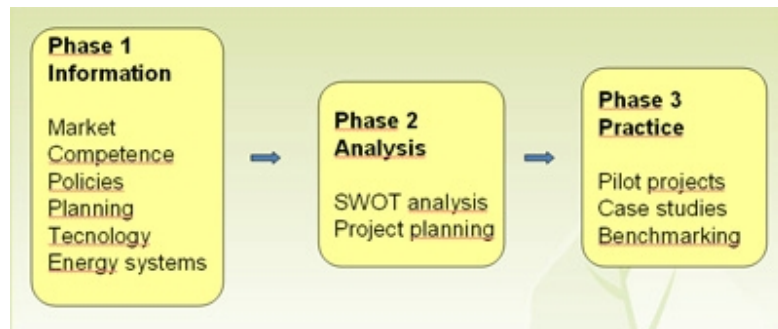


Newsletter



May 30, 2011

"Wood Energy and Cleantech" promotes wood as an energy source and improves knowledge about wood energy, eco-friendly techniques, and clean technology. The County Administrative Board of Östergötland is lead partner in this transnational project.



Project Overview

The project consists of three phases: 1. Gathering information in relevant fields, 2. Analysis, and 3. Practice. The project is now working in Phase 1. We expect to have enough information for a general SWOT analysis in September 2011. Phase 2 will go on until October 2011 and after that Phase 3 will start. Phases will overlap depending on project progress in different fields.



Study Tour in Sweden

To study the Swedish wood energy chain from forest to the heating central, project partners from Estonia and Latvia visited Norrköping in April. Lectures were mixed with visits at heating centrals and different wood energy entrepreneurs. Ola Runsten, Swedish Forest Agency, reports:

Day 1 lectures were held by Marja Gustafsson and Stefan Anderson, reviewing the Swedish way of using the relatively new and arising assortment bioenergy.

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Other Project Partners:

- Swedish Forest Agency
- Estonian University of Life Sciences
- Foundation Private Forest Center, Estonia
- Vidzeme Planning Region, Latvia
- Forest Advisory Service Center, Latvia

www.woodenergyproject.eu

Special attention was paid to stump lifting, ash recycling and environmental effects. These parts were of big interest to the audience. Stefan Johansson, Linköpings skogstjänst, informed about how the company is handling the bioenergy assortment. Cecilia Ambjörn from Norrköping informed about how bioenergy is used in the municipality.

In the afternoon we visited a clear cut where a specially equipped forwarder transported out the branches and tops. The final stop was at Händelöverken, the biggest bioenergy plant station in Sweden.

Day 2 Lecture held by Peter Roland, Holmen Skog, focused on Holmen Skog's involvement in bioenergy. Henrik von Hofsten, SkogForsk, showed the latest research news. Hillevi Eriksson, the Swedish Forest Agency, talked about the climatic effects of bioenergy.

After lunch we visited Finspång heating central and bioenergy entrepreneurs working for the Holmen Skog. Bioenergy activities at the forest owners' economic association called Södra were discussed by involvement of a Swedish forest owner and member of the association.

The interest of how the Swedish forestry is handling the bioenergy was big and the questions were many: How is the forest residue paid? Why are you covering the residues with paper? What is the price of such machines?

Although several project members stated that the differences are not that large, Sweden is one of the leading countries on the wood energy market. There is also a high level of environmental awareness and development of new techniques. Special interest was paid to ash recovery, stump lifting and the municipal energy plans.

Represented at the study trip were politicians and enterprising persons. Jaanus Aun, jurist and member of the board of Private Forest Centre (Erametsakeskus) in Estonia, has developed tax systems and has been involved in the development of the Estonian forestry act:

- We have a lot of raw material in our country. The challenge is to get the politicians interested in bioenergy. Back home we will arrange a seminar for municipal politicians and minister posts to inform about this trip and the experiences of the Swedish forestry.

Marja Gustafsson, the Swedish Forest Agency, organizer of the trip, was satisfied:

- It is indeed very satisfactory when international exchange, like this trip, leads to direct actions. It also indicates the necessity of participating in international projects and the value of knowledge exchange.

Additional study trips will take place in Latvia on 27-28 September, 2011 and in Estonia in the spring of 2012.

Material from the study tour is available at woodenergyproject.eu.

Vidzeme Makes a Communication Bridge

News from the project partner in Latvia:

Vidzeme Planning Region attracted experts from the project in order to carry out the research about the policy planning and wood markets. Studies will be carried out about the technology of wood heat, capacity and demand study as well. While the work of the project "Wood Energy and Cleantech" research is in progress, Vidzeme Planning Region has launched various communication activities related to the target groups of the project.

The project team from Latvia has agreed on a strategy of communication with the main target groups – forest owners, forest logging companies, politicians on a regional level, administration in regions and municipalities, district heating companies and the citizens of the region. Since the project needs to address its goals for different target audiences, it is important to choose the various channels of communication.

The first information campaign has already been taken, during which the publication about the Vidzeme Planning Region, its energetic politics and the project "Wood

Energy and Cleantech" in the Latvian magazine "Enerģija un Pasaule" (Energy and World) has been published. In addition to the publication in the journal, the press releases about the project launch and its main objectives have been sent out to the regional and mass media.

Discussions have been initiated with potential partners to give the presentations in various informative seminars for forest owners, logging companies and politicians. It is important for Vidzeme Planning Region to promote Sustainable Clean Wood Energy in the Central Baltic region and also to convince the concerned target groups of the same point of view as the participants of the project "Wood Energy and cleantech".

Recent Events

- Kick-off in Valmiera, Vidzeme (October 11, 2010)
- Management meeting in Tartu (February 22, 2011)
- Information activities and field excursions with forest owners
- Study tour in Norrköping, Sweden (April 11–12, 2011)
- Market Analysis Workshop in Linköping, Sweden (May 10, 2011) ([presentation in PDF](#))



Upcoming Events

- **June 8:** Competence Development Workshop in Valmiera, Vidzeme. This workshop will present the work with competence profiles and outline the pilot projects and benchmarking activities of Phase 3.
- **June 9:** Project Development WP5 Workshop in Valmiera, Vidzeme. This workshop will present the work with the technology study and outline the case studies and the system analysis of Phase 3.
- **August 24:** Business Intelligence Workshop in Linköping. In this workshop there will be discussions of how to keep an up to date information on business issues (such as market development or sensitivity to other energy sources) in order to make correct decisions for the future.
- **August 25:** Meeting for Steering Group, Management team, and Information Managers in Linköping.
- **September 13:** SWOT Analysis Workshop in Vidzeme. In this workshop all analyses will be discussed and compiled in order to get a comprehensive picture of the regional aspects of Wood energy and district heating.

The next newsletter is scheduled for September 30. For continuous updates on the Wood Energy project, visit woodenergyproject.eu



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