before it took place. Several key actors agreed to attend and expressed their interest in presenting, including: the Governor and the thematic Vice-Governors of Western Macedonia Region (the ones working on “energy transition”), representatives of the Ministry of the Environment and Energy, as well as the President and the General Director of CRES. This showed the high interest in having a fair transition out of coal and into clean energy for Western Macedonia, what was acknowledged to be a process that will take many years.

Attendants have welcomed the comprehensive presentation of the available funding sources for the region’s transition and said that this had not been done previously. A speaker added that several coal phase out projects would start in the region during 2022, where results of the TRACER project would be relevant for these new consortia. It was said that the wide range of European funds on offer usually go to the savviest investors/applicants, and that efforts should be made so that it reaches stakeholders that need them most.

One of the highlights was the presentation by the Governor of the Western Macedonia Region, who underlined that the energy transition was not just a matter for the region, but also a national issue that affects the country’s energy supply. The official coal phase out target by 2028 was announced by the government. This has focused minds on the region’s challenges: mounting unemployment, low entrepreneurship, little productivity outside of the coal sector and lack of innovation. The region’s Territorial Just Transition Plan was prepared in 2021 and the expectations were high: all job lost to be replaced by new job opportunities in the area. The biggest challenge expected is the limited time available to achieve this ambitious transition, a concern that was echoed by several other participants. The newly developed and comprehensive plan had helped to give partial reassurance after of years of uncertainty. At a technical level, the 2021 plan for Western Macedonia is to replace lignite by natural gas as a transition fuel and a mixture of renewables and energy efficiency measures. Academic institutions in Western Macedonia affirmed that the future energy mix should including RES, natural gas and sustainable hydrogen among others. They have also added that it is important to work at the national level on renewables with CRES.

As said by several of the speakers, the combined European and national funding destined for the energy and social transition that will be pouring in the coming years into Western Macedonia will be substantial. The main challenge will be to ensure that local and regional stakeholders will be aware of the available funding opportunities and that they will participate actively.

Key recommendations and conclusions included combining different sources of public funding from the EU, national, regional and municipal level. Where possible, this approach should also bring in private investment and innovative finance approaches (e.g. public-private partnerships and green bonds). All this should be part of a wide transition strategy with clear goals. More focus was needed on capacity building for finance mobilisation, as this expands access to actors that are usually not able to take part in funding calls.

3.7. Wales, United Kingdom

The TRACER capacity building event for Wales was held online on 1 December 2021. This half-day online event had the following title: “Energy transition in Wales - Commitments, partnerships and priorities”. The event was co-organised by STRATH, the Welsh Government and Cardiff University. The agenda can be seen under Annex I and all presentations can be accessed [here](#). The event was not recorded. There were 50 people attending this event, including 13 speakers and 3 moderators.

The morning was launched by Ed Sherriff, Welsh Government’s Deputy Director for Energy. As well as a planned session on future funding and support opportunities, the agenda for the event included sessions on:

- A summary of the results of the TRACER stakeholder engagement process in Wales. Dr Liliana Fonseca of STRATH discussed the stakeholder feedback on the priorities for energy transition in Wales.
- An overview on the challenges and priorities for Wales in energy transition, provided by Professor Richard Cowell of Cardiff University.
- Lessons learned from successful energy R&I projects and initiatives in Wales. Speakers represented Marine Energy Wales (Jessica Hooper) and the ERDF-funded SPECIFIC project (Professor David Worsley). Developing the marine energy sector is a Welsh Government priority. Wales is endowed with significant resources related to marine energy, and Marine Energy Wales has been set up to support and promote the sector. SPECIFIC is a UK Innovation and Knowledge centre based in Wales, leading in energy technology research and demonstration, working on active buildings, which are designed to generate, store and release their own renewable energy.
- International trends and best practice in energy transition, providing an insight into key EU-level trends and initiatives. Although the UK is no longer part of the EU, it is important for Wales to keep abreast of EU and international trends related to energy R&I. This was presented by Nicolas de la Vega of EUREC.
- Regional, local and community priorities for energy transition. This session examined Welsh Government’s work supporting the Welsh regions in their energy strategy planning (Jennifer Pride of Welsh Government), Dr Michael Jenkins gave an insight into the work of Bridgend County Borough Council (a former coal area) on their local area energy plan, and Sharon James of Cardiff and Vale College included an intervention on the skills needed for energy transition from a local further education college (based in a former coal region).

The final session on funding and support opportunities focused on support for the academic sector for energy R&I activities (Nick Cook of EPSRC), as well as broader opportunities for other sectors including from Welsh Government, from domestic funding sources (Gwion Williams of Welsh Government) and through participation in Horizon Europe (Baudewijn Morgan of Welsh Government’s Horizon Europe Unit), as well as an intervention on repayable funding available from the Development Bank of Wales by Robert Hunter. The Development Bank of Wales currently manages ERDF co-funded financial instruments amongst its portfolio, and the organisation itself is taking steps to lower its own carbon footprint.

The event's conclusions were drawn together by Professors Kevin Morgan (Cardiff University) and John Bachtler (University of Strathclyde). Two main themes running through the interventions were identified. The first was a need for alignment and for coordination of policies and practices. This includes spatial alignment, especially between the national and devolved governments in the UK, as achieving Net Zero will require a combination of reserved and devolved powers to meet targets. Within Wales, there is also a need for spatial alignment between Welsh Government and the four regions and their municipal partnerships. It will be important to work together across levels of government, across public and private sectors, and across borders, learning from good practice examples outside the region and outside the UK. The second theme was the imperative of a just and fair transition, as perceived fairness will be key to unlocking behavioural change. Underwriting both themes was the importance of skills, especially the role of further education colleges creating seamless pathways with universities and work-based learning.

