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Film première in Tynaarlo



Joint Annual Conference 2012



Municipal Energy Management training



01 news from within the project

Rolling out the red - and green - carpet! Film première in Tynaarlo (NL)

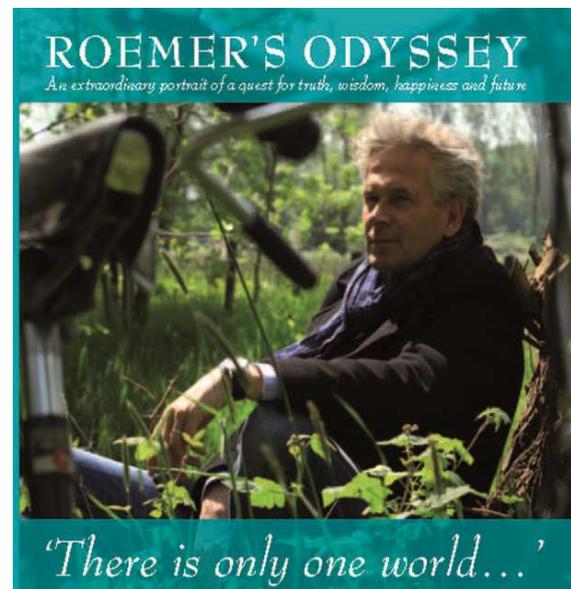
Première of Roemer's Odyssey is a hit.

In January 2012 the North Sea - SEP project group from Drenthe and Tynaarlo decided to make a film about energy-awareness, sustainability and self-sufficient living. The film première was held on 12th June at the Municipal Town Hall of Tynaarlo in Vries. The red (and green!) carpet was rolled out for this special event which coincided with a meeting of the council, and therefore attracted the optimal attention of politicians from the municipality and province.

In the weeks to follow the film, Roemer's Odyssey received high exposure, being presented at a number of large international conferences and events, and local gatherings, including the Hansa Green Tour, the NSR Annual Conference and the Cradle2Cradle Islands Final Conference. Responses have been very enthusiastic - it's safe to say the Roemer is a roaring success!

Roemer's Odyssey is a film about one man's search for truth, wisdom, happiness and a future. A dream about sustainable and self-sufficient living. Perhaps the answers to all kinds of questions regarding the future durability of our planet are much closer to home than we imagine! Energy-related issues, the reduction of energy consumption and investing in sustainable solutions for the future require our direct attention. While the reserves of traditional energy sources are being depleted we need to find alternatives for the long term. Right now there is a great dependency on third parties for energy, clean water and food and this is driving many peo-

ple in their pursuit of a more self-sufficient lifestyle.



In the North of the Netherlands the Province of Drenthe and the Municipality of Tynaarlo want to reinforce their ambitions. There is also an added socio-economic value to investing in regional energy policies now, and searching for long term solutions for sustainable living in the future. This film was made to set off a spark and to ignite the discussion on a sustainable future. We want to get the ball rolling, get people talking; local inhabitants, project partners, authorities, companies and organisations. We want to inspire people to live more sustainably: by showing practical examples and encouraging inhabitants to take their own responsibility. Energy saving is of great importance.



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There is a lot to be gained, particularly in existing buildings, both for consumers and the environment. 'There is only one world...there is no reserve'.



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Strategic Energy Planning in Kolding Municipality (DK)

Energy planning in Kolding Municipality has been accompanied by specific actions.

While the work with energy planning has been going on at the strategic level, villages have already taken the first steps towards sustainable energy planning. One village has focused on their possibility of switching to district heating instead of using natural gas or oil-fired boilers.

The total emission of CO₂-equivalents related to power, individual heating, district heating, cooling and road traffic in Kolding Municipality amounted to 708,000 tons in 2010. Of this, road traffic constituted 317,000 tons, power 235,000 tons, cooling 5,000 tons, individual heating 94,000 tons and district heating 57,000 tons.

One of the main actions in the action plan which is now being developed is how citizens in non district heating areas, can switch to sustainable energy.

In the dialogue with the villages one village wished to switch their natural gas and oil into

district heating which primarily is based on incineration.

A range of meetings and workshops with the citizens, the municipality and the district heating company have been held there. At least 50% of the citizens had to commit to switching and the municipality had to commit to switching to district heating in the buildings belonging to the municipality. Politically the municipality has now decided to switch and the citizens have almost finished collecting signatures so the project can be approved by the district heating company.

