



JUST TRANSITION PLATFORM MEETING - COAL REGIONS IN TRANSITION VIRTUAL WEEK

16 - 19 NOVEMBER 2020



INVOLVING THE YOUTH IN THE JUST TRANSITION

19 November 2020



European Climate Pact



Elena Višnar Malinovská
Head of Adaptation Unit, DG CLIMA,
European Commission

What do the European citizens think?

- 2019 Eurobarometer survey



How do you see yourself / your family affected by inaction on climate change?

Direct personal harm risks

- e.g. higher intensity & frequency forest fires, flooding

Health risks

- e.g. heatwaves, air pollution, food scarcity, spreading tropical diseases

Welfare effects

- e.g. rising food prices, migration pressures, more pressure on public spending

Quality of life decrease

- e.g. loss of landscapes and wildlife habitats, reduced tourism options etc.



What happens if we do not act?

Without action on climate change the EU will see, already within the lifetime of our children:

Pollution

400,000 premature deaths per year due to air pollution.

Heat & drought

90,000 annual deaths as a result of heatwaves.

660,000 additional asylum applications per year in the EU at 5°C temperature increase.

16% of species at risk of extinction at 4.3°C temperature increase.

Economics

€190 billion annual losses projected for a 3°C increase in global average temperature.

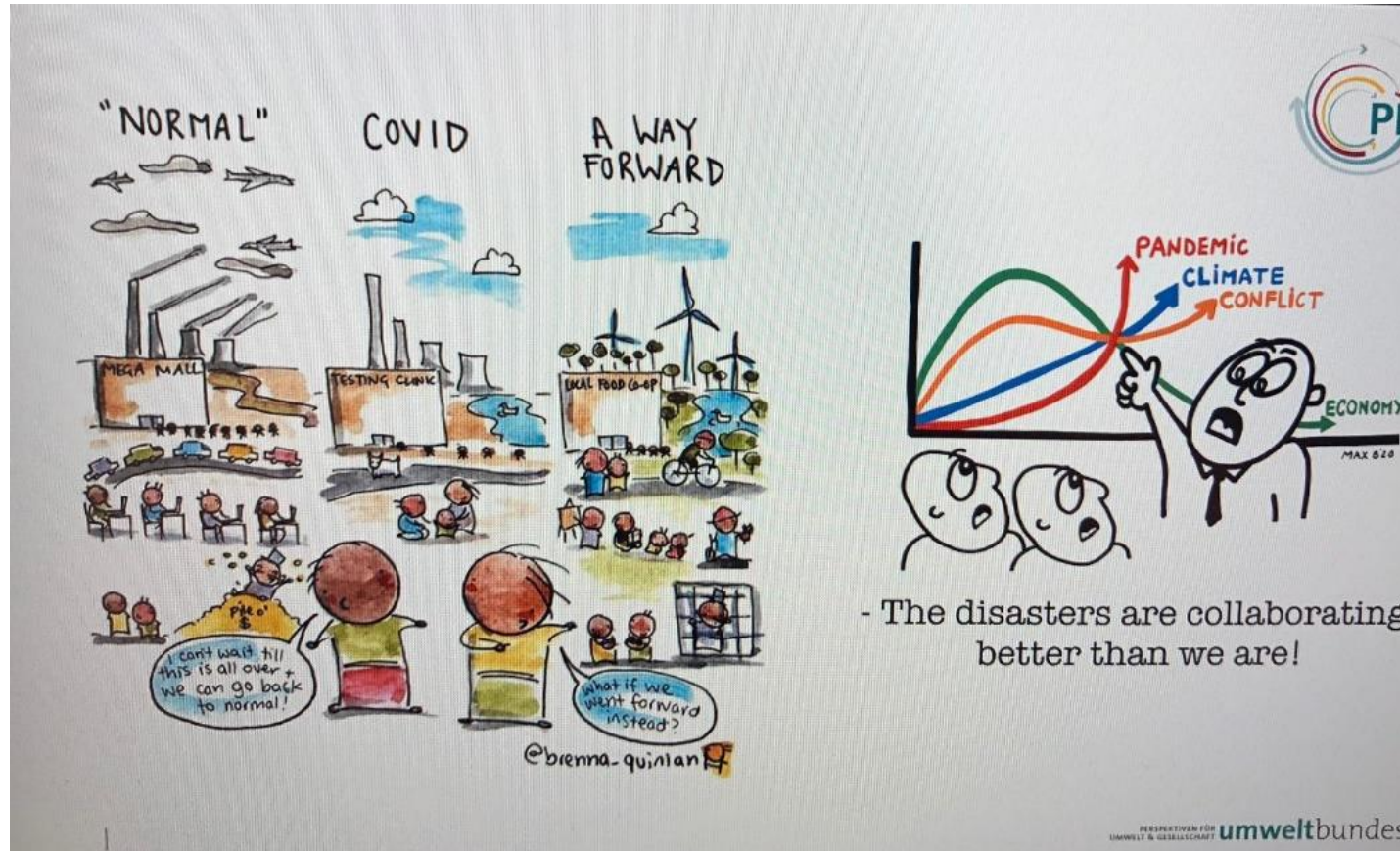
Climate change could lead to a **20% food price rise** in 2050.

Floods

Globally, the number of **people at risk** of being forced from their homes by river flooding could increase to **50 million** a year.



Near future: how to act?



EUROPEAN CLIMATE PACT

#EUClimatePact



European Climate Pact – Why?

- *Repairing the way we interact with nature*
- *The European Green Deal is responding not only to science, but also to **demands for stronger climate action coming from youth, companies and society at large***
- *The Pact will connect people from **all walks of life***
- ***Working together, both to tackle climate change and to grasp the opportunities arising from decisive action***



European Commission



European
Commission

European Climate Pact – With whom?

