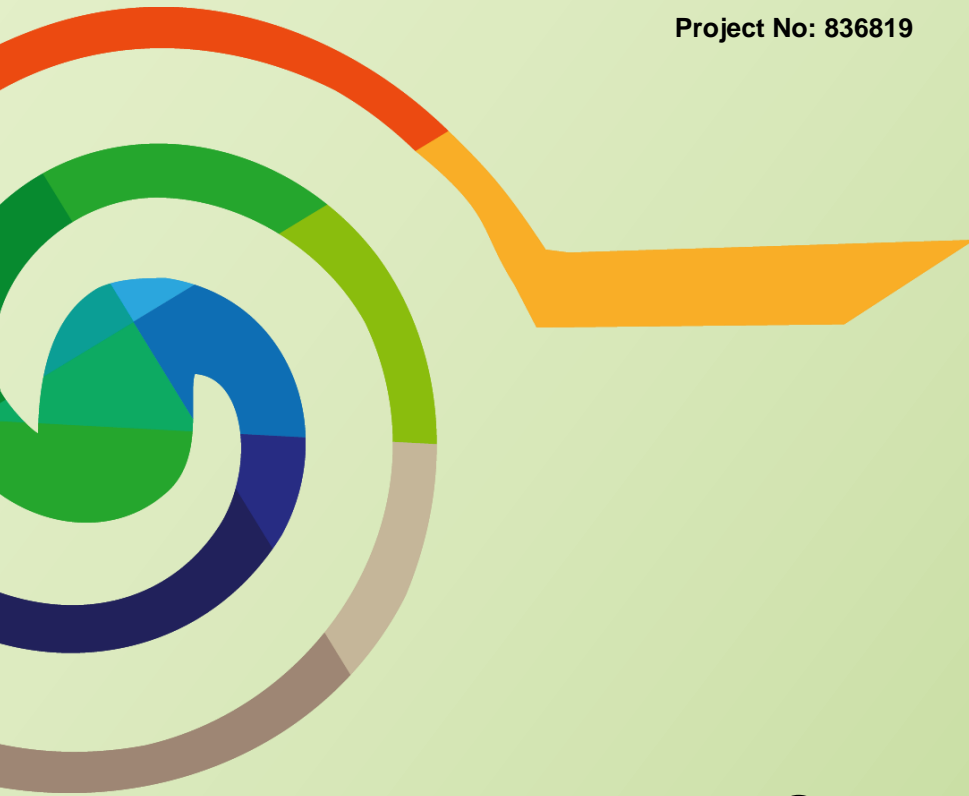


Smart strategies for the transition in coal intensive regions

Project No: 836819



***Fact Sheet:***  
***“New Gliwice” Business and Education  
Centre***

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## Description

“New Gliwice” Business and Education Center GAPR Ltd. is a revitalized complex of buildings of the former Gliwice Coal Mine, located a short distance from the city center, near the Gliwice – Sośnica junction connecting the A1 and A4 motorways, Drogowa Trasa Średnicowa (the Intercity Road) and exit from the A4 motorway to Rybnicka Street.

It is a unique place in which restored buildings of the former mine are adjacent to modern headquarters of IT companies and advanced technology enterprises from industries such as electrical engineering, power engineering, telecommunications, aviation.

New Gliwice Business and Education Center is a unique place that owes its “life” to the “Gliwice” Coal Mine. Two beautifully renovated brick buildings growing out of the ground at Bojkowska Street, which attract the eye from a distance, are the remains of the Gliwice mine from the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is hard to believe that today’s vibrant New Gliwice is a place where coal was once mined, miners prepared for work, and foremen handed out tasks.

In the twentieth century, an important point on the economic map of Gliwice was a coal mine, which extracted coal in the southern part of the city called Trynek. Until 1945, the plant was called “Gliwitzer Grube”, and after that date KWK “Gliwice”. Construction of this mining plant started in 1901 by combining 16 adjacent mining fields, which belonged to William Suermond and a group of entrepreneurs from the Rhineland. However, it was not until nine years later that they started to drill shafts. This was preceded by exposition of offices, workshops, warehouses and employee rooms.

The first mining level, at a depth of 185 m, was established in 1911, and that is when the mining started, which was small at first. However, as early as 1930, annual production exceeded 500,000 tons of coal, and during the Second World War it reached almost 900,000 tons.

Along with the drilling of shafts, construction of the most characteristic mine building began. According to the design of architects – Emil and Georg Zillmann, who became famous as creators of the Katowice-based Giszowiec and Nikiszowiec, they started to build a huge waiting room with a bath, engine room and boiler room. All three buildings stood in one line on the north-south axis. After the Second World War, the Gliwice mine was still working for more than half a century – it was closed in 2000.

