

Regional Action Plan for the Lodzkie
Region within the project "Supporting the
clean energy transition of coal-intensive
EU regions" - DeCarb (INTERREG
EUROPE Programme)



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Introduction

This Action Plan is prepared by the Lodzkie Region within the project DeCarb "Supporting the clean energy transition of coal-intensive EU regions" (Interreg Europe Programme, index number PGI05587). The Plan aims to provide details on how the lessons learnt from the exchange of experience and cooperation, that took place during the Phase 1 of the DeCarb project, will be implemented in the Lodzkie region in order to improve the policy instrument addressed.

The Plan includes the elaboration of regional context of decarbonisation and the design of 3 actions arising from comparison the recommendations for policy instruments and the results of DeCarb's activities. Implementation these two actions, will be monitored during the Phase 2 of the DeCarb project.

2. General information

Project:	"Supporting the clean energy transition of coal-intensive EU regions" - DeCarb
ID number:	PGI05592
Project duration:	01 June 2018 - 31 May 2023
Name of partner:	Partner no 2: Lodzkie Region
Country:	Poland
NUTS 1:	Makroregion Centralny
NUTS 2:	Lodzkie
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3. The policy context

The Action Plan aims to influence:

Investment for growth and jobs	X
European Territorial Cooperation programmes	
Other regional policy programmes:	X
Title of the policy instrument concerned:	
Regional Operational Programme of Lodzkie Voivodeship 2014-2020	
European Funds for Łódzkie 2027 (FEŁ 2027)	
Łódzkie Region Development Strategy 2030	

4. Details of activities in the action plan

4.1 Regional context of decarbonisation

Polish mining regions are facing various issues related to the transition towards a climate-neutral economy.

There are a number of challenges facing the regions, although the different characteristics of each region require actions that are tailored to the specific needs of the region. Lodzkie is one of the relatively well-developed regions, with a high share of industry in gross value added and a dynamically growing share of services. On the European Union scale, however, it is an underdeveloped region, not reaching 75% of the EU development level. In the Lodzkie Region (Piotrków sub-region at NUTS3 level) there is the Belchatow - Szczercow - Zloczew Mining and Energy Generation Center, which is a region dominated by a raw materials economy based on lignite resources and the production of electricity and heat from conventional sources. The exploitation of deposits in the Belchatow and Szczercow fields in the region is planned to be completed around 2026 and 2038, respectively. The total area of the Center is 1,878.0 km², i.e. 10.0% of the area of Lodzkie Region. The Belchatow Power Plant and the Belchatow Lignite Mine (one of the largest in Europe, in 2016 - 67.0% of national output) operate in the Center. Belchatow Power Plant is one of the largest lignite-fired power plants in the world and the largest electricity generator in Poland, producing about 22% of the national energy in 2018. At the same time, the Belchatow Power Plant is the largest single emitter of greenhouse gases in Europe, with annual emissions of 30.1million Mg CO₂ to the atmosphere in 2020. In addition, in the area of the depression funnel caused by the activities of the Lignite Mine Belchatow there is a

problem of water shortage. The weakness of the existing mining and energy basin is also the lack of support from specialized scientific and research units and the lack of higher education.¹

A major challenge, especially in the mining and energy area, is to ensure that companies keep up with technological progress while respecting the principles of sustainable development. On the one hand, it is necessary to support their energy efficiency or redirect their activities to the closed-cycle economy model. On the other hand, a key factor for competitiveness is investment in human resources. Inhabitants of the Belchatow Center will face enormous changes in the coming years resulting from the plans to gradually reduce coal mining in Poland. The prospect of the mines closure will significantly affect the economic situation of the region's residents, businesses and local governments in the region. In order for the transition to clean energy to take place in a controlled manner, taking into account the needs of local people to maintain employment and quality of life, it must be well planned.

Currently, the Territorial Just Transition Plan² for the Lodzkie Region was developed by the Marshal's Office of the Lodzkie Voivodeship. The document aims to outline the transformation of the Belchatow Center into a region based on modern low-carbon industry and services. Thanks to the plan, the region has a chance to obtain funds from the European Just Transition Fund. This is one of the funding pillars of the Just Transition Mechanism, which in turn is a key tool for ensuring that the transition to a climate-neutral economy takes place in an equitable way, leaving no one behind. The mechanism provides targeted support to invest at least €150 billion between 2021 and 2027 in the regions most affected by the negative socio-economic impacts of the transition and to mitigate these impacts³.

