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The Firelogue project:

Addressing forest fires through
supporting and coordinating Innovation
Actions

Claudia Berchtold

Fraunhofer Institute for Technological Trend Analysis (INT)



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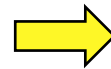


Wildfires are part of the European Green Deal



The European Commission made €1 billion available under the Green Deal call - the last and biggest call under Horizon 2020. The call was designed to respond to the climate crisis, provide more protection to Europe's biodiversity and habitats under threat, and accelerate a sustainable recovery.

1550 proposals submitted



73 projects selected for funding

Source: EC (2021a).



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Wildfires are part of the European Green Deal

The Green Deal Call was structured around 8 thematic areas and 2 horizontal areas:

Thematic areas

- 1 Increasing climate ambition: cross sectoral challenges
- 2 Clean, affordable and secure energy
- 3 Industry for a clean and circular economy
- 4 Energy and resource efficient buildings
- ...

Topics

Preventing and fighting extreme wildfires with the integration and demonstration of innovative means

Towards climate-neutral and socially innovative cities

Climate-resilient innovation packages for EU regions

Horizontal areas

- 1 Strengthening knowledge
- 2 Empowering citizens



The call structure encompassed two subtopics

Preventing and fighting extreme wildfires with the integration and demonstration of innovative means subtopics:

Subtopic 1 (Innovation Actions): Actions funded under this call will speed up the pan-European adaptation process to extreme wildfires by advancing and applying research and innovation, including demonstration pilot sites, while making best use of existing data (e.g. remote sensing, in-situ or community-based data), technologies (e.g. Big Data and Artificial Intelligence) and services (as Copernicus, Galileo and EGNOS).

Subtopic 2 (Coordination and Support Action): This action aims to ensure that the demonstration of innovative and integrated approaches fulfils the expected impacts, by coordinating and supporting the Innovation Action projects funded under this topic.





Scope of the IAs



“Actions funded under this call will speed up the pan-European adaptation process to extreme wildfires by advancing and applying research and innovation, including demonstration pilot sites, while making best use of existing data (e.g. remote sensing, in-situ or community-based data), technologies (e.g. Big Data and Artificial Intelligence) and services (as Copernicus, Galileo and EGNOS).”

Prevention and Preparedness

The **integration of environmental, climate and socio-economic conditions** (including tangible and intangible cultural heritage) with proactive governance (public and private actors), community-based risk awareness, prevention and preparedness activities [...]

Detection and Response

Anticipation and mitigation of high-impact events will benefit from research and innovation in space, aerial, ground, material and digital technologies, which should be integrated altogether with environmental, climate and social disciplines and existing EU initiatives on monitoring and suppression of wildfires. Activities should be demonstrated in a broad range of weather conditions and geographical scenarios.

Restoration and Adaptation

Proposals should aim at supporting the **socio-ecological transition** towards more resilient communities, in particular those most exposed to wildfire risk. A





Links with the IAs

Innovation Actions (IAs)

TITLE	ACRONYM	PROJECT ID	COORDINATOR	PARTNERS
A Holistic Fire Management Ecosystem for Prevention, Detection, and Restoration of Disasters	DRYADS	101036926	Rise Fire Research (NO)	46
Innovative technologies and socio-ecological-economic solutions for fire resilient territories in Europe	FIRE-RES	101037419	CTFC (ES)	34
Integrated Technological and Information Platform For wildfire Management	SILVANUS	101037247	Universita Telematica Pegaso (IT)	48





The Firelogue consortium

#	Participant organisation name	Country
1	Fraunhofer Gesellschaft für Angewandte Forschung e.V. (FhG)	Germany
2	Pau Costa Foundation (PCF)	Spain
3	National Observatory of Athens (NOA)	Greece
4	SAFE Cluster	France
5	Trilateral Research (TRI)	United Kingdom
6	EDGE in Earth Observation sciences Monoprosopi IKE (EDGE)	Greece
7	International Institute of Applied System Analysis (IIASA)	Austria
8	Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores, Tecnologia e Ciência (INESCTEC)	Portugal
9	The International Emergency Management Society (TIEMS)	Belgium
10	Virtual Operations Support Team (VOST) Portugal	Portugal
11	Centro Euro-Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici (CMCC)	Italy
12	Consorci Centre de Ciència i Tecnologia Forestal de Catalunya (CTFC)	Spain
13	Association for the Development of Industrial Aerodynamics (ADAI)	Portugal
14	Centre for Security Studies (KEMEA)	Greece
15	Universidad de Alcalá (UAH)	Spain



