

# Title: The Just transition process in North Macedonia: A need for a place-based governance action

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# Challenge and research question

- Challenges:
  - The approach of the transition in North Macedonia remains rather top down and thus, posing challenges on how just the transition really is and whether it embeds place-based policies.
  - The interactions among different actors and stakeholders remain fuzzy.
- Research question:
  - Governance configuration should be able to serve spatial and social justice as well as the implementation of a place-based governance framework.
- Methodology:
  - Concept of transition is researched as fundamental societal change through the lens of efficiency and justice. It also embeds the concept of 'place' in this discussion.
  - Therefore, the challenges, opportunities, and shortcomings of the transition management and place-based approach in the course of transition are examined

# Transition governance and place-based approach

Installed power plant capacity in GW/%	GW	%
Total power plants-PP	1.835	100
Hydro	671	37
Photovoltaics	17	1
Thermal	824	45
Combined	280	15
Wind	37	2
Biogas	7	0

Installed power plant capacity in GW/%	GW	%
North Macedonia	1938	100
Vardar region	331	17
East region	20	1
Southwest region	263	14
Southeast region	3	0
Pelagonia region	712	37
Polog region	201	10
Northeast region	1	0
Skopje region	407	21

# Techniques: Questionnaire (experts with established status and that are well informed about the topics were targeted)

- In order to consider the place-based just transition research we employ a questionnaire for the quantitative work.
- The goal is to assess if and how the transition process that is governed by the Macedonian government is well thought off and how effective the management of the transition at the level of governance is.
- Also, we want to know if the transition has the potential to acquire just and place-based characteristics.
- We make a note to the respondents that we focus on the coal-based electricity generation in the country and especially the TPP Oslomej.
- Each respondent should answer closed-ended Likert-scale questions, ranging from 1 to 5. For the first and third sections of questions 5 is indicating ‘not agree at all’ and 1 ‘fully agree.’ For the second section of questions 5 is indicating ‘lowest risk level’ and 1 ‘highest risk level.’

# Techniques: Questionnaire (experts with established status and that are well informed about the topics were targeted)

Пол:		Six Core Principles of the EU Governance of transition toolkit	Transparency	Participation	Rule of law	Equity and inclusiveness	Efficiency	Accountability							
Машки															
Женски															
		Mean	3.24	3.27	3.52	3.55	3.58	3.52							
		Median	3.00	3.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.50							
		Maximum	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00							
		Minimum	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00							
		Std. Dev.	1.04	1.03	1.11	1.10	0.99	1.07							
		Observations	66	66	66	66	66	66							
Испитаник:															
Централна власт															
Локална власт															
Регулаторно тело															
Плански регион															
Инспекторат															
Приватен сектор-енергетика															
Приватен сектор-друго															
Донатор															
Меѓународна организација															
Академија и тхинк танк															
НВО															
Граѓани															

		Risks arising from insufficient stakeholder engagement	Uncertainty increased	Rejection of outcome	Loss of confidence	Resistance toward solution by the government	Lack of participation in decision making	Level of place-based approach	Local context	Local exclusion	Local inequalities	Local process monitoring	Local socio-economy
		Mean	2.59	2.08	2.05	2.76	2.36	Mean	3.42	3.42	3.76	3.56	3.36
		Median	3.00	2.00	2.00	3.00	2.00	Median	3.50	3.00	4.00	4.00	3.00
		Maximum	4.00	4.00	4.00	5.00	5.00	Maximum	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
		Minimum	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	Minimum	1.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
		Std. Dev.	0.93	0.77	1.07	1.11	1.02	Std. Dev.	0.99	1.05	1.02	1.04	1.06
		Observations	66	66	66	66	66	Observations	66	66	66	66	66

# References to

- The European Green Deal constitutes the overarching EU policy framework aiming to ensure a just transition towards climate neutrality by 2050
- EU policy context regarding governance of transition regions concerns three major relevant policy documents:
  - First, the Just Transition Fund Regulation (EC, 2021), which includes a strong governance framework, focuses on the Territorial Just Transition Plans.
  - Second, the Common Provisions Regulation (EC, 2021) sets the governance mechanism context for governing the Territorial Just Transition Plans.
  - The third document concerns the Governance of Transitions Toolkit (EC, 2020) which provides guidelines for the design of governance structures and stakeholders engagement processes for coal regions in transition.