While there is some uncertainty on future funding due to Brexit, opportunities for support are available from the [Welsh Government](#), [EPSRC/UKRI](#), through the UK's expected future association with Horizon Europe, and via repayable funding from the [Development Bank of Wales](#).

According to the organiser, very positive feedback was received on what was a full agenda, with interesting presentations and discussions between engaged speakers and participants. There has been follow up communication after the event and new contacts were made to work together on the issues around a Just Transition in Wales.

3.8. Northwest Bohemia, Czechia

The Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (CULS) has organised two separate capacity building events for the Czech coal region of Northwest Bohemia.

The first Czech half-day capacity building event took place on 11 February 2020 in Ústí nad Labem. It had the following title: "Grant Opportunities for Municipalities and Towns". This was an in-person event and there were no Covid-19 sanitary restrictions yet in place. The presentations of individual speakers can be found under the following links:

- [Horizon 2020 TRACER project](#) - Markéta Hendrychová;
- [RE: START](#) - Andrea Langhammerová;
- [Grant programs of the Ministry of Industry and Trade for municipalities and regions](#) - Mgr. Jan Hana;
- [National Database of Brownfields](#) - Alena Hájková, Czech Invest;
- [Program for the regeneration of brownfields](#) - Miroslava Tichá,

The event brought insights into the regeneration and use of mined sites for commercial and non-commercial purposes. There was high interest from local and regional stakeholders - particularly from municipality representatives – with over 90 participants. The agenda of this event can be found in annex I of this document.

Second Czech event included capacity building aspects. It took place on 21 October 2020. It had the title: "Research and Education Platform of the Economic and Social Council of the Sokolov Region". This time, the event happened online as required by health restrictions.

This event had five speakers and 17 online participants. Representatives from the Ministry of Education and from the Ministry for Regional Development have spoken at the event. Among the participants there were university researchers, public regional representatives and stakeholders from Northwest Bohemia. Key topics for discussion included the vast potential for hydrogen production and use in the region, recommendations from the TRACER project, the preparation of the region's Operational Programme and of its Territorial Just Transition Plan.

The agenda of the event can be seen in Annex I and a short description can be accessed [here](#).

4 Conclusions

The capacity building events were well received and well attended by local and regional actors in the eight regions. Moreover, there were speakers from national ministries, the European Commission and other international organisations. This shows that the transition out of coal concerns all levels. The transition's success or failure will be felt in the regions in question, but also further afield, impacting the national social fabric and Europe's energy supply.

This process is unique for each region, with specific challenges and opportunities that can be further developed. Nonetheless, there were lessons learned and experiences that have echoed in other regions. These were some of the key recommendations on transitioning out of coal: agree on a comprehensive plan for the transition and involve as many stakeholders as possible during its development; ensure that the plan is inclusive, also targeting less advantaged sectors and populations; invest on people's skills and re-training; build up on existing energy expertise and infrastructure to develop clean energy; make good use of the newly available European instruments and have an integrated approach that also integrates support at national and regional level.

The events also highlighted the need to continue developing capacity building in these regions. As more funding becomes available to support a just transition out of coal, it is essential to continue bringing together stakeholders to create links and develop new ideas. Regional and national initiatives can help to do this, along with new Horizon Europe projects.

Annex I – Event agendas

Capacity Building event in Southeast Region, Bulgaria



Training course: Opportunities for financing of projects supporting the decarbonization of Stara Zagora region

Date: 29.09.2020

Venue: Stara Zagora city, Regional library

AGENDA

09:00 – 09:30	Registration and coffee	
09:30 – 09:40	Opening – presentation of TRACER project – objectives, scope, and expected results	Angel Nikolaev, Manager Black Sea Energy Research Centre
09:40 – 10:10	The transition of Stara Zagora region to low-carbon economy – challenges and opportunities	Dr. Rumyana Grozeva, Executive Director Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency
10:10 – 10:40	Just transition fund and territorial just transition funds	Slavcho Neykov, Chairman Energy Management Institute
10:40 – 11:00	Coffee break	
11:00 – 11:20	European Investment Bank – opportunities for financing of the transition away from coal	Borislava Gabrovska European Investment Bank
11:20 – 11:40	FLAG Fund	Nadya Danikova FLAG Fund
11:40 – 12:00	Operational Programme Environment 2021 – 2027 and the opportunities for regions in transition	Marta Tsvetkova, Head of Department Magdalena Dimitrova, State Expert Programming Dpt, DG Operational Programme, Ministry of Environment and Waters
12:00 – 13:00	Discussion panel	
13:00 – 14:00	Working lunch and bilateral discussion	

Capacity Building event in Upper Silesia, Poland



UNIERSYTET ROLNICZY
im. Hugona Kollataja w Krakowie



Agenda for the meeting on:

obtaining funds and access to European and National programs, the purpose of which, in connection with the ongoing energy transformation, is to support interested entities in replacing energy from coal with the so-called clean energy

Term: 06.10.2020; Venue: MCK Katowice and on-line platform

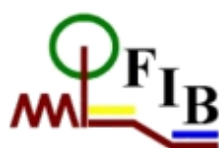
Time	Topic	Speaker
9.30-10.00	<i>Rejestracja uczestników i kawa powitalna</i>	
10.00-10.10	Official opening; About Tracer project (Horyzont 2020)	<i>Marcin Chodał</i>
Session 1st		
10.10-10.30	Energy policy and regulations (electricity and heat) for the coal transformation process in the State	<i>Ministry of Climat Ministry of Environment</i>
10.30-10.50	Funding opportunities for public entities / private companies / individuals:	<i>Stefania Koczar-Sikora - Director of the Department of Regional Development</i>
10.50-11.10	EU, national and other international sources of financing (International / bilateral cooperation; EU funds for R + I (e.g. Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe, LIFE Program)	<i>Elżbieta Kisiel - Head of the Team of Energy Advisors (WFOŚiGW)</i>
11.10-11.30	The last great competition in the Horizon 2020 framework program - European Green Deal.	<i>David Gacek - Member of the Team for Framework Programs</i>
11.30-11.40	<i>Coffé break</i>	
Sezja 2nd		
11.40-12.00	Real possibilities of acquiring funds on the example of territorial division units - success stories in obtaining EU funds and investors by local administrations. Grants, loans, regional / local financial incentives etc. And needs at the level of individuals eg municipalities	<i>Representatives of territorial division units: Waldemar Bojarun - Deputy Mayor of the City of Katowice</i>
12.00-12.20		<i>Iwona Kapustka - Head of the Department of City Development Strategy</i>
12.20-12.40		<i>Krzysztof Belkot - the Commune Head</i>
12.40-13.20	Q&A	<i>Chaired by: Marcin Chodał</i>
13.20-13.30	Summary and comments at the end of the meeting	<i>Marcin Chodał</i>
13.30	<i>Lunch</i>	