The real ornament of New Gliwice are renovated hundred-year-old waiting room and engine room buildings. Both historic buildings, although located deep into the plot, dominate the surroundings. Location of main entrance to the campus on the axis between buildings further emphasizes their rank.

The third building, boiler room, did not last until today. In the 1950s it was damaged by an explosion, after which it was demolished. In addition to waiting room – headquarters of the Gliwice Academy of Entrepreneurship, and engine room – adapted for offices and business incubator – the director’s villa was renovated, and a new building which was connected with waiting room with a steel and glass link was constructed on the foundations of the former management of the mine.

Wagon with the last ton of coal that honorably stands between the Waiting Room and the Engine Room is not the only remnant of the Mine. The New Gliwice project maintains the unchanged external appearance of historical objects of the former Gliwice mine. Elevations were cleaned and the roofing was replaced. New aluminum and wooden joinery strictly reproduces original divisions of glazing. The aim was to preserve original floors, balustrades and clinker wall cladding.

EUR 24 million was spent on the implementation of the project, including EUR 9.5 million from European funds. Finally, works have been completed in 2008. 25 hectares of land have been revitalized. Area and facilities of the New Gliwice are managed by the Upper Silesian Agency for Entrepreneurship and Development Ltd.



Fig. 1. “New Gliwice” Bussiness and Education Center: (a) before and (b) after revitalization (source of photos: (a) <http://rewitalizacja.silesia.org.pl/>; (b) www.gapr.pl)

## Achievements

The “New Gliwice” provide customers with:

- **Office space** – offices with an area from 30 to 100 m<sup>2</sup> equipped with a teleinformation network, a dedicated power supply network and Internet access connection, speed of which is adapted to individual needs of customers. In addition, the complex has its own closed parking facilities for 600 vehicles, it is covered by a 24-hour security and is equipped with burglary and fire alarm systems. Buildings have separate access zones.
- **Investment areas**
- **Training rooms** – 10 spacious and comfortable training rooms that can accommodate from 16 to 70 people.
- **Auditoriums** – 5 auditoriums that can accommodate from 78 to 301 people.
- **Exhibition area** – 235 m<sup>2</sup> of area, which can be arranged in any way depending on the exhibitor’s needs.

There are 45 modern, technologically advanced companies in the electronic, energy, telecommunications, IT and aviation industries in “New Gliwice”. Works there among others Flytronic - creator of unmanned aerial vehicles, including the WB Electronics FlyEye mini unmanned aerial vehicle used by the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland. The “New Gliwice” was also chosen by the Kamsoft company dealing in information systems for medicine and pharmacy as well as Future Processing, a company specializing in creating computer software for the needs of international trade, industry and services. Also located there: the company Etisoft dealing with the production of modern industrial markings and Auto ID systems, operating in the industrial automation industry ProPoint or creating computer games and applications for mobile platforms, the Idreams company. INFINITE DREAMS also operates here - the official manufacturer of applications for Apple and Google phones as well as Nintendo and Sony consoles.

## Challenges

“New Gliwice” has great innovation potential and development opportunities. The potential of “New Gliwice” has not been fully exhausted. For example, the offer of “New Gliwice” includes 4 hectares of new investment plots

## Enabling conditions

There is a need to look at several factors that led to the success of Nowe Gliwice:

- “New Gliwice” areas are equipped with modern infrastructure. The companies investing in this area have access to the local labor market, qualified personnel educated at the Gliwice University of Technology, and proximity of potential business partners located in the Silesian agglomeration.
- “New Gliwice” areas are conveniently communicated and located a short distance from the city center, near the A1 and A4 motorways,
- Area and facilities of the New Gliwice are managed by one steering instrument - the Upper Silesian Agency for Entrepreneurship and Development Ltd. Here works also GAPR Ltd., which is a company the main task of which is to support micro, small and medium enterprises.
- Within the "Nowe Gliwice" complex, office space and investment areas are available, but it is also an ideal place for the organization of large conferences, training sessions, workshops, trade fair and exhibition initiatives as well as small business meetings and presentations.

## References and further links

<https://gapr.pl/en/gapr-territories/new-gliwice-business-and-education-center/>

<https://gliwice.eu/en/business-card/ciekawe-miejsca/nowe-gliwice-education-and-business-centre-0>

<http://www.wirtualne360.pl/panoramy/wirtualny-spacer-gliwice-ar/>



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

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