# References to

- EU Governance of Transition Toolkit (EC, 2020):
  - To pick up indication of shortcomings in terms of legitimacy and effectiveness (reflecting a governance vacuum (Loorbach, 2010) and/or a lack of fairness in policy making (Madanipour, et al., 2021)).
- The seven golden rules for open and inclusive planning of a just transition (also included in the EU Governance of Transition Toolkit):
  - Can signal a low anticipation of the major challenges for active social participation and engagement, procedural governance injustices (Madanipour et al., 2003) and reduced trust within the society (The Green Tank, 2021).
- Risk of low inclusiveness set of questions:
  - To find indication of complexity, ambiguity, and uncertainty of such societal transformations occurring in lignite regions (Loorbach, 2010).

# Analysis and results

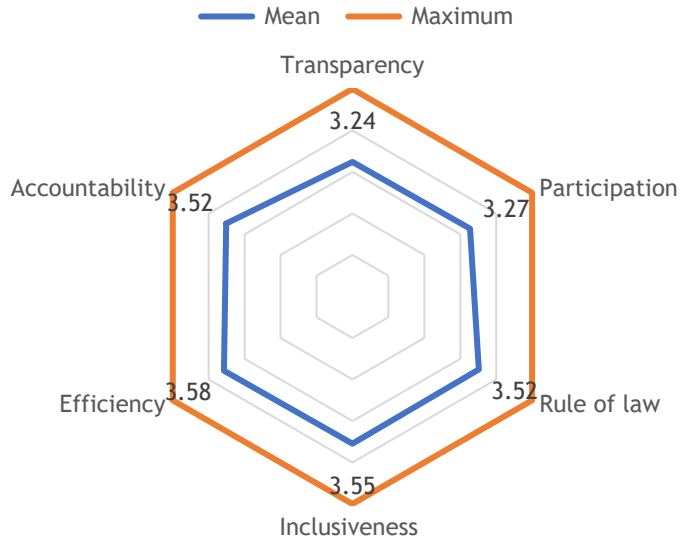


Figure. Six Core Principles of the EU Governance of transition toolkit

5 is indicating 'not agree at all' and 1 'fully agree'

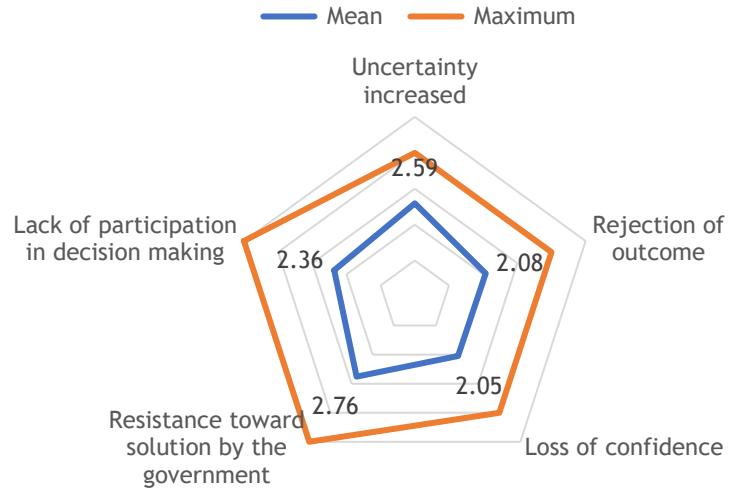


Figure. Risks arising from insufficient stakeholder engagement

5 is indicating 'lowest risk level' and 1 'highest risk level.'

