
The clean, the dirty and the unwanted: capacity building for energy transitions,
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Capacity building for just energy transition in Poland: reflection on optimal instruments and institutions



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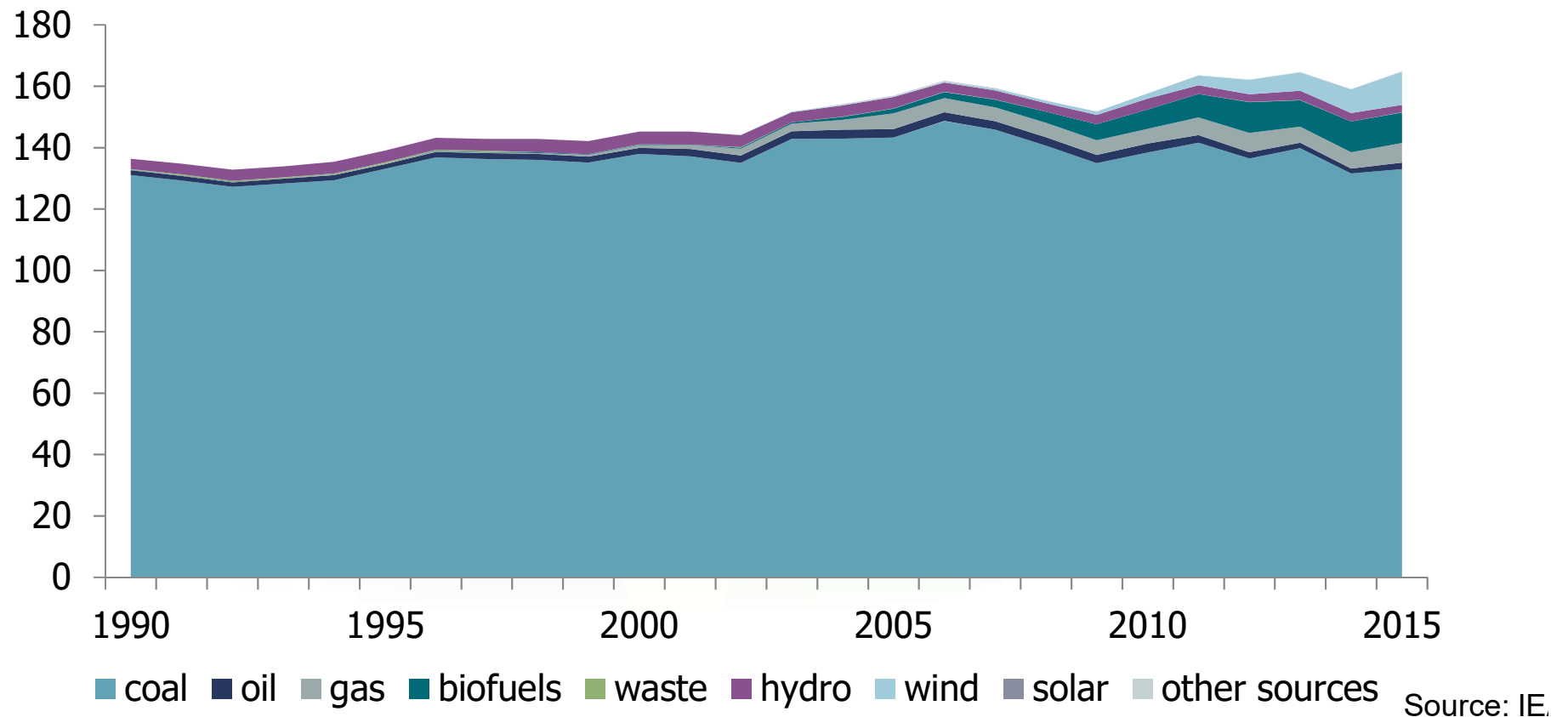
Presenter: Aleksander Szpor



