

THE PROJECT AIMS...

To support stakeholders in three European brown coal regions (Lusatia in Germany, Eastern Greater Poland in Poland, and Gorj in Romania) to explore new economic possibilities and ultimately, to shift away from brown coal towards more sustainable options.

LOCAL PARTNERS

CEE Bankwatch Romania
Gorj Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Romania
Let's Change Konin Association, Poland
Regional Development Agency Konin, Poland
Wirtschaftsregion Lausitz, Germany
Timis Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, Romania

PARTNERS

Wegener Center for Climate and Global Change
The Wegener Center leads the project and the work in the first thematic block

Climate-KIC
Climate-KIC closely accompanies the project and supports innovations in the focus countries.

Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research
PIK participates in the first thematic block

Centre for Systems Solutions
CRS is in charge of the strategic simulations and the workshops in the first thematic block.

Brandenburg University of Technology
BTU is in charge of developing new economic opportunities with the regions.

E3G Germany
E3G is in charge of understanding the barriers to shifting away from brown coal and identifying ways to overcome them.

About the project

"A Boost for Rural Lignite Regions" strives to involve and empower local stakeholders in three European coal regions to develop resilient and robust sustainable strategies as part of the European Green Deal Investment Plan and Just Transition Mechanism.

The Project aims to develop an online simulation tool that will be used for stakeholder engagement in three European brown coal regions: Lusatia in Germany, Eastern Greater Poland in Poland, and Gorj in Romania. Together with stakeholders from these regions we explore the political, socio-economic and geographical characteristics of the regions. Furthermore, by employing the online simulation tool we will involve and empower local stakeholders to explore and design alternative future pathways which are fitting to each region. Alongside the online simulation tool, we also use online exchange platforms to facilitate mutual learning and guarantee a successful spread of innovations across the three regions. The project also explores the possibilities of actual implementation of promising future development options.

3 Thematic Blocks

During the three year's time-span of REBOOST (2020-2022), the work is divided into three thematic blocks focusing on different aspects of regional transformations:

- Developing a mutual understanding of regional ecosystems
- Understanding the barriers to shifting away from brown coal and identifying ways to overcome them.
- Developing new economic opportunities with the regions.



HAVE A SAY IN CREATING THE FUTURE SHAPE OF THE REGION

The collaborative policy simulation workshops aim to support local communities in reflecting on the shape of their regions now, and in 10-20 years' time, through the use of visual tools. During the workshops, groups of 20-30 stakeholders from various backgrounds will meet online and discuss the priorities and challenges of lignite mining transition and the transformation process of their region. The workshops will provide information about the concrete positions of stakeholders, manoeuvring spaces, mutual perceptions, and will also help us to select the appropriate method for the next steps.

The objective of the workshop is to:

1. Develop and visually discuss the future shape of the region and transition pathways towards transformation
2. With the support of professional moderators, provide a room for dialogue among the stakeholders

Workshop details:

- 3-4 hours free of charge online workshop
- 25.11, 9:00 / 9.12, 9:00 / 10.12, 13:00
- Delivered in Polish / Romanian / German
- Register by sending an email to Reboostproject@uni-graz.at

Benefits:

- Generate and test transition strategies to new energy sources
- Experience and understand the complexity of system-wide change
- Learn how to foster and integrate both technological and social energy innovations
- Provide the opportunity for exchange between the 3 regions

THE CASE STUDIES

The three regions share some characteristics that make the transition process difficult:

- Economic downturn,
- Aging populations,
- Lack of job opportunities

The regions differ with respect to the availability of political support from governments and funding for the transition process.



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