



Asturias' Observatory for a Just Transition. An example of institutional support and Trade Union involvement for a fair transition.

Edited by industriAll Europe.

March 2023.

The Directorate-General for Energy and Mining of the Government of Asturias, in collaboration with the Foundation of Asturian Energy (FAEN), recently presented the Asturian Observatory for a Just Transition during the industriAll Europe conference titled "Making Training a Reality for Quality Jobs in European Industries." This institutional initiative signifies a proactive approach to reshaping the economic landscape of the region formerly reliant on coal mining. By fostering engagement with social partners and leveraging scientific methodologies for data collection, the Observatory is paving the way for a more equitable and assertive transition in employment.

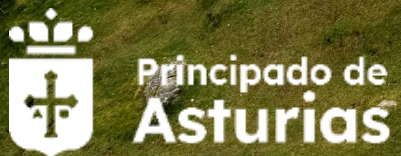
Since its inception in 2019, the Observatory has fostered robust public-private dialogues, adhering to a cooperative model that involves the Asturias Government, FAEN, trade unions, employers, municipalities, universities, and other stakeholders. Embracing an opportunity-centric perspective rather than one driven by risk, these stakeholders have collectively evaluated the region's potential strengths, capabilities, and opportunities inherent in the transition process.

The overarching objective is to reform the region's economic ecosystem by pre-emptively addressing skill requirements, facilitating the smooth transfer of workers to alternative and sustainable sectors, and bridging the gap between labour supply and demand. Additionally, the Observatory offers comprehensive institutional support to workers, including informational resources, consultation services, tailored assistance, and the promotion of new job prospects. Its strategic vision aims to generate 6,300 job opportunities and mobilize €6.5 billion in investments across diverse sectors such as energy storage, hydrogen production and consumption, circular economy initiatives, renewable energy, efficiency measures, sustainable mobility solutions, and responsible mining practices.

To effectively monitor and evaluate regional energy planning efforts, the Observatory has initiated the development of a sophisticated tool that considers approximately 500 indicators spanning climate, energy, employment, and economic domains. This tool will enable stakeholders to assess the attainment of individual objectives and their collective impact on overarching strategic goals.

industriAll Europe has warmly embraced these initiatives, recognizing their dual role in facilitating Trade Unions' participation in policy formulation while also providing a robust data-driven framework for anticipating and managing transitions effectively.

An extended presentation of the observatory follows.



Asturias Observatory for Just Transition

OTJA

María B. Diaz Aguado, DG Energy and Mining,
Government of Asturias
Carlos Garcia, DG Agency of Energy of Asturias, FAEN



Asturias: Who are we?



Population

Home to over 1 million inhabitants



Economy

Industry 20% GDP

Coal Mining, Energy and GHG intensive industry,

Urban and Rural region



Green paradise

From 722 between the sea and the mountains. Excellent quality of life.



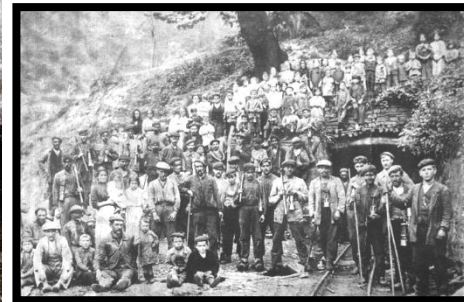
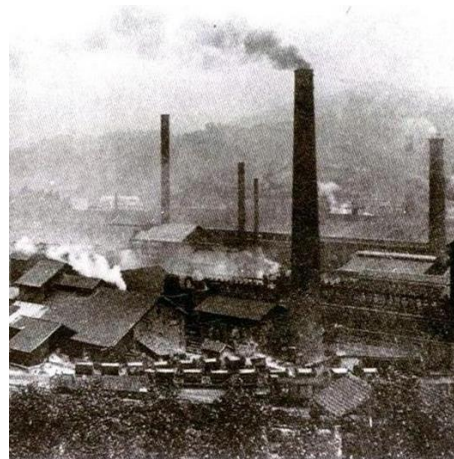
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Where do we come from?