The experiences with this village will later be used when approaching other villages in the municipality. Furthermore many villages are not so close to the district heating net that they can be connected. For these villages other methods of switching to sustainable energy will have to be found.

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Training Program on Municipal Energy Management (DE)

The German North Sea - SEP partner U.A.N. carried out a training program for ten municipal energy managers in Lower Saxony. In six seminars and four on-site monitoring visits in the communities held by experienced engineers the participants found support in identifying energy saving potentials in their public buildings in the non-and-low-investive area.

Especially during the on-site monitoring visits the local energy managers were sensitized to find energy saving potentials in their community.



Matthias Schaffrath, Ritterhude and Heinz Eggersgluß, UTEC at the on-site visit in Ritterhude

A broad variety of examples have been found in improperly adjusted heating pumps or electrical water heaters in all kind of public buildings, in the area of lighting or stand-by losses. The sample list is long and the potential savings are diverse.

At the end of the training program all participants were satisfied with its outcomes. Both the individual on-site consulting as well as the exchange of experiences during the seminars were seen as very helpful.



Regulation of the heating pump in the City hall of Ritterhude by Heinz Eggersgluß, UTEC

Even in communities that have a supposedly good energy management, engineers find saving potentials on their way through the public buildings. And there have been shown new possibilities for not only improving energy efficiency but also dealing with local decision makers and politicians.

The energy management is an ongoing municipal task, and a step towards improved energy efficiency that must be followed constantly. In this context the initiatives North Sea - SEP and Climate Change and Local Authorities will follow this way and offer a special training program to caretaker of public buildings in municipalities. The immense demand for this kind of training concept shows that this is the right direction to ensure sustained energy savings. The three so far planned training sessions will start in the midst of September.

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Regional Development in Southeast Sweden (SE)

The Regional Energy Agency for Southeast Sweden organized a workshop in Vaxjö in the beginning of the summer for regional development.

The purpose of the workshop was to compare various energy strategies and different ways to manage the structure of work different regions. We discussed how to improve the way of implementing the various strategies in the different regions. The regions of Kronoberg, Kalmar and Blekinge were presented. The meeting was one step in the plan to increase the exchange of experience and to find new ways of acting together cross the borders.

The workshop started with a welcome-speech by managing director of ESS, Stefan Olsson and the chairman for the ownership board Ewa Engdahl. It ended up in the afternoon with discussions in separate groups how to develop the regional work in order to make it more efficient.



The workshop's audience in Vaxjö

The next step in the process of developing cooperation between the regions will be taken at the big conference for Southeast Sweden, named Energitinget, in November 2012.

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An energy neutral Kortrijk Region in 2050. Towards a regional energy strategy (BE)

On July 5, 2012, Leiedal presented the regional energy strategy for the Kortrijk region (Flanders, Belgium).

Leiedal adopted all the results and recommendations of a regional process with expert groups and stakeholder consultation in the publication "South-West Flanders energy neutral by 2050, towards a regional energy strategy".





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The booklet (cahier) is a first milestone in a regional energy transition. It combines the knowledge of local governments and regional organizations, with new insights based on studies and advice from outside experts.

The publication contains:

- What is the energy transition (global / regional), and what will be its impact?
- CO₂ calculator for the region
- Status Quo of the current situation, trends and challenges

- Transition Paths: vision and strategic objectives
- Proposals for local and regional actions

The publication was realised as part of the North Sea Sustainable Energy Planning project (North Sea - SEP).

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North Sea - SEP at the Joint Annual Conference 2012 of NSRP and NSC

This year the Joint Annual Conference of the North Sea Region Programme and the North Sea Commission took place in Bremerhaven, Germany. "Creating a Climate of Change" was the title of the event on June 18th-19th 2012.

At the event's exhibition North Sea - SEP presented itself and the partners with their projects and pilot activities to interested participants of the conference.

To see some more details about the conference have a look at:

<http://www.northsearegion.eu/ivb/events/show/&tid=75>





North Sea – SEP Think Tank Meeting in Berlin (DE)

The next North Sea – SEP Think Tank Meeting takes place on Monday, 24 September 2012 in Berlin, Germany.

The Think Tank meeting will provide the opportunity to network and exchange with representatives of German policy, international decision makers and the partners of the project “PEA – Public Energy Alternatives” from the Baltic Sea Region Program 2007-2013.

The invited experts will talk about “The future project energy transition – a fundable and

transferable answer to the climate change” in their presentations. There will be a closer look and a discussion to this theme at a panel discussion.