Capacity Building event in Jiu Valley, West region, Romania

FINAL AGENDA

Timing (EEST)	Sessions - Topics	Speakers – Chairpersons
09.30-10.00	<i>Participants registration</i>	
Chairpersons Morning Sessions	Marian Dobrin, ISPE Proiectare și Consultanță Greg Arrowsmith, EUREC	
10.00-10.10	Official opening	- Sorin Radu, University of Petroșani - Ioan Dan Gheorghiu, ISPE Proiectare și Consultanță
10.10-10.30	The challenge <i>"Top 10 needs, barriers and opportunities in Jiu Valley in terms of sustainable energy technologies, environment, social transformation and labour market"</i> Maximising former mining buildings post-coal value – current status	- Tiberiu Iacob Ridzi, Mayor of Petrosani, Signatory member of the MoU "Jiu Valley partnership for a Just Transition" - Mihai Danciu, Planeta Petrița Association
10.30-11.35	Working Session I <i>"Overview of the ongoing projects/initiatives in Jiu Valley and RIS3 for NUTS2 West Region"</i> - Jiu Valley Strategy for the transition from coal, developed with the support of the EC-SRSS - Assistance for all 6 Mayoralties in Jiu Valley, EC-START - Smart Strategies for the Transition in Coal Intensive Regions - TRACER project, EC-H2020 - Fields of Smart Specialisation in the West Region (RO42) - Alternative development scenarios for Jiu Valley in life after coal - RES projects in coal regions - Romania	- Dinu Bumbăcea, PwC Romania - Paul Baker, Ecorys - Marian Dobrin, ISPE Proiectare și Consultanță - Sorin Maxim, ADR Vest - Alexandru Mustăță, Bankwatch Romania - Vlad Cătuna, GreenPeace Romania
11.35-12.10	Working Session II <i>"Policies and support in the field of energy and environment appropriate for Jiu Valley coal transition process"</i> - Endorsed strategies and action plans - Supporting schemes (EE, RES, cogeneration) - National funds – current and future	- Niculae Havrileț, Ministry of Economy Energy and Business Environment - Iulia Camelia Corporan, Ministry of Public Works, Development and Administration - Ion Vasile, Environmental Fund Administration
12.10-12.30	Q&A	
12.30-13.00	<i>Brief snack break</i>	
Chairpersons Afternoon Sessions	Sabina Irimie, AISVJ Paul Baker, Ecorys	
13.00-14.15	Working Session III <i>"Ongoing and future financing opportunities"</i> - EU 2021-2027 programming period; ESIF and Integrated Territorial Investment mechanism for Jiu valley Other funds and financial instruments as - Just Transition Fund - Modernisation Fund and Invest EU - EBRD support and financing approach for coal regions in transition - EU funds for R&I (e.g. Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe, LIFE Program) - Norwegian and EEA grants	- Adrian-Marius Mariciuc, Ministry of European Funds - Ctibor Kocman, EC – DG REGIO - Nikolaos Koukoulas, EC – DG ENER, CRIT - Greg Arrowsmith, EUREC - Sumeet Manchanda, EBRD UK - Iulia Mihail, H2020 NCP - Marisanda Pirăianu, Life 2014-2020 NCP
14.15-14.50	Working Session IV <i>"How to become attractive for investments?"</i> - Success stories in attracting EU funds and investors by local administrations - Future interests at county and regional level for Jiu Valley	- Dan Lungu, Mayorality of Ciugud Commune, Alba County - Sorin Maxim, ADR Vest - Mircea Bobora, Hunedoara County Council
14.50-15.10	Q&A	
15.10-15.30	Event closing remarks <i>Key findings and follow-ups</i>	ISPE Proiectare și Consultanță AISVJ – Asociația Institutul Social Valea Jiului

Capacity Building event in the Lusatian Lignite District, Germany



Fördermöglichkeiten für die Lausitz
Capacity Building Event
- Online -

**Termin: Montag, der 7. Juni 2021
von 10.00 bis 13:30 Uhr**

Anmeldung bis 02.06.2021 an Frau Petra Krause:

Email: fib@fib-ev.de, Tel.: 03531 7907-11, Fax: 03531 7907-30

09:45 Uhr	Dial-in	
10:00 Uhr	Greeting	Dr. Michael Haubold-Rosar Direktor FIB Finsterwalde
10:05 Uhr	TRACER - short presentation of the project	Dr. Anne Rademacher & Rainer Schlepphorst (FIB)
10:30 Uhr	Structural change in Lusatia - Lusatia programme 2038	Dr. Klaus Freytag Lausitz-Beauftragter des Ministerpräsidenten
11:00 Uhr	Working process (WLR) - municipal projects	Heiko Jahn Wirtschaftsregion Lausitz Geschäftsführer
11:30 Uhr	Break	
11:45 Uhr	Guideline to strengthen the structure	Jan Lewerenz ILB - Leiter Lausitzbüro Heinrich Weißhaupt ILB - Förderberater Region Süd
12:15 Uhr	Structural change in Lusatia - - How can companies use funding as well?	Jens Krause - Sprecher der WRL - Werkstatt „Infrastruktur und Mobilität“ & Generalmanager der IHK Cottbus
12:45 Uhr	Final discussion - Questions out of the Online-Chat	Moderation Dr. Dirk Knoche (FIB)