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Several measures are designed to **support the IAs**



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Knowledge Exchange and Networking



Activities

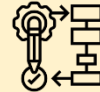
Webinars



Brokering of training and exercises options



Sharing of SOPs



Networking events



Research integration



Joint Impact Assessment





The Joint Impact Assessment

Expected Impacts by 2030 (based on 2019 values)

0 fatalities from wildfires

50% reduction in accidental fire ignitions

55% reduction in emissions from wildfires

Control of any extreme and potentially harmful wildfire in less than 24 hours

50% of Natura 2000 protected areas to be fire-resilient

50% reduction in building losses

90% of losses from wildfires insured

25% increase in surface area of prescribed fire treatments at EU level

Conceptualisation

What? (Expected Impact dimensions)

Ignition Reduction

Emission Reduction

Impact Reduction

Fatalities

Buildings

Insured losses

Environment

How? (Impact Drivers)

Prescribed treatments

Fire control

Driver x

Driver y

Driver z

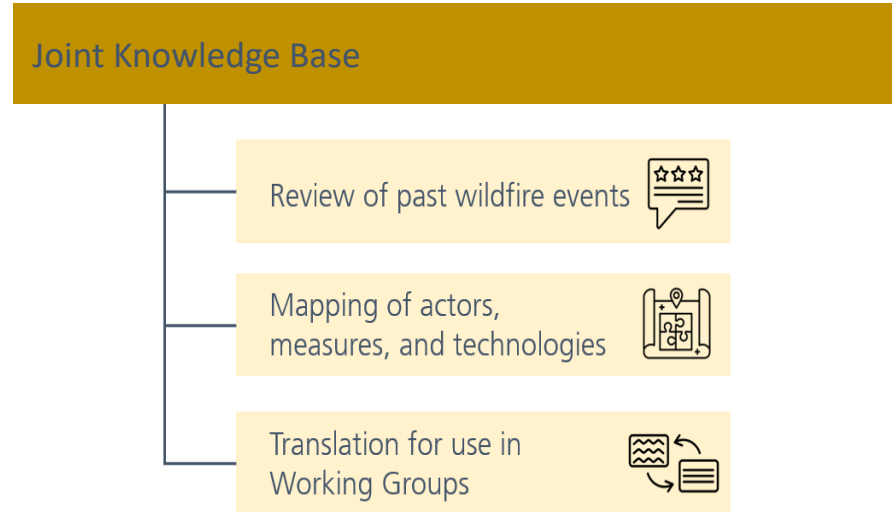
Additional Impact Drivers not mentioned in the call text



Communication and dissemination

Activities

- Joint publications
(e.g. Open Access Book) 
- White Paper and Roadmap 
- Technology Market Place 





Firelogue also seeks to integrate the IA findings



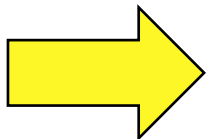


The European Green Deal: First climate neutral continent by 2050

“**Climate change and environmental degradation** are an existential **threat** to Europe and the world. **To overcome these challenges**, the European **Green Deal will transform the EU** into a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy, ensuring:

- no net emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050
- economic growth decoupled from resource use **no person and no place left behind”**

(European Commission 2021b)



Just Transition has become is a core concept of the Green Deal



Just Transition (JT) as a mechanism with several measures

Measures

Just Transition Mechanism



A new Just Transition Fund

of €19.2 billion in current prices, is expected to mobilise around EUR €25.4 billion in investments.



InvestEU "Just Transition" scheme

will provide a budgetary guarantee under the InvestEU programme across the four policy windows and an InvestEU Advisory Hub that will act as a central entry point for advisory support requests. It is expected to mobilise €10-15 billion in mostly private sector investments.



A new Public Sector Loan Facility

will combine €1.5 billion of grants financed from the EU budget with €10 billion of loans from the European Investment Bank, to mobilise €18.5 billion of public investment.

Source: EC (2021c).



But what does Just Transition actually mean?



"We must show solidarity with the most affected regions in Europe, such as coal mining regions and others, to make sure the Green Deal gets everyone's full support and has a chance to become a reality."