On this occasion all political and regional decision makers are invited to contribute with their knowledge and experience to this event.

Find more details and register at <http://www.atekom.eu/en/energy-transition/> or contact Caterina Duteloff c.duteloff@atekom.eu

Final Conference of North Sea – SEP in Oldenburg (DE)

The project’s end is already in sight. On November, 28th 2012 North Sea – SEP meets for its final conference. Jade University of Applied Science as the lead partner hosts the upcoming event in Oldenburg, Germany. The European North Sea – SEP partners as well as an interested external audience has the opportunity to get information on the out-

comes of the last three years of work. In technical lectures, workshops and discussions the results of the overall project are represented. More details and the event’s agenda will follow as soon as possible at <http://www.northseasep.eu>



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02 external research news

PEA - Public Energy Alternatives - a Baltic Sea Region Project

The PEA - Public Energy Alternatives partnership is a partly EU-funded project through which renewable energy sources are to be promoted as a driving force for business, technology, and engineering in the Baltic Sea Region.



The project partners



Furthermore the partnership understands that any concrete measures must be preceded by a discussion and concept that observes current administrative and technological practices and constraints.

21 Partners from 6 countries (Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland) around the Baltic Sea together with experts from various scientific areas of expertise will try to show that there are existing and potential energy saving capacities that can be tapped into, strengthened and expanded. Measures taken with this aim in mind will undoubtedly increase the quality of life in communities and regions in the Baltic Sea area.

PEA is interested in working together with other projects. It is important for the success of the ensuing project work that ideas and results can be shared and discussed with professionals that have an external and independent interpretation of the subject. For this project idea to have an enduring effect, the members are aiming to extend the exchange of ideas beyond the official end of this project.

Find details at:
<http://www.peaproject.eu/>

Sustainable Energy Europe Award 2012 for "Energy-saving check"

This year the German initiative "Energy-saving check for low-income households" has been honoured with the Sustainable Energy Europe Award. The project won in the category consumer. Projects in this category are

designed to guide, and help manage and reduce energy consumption - be it directly or indirectly. The jury in Brussels saw the project Energy – saving check as an "excellent



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example” for energy efficiency and sustainability.

“Energy-saving check for low-income households” is a project organized by Caritas Germany and the German Federation of Energy and Climate Protection Agencies.



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The main objective of the project is to advise households with a low income on the best way to save energy and water. Those who benefit the most from the project are households who have to make do with a small amount of money and who can therefore make very significant savings (up to 100 Euros a year). In this context Energy-saving check faces the growing problem of fuel poverty, which is a concern in the North Sea –

SEP region as well as in every single European country. But the project also supports environmental protection in a big way: for example in three-and-a-half years more than 70,000 households have been advised and that helped to save more than 135,000 tons of CO₂. This means the project is sustainable; it helps people to make direct and immediate savings in their consumption of energy and water. This is achieved by installing energy saving products directly and by making suggestions on how to change habits that can be implemented directly by anyone. The visiting and advising of low income households take place all over Germany and it is done by trained long-term-unemployed. On regional level involved in the project’s implementation i.e. energy specialised support of Lower Saxonian participants is the Municipal Environmental Campaign (U.A.N.).

Find more information on the project and its sites under www.stromsparcheck.de. For details on the European Sustainable Energy Award have look at <http://eusew.eu/awards-competition>.

The Energy-saving check can also be transferred to other countries and this is already being done in the IEE project ACHIEVE (<http://www.achieve-project.eu/>) as part of an effort to trial the approach in other countries.





New European directive on energy efficiency on its way

Current estimates show the EU will not achieve its target of reducing its estimated energy consumption for 2020 by 20%. As a result, new measures on energy efficiency are now being proposed for implementation throughout the economy to bring the EU back on track to achieve its objective by 2020. The recent political agreement on a new Energy Efficiency Directive with ambitious measures is a big step to close the delivery gap on the 2020 targets. The proposed measures aim to increase efficiency at all stages of the energy chain: generation, transformation, distribution and, finally, consumption. The focus lies

on the building sector where the potential for savings is greatest. The directive also contains provisions on energy audits and management systems, metering, billing information, and promotion of efficiency in heating and cooling, energy transformation, transmission and distribution and energy services. The provisionally agreed Directive will put on plenary vote in September. Member states will have to comply with the provisions of this directive within 18 months from its entry into force (tentatively Spring 2014).

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