Dieses Projekt wird im Rahmen des HORIZON 2020 Forschungs- und Innovationsprogramm der Europäische Union finanziell gefördert (Zuwendungsvereinbarung Nr. 836819)

Capacity Building event in the Kolubara Region, Serbia



Organizers: ENERGOPROJEKT ENTEL, Consulting Engineers, Belgrade, Serbia

AGENDA	
09:30 – 09:40	Welcome speech Brankica Popovic Zdravkovic, Moderator
09:40 – 10:00	Introduction to TRACER project on coal regions in transition and planned activities Dr Jasmina Mandic Lukic, Project Manager
10:00 – 10:25	EU-Serbian partnership: Overview on Funds available, Accession Policy and possibilities for cooperation in the green energy transition Ingrid Sager, DG NEAR European Commission
10:25 – 10:50	Serbian practice on financial resources, conditions for finance and alternative sources of funding Maja Stipic, Financial Consultant
10:50 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 11:10	Questions & Answers Brankica Popovic Zdravkovic, Moderator
11:10 – 11:25	Bulgarian energy transition – experiences Angel Nikolaev, BSERC, TRACER partner from Bulgaria
11:25 – 11:50	Discussion
11:50 – 12:00	Concluding remarks Brankica Popovic Zdravkovic, Moderator



Capacity Building event in Western Macedonia, Greece



**TRACER online Capacity Building Event:
“Clean energy transition of the Region of Western Macedonia:
Funding Opportunities”**

Thursday, 2nd of December 2021

Virtual event login link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82153379248>

Meeting ID: 821 5337 9248

Duration: 08:30-13:00 (CET)

AGENDA

08:30 – 08:45	Registration to the platform
08:45 – 09:15	<u>Welcome speech</u> <i>Dr. Lampros Pyrgiotis, General Director of CRES</i> <u>Opening speeches</u> <i>Dr. Spyridon Economou, President of CRES</i> <i>Mr. George Kassapidis, Governor of the Region of Western Macedonia</i> <u>Placement</u> <i>Mr. Antonis Marinos, Head of Office, General Secretariat for Energy and Mineral Resources, Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy</i>
09:15 – 09:40	Introduction to the TRACER project: brief description, progress, main outputs, planned activities <i>Mrs. Georgia Veziryianni – CRES Training Department</i>
09:40 – 10:00	Funding possibilities based on the new Business Plan for the Region of Western Macedonia, under the frame of the new Corporate Regional Development Pact (NSRF) 2021-2027 <i>Mr. Ioannis Papadopoulos - Management Authority for the Operational Program of Western Macedonia</i>
10:00 – 10:20	R&I funding opportunities for the clean energy transition under the (new) HORIZON EUROPE Programme



	<i>Dr. Maria Georgiadou - DG Research & Innovation - C1 Clean Energy Transition</i>
10:20 – 10:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10:30 – 10:50	Opportunities for financing investment projects under the Just Transition Fund and the Innovation Fund <i>Dr. Chrysovalantou Ziogou - European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA) – Project Manager</i>
10:50 – 11:30	Financing projects in coal regions in transition - Insights from the transition financing toolkit <i>Mr. Jannis Beutel - Wuppertal Institute, Secretariat of the EU Initiative for Coal Regions in Transition (CRIT)</i>
11:30 – 12:00	Funding opportunities in the frame of the Just Transition Development Plan 2021 – Presentation of the Territorial Just Development Plan (TJDP) for Western Macedonia Region <i>Mrs. Theodora Zacharia - Technical Secretariat of the “Just Development Transition Plan – SDAM”</i>
12:00 – 12:20	“White Dragon” project and the IPCEI (Important Projects of Common European Interest) framework <i>Mr. Nikolaos Ntavos, Co-founder & Manager - Cluster of Bioeconomy & Environment of Western Macedonia (CluBE)</i> <i>Mr. Ioannis Moraitis, Project Manager H₂ & Biomethane - DEPA S.A. White Dragon Coordination Team</i>
12:20 – 13:00	Placements / Round Table Discussion <u>Moderator:</u> Dr. Charalampos Malamatenios – CRES, Head of the Division for Energy Policy and Planning <u>With the participation of:</u> Vice-Governors of Regional Units of Western Macedonia: <i>Mrs. Katerina Dadamogia: Vice-Governor (Regional Unit of Kozani)</i> <i>Mr. Sotirios Vosdou: Vice-Governor (Regional Unit of Florina)</i> Thematic Vice-Governors of Western Macedonia Region: <i>Mr. Grigoris Tsioumaris: Vice Governor of Fair Development Transition</i> <i>Mr. Stergios Kianas: Vice Governor for Digital Transition & e-Government</i> <i>Mrs. Efrosyni Dio: Vice Governor for Green Transformation, Entrepreneurship and Transport</i> Members of the Regional Council of Western Macedonia: <i>Mr. Nikolaos Lissaridis</i> Representatives of Development Bodies (Chambers, etc.)

