

Inclusion – how can different actors participate in designing and implementing Just Transition?

The example of Germany's Coal Commission

Philipp Litz BERLIN, 06.07.2021



Background Since 1990, Germany's coal consumption was steadily – but not sufficiently - declining

Primary Energy Consumption by source, 1990 - 2020

16.000

14.000

12.000

10.000

- Oil
 Coil
 Coil
 Coil
 Cermany's economic strength was built on coal, as the country has huge resources, especially lignite is wide and cheap available.
 - → Germany has a strong corporatist political system (key feature: consensus building)

Germany is one of the **biggest economies**

- → Germany has just recently adopted new climate targets, and now wants to become climate neutral by 2045, and reach -65% compared to 1990 levels until 2030 including sectoral targets.
- → Between 1990 and 2020, the share of coal in primary energy consumption dropped from 45 to 20 percent.





Coal Commission In 2018, the German government implemented a stakeholder commission to solve the political conflict around coal







Additional measures The Commission developed a comprehensive set of measures accompanying the phase out of coal until 2038, which was mostly implemented by the government



Overview on the recommendations of the Coal Commission



Authors' figure based on Commission's final report

Just Transition One of the key features of the agreement is that it allows for a 'Just Transition' for workers in the energy sector and the mining regions



Just Transition elements of the Coal Compromise



Affected groups directly involved in the process of solution finding and decision making

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Substantial support for workers and regions



Adequate amount of time for the transition to build up alternatives

Compatibility with climate justice concepts

Authors' figure

Challenges ahead More ambitious climate targets will accelerate the coal phase out to 2030





Prognos, Öko-Institut, Wuppertal Institut (2021)

→ As reaction to the ruling of Germany's High Court, the German government adopted new climate targets (-65% by 2030, -88% by 2040 and climate neutrality by 2045).

→ To reach the -65% until 2030, a coal phase out until 2030 is inevitable.

- → It will be one of the key tasks of the new government (parliament election autumn 2021) to come up with respective measures to ensure a faster phase out of coal in line with the existing legislation.
- → Reliability vs. Flexibility

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Thank you for your attention!

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