



Bridging Organizations and marginalized
communities for Local Sustainability
Transitions in EuRope

3rd BOLSTER regional policy dialogue

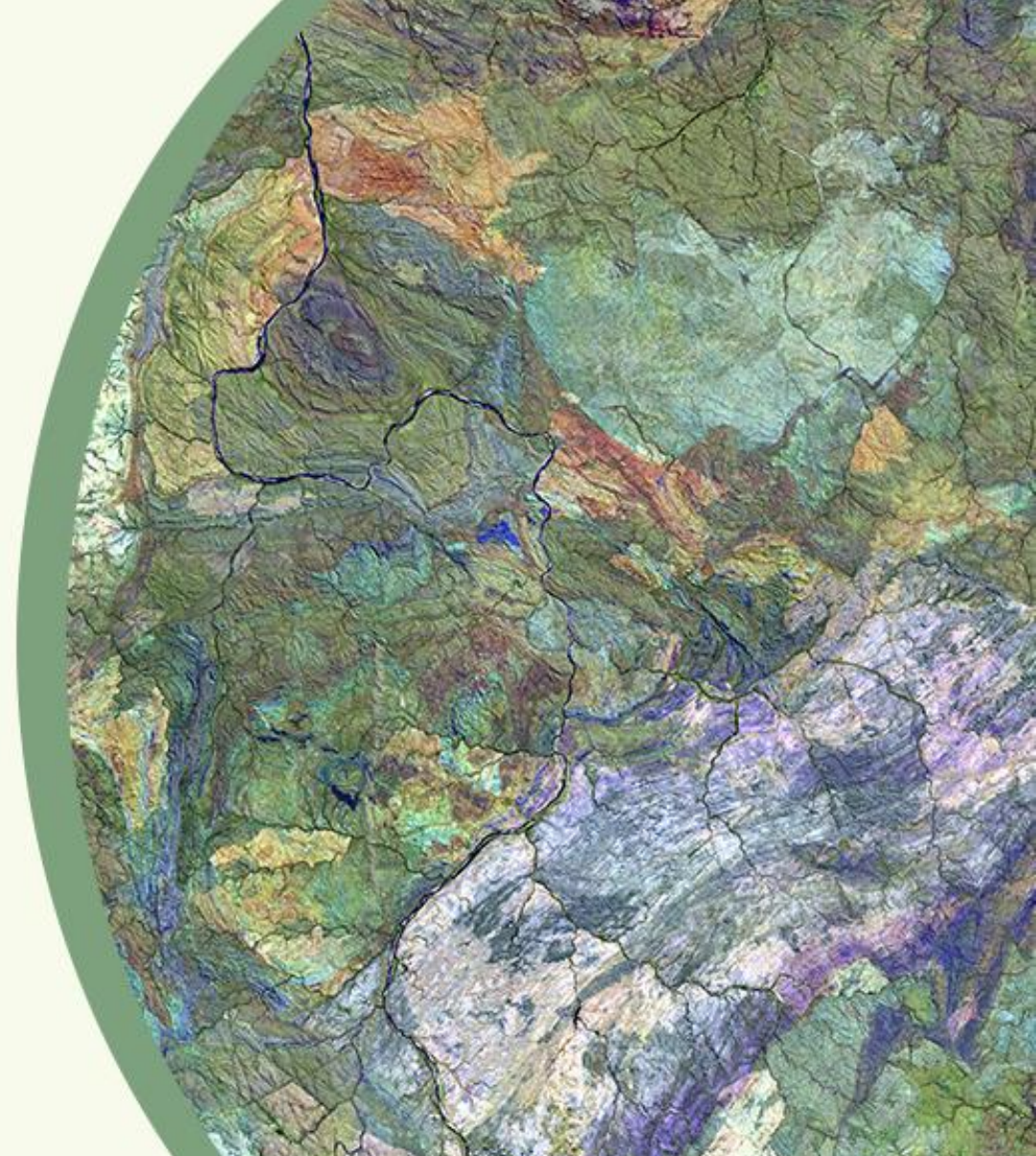
Youth and Just Transition – between
disengagement and active participation



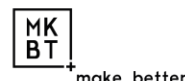
15th March 2024 - 10:30 - 13:00 CEST



Online



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**Where are you joining us from (city/region)? /
Woher kommen Sie zu uns (Stadt/Region)?**

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

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How familiar are you with the topic of Just Transition in the EU? / Wie vertraut sind Sie mit dem Thema "Just Transition" in der EU?

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

Introduction on the BOLSTER project and Presentation on The Role of youth in the regional Just Transition in Halle (DE):

- ❖ **Dr. Michiel Stapper** – Department of Public Law & Governance, University of Tilburg (The Netherlands)
- ❖ **Dr. Ammalia Podlaszewska**, Chairwoman at Culture Goes Europe Erfurt e.V. (Germany)

BOLSTER

BRIDGING ORGANIZATIONS AND
MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES FOR LOCAL
SUSTAINABILITY TRANSITIONS IN EUROPE