In addition the most important document of the region self-government - The Lodzkie Region Development Strategy 2030 was currently updated defining the vision and objectives of the regional policy in the economic, social and spatial aspects as well as the actions necessary to achieve them. The strategy was approved by the Self-Government of the Lodzkie Region on May 6, 2021. What's more the document consists the concept of Mining and Energy Transformation Area of Belchatow Center.

All the measures to achieve climate neutrality in Europe are included in the European Commission's announcement on 11.12.2019. called The European Green Deal. The package of measures contained in the document covers all sectors of the economy, in particular energy, and the proposals contained in the document include clean energy, sustainable industry and thermal upgrading.⁴

Regions can only access to the JTF if they have an approved Territorial Just Transition Plan. Its purpose is to outline a process for transforming a coal region to transition to a climate neutral economy.

A particular challenge in the Lodzkie Region, especially in its largest cities, is the low and still unsatisfactory quality of atmospheric air. The poor air quality translates into a bad health situation for the inhabitants of the Lodzkie Region, i.e., among others, a very high mortality rate from respiratory diseases (1st place in the country in 2018). The pollution-induced higher number of sick people is also

¹ https://www.funduszeuropejskie.gov.pl/media/97649/projekt_UP_do_konsultacji.pdf

² <https://rpo.lodzkie.pl/wiadomosci/item/4552-przystapienie-do-przygotowania-terytorialnego-planu-sprawliwej-transformacji-województwa-lodzkiego>

³ https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/actions-being-taken-eu/just-transition-mechanism_pl

⁴ <http://strategia.lodzkie.pl/europejskizielonylad/>

significant in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, increasing the risk of COVID-19 incidence and more severe course of the disease. Energy poverty is also an additional challenge, affecting 12% of the region's population (2017) - a problem that mainly affects those living in single-family homes and residents of old tenements.

Poor atmospheric air quality is associated, among others, with low emissions caused by burning solid fuels. On the other hand, inadequate insulation of buildings and outdated heat sources lead to large energy losses, contribute to higher energy consumption and the above-mentioned energy poverty⁵. So that, promoting energy efficiency measures is still necessary.

The identified potential of renewable energy sources in Poland is largely unused. Therefore, the direction of actions resulting from the Łódzkie Region Development Strategy 2030 (SRWŁ 2030) is increasing the use of renewable energy sources (RES), among others through supporting the construction of installations for acquiring energy from RES and energy storage, including, among others, storage through conversion into other forms of energy. The Lodzkie Region, by acquiring energy from renewable sources, will contribute to diversification of generation sources in the national energy mix, which in turn will contribute to ensuring independence of energy supply and energy security in accordance with the Polish Energy Policy 2040 (PEP2040).

The current experience from the implementation of the ROP 2014-2020 indicates a very high interest among applicants for projects in the field of renewable energy sources (the amount of submitted applications for funding, significantly exceeded the available, although twice increased, allocation for the announced competitions, currently another competition is held, another increase in the allocation is planned). Interest in the construction of RES installations is not decreasing and this trend is expected to continue in the coming years; the greatest demand is for projects using solar photovoltaic installations. In connection with the above, within the framework of RES support, investments are planned in the scope of supporting infrastructure for generating electric and thermal energy from renewable sources, together with energy and heat storage facilities operating for the needs of the given RES source.

5. Inspirations brought from the DeCarb project

5.1 Interregional level – partnership

Based on the assumption the issues outlined above affect many European mining regions, the DeCarb project brought together 9 partners from 9 countries to jointly exchange knowledge and experience on the transition to clean energy from the 1st June 2018 till the 31st May 2023, resulting in, among others:

- Increased knowledge and capacity of public authorities and staff of partner institutions to identify sustainable pathways to a post-carbon economy,
- Increased knowledge of planning for workforce retraining needs and land use after coal mining,

⁵ According to SRWŁ 2030.

