

DeCarb NEWSLETTER

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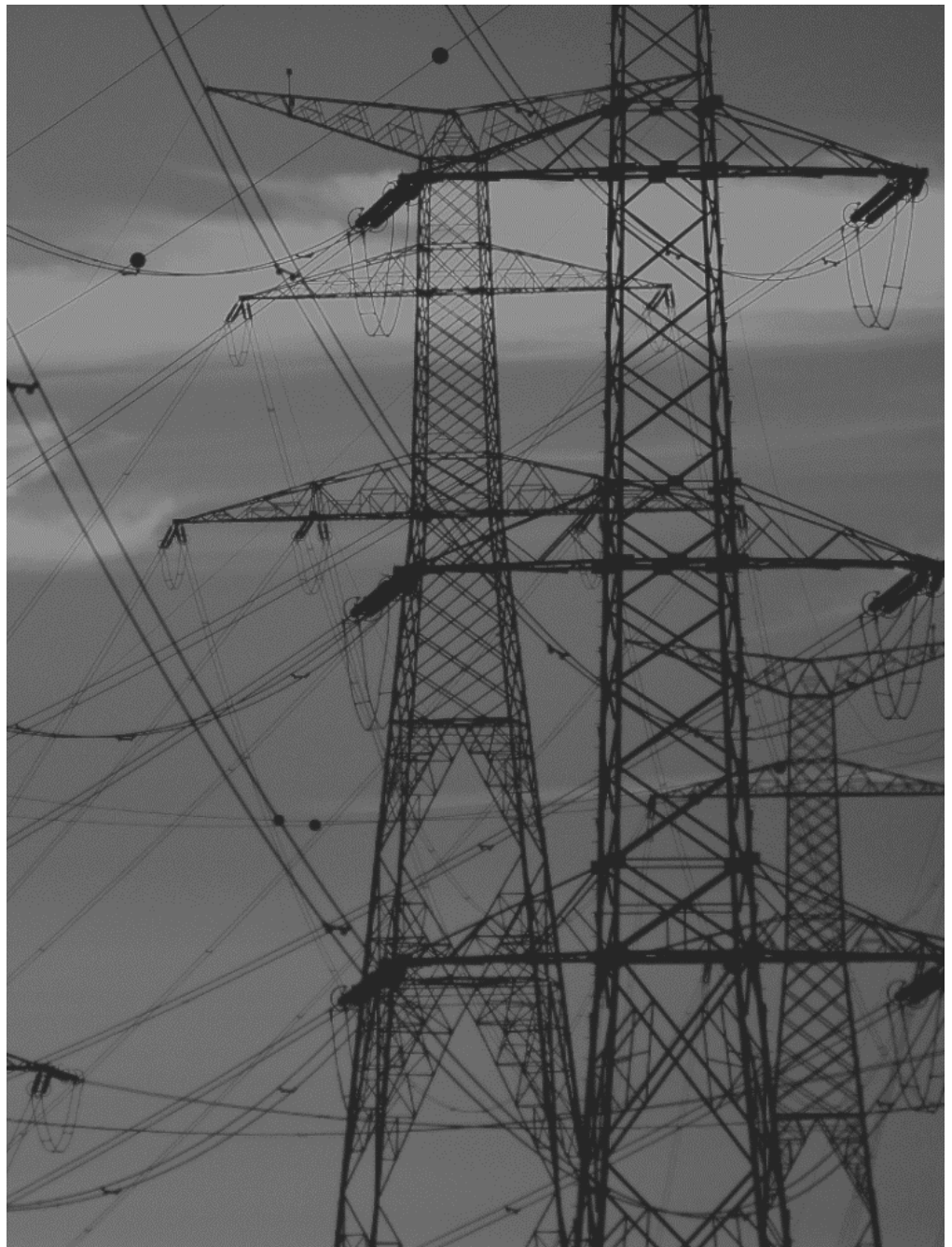
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➤ ABOUT THE DECARB PROJECT

The EU 2030 climate and energy framework sets three key targets for the year 2030: at least 40% cuts in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels); at least 27% share for renewable energy and at least 27% improvement in energy efficiency. The EU coal sector provides jobs to about 240.000 people. DeCarb sets out to address the challenge of pairing the clean energy transition to growth and job creation in coal-intensive EU regions.

PROJECT MEETING IN BADAJOZ

13th and 14th of March the DeCarb team met in Badajoz to analyse the situation of the regions participating in the project. Experts exchanged knowledge and experiences to transfer how they are transitioning from the carbon-intensive era towards the clean energy future.



The meeting included a workshop for tackling issues like the impact of fossil fuels on climate change and global warming, tools used for assessing the feasibility of RES projects or the energy challenges for the short, medium and long-term in DeCARB regions, among others. Partners also visited a Solar Thermo-Electric Plant in La Florida, Badajoz.

