

EN

E-003027/2022

Answer given by Ms Ferreira
on behalf of the European Commission
(8.12.2022)

1. The Just Transition Fund will support the territories that are the hardest hit by the socio-economic impact of the transition to a climate-neutral Europe in 2050, in particular territories that are heavily dependent on fossil fuels (such as coal, lignite, peat or oil shale) or on greenhouse gas-intensive industrial activities (such as steel, chemicals, cement or others), where jobs may be lost and industrial processes need to transform. In this context, the Italian authorities in close coordination with local authorities are preparing territorial just transition plans for Sulcis Iglesiente (Sardinia) and Taranto (Puglia).

2. The EU Energy Platform was created in April 2022 to diversify from Russian fossil fuels and to improve security of supply for the next winters. The platform is based on three pillars: (1) the aggregation of gas demand for joint purchase, (2) the optimisation of infrastructure usage in the EU and (3) the coordinated outreach to international partners.

In May 2022, the Commission adopted the REPowerEU action plan. Up to EUR 300 billion of EU funding are available to support the REPowerEU objectives, mostly channelled via the Recovery and Resilience Facility. In October 2022, the Commission adopted a set of emergency and temporary measures to enable joint purchasing of gas, address market volatility and high gas prices by advancing work on a new liquefied natural gas (LNG) pricing benchmark and short-term market correction mechanism that can be triggered in case of need to limit prices; and ensure more solidarity between Member States in case of serious supply shortages and allocation of gas in case of a security of supply emergency.