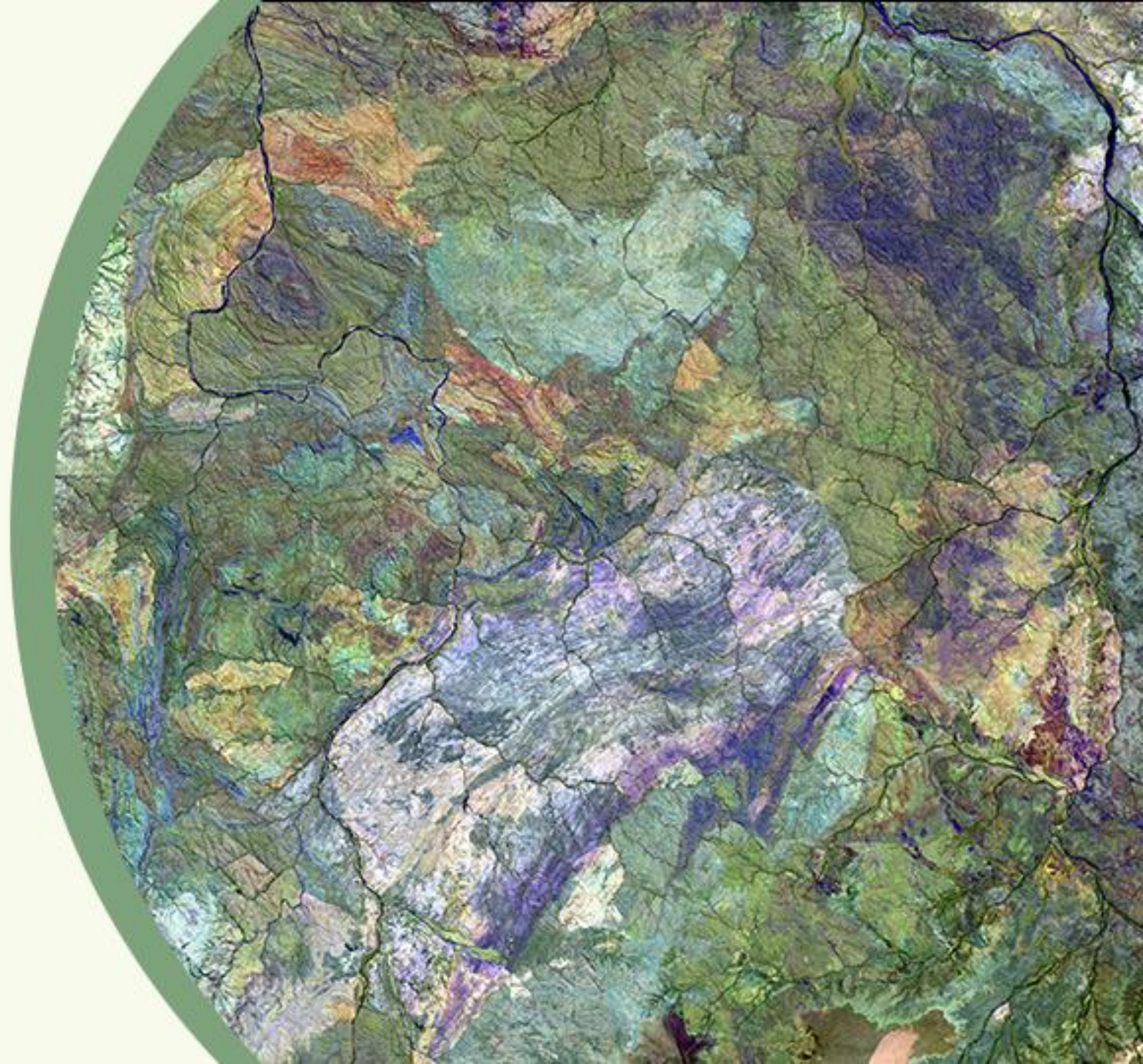
Michiel Stapper

Tilburg University

07/09/2022



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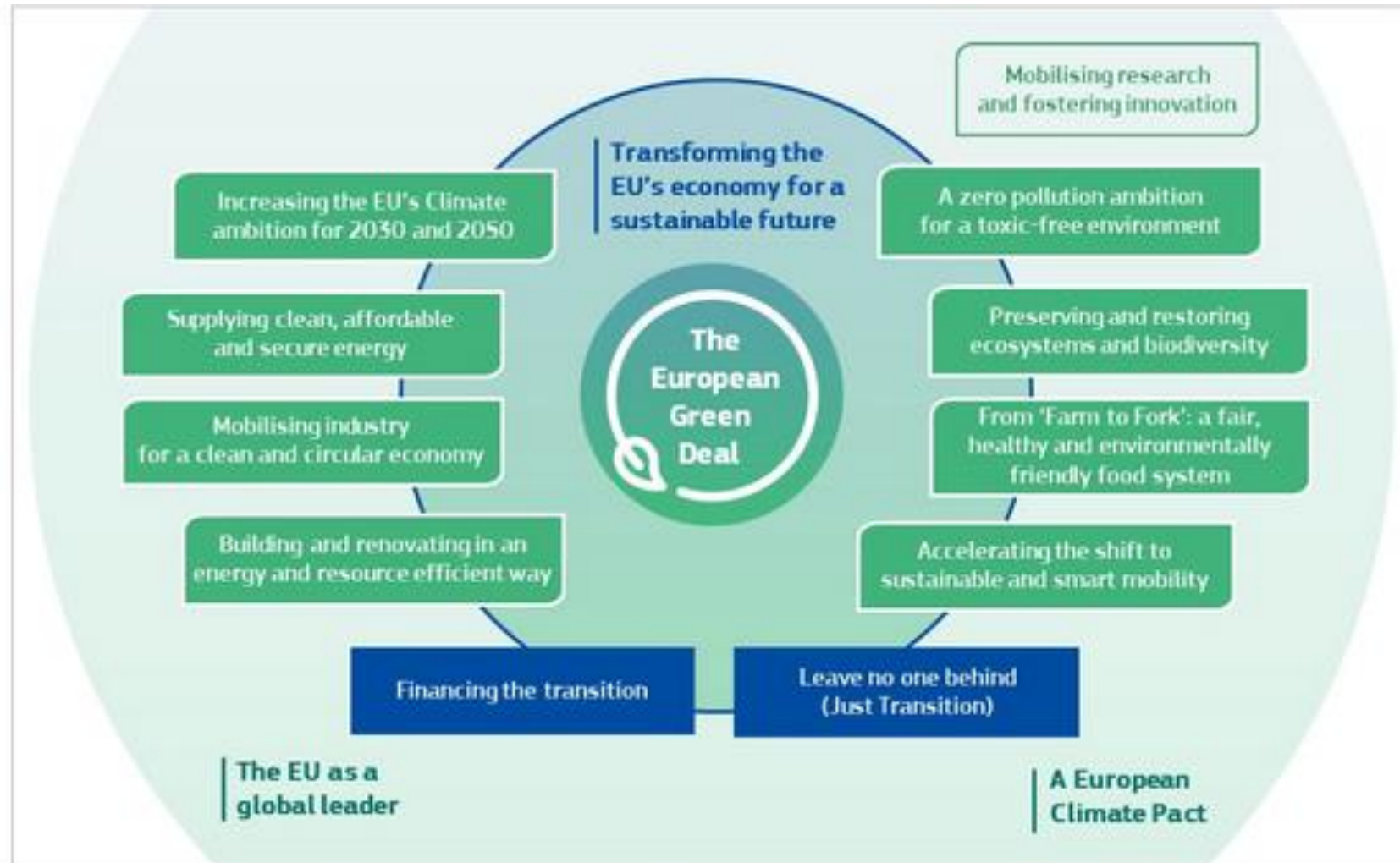
01 – European Green Deal

02 – Overview WPs

03 – Case studies

04 – Main objectives first year

European Green Deal



European Green Deal

EU commissioner on climate action: 'Leave no one behind'

Frans Timmerman, the European commissioner for climate action, is urging that all nations "leave no one behind" and that changes are as fair as possible as the world moves toward a greener economy to address the climate crisis

By VICTORIA MILKO AP Science Writer
19 October 2021, 07:30 • 4 min read

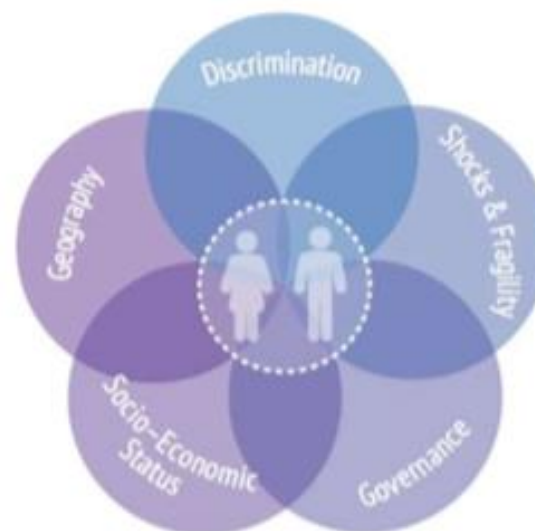


The Associated Press
Executive Vice President of Europea

Who is being left behind and why: Five key factors

People get left behind when they lack the choices and opportunities to participate in and benefit from development progress. All persons living in extreme poverty can thus be considered 'left behind', as can those who endure disadvantages or deprivations that limit their choices and opportunities relative to others in society.

This paper asserts that to understand who is being left behind and why, and



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Introduction

Financing

How can EU countries access?

Who will benefit?

Introduction

The Just Transition Mechanism (JTM) is a key tool to ensure that the transition towards a climate-neutral economy happens in a fair way, leaving no one behind. It provides targeted support to help mobilise around €55 billion over the period 2021-2027 in the most affected regions, to alleviate the socio-economic impact of the transition.



"We must show solidarity with the most affected regions in Europe, such as coal mining regions and others, to make sure the Green Deal gets everyone's full support and has a chance to become a reality."