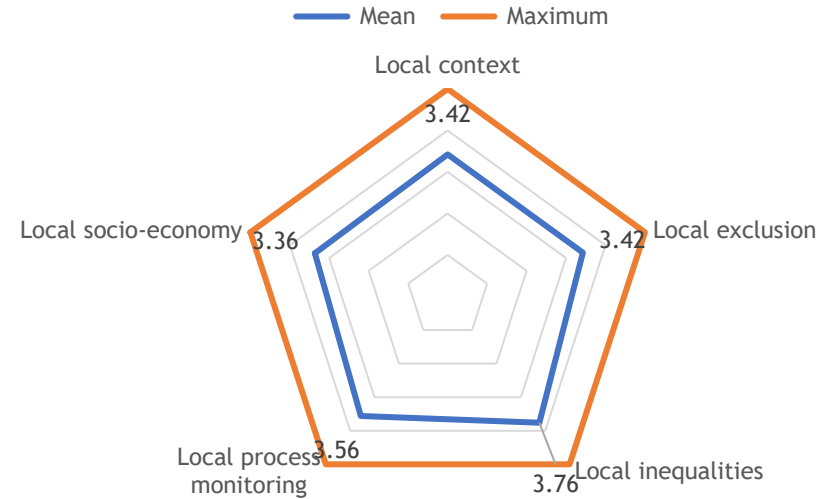
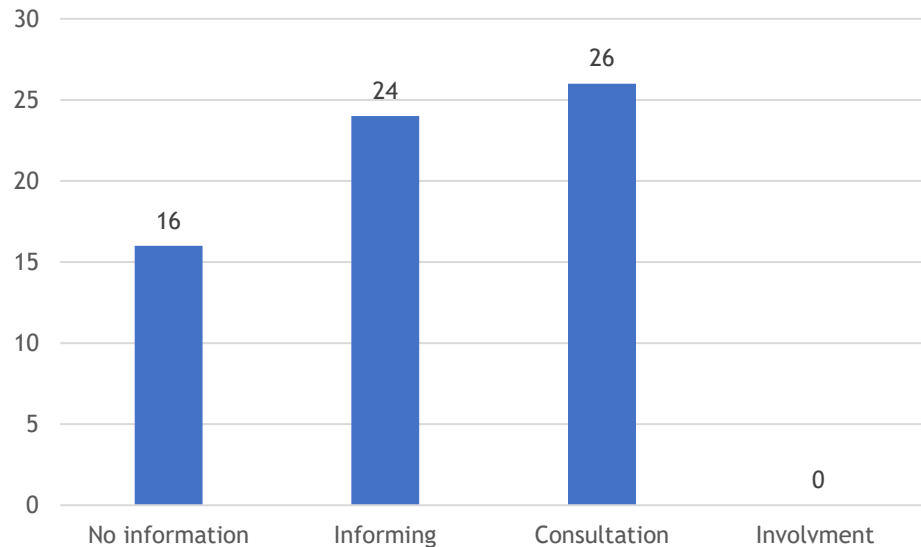


Figure. Level of place-based approach

5 is indicating 'not agree at all' and 1 'fully agree'



## Analysis and results



**Figure.** Levels of increasing stakeholder engagement (number of respondents of the questionnaire)

## • Next step:

- A correlation analysis (Pearson correlation coefficient or Pearson Product Moment Correlation – PPMC) between all variables will be calculated to highlight the potential relationships between them.
- Thus, for each pair of variables/questions, the linear relationship between them (ranging from -1 to 1) will be calculated.
- An absolute value of precisely 1 indicates that a positive correlation describes the relationship between two variables perfectly, with all data points lying on a straight line. On the contrary, a value of 0 indicates that there is no linear dependency between the tested variables e.g., there is no correlation between the variables.
- We can verbally describe the strength of the correlation using the scale that Evans (1996) suggests

### Legend

<b>0.80-1.00</b>	Positive/Very Strong relationship
<b>0.60-0.79</b>	Positive/Strong relationship
<b>0.40-0.59</b>	Positive/Moderate relationship
<b>0.20-0.39</b>	Positive/Weak relationship
<b>-(0.60-0.79)</b>	Negative/Strong relationship
<b>-(0.40-0.59)</b>	Negative/Moderate relationship
<b>-(0.20-0.39)</b>	Negative/Weak relationship