Mining and industrial heritage

Asturias' ecosystem based on exploitation of mineral resources and associated energy production facilities



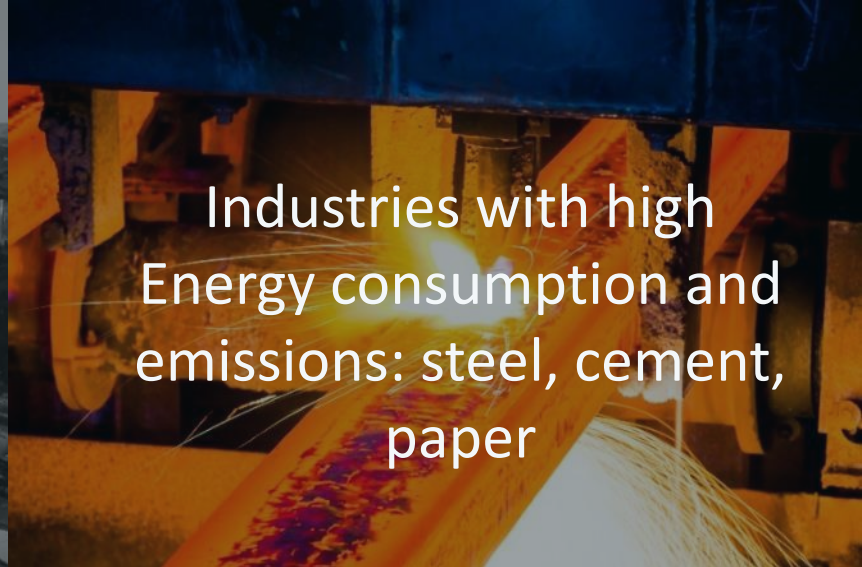
Where do we come from?



Closure of coal
mines



Closure of coal
power plants



Industries with high
Energy consumption and
emissions: steel, cement,
paper

48%

Coal of Spain

workers

1985 2021
26000 962

2222 MW

49%

Total installed
POWER

2012-2018

73%

Coal and gas
power plants

20%

GDP

69%

Consumption
energy



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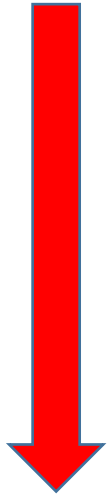
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Energy transition as...

- **CO2 emissions**
- **Economic activity**
- **Employment**
- **Safety and quality supply**



a threat?



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Uncertainty + certain risks: VERTIGO

Public-private dialogue: COOPERATION MODEL

Committee
to evaluate
the impact of
energy
transition in
Asturias.
October
2019

- ASTURIAS GOVERNMENT:
12 DG + FAEN
- **UNIONS**
- ASSOCIATION OF
EMPLOYERS
- MUNICIPALITIES
- UNIVERSITY AND
RESEARCH CENTERS
- OTHER KEY
STAKEHOLDERS

5 working groups:

- Energy
- Industry
- Primary sector
- Tertiary sector
- Environment

Multidimensional approach

A bottom-up strategy



Main results and conclusions

Steps

Involvement regional stakeholders

Document -Executive Summary

Public consultation

Regional position paper in energy transition

Lessons learned

Assessment of potential, capabilities and strengths

Identification of opportunities

Never walk alone: being together through social dialogue

Conclusions

Economic diversification and transformation

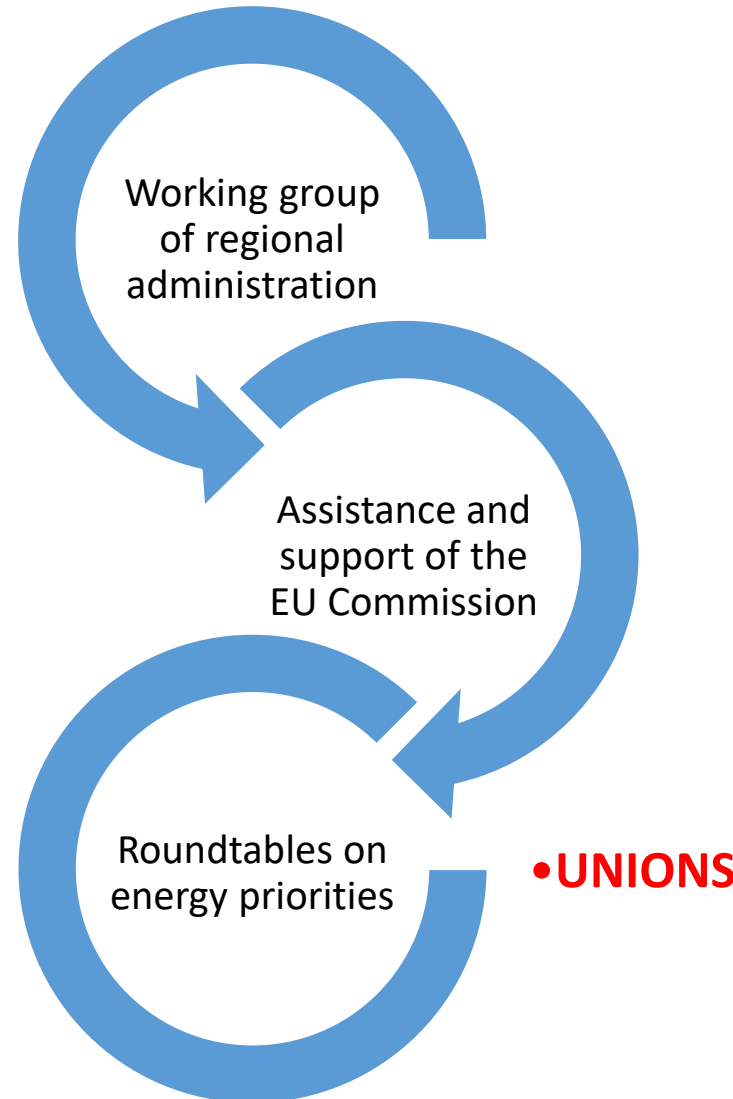
Regional approach. **Need for regional energy strategy**

Need for re-skilling: formative itinerary



Just energy transition strategy of Asturias

Support START program: Coal Regions in Transition Platform Working Groups



Again Cooperation !!



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About people: 4-pillar approach

SKILLS

Anticipating skills needs

Skills audits

Transferability to other sectors

Linking labour supply and demand

SUPPORT FOR WORKERS

Information and consultation

Tailored support for workers,
with their involvement

Specific requirements

Welfare support



COOPERATION

Key actors

Cooperation processes
and social dialogues

ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATIONS AND TRANSFORMATION

Promotion of new job opportunities

Jobs in renewable energy and energy efficiency

Regional structural change



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Main objectives

➤ Our strategy aims to

- create **6,300** new employs in 2030
- mobilize **6,500** millions € investment.

➤ Projects on

- energy storage,
- H2 production and consumption,
- circular economy,
- renewable energy,
- efficiency,
- mobility,
- sustainable mining

➤ Job losses in traditional sectors

-1.480

AGRICULTURE

New cultivation methods, sustainable waste management, supply of forest and livestock residual biomass for the new biomass and biogas generation plants.

**New
employs**

+1.100

INDUSTRY

R & D & i, manufacturing of goods for processes (CO2 capture, renewable energy, storage, sustainable mobility), production of new materials and fuels (hydrogen).

+1.450

TERTIARY SECTOR

Energy service companies, the construction of power plants (renewable energies), the energy renovation of buildings, the digitization and automation of processes and training tasks for the new skills required.

+4.730

ENVIRONMENTAL SECTOR

Water treatment and purification, waste management and treatment and other environmental services related to the circular economy

+500

Training in new skills related to energy transition

Just Transition in Asturias Measures:

M4.15.3 Promover el acercamiento entre la enseñanza universitaria, formación profesional y formación para el empleo y la industria para favorecer la identificación y adaptación de los perfiles profesionales existentes a los nuevos requisitos derivados de la Transición Energética (energías renovables, eficiencia energética en edificios, eficiencia energética en industria, movilidad alternativa, almacenamiento energético, hidrógeno...)