Public administrations

regions, cities,
local authorities

Multipliers

organisations &
networks with existing
climate actions

Youth

organisations &
networks

Civil society

local community,
grassroots
organisations, activists

Citizens

consumers, households

Education

schools

Academia

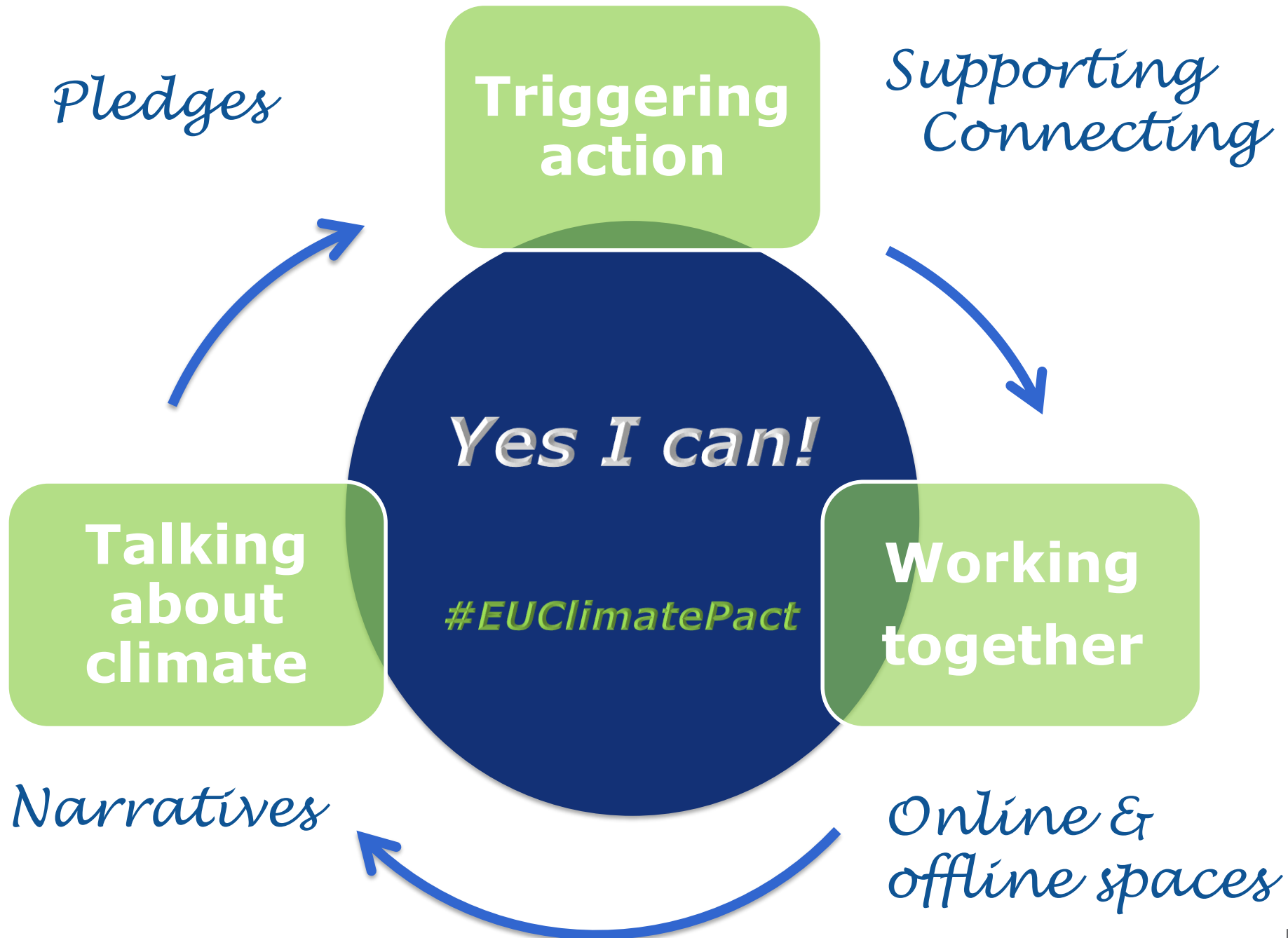
scientific, research
and innovation
organisations
& networks

Businesses

Non and for-profit,
social innovators,
trade unions, investors,
philanthropies

Media





European Climate Pact – what?

- *spreading awareness, fostering participation and supporting action > **or simply awareness and action***
- **Awareness**
 - *Ambassadors*
 - *Translating scientifically sound information into options for acting*
 - *Promoting climate science and solutions as core subjects at schools, intermediate and higher education and for life-long learning.*
 - *Debunking climate myths*
 - *Online and offline get-togethers and events*

European Climate Pact - what

Action

- Action enabling **democratic, science-based, hands-on, transparent, locally grounded, inclusive and long-lasting action** on climate change.
- Build on and support the multitude of initiatives (Knowledge Hub)
- Overview of available finance, available structures
- Four core topics – signposting to and supporting EU action.
 - > also other topics, crucial from behavioural change and systemic change needs: sustainable consumption and production (“circular economy”), healthy food, oceans and coastal areas and others, taking into account stakeholder interests, views and engagement

Core areas

- *Green spaces (3 billion trees, return land vegetation, urban afforestation)*
- *Green transport (clean mobility, bike sharing)*
- *Green buildings (guidance, assistance to cities, Bauhaus)*
- *Green skills (encouragement for upskilling)*

Pact values

- *Responsibility and commitment*
- *Transparency*
- *No greenwashing*
- *Ambition and urgency*
- *Action tailored to local contexts*
- *Diversity and inclusiveness*

Join Us!



- *Ambassadors*

- Ambassadors - people and organisations ready to represent the Climate Pact values by: **informing**, **inspiring** and **supporting** climate action within their communities and networks. They **lead by example**.
- They become a **two-way bridge** between civil society, interested stakeholders and the European Commission.
- Ambassadors are people from all walks of life: from celebrities to local bingo club friends. Organisations suggest a representative. **Anyone can apply**

- *Pledges*

- Individual or as an organisation
- Fully fledged system – early 2021

Rally for climate action!

- *We call on **the media** to strive for accurate and scientifically sound information, to convey the stories behind one of humanity's biggest challenges and the solutions to tackle it, and to enlarge the space for democratic debate and diversity.*
- *We call on **schools, academia, education and training institutions** to boost climate literacy and bring the science and the urgency of the climate crisis to bear on our daily lives, policymaking and the economy.*
- *We call on **young people** to use the Pact to drive systemic and inter-generational change for society as a whole.*





Questions?





Thank you!

CLIMA-EUROPEAN-CLIMATE-PACT@ec.europa.eu

Visit DG Climate Action
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[youtube.com/
EUClimateAction](https://youtube.com/EUClimateAction)

The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of several green leaves. The leaves are covered in numerous small, clear water droplets, which catch the light and create a shimmering effect. The veins of the leaves are clearly visible, creating a complex, organic pattern. The overall color palette is various shades of green, from light lime to deep forest green.

Youth for a Just Transition

Patrick Lavelle, European Commission

Just Transition Platform Meeting, 18 November 2020



Goals of the project



Heerlen (NL) – lessons learned



To **identify good practices** of meaningful youth participation in policy-making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation

To **develop a toolkit** leading to the successful participation of youth in the implementation of the Just Transition Fund

To **inspire and encourage Member States to ensure youth participation in the implementation of the Just Transition Plans** – e.g. through dissemination of the toolkit, discussions with REGIO desk officers and exchanges with Member State and regions

What is youth participation?

- It is a fundamental right, a process, and the outcome of the process.
- ***‘Children and young people’s right to have their views taken into account when decisions affecting their lives are made.’***
(UN Convention on the Rights of the Child)
- It brings substantial benefits to the democratic life of communities
- We focused on the following four stages of youth participation:



Engagement

Co-creation

Implementation

**Monitoring
and
evaluation**



Process and timeline



 **30 Best Practices**

 **18 Countries** (15 Member states)

 **Diverse Methods**

 **Transferability to JTF**

Examples of Best Practices: Youth LEADER Fund

LEADER

Keskipiste

#nuoriso

LEADER



The European Agricultural
Fund for Rural Development:
Europe investing in rural areas

What is it about?

Supporting youth in transforming their ideas into concrete projects and initiatives aiming to create long-term living opportunities for the future generations.

