

Coal Regions in Transition Platform
Working Group Meetings and High-Level Dialogue on Financing and Investments

Brussels

26 – 27 February 2018

Agenda

Monday 26 February

Launch of the Platform Working Groups

Venue: Centre de Conférences Borschette (room 0A), Rue Froissart 36, 1040 Brussels

Translation provided in PL-EL-ES-DE-EN

Meeting chaired by Klaus-Dieter Borchardt, Director, DG ENER

8:30 – 9:00 **Registration and coffee**

9:00 – 9:10 **Welcome remarks** by Dominique Ristori, Director General of the Directorate-General for Energy

9:10 – 10: 00 **Introduction of the Coal Regions in Transition Initiative** by Klaus-Dieter Borchardt, Director, DG Energy, followed by Q&A

10:00 – 11:30 **Presentations by pilot coal regions of their transition strategies**, followed by Q&A

Silesia, Poland,

- Stefania Koczar-Sikora, Deputy Director for Regional Development, Marshall's Office of Silesia Region
- Maciej Bialek, Expert, Mining Department, Ministry of Energy of Poland

Brandenburg and Saxony, Germany

- Dr.-Ing. Klaus Freytag, Director General for Energy and Raw materials, Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, Land Brandenburg
- Florian F. Woitek, Desk Officer, Saxony State Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Transport

Western Macedonia, Greece

- Dimitrios Mavromatidis, Director of Regional Development Fund Unit of Western Macedonia, President of Technical Chamber of Greece/Dept Western Macedonia

Trenčín, Slovakia

- Jaroslav Baška, President of the Self-Governing Region of Trenčín

11:30 - 12:30 Regional transition strategies – available support at the EU level

- "Support for developing Research & Innovation Strategies for Coal Regions in Transition, Horizon 2020 Coordination and Support Action", Jeroen Schuppers, Deputy Head of Unit "Advanced Energy Production", DG RTD
- "Role of the European Commission Structural Reform Support Service", Ariane de Dominicis, Policy Officer, SRSS
- "Role of the European Commission Joint Research Centre", Dr. Vangelis Tzimas, Deputy Head of Unit "Knowledge for Energy Union", JRC
- "Role of the Climate KIC", Helen Spence Jackson, EU Affairs Lead, Climate KIC
- "MERIDA Project - Management of Environmental Risks During and After Mine Closure", Alicja Krzemien, Central Mining Institute, Poland (Project funded by the Research Fund on Coal and Steel)

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch break

Working Group 1: Post-coal economy and structural transformation

Venue: Centre de Conférences Borschette (room 0A), Rue Froissart 36, 1040 Brussels

Interpretation provided in PL-EL-ES-DE-EN from 15:00

Chaired by Klaus-Dieter Borchardt, Director, DG ENER and Rudolf Niessler, Director, DG REGIO

13:30 – 15:00 Exchange of best practices and project ideas in the area of structural transformation of coal regions, followed by Q&A

- "Coal Transitions – overview of lessons learnt and best practices", Andrzej Blachowicz, Climate Strategies
- "Structural transformation in the Ruhr area and Phoenix Dortmund", Alexandra Landsberg, Ministry of Economy, Innovation, Digitalisation and Energy of North Rhine-Westphalia
- "Energyville in Genk", Guy Vekemans, Strategy Coordinator Sustainable Energy & Smart Cities VITO-EnergyVille
- "La Ferme d'Akuo", Alexandra Sombsthay, Akuo Energy*

15:00 – 17:30 Project Lab – presentation of priority projects in the pilot regions and discussion on financing and policy dimension with invited Commission and external experts, followed by Q&A

Western Macedonia (30 minutes)

- Anastasios Sidiropoulos, Director of Programmes Department, Regional Development Agency of Western Macedonia (ANKO)
- Discussion with experts

Brandenburg and Saxony (30 minutes)

- Dr.-Ing. Klaus Freytag, Director General for Energy and raw materials, Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, Land Brandenburg
- Andreas, Bruns, Department of Economic Policy, Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, Land Brandenburg
- Florian F. Woitek, Desk Officer, Saxony State Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Transport
- Discussion with experts

Trencin, Slovakia (30 minutes)

