

## The island of Samsøe

Samsøe is a minor island, situated in the middle of Denmark in the Kattegat. It is inhabited by 3.760 people living in 22 villages. The main business activities of Samsøe are tourism and farming. Samsøe attracts more than 110.000 visitors every year thanks to the island's distinctive natural and cultural heritage. In the northern and eastern part of the island there are protected areas. Samsøe is an independent municipality and is part of the Danish cluster.



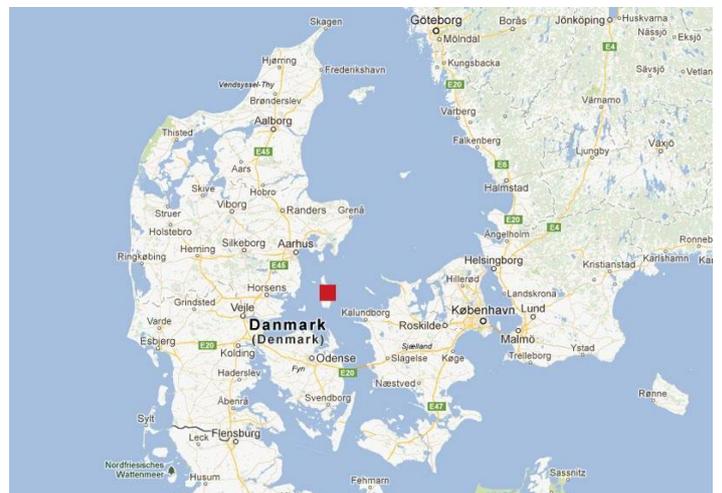
## The starting point

Samsøe became the Renewable Energy Island in 1997 and in only ten years it managed to be 100% electricity independent while 75% of the heating was supplied by local district heating plants.

The new vision is to become free from fossil fuels in 2030. The municipality is now working with the political strategy and masterplan for the "Fossil Free Island".

The main task is become free of fossil fuels. To this end the biggest challenge will be the transportation area. To ensure the sustainability of the transport sectors, the use of biogas will be explored, as well as the introduction of electric vehicles.

To move from theory to practice, it is important to strengthen cooperation within the local society and foster the involvement of citizens and stakeholders.



## Thanks to Smilegov

Smilegov has given Samsøe new knowledge concerning multi-level governance in all aspects. SMILEGOV has also offered a network of experts for future cooperation to jointly develop energy projects. The focus on processes and concrete activities has been very important. The work done through local workshops and/or think has helped identify priority areas and conduct strategic planning. A very important lesson concerning multi-level governance is the fact that a vision driven process consists of both a top-down and a bottom-up approach. Some other important contributions of Smilegov are:

- Awareness of the different conditions in the partner countries
- Knowledge transfer and methods for overcoming barriers
- Good experiences and best practice from the partners and the participating islands

## This is what we achieved so far

- Inspiration for local projects
- Knowledge of biogas production
- Contacts with other partners and islands

## Future hopes and expectations

Samsøe wants to continue the cooperation in the European island network. Now concrete solutions are needed to fulfill the vision of the “Fossil Free Island”. The goal will be to establish a local biogas plant and produce local LNG gas to the new ferry. Furthermore that 50% of all cars on Samsøe will be EV’s before 2020.