7-8 July 2022

Oviedo, Spain

Annual Political Dialogue

Initiative for coal regions in transition



European Commission

Coal Regions in Transition Platform Working Groups

Final agenda

Venue: Oviedo Exhibition & Congress Centre

Address: Calle Arturo A Buylla, 5, 33006 Oviedo, Asturias & Online



EU STRUCTURAL REFORM SUPPORT SERVICE

July 7 2022

COOPERATION



Los jóvenes abordan la transición ecológica en la Escuela de Minas

La transición ecológica es un asunto del presente, pero llamado a dar sus frutos en el futuro. Como previa a los actos organizados por la Comisión Europea y el Principado para tratar los retos de las regiones europeas del carbón, la Escuela de Minas de la Universidad de Oviedo organizó ayer una mesa redonda entre jóvenes para tratar estos mismos temas y la implicación de las nuevas generaciones en el desafío verde de las regiones que, como Asturias, afrontan el proceso de descarbonizador. La jornada fue inaugurada por la ingeniera de minas ovieseña Lucía Camporo, que dio paso a una mesa redonda en la que participaron Pablo García (AJE), Claudia Fernández (Compromiso Asturias XXI), Marina Casero (CC OO), Xuan García Vijande (UGT) y Daniel Sierra (Consejo de la Juventud).



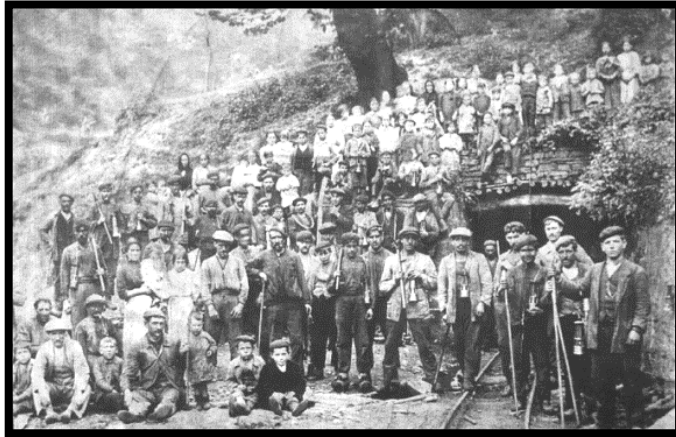
Por la izquierda, Marina Casero, Claudia Fernández, Xuan Vijande, Noelia A. Eruasquin, Lucía Camporo, Pablo García y Daniel Sierra. | Luismi Murias



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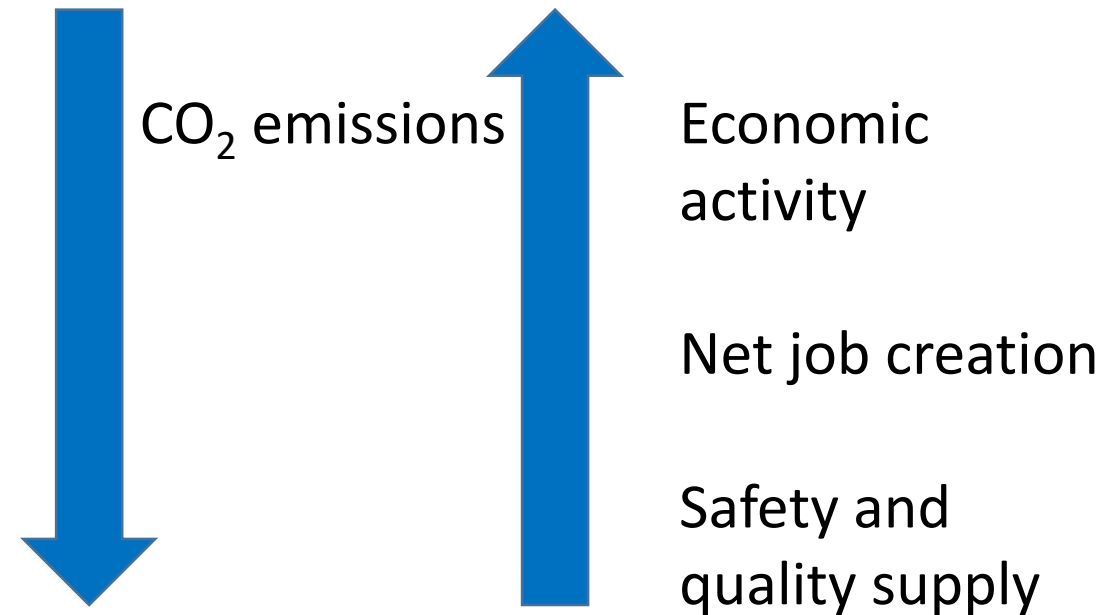
Just transition in coal regions



COOPERATION



We must turn the risks of transition ...into an opportunity!





