

# **Research Center of Post-Mining and Its Projects on Reactivation and Transition**

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## **Abstract**

The last two remaining coal mines were closed in Germany at the end of 2018. Closure of hard coal mines in Germany has taken place for years and brings a wide range of tasks that have to be fulfilled. In the scope of these tasks first of all in 2013 the graduate program "Geoengineering and Post Mining" and then in 2015 the "Research Center of Post-Mining" were established at the TH Georg Agricola University. The research center of post mining is carrying out its researches in the scope of its 4 pillars: "Perpetual tasks and minewater management"; "Geomonitoring in post-mining"; "Material sciences for the preservation of cultural heritage" and "Reactivation and transition".

The fourth pillar "Reactivation and transition" analyses the political, economic and legal frameworks needed to successfully reactivate former industrial locations and their infrastructures. In this way, the foundations are created for establishing new residential districts and business parks, recreational areas or renewable energy facilities in places where raw materials were once mined. The Project "GreenJOBS", one of the ongoing projects in the Pillar IV and funded by the Research Fund for Coal and Steel, focuses on repurposing end-of-life underground coal mines by deploying emerging renewable energy and circular economy technologies to promote sustainable local economic growth and maximise the number of green, quality jobs.

**Keywords:** post-mining, reactivation, transition, green jobs