Key strengths

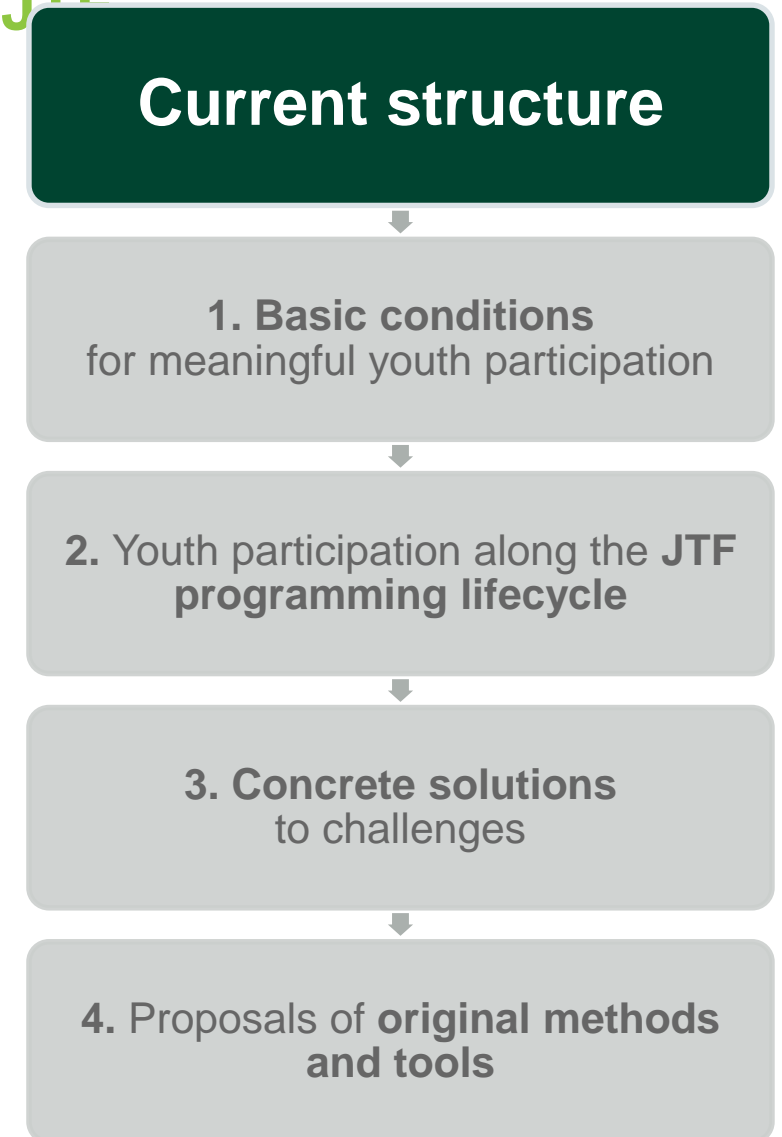
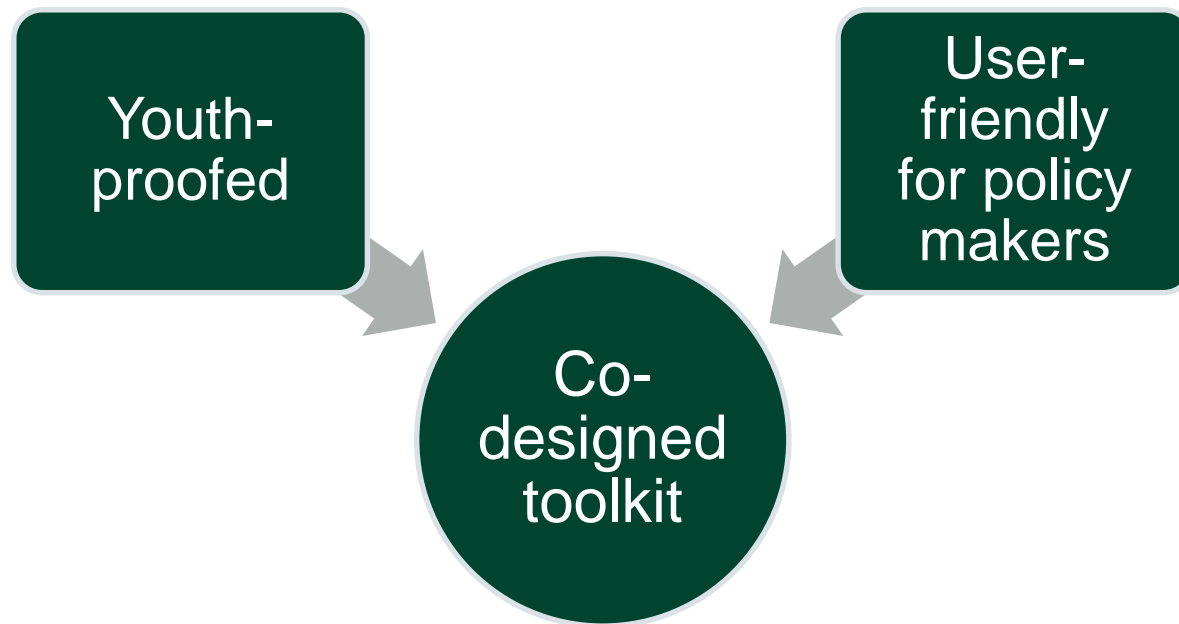
- Work **with** young people, not for them.
- Young people have a real opportunity to manage their own projects and are being trusted to do so.

Transferability

Provides a model of engaging local youth in the development of their community by supporting them through small-scale funding opportunities and involving them in a systematic way in decision-making processes.



Toolkit of youth participation in the JTF



Lessons Learned

1. To meaningfully involve young people, avoid tokenistic approaches
2. Get young people involved throughout the policy cycle
3. Give young people the power and tools to enrich projects with their ideas
4. Work with young people, not for them
5. Help young people to develop new skills thanks to their participation



Thank you!

Contact: REGIO-YOUTH-JUST-TRANSITION@ec.europa.eu

Just Transition Regions

*Sharing the Dutch case on youth participation
for policy on sustainable economic activities*

2020/11/09 – Fons Janssen & Floris van der Plas





- ▷ Fons Janssen
- ▷ 25 years, living in Veulen (NL, Limburg)
- ▷ Community manager GD4Y, Ambassador KEK
- ▷ A.I coördinator Jong RES Limburg



- ▷ Floris van der Plas
- ▷ 24 years, Living in Groningen (NL, Groningen)
- ▷ Project developer SAMEEN
- ▷ Community organizer Jong RES Groningen



SAMEEN



In the next 10 minutes:

1. Dutch youth participation in climate policy

From Climate Agreement to Regional Energy Strategies

2. The case in Groningen

Just Transition Context, Status, Achievements and Challenges

3. Drawing parallels between the European Green Deal and JTR

Opportunities and recommendations from a youth perspective



- Klimaatakkoord: 2019-2030
- Regional Energy Strategy: 2021-2030



Nationaal Programma
RES Regionale
Energie
Strategie



Reasons for youth participation

- Dynamics: creativity and stakeholder behaviour
- Execution: lots of work to do
- Citizenship: learning decision making
- Knowledge: see daily challenges on the ground
- Ambition: feel the urgency





JKB – Youth Climate Movement

- ▶ 70 youth organizations
- ▶ Young Climate Agenda



KEK – Climate Energy Consort

- ▶ 700 young professionals
- ▶ Industry, Energy, Built Environment, Agri/Food, Mobility



Jong RES Nederland



- Regional representatives (23)
 - Region committee
- Macro-regional supervisors (5)
- National committee (5)

Relevance for RES

- From energy to landscape perspective
- National goals:
 - Electricity from 14% to 70% renewable, 2019 to 2030
 - Scaling up housing renovations 1.5 million 2020 to 2030
- New decision layer
 - Decentral governments
 - Societal stakeholders
- Regions can set their own ambition & process
 - Electricity production means are set: Sun + Wind
 - Heat means are being analyzed





