



Collaboration With The Region *Samsø Energy Agency, Denmark*

Summary

The establishment of the *Samsø Energy Agency*, SEA, was the beginning of a close cooperation with the Central Denmark Region (County of Aarhus initially). It has resulted in: participation in the regional planning of the Energy Year 2009 which includes the climate conference COP15; funding of dissemination activities; an official visit from the Baltic Sea commission from the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions; and energy balance courses for 15 municipalities within the region. The cooperation with the region has thus provided access to 'customers' for the energy agency, and it has provided a source of knowledge on energy matters for the region.

End-user area	Target Audience	Technical
New buildings	Citizens	X Energy efficiency
Refurbishment of buildings	Households	Heating
Transport and mobility	Property owners	Cooling
Financial instruments	Schools and universities	Appliances
X Industry	X Decision makers	Lighting
Legal initiatives (regulations, directives, etc)	X Local and regional authorities	CHP
X Planning issues	Transport companies	District Heating
Sustainable communities	Utilities	Solar energy
User behaviour	ESCOs	Biomass
X Education	Architects and engineers	Wind
Other	Financial institutions	Geothermal
	Other	Hydro power
		Other

Context

From the start there was an agreement with the region to exploit the knowledge gathered on the island of Samsø concerning energy. The region focuses on its buildings, its energy consumption, and its renewable energy. This is in order to give the region a good profile and to live up to national goals. An agreement with the region is under preparation and is expected signed in the spring of 2009. The kinds of collaboration are:

- Public relations and dissemination,
- projects with companies, and
- courses.

Much of the activity was on the island of Samsø, which raised the awareness of the island and indirectly the island economy, which suffers from emigration.

Objectives

To utilize the knowledge obtained on Samsø in the past about energy efficiency and renewable energy installations.

Process

The three activities below are all arranged by the region, the local municipality, and local players.



- *Dissemination.* The *Samsø Energy Agency* participates in the region's master plan for the Energy Year 2009 in Denmark with the COP15 meeting in Copenhagen in the end of the year. Denmark has a national goal to reach 30 % renewable energy in 2025. The Central Denmark Region has a goal of 50 % renewable energy in 2025. To reach that goal it is necessary for the region to involve the key players in the region. The *Samsø Energy Agency* and Samsø Energy Academy are two of those players, and therefore the region has given the energy organizations on Samsø a grant.
- *Visit from CPMR.* Members of the Baltic Sea commission from the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) visited Samsø in the summer 2008. Discussions about the rising sea level in low areas around Europe, and how self sufficiency with renewable energy can help avoiding CO₂ emission was on the agenda. Furthermore how it was possible for Samsø to convert from 100 % fossil fuel to 100 % renewable energy within 10 years. Finally site visits on the island and meetings with farmers who have invested in renewable energy installations.
- *Courses for the municipalities in the region.* In the autumn of 2008 the *Samsø Energy Agency* together with the private engineering company PlanEnergi, held courses for the municipalities in the region. Out of 19 municipalities 15 decided to come to the island of Samsø to learn how the energy balance for the municipal area can be used as a tool in future plans for energy savings and renewable energy installations. The goal was to plan the next decade or more.

Financial resources and partners

The region has given the energy organizations on Samsø a grant of 60 kEuro for dissemination activities in 2009. The European Regional Development Fund and the County of Aarhus has contributed towards the energy academy building. The European Regional Development Fund has contributed to the hydrogen production plant.

Results

In all three activities above, other communities, in this case from Denmark, learnt from the island community. Knowledge transfer is thus beginning to become an export 'article' to the benefit of the energy agency. This is in agreement with the objective of exploiting the renewable energy knowledge at Samsø, which is to the benefit of the region.

The energy balance courses, based on calculations in a spreadsheet, have a large application potential, since the calculations are general. The calculated results depend, however, on the quality of data collected by the region in focus. In any case the courses make the participants (municipal officers) think thoroughly about energy planning.

Lessons learned and repeatability

From the viewpoint of the *Samsø Energy Agency* the agency has the opposite problem of many others. With respect to public relations, journalists and visitors invite themselves. The energy agency spends no effort on attracting interest, because it is already there. The problem is to service all the requests and visitors given the small size of the staff. It is therefore in our minds to automate and standardise, in order to increase efficiency and repeatability, but also to look at the situation as a source of income.



Contact for more information:

Project Web Site: (none)

Organisation / Agency: Samsø Energy Agency

Main contact: Soren Hermansen

Address: Strandengen 1, 8305 Samsø, Denmark

Tel: +45 8792 1011

Fax: +45 8792 1070

E-mail: info@energiakademiet.dk

Web Site: www.energiakademiet.dk

Printed reports or other literature available: www.energiakademiet.dk/archive_pdf_uk.asp

Title: File archive

Cost: free download

Other contacts:

**NOT TO FILL IN**

For your information. To be taken into account when filling in the template

Criteria for selection of Good Practice Case Studies

Energy effective (Weight factor: 2)

The activity should result in quantified energy savings and/or in energy produced from renewable energy sources in a definable period of time. If not applicable (e.g. education or information) give potential benefits in the long term.

Environmentally benign (Weight factor: 1)

The activity should result in a reduction of greenhouse gases emission, lower local pollution, higher air quality and saving of natural resources.

Adequacy of techniques and tools used (Weight factor: 1)

The activity should not use techniques that are not viable or that present high technical risks. The complexity of the technologies and tools used should be adequate to the role of a local or regional energy agency. An activity with limited technical content (e.g. information sessions for children) would perform well according to this criterion. Integration of technologies will also be evaluated under this criterion.

Economically viable (Weight factor: 2)

The project should be economically attractive for the society as a whole, and involve reasonable costs for a local/regional agency. Quantitative results are required using indicators adequate to the type of project. For projects predominantly "technical", life-cycle cost is preferred, but other economic indicators can be used. For other projects, indicators can be audience reached, participation rate, number of meetings etc. Other non-energy benefits should be mentioned. The use of subsidies should be clearly stated.

Socially and politically acceptable (Weight factor: 1)

The socio-economic benefits and acceptance issues of the activity should be described. Regarding acceptance, positive aspects (e.g. the project has become a landmark or is used for education purposes) as well as negative aspects (e.g. opposition from local actors) should be mentioned.

Replicability (Weight factor: 3)

The success factors and the specific conditions needed for repeating the activity in a different context should be described. The action should present a high potential of replicability.