Since receiving our grant from the Alex C. Walker Foundation, the Brookings Institution has been working with staff of the Partnership for Responsible Growth (PRG) as they lay the groundwork for their first coal country just transition listening session.

Brookings staff visited West Virginia in late February for introductory conversations with local community leaders. The purpose of this trip was to build trust with key organizations, identify potential partners on this work, and gain perspective on how to shape an agenda for an initial listening session that would be useful to participating national policy experts and local community organizations and leaders.

Our next steps include attending the first listening session in West Virginia later this spring and undertaking research to support the preparation of a policy brief.