Jong RES Groningen

Launched October 2019

Work with young civil society

Province / Municipality

Education

Sport/Culture

Societal / Political groups

Young professionals

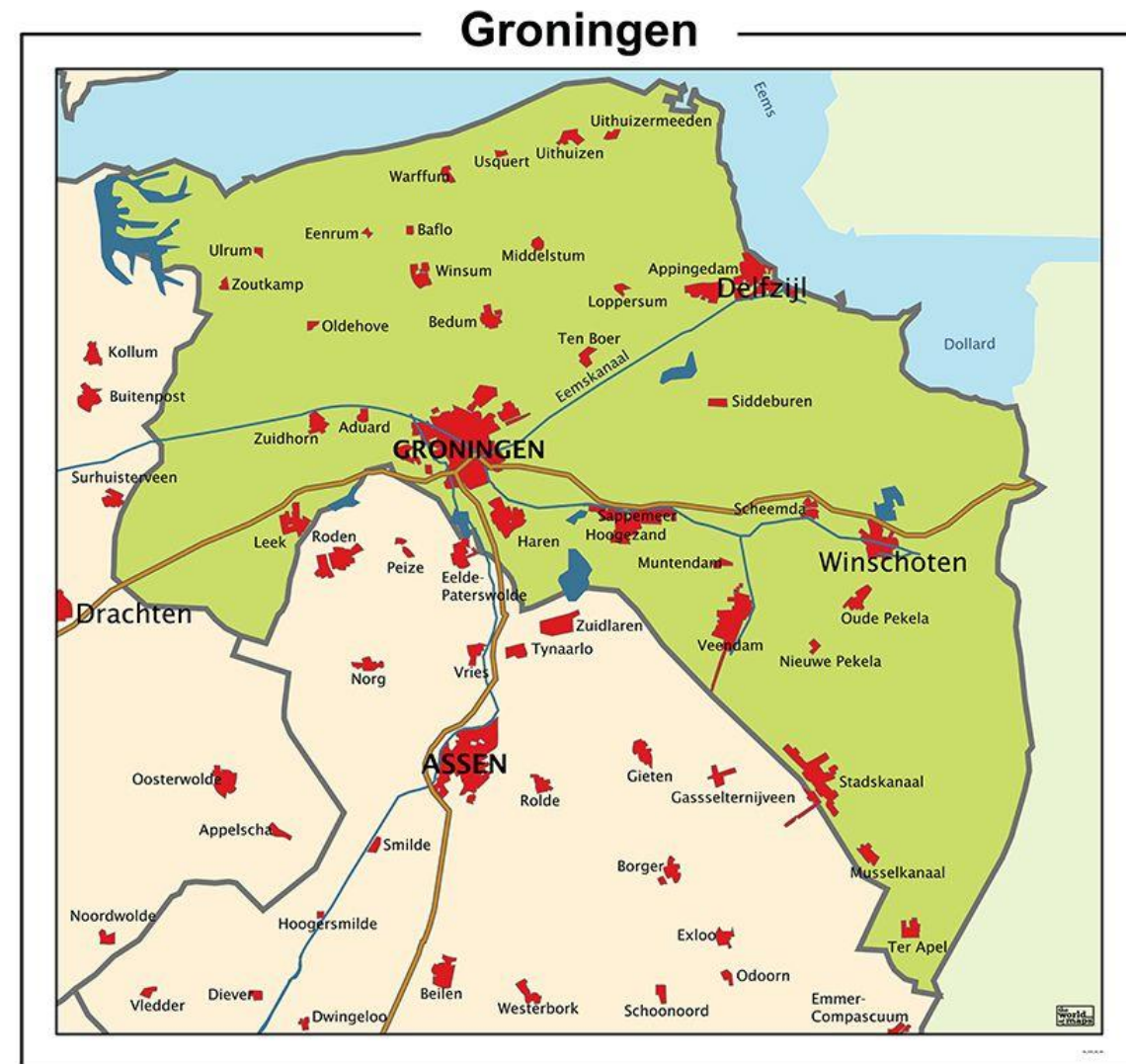
50 persons and quickly growing

18 – 35 years



Context Groningen

- Dependent on natural gas
- Mistrust due to earthquakes
- Shrinking & aging population
- + Strong provincial capital
- + Strong regional culture
- + Strong knowledge center on energy
- + Urgency felt for economic transition





Achievements / Challenges

- + Stability: National and Regional team
- + Legitimacy: Representation across the region
- + Work: Stakeholder overview

- Civil society: Local youth councils are not always present
- Capacity: No clear contact points at municipalities
- Participation: Delay when to include citizens in the proces

Let's draw the parallels: Top-down + Bottom-up

Dutch Climate Agreement



Regional Energy Strategies



European Green Deal



Just Transition Regions





Youth can support us all

- Youth synergetic programs
 - LIFE+
 - European Solidarity Corps (ESC)
 - ERASMUS+
 - INTERREG Volunteering Youth (IVY)
- Technical innovation
- City toolbox Marketplace
- Social innovation

Climate KIC

Smart Cities

European Youth Capitals



Climate-KIC is supported by the EIT, a body of the European Union



Smart Cities Marketplace



How do we organize this effectively?

- Multi-layered governance
- Climate Pact community
- Climate KIC community
- Regional Network
- European young civil society

Don't wait reaching out!





Relevant Literature:

- EYF
 - [A comprehensive plan to innovate democracy in Europe](#)
 - [Diversity and Inclusion Guidelines](#)
 - [POLICY PAPER ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT](#)
 - [The European Youth Blueprint To Recovery](#)
- YEE
 - [Active youth, better environment](#)
 - [Let Grassroots Grow!](#)
 - [Guides for youth ngos](#)
 - [Inclusion in Environmental Youth Projects](#)
- Jong RES Groningen Pilot:
 - [Report "KEK on RES Groningen"](#)

Contact details

- Fons Janssen
 - fons.janssen@gd4y.org
 - +31625197680
- Floris van der Plas
 - [groningen@jongres.nl](mailto: groningen@jongres.nl)
 - +31639213337





TBI: Youth, City and Heritage

Presentation of TBI method from Idrija, Slovenia



SLOVENIA



IDRIJA, SLOVENIA





Idrija Mercury Mine was one of the leading representatives of the early capitalism. Not only in Slovenia, but also in Europe.