- Promoting public dialogue to resolve conflicts and build consensus on the transition among the energy sector, social partners and citizens,
- Increased awareness of public authorities and Partners' staff of the need to plan ahead for a new energy mix (changing the share of different energy production sources).

The DeCarb project partnership was formed by the following institutions:

- Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency (Bulgaria),
- Lodzkie Region (Poland),
- ENEREA Eszak-Alfold Regional Energy Agency (Hungary),
- South-West Oltenia Regional Development Agency (Romania),
- Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy of Brandenburg (Germany),
- House of Energy (Denmark),
- Regional Association of Local Governments of Western Macedonia (Greece),
- Energy Agency of Savinjska, Saleska and Koroska (Slovenia)
- Energy Agency Extremadura (Spain).

The first phase focused on the exchange of experience between project partners as well as stakeholders meetings and public consultation. The goal was to develop the action plan. Individual actions will be implemented and monitored in the second phase.

5.2 Regional level- stakeholders

Stakeholders had an integral role in identifying the salient issues and challenges that the Lodzkie Region faces as a result of the ongoing decarbonisation and transition to a sustainable economic model. Their experience and input was extensively discussed in the bi-annual stakeholders meetings and public consultations event.

These regular meetings provided an excellent opportunity for the regional stakeholders to voice their opinions on the various DeCarb activities and on topics related to the Decarb objectives, in a bottom-up process that contributed considerably to the overall goals of the project and provided additional points of view from each region. The conclusion of these stakeholders meetings were subsequently shared with the DeCarb project partners enhancing the experience and knowledge sharing between regions.

As regards the present action plan, the discussions took place during the stakeholders meeting played a decisive role in selecting suitable actions that facilitate a just transition for the region and alleviate its adverse socio-economic impact on the local communities. In general, stakeholders have proven to be indispensable part of the DeCarb project and their participation enriched the project to a considerable level.

The following stakeholders assisted and supported regional collaboration under DeCarb project:

- Politechnika Łódzka, Wydział Inżynierii Procesowej i Ochrony Środowiska
- Gmina Burzenin
- Instytut Energetyki - Instytut Badawczy w Łodzi
ABC Energia sp. z o.o.
- W4E Energia Odnawialna Sp. z o.o.
- SOLARPROJEKT CONSTRUCTION Sp. z o.o., w Radomsku
- PGE Górnictwo i Energetyka Konwencjonalna S.A. Bełchatów

5.3 Solutions and potentials

The experience of the DeCarb project indicates that it will be crucial for the success of the Plan to ensure consistency of the activities in the field of equitable energy transformation with the Regional Programme, as well as to make efforts to spread the knowledge about the necessity of conducting activities in the field of energy transformation and its positive effects both for the environment and the local community. The staff directly involved in the DeCarb project participated in the work on the communication strategy on energy, economic and social transition for the future information campaign of the Lodzkie Region. As confirmed by the experience presented by the Partners and regional Stakeholders so far, dialogue, communication and reliable information are essential in the transformation process. The first basic stereotype that one often encounters is that of equitable transformation being equated with energy transformation. Meanwhile, energy transformation concerns only technological changes, and just transformation is about mitigating the social and economic effects of technological transformation.

In the course of the first phase of the DeCarb project, analytical activities were carried out, identifying RES development as an important undertaking for the region, with potential to be exploited. According to the projects post-consultation report, the increased use of RES in energy production allows to achieve two main decarbonisation objectives. It helps build acceptance for the use of RES as an alternative to high-carbon energy sources, and supports the development of SMEs and innovation. Balancing the energy mix helps to reduce energy costs and thus to counteract energy poverty. In the Lodzkie Region this aspect is reflected in the support for RES introduction in smaller municipalities, including poorer rural areas.

Improvement of energy efficiency is one of the specific objectives of "Energy Policy of Poland until 2040" (PEP2040). Also, the provisions of the draft Partnership Agreement for the implementation of the Cohesion Policy 2021-2027 (PCA) indicate that the priority actions in the field of energy will be: promotion of energy efficiency and energy saving, which will result in reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and improvement of air quality. In addition, the increase in energy efficiency translates into a reduction of energy demand which leads to a reduction in energy poverty.