Capacity Building event in Wales, United Kingdom



Energy transition in Wales
Commitments, partnerships and priorities
1 December 2021, Online Meeting

Agenda



8.45	Web-conference platform (Zoom) open for participants
9.00	Welcome • Professor John Bachtler, European Policies Research Centre, University of Strathclyde • Ed Sherriff, Deputy Director Energy, Climate Change, Energy and Planning Directorate, Welsh Government
9.05	The TRACER coal regions in transition project • Dr Liliana Fonseca, University of Strathclyde
9.15	Innovation in energy transition in Wales: challenges and priorities for Wales • Professor Richard Cowell, Cardiff University
9.30	Learning from good practice • Jessica Hooper, Marine Energy Wales • Professor David Worsley, SPECIFIC, Cardiff University • tbc., FLEXIS, Cardiff University • Moderator: Professor John Bachtler, University of Strathclyde
10.15	Break 1
10.30	International trends and best practice in energy transition • Nicolas de la Vega, EUREC (The Association of European Renewable Energy Research Centers)
10.45	Regional, local & community priorities for energy transition • Dr Michael Jenkins, Bridgend County Borough Council • Jennifer Pride, Welsh Government • Sharon James, Cardiff and Vale College • Moderator: Professor Kevin Morgan, Cardiff University
11.30	Break 2
11.45	Funding and support opportunities • Nick Cook, Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) • Rob Hunter, Development Bank of Wales • Baudewijn Morgan, Horizon Europe Unit, Welsh Government • Gwion Williams, SMART Innovation Team, Welsh Government • Moderator: Kenn Palmer, Welsh Government
12.40	Summary and conclusions – framing the future • Professor Kevin Morgan, Cardiff University • Professor John Bachtler, University of Strathclyde
13.00	Close

Capacity Building events in Northwest Bohemia, Czechia

Agenda of the first event on 11 February 2020

**Ústecký kraj**

REGIONÁLNÍ STÁLÁ KONFERENCE ÚSTECKÉHO KRAJE III

CZ.08.1.125/0.0/0.0/15_003/00000218

Ústecký kraj

ve spolupráci s Ministerstvem pro místní rozvoj, Ministerstvem průmyslu a obchodu a Agenturou pro podporu podnikání a investic Czechinvest a projektem TRACER

Vás zve na seminář

Dotační příležitosti pro města a obce

v úterý 11. února 2020 od 9:00 do 12:00 hodin

v prostorách

Krajského úřadu Ústeckého kraje, 2. patro, konferenční sál, Velká Hradební 3118/48, 400 02 Ústí nad Labem

Cílem semináře je představit zástupcům měst a obcí dotační příležitosti v rámci národních dotačních programů, včetně aktuálně vyhlášených výzev.



Program semináře:

08:30 – 09:00 Registrace

09:00 – 09:15 Zahájení, úvodní slovo (PhDr. Martin Klika, MBA, DBA, 1. náměstek hejtmana Ústeckého kraje)

09:15 – 09:20 Aktuální informace o programu RE:START (zástupce Národního výkonného týmu, MMR ČR)

9:20 – 9:30 Představení a navázání spolupráce s projektem Horizont 2020 TRACER – Inovativní strategie pro transformaci uhelných regionů (ČZU v Praze)

09:30 – 10:00 Program na regeneraci brownfieldů pro podnikatelské využití (MPO ČR)

10:00 – 10:15 Národní databáze brownfieldů (Czech Invest)

10:15 – 10:30 Přestávka na kávu

10:30 – 11:00 Program na regeneraci brownfieldů pro nepodnikatelské využití (MMR ČR)

11:00 – 11:30 Ostatní dotační příležitosti (MMR ČR, MPO ČR)

11:30 – 12:00 Diskuze a závěr



EVROPSKÁ UNIE
Fondy soudržnosti
Operační program Technická pomoc



MINISTERSTVO
PRO MÍSTNÍ
ROZVOJ ČR



MINISTERSTVO
PRŮMYSLU A OBCHODU



Ústecký kraj



TRACER
Technická pomoc
EU Horizon 2020
Grant No 836819

Agenda of the second event on 21 October 2020



Program jednání „Výzkumně vzdělávací platformy ÚK“

Datum: 21. 10. 2020, 11:00 – 13:00

Formát: on-line, prostřednictvím nástroje MS Teams

1. Zahájení (11:00 – 11:10)
G. Nekolová, předsedkyně HSR-ÚK
2. Informace z Vodíkové platformy (11:10 – 11:25)
G. Nekolová, předsedkyně HSR-ÚK
3. Informace z programu RE:START, k FST a provázaně postupu přípravy Územního plánu spravedlivé transformace (11:25 – 11:40)
M. Soukup, vedoucí Odd. RE:START, MMR
4. Podpora vědy a výzkumu v novém programovém období – potenciál OP JAK a FST (11:40 – 12:00)
A. Caithamlová, ředitelka odboru koncepce a vedení OP, MŠMT
5. Shrnutí podpory TA ČR v roce 2020 a výhled na rok 2021 (12:00 – 12:15)
M. Kuželková, regionální koordinátor pro Ústecký a Karlovarský kraj, TA ČR
6. Hledání vizí pro Ústecký kraj v oblasti VaV v rámci projektu TRACER (12:15 – 12:30)
M. Hendrychová, pedagog ČZU
7. Diskuze k potřebám regionu v kontextu vědy a výzkumu (12:30 – 13:00)
8. Závěr (13:00)

HSR-ÚK, Budovatelů 2532, 434 01 Most
e-mail: sekretariat@hsr-uk.cz, tel.: +420 476 206 859
www.hsr-uk.cz www.csrportal.cz



Annex II - Photos and screenshots from events

Southeast Region, Bulgaria

Photo from hybrid event venue



Upper Silesia, Poland

Chair of event - Marcin Chodak (phot. P. Pacanowski)



Elżbieta Kisiel - Head of the Team of Energy Advisors - CiscoWebex PrtScr

O FUNDUSZU

Współwładza Fundusze Ochrony Środowiska i Gospodarki Wodnej w Katowicach jest jednostką samostanowienia, od 25 lat realizującą politykę ekologiczną i gospodarkę wodną. Realizując swoją misję, Fundusz koncentruje się na:

- wspieraniu działań proekologicznych podejmowanych przez administrację publiczną, przedsiębiorców, instytucje, organizacje pozarządowe, osoby prywatne
- zarządzaniu środkami europejskimi skierowanymi na ochronę środowiska i gospodarkę wodną