Marija Verbič, historian

IN NUMBERS

500 years of mining

1115 kilometers of tunnels

147 000 tons of mercury

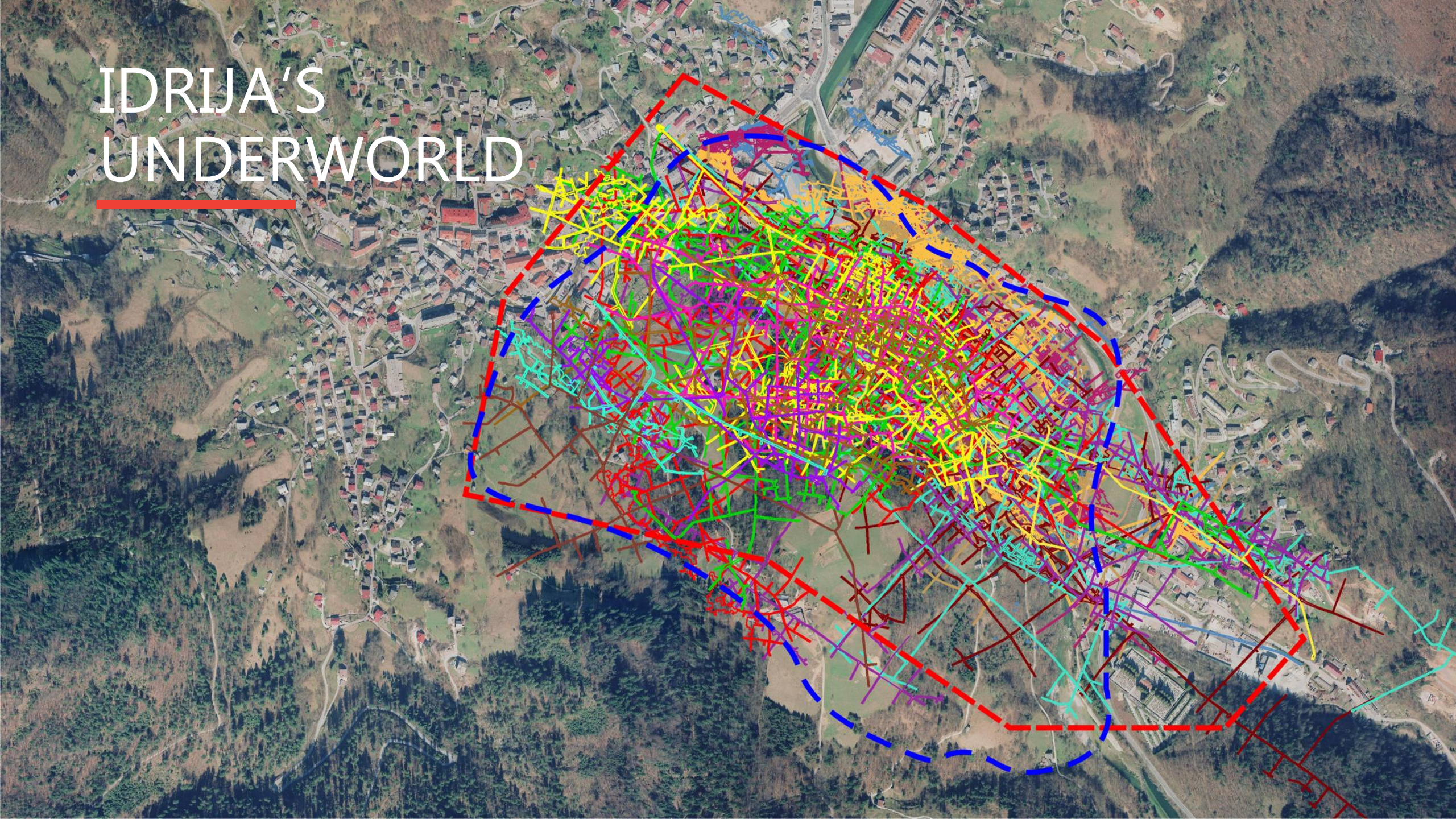
13 % of the world

production

2nd largest mercury mine in
the world (after Almaden in
Spain)



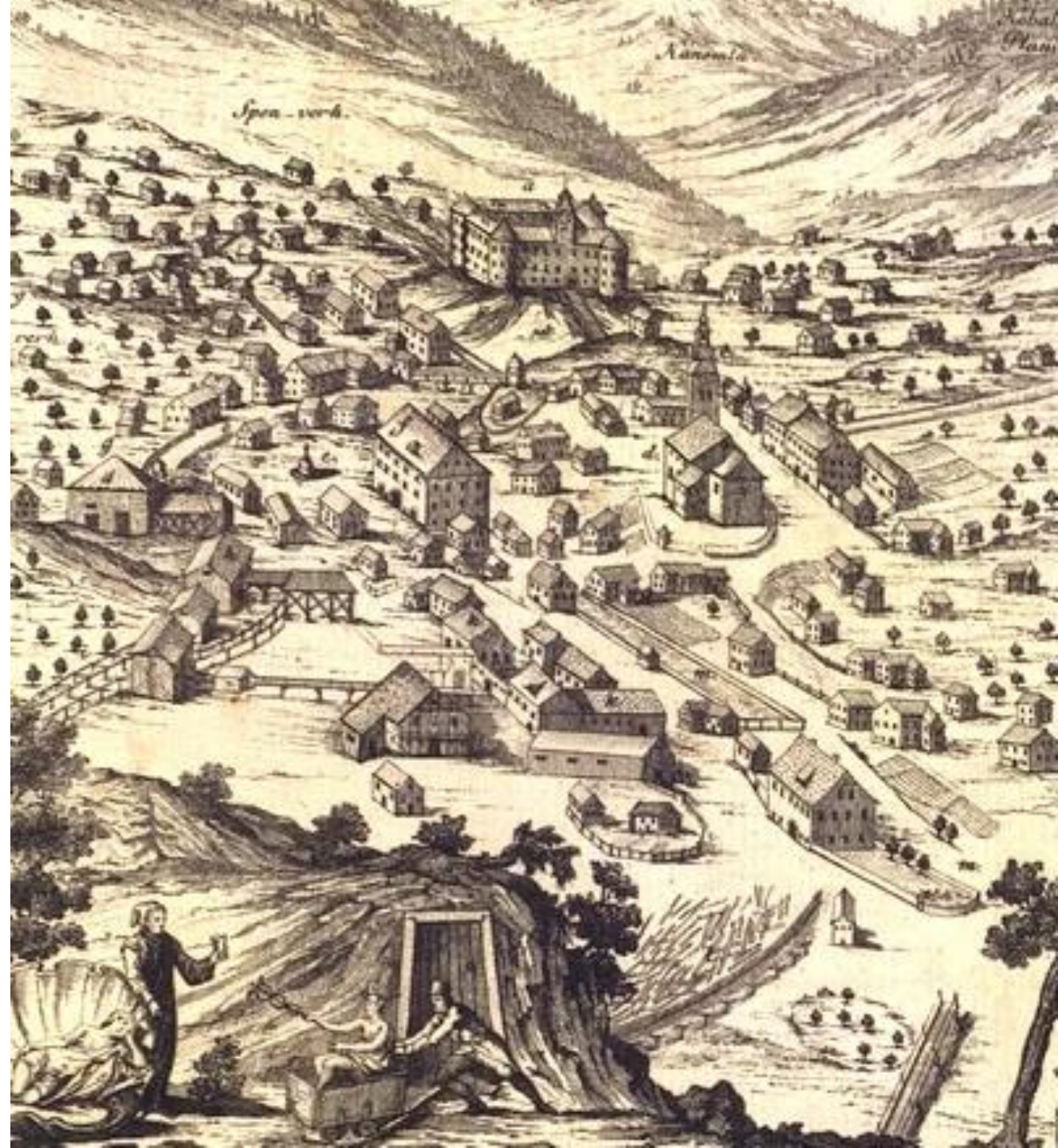
IDRIJA'S UNDERWORLD



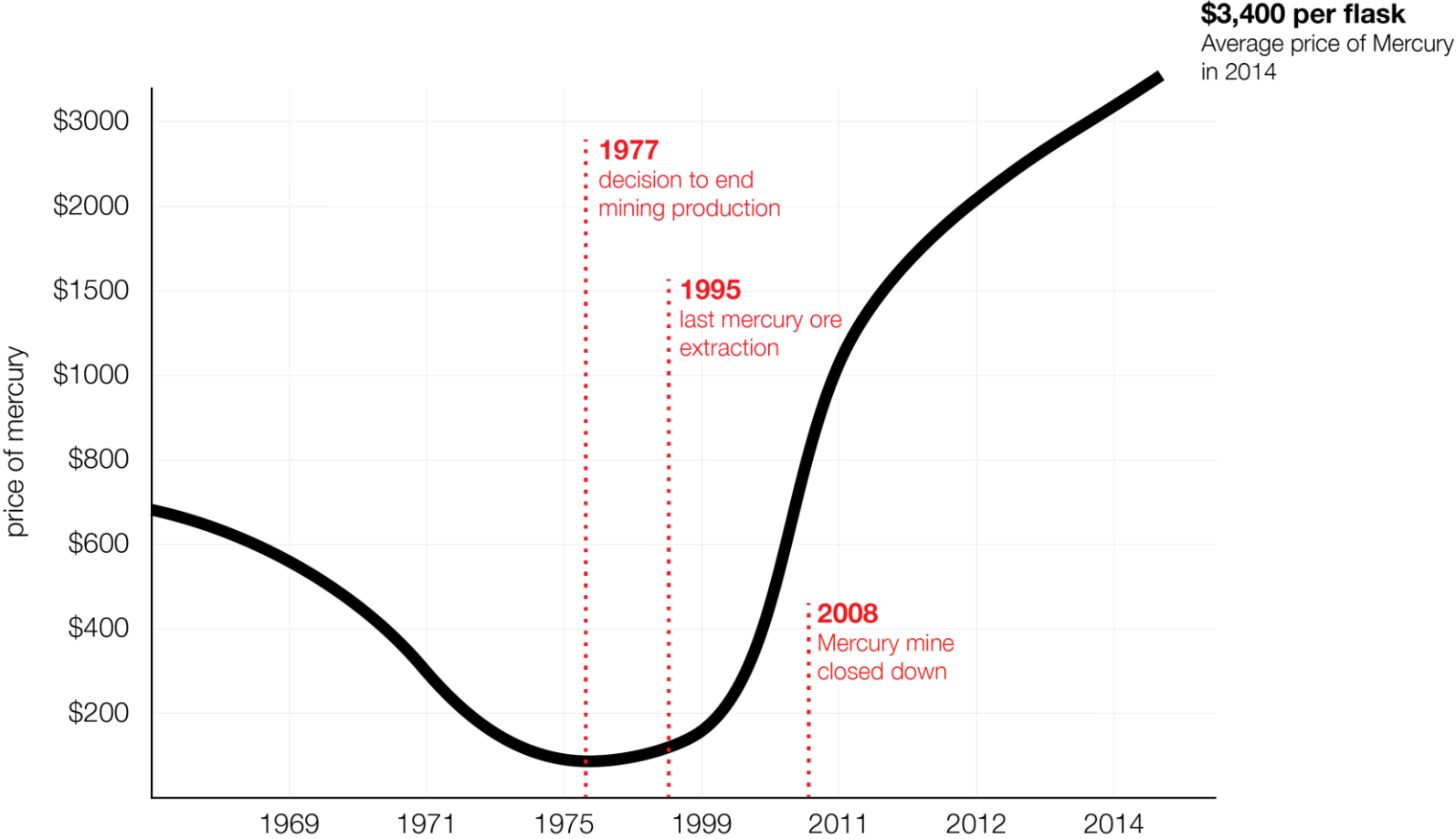
Idrija – capital of technical development