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2005

Baseline CO2 emissions

2017

Baseline energy indicators

2020

Joint Commission Starting elaboration of Strategies

2025

Mid-term review

2030

Final analysis of results obtained



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OBSERVATORIO DE TRANSICIÓN JUSTA DE ASTURIAS (OTJA)

Asturias Observatory for Just Transition



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Functions and objectives



The Observatory will evaluate the **evolution of KPIs** related to the Just Transition Process in Asturias, integrating the **participation** of citizens, entities and social organizations, providing the greatest possible **transparency**.

Behind the logo



Observatorio de
Transición Justa
de Asturias

www.otja.es

observation
nature & sustainability
green transition



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Actions

- **Monitoring strategies and KPIs.**
- **Technical reports related on Just Transition in Asturias.**
- **Research and Open Data**
- **Dissemination**
- **Permanent Communication channel with citizens.**



Composition

Technical coordination



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National, regional, local administrations

- Regional Government of Asturias
- Association of Municipalities
- Just Transition Institute

Research + innovation

- University
- Technological centers

Companies and associations

- Chambers of Commerce
- Association of entrepreneurs

Other stakeholders

- **Unions**
- Environmental + civil+professional associations

Governance

STAKEHOLDERS

Environmental and
Civil Associations
+
Other stakeholders

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Unions
+
Employers
+
Associations
+
University / IT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DG Regional
Government
+
ITJ

EXCECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DGEM
FAEN



Key Performance Indicators

+500 indicators related to energy, climate, employment, economy, ...