Środki krajowe → Środki unijne → Środki w ramach Programu „Czyste Powietrze”

www.wsl.nag.katowice.pl

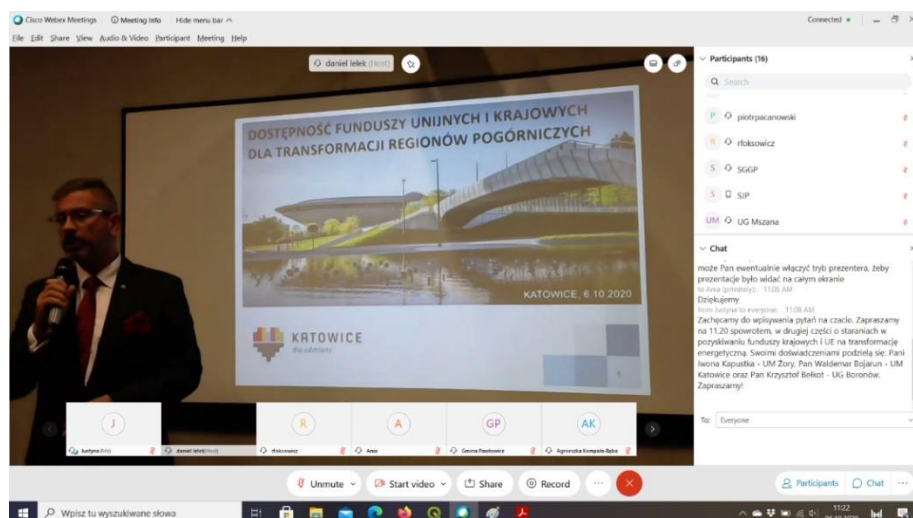
Participants (12)

- ES Edyta Sienka
- EH Ewa Hajduk
- EW Ewelina Woźnica
- GP Gmina Pawłowice
- KL Karolina Lorenc
- P piotrpacanowski
- SS Sekretariat SGGP
- S SGGP

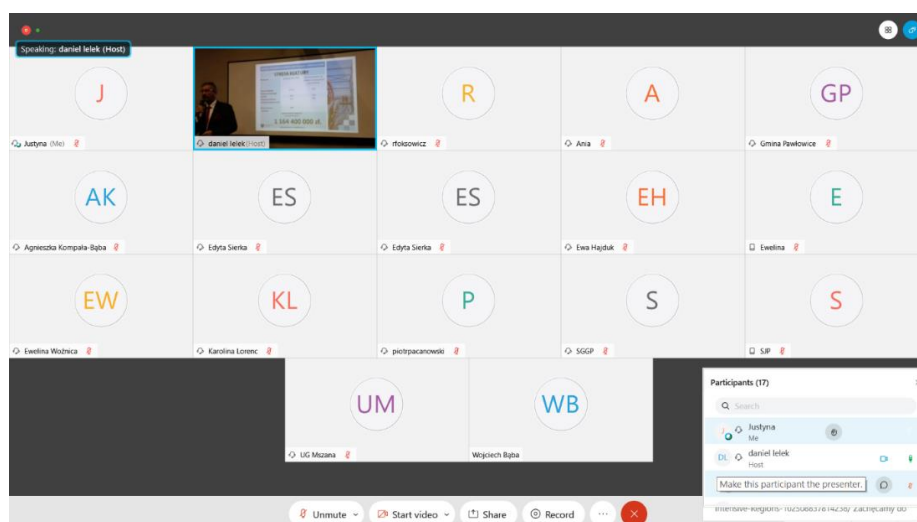
Chat

From Gmina Pawłowice to everyone: 10:00 AM
dzień dobry
From Edyta to everyone: 10:05 AM
Dzień dobry, witamy serdecznie!

Katowice City Hall – Waldemar Bojarun - Deputy Mayor of the City of Katowice, CiscoWebex PrtScr



The audience participating in the meeting during a lecture by one of the guests, CiscoWebex PrtScr



TRACER rollout at the entrance of the conference room (phot. P. Pacanowski)



Jiu Valley, West region, Romania

Conference venue in Petrosani, Romania. Photo taken by ISPE



Conference venue in Petrosani, Romania. Photo taken by ISPE

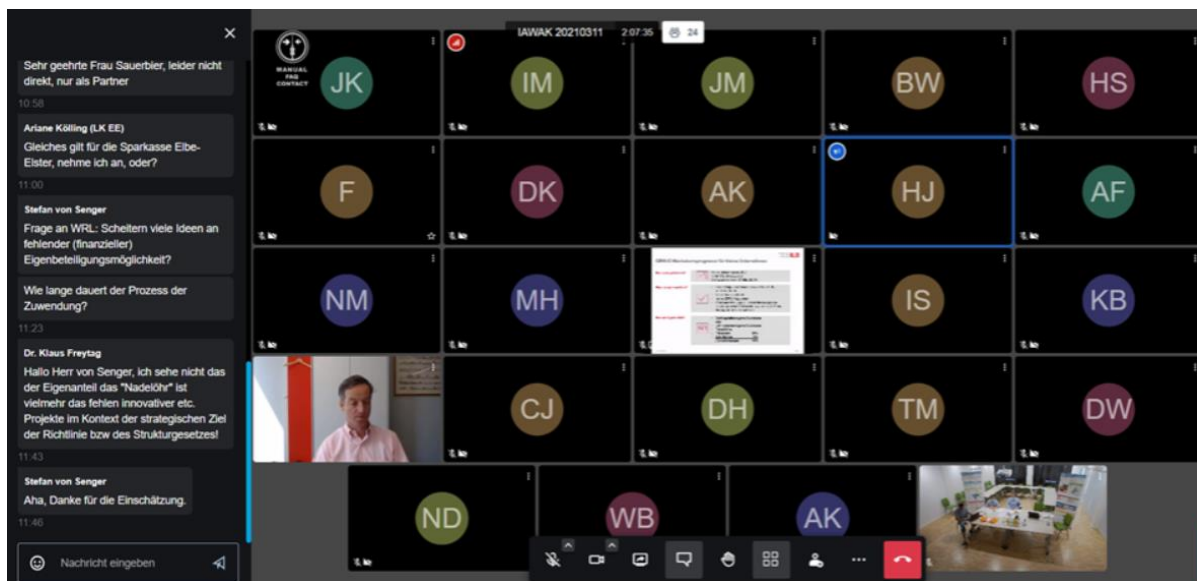


Screenshot of Zoom webinar (one out of 3 several online platforms that were used).