One of the technical and development centres in Habsburg monarchy (Austria):

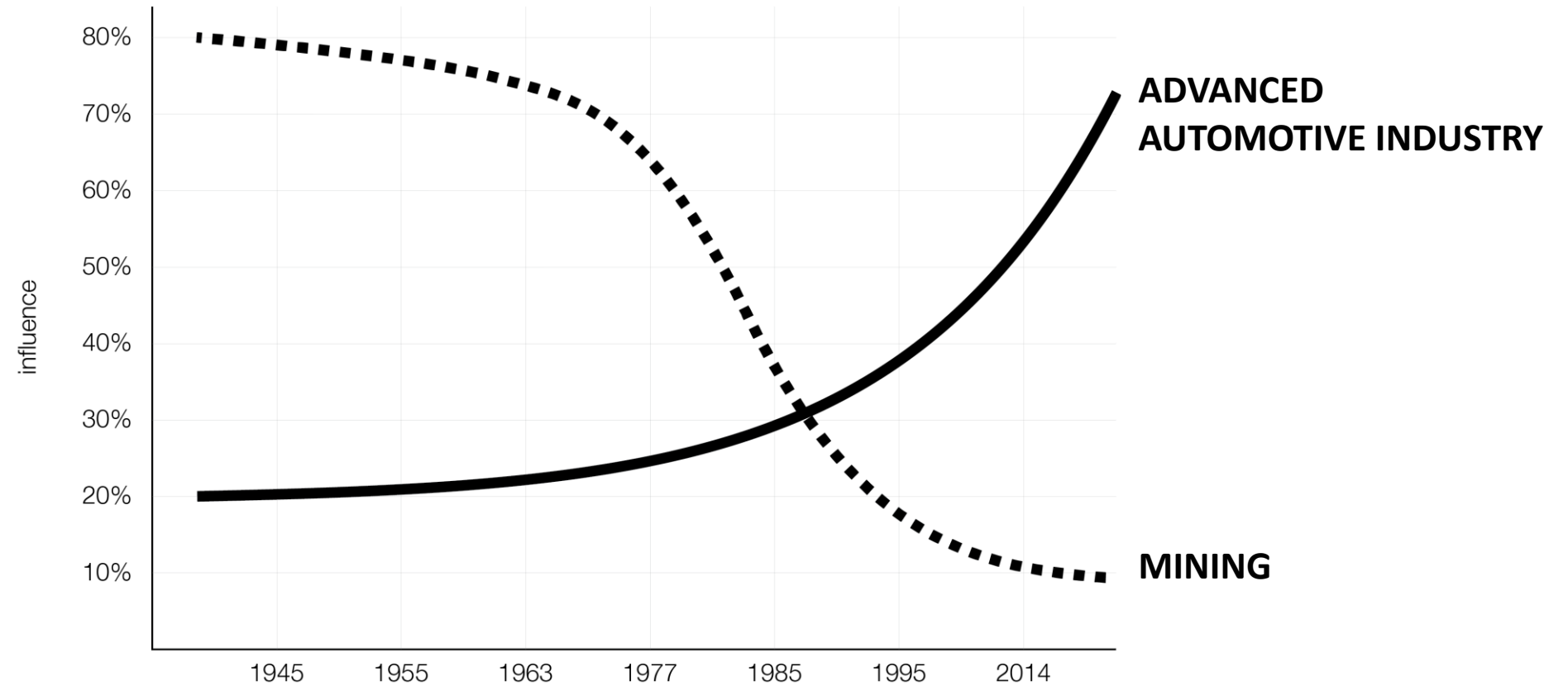
- ✓ Geology
- ✓ Metallurgy
- ✓ Pharmacy
- ✓ Botanics
- ✓ Medicine