ENERGY



ENVIRONMENT



TERRITORY



Main Objectives

Renewable contribution to the final energy supply

Annual figure: **4%** 2030 goal: **9%**



Renewable contribution to electricity generation

Annual figure: **34%** 2030 goal: **72%**



Reduction of primary energy consumption

Annual figure: **22%** 2030 goal: **26%**



Reduction of final energy consumption

Annual figure: **8%** 2030 goal: **9%**



Reduction of GHG emissions

Annual figure: **54%** 2030 goal: **70%**



Degree of Self-Supply

Annual figure: **12%** 2030 goal: **20.6%**



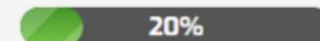
Employment

Annual data: **1,385 jobs** 2030 goal: **6,300 jobs**



Investment

Annual figure: **€1,267 M** 2030 goal: **€6.5 billion**

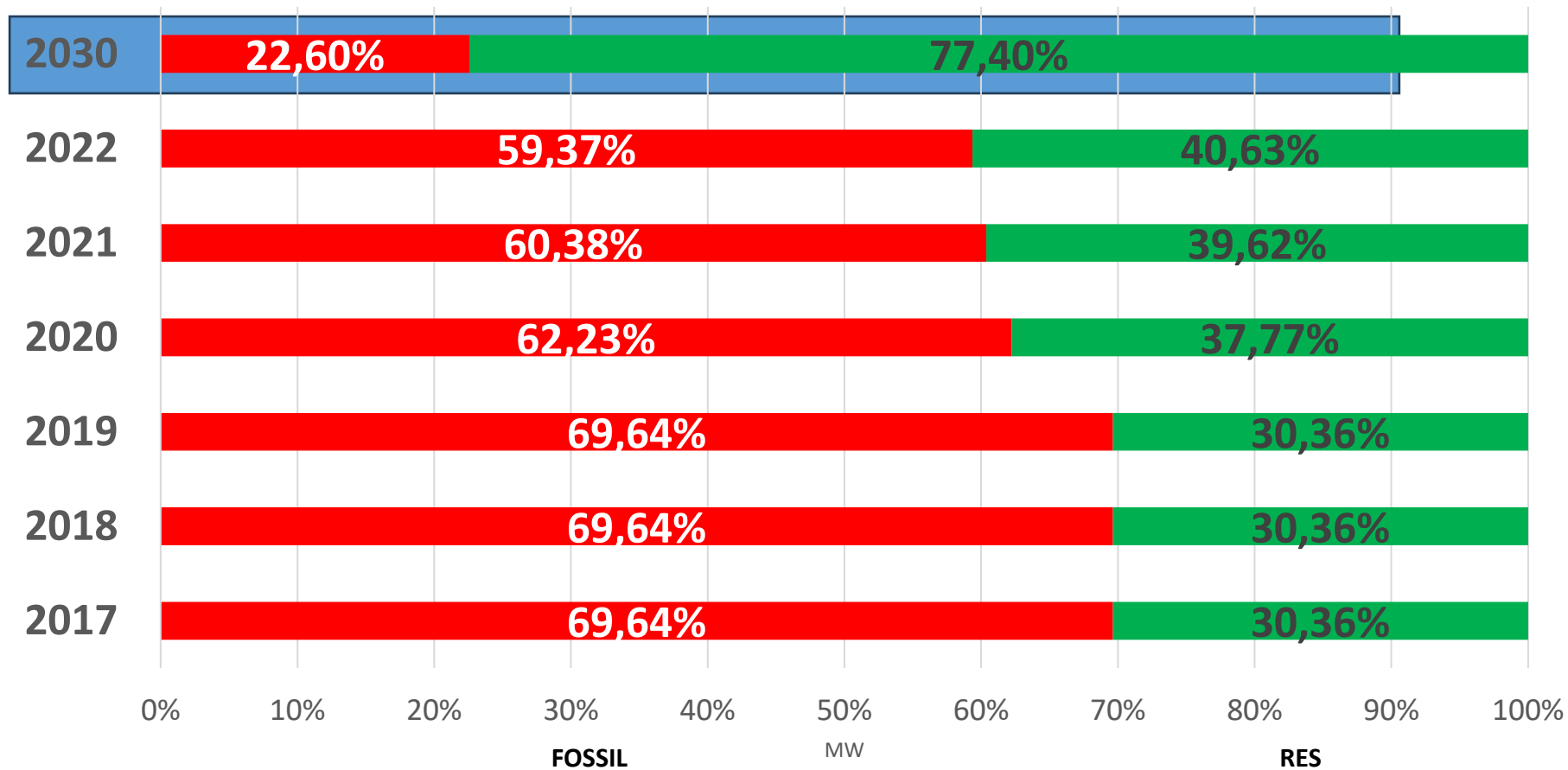


[see more](#)



ANALYSIS TOOL TARGET 2030

RENEWABLES IN ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION (%)