Frans Timmermans, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission

Source: EC (2021b).

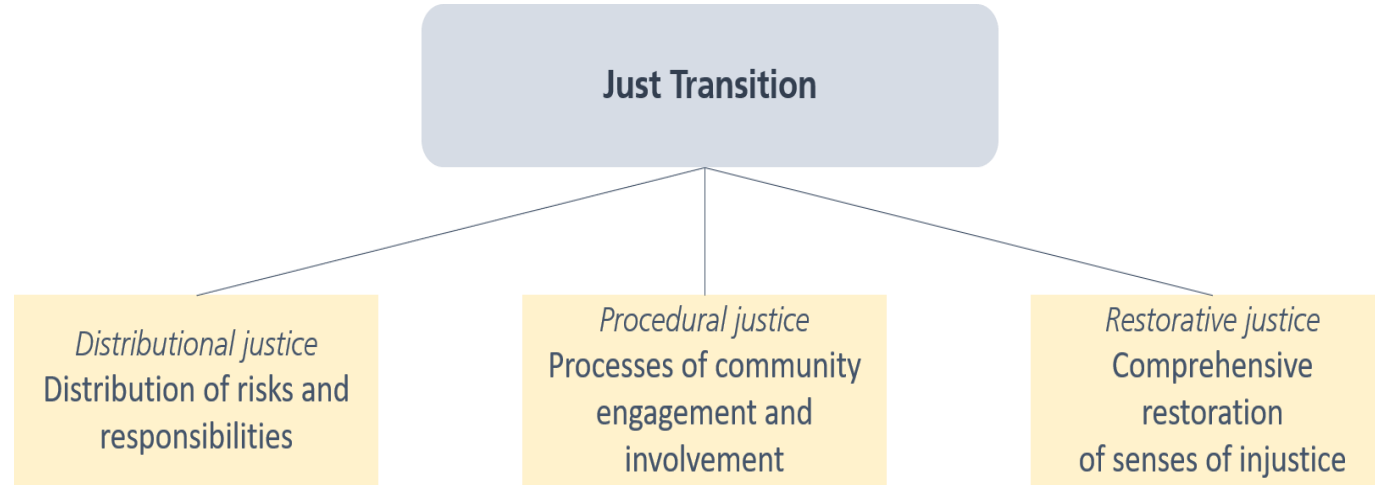
The term ***Just Transition*** was first coined by the trade union movement in the **1980s**. Its original conception focused explicitly on **job restoration** from the replacement of coal mining jobs with those situated in the low carbon economy.

(Abraham 2017; Thomas 2021)

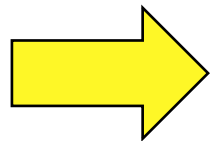




Just Transition can encompass several dimensions



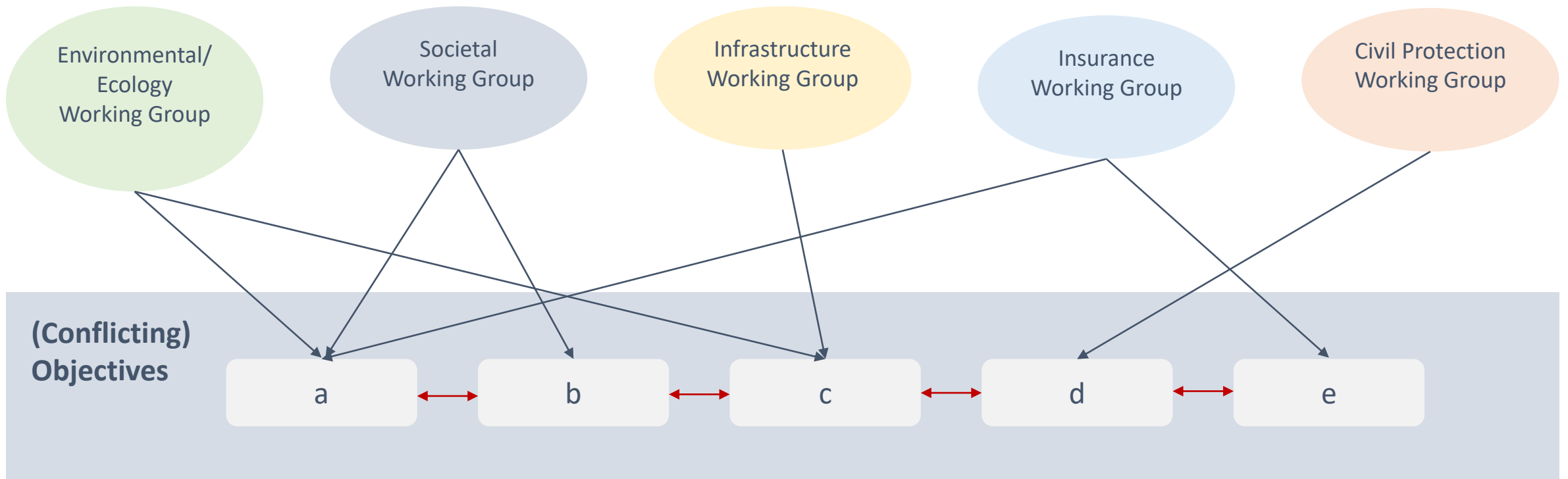
Source: own figure, based on McCauley and Heffron (2018).



