



The European Green Deal and the Just Transition Mechanism

Dr Sander Happaerts

Policy analyst sustainable growth, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

29 April 2021



Cohesion policy in the European Green Deal



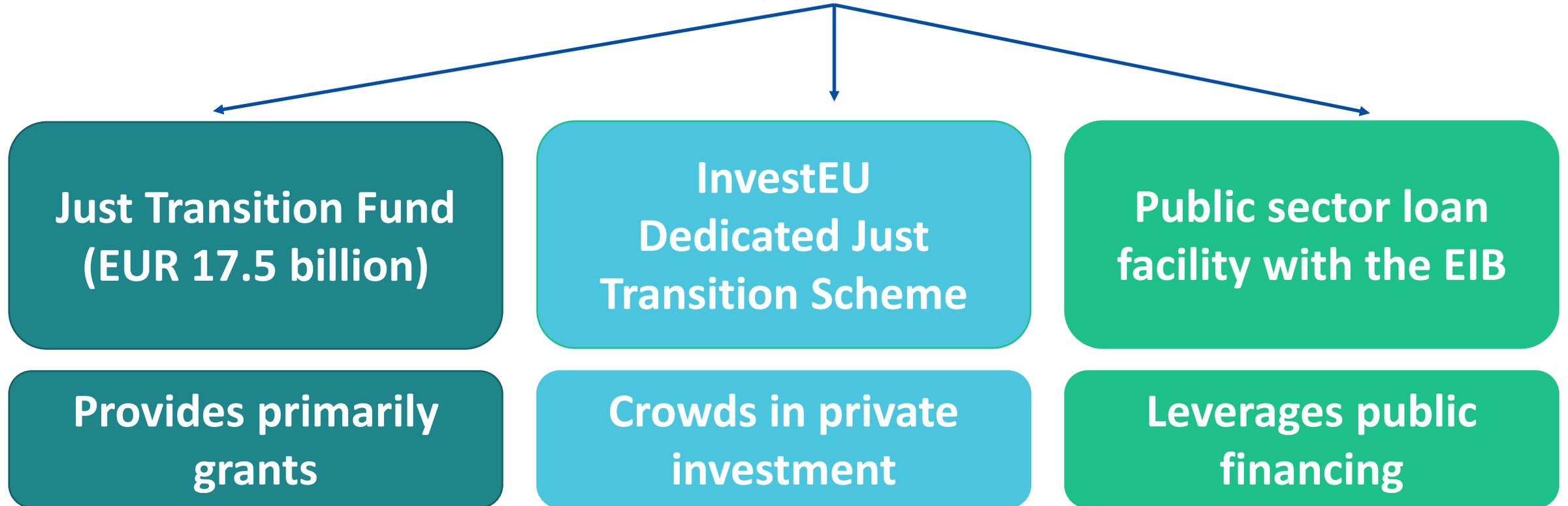
“Cohesion Funds play a crucial role in supporting our regions and rural areas from East to West, from South to North to keep up with the transformations of our world.

*In this transition, **we must recognise and respect that we do not all start from the same point.** We all share the same ambition but some may need more tailored support than others to get there.”*

-  Investing in place-based innovation and smart economic transformation
-  Deploying technological and social innovation on a large scale
-  Facilitating phase-out of unsustainable practices
-  Ensuring a just transition for all regions

