



CASE
STUDY

Case Study



Clean Energy

Växjö, Sweden - Fossil Free Växjö

Växjö is situated on an inland, but has oceanic climate. Average annual heating degree days are around 4000. Växjö counts 61,000 inhabitants. The "Fossil Free Växjö" is a programme initiated by the city of Växjö to reduce human impact on global climate change. In 1996, the city council of Växjö unanimously decided that local emissions of greenhouse gases should be cut by half by 2010, compared with the 1993 levels, and that the municipality shall become fossil fuel free. Between 1993 and 2003 CO₂ emissions from fossil fuel were reduced by 24% per inhabitants and the share of renewable energy is now over 50%. The Fossil Free Växjö programme incorporates different types of activities, such as biomass-based district heating and power generation, small-scale district heating, district cooling, biomass boilers for households, energy efficient street lighting, energy efficient building design and construction, solar panels, cycle paths, environmentally friendly cars, biogas production, etc.

Sandvik Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Station in Växjö



Source: <http://www.ramboll.com/projects/re/veab-sandvik-power-station-unit-3?alias=vaxjo>
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The dedicated political leadership was the most important starting point for the programme. All political parties have unanimously supported the targets set, and researchers, private sector companies, and local policy makers collaborated to achieve the common goals. The programme has strengthened regional competitiveness and provided multiple benefits. The town has provided an important example to other municipalities in Sweden and abroad.

References

www.vaxjo.se/english/; <http://unep.org/GC/CCSS-D/Documents/Swedish-1A.pdf> ; and ICLEI, UN-Habitat, UNEP. 2009. Sustainable Energy Handbook: A Handbook for Cities and Towns in Developing Countries. Nairobi. p. 29.

Credentials

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