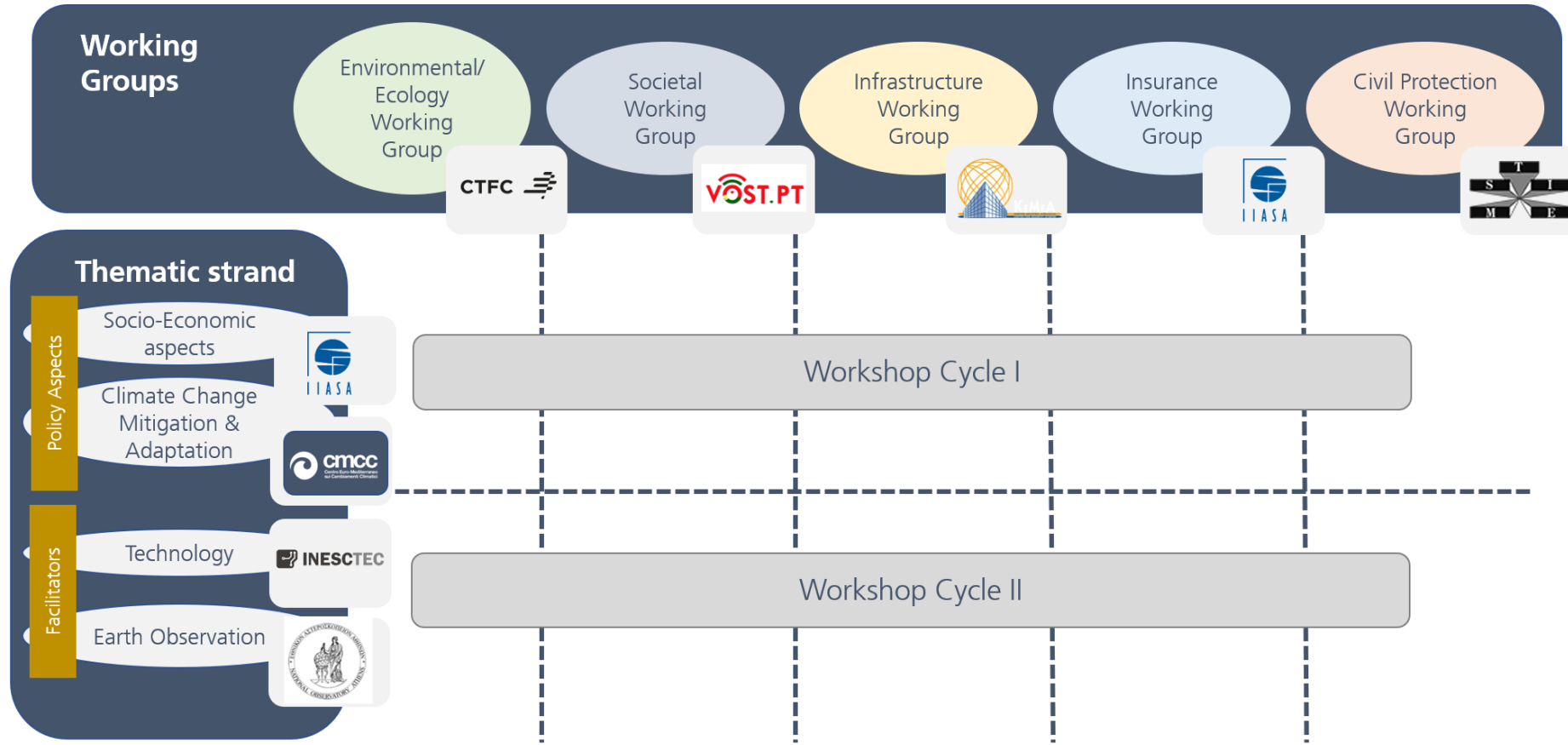
How can we translate these to **WildFire Risk Management**?