For more information:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/decarb/news/news-article/5340/project-meeting-in-badajoz/>

STAKEHOLDERS MEETINGS

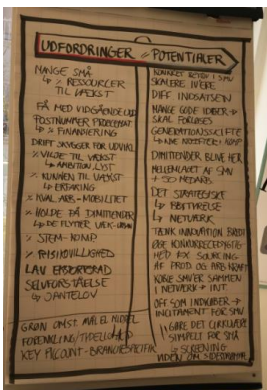
During this semester, the DeCarb partners continue to carry out Regional Stakeholders' meetings in the project territories to exchange views, identify needs and build a sustainable collaboration.



Regional Stakeholders' meeting – 16 April 2019, Kozni, Greece



Regional Stakeholders' meeting – 15.05.2019, Turceni, Romania



DeCarb stakeholders of the House of Energy were gathered at a meeting arranged by The Danish Business Authority and Business Development Centre Northern Denmark on the establishment of a new decentralized business development strategy. The strategy will integrate the use of the European regional development funds 2021-2027, and as such the meeting also functioned as an evaluation of the governance of the Operational Programme for 2014-2020.

The focus of the stakeholder meeting was the policy addressed by Denmark: The National Operational Programme for the European Regional Development Fund 2014-2020, Innovative and Sustainable Enterprise Growth.

GOOD PRACTICES

A Hydrogen based transportation and the production of smokeless stoves in Stara Zagora region are the first Good Practices we have already submitted to Interreg's database for evaluation. Visit the following links to learn more about these interesting projects:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/2336/production-of-smokeless-stoves-by-bulgarian-startup/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/2184/promoting-hydrogen-based-transportation-among-the-public/>

DECARB IN ROMANIA

On April 3rd energynomics.ro organized in Constanta City the second event of this year in the Energy Efficiency series: "Energy Efficiency - Opportunities of the Moment". The event aims to increase awareness and understanding of what is and how to improve energy efficiency, informing interested companies and end-users, including local public authorities, of the real and tangible benefits of reducing energy consumption.

DeCarb project expert Laura Buzatu from South West Oltenia Regional Development Agency participated as a speaker and presented the objectives, the activities and expected results of the DeCarb project.

More information on the DeCarb website:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/decarb/news/news-article/5481/decarb-at-3rd-party-event-in-romania/>



BULGARIA HOSTED THE CONFERENCE ON CLEAN ENERGY PACKAGE AND ENERGY INVESTMENTS: REALITIES AND CHALLENGES

DeCarb Project was presented at the Conference on Clean Energy Package and Energy Investments – Realities and Challenges. In the second day of the event, 5 April 2019, Ms. Romyana Grozeva, PhD, held a presentation on DeCarb, outlining the main targets the project is set to achieve, the funding source – INTERREG Europe Programme, the Partners' consortium and the expected outcomes. Ms. Grozeva also showed a short overview on the current situation of the energy mix in the 9 partnering countries. She outlined the big challenge and the big responsibility the decarbonization is placing on all relevant and responsible European, National, Regional and Local stakeholders.

The event took place in Stara Zagora, Bulgaria on 4 – 5 April 2019. Organiser of the event was Energy Management Institute (EMI) with the supports of EURELECTRIC.



Participants of the conference were International, national, regional and local institutions, governmental representatives from Bulgaria and the SEE Region, European Commission, Energy Community, Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER), EURELECTRIC, Euracoal, diplomats, established European and national business and trade union associations and non-governmental organizations with responsibilities in the field of energy and environment, companies from the energy sector, as well as independent experts.

GREEN INVESTMENTS IN LODZKIE REGION

In many communes in the Lodz region, wind parks for the production of green environment-friendly electric power have been invested and local governments are trying to use thermal water as ecological sources of heat.

