

DeCarb NEWSLETTER

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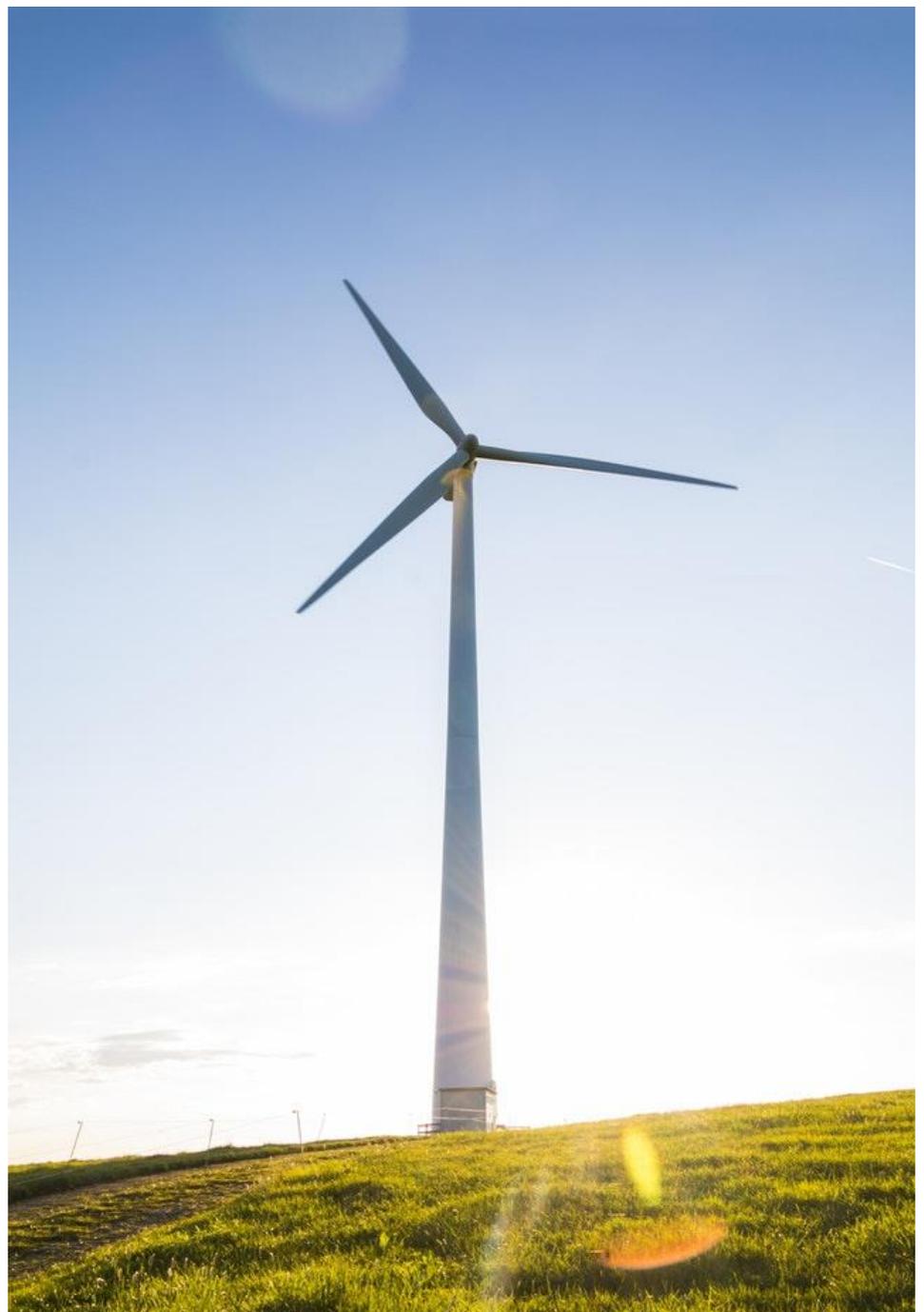
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The EU 2030 climate and energy framework sets three key targets for the year 2030: at least 40% cuts in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels); at least 27% share for renewable energy and at least 27% improvement in energy efficiency. The EU coal 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 OVERVIEW

As the final months of Phase 1 of DeCarb Project are approaching, all partnering organizations continue their dedicated and highly professional work to finalize the remaining project activities. COVID-19 crisis put an unexpected hold on the project implementation for several months but, like all obstacles, they allowed the DeCarb Team to explore new and innovative approaches towards the project tasks. During the 6th Semester, we launched the consultations and the preparation of the Territorial Just Transition Plans. We are happy to have many partnering organizations closely involved in this process, as this will allow transferring the project results to an even further extent.

