



Bioenergy Promotion



Bioenergy Promotion 2: From Strategies To Activities

This newsletter sums up the main outcomes and lessons learned in the Bioenergy promotion project’s Extension Stage.

The objective of the Extension stage of the Baltic Sea Region Bioenergy Promotion (2012–2014) was to strengthen the key outcomes and results of the Main stage (2009–2012). Seven of the initial 17 demo regions started to implement the regional strategic plans and concepts made during the Main stage.

Some of the partners entered into a dialogue with non-partner regions outside the project and discussed opportunities to transfer experiences, good practices and strategic concepts.

Fossil fuels were replaced with renewables in Tukums (Latvia) district heating system



Latvian Environmental Investment Fund arranged in co-operation with municipality of Tukums Energy Day of Tukums in April 2013. The main focus of the day was to increase the local capacity for Sustainable Energy Action Plan implementation and to raise

awareness. The project supported the region in their efforts to replace fossil fuels.

The extension stage project aimed to

- Support the implementation of the strategic plans and concepts
- Transfer good practices to regions outside the project
- Test sustainability principles
- Feed corresponding findings into higher level policy and program development

More information:

<http://www.bioenergypromotion.net/bsr/overview-1>

Main results in Tukums

- Decision to modernize the entire district heating system was included into the municipality’s Sustainable Energy Action Plan
- Several modernizations to boiler-houses → all operate completely on wood chips
- Fuel gas condensers have been installed to new boilers
- Average conversion efficiency has reached 80 %

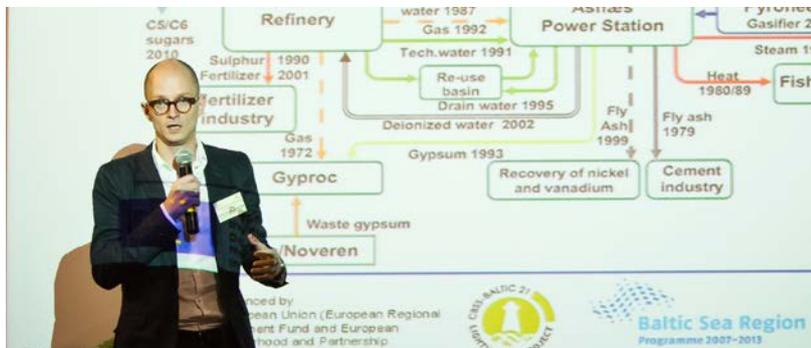


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Industrial symbiosis in Kalundborg (Denmark)



In Kalundborg, a group of nine public and private enterprises are exchanging waste and by-products, and thereby reduce overall resource consumption. In their industrial symbiosis system they are exchanging more than 30 different materials.

The industrial symbiosis is organized around the coal-fired power station. A process has been started to identify alternative renewable energy source to coal. In the project data on waste flows between, and greenhouse gas emission from, the companies has been generated. Also data about local bioenergy sources has been collected and suggestions for a new design for the local energy system in the industrial symbiosis.

Examples of heat entrepreneurs from North Karelia to other parts of Finland



North Karelia is the most advanced region in Finland regarding the use and production of bioenergy. The region is especially well known for its heat entrepreneurs. Heat entrepreneurship is a special business model in which co-operatives of farmers, forest

owners, or other entrepreneurs provide heat services to municipalities or other customers. The experiences gained in North Karelia were studied and promoted in three other Finnish regions.

Although there are lot of heat entrepreneurs in North Karelia there are still some obstacles on their way. One of the most important obstacles is the initial investment financing.

New data material flows

The project Bioenergy Promotion 2 has assisted this greening process by generating data on waste flows between, and greenhouse gas emissions from, the companies involved in the industrial symbiosis. This data has been fed into the transition process.

Furthermore, the project has generated data about local and regional bioenergy resources available from agriculture, industry and forestry in the region.

Survey for entrepreneurs

What North Karelian heat entrepreneurs think about their business and its development

- Knowledge and information transfer are keys to success
- Quality of wood chips and how to achieve it make a difference
- Future potential in small scale CHP is interesting
- Cooperation between heat entrepreneurs is important
- Attitudes of local officials can either help or prevent their business



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Exact assessment of the logging residue potential in Rotenburg (Germany)



Main activity in Rotenburg was the integration of recent research into the strategies developed in Main stage. Those new results referred to an exact assessment of the logging residues potential, using parameters to be applied in the standing forests. The relevant formulas are now

integrated in to the standard forest inventory program. The challenge is to find financing in the future and to keep the inventory system updated. It is also seen that nutrient extraction through biomass utilization and soil properties should be considered. To apply nutrient extraction parameters to forest soil mapping system requires full site inventory and depends also on the financing of the public authorities at regional and federal state level.

Lesson learned

The exact calculations of the potential are a crucial asset when attracting investment into wood biomass heat plant in the region.

Price of heat is the main focus in Kaunas (Lithuania)



The initiative of district heating companies, EU structural funds and national programs, have led to the fact that about 85 MW of bioenergy capacity has been installed in this demo region since 2010.

In Kaunas, development is not seen only in positive way. Wood is widely used in households for heating in Lithuania because it's a cheap fuel. Further installation of large capacity wood-burning boilers in the district heating system could raise the price of firewood. On the other hand, centralized efficient plants could reduce pollution (fine particles) in residential districts. One of the main strategic aims in the region is to reduce heat tariffs for residents. For that, proper methodologies for defining heat tariffs and heat purchasing prices are needed.

Policy lessons in Lithuania

The Lithuanian Energy Institute highlighted the need to enter into a dialogue with the National Control Commission for Prices and Energy in order to improve the current methodology for calculating heat prices.