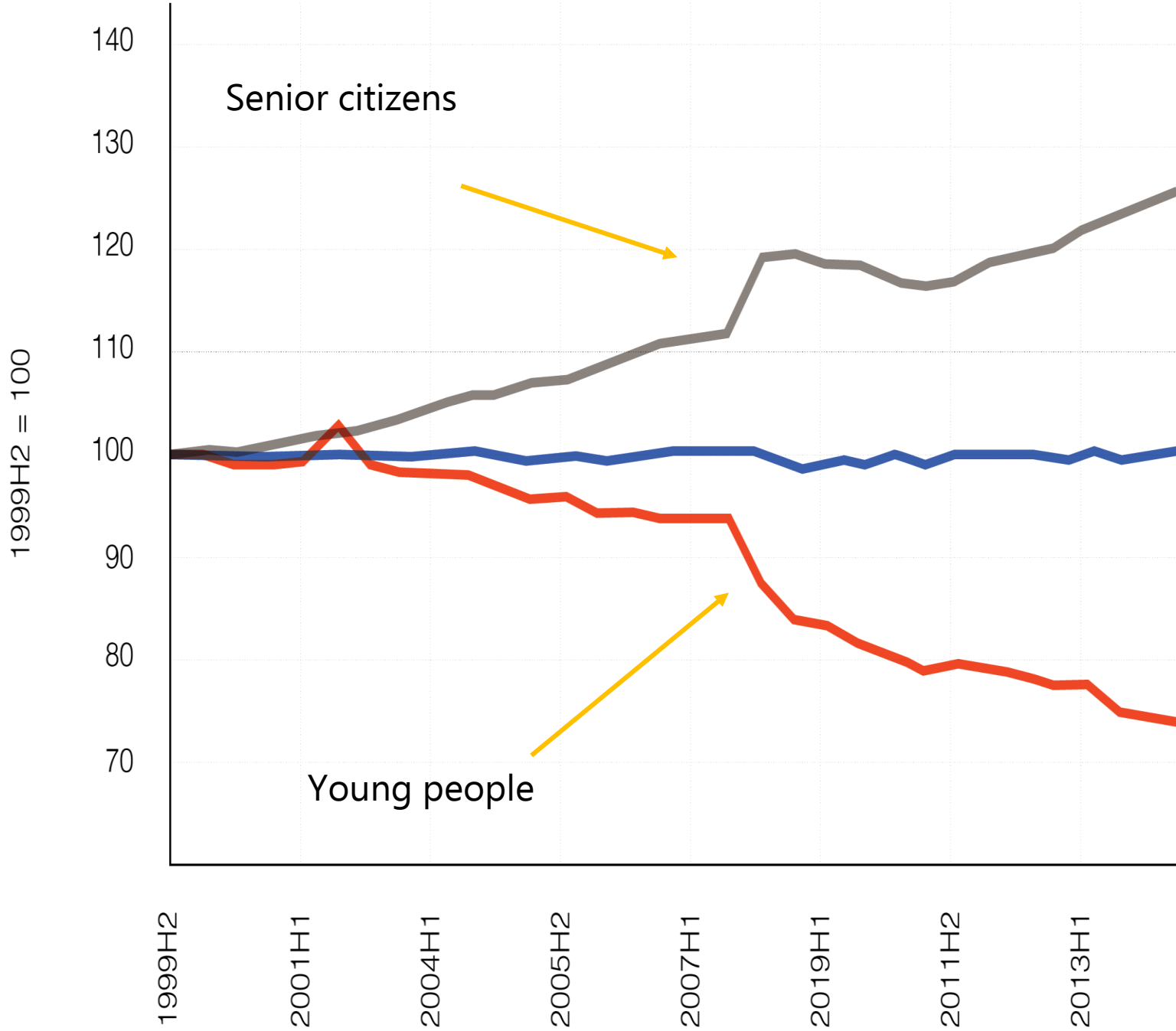
DECLINE OF MINING



RISE OF ADVANCED INDUSTRY



BUT ...



TBI Method was born

To Bo Idrija!
(This is Idrija!)

Participatory method

Focus on urbanism

Young people in charge

Heritage is part of the identity

Interdisciplinary approach



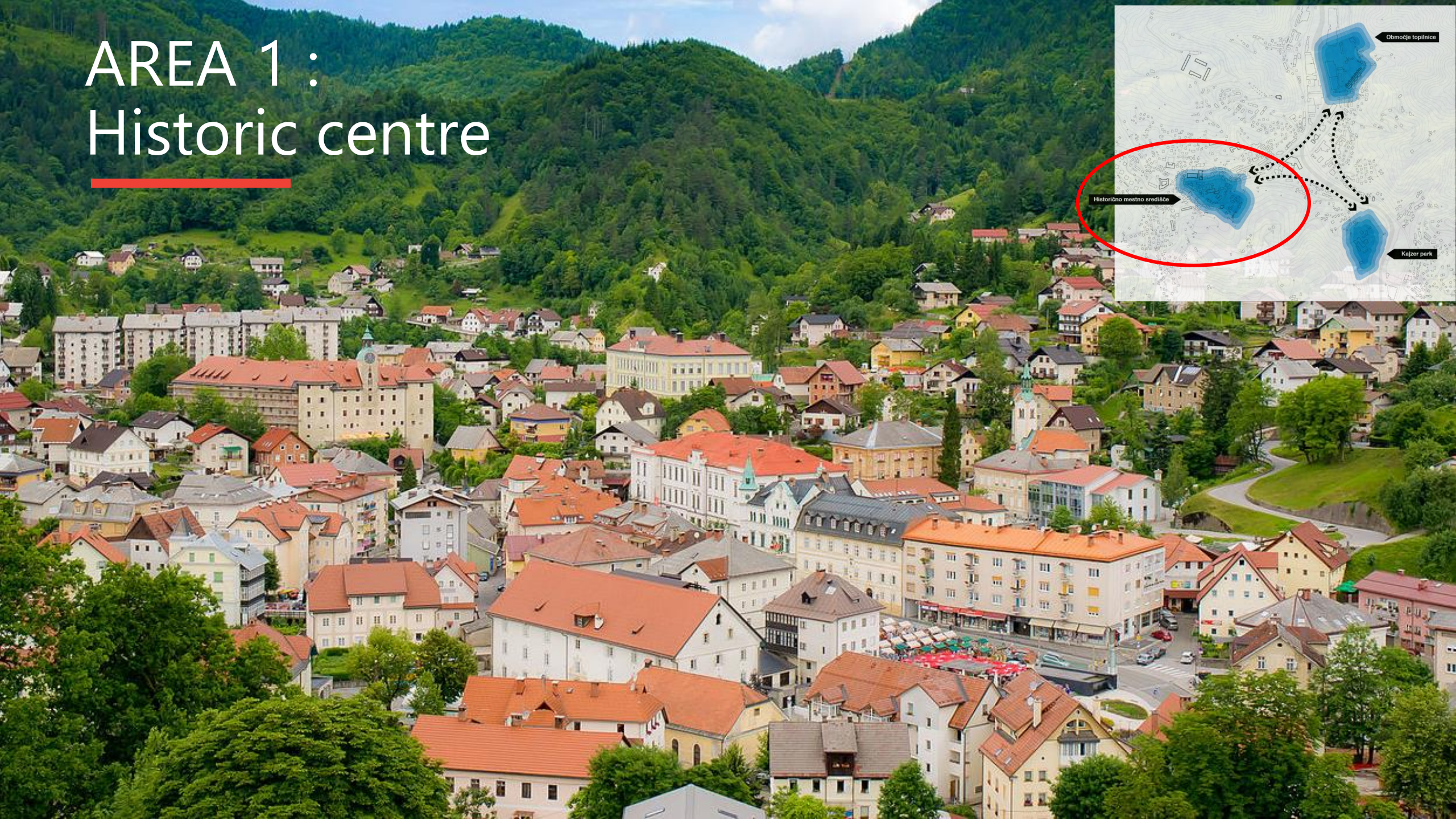
MEETING DECISION-MAKERS



FIELD-TRIPS



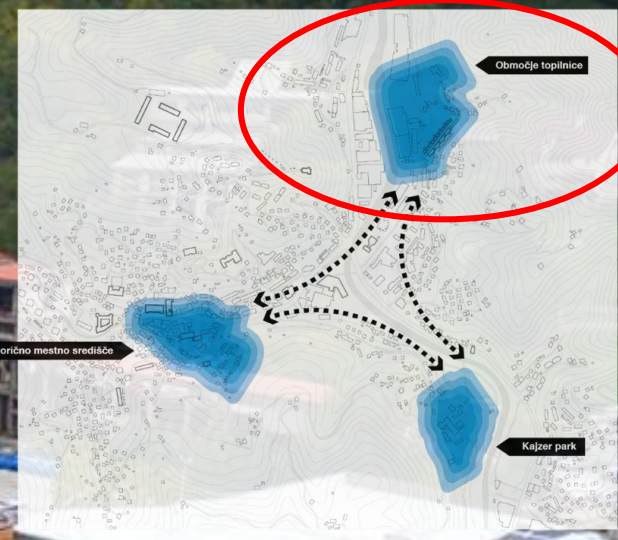
AREA 1 : Historic centre



AREA 2: Kajzer park – a former shaft



AREA 3: Industrial area - former smelting plant



SKETCHING IDEAS



IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES

1.1) Growth of creative and cultural industries

1.2) Increase of entrepreneurship (also through existing automotive factories)

