

PRESS RELEASE

“Official launch of BISEPS: EU supports empowering of carbon reduction in business”



Kortrijk, Belgium – A number of organisations join forces across borders to empower carbon reduction in businesses. Through the adoption of mid-scale sustainable energy technologies, businesses will increase energy profits and contribute to the climate goals. The European Union recognises this challenge and gives full support through the 3,9 million euros BISEPS-project. BISEPS is one of the first approved Interreg 2 Seas projects. BISEPS stands for “Business Clusters Integrated Sustainable Energy Packages” and is run by a consortium of 8 partners from Belgium, UK, France and the Netherlands. BISEPS has been officially launched on September 1st 2016 and will run until 2020.

Because of their scale, business clusters like business parks fit perfectly for mid-size sustainable energy like heat exchange, wind energy, biomass heating, combined heat & power installations, smart grids or large scale solar power plants. They offer great potential to reduce greenhouse gasses. However they still do not adopt enough sustainable energy.

The purpose of the BISEPS-project is to assist clusters of businesses to actually make more use of sustainable energy and to create synergies on energy level between businesses.

The BISEPS-project combines available knowledge on the renewable energy demand and supply side about barriers, drivers and solutions and will:

- (1) help to eliminate existing local and international barriers;
- (2) reorganise the supply side on a business cluster level by integrating and tuning available low carbon technologies and surrounding services (financial, organisational, legal,...) into integrated energy packages;
- (3) develop a generic BISEPS-model tool to determine the optimal low carbon technology solutions for business clusters, without needing to conduct time consuming and expensive feasibility studies.

In Belgium, the actions will focus on more sustainable energy production with small and medium enterprises in the business parks Kortrijk-Noord, Harelbeke-Zuid and Waregem-Zuid, but also in areas with energy intensive industry along the canal Roeselare-Ooigem.

In the Netherlands, the local municipality of Breda acts like a networker who facilitates and stimulates the market and unburdens companies who want to invest in sustainable energy and energy saving. Breda encourages early adapting companies to invest in heat, wind and/or sun energy or in saving energy. These early adaptors can become sustainable energyambassadors.

In France, the intercommunal of Lille, MEL, is focused on the identification of business parks to enhance the roll-out the BISEPS-model. A first step is to mobilise pilot projects.

In the UK, Manor Royal Business District is one of the largest business parks in the South East of England. Growth in recent years has increased demand on supply networks for electricity and heat. The BISEPS-project will help manage demand from energy networks and allow Manor Royal to lead the way in developing a more decentralised, locally generated, low carbon energy system. A district heating project is the first to get underway, and will be followed by several types of renewable electricity generation.

BISEPS is led by the Belgian project coordinator Leiedal, together with 7 other partners from Belgium, France, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom: WVI, POM West Flanders, Ghent University, Métropole Européenne de Lille, Centre de développement des éco-entreprises, Municipality of Breda and West Sussex County Council.

BISEPS runs from September 2016 to April 2020 and is cofinanced by the European Fund for Regional Development and the Belgian Province of West Flanders. The official project website www.biseps.eu will be up and running soon!

Facts

Interreg 2 Seas Programme:

Interreg 2 Seas is a European Territorial Cooperation Programme covering England, France, the Netherlands and Belgium (Flanders). The Programme is part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund and has a total of €241m ERDF to co-finance projects in the 2014 - 2020 period.

The overall objective is to develop an innovative, knowledge and research based, sustainable and inclusive 2 Seas area, where natural resources are protected and the green economy is promoted. In order to realise this, projects that directly contribute to one of the specific objectives (such as "Low Carbon Technologies") can be part-financed for up to 60 % of their total project budget.

More information?

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