

Kalmar County

– a fossil fuel free region 2030

Kalmar County in South East Sweden has set an ambitious target. By the year of 2030 the county is supposed to be a fossil fuel free region (net).

Public, private and academic sectors are now working together to reach this goal. Already today two thirds of all energy used in the county is renewable.



nooil.

Summary

Kalmar County in South East Sweden has 234 000 inhabitants, living in 12 municipalities. The Regional Council in Kalmar County is a political steered authority with the aim to, among else, co-ordinate the work for a sustainable regional development. As a part of this work, the Regional Council in Kalmar County has given high priority to energy and climate issues. Kalmar County is supposed to become a fossil fuel free region by the year of 2030. The work is gathered under the umbrella of “*nooil*”.

Already today, more than 2/3 of all energy used for heating, electricity and transports emanates from renewable energy sources (RES). From 1990 to 2008 the outlets of fossil CO₂ from Kalmar County have decreased with 13%. From 2000 to 2008 the energy efficiency has raised with 14%, expressed as gross supply kWh/GRP.

nooil has a strong support and local and regional authorities, university and private sector are working together. A lot of measures have been implemented, or are under implementation. Some examples:

- The first regional Climate Commission in Sweden, consisting of politicians from all levels as well as representatives for important private and academic sectors. In consensus, the Commission has developed and presented strategies, sub-objectives, working plans and strategic measures.
- Regional Climate Investment Programmes. The region has implemented three regional climate investment programmes, supported by the national level. These programmes have decreased the energy use with 30 GWh/yr and also cut the outlets with about 10000 ton CO₂/yr (1% of the total outlet of CO₂ from fossil fuels).
- Kalmar County is appointed as a national pilot region within the national programme “Sustainable Municipalities”, run by the National Energy Board. All local authorities in Kalmar County take part, compared with less than one fourth of all LA in Sweden. Several pilot activities are implemented.
- More than 50% renewable fuels in public buses (biogas and RME).
- 100 MSEK/yr appointed for better public transports and fossil fuel free public transports by the yr 2020.
- Different measures for raising the awareness. Among else a National Climate Promise Campaign where about 50% of all climate promises were given by citizens in Kalmar County. Climate Pilot project, which has been exported within and outside the country.
- National nod for wind power and business development. Host of the Swedish Wind Industry Database and of the yearly national wind power conference. Kalmar County also is the 5th wind power county in Sweden, expressed as installed effect/km². Along the coast, the biggest off shore wind power park in the Baltic Sea is under construction, ready 2013.
- Regional mobility management office, co-ordinating different actors and activities. Among else a pilot project “Innovative Mobility Management measures for sparsely populated areas”, supported by the National Energy Agency.
- The first municipality in Sweden using 100% renewable energy in the own administration and buildings (heating and electricity). Now other municipalities are following.
- Energy efficiency schemes in all LA and in the County Council. Ongoing investments for energy efficiency, among else using the concept of Energy Performance Contracting (EPC)
- Renewable energy based Combined Heat and Power Plants built, or under construction, in the main towns.
- Building a new market and a new infrastructure for biogas for vehicles, based on manure as the main substrate.

Contribution to the EU 2020 objectives

Since 2005, the Regional Council in Kalmar County gathers local and regional energy and climate activities and actors under the umbrella of "A fossil fuel free region 2030", which is a prioritised area in the regional development programme. Several activities, co-operation projects and initiatives have been implemented or are under implementation. Some of them give a direct result, which can be measured in kWh or ton of carbon dioxide, while other has the character of promoting activities and decisions among other actors, which then can be measured in overall results for the county as a whole.

Today, two thirds of all energy used in Kalmar County is renewable. This can be compared with the EU objective of 20% renewables at the year of 2020. From 1990 to 2008, the use of fossil fuels have decreased with 15%, from 43% to 28%. From 2005 to 2008 the use of fossil fuels have decreased with 5%.

From 1990 to 2008, Kalmar County has decreased the outlets of greenhouse gases from fossil fuels with 13%, to be compared with the EU objective of 20% reduction of greenhouse gases 1990-2020. From 2005 to 2008 the reduction was 4%.

From 1990 to 2008, the total use of energy has increased with 34% while the GRP has increased with 58%. From 2000 to 2008 the energy efficiency has raised with 14%, expressed as gross supply kWh/GRP.

