



Embassy of the Czech Republic



WEBINAR:

SOUTH AFRICA AND EUROPEAN UNION (RSA/EU) KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE 2021 COAL REGIONS IN TRANSITION – PART ONE

12 OCTOBER 2021 – 08h45-14h15

Background and description

The CSIR in partnership with the EU and the German Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservations and Nuclear Safety (BMU) are hosting the 2021 virtual study tour and knowledge exchange for coal regions in transition. The 2019 study tours of coal regions in transition enabled RSA stakeholders to experience various coal mine/coal plant repurposing options and to develop an understanding of how nations in the European Union are addressing the just energy transition of coal regions. Stakeholders highlighted the importance of these exchanges of experiences in the evolution of the RSA Just Transition (JT) discussions. The CSIR in partnership with the EU and BMU aims to build on the 2019 experience by hosting a virtual study tour and knowledge exchange for 2021.

The event forms part of the knowledge exchange workshop that could benefit South African and European regional economies to create partnerships between all entities involved. The event will host representatives from the EU and RSA including, government departments, industry, civil society, and labour. In this first part of the exchange, the focus will be on industry perspectives and union and labour perspectives.

Speakers:

- Mercia Grimbeek
- Maloba Tshehla
- Jakub Stolfa
- Jannis Beutel
- Henk Langenhoven
- Jan Frouz
- Adolf Aumuller

Highlights:

The importance of community involvement and engagement was highlighted, as well as reskilling and education, the role coal plays in the SA economy, the role of the public and private sectors – and ensuring that there is a coordinated and collaborative effort to increase the chances of success for a truly just transition in South Africa.

The hope is that we learn from our EU counterparts who are amid their own transitions and have already had exemplary successes. The discussions around what repurposing and re-skilling options are available, post-mining rehabilitation and the tools we have at our disposal will all come in handy as we continue with this work.

Please access the presentations here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1CQshFpbWnwaHB8puMHHAVcWZok1y11Q6?usp=sharing>

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