



Study visit in the Netherlands 27-28th November 2014

On behalf of Region Västra Götaland, Sweden and the Provinces of Drenthe, Friesland and Groningen in the Netherlands, we invite you to an interesting event on the topic of biogas promotion and production.

In late November, we travel to the Northern Netherlands mainly to network and exchange experiences with each other, but also to learn more about the Dutch biogas system by visiting one or more production plants. The study visit starts at Dairy Campus in Leeuwarden at appr. 3 pm on Nov 27th. *For those of you who want to have separate business meetings, there will be an opportunity to come to Dairy Campus earlier on Thursday.*

The study visit is arranged within the ENCORE network – Environmental Conferences of the Regions of Europe: www.encoreweb.org

We hope you want to join us! Please let us know by sending an e-mail to Katrin Urbäck katrin.urback@vgregion.se or Martien Haasjes: M.Haasjes@drenthe.nl by **November 11** at the latest. Let us know how many you are, your names, what organization you are from and any special food requirements.

Welcome!

Draft programme

Thursday 27th November

14.30 **Arrival in Leeuwarden. Transfer to Dairy Campus.**

15.00 **Introduction of participants and tour at Dairy Campus.**

<http://www.dairycampus.nl/en/Home.htm>

Among other activities, Dairy Campus houses research towards the treatment of manure. This project involves various parties from the business sector trying to refine minerals from manure in order to produce alternatives to artificial fertilisers. The gases released while the manure is refined are already being converted into electricity and used to heat hundreds of homes.

17.30 **Transfer to Groningen/Drenthe, check in at hotel** (to be confirmed)

19.00-
21.00 **Official dinner in Groningen** (to be confirmed)

*Speech by **Henk van de Boer**, Member of the Board of the Province of Drenthe*



Friday 28th November

8.30 **Check out from hotel.** Transfer to Euroborg Stadium.

9.00 **Seminar session: How to enhance regional co-operation within the field of biogas? How to put biogas on the national and the EU agenda?**

Welcome by **Bote Wilpstra**, Member of the Board of the Province of Groningen

Presentation of the biogas alliance by **Sören Kviberg**, chair of the Environment Committee in Region Västra Götaland

Key notes by:

- **Ruud Paap**, Energy Valley, on Biogas cluster in Northern Netherlands.

The Energy Valley Foundation is a regional development organisation focusing on the development of the energy sector and especially the transition to a sustainable energy economy. The foundation is funded both from the private and public sector and works through strategic partnerships with research institutions in the region.

- **Robbert Klaver**, FC Groningen, on green ambitions of FC Groningen (TBC)

FC Groningen is the football club of Groningen. They play in the highest football league in the Netherlands, the Eredivisie. They play their home games at the Euroborg Stadium, with a capacity of over 22,000 seats.

- **Xander van Mechelen**, Groen Gas NL, on biogas promotion in NL (TBC)

Groen Gas NL is an independent foundation in The Netherlands which aims at speeding up the innovations in the Green Gas / Biogas market. GroenGasNL cooperates with a number of partners, amongst those are farmers, waste treatment companies, food industries, energy companies, financial institutions and governments.

- **Hanna Jönsson**, Region Västra Götaland, Biogas collaboration for clean transport in Västra Götaland.

The Biogas Väst (West) programme promotes biogas as a climate friendly and renewable, locally produced fuel. It is a comprehensive solution with great potential for creating new green jobs in Västra Götaland.

Followed by an interactive workshop:

- How to put biogas on the national and EU-agenda?
- How to utilize our co-operation in the ENCORE alliance to promote biogas as an alternative to fossil fuels?
- Ideas for common actions: project development, business matching, other ideas?

12.00 **Lunch and transfer to Wijster.**

13.00 **Visit to Biogas from Waste production facilities at Attero, Wijster.**

*Presentation by **Marco Kwak**, Manager Project Development Waste to Energy, Attero*

<http://www.attero.nl/en/our-waste-to-energy-plants/wijster/>

15.30 **End of the study visit. Transfer to Schiphol by train**