Within the good practice guide of the DeCarb project we find examples presenting similar efforts to support energy efficiency improvements: an example from Hungary titled: "Green financing and economic greening system", or from Bulgaria, under the title: "5 Bulgarian municipalities in the project of gradual transition of households from wood and coal heating to alternative ecological heating".

Taking these issues into account, the Action Plan will focus on renewable energy sources and energy efficiency as factors for reducing emissions enabling mitigation the social impacts of the transition to low- and zero-carbon technologies. Balancing the energy mix through RES development helps to reduce energy costs, while increasing energy efficiency reduces energy demand - these factors help to reduce energy poverty. The innovation solutions will be additional asset.

The results of stakeholders meetings, consultations, thematic studies and good practices were analyzed for their use in the Regional Operational Program of the Lodzkie Voivodeship. Attention was paid to the technological, social and economic aspects related to the process of transition to a low-carbon economy. Due to the advancement of the implementation of ROP WŁ 2014-2020, adding a new range of support would involve negotiations with the European Commission, which is a lengthy process. Giving the limited time for implementation and settlement of projects, there would be a risk of losing funds.

Therefore, based on the lessons learned from the exchange of experience process in the DeCarb project, it was proposed to include specific solutions in the regional program for the 2021-2027 perspective (FEŁ2027) under Clean Energy Priority and its two specific objectives: "Promoting renewable energy sources" and "Promoting energy efficiency measures". The Action Plan also takes into account strategic intervention at the level of the "Lodzkie Region Development Strategy 2030" consisting in including Belchatow Center in the main area of support at the level of the "Lodzkie Region Development Strategy 2030" due to decarbonisation process in the Lodzkie Region.

6.Actions in detail

Action No 1	Integrate the international solutions of the DeCarb project supporting the transition towards low-carbon economy by innovative development of renewable energy sources investments through the policy instrument European Funds for Łódzkie 2027 (FEŁ2027).
1	<p>Reference to the project (background)</p> <p>The exchange of experience carried out in the project, both in analytical activities, international and local meetings with stakeholders, consultations, workshops, study visits, good practices identified in the project, provided knowledge and inspiration for initiatives promoting RES development which can be undertaken in the Lodzkie Region.</p> <p>In the course of the first phase of the project, the following analytical activities were carried out, which showed RES development as an important undertaking for the region, with potential to be exploited, stressing that "the higher the RES share, the lower the carbon intensity":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Ex-ante of the economic and social impact assessment of the region's decarbonisation", • "Identifying good practices for decarbonisation and clean energy transition", • "SWOT analysis to identify decarbonisation growth pathways in partner territories", • "Needs analysis on environmental restitution and land restoration in DeCarb regions." <p>In identifying good practices in decarbonisation and clean energy transition, examples from DeCarb project countries are presented, grouped into 6 categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Mix, • Emission mitigating factors, • Renewable energy sources,

- Energy economic instruments affecting the demand for coal and/or RES,
- RES awareness, capacity building and socio-economic management,
- Post-mining environmental management.

The following is a summary of the activities analysed by the project partners as an inspiration for RES development in the Lodzkie Region:

The first group of case studies presents two initiatives implemented in Hungary and Bulgaria. They are related to **mechanisms to support the development of the Energy Mix**. They include:

- a. The introduction of a legal requirement to appoint energy specialist positions in business entities, which facilitates the implementation of energy efficiency, in Hungary. This applies in particular to energy-related industries,
- b. The implementation of the incentive stimulates the implementation of photovoltaic systems on roofs and facades, using a feed-in tariff for the purchase of energy by distributors. The project was implemented by the German-Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and overcomes administrative and financial barriers.

The second group presents ways to achieve a **diversified energy mix and emission reduction**, significantly reducing the share of coal in power generation, by using regional energy assets. The cases concern the regions of EszakAfold (Hungary) and Extremadura (Spain). The proposed actions are:

- a. The diversification of the energy mix in the Eszak-Afold region is due to the use of biomass and waste incineration (60% of heat consumption) and the use of geothermal resources. Other sources include combined heat and power (95 MW, based on biogas, hydro, biomass and wind) and diversified renewables with an installed capacity of 25 MW. The region achieved the 11% RES target in 2016.
- b. The region of Extremadura (Spain) covers its local electricity demand entirely from renewable energy sources. The total energy production (produced from solar energy, hydroelectricity and wind power) is 22.5% from RES, of which 60% is from concentrated solar power and photovoltaics. 100% of household demand is covered by these energy sources.