Frans Timmermans, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission

European Green Deal

The European Green Deal

Just Transition Mechanism

40+ regions that have a high concentration of carbon intensive industries

People and citizens most vulnerable to the transition:

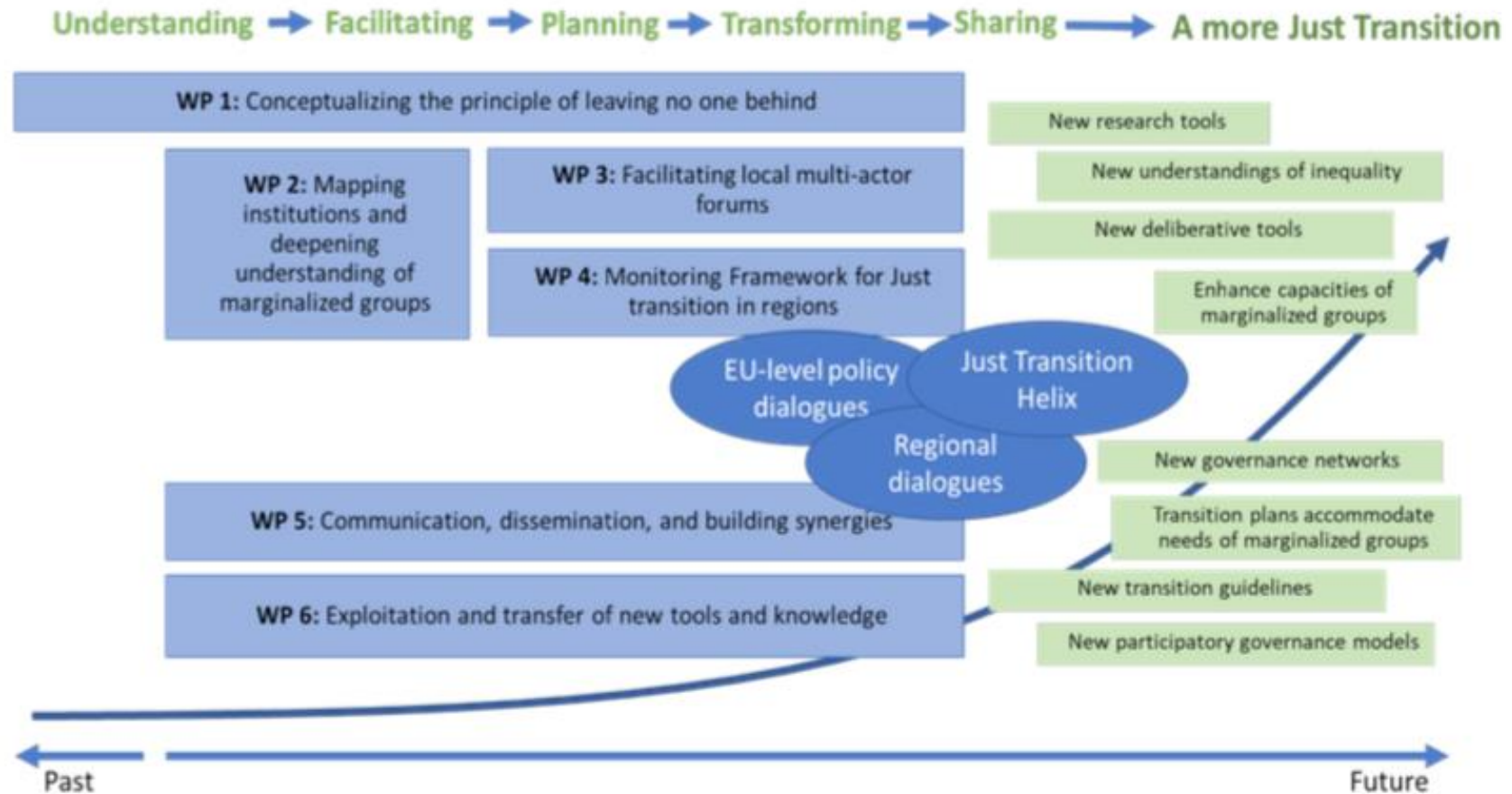
- facilitating employment opportunities in new sectors and those in transition
- offering re-skilling opportunities
- improving energy-efficient housing
- investing to fight energy poverty
- facilitating access to clean, affordable and secure energy

Main goal of BOLSTER

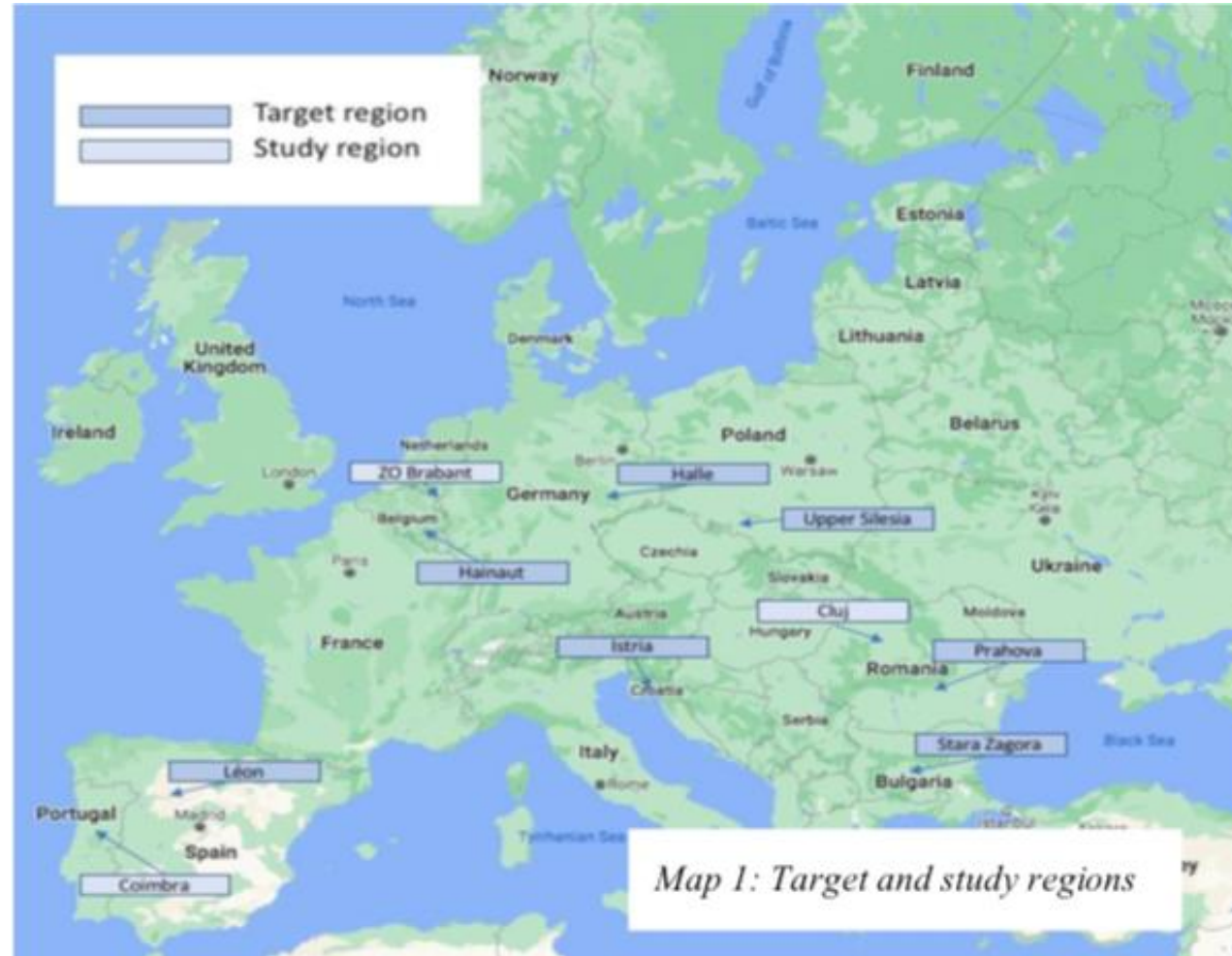
To understand how marginalized communities are affected by EGD-related policies and whether involving them in decision-making processes increases the support for transition plans.

