

Samsøe 2.0

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Samsø is the place where sustainability within renewable energy and energy conservation has been achieved in practice – and with great success – through the cooperation between citizens, private businesses and the municipality in concert with the Energy Academy. Samsøe's current goal is to develop into an even more sustainable community independent of fossil fuels such as diesel and gasoline. The Energy Academy and the Municipality of Samsøe are collaborating on this vision of Samsøe as Fossil Free Island 2030. This development has to be accomplished through local anchorage and in cooperation with the island population. Change has become a condition of life on Samsøe, where improvements of the local way of life take place every day in order to secure development and avoid dismantling.

Mission and vision

The mission for the Energy Academy is that we will continue to succeed in practice with our projects within the areas of sustainable development and community improvement processes. We will only succeed if our collaborators have the courage to think differently.

Our vision is that the Energy Academy will be a shared meeting place for sustainability and community improvement – locally anchored on Samsøe and with a regional, national and international development perspective based on relations between people from all over the world.

Strategy 2.0

The employees together with the board are currently working on a Version 2.0 of the Energy Academy. The focus is on our role for the future, and we take as our point of departure Samsøe's overall transition to a sustainable society. The starting point of the Energy Academy's work is the

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knowledge and the experiences we have collected through our national as well as international collaborative projects concerning sustainable development.

Samsøe Energy Academy will continue to work with partners locally, regionally, nationally and internationally within the three focus areas Fossil Free Island, green education and satellite islands and cities – with our partnerships as the glue that keeps it all together. Our overall object is to further develop our collaborations on education and development within energy and climate with a focus on sustainability. The goal is to communicate and promote the Academy's work and collaboration processes and contribute to the creation of new knowledge and development - for the benefit of our own local community and other local communities.

A large part of our work is to pass on information about our initiatives and results both to the population of Samsøe and to our many guests and visitors

at home and abroad. In addition to that, the Energy Academy participates in national and international events and conferences while also hosting an array of events on Samsøe.

On the next page you can find examples of ongoing and current projects within our four primary areas of action.

THE ENERGY ACADEMY'S FOUR PRIMARY AREAS OF ACTION AND EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

Green education and communication

With support from the Danish Energy Foundation the EA teaches about 2000 schoolchildren and high school students about renewable energy, biomass and sustainability in the Energy Camp and Energy Safari yearly.

The project "Nighthawks", which is supported by the EU, is about teaching store owners to use less electricity, since store owners are usually less conscious of their energy consumption than private home owners. In addition, the EA develops and facilitates local events and conferences such as "From Best to Next Practice".

One last project to be mentioned here is the "Development to Dissemination" (D2D) project, which is about collecting and disseminating 10 inspiring and positive stories or values from Samsøe which will make other people think: "We have got to have ourselves one of those!"

Satellite islands and cities

With the purpose of exchanging knowledge and experiences the EA participates in an array of networks and collaborations which seek to further the use of renewable energy. The EA is, among other things, involved in the EU project "Smilegov", a network of about 100 islands in Europe working on the sustainable transition.

Refshaleøen (the Refshale island) is another example where the EA is a sparring partner in the development of a masterplan for the island. The work involves establishing a green

embassy where the local population and various networks can meet.

Fossil Free Island

The Fossil Free Island project consists of a number of smaller projects. Among other things, the EA has received financial support from the Ministry of Climate and Energy in order to function as a secretariat for Samsøe in the transition towards becoming fossil free.

When it comes to projects, a few should be named: the EA is working together with Grundfos on a project concerning their new A-pump which reduces energy consumption; five of the island's big farms have joined a smart grid project; a project is exploring Samsøe's transportation network and the barriers to adoption of electric vehicles; and a project concerning carbon balance, supported by the VELUX Foundation, has just been completed.

Partnerships

– locally and internationally

Local and international partnerships are absolutely central to the EA's work. Apart from the ones already mentioned, the EA is co-operating with the European City of Culture 2017 on the city's environmental footprint, with the University of Aalborg on research, and with Region Midtjylland (Region Middle Jutland) on all 19 municipalities' climate action plans and energy balances. Furthermore, the EA takes part in partnerships with different actors all over the world.

