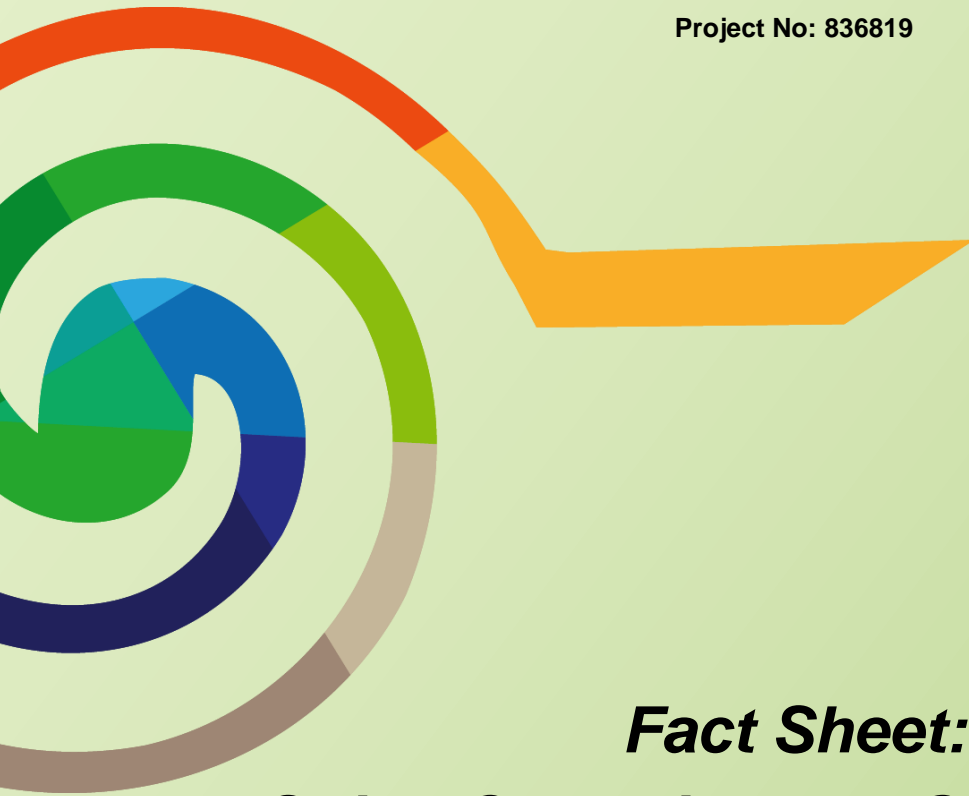


Smart strategies for the transition in coal intensive regions

Project No: 836819



***Fact Sheet:  
Guido Coal Mine and Queen Louise  
Adit***

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## Description

The establishment of Guido in 1855 is associated with the industrial revolution in Silesia. Until 1887, the building belonged to Prussia. Then the Guido mine was included in the Queen Louise mine in Zabrze. After the mining of coal, the mining plant was transformed into a central drainage node, but it lost its importance in the 1930s. In 1967, the "M-300 Experimental Coal Mine" was established on the basis of the plant, where machines manufactured at KOMAG - Gliwice were tested. In 1982, an open-air museum with a tourist trail was opened in closed excavations, and 5 years later the Provincial Conservator of Monuments entered 19<sup>th</sup>-century excavations, buildings, hoisting machines and pits in the register of monuments. Since then, they began to be subject to complete legal protection. Since 2007 Guido mine was open for visitors.



**Figure 1: Guido mine roadway (source: <https://pl.wikipedia.org>)**

Guido Coal Mine – today a closed hard coal mine, open to the public. It is part of the Coal Mining Museum in Zabrze as the Guido Mine Complex. Visiting the Guido Mine is possible on two levels 170, 320 and sub-level 355. During the tour, you can see how the electric hoisting machine from 1927 works, drive underground to the underground by a mining rail (elevator). The routes include underground excavations from the time of exploitation at the "Guido" Mine. Underground stables are presented, the chapel of St. Barbara, which is 170 meters below the surface of the earth, or working mining machinery.

The Queen Louise Adit is a modern exhibition in revitalized buildings on the surface of the land, but above all, a unique opportunity to explore mine sidewalks arranged in a way accessible to the youngest adventurers.

As part of a visit to the museum, you can see the country's largest underground mining machinery park during work, track the development of mining techniques over the past 200 years, see the underground reloading port or the huge mining pavement entirely forged in a coal seam - an absolute unique on a global scale, see also with the unique geological structure of this place. The routes are equipped with modern multimedia that support conducting educational classes.

Moreover, the Guido Mine has a modern zone of culture, business, and entertainment. It is here that companies can organize training and business meetings, and visitors have fun at concerts, theatre performances, and cinema screenings.



**Figure 2: Electric suspended railway - the only such mining railway in the world made available to tourists**  
(source: <https://kopalniaguido.pl/>)

## Achievements

The Guido Mining Museum was created and made available to the visitors in 1982 at the level of 170 m. The museum was entered into the register of monuments. In 2000, as a result of cost reduction in the coal industry, the underground mine was dismantled. However, the involvement of many institutions, primarily the municipal authorities of Zabrze, the Marshal's Office of the Śląskie Voivodeship and private individuals led to the cessation of liquidation activities and the establishment in 2007 of the Historic "Guido" Mine as an independent cultural institution of the City of Zabrze and the Silesian Voivodeship.

Queen Louise Adit is currently a place of education for children of different ages. Based on the unique infrastructure of underground mining corridors and outdoor theme parks of the Queen Louise Adit complex, an educational offer is prepared that meets the requirements of the core curriculum for teaching at all levels of education. Currently, it is one of the leading educational centers for children in Poland.

The complex offers classes on the subject of Silesian culture, mining history (mining techniques, working conditions underground), which is undoubtedly a very important economic and cultural element in Poland, coal production, underground orientation. Thus, meetings held in the Queen Louise Adit are extremely valuable both for children from the region, who can use them to deepen their knowledge of their own identity, but also for groups from every corner of the country interested in issues in the field of mining, geography, geology, physics, chemistry, and many other subjects.

## Challenges

The 1990s were the times of system transformation from a centrally planned economy to a market economy. The income limitations of enterprises were tightened and their activities were directed towards survival by means of minimizing production costs - similar criteria determined

the decisions of the owner of Guido. The necessity of functioning in the new system reality was accompanied by other adverse circumstances.

## Enabling conditions

The Guido tourist complex operates thanks to the involvement of the municipal authorities of Zabrze, the Marshal's Office of the Silesian Voivodeship and second-hand people, after beginning the restructuration process in 2000.

## References and further links

<https://kopalniaguido.pl/index.php/en/>

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[www.tracer-h2020.eu](http://www.tracer-h2020.eu)

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