Case-studies

Figure 1: Overview of the BOLSTER project setup and its contributions to research and societal ambitions



Case-studies



Main objectives first year

Contextualize TJTPs WP1, 2 and 4

- Desk research **M1-3**
- Interviews with ca. 15 actors involved in policy networks related to the TJTPs **M6-M9**

Capacity building and local just transition alliances WP2 and 3

- Select a focal point in the region **M6**
- Select three organizations that represent marginalized communities to cooperate with **M6**
- Form local just transition alliances **M9**
- Start capacity building program **M10-12**
- Start design multi-actor-fora (MAF) **M10**

Understanding marginalized communities WP2

- Go-a-longs and mind-mapping **M10-13**

Thank you!



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Bridging Organizations and
marginalized communities for Local
Sustainability Transitions in EuRope

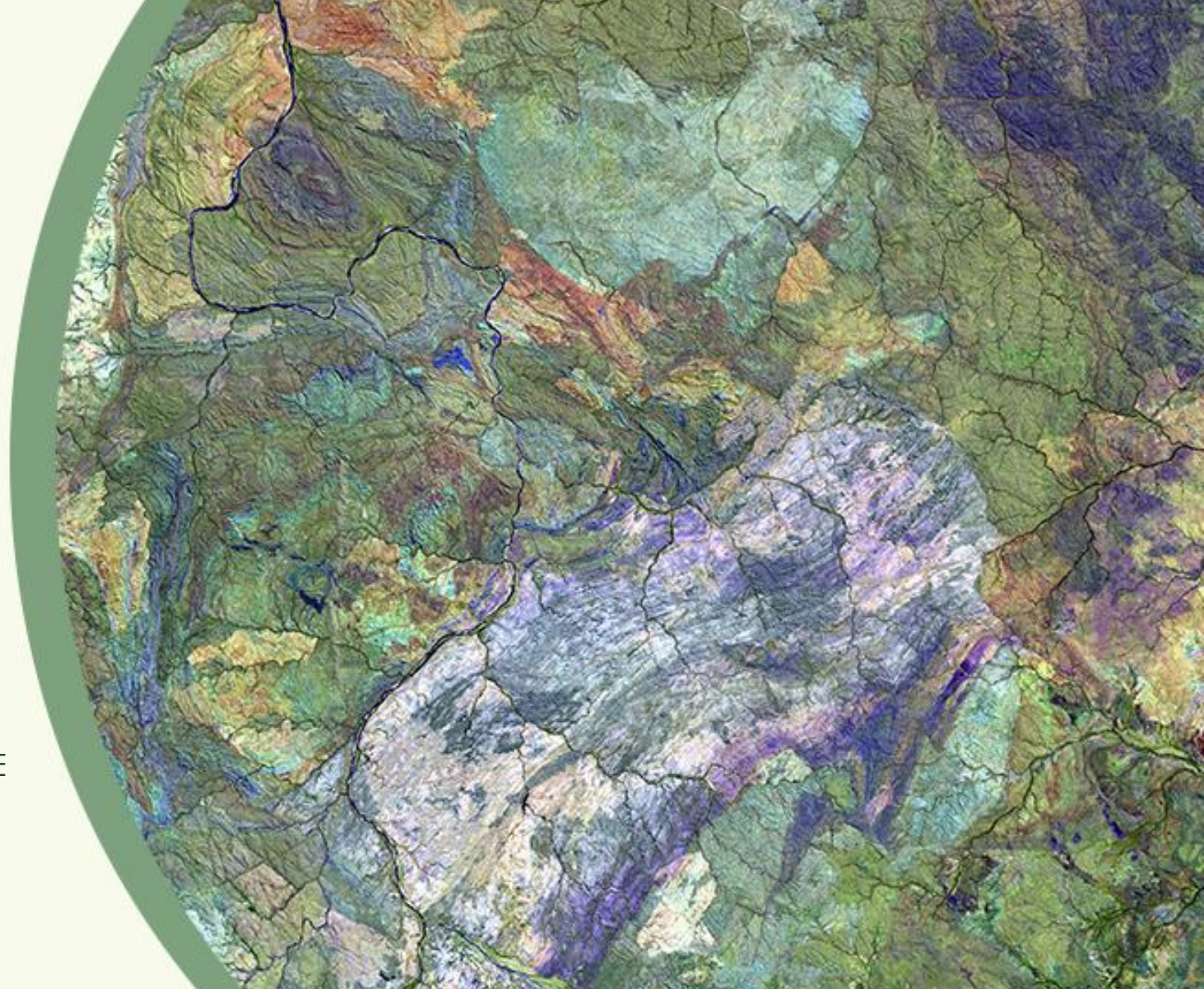
The Role of Youth in the Regional Just Transition in Halle (Saxony- Anhalt) Germany

BOLSTER Research on Youth

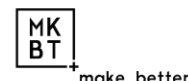
Dr. Ammalia Podlaszewska- Culture Goes Europe CGE
e.V

Podlaszewska@cge-erfurt.org

15//03/2024



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1. Overview of JTP in Saxony- Anhalt
2. Regional Research and Method
3. Regional “working group” and Social Participation
4. What’s on the ground level ?

Overview of JTP in Saxony- Anhalt

1.1 The central German mining area in Saxony-Anhalt

- Four districts + city of Halle
- Activities in the metropolitan region of Central Germany (especially with Saxony)



Overview of JTP in Saxony- Anhalt

1.2 Social Situation

- **Demografie**
 - Development from 2018 to 2040
 - Big Cities ←--→ Landkreise
- **Societal Challenges**
 - Increased right-wing extremism in districts of the district
 - Partly low collective agreements, low wages

Landkreis/kreisfreie Stadt	Gesamtbevölkerung				
	1990	2018	2040	Entwicklung 1990–2018 (in %)	Entwicklung 2018–2040 (in %)
Leipzig, Stadt	557.341	587.857	685.400	5,50 %	16,60 %
Leipzig, LK	280.546	257.763	247.800	-8,10 %	-3,90 %
Nordsachsen, LK	236.106	197.673	189.300	-16,30 %	-4,20 %
Halle, Stadt	310.234	239.257	241.500	-22,90 %	0,90 %
Anhalt-Bitterfeld, LK	228.920	159.854	129.300	-30,20 %	-19,10 %
Burgenlandkreis, LK	244.426	180.190	143.600	-26,30 %	-20,30 %
Mansfeld-Südharz, LK	197.600	136.249	101.200	-31,00 %	-25,70 %
Saalekreis, LK	208.644	184.582	151.700	-11,50 %	-17,80 %
Altenburger Land, LK	129.086	90.118	70.800	-30,20 %	-21,40 %
IRMD	2.392.903	2.033.543	1.960.500	-15,00 %	-3,60 %
Deutschland	79.753.227	83.019.213	82.177.000	4,10 %	-1,00 %