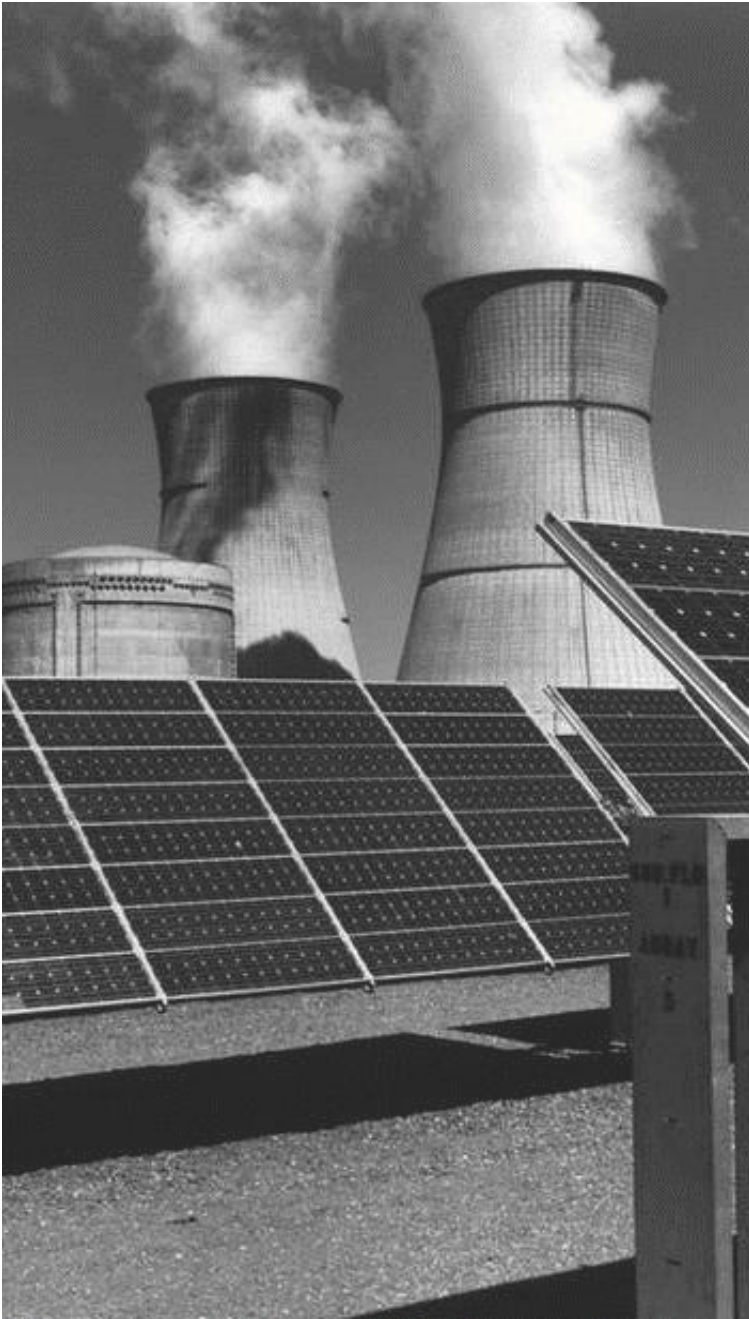
Residents install solar collectors, thanks to which they can even heat useful water in an ecological way or support the central heating system at home or replace so-called "cinders" for ecological heat sources, such as heat pumps or biomass stoves.

The DeCarb project is contributing to this clean energy transition, thanks to the development of 9 action plans to improve the addressed policy instruments, benefiting managing authorities and beneficiaries.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Save the date! 17-21 June 2019 Europe is celebrating EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW) – the biggest European event for renewables and efficient energy – in Brussels, shaping Europe’s energy future. It is made up of a 3-day policy conference offering various networking opportunities, an EU Sustainable Energy Awards competition with a public vote for the citizen’s award and local events, Energy Days, held across Europe throughout the months of May and June. More info and registration: <https://www.eusew.eu/>
- DeCarb project will meet next October at the Interregional event in Brandenburg (Germany) where partners and stakeholders are going to interchange ideas and proposals about environmental restitution and land restoration. There will be a study visit to Coal mines in the region, with participation of stakeholders from the Project Consortium, followed by a project meeting.



Four research activities are currently in progress and towards finalisation:

The DeCarb partnership is finishing the **ex-ante economic and social impact assessment of regions' decarbonisation** that will be released in June. This report, developed by SZREDA, is aimed at developing an approach to assess the possible socio-economic impact of decoupling energy and coal mining in the DeCarb regions.

Identification of good practices on decarbonisation and clean energy transition: by end of June this report will be available after partners have identified cases of good practices on territorial decarbonisation and clean energy transition, including the mapping of financial instruments for developing it, to facilitate the access to funds for the green growth pathways. This dataset is being collected by the Regional Association of Local Governments of Western Macedonia (PEDDM) who will analyse the cases collected to compile a Good Practice Guide, which will also include a mapping of financial instruments to support the transition and schemes to stimulate the development through cost-sharing with the private sector.

We will launch the **SWOT analysis** in few days, where House of Energy has collected data from the DeCarb territories in order to determine decarbonisation growth pathways, which will provide the project partners with a framework enabling them to design alternative, context-specific, growth paths, initiate the actual process of decarbonisation and reduce economic and social risk of diversifying sources of energy production.

Need analysis: the DeCarb partnership has collected evidence for the environmental restitution and land restoration needs and/or accomplishments, to determine post-mining land uses that follow the principles of sustainable development, including financial viability considerations and funding/investment opportunities identified. A Interregional workshop for working in this field will be developed in Germany and after the end of the year, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy of the State of Brandenburg (MWE) will develop a need analysis report that will be focused on territorial planning and growth, considering financial aspects and the opportunities identified in the Good Practice Guide on decarbonisation and clean energy transition.

PROJECT PARTNERS



Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency (BG)



Lodzkie Region (PL)



Eszak-Alfold Regional Energy Agency Nonprofit Ltd. (HU)



South-West Oltenia Regional Development Agency (RO)



Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, State of Brandenburg (DE)



House of Energy (DK)



Regional Association of Local Governments of Western Macedonia (GR)



Energy Agency of Savinjska, Saleska and Koroska Region (SI)



Extremadura Energy Agency (ES)

DeCarb
Interreg Europe



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



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ABOUT US

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