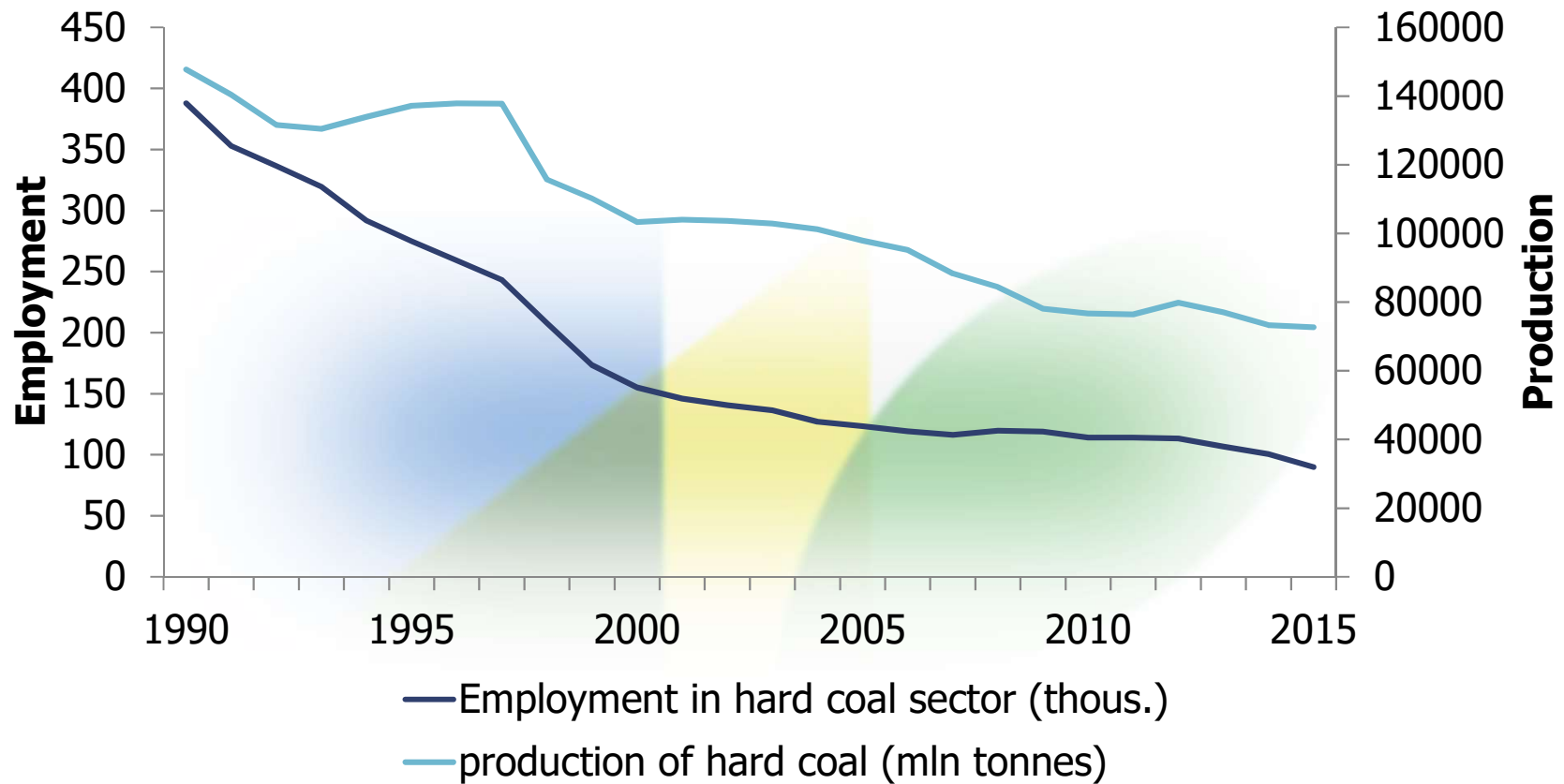
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Domination of coal in electricity production (TWh)