1.3) Development of sustainable tourism

1.4) Increase in housing opportunities

1.5) Connection of individual town areas

1.6) Multifunctional room for different social groups

1.7) Spreading the new identity of the town

1.8) Creating a diverse cultural environment

1.9) Bigger role of citizens in decision-making

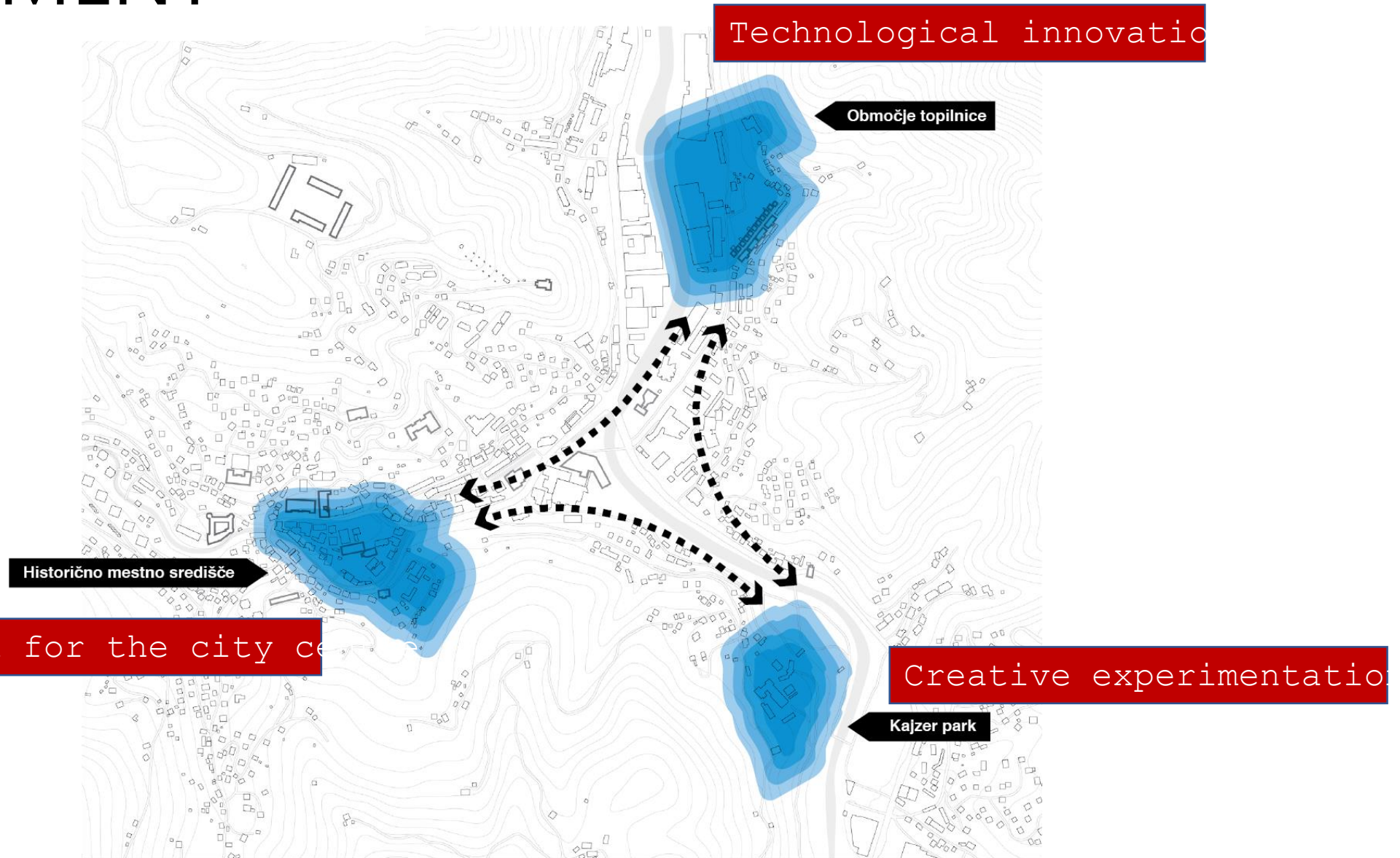
Nova podoba mesta.
Mestno središče kot velik kongresni prostor ...

... 100 let zgodovine v novih prostorih.

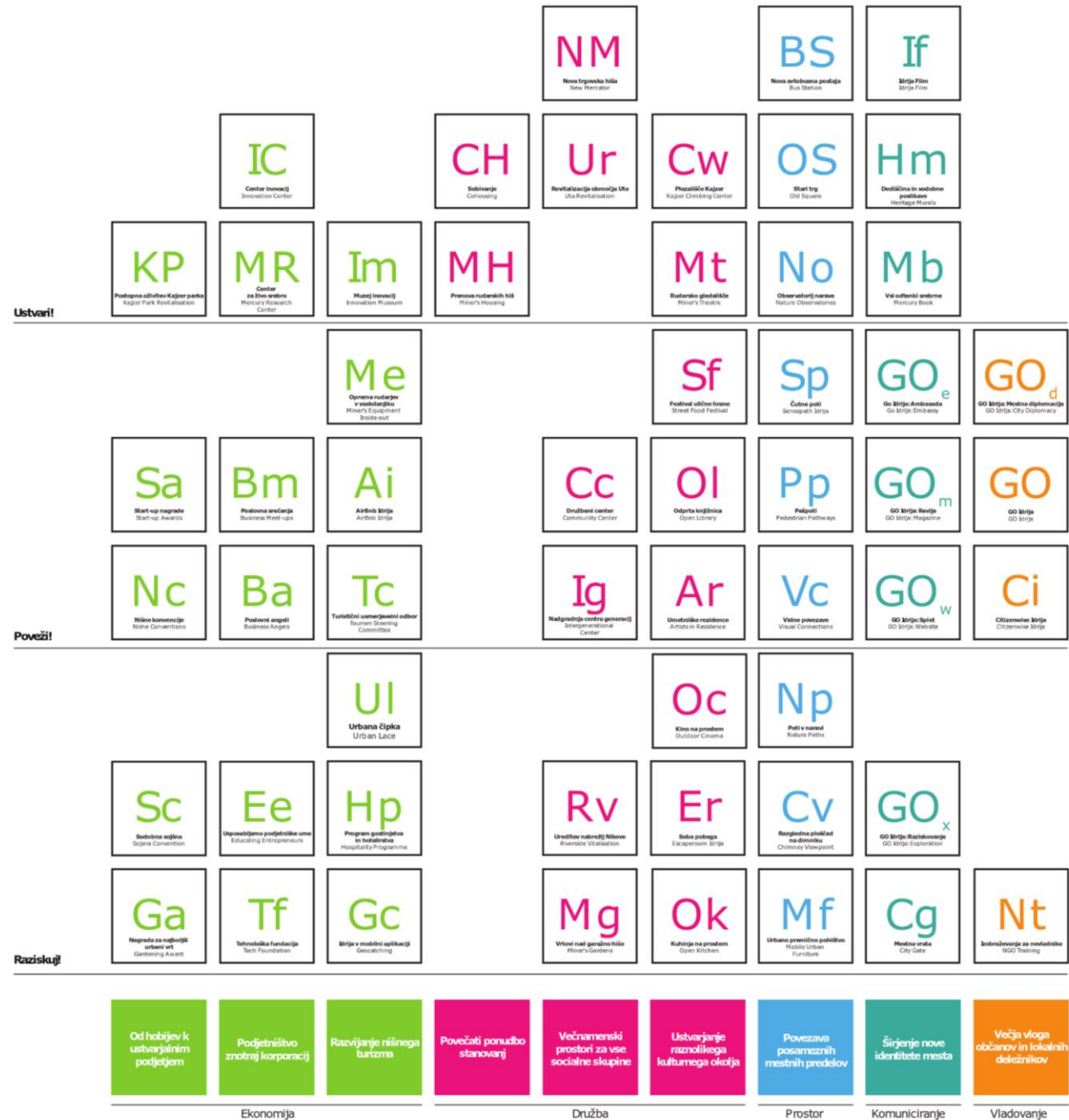


THREE DEVELOPMENT AREAS

New vision for the city center



60 proposals



More: www.tbi.si



Centre for Innovations



Urban Lace



Co-Housing



Intergenerational area



Escape mine!



Results

- ✓ 60 interconnected proposals
- ✓ Pop-up exhibition
- ✓ Nationwide exhibition in Ljubljana

- ✓ Vision and approach **incorporated in the municipal developmental strategy**
- ✓ **Many projects (30 %) have been already implemented** (largely by youth NGOs ...)





ID20 / zavod za
inovacije
v dediščini

Get in touch!

Matevž Straus

ID20 Institute

Idrija, Slovenia

Matevz.straus@id20.si

www.id20.si