

**Project “Partnership for Clean Energy”
of the Regional administration Sliven in partnership with the Cornwall County Council**

Main objective

Achieving sustainable development in the region of Sliven through the exchange of best practices and innovations in the field of the renewable energy sources /RES/.

Specific objectives

1. To establish interregional partnership with the Cornwall county, South West England, aiming at studying the experience, exchange of best practices in the field of the RES and strengthening the capacity of the target groups on the RES;
2. To create a “Strategy for the sustainable use of RES of the region of Sliven - 2010 – 2017” with the participation of all stakeholders on the territory of the region of Sliven using the partner’s approach to the development of such planning documents;
3. To create conditions for future joint work through the establishment of a partnership network between the stakeholders from the region of Sliven and the Cornwall County for the exchange of know-how in the field of the RES;
4. To disseminate the outcomes of the exchange of best practices among the target groups and to raise the awareness of the general public on the significance of the RES for the environmental protection.

Target groups

- representatives of the Regional administration Sliven – 5 people;
- experts from the municipalities within the region of Sliven and from the municipalities of Burgas, Yambol and Stara Zagora – 66 people;
- teachers working in the field of energy efficiency and RES from the departments of “Mechanics, Mechanical Engineering and Heat Engineering” and “Electrical Engineering, Electronics and Automatics” of the Faculty of engineering and pedagogy – Sliven, affiliated to the Technical University – Sofia – 6 people;
- representatives of the non-governmental sector working in the field of the RES in the region of Sliven – 4 people;
- representatives of the branch unions, business organizations in the region of Sliven – 20 people;
- general public in the region of Sliven.

Final beneficiaries

- experts from regional and municipal administrations in the country – 100 people;
- teachers and students from all structures of the Technical university – Sofia – 50 people;
- potential entrepreneurs in the field of the RES, members of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Bulgarian Industrial Association, etc. – 100 people;
- non-governmental organizations working in the field of the RES and those supporting the business in the country – 60 people

Activities:

0. Project management – the team will consist of 4 people: a manager, 2 coordinators – one for the activities in Bulgaria and one for the activities on the territory of the partner in the UK and an accountant;

1. Studying the best practices in the field of the RES in the Cornwall County

1.1. A working meeting in the Cornwall County to strengthen the interregional partnership – the high leaderships of the partner institutions will provide their support for the objectives of the present project. Moreover the team-members will prepare and secure the effective implementation of the project activities in real working conditions. They will coordinate the working plan of the project implementation, as well as the schedule of the activities. A detailed programme for the study visit will be prepared. The meeting will be 3 days long and will take place at the beginning of the project. 5 people on Bulgarian part – 2 representatives of the leadership, and 3 team-members will take part in the meeting. One of the tasks of this meeting is to define together the subject and the range of the two Reports. The reports will be

made according to the Bulgarian Ordinance for assigning of small public procurement orders /OASPPPO/;

