



## European co-operation

### Four islands campaigned for renewable energy in the years of 1999 and 2000

Samsøe co-ordinated in 1999 and 2000 ALTENER contract no XVII/4.1030/Z/99-350 with the title: "Towards 100% Renewable Energy on Small Islands. Development and implementation of Organisational and Financial Tools in a new Network Collaboration". The work undertaken took place on the island of Samsøe, Denmark, the Aran Islands, Ireland, the island of El Hierro, the Canary Islands, Spain, and the island of La Maddalena, Sardinia, Italy. The focus of the activities was barrier oriented.

#### Aran Islands

On the Aran Islands, the efforts were concentrated on the preparation of the establishment of an integrated wind energy and desalination project. The project is now up and running. A demonstration project for solar heating in a combination with a heat pump was also prepared during the ALTENER work. This project too is successfully up and running today.

#### El Hierro

On El Hierro, a big effort was done concerning training schemes in order to prepare for a bottom-up approach concerning a renewable energy future on the island. One big demonstration project, not yet implemented, concerns the combination of wind energy and intelligent storage.

Due to a local media firm, there is an ongoing contact between El Hierro and Samsøe.

#### La Maddalena

On La Maddalena, the effort was concentrated on solar PV and on wind energy. A main task was to involve the Municipality to get planning permission to RE technologies and to strengthen the overall political commitment to the future use of renewable energy on the island.

#### Samsøe

On Samsøe we campaigned in both '99 and '00 for individual RE-plants in the rural area, and for district heating in two areas. We succeeded with several solar-, heat pump- and biomass plants in the rural area and one district heating plant..

As far as wind energy is concerned, local actors were successful selling shares to a high number of interested parties of the island. Eleven 1 MW turbines are now up and running on the island, and from

December 2002 an offshore wind farm with the capacity of 23 MW is up and running. Major local support, also on the investment side, has played an extremely important role for the wind energy utilisation on Samsøe.

#### Focus on RE-Business Centres

Samsøe is for the moment (September 2002) negotiating a new ALTENER contract with the European Commission together with partners from Ireland (co-ordinator), Italy (La Maddalena), Greece, Spain, Germany and some Central & Eastern European countries. The aim is to collaborate on the establishment of renewable energy business centres in the countries concerned.

Samsøe received in 2001 approximately 1000 visitors from all over the world with a professional background in renewable energy. The new ALTENER activity is seen as an important support to the process of preparing training facilities for renewable energy on a professional level, and in the future to be able to set up professional teams who can support the implementation of renewable energy projects on a commercial level outside Samsøe.