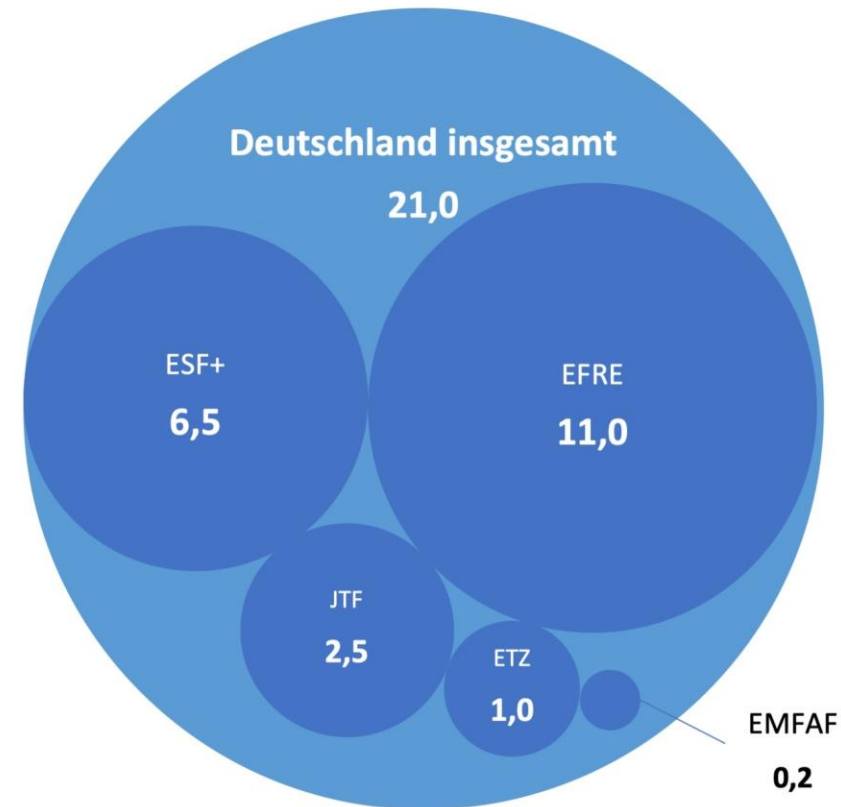
Tabelle 1: Bevölkerungsentwicklung in der IRMD (Referenzszenario); Quellen: Statistische Landesämter Sachsen, Sachsen-Anhalt und Thüringen; Regionaldatenbank Deutschland; Statistisches Bundesamt; REGINA-Modell, basierend auf Kreisprognosen der Statistischen Landesämter Sachsen, Sachsen-Anhalt und Thüringen und den Bundesländerprognosen des Statistischen Bundesamtes

Overview of JTP in Saxony- Anhalt

1.3 JTF Funding

- Germany receive around 2.5 billion euros in the funding period 2021-2027 (Brandenburg, North Rhine-Westphalia, Saxony and Saxony-Anhalt).
- The funding is intended to help restructure the economy, secure employment opportunities as well as training and further education for the workforce and a means to overcome the ecological challenges in the region.

Aufteilung der Fördermittel in Deutschland in Mrd. Euro für die Förderperiode 2021-2027

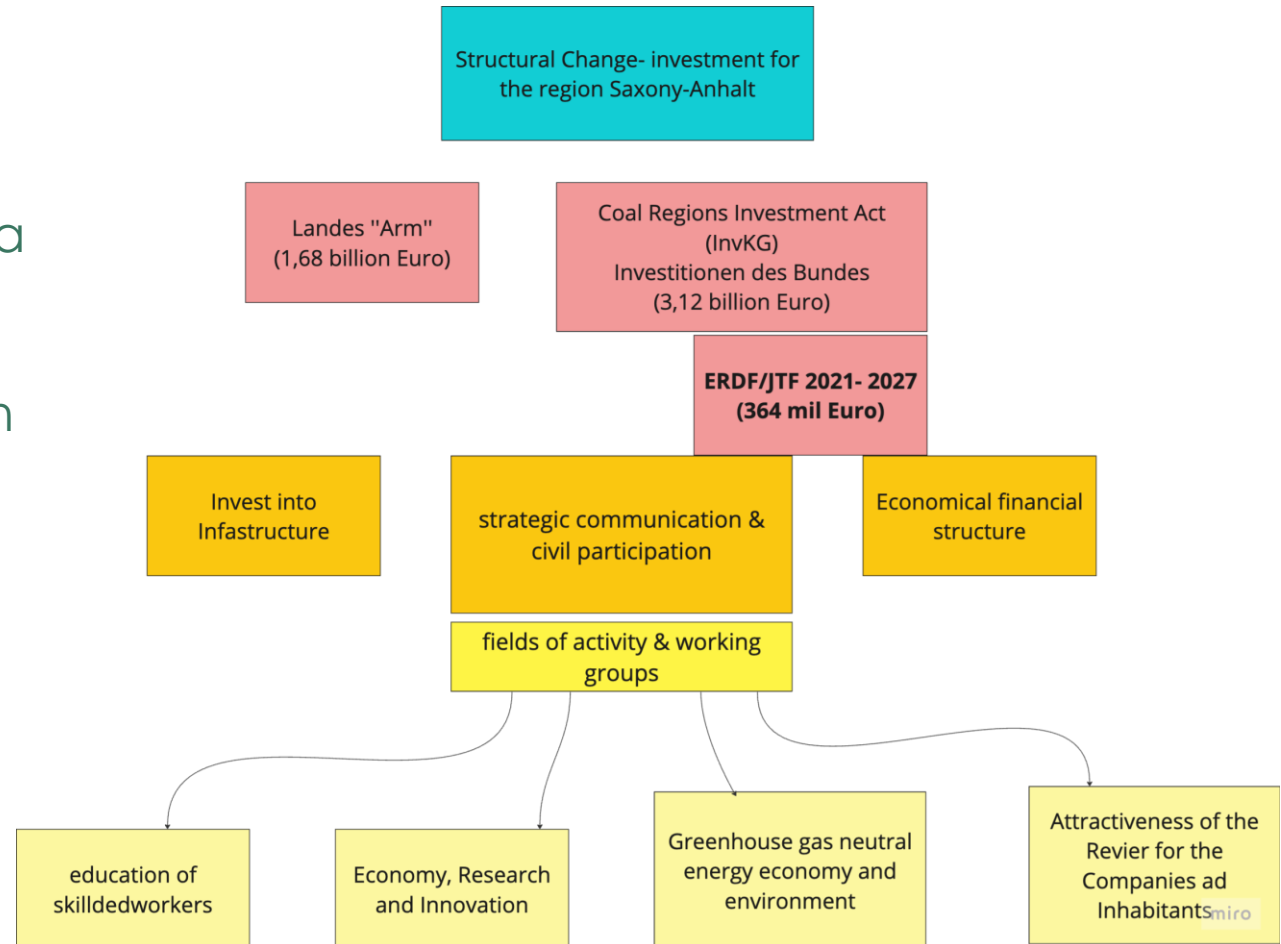


Quelle: Europäische Kommission, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz

Overview of JTP in Saxony- Anhalt

1.3 JTF Funding

The state of Saxony-Anhalt is pursuing a cross-fund strategy for the 2021-2027 funding period, like in earlier periods, in which the ERDF, the JTF, the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) and the European Agricultural Funds for Rural Development (EAFRD) are designed and implemented together.