The section on **Renewable Energy Sources (RES)** presents case studies of a different nature that include, among others:

- a. Investment in large-scale photovoltaic installations - example a 200 MW solar farm on a 400 ha site in Kozani (Greece), accounting for 10% of the region's energy generation. It is the largest project of this kind in the region,
- b. inclusion of third parties and energy performance contracting in the process of retrofitting or building works,

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. open tenders to select partners for the construction, operation and maintenance of biomass thermal power plants in Western Macedonia (Greece), d. modernisation of energy networks to improve conditions for RES installations, and the implementation of net metering and friendly tariffs to allow distributed prosumption of energy in Greece, e. a strategy to phase out nuclear energy and achieve 100% RES-based energy in the region of Extremadura, the action concerns the coordination between the gradual implementation of RES and the closure of the nuclear power plant in order to avoid problems with power supply stability and to minimise the social costs. <p>The chapter on economic instruments describes the experience of the project partners' countries with economic incentives and financing schemes to support the development of RES sources and energy infrastructure and to discourage the use of coal. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Use of the ETS reduction mechanism to support RES deployment in Denmark, b. Using the profits from emissions trading to finance research and implementation of RES systems and linking support to social assistance - Green Funding System in Hungary, c. increasing the cost of emission permits for the use of carbon-intensive fuels (Denmark), d. Use of private repayable funds (Energy Efficiency and RES Fund - EERSF) in Bulgaria, e. Support for individual investors in micro wind power plants - use of feed-in tariffs and subsidies (Denmark).
2	Character of actions	<p>RES investments are a response to Poland's declaration of achieving at least 23% share of RES in gross final energy consumption in 2030, as well as to the main challenge resulting from the Development Strategy of the Lodzkie Region 2030, which is the low level of use of renewable energy sources. Renewable energy generation is also a response to a sustainable energy transition towards a low-carbon economy, in line with sustainable development policies.</p> <p>The Action No 1 implementation will be carried out through the monitoring and analysing the process of elaboration calls for proposals in terms of the provisions of RES indicated in the Action Plan as well as interest in them by beneficiaries. The projects will be awarded, among others, additional points during the evaluation of applications. Moreover, calls for proposals and regulations will include provisions referring directly to innovative technologies replacing fossil-fuels with RES, introduce of additional points to award application for sustainable energy management. At this moment there is estimation following steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitoring the provisions of RES investments in policy documents of FEŁ2027

		<p>2. Monitoring the provisions and specific criteria in calls of proposal's documents of FEŁ2027,</p> <p>3. Monitoring the announcements of calls for proposals in terms of the provisions indicated in the Action Plan,</p> <p>4. Analysing of data: numbers of submitted projects, numbers of projects selected successfully and funded, funding amounts, reasons for rejections.</p> <p>In particular, attention will be paid on large –scale initiatives and smaller for the following types of undertakings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● investements for infrastructure for the production of electricity from renewable energy sources, ● investements for energy storage facilities operating to meet the needs of a given RES source, ● investements for infrastructure for the production of thermal energy from renewable sources, ● investements for heat storage facilities operating to meet the needs of a given RES source. <p>Moreover, non-investment activities related to raising environmental awareness (webinars, meetings, picnics, etc.), communication activities regarding the Just Transition Plan are planned.</p>
3	Players involved	Organisational units of the Marshal's Office of the Lodzkie Region (UMWŁ), beneficiaries of calls for proposals announced by UMWŁ under FEŁ 2027, regional self-governments, SMEs in the region, NGOs, entities performing the tasks of self-governments.
4	Time frame	2022-2023
5	Costs	Appr. 890 thousand Euro (the cost relates to the foreseen investements)
6	Funding sources	The European Regional Development Fund under the Programme European Funds for Łódzkie 2027 (FEŁ 2027).
Action No 2		Integrate the international solutions of the DeCarb project supporting the promotion of Energy Efficiency Measures into the policy instrument European Funds for Łódzkie 2027 (FEŁ2027).