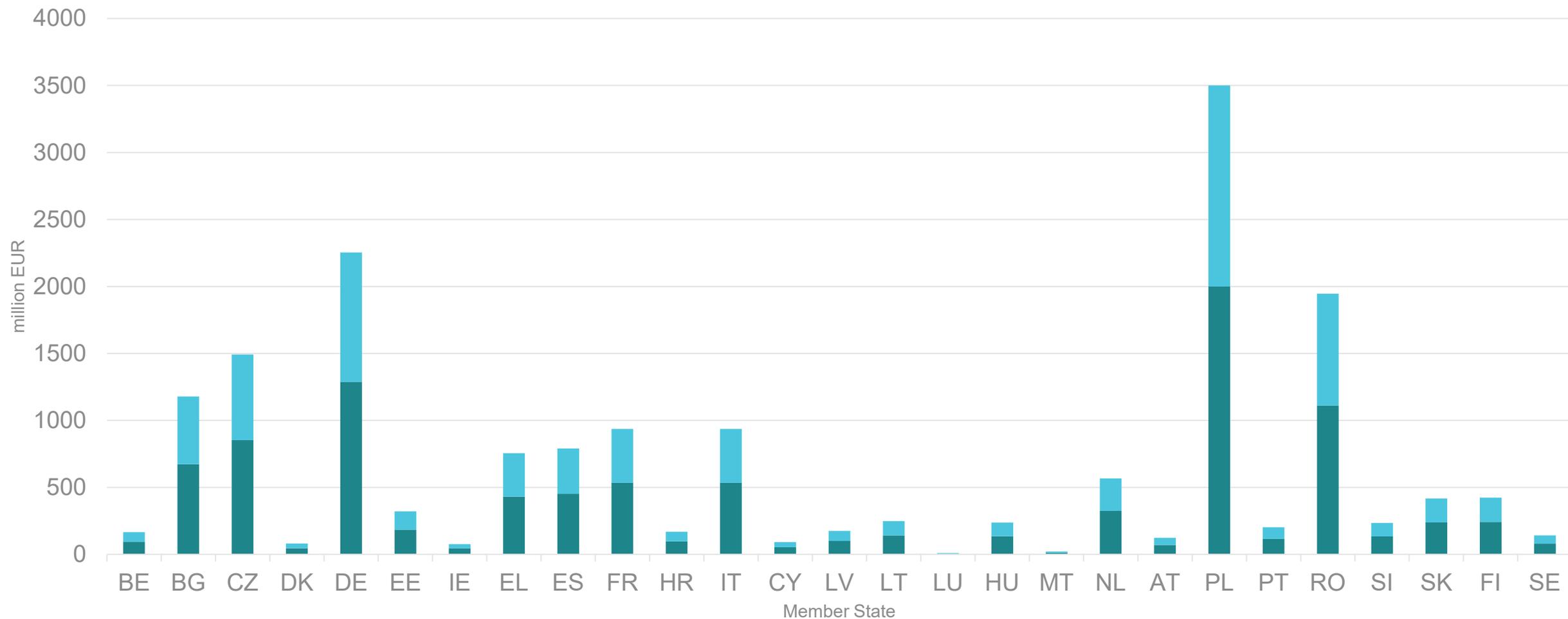
Just Transition Mechanism

to support and finance regions most exposed to transition challenges in all Member States



The JTM includes a governance framework centered on territorial just transition plans

Just Transition Fund Allocations



■ NGEU ■ MFF

JTF: focus on regions with significant challenges

FOSSIL FUELS

fossil fuel mining and extraction will face a significant decline

CARBON-INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES

highly-greenhouse gas intensive activities will undergo a deep transformation

Regions and territories highly dependent on these activities will need to:

- restructure their industries
- ensure that new economic activities can keep the economic and social texture together, respecting the environment, and,
- provide the necessary training to the workers concerned to find new jobs.