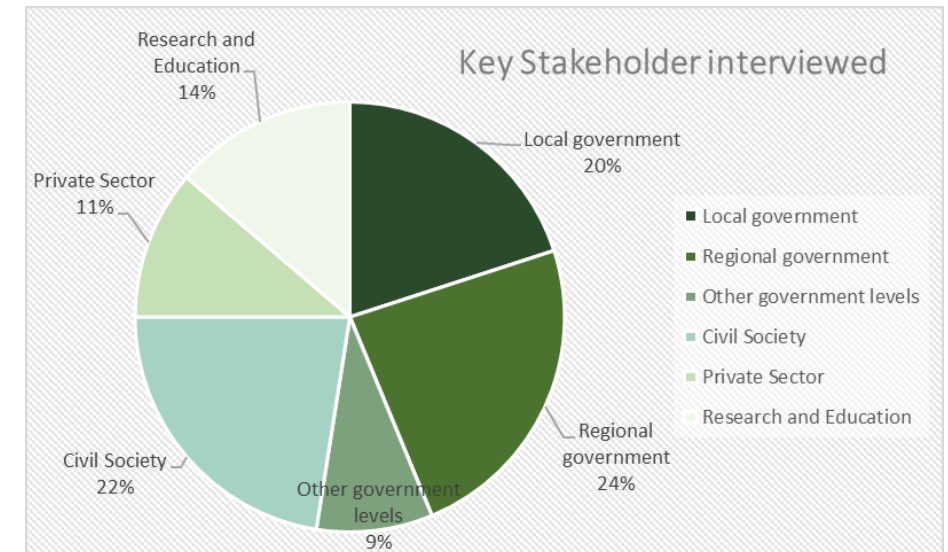
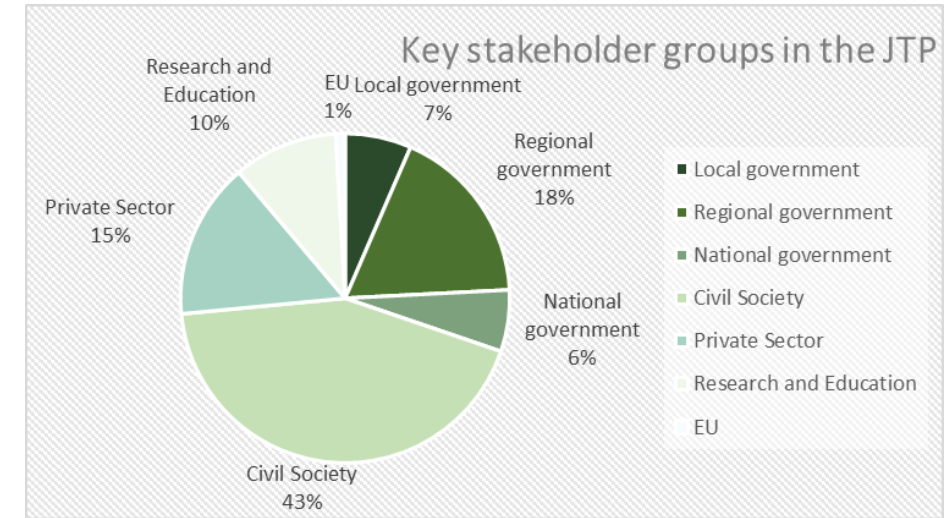
2. Regional Research and Method

Regional Research and Method

2.1 Key Stakeholders

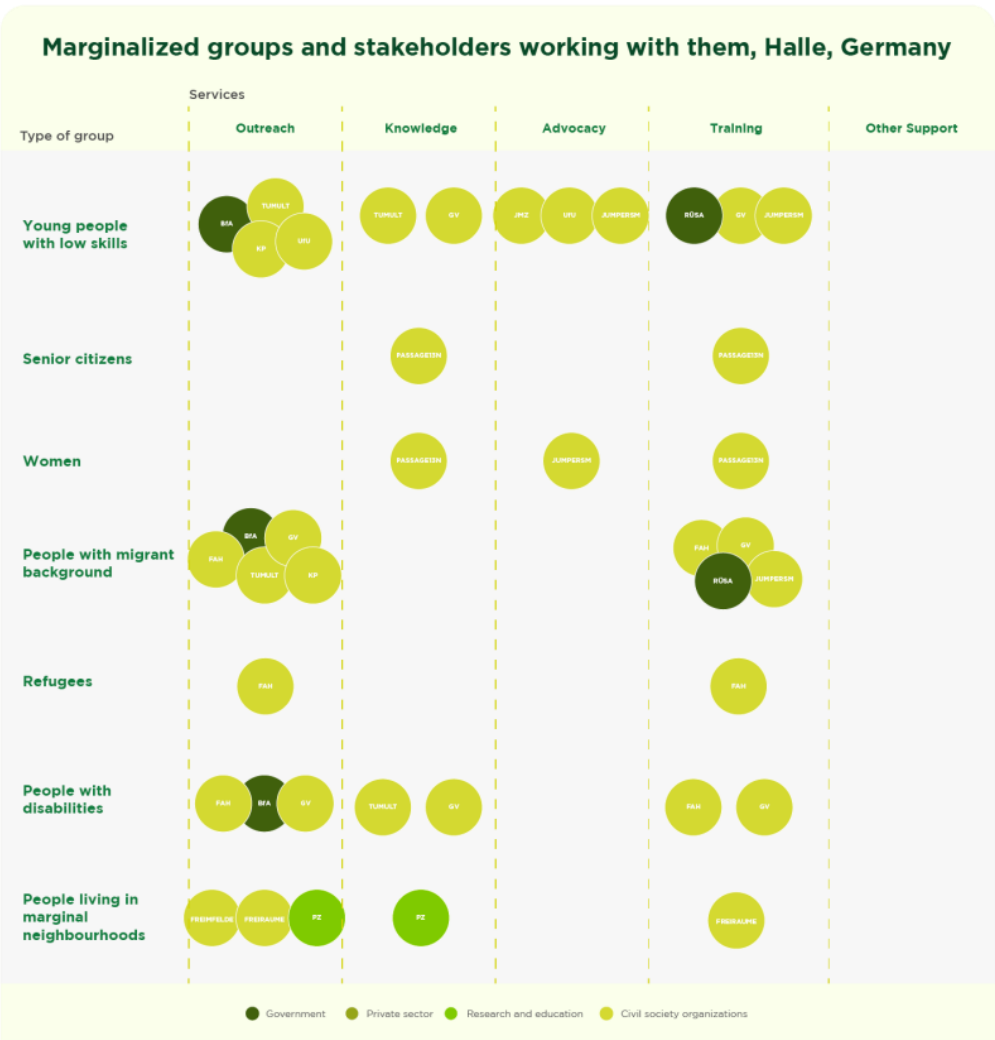
institutional mapping exercise will be undertaken to provide:

- An overview of just transition governance structures in each region that present (diagrammatically) the governance of the just transition processes in the target regions :
 - The key stakeholders
 - Decision-making processes
 - Institutions (formal and informal rules of interaction and engagement)
 - The possibilities of representatives from marginal communities to engage with and influence them
- The maps will include NGOs and other organizations representing marginal and underrepresented communities and groups



Regional Research and Method

2.2 Marginalized Community Mapping



Regional Research and Method

2.3 Understanding the marginalized

Consistency across the seven study regions in terms of data collection was ensured through the provision of:

- **A generic interview guide** tested with researchers from across the study regions during the project kick-off meeting in September 2022 and adapted in October 2023; the guide includes a set of generic questions and examples of the type of information researchers should seek to obtain and
- **Photo voice method instructions** tested with researchers and community representatives from the different regions during the capacity building workshop organized in the framework of WP3 in July 2023 and adapted for field use in October 2023.

Table 1: Marginalized communities included in the study from across the different regions.

