

The island of Vormsi

Vormsi is the smallest Estonian island. It represents 93 km² of land in the Baltic Sea, with ~400 inhabitants, 60 km² forest and population of wild animals, birds and plants.

Life on the island is peaceful and safe. Vormsi has modern infrastructure, there is free WiFi network covering ~85% of island and the Municipality administration is mostly working with file-based documents, avoiding usage of papers. Islands' economy is based on local resources. We are more and more involved in agriculture, taking care of coastal meadows, growing beef cattle, seaweed and sheep.

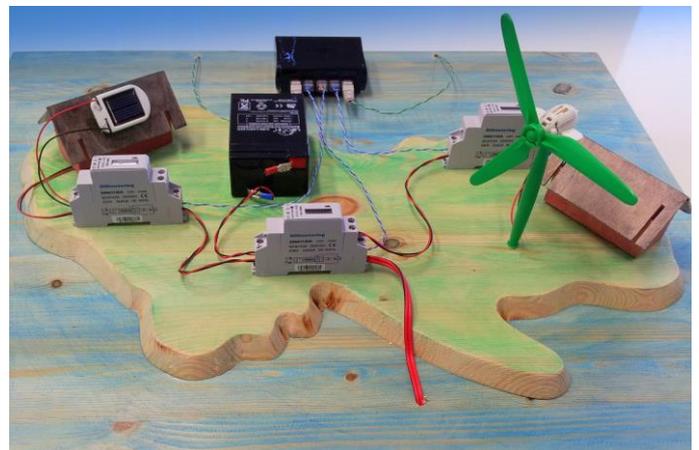
Tourism economy is also growing. Vormsi has positive image as the summer home islands. We have well-preserved Coastal Swedish heritage, which gives its essence to the image of Vormsi.

The starting point

The smart countryside project called SMART VORMSI has been launched by the Estonian ICT Export Cluster involving in addition the ECO Cluster, the Wind Energy Cluster, Municipality of Vormsi, the Waste Management Association, the Enterprise Estonia and private enterprises.

The mission of the SMART VORMSI project is to create an energy-efficient and sustainably developed living environment, involving modern Smart Grid technologies, micro production of energy and smart public services based on web and mobile solutions.

The main aim of the project is to increase the number of permanent residents on the island, to activate local economy and increase the income of the municipality, all vital components for countryside sustainability.



Thanks to Smilegov

Smilegov has offered to the island of Vormsi a platform to develop sustainable energy projects, showing the process through concrete activities. Smilegov is:

- An international network for energy experts;
- Good practises from other islands;
- A profound understanding of activities that need to be implemented to bring forward a sustainable Vormsi project.

This is what we achieved so far

- Dynamic local and regional discussions
- Valuable contacts with other islands sharing the same or similar challenges
- Concrete knowledge about economic efficiency
- In few months we are ready to start with our cogeneration plant construction project

Future hopes and expectations

The authorities of the islands of Saaremaa and Hiiumaa have made it possible for Vormsi to create a first serious contact with European islands network. Project cooperation, concrete solutions, experience of other islands and investments are needed. Our nearest and biggest goal is to form the first energy cooperative and build up our CHP in 2016. After this step Vormsi is expected to produce all the electricity needed on the island by itself in 2020.