

Study visit Gelderland on Energy Transition

We all work hard in our European Regions on Energy and Climate-change challenges. We do so in the province of Gelderland, which contains the Dutch ERRIN members Arnhem Nijmegen City Region, Cleantech Region and FoodValley Region.

Invitation

We like to invite you for a study visit in the province of Gelderland. During the visit we would like to show you the way we work, meet our regional partners, make site-visits to regional results and we would like to play a regional Energy-game with you for mutual benefit.

When: 31 October – 2 November 2017

Where: Gelderland, Netherlands (3 hours by train or 2,5 hours by car from Brussels)

Who: European regions, your regional businesses, municipalities and / or knowledge-institutions

What: study visit on energy transition cooperation. Meeting with regional partners, visiting of sites in Arnhem Nijmegen City Region, Cleantech Region and/or FoodValley Region to share regional good practices. And to play the regional energy game, showing the main competing priorities in terms of energy strategies and learn from each other's experiences.

Background

The Gelders' Energy agreement (GEA) is a collaboration between local and regional industry, governments and NGO's in the province of Gelderland, pledging to an energy neutral province in 2050. It facilitates a co-creative process where initiatives, actors and energy is sought and found in society.

All sectors involved

Where the Paris Agreement '16 was an illustration of global commitment to the environment, the GEA is a regional translation of the massive task this commitment implied. The global trend towards fossil free energy resources has its repercussions on the regional and local level as well. It affects households, and the design of residential areas. It affects the public and private space to facilitate wind-, water, solar power and geothermal systems. It changes the methods of transportations, highlighting the importance of electrification of mobility. Furthermore, businesses have their part to play, by optimizing and changing their production processes. All these aspects of the energy transition come together in the organization of the Gelders' energy agreement.

A unique cooperation process

The unique nature of the GEA is in its origin. An initiative sprouted from society when it faced the complex, intricate problems of the energy transition. The three initiators were GNMf, the Gelders' environmental protection association, het Klimaatverbond, a national climate association and Alliander, an energy-network company. The Gelders' energy agreement currently brings together 190 partners, and counting. Non-governmental organizations, municipalities, provincial government, local and regional businesses work in cooperative processes on 24 topics to reach these goals. The co-creation process is unique in its nature, and has supported many initiatives already. Examples are solar- and wind parks, local information counters for individual household isolation measures and a clean mobility center.

We are now also working to establish more European collaborations. For example, the city of Nijmegen has won the EU Green Capital 2018 award.

Goal: energy neutrality

Organizations in the GEA pledged to take their role in the energy transition towards an energy neutral province in 2050. And they work towards shorter term goals, such as 14% renewable energy in 2020, and natural gas free in 2035. Renewable energy in the province of Gelderland is currently only 5,5%. These goals are thus a major task and it takes all to achieve them. In the GEA, the initiative and energy to do it is found in society, and actors come together to take their share in constructing a sustainable region.

Interested?

We would like to show you the way we work in our province and learn from your regions, to improve our way of working. Therefore we invite you for a study-visit in Autumn 2017.

If you are interested to participate. Please send an email to Daisy Pasenea: d.pasanea@gelderland.nl

For more information within ERRIN, please feel free to contact Arnout Smit (Arnout.smit@arnhemnijmegen.eu).