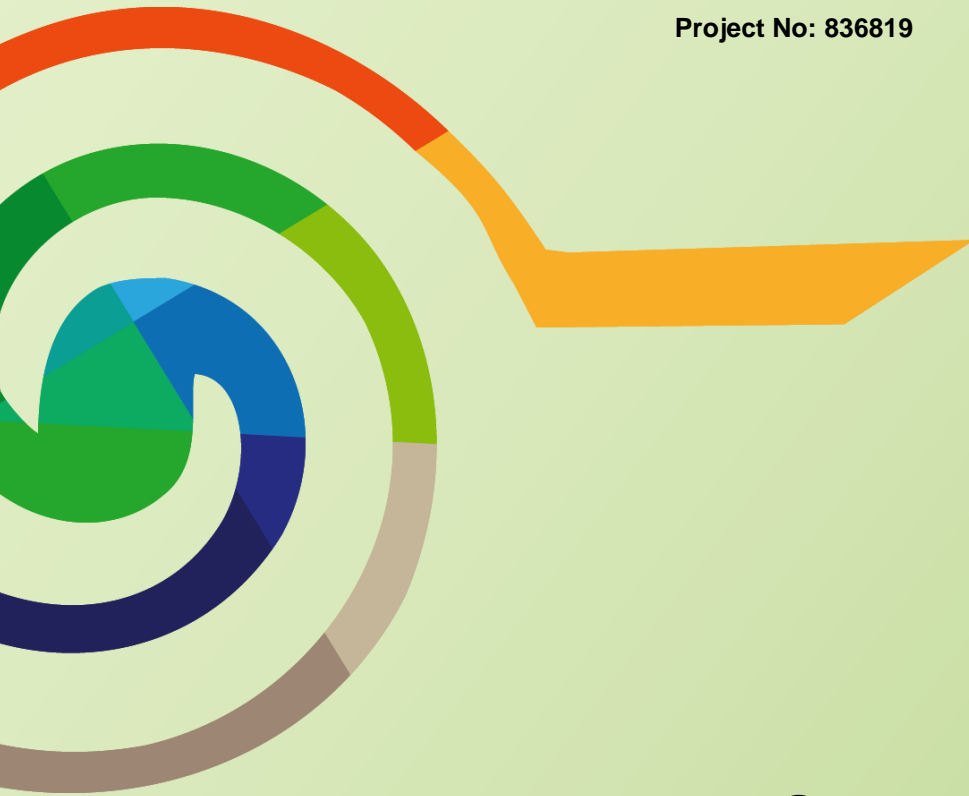


Smart strategies for the transition in coal intensive regions

Project No: 836819



***Fact Sheet:
“Black to Green” project***

APRIL 2020



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Description

Katowice City and post mining sites collaborates with State Forest - for urban forests. Contemporary Katowice City is a unique combination of urban and agglomeration landscape with forests as a striking element of the landscape in the largest Polish agglomeration. Administration area of Katowice is 644 km² in total (i.e. 0,2 % area of Poland), forest area is 140 km² (protective function for 131 km² forests – i.e. 94% of total forest are). Forests in Katowice neighbourhood are in II and III industrial pressure zones (113 km² II zone, 20 km² III zones). Skilful and responsible management and restoration of degraded lands (used for industrial purposes) minimizes the inevitable effects of civilization development. Forests in Silesia have contributed to a faster improvement of living conditions.



Figure 1: The general overview to Upper Silesia region with the inseparable element of forests (photo by B. Bobrzyk)

Achievements

Education of new employees for modern forestry and contemporary challenges through cooperation of academic centers (Faculty of Forestry in Kraków, Warsaw and Poznań) with the State Forests (Consultative and Social Councils at the University of the Forestry Faculties) in order to modernize and update curricula in response to market needs. The above activities make foresters well educated naturalists, real engineers and naturalists. consciously manage forest ecosystems. The Polish foresters cooperate with academic institutions in programs concerning the most important problems of modern forestry, including assessment of forest adaptation to climate change.

Challenges

- Industrial damage (including mining damage) - reconstruction and species transformation of forest stands (from 1960s - Forest Protective Belt of the Upper Silesian Industrial District), reclamation and afforestation of post-industrial sites.
- Skilful and responsible management and restoration of degraded lands (used for industrial purposes) minimizes the inevitable effects of civilization development. Forests in Silesia have contributed to a faster improvement of living conditions.
- Urban Forestry – an opportunity for Green Smart City in cooperation with The State Forests.



Figure 2: Aerial view of the city of Katowice (photo by B. Bobrzyk)

Enabling conditions

An opportunity for Green Smart City and Black to Green is the cooperation of the City with scientists and State Forests.

References and further links

<https://slaskie.travel/>

<https://slaskie.travel/en-US/Aktualnosci/Pokaz/1011186/slaskie-edeny-w-magazynie-swiat-podroze>

<https://www.katowice.eu/en/en>

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www.tracer-h2020.eu

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