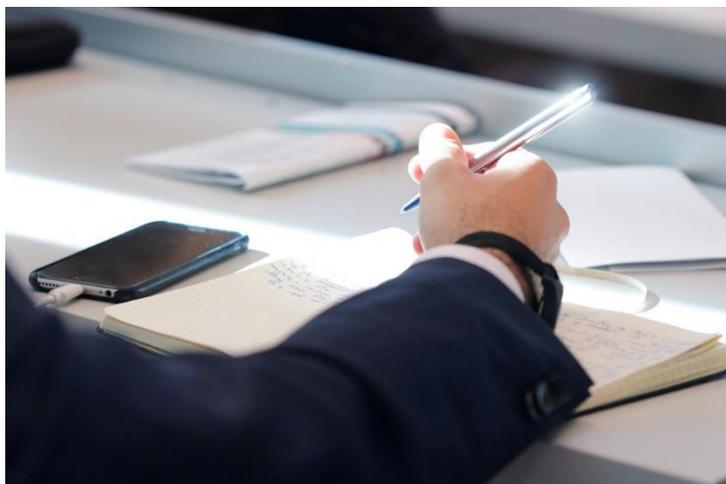
Semester 6 of the project's implementation was also full of project events and activities, as project partners were organizing Stakeholders' meetings, Social Policy Dialogue events, and have been actively working on the drafting of their Action Plans. In the current issue of the Project's Newsletter we have selected the most interesting events and initiatives the partnering regions have shared.

What is more to come in the upcoming months? We are heading to the closure of Phase 1 with one final Interregional Workshop, dedicated to labour Re-skilling that will take place in Aalborg, Denmark. We also will have inspiring Action Plans for all partnering regions on how the current Policy Instruments could be improved.



A SCHOOL FOR THE PROFESSIONALS OF THE FUTURE IN LODZKIE

In Bełchatów, in the Lodzkie Region, a school for the professions of the future is being established, where specialists in renewable energy sources, as well as automation, IT, electro- and biotechnology will be trained.



The Competence Development Centre is a joint effort of the local government of the Lodzkie Region and PGE, inspired by the need for energy transformation. The school will enable the employees of the power generation complex in Bełchatów to acquire new qualifications. The students will acquire managerial competencies, including building commitment and motivating a team. There will also be classes in technical English. The catalog of available courses will take into account the needs of PGE Group employees and the local labour market.

The first students will start learning at the Centre from September 2021.

Source: Pixabay



DECARB PROJECT AT THE GREEN MAGAZINE

The East-Hungary daily newspaper considers DeCarb project as one of the most interesting initiatives in Hungary for the preservation and creation of a liveable and sustainable environment. Therefore, on 24 February, it published a Green Magazine, which aimed not only to raise awareness of the importance of protecting the environment and nature, but also to encourage collective thinking and action to reduce our ecological footprint.

The DeCarb project was also written about, alongside various foreign and Hungarian companies committed to innovation and environmental protection.

More info at: <https://szon.hu/pr/zold-magazin-a-kelet-magyarorszag-melleklete-4853251/>



ROMANIA WILL HAVE ZERO EMISSIONS BUILDINGS FOR REDUCING CARBON FOOTPRINT IN HOUSING

A new regulation in this country commits that every construction after 31 December 2020 must comply with the nZEB ("nearly zero energy building") standard, having an energy consumption of almost zero, ensured in mostly from renewable energy sources, but also through a high degree of energy efficiency.

According to the legislation adopted in Romania, by nZEB we mean buildings with very high-energy performance, so with a very low primary energy consumption. Of the necessary energy consumption in the building, at least 30% is provided from renewable sources, including energy from renewable sources produced on site or in the vicinity, within a radius of 30 km from the GPS coordinates of the building, starting in 2021.



Source: Pixabay



WILL LUSATIA REMAIN THE ENERGY HEART OF BRANDENBURG?



Source: LEAG

On November 24th 2020, Brandenburg held an online Social Dialog Event entitled Will Lusatia remain the energy heart of Brandenburg? The event received great interest, and 27 people participated. Dr. Claudia Herok, Head of Department for Energy and Raw Materials of the Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Energy of the State of Brandenburg, introduced the online event. She pointed out the importance of such EU projects such as DeCarb, as they serve the exchange of policies and are in line with the European idea. The study trip of all partners to Brandenburg within the DeCarb project was especially successful. It was shown that Lusatia developing and implementing innovative ideas in the re-cultivation of post-mining landscapes. Brandenburg could offer guidance to the other European partner regions and countries.

The main topics were the future fields of LEAG (main energy company), structural developments in Lusatia and the re-cultivation of post-mining landscapes. Each presentation was followed by an open discussion, during which there was an intensive exchange of ideas. The group of participants consisted of municipal stakeholders, regional authorities, companies and businesses and the Ministry. This ensured a high level of information exchange.