Commission recommendations: priority sectors

COAL / LIGNITE



PEAT



METALS



CHEMICALS



SHALE OIL



PETROLEUM REFINERIES



CEMENT



FERTILISERS



FOSSIL FUEL BASED ENERGY PRODUCTION

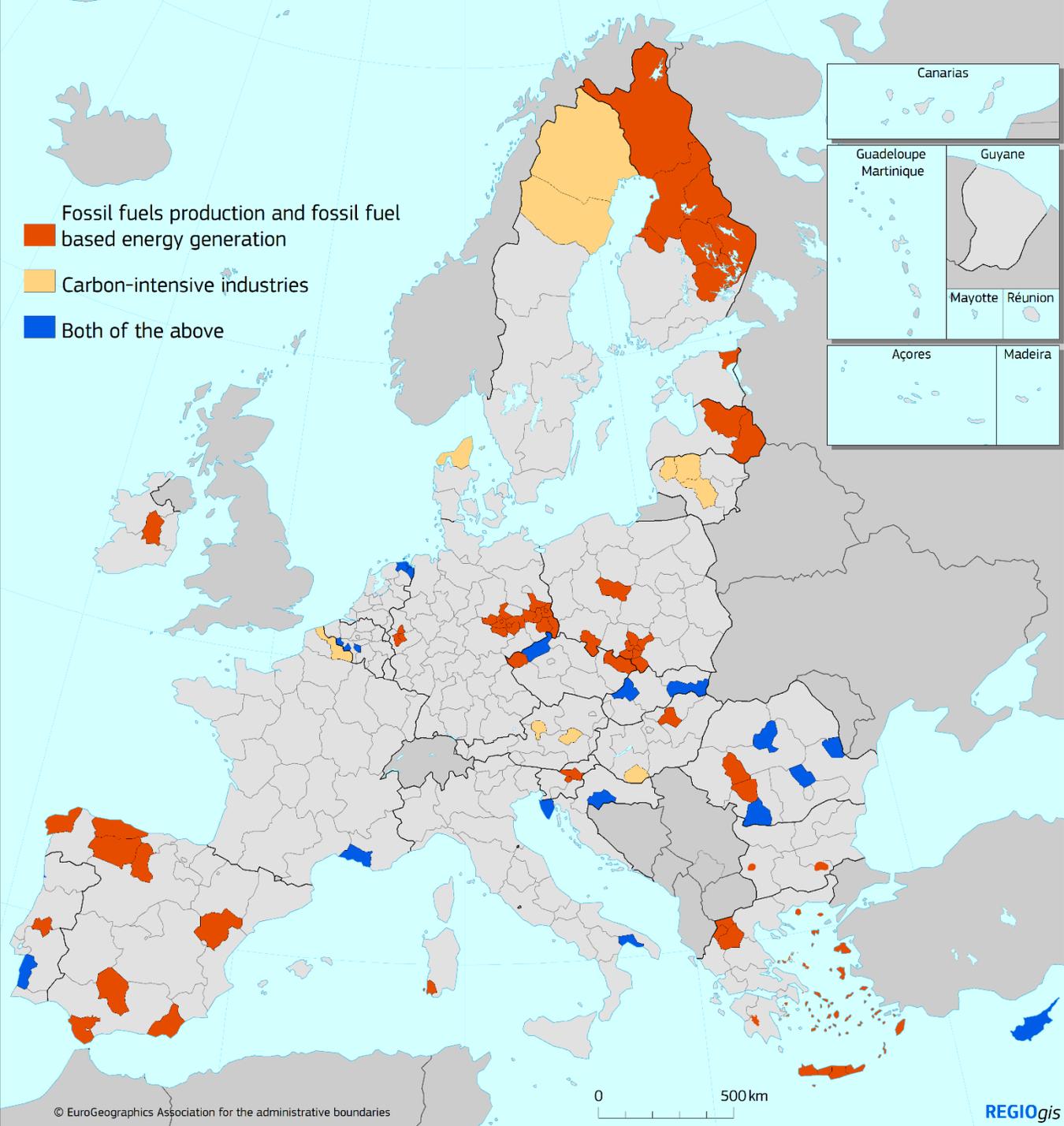


OTHER



Commission Recommendations: Geographical Scope

European Semester Country
Reports 2020, Annex D bis



Just Transition Fund: scope of support

Stronger focus in scope of intervention than other cohesion programmes

- Economic diversification and reconversion
- Re-skilling and job seeking assistance for workers
- Support to climate and environmental sustainability, where this will help mitigate the impact of the transition

Limited additional eligibility – to be justified in territorial just transition plans

- Productive investments in large enterprises: if needed to offset job losses
- Investments reducing GHG emissions from ETS activities: if needed to preserve jobs