- 1.2. Selection of a subcontractor;
 - 1.3. Preparing a Report on the best practices of the RES usage in the Cornwall County;
 - 1.4. Preparing a Report on the best practices for cooperation between the business and the University and other R&D units in the Cornwall County;
 - 1.5. Preparing a brochure /text and photos/ presenting the best practices in the field of the RES in the Cornwall County;
- 2. Study visit of the representatives of the target groups in the South West England**
- 2.1. Selection of a subcontractor;
 - 2.2. Study visit – it will provide the opportunity for the target groups from Sliven to take a first-hand look of the implemented initiatives and best practices in the field of the RES on the territory of the Cornwall County as well as of different technologies and equipment for the production of RES energy. Personal contacts with possible partners for future joint projects. The visit will be 5 days long /7 with the travelling/, 10 people from the target groups and the Regional administration will take part in it. They will be selected according to certain criteria. The partner together with the project team will draft the programme of the visit during the working meeting.
- 3. Collecting data, research and analyses in the field of the RES on the territory of the region of Sliven**
- 3.1. Selection of a subcontractor /the same for Activity 4/;
 - 3.2. Making two analyses in the field of the RES on the territory of the region of Sliven:
 - 3.2.1. Analysis and evaluation of the potential for using RES in the region of Sliven;
 - 3.2.2. Analysis of the applicability of the innovation practices, shared by the partner, in the region of Sliven
- 4. Development and approval of the “Strategy for the sustainable use of RES of the region of Sliven 2010 – 2017”**
- 4.1. Development of the strategy – the aim of the strategic document is to provide a vision for the development of the potential of using RES in the region in the middle-term period. It will serve as a reference point for the development of the municipal programmes for sustainable use of the RES that are made according to the RES Act. The strategy will be a platform for attracting investments in the field of the RES. It will be based on the information and data of the already prepared reports and analyses and will contain: vision, objectives, priorities and measures, action plan /incl. projects of public significance/ and an enclosure – a description of the administrative procedures for the implementation of investment projects in the field of the RES. The methodology for the development of the strategy will be taken from the practice of the partner-region. The partnership principle will be observed when defining the objectives, priorities and measures. After the strategy is ready it will be advised by both local experts in the field of the RES and such from the Cornwall County.
 - 4.2. Approval of the strategy by the Regional Development Council and the Regional Energy Efficiency Council.
- 5. Creating a web-based network for exchange of information, know-how and best practices between the R&D units, companies and other stakeholders in both regions**
- 5.1. Selection of a subcontractor;
 - 5.2. Creating the network – the aim is to strengthen the already established interregional partnership and to create conditions for a continuous exchange of know-how between those having interest in the use or production of RE. It will also gather together the gained experience and provide the opportunity for other partners to be included in the network. The network will be a bilateral web-site with the following content: Information on the region of Sliven and the Cornwall County, a data-base of the best practices in the field of the RES in both regions, reports, analyses, strategic and other documents, virtual forum for those demanding and supplying know-how for new partnerships, links to suitable web-sites, information on the project.
- 6. Carrying out an information campaign to disseminate the outcomes of the established interregional partnership and exchanged best practices – different information channels will be**

used to disseminate the outcomes among the target groups and final beneficiaries and to multiply the best practices in other municipalities and regions.

- 6.1. Selection of a subcontractor /the same for activities 6, 7, 9/;
- 6.2. Organizing a seminar to share the gained experience and best practices in the field of the RES – a wider range of all the target groups will take part. The seminar will take place in the conference room of the Regional administration Sliven, it will be 1-day long and 40 people will be present. Two experts of the partner will be the main lecturers – they will present the information from the reports /Activity 1/. Those who took part in the study visit will share what they saw and learnt /Activity 2/;
- 6.3. Organizing a regional conference for the South-East Planning Region of Bulgaria /SEPR/ on the topic “The role of the regional and local authorities for the application of the RES policy” – it is directed to the representatives of the regional and municipal administrations within the territory of the SEPR. It will provide a forum to the administrative structures responsible for the sustainable development policy, incl. the RES policy, to present their experience, best practices and intentions in this field. A Memorandum of cooperation will be considered. The strategy /Activity 4/ will be presented. The conference will take place in the conference room of the Regional administration Sliven and will be 1-day long. 60 representatives of the authorities in the SEPR and two representatives of the Cornwall County Council;
- 6.4. Publication and dissemination of the brochure presenting the best practices in the field of the RES in Cornwall County;
- 6.5. Publication and dissemination of the “Strategy for the sustainable use of RES of the region of Sliven 2010 – 2017”
7. **Activities for raising public awareness on the benefits of using the RES** – different information channels such as: information leaflets, articles in the local press, radio broadcasts, the web-site of the Regional administration Sliven;
8. **Audit**
9. **Activities for providing publicity and transparence of the project** – 2 press-conferences /the opening and closure of the project/, press-releases connected with main stages of the project, information leaflet, a banner.

Project duration – 18 months /expected start – March/April 2009/

Total budget of the project - 249 020 leva