1	Reference to the project (background)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the course of the first phase of the project, the following analytical activities have been carried out, which point to energy efficiency improvement as one of the paths for the region to follow in order to reduce emissions, improve air quality, prevent energy poverty: • "Ex-ante of the economic and social impact assessment of the region's decarbonisation", • "Identifying good practices for decarbonisation and clean energy transition", • "SWOT analysis to identify decarbonisation growth pathways in partner territories". <p>Within the identification of good practices, we find examples that represent similar efforts to support energy efficiency improvements:</p> <p><u>Hungary</u>: "Green financing and economic greening system": the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change introduces international quota trading, that is, the sale and purchase of greenhouse gas emission allowances. Hungary has a significant surplus of quotas, which has resulted in the creation of programmes that can finance research and development and demonstration projects for climate change adaptation, the development of renewable energy and the promotion of energy efficiency, the transition to low-carbon transport and public transport. In this respect, they focus, among other things, on increasing the use of renewable energy sources, constructing low-energy buildings, investments to improve the efficiency of district heating systems, modernising lighting and public lighting systems, as well as programmes to subsidise the replacement of white goods.</p> <p><u>Bulgaria</u>: "Bulgarian municipalities cooperate to improve air quality" ("5 Bulgarian municipalities in a project for gradual transition of households from wood and coal heating to alternative ecological heating").</p> <p>The municipality of Stara Zagora has launched a project under the EU LIFE 2014-2020 programme. It aims to reduce fine particulate emissions from domestic heating over a period of 6 years by purchasing environmentally friendly heating equipment for more than 1,000 households in Stara Zagora, selected according to specific criteria. At the end of December 2018, an agreement was signed with the coordinating beneficiary Sofia Municipality and the associated beneficiaries Stara Zagora, Burgas, Ruse, Montana and Veliko Tarnovo. The project lasts 6 years and consists of 3 phases. In the first phase, the status quo is being investigated through the installation of stationary measurement stations. Data from the stationary stations will be used to monitor the impact of the project, evaluate its results and also to develop an early warning system for expected pollution.</p> <p>The second phase involves developing and testing a scheme to switch from polluting fuels to clean alternative forms of heating for 80 households in the city.</p> <p>The last phase foresees the actual application of alternative forms of heating - boilers, pellet cookers, gasification for 1000 households in Stara Zagora. The scheme of replacing combustion heating in households with alternative, more</p>
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		environmentally friendly heating will be applied with benefit in neighbourhoods where pollution reduction corresponds to the desire for change.
2	Character of actions	<p>In the area of energy efficiency, the main challenges for the Łódzkie Region are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● very poor air quality, especially in cities, ● insufficient accessibility to the district heating network, ● reducing energy production from conventional sources, ● increasing the use of RES, ● improving the energy efficiency of buildings, ● preventing energy poverty. <p>In order to improve air quality in the region and energy efficiency, it is necessary to take measures to reduce energy demand.</p> <p>Aiming to increase the energy efficiency of public and residential buildings (with an audit), it should also aim to reduce energy poverty, towards comprehensive solutions - installing RES equipment and promoting energy efficiency.</p> <p>The Action No 2 implementation will be carried out through the analysis of announced calls for proposals in terms of the provisions indicated in the Action Plan as well as interest in them by beneficiaries. At this moment we estimate following steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitoring the provisions of Energy Efficiency investments in policy documents of FEŁ2027 2. Monitoring the provisions and specific criteria in calls of proposal's documents of FEŁ2027, 3. Monitoring the announcements of calls for proposals in terms of the provisions indicated in the Action Plan, 4. Analysing of data: numbers of submitted projects, numbers of projects selected successfully and funded, funding amounts, reasons for rejections. <p>In particular, support is planned for the following types of undertakings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● investments in thermo-modernisation projects for public buildings, ● investments in thermo-modernisation projects in multi-family residential buildings, ● investments in district heating networks or connections to district heating networks, ● investment in public lighting using energy-efficient and environmentally-friendly equipment, ● investments in new passive public buildings.