The aim of the dialogue was to significantly reduce the heat tariffs for households via modernization of existing and construction of new boiler-houses. Significantly cheaper local biomass fuel would be the key element in providing cheaper heat.

It was also seen that funding eligibility assessments for new and implemented bioenergy projects need to integrate principles and criteria for sustainable development.



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Key lessons in waste management in Gdynia (Poland)

The Polish municipalities, currently elaborating their strategies for waste management systems have to transpose and implement the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and the EU Decision (2011/753/EU) when planning new installations for thermal treatment of municipal solid waste.

The installations for the combustion or gasification of dry combustible fractions of municipal waste, so-called 'pre RDF' – Refuse derived fuel, should be designed properly. Separated at source, organic fractions of municipal wastes of high moisture content should be subjected to aerobic or anaerobic processes, producing high-quality products that can be used as a fertilizer or soil improver. Then the processes of the waste thermal treatment can be considered in the EU recycling target calculation.

RDF - Refuse derived fuel

Is mainly combustible components of municipal waste such as plastics and biodegradable waste



Skaraborg (Sweden)

Although bioenergy is one of the main energy sources in Sweden, there is still a large potential for growth. This applies particularly in small and medium-sized heat and co-generation plants, and for biogas for CHP and vehicle fuel.

Key conclusions and experiences

- Continued support and advice to businesses and stakeholders is vital to function as a regional network point. If this is established, stakeholders contact you, and an overview of on-going and planned actions, initiatives and interests is continuously up to date. The Bioenergy Promotion project has been able to act as a regional network point. One example is the coordination of "bioenergy square" at the regional agricultural fair, with over 8000 visitors, as well as participation in farming networks in the bioenergy field.
- Spatial planning and strategies, in relation to bioenergy development, are mainly carried out at local and regional level. The Bioenergy Promotion Project has enabled the experts to take part in these processes. Through the project, several municipalities have been given input and advice on bioenergy within energy planning, rural development and public initiatives, as well as in developing new building areas and investing in existing buildings, areas and utilities (district heating and electricity).

Learning from others

After study tour to Kalundborg Denmark to learn about industrial symbiosis four municipalities in West Sweden are actively working on the first stage of industrial symbiosis.



The study tour to Kalundborg to look at industrial symbiosis in action was door opener for the participating municipalities to adopt this approach in their work with business and rural development. They are now all working with parts of industrial symbiosis methodology as a driver for development.



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Transfer initiative involving partners from Latvia, Denmark and Germany

The Latgale region in Latvia has a huge potential of biomass resources, but there is a lack of effective and predictable support mechanisms to mobilize and exploit this potential. Also lack of reliable information on the resource potential, vertical cooperation between different levels of government and administration, and horizontal cooperation among organisations are slowing down the development.

The transfer initiative comprised several visits, workshops, meetings, calculations and assessments. Interaction with local actors and motivation of regional cooperation was an important part of the transfer. For example, a number of local governments in Latgale started to assess and utilize the existing biomass potential and have committed to developing Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAP) under the Covenant of Mayors. The Bioenergy Promotion project gave valuable input to the progress in the regions.

Transfer initiatives and actions

One of the key objectives of the project was to create a dialogue between BP2 demo and non-partner regions outside the project, in order to support the development of local and regional bioenergy strategies and to “transfer” knowledge and good practices. The most comprehensive transfer activity has been with the region of Latgale in Latvia.

Feeding project results into the new European funding programmes 2014–2020

One of the objectives of the Extension stage of the project Bioenergy Promotion 2 was to feed Main stage and Extension stage project results into key EU funding programmes in demo regions, partner countries and Baltic Sea Region.

In order to accomplish this task, three steps were taken.

- Several good practice projects were assessed and relevant success factors identified.
- In depth assessment of several operational programmes relevant for the demo regions were made.
- Two documents were made: Project Assessment Report and Assessment of selected Operational Programmes under the ERDF, cooperation programmes under the European Territorial Cooperation objective and under the EAFRD

Based on the assessments mentioned, the partners prepared three input papers providing recommendations for the formulation of new Operational Programmes for the next funding period 2014–2020.

- Input paper for national policy makers in Lithuania and Poland
- Input to the programming of the EU Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014–2020
- Recommendations to the programming of the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme 2014–2020

Dialogue with the Council of Baltic Sea States Expert Group on sustainable development

The Council of Baltic Sea States (CBSS) Expert Group on Sustainable Development is a key actor for disseminating policy recommendations among other transnational and national stakeholders in the Baltic Sea Region.

In this co-operation three main activities have been carried out: two roundtables in Stockholm and presentation to an agricultural conference in St. Petersburg. The process has led to a set of policy recommendations, which will be further developed within the CBSS. In the end it is hoped to lead to additional focus on the promotion of sustainable bioenergy solutions in various political contexts during 2014.



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Recommendations for creating a bioenergy macro-region

In close cooperation with the Baltic 21 / CBSS Expert Group on Sustainable Development the project has carried out a workshop in December 2013 in Stockholm.

Actions to be taken

It is envisaged that the recommendations will be further developed within the Expert Group on Sustainable Development and hopefully adopted at a meeting during 2014.

Moreover the recommendations will be presented in other political and administrative fora in the Baltic Sea Region.

[Read more>>](#)

The recommendation topics

The policy paper on selected recommendations was presented and a dialogue was facilitated. The recommendations covered the following four topics:

1. **Promotion of the Green Growth Agenda**
2. **Driver of Local Development**
3. **Renewable Energy system**
4. **Baltic Sustainable Bioenergy Certification System**



Project results

The project results are described in more detail in the new project brochure.

[Bioenergy Promotion 2: From strategies to activities>>](#)

The whole project team wants to thank the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) in Rostock, project's demo regions and all others who have contributed to the success of Bioenergy Promotion project.



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