Transformation of the hard coal sector in Poland is a long proces



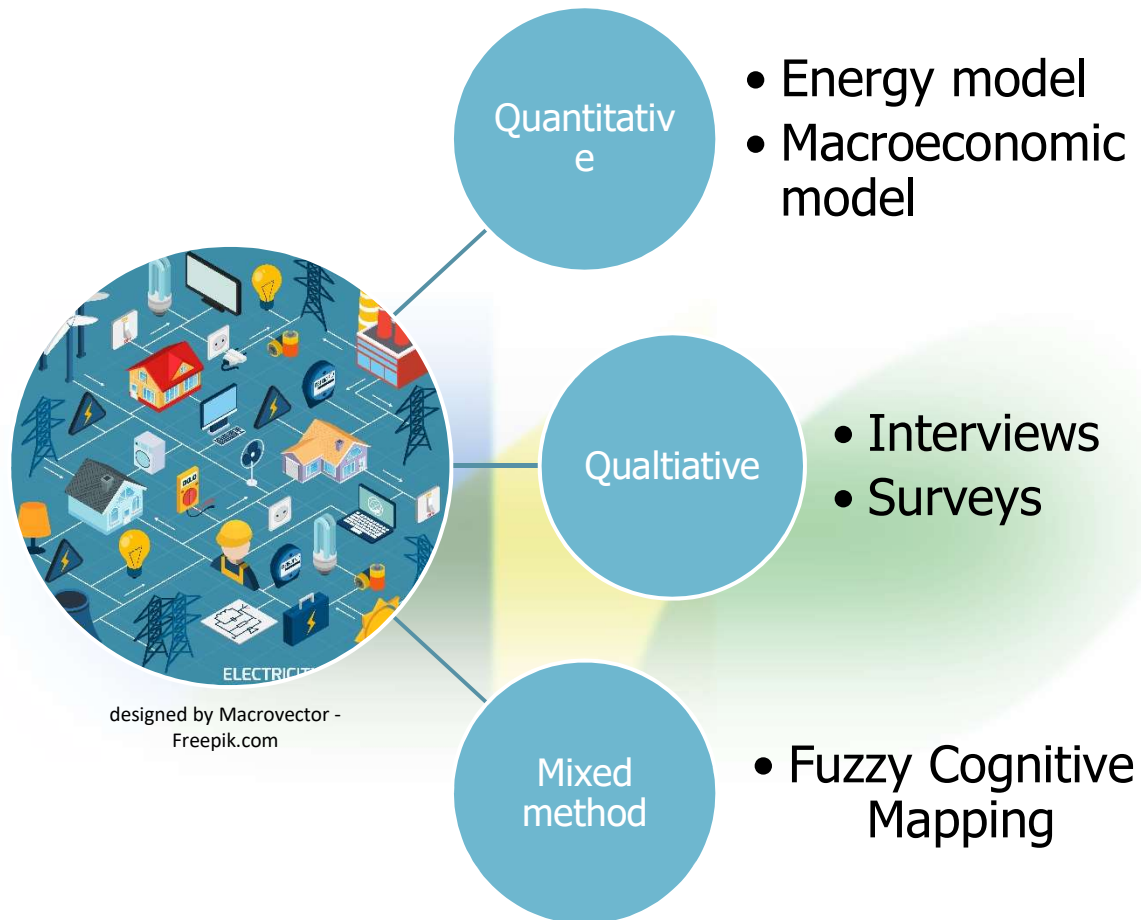
The overarching research question
about Energy transition in Poland



How we can improve this process and make it more just?



We applied a variety of research methods



Risks of transformation can be mitigated by apt INSTRUMENTS



Risks related to coal phase-down

- Labour loss or inactivity
- Energy poverty
- Miners' protests

Instruments

- Natural attrition and activating component of „golden handshakes“
- Thermal retrofitting program involving former miners
- Inclusive decision-making involving local communities, raising awareness of health problems



Dr Joanna Wadowska-Król –
research on lead impact on health



- A pediatrician working in Szopienice (Silesia) where the smelting plant of non-ferrous metal existed since 1836.
- In 1970s. and 1980s., she examined 5000 children living in the neighborhood of the plant and discovered massive lead poisoning
- She was threatened to not to publish and communicate the results of her research (all the copies of her PhD dissertation disappeared at the University)
- Under this pressure she managed not only to alarm and raise the awareness of medical services in the region but also to
 - organise the re-allocation of families from the most exposed areas
 - help in lawsuits of affected people against the smelting plant.



"Women know what they are doing"



PTWP, source: rynekzdrowia.pl



Capacity building should concentrate on social dialogue



Social dialogue councils

- Regional level
- Sectoral
- Country level

Support tools

- Labour restructuring analysis and alternative job opportunities based on regional and local potential
- Alternative energy mixes and their costs
- A toolbox to assess the effects of climate mitigation policies on the economy



To-dos for just transition leaders



- A true just transition leaders should be workers and local communities
- Incentives for building the social capital (especially bridging capital)
- Procedures of decision making should open for diverse stakeholders



To-dos for just transition leaders



- In Poland, the transition processes are designed foremost by sectoral and national trade union leaders and managed by the government with participation of business.
- Alternative energy transition scenarios need to be promoted
- The risks of transformation which concern the public opinion need to be carefully analysed and weighted against each other