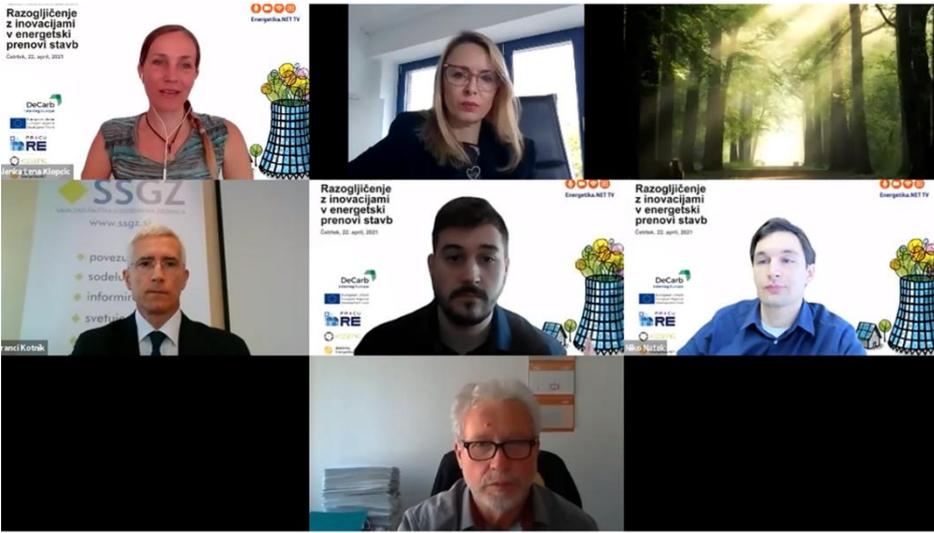
THE SLOVENIAN NATIONAL INFODAY WAS A SUCCESS

The Energy agency of Savinjska, Šaleška and Koroška region, KSENA, has organized the National Information Day on the Earth day 2021. The event was titled: "The decarbonisation through the innovations in energy renovation of buildings." The event's primary focus was to publicly present the action plan for policy development essential to the decarbonisation and restructuring of the Savinjsko-šaleška coal intensive region.

The event was held online in the form of a videoconference, via ZOOM platform. Due to nowadays-usual connection problems, the event started few minutes later than expected. The event took place according to the agenda. KSENA's representative, Niko Natek first greeted all the participants and all the other guests and presented the entire focus of the event. Afterwards,

Mr. Franci Kotnik, the director of the Savinjska-Šaleška Chamber of Commerce, also gave the introductory speech. Project moderator Ms. Alenka Lena Klopčič made sure that everything at the event went smoothly. Representatives of KSENA, the Ministry of Infrastructure, the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, the Development Agency of the SAŠA region, the Government Office for the Development and Cohesion Policy, and NGOs then presented their prepared presentations.

At the end of the presentations, a constructive discussion followed in which Mr. Hinko Šolinc of the Ministry of Infrastructure, Ms. Zorana Komar of the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Mr. Klemen Košir of the Government Office for the Development and Cohesion Policy, Ms. Saša Podlogar Žnidaršič of the Holding of the Slovenian Power Plant and Mr. Drago Koren of the City Municipality of Šoštanj participated.



The discussion was followed by a short lunch break. After the lunch break the second part of the event addressed the innovation in energy renovation of building, which is the main goal of the [procuRE project \(Horizon 2020\)](#). The event was a success. In addition to all the guests, who have had their presentations, around 100 other spectators took part in the event and the event discussions.

Source : KSENA



IN 2030 EXTREMADURA WILL BE THE REGION WITH THE MAJOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION IN SPAIN

The president of the Regional Government Extremadura, Guillermo Fernández Vara, stated that, in terms of energy, the region "has landed" in the National Energy and Climate Plan and that "in the year 2030, by far, Extremadura will be the region that has the major renewable energy production", which will mean "between 20 and 25 per cent of all the renewable energy that Spain has got".

In this sense, Fernández Vara has indicated that this is going to be because Extremadura has been working on it for a long time, thanks to specific regulations like the Law of Land Management and Sustainable Development, which is one of the "most advanced laws in Spain when it comes to streamlining procedures" so this supports companies in settling in this territory.

At this point, the leader of the Regional Government has stressed that issues such as the urbanized industrial land, electrical power and water are "so important for a company to establish in Extremadura, and we have them covered".

Finally, Fernández Vara highlighted the important contribution this will mean to the Spanish decarbonisation objectives in a transition to a low carbon economy.



Source : AGENEX

THE PARTNERSHIP



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)

ABOUT US

DeCarb is co-funded by INTERREG Europe / European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)



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