Unfortunately statistics for 2010 will not be available until May or June 2012.

Action Plan, some examples

2005, Political consensus concerning "A fossil fuel free region 2030", decision in the board of the Regional Council of Kalmar County.

2006- 2012, The first regional climate investment programme, KLIMP, which then was followed by another two.

2006, Climate Commission Kalmar County, the first regional climate commission in Sweden, consisting of politicians from all levels as well as representatives for important private and academic sectors.

2008 - 2011, Kalmar County is appointed as a national pilot region within the national programme "Sustainable Municipalities", run by the National Energy Board. All local authorities in Kalmar County take part, compared with less than one fourth of all Local Authorities in Sweden. Several pilot activities are implemented.

2009-2013, Pilot project "Biogas – new substrates from the Sea"

2009, 100% renewable, Nybro Municipality

2010, National Climate Promise Campaign, led by WWF. 50% of the national climate promises emanates from Kalmar County.

2012-2013, Pilot project Innovative Mobility Management measures for sparsely populated areas

Project Impact

Today, 2/3 of all energy used in Kalmar County is renewable. 1990-2008, the use of fossil fuels decreased with 15%, from 43% to 28%. 2005-2008 the use of fossil fuels decreased with 5%.

1990-2008, the county has decreased the outlets of GHG from fossil fuels with 13%. 2005-2008 the reduction was 4%.

1990 - 2008, the total use of energy increased with 34% while the GRP increased with 58%.

Examples from sub-projects:

High temperature borehole storage of waste heat from foundry, energy saving 2,5 GWh/yr.

Regional grants to 850 eco-cars.

Industry excess heat for public district heating, -3Mton CO₂/yr.

Renewable fuels in public buses, 8% more km and 43% lower outlets of CO₂.

Common procurement of environmental cars, about 200 cars/yr.

Energy strategies and energy efficiency schemes in all local authorities, now under implementation.

Regional biogas co-operation: new production sites, more upgrading, new fuel stations, more vehicles.

RES nearby heating in smaller villages (towns already connected).

Communication results

Some examples:

11 short movies with examples from the region. With English subtitles:

<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=UUCFJhtjwSs6HsqaBbs91MYw&feature=plcp>

Climate Pilots, a concept that has been exported in Sweden and abroad. In Swedish:

<http://www.klimatpiloterna.se/> . In English: <http://www.climatepilots.com/>

Thanks to mass media, marketing campaigns etc we have reached all citizens in the county. For example, all households have got 3 free newspaper about environmental friendly transports, a regional campaign gathered Climate Promises from about 1 700 citizens and local Climate Awards call regional mass media attention to the project.

All in all, hundreds of events, meetings, educations and activities (for politicians, civil servants and citizens) have been implemented until now.

Management/Method

Each subproject is evaluated separately.

The overall objectives are expressed for the county as a geographical area. These objectives are followed up in the regional energy balance, every second year. Unfortunately, the official statistics are delivered very late, which means that we have to wait nearly 1½ year for these figures.

Sustainability

Since the main decisions are taken in full consensus in the Regional Council of Kalmar County, the sustainability is long lasting.

In this project, co-operation is the main and most important success factor. Long term regional objectives are decided in consensus. All Local Authorities cooperate with regional authorities and the Linnaeus University. Several regional networks are established. Representatives from public, academic and private sector are working together in the Regional Climate Commission and in other co-operations. Etc.

The work also contributes to a sustainable regional growth. Already today Kalmar County has among the highest share of employees in the environmental sector in Sweden. Only the "biomass sector" is estimated to about 5-7 % of the Gross Regional Product, giving more than 2 000 regional jobs.

Additional information

nooil is implemented as a cooperation involving a broad number of actors, which makes it difficult to state a sum as total budget. Some budget examples: KLIMP 160 MSEK, better public transports 100 MSEK/yr, new CHP in Kalmar 1200 MSEK, biogas investments in Västervik Municipality 20 MSEK, EPC in own buildings Kalmar County Council 36 MSEK/3 yrs, projects within EU rural development program 46 MSEK/2 yrs, public projects for support of windpower sector 11MSEK/4yrs.

Some documents are attached. More information can be found at www.rfkl.se/nooil-eng. More information can also be given by our regional office in Brussels, Småland Blekinge South Sweden. Contact information can be found at http://www.smalandblekinge.se/bryssel/?page_id=91.

More information

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