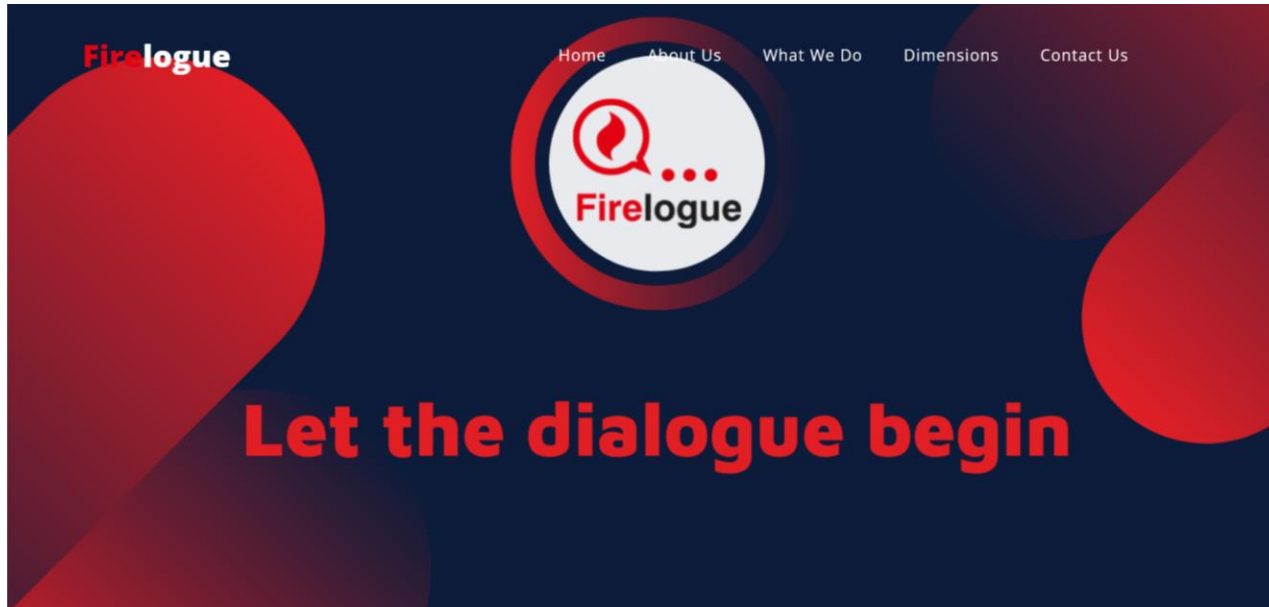


WGs about WFRM impacts & integration of measures



The WG implementation follows a matrix structure





Dr. Claudia Berchtold

Fraunhofer INT

Appelsgarten 2, 53879 Euskirchen, Germany

+ 49 2251 18 116

claudia.berchtold@int.fraunhofer.de

Website: <https://firelogue.eu/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/firelogue.eu/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/firelogue>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/firelogue-eu/about/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/firelogue>





Literature

Abraham, J. (2017): Just Transitions for the Miners: Labor Environmentalism in the Ruhr and Appalachian Coalfields', *New Political Science*, 39(2), pp. 218–231.

EC (2021a): [Research and innovation for the European Green Deal | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

European Commission (2021b): [A European Green Deal | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

European Commission (2021c): [The Just Transition Mechanism: making sure no one is left behind | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

McCauley, D. & R. Heffron (2018): Just transition: Integrating climate, energy and environmental justice, in: *Energy Policy*, 119, p. 1-7.

Thomas, A. (2021) 'Framing the just transition: How international trade unions engage with UN climate negotiations', *Global Environmental Change*, 70, p. 102-115





THANK YOU



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