CALCULATION TOOLS





Energy Transition Strategy




ENERGY

 Energy


 Emissions

 Energy efficiency in buildings

 Socioeconomic data

 Just transition

 Aid

 Employment

 Investment

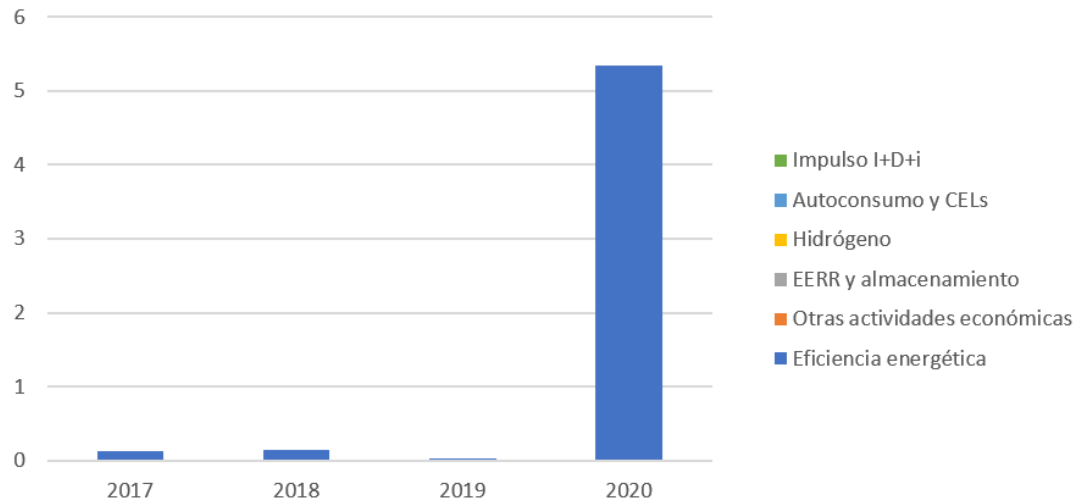


TERRITORY



CLIMATE

Ayudas



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CALCULATION TOOLS

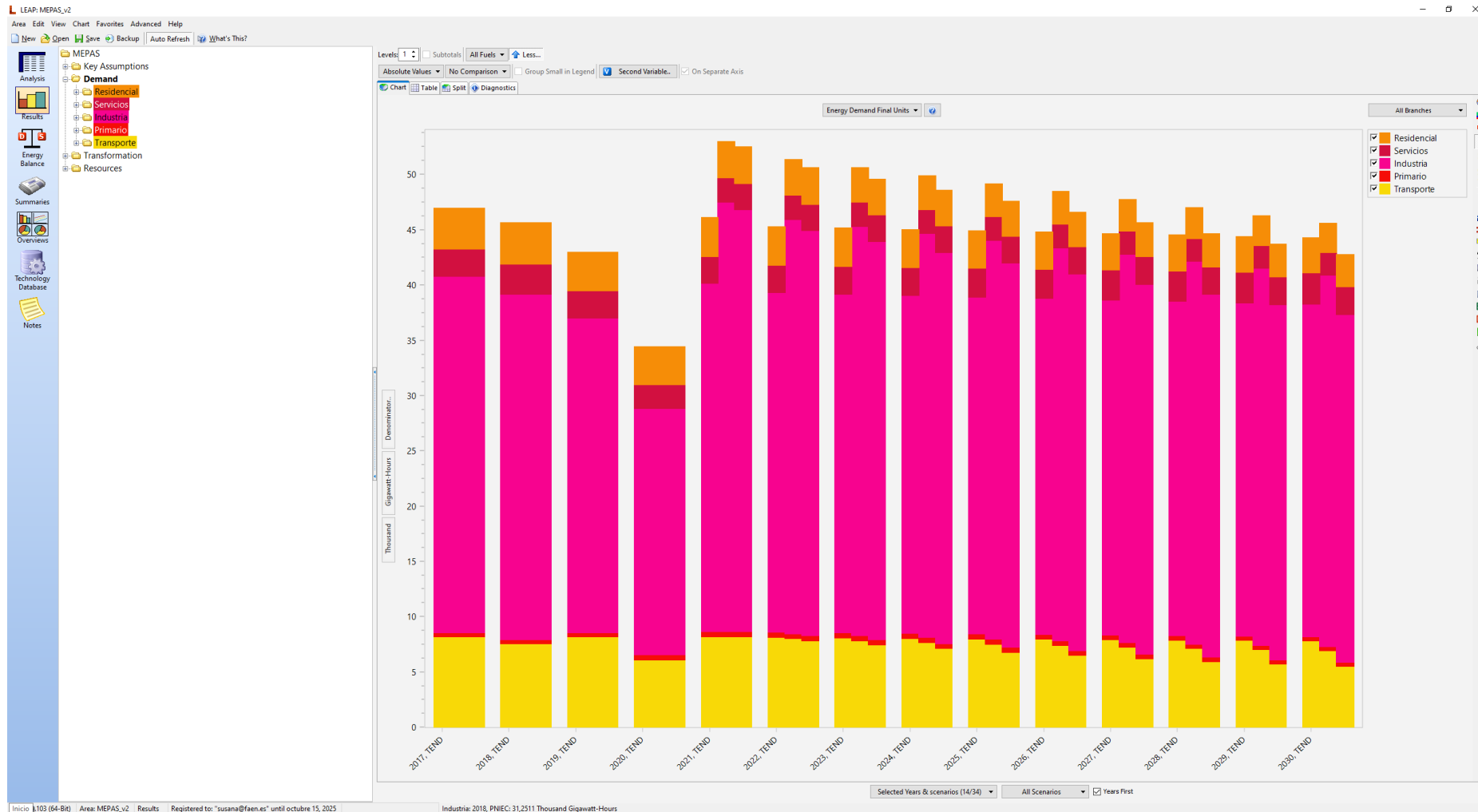
Monitoring and evaluation of regional energy planning

Modeling of the Asturian energy sector using **software specialized in the analysis** of regional energy systems.

