



Petrašiūnai power plant, to be converted to biomass by 2015.
Kaunas Region (Lithuania), © AB Kauno energija.

Becoming a Sustainable Region

Up till now Lithuanian energy sector used to be considered as strictly national, except district heating sector. Production and supply of electricity, supply of natural gas was not only performed on national basis. This was related to operation of Ignalina Nuclear power plant, which used to produce nearly 80% of electricity in Lithuania. After its' closure on December 31, 2009, the need for conversion to more regional attitude appeared, which was also closely related to EU policy and requirements. Municipalities are supposed to elaborate Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs), which is too difficult a task for most of them, since they have neither energy experts, no financial means for hiring them due to recession.

Besides, nearly all existing energy statistics is not available on regional level, which makes the task even more complicated.

The largest municipality of Kaunas Region – Kaunas City with population exceeding half of the whole region is the member of the Covenant of Mayors.

As regards to energy production, the largest energy generators are Kaunas hydro power plant, with a capacity of 100.8 MW and a pump storage power plant, capacity 900 MW. There are also seven large district heating companies in the main cities in the region. The main renewable source for heat generation is biomass used in the form of firewood, by individual solid boilers, and mainly wood chips in district heating sector.

Thanks to the emission inventory can be said that in 2008 the amount of pollutants into atmosphere from stationary sources was 16.5 kg / ca.


Tertiary and residential buildings are the most electricity consuming sectors in Kaunas region followed by industry, agriculture and transport. Concerning natural gas, industry is the most demanding sector, with 67% of the consumption followed by energy sector, 26%.

The main energy goals for year 2020 are:

- RES share in final consumption - 30%
- RES in transport – 10%
- Electricity generation using RES – 40%
- Heating and cooling using RES – 34%
- Energy savings – 11%
- Reduction of CO₂ emissions – +8% since 2010.

The networking activities involve 8 municipalities of Kaunas Region. Municipalities have well shaped websites, which often provide existing development plans, implemented projects and wide range of municipal activities and contacts of involved authorities.

12 ENNEREG Pioneer Regions



ENNEREG - Regions paving the way for a Sustainable Energy Europe is a European Project supported by the **Intelligent Energy - Europe programme**. The project aims to establish and inspire EU Regions to take up the