		Moreover, non-investment activities related to raising environmental awareness (webinars, meetings, picnics, etc.), communication activities regarding the Fair Transformation Plan are planned.
3	Players involved	Organisational units of the Marshal's Office of the Lodzkie Region (UMWŁ), beneficiaries of calls for proposals announced by UMWŁ under FEŁ 2027, regional self-governments, SMEs in the region, NGOs, entities performing the tasks of self-governments.
4	Time frame	2022-2023
5	Costs	Approximately 896 thousand Euro (the cost relates to the foreseen investments)
6	Funding sources	The European Regional Development Fund under the Programme European Funds for Łódzkie 2027 (FEŁ 2027).
Action No 3		Defining the Belchatow Center as one of the biggest development challenges at the level of Lodzkie Region Development Strategy 2030. Introduction of the concept of Mining and Energy Transformation Area to the Lodzkie Region Development Strategy 2030.
Reference to the project (background)	DeCarb project supports the clean energy transition of coal-intensive regions thanks to the exchange of experiences , acquiring knowledge about diverse process transition, identifying strategies of mitigation the impact of decarbonisation. The Lodzkie Regions recognised the differences between partners in the advancement of decarbonisation process regarding activities like introducing 100 % RES by Spain or other achievements like introducing specific provision in document enabling decarbonisation. These was an important source of inspiration for introduction to the Lodzkie Region Development Strategy 2030 the concept of Belchatow Center as well as elaborating it as one of the biggest development challenges at the level of SRWŁ2030	
Character of actions	<p>The Lodzkie Region Development Strategy 2030 is a document that involved a number of institutions in its creation. The main author of the document is the Office for Spatial Planning of the Lodzkie Region in Łódź - a budgetary unit of the Lodzkie Region Self-government. The adoption of the Strategy was preceded by a series of social consultations involving, among others, local government units, entrepreneurs, representatives of the world of science, and non-governmental organizations.</p> <p>The Lodzkie Region Development Strategy 2030 is the most important document of the region self-government defining the vision and objectives of the regional policy in the economic, social and spatial aspects as well as the actions necessary to achieve them. The strategy was approved by the Self-Government of the Lodzkie Region on May 6, 2021.</p>	

	<p>The Belchatow Center as one of the biggest development challenges at the level of SRWŁ2030 as well as introduction the concept of Mining and Energy Transformation Area. The strategy includes specific characteristic of that area, outlining the possible threats, problems, challenges and chances.</p> <p>The details could be find under link: „The Lodzkie Region Development Strategy 2030”: http://strategia.lodzkie.pl/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/SRWL-2030_6.05.2021_uchwalona.pdf.</p>
<p>Players involved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lodzkie Region Spatial Planning Office in Łódź <p>A budgetary unit of the Lodzkie Region Self-Government responsible for, among other things, the elaboration of the region's development strategy plans, their updates, and the preparation of reports on the achievement of regional policy objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Regional Policy Department of the Marshal's Office of the Lodzkie Region <p>The tasks of the Regional Policy Department include issues related to, among others, the coordination of programming and monitoring of regional development, coordination of work on regional operational programmes (ROP LR 2007-2013, ROP LR 2014-2020 and for the financial perspective 2021-2027), including tasks related to planning, programming, monitoring, coordination of the management and control system, evaluation, running information points, certification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lodzkie Region Board <p>The executive body of the Lodzkie Region. Its tasks include, among others, preparation of drafts of the region's development strategy, spatial development plan and regional programs, as well as their implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Lodz <p>The external expert - professor of the University of Lodz was also involved in the substantive preparation of the Strategy.</p>
<p>Time frame</p>	<p>The action was carried out at the end of the first phase of the project. "Lodzkie Region Development Strategy 2030" was approved on May 6, 2021.</p>
<p>Costs</p>	<p>9 400 euro net - cost of expert advisory services in preparation of the Strategy</p> <p>20 118 euro net - ex-ante evaluation of "Lodzkie Region Development Strategy 2030"</p>
<p>Funding sources</p>	<p>European Social Fund under Technical Assistance of the Regional Operational Programme of Lodzkie Region 2014-2020</p>