Interreg Baltic Sea Region

Co-funded by the European Union

ENERGY TRANSITION
GreenIndustrialAreas

Project Newsletter #3

The project GreenIndustrialAreas empowers public authorities to increase the share of smart and climate-neutral industrial areas and co-develop a transnational certification standard. The project is funded by the Interreg Baltic Sea Region programme of the European Union.

At the end of its first year, GIA prepares for its pilot phase

In December 2023, partners of GreenIndustrialAreas are working hard to finalize the solutions that the transnational team had been elaborating during the first year. Those include a comprehensive guideline for the certification of industrial areas as "green" ones, including a set of criteria that spans from the use of renewable energies to industrial symbiosis in the use of raw materials. The second solution is a compendium of energy technologies that are today available to industrial areas. Both solutions will be tested in six industrial areas in Germany, Latvia, Finland, Poland and Denmark during 2024.

High profits await where sustainability, agriculture and clean energy go together

Agriculture provides interesting opportunities for the production of renewable energies - most importantly biofuels. Yet those are contested by fears that this might lead to increases in the prices for food. The use of waste products is therefore regarded as a more sustainable alternative. In Latvia, JSC "Agrofirma Tērvete" is basing its energy production on the biochemical recycling of dairy waste products through the process of anaerobic fermentation whereby biogas is obtained. The volume of manure which the company currently processes exceeds 110 000 tons per year, providing more than 3 million m3 of biogas annually. The gas is burnt in internal combustion engines producing green electricity and heat. Excess electricity and heat is sold, making JSC "Agrofirma Tērvete" not only a maintainer of 2,600 cows but also a seller of 3,200 MWh of electricity annually. Due to the profitability of the energy sales, the company currently invests in a 3 MW solar power plant and a facility for bio-LNG production with a daily capacity of 10 tons.

Meet our partners: Kalundborg municipality (Denmark)

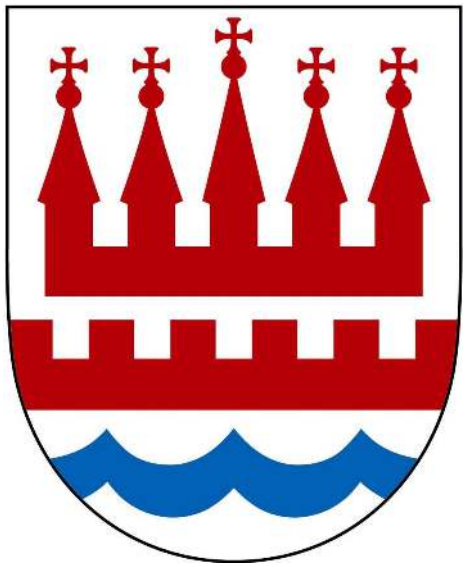

Photo above: Jens Nielsen

In the 1960s and 1970s, Kalundborg experienced a boom in the chemical industry, attracting several major companies to establish themselves in the region. One of the most notable projects during this period was the establishment of Kalundborg Symbiosis, a pioneering initiative where industrial enterprises, utilities, and the municipality collaborated to share resources such as water, heat, and by-products. The goal was to optimize production processes while minimizing environmental impact. This groundbreaking approach to industrial collaboration has positioned Kalundborg as an international exemplar of sustainable and efficient production.

In the subsequent decades, Kalundborg continued to attract industrial investments, placing an increasing emphasis on sustainability and environmentally friendly production practices. This focus has propelled Kalundborg to the forefront of green industry and the circular economy. Consequently, it is only natural for Kalundborg Municipality to actively participate in the project GreenIndustrialAreas, viewing this engagement as an integral element of our climate action plan. The development of collaborative initiatives is deemed essential in our efforts to address climate challenges, develop, and promote sustainable practices.

For more information please visit the Kalundborg's website.

https://interreg-baltic.eu/project/greenindustrialareas/