Silesia, Poland (30 minutes)

- Małgorzata Staś, Director for Regional Development, Marshall's Office of Silesia Region
- Maciej Bialek, Expert, Mining Department, Ministry of Energy of Poland
- Discussion with experts

17:30 – 18:00 **Financing and technical assistance for projects in coal regions**

- "Project support by the European Investment Advisory Hub", Mark Mawhiney, European Investment Bank
- "World Bank capacity to assist coal regions in transition", Michael Stanley, Lead Mining Specialist, World Bank

18:00 – 18:20 **Conclusions**

Tuesday 27 February

Working Group 2: Eco-innovation and advanced coal technologies

Venue: Centre de Conférences Borschette, room 3C (places strictly limited to one representative per registered organisation)

Interpretation provided in PL-EL-ES-DE-EN until 12:30

Chaired by Klaus-Dieter Borchard, Director, DG ENER and Peter Droll, Director, DG RTD

8:30 – 9:30 Discussion on state of play on advanced coal technologies and opportunities in the EU

- "Overview of advanced coal technology solutions and state of play", Zoi Kapetaki, Project Officer, European Commission, Joint Research Centre
- "Future perspectives and opportunities for advanced coal technologies in the EU", Marcin Lewenstein, Innovation Officer, KIC InnoEnergy
- "COALTECH 2051 Initiative and planned activities", Brian Ricketts, Secretary-General, EURACOAL

9:30 – 10:30 Exchange of best practices and project ideas

- "Extraction of Coal Mine Methane from shut down coal mines", Julien Moulin, CEO, La Française de l'énergie
- "Scalable financing mechanism to facilitate thermo-modernisation and replacement of inefficient boilers in Silesia and Małopolska", Wolfgang Munch, Deputy Head of Unit, European Commission, DG REGIO
- "Improvement of air quality, including energy efficiency measures and the "Green Households" pilot project in Slovakia", Miroslava Hrušková, Slovak Ministry of Environment*

10:30 – 12:30 Project Lab – presentation of priority projects in the pilot regions and discussion on financing and policy dimension, followed by Q&A.

Western Macedonia (30 minutes)

- Anastasios Sidiropoulos, Director of Programmes Department, Regional Development Agency of Western Macedonia (ANKO)
- Discussion with experts

Brandenburg and Saxony (30 minutes)

- Dr.-Ing. Klaus Freytag, Director General for Energy and raw materials, Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, Land Brandenburg
- Florian F. Woitek, Desk Officer, Saxony State Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Transport
- Discussion with experts

Trencin, Slovakia (30 minutes)

Silesia, Poland (30 minutes)

- Małgorzata Staś, Director for Regional Development, Marshall's Office of Silesia Region
- Maciej Bialek, Expert, Mining Department, Ministry of Energy of Poland
- Discussion with experts

12:30 – 13:00 Conclusions and next steps

15:00 – 17:30 High-Level Dialogue on Coal Regions in Transition: financing and investments

Venue: European Parliament, PHS 4B1, meet at the entrance from Espace Simone Veil at 14:30 (places strictly limited to one representative per registered organisation)

No interpretation available – the meeting will take place in English

Meeting chaired by MEP Jerzy Buzek

15:00 – 15:45: Opening Remarks

- Jerzy Buzek, MEP (EPP), Chair of the ITRE Committee
- Pavel Poc, MEP (S&D)
- Florent Marcellesi, MEP (Green/EFA)
- Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President of the European Commission for Energy Union
- Vazil Hudák, Vice President, European Investment Bank

15:45 – 17:30 Financing and investments in Coal Regions in Transition -Existing funds and future perspectives

Discussion moderated by Dominique Ristori, Director General, DG Energy

- Representatives of Coal Regions
- Luis Colunga, Deputy General Secretary, IndustriAll Europe
- Vladimir Budinsky, Vice President, EURACOAL
- Kristian Ruby, Secretary General, Eurelectric

- Rudolf Niessler, Director, DG REGIO
- Michael Stanley, Lead Mining Specialist, World Bank
- Árni Páll Árnason, Deputy Director, EEA Grants - Norway Grants, Financial Mechanism Office
- DG BUDG (tbd)*