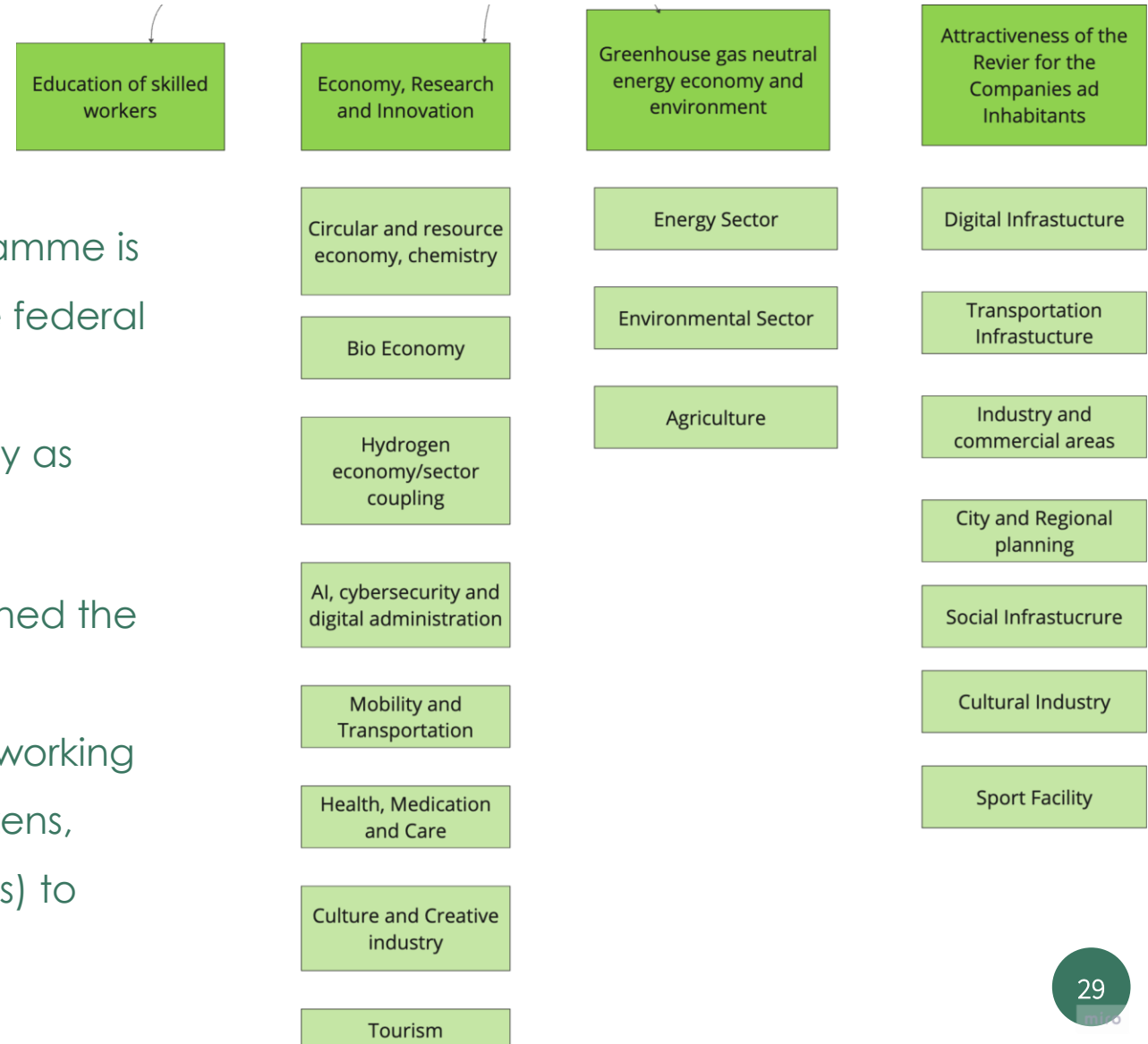
Region	Women	Youth	Post-industrial area	Social welfare	Roma	Immigrant / refugees	Children	Elderly	Other - health, violence
Hainaut, BE	●	●	●	●		●		●	●
Saxony-Anhalt, GER	●	●	●			●			
Istria, HR	●	●	●					●	
Leon, ES	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●
Prahova, RO	●	●	●	●	●				
Silesia, PL	●	●	●	●					●
Stara Zagora, BG	●	●		●	●			●	●

Note: Bigger circle size indicates stronger representation in study groups

3. Regional “working group” and Social Participation

3.1 Regional "Working Group"

- The implementing Structural Development Programme is a result of recommendations by the board of the federal and state governments as well as different state strategies such as the regional innovation strategy as "Working Groups"
- The governmental Structural Change Unit convened the consortium "Social Participation", composed of representatives of organised civil society groups working with different stakeholders (e.g. youth, senior citizens, migrants, people with disabilities and impairments) to discuss citizen participation in the just transition.



3.2 Planathon „Jugend gestaltet Strukturwandel“

- The Planathon took place from November 12th to 14th, 2021 in Halle (Saale) and is based on a completely newly developed participation format that contains elements of the future workshop, the hackathon and the planning cell.
- For three days, young people from all over Germany collected ideas about the funding areas, developed concrete project outlines and discussed with representatives from the departments.
- A total of around 600 ideas and a large number of concrete project outlines were developed by the young people. These project outlines were subsequently sharpened and developed by a youth editorial team and are the core of this youth report.



**Jugendstrategie
der Bundesregierung**

Nationaler Aktionsplan für
Kinder- und Jugendbeteiligung

3.2 Planathon „Jugend gestaltet Strukturwandel“



”

(1) Die Finanzhilfen nach Artikel 104b des Grundgesetzes werden den Ländern trägerneutral für Investitionen zur Verbesserung der wirtschaftlichen Infrastruktur insbesondere in folgenden Bereichen gewährt:

1. Wirtschaftsnahe Infrastruktur
2. Verkehr
3. Öffentliche Fürsorge
4. Städtebau, Stadt- und Regionalentwicklung
5. Digitalisierung
6. Touristische Infrastruktur
7. Forschung, Innovation und Technologietransfer
8. Klima- und Umweltschutz
9. Naturschutz und Landschaftspflege