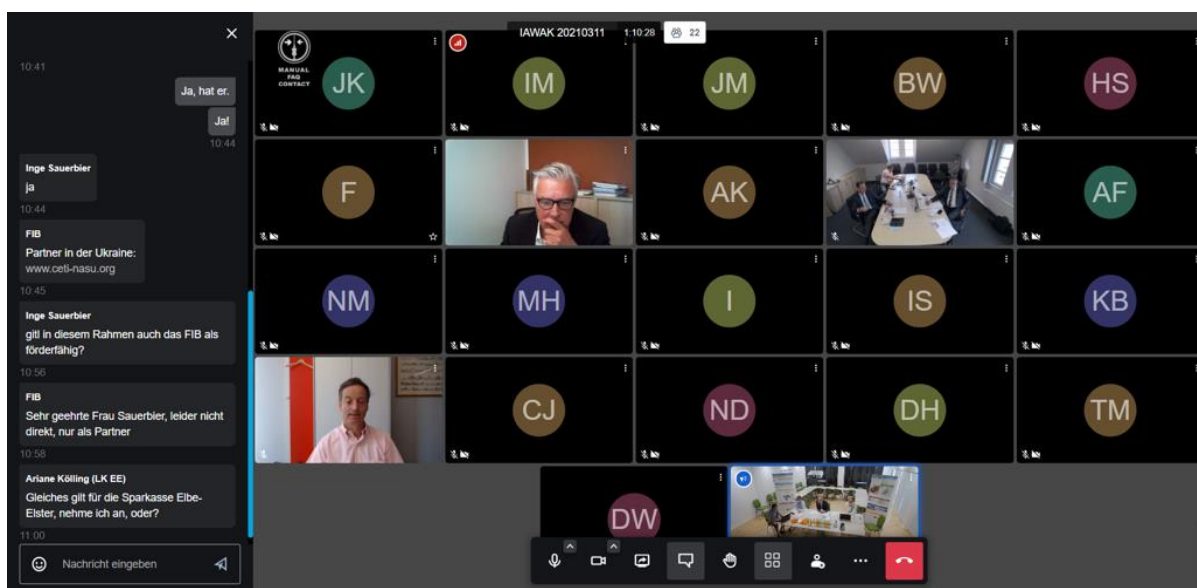


Lusatian Lignite District, Germany

Screenshot of the Lusatian capacity building event on 7 June 2021 (by FIB)



Screenshot of the Lusatian capacity building event on 7 June 2021 (by coordinator FIB)



Kolubara region, Serbia

Picture from event at the office of ENTEL (by Jasmina Mandic Lukic)



Picture from event at the office of ENTEL (by Jasmina Mandic Lukic)



Western Macedonia, Greece

Screenshots from the online event (by CRES)



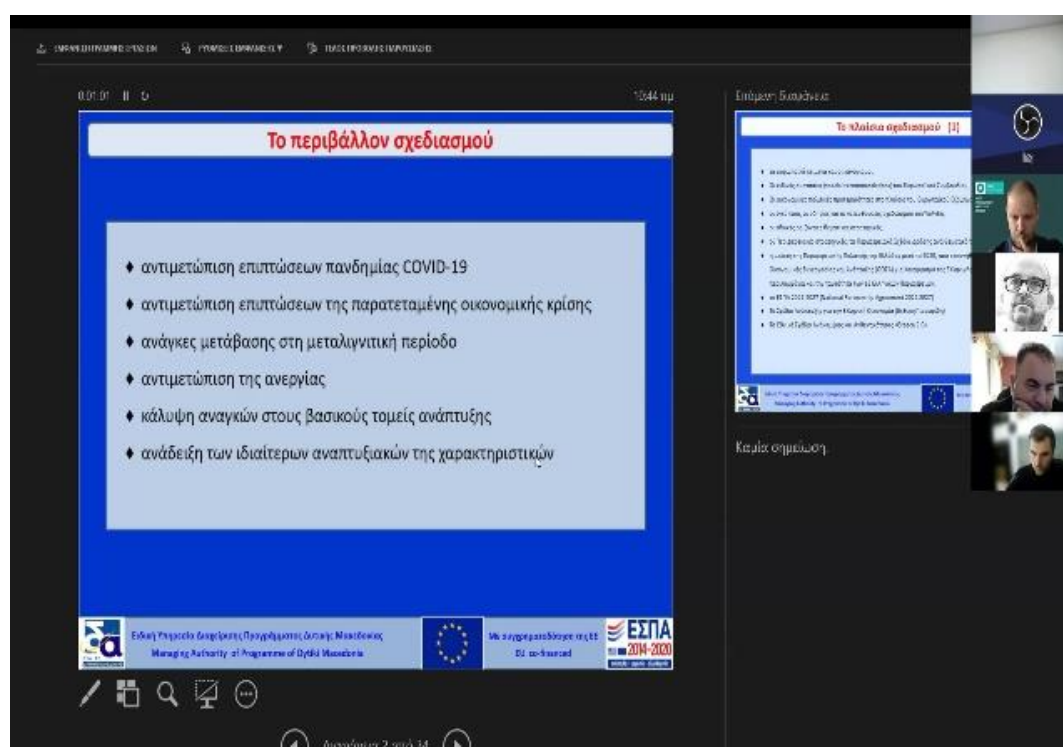
The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. On the left, a presentation slide is displayed with the TRACER logo and KAPE CRES logos. The slide title is "Διαδικτυακή εκδήλωση για την ανάπτυξη των ικανοτήτων: «Καθαρή ενεργειακή μετάβαση της Περιφέρειας Δυτικής Μακεδονίας: Χρηματοδοτικές δυνατότητες»". The date is "Πέμπτη, 2 Δεκεμβρίου 2021". The location is "Τοποθεσία: Διαδικτυακή (zoom)" and the URL is "https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82153379248". The meeting ID is "821 5337 9248". The time is "Όρα εκδήλωσης/διάρκεια: 09:30-14:00".

