

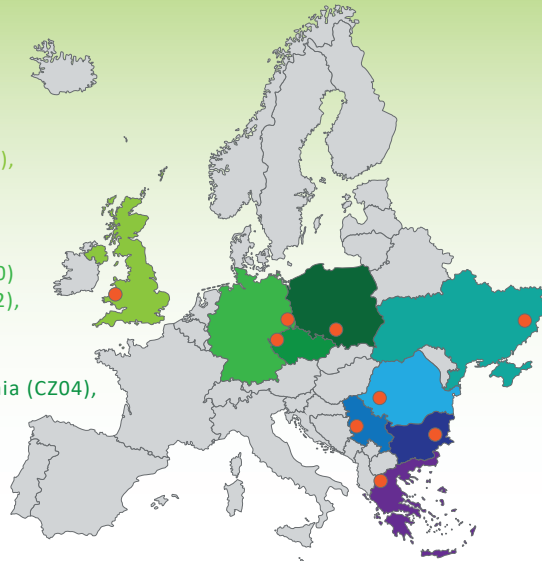
## COAL REGIONS IN TRANSITION

Currently, 41 regions in 12 EU Member States are actively mining coal. This provides direct employment to about 185,000 people across the EU, with additional indirect jobs relying on coal production. It is therefore necessary, taking into account the difficulties of these regions, to anticipate and propose the energy policy that is in line with the tasks. These regions need an effective roadmap to make the necessary transition to a more diversified economic base and a more sustainable energy system, while safeguarding the social cohesion for communities and regions dependent on coal production.

## TRACER REGIONS

Project activities focus on nine European regions with a long history in coal mining and use of coal as fuel for power generation.

- Wales (UKL1, UKL2), United Kingdom
- Lusatia Region, Brandenburg (DE40) and Dresden (DED2), Germany
- North West Bohemia (CZ04), Czech Republic
- Kolubara Region, Serbia



- Upper Silesia (PL22), Poland
- Donetsk Region, Ukraine
- Jiu Valley / West Region (RO42), Romania
- Southeast Region (BG34), Bulgaria
- West Macedonia (EL53), Greece

## TRACER OBJECTIVES

TRACER supports nine coal-intensive regions, which are at different stages of their energy transition, to shape (or fine-tune) their Research and Innovation (R&I) strategies and exchange previous experiences in order to facilitate transition towards sustainable energy systems. The following activities will be implemented:

- Assisting the regional actors in developing R&I strategies for smart specialisation, including the development of public R&I capacities, consistent with the EU's Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET Plan);
- Identifying and exchanging some "best practices", including industrial roadmaps from coal towards new technologies and transition strategies for coal based combined heat and power production to low carbon electricity and district heating generation;
- Investigating relevant social challenges in the target regions, including necessary re-skilling needs of the workforce;
- Providing guidance to regional actors to access available European funds and programmes.

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