“

3.3 Idea Competition “Revierpionier”

PROJEKTBÜRO | STRUKTURWANDEL 🔍



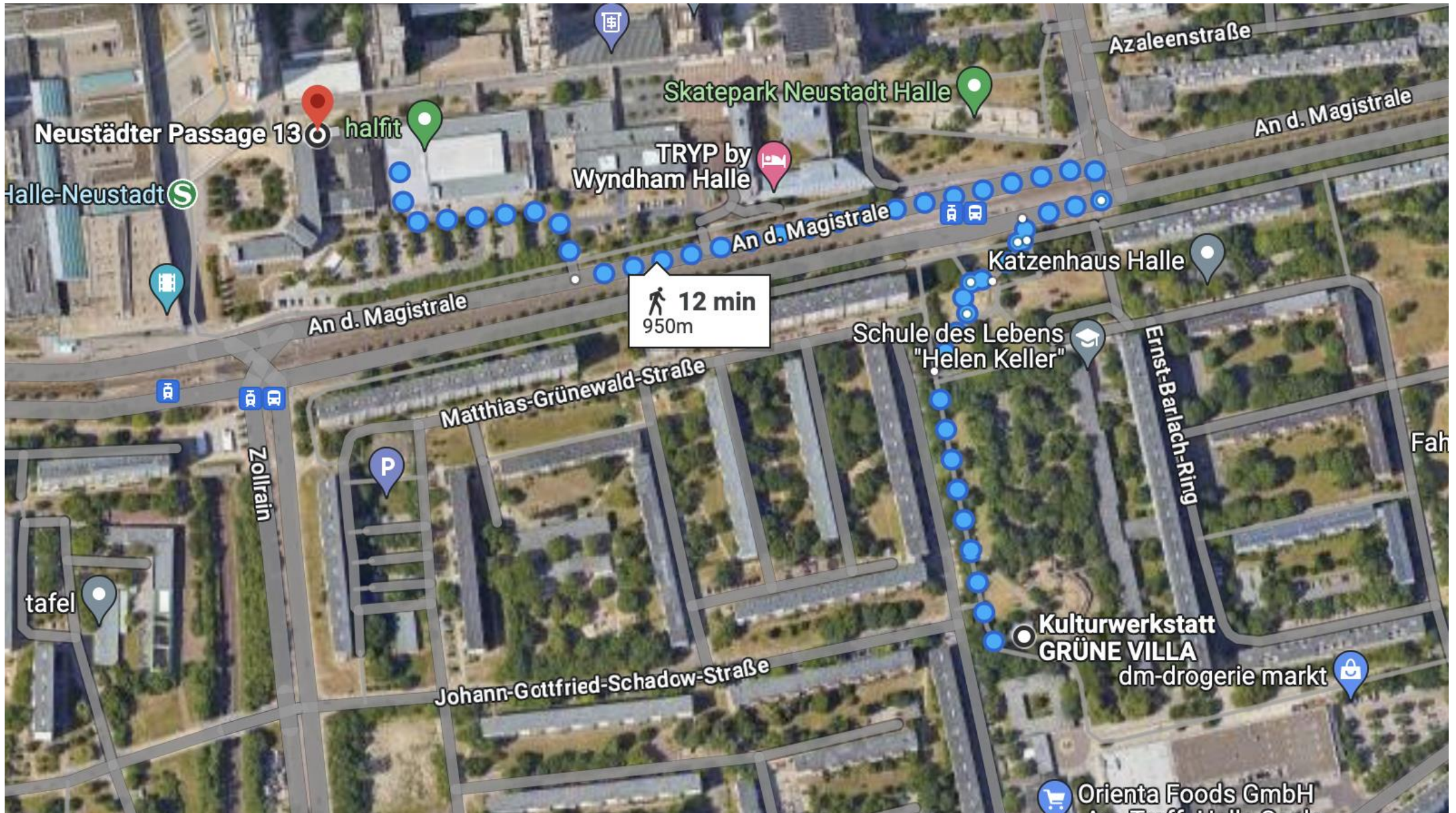
BÜRGERBETEILIGUNG

IDEENWETTBEWERB „REVIERPIONIER“

DAS MITMACHPROGRAMM
FÜR LEUTE MIT IDEEN

Jetzt informieren und mit Ihrer Idee
vom 27.01. bis 12.03.2023 bewerben

4. What's on the ground level ?





December
2023

- Launch of the call of the community project



Jan-Feb 2024

- Development of project ideas & proposal



March – May
2024

- Consultation of project ideas with MAF groups



May-Dec 2024

- Project implementation and documentation




10 November 2023

AUSTAUSCHTREFFEN FÜR JUNGE MENSCHEN UND PIZZAABEND

Wir schaffen am 10. November 2023
einen Raum, in dem Ihr Eure
Perspektiven auf Halle (Saale) teilen
und Euch über die Zukunft der Stadt
und Region austauschen könnt.

Neustädter Passage 13
Halle (Saale)

 17:00-19:00



The context

- Highly engaged young people of 14-18 years old, taking over vacant building in Halle inner city
- MitMischen e.V. emerged in 2017 from a project called MitMischen by the organization
- At the beginning of 2022 they had our first rental agreement and the club's first key to our own premises. Since then, they have been renovating the house, the "Cardinal"





The context:

- "privilege" youth group being aware to climate issue as opposed to "marginalized" youth group who do not see the relevance of the issue
- social & family structure /school stigmatization
- peer pressure on climate-related issue, and parental opinion about it.

4.1 What has changed and their perception

The Findings:

- The Quality of Quantity difference of green spaces in inner Halle and Halle Neustadt (a lack of seasonal differences, destruction of trees)
- YP initiated the concept for a bicycle ring around the city, citizen voting against it and now a focus on the renovation of the house. Intergenerational conflict
- a focus on systemic problems instead of individual actions against climate change

*“Young people now have a **different willingness, perhaps also to change things.....** Yet I think that this division into “There are the elderly, and they are the problem” and “the young generation will solve it now” is also too short-sighted. Because it seems that when you look at election results, **the AfD and the FDP are disproportionately high, especially in young age groups...**”*

4.2 Perception of the Future

*“Many friends are starting to say (that they are) so desperate....I just see a huge problem that young people at 17 or 18 are already saying: Yes, I've been fighting for it for so long now that I'm desperate now and I don't want to do anything anymore.....I was at the point where I said, wow, **it's so exhausting, I'm giving up so many things in my life to then watch TV and see: Another new oil pipeline is being built**”,*

The Findings:

- dissatisfaction of many people with politics being connected to climate
- frightening facts on climate change and fearing a grim future
- rejection of measures against climate change and fear of missing out and not acting

4.3 Priorities, Vision and Strategies for the Future

*“Yes, I do believe that **you need a certain amount of material security so that you can deal with such climate issues.** Of course, there are also people who must deal with it whether they want to or not. But at least in that part of Germany, **when you're just struggling in making ends meet, then you're just not that interested,** of course.”*

Findings:

- Social Justice is seen as a condition for a just transformation: inequality impeding acceptance in the green transition.
- collaborations and small initiatives: small measures to tackle big problems and bring people together
- communication as a measure to convince people to act: communication should be adapted to the target group

4.4 What is a Just Transition for YOU(th)?

“investing in the future and the next generation through education”

“urban greenery, a locally based economy, recycling, engaging unemployed people”

“creating a people-friendly city and a sustainable economy”

“diversity”

“shifting privileges for more equality and inclusion”

Thank you!

🌐 www.bolster-horizon.eu

✉ Ammalia Podlaszewska –
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Panel discussion: challenges and best practices for an inclusive youth engagement in the green transition

- ❖ **Dr. Ammalia Podlaszewska**, Chairwoman at Culture Goes Europe Erfurt e.V. (Germany)
- ❖ **Alina Beigang**, Scientific Associate at Independent Institute for Environmental Issues (UfU) and Project Coordinator of the project RevierUpgrade. We. Now. Sustainable. (Germany)
- ❖ **Prof. Jonathan Everts**, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, (Germany)
- ❖ **Katharina Krause**, Scientific project assistant at the Federal Institute for Research on Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Development (Germany)
- ❖ **Daniele Taurino**, Board member of the European Youth Forum
- ❖ **Anna Bohuschenko** (Ukraine) International Researcher at Ecologic Institute (Berlin, Germany) and Climate Connaction fellow



Federal Institute for
Research on Building,
Urban Affairs and
Spatial Development

within the Federal Office for
Building and Regional Planning



CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN COAL TRANSITIONS

BBSR COMPETENCE CENTRE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, COTTBUS

15th March 2024

Katharina Krause

DIALOGUE AND PARTICIPATION IN STRUCTURAL CHANGE

“Raumwissen starten. Das Wissenssevent im Revier”

(Starting spatial knowledge. The knowledge event in the mining areas.)

Prominent speakers enter into dialogue with students in the coal phase-out regions



RESEARCH THROUGH FUNDING

Ideenwettbewerb: „Mitmachen, gemeinsam machen.
Wir gestalten den Strukturwandel in unseren Regionen“

*(Ideas competition: "Joining in, doing it together. We
are shaping structural change in our regions")*

→ 5 winning projects, focusing also on youth
engagement



slido



Questionnaire - Youth and Just Transition

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

Thank you!

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