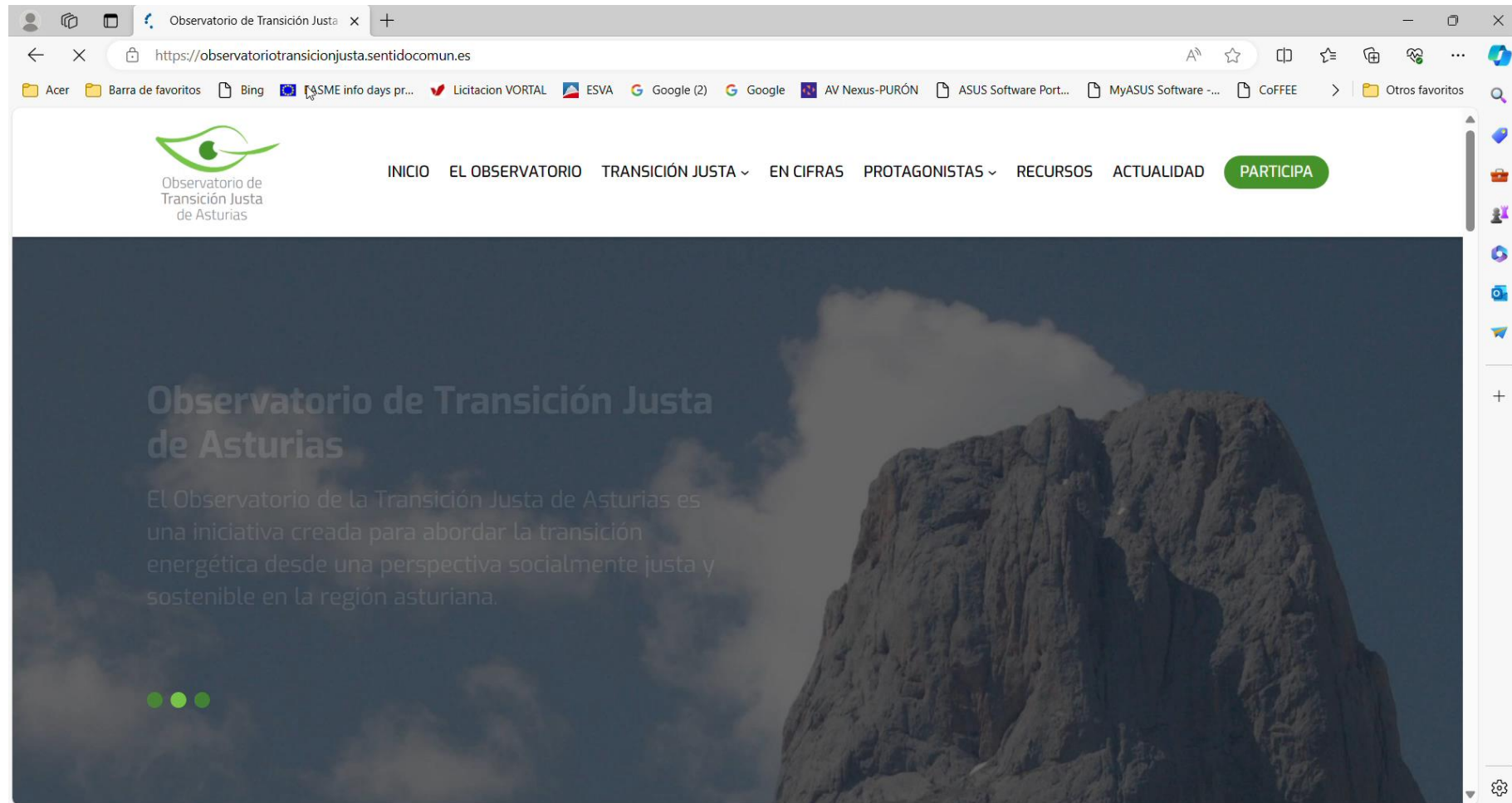
The tool will make it possible to verify: fulfilment of each individual objective and its contribution to overall objectives set out in the Strategy.



CALCULATION TOOLS



PROJECTS AND PARTICIPATION





CONCLUSIONS

- Observatory for **monitoring results** of 4 strategies + Just Transition Fund Plan
- Governance: **Working together** all the key actors (public and private)
- **Transparency**
- Open **participation**

Observatorio de Transición Justa de Asturias (OTJA)



Observatory for Just Transition



Asturias

**A green transition
is taking place in the
green paradise**