Exclusion from the scope of support :

- Production, processing, distribution, storage or combustion of fossil fuels excluded from support

Each operation must contribute to the implementation of the territorial just transition plans

Exclusive list of activities defined in Article 4 of the JTF regulation

Just Transition Platform

Single access point:

- Access to information and knowledge
- Helpdesk

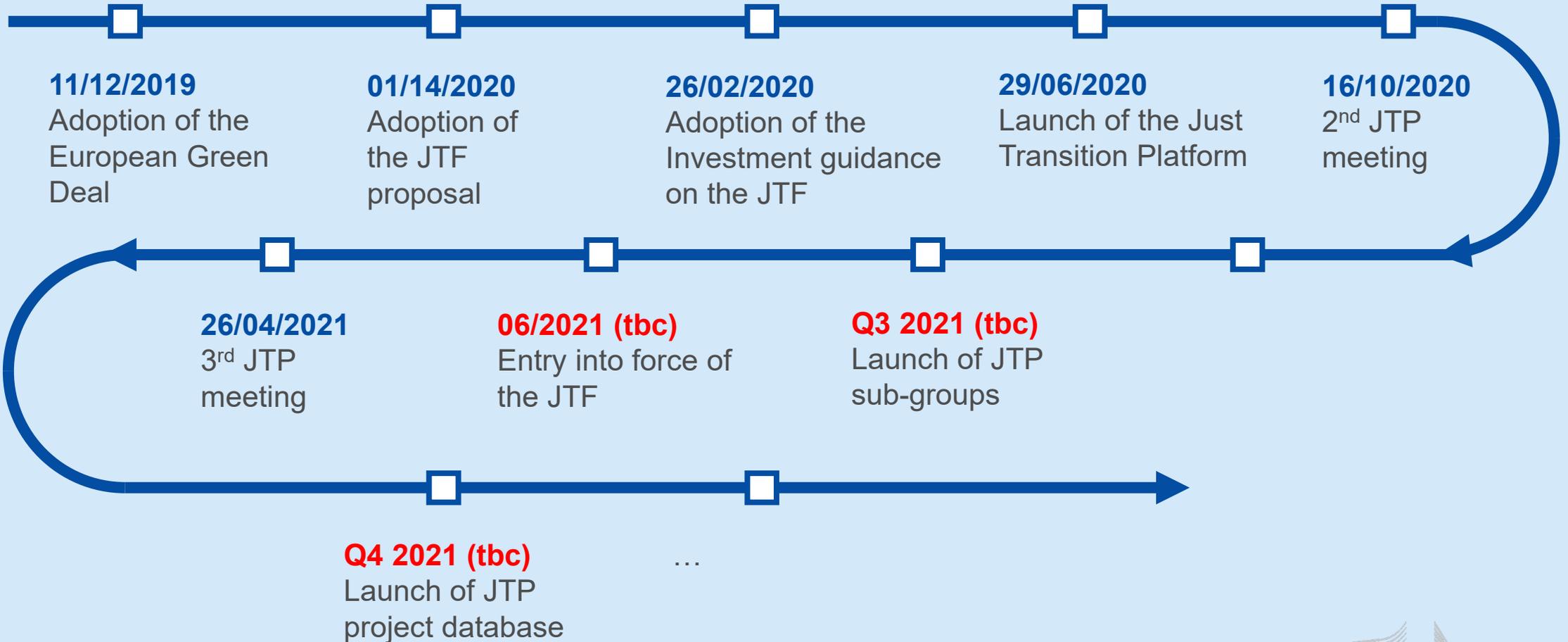
Project and expert databases:

- Database of good practice
- Database of experts

Technical and advisory support:

- Support for regions dependent on fossil fuels or carbon-intensive industries
- Assistance for the elaboration of Territorial Just Transition Plans

Timeline



Contact



Sander.Happaerts@ec.europa.eu
DG REGIO, Smart and Sustainable Growth Unit