The slide content includes a table with the following information:

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΕΚΔΗΛΩΣΗΣ
09:30 – 09:45: Εγγραφή στη διαδικτυακή πλατφόρμα zoom
09:45 – 10:15: - Ευχαριστήρια - Δρ. Αλέξανδρος Πυργιώτης, Γενικός Διευθυντής ΚΑΠΕ - Χαιρετισμοί - Κος Γεώργιος Κασσιώτης, Περιφερειάρχης Δυτικής Μακεδονίας - Δρ Σπυρίδων Οικονόμου, Πρόεδρος ΚΑΠΕ - Τοποθέτηση - Κος Αντώνης Μαρίνης, Δ/ντης Γραφείου Έκτακτης Γραμματικής Επένδυσης και Οργανισμό Πρώτων Υλών, Υπουργείο Περιβάλλοντος και Ενέργειας
10:15 – 10:40: - Εισαγωγή στο Ευρωπαϊκό έργο TRACER: Σύντομη παρουσίαση, «βήματα», «όραμα» αποτελέσματα, προγραμματισμένες δραστηριότητες - Κα Γεωργία Βεζυργιάννη – Τμήμα Εκπαίδευσης ΚΑΠΕ
10:40 – 11:00: - Δυνατότητες χρηματοδότησης βάσει του νέου Επιχειρησιακού Πλάνου για την Περιφέρεια Δυτικής Μακεδονίας, στο πλαίσιο του νέου Εταρειακού Συμφώνου Περιφέρειας Ανάπτυξης - ΕΣΠΑ 2021-2027. - Κος Ιωάννης Παπαδόπουλος - Προϊστάμενος Μονάδας Β2 - Ειδική Υπηρεσία Διαχείρισης Περιφερειακού Επιχειρησιακού Προγράμματος Περιφέρειας Δυτικής Μακεδονίας

On the right side of the Zoom interface, a grid of participants is visible, showing several individuals in a video call.

Screenshots from the online event (by CRES)



The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. On the left, a presentation slide is displayed with the title "Το περιβάλλον σχεδιασμού". The slide content includes a list of bullet points:

- ♦ αντιμετώπιση επιπτώσεων πανδημίας COVID-19
- ♦ αντιμετώπιση επιπτώσεων της παρατεταμένης οικονομικής κρίσης
- ♦ ανάγκες μετάβασης στη μεταλινιτική περίοδο
- ♦ αντιμετώπιση της ανεργίας
- ♦ κάλυψη αναγκών στους βασικούς τομείς ανάπτυξης
- ♦ ανάδειξη των ιδιαίτερων αναπτυξιακών της χαρακτηριστικών

At the bottom of the slide, there are logos for the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure, the European Union, and the NSRF (ΕΣΠΑ) 2014-2020.

On the right side of the Zoom interface, a grid of participants is visible, showing several individuals in a video call.

Wales, United Kingdom

Three Screenshots taken from the event (by Rona Michie)

CONTEXT: THE TRACER PROJECT
Smart Strategies for the Transition in Coal-intensive Regions

- Innovation policies in Europe mobilised to respond to regional societal and environmental challenges

The slide includes a map of Europe with several countries highlighted in green, yellow, and blue. A flowchart on the left shows the 'Entrepreneurial Discovery Process' leading to the 'R&I strategy for Wales'. To the right of the map, a list of key elements includes: Stakeholder mobilisation, Broad vision and future-oriented priorities, Projections for transition in 2030 & 2050, Needs for workforce retraining, Future-oriented governance structure, Roadmap and actions to meet new energy demands, and Decision support tool for decarbonisation.

Wales' Marine Energy Story

The slide features a circular diagram with four quadrants: TIDAL STREAM, TIDAL RANGE, WAVE, and FLOW. Each quadrant lists specific benefits and challenges. For example, TIDAL STREAM offers 'Highly predictable energy' and 'Coastal defences', while TIDAL RANGE provides 'Long term generation (>100 years)' and 'Can generate baseload power with storage integration'. WAVE and FLOW focus on 'Innovative wave technology with export potential' and 'Lower visual impact than onshore fixed wind'.

Logos for Morrisons, Minesto, Selkie, EACUSE, NOVA, TIGER, and Bombora are shown on the left. The bottom of the slide includes the Marine Energy Wales logo, website (www.marineenergYWales.co.uk), and contact information for Jess Hooper, MEW Programme Manager.

TRACER Event, 'Energy Transition in Wales', 1st December 2021

Innovation in Energy Transition in Wales: The Challenges and Priorities

Richard Cowell
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The slide is displayed within a PDF viewer interface. On the right, a sidebar shows various PDF management options like 'Export PDF', 'Create PDF', 'Annotate PDF', etc. A small video feed of Richard Cowell is visible in the bottom right corner of the viewer.

Northwest Bohemia, Czechia

Picture from meeting room of the first Czech capacity building event on 11.02.2020



Picture of the TRACER rollups from the first Czech capacity building event on 11.02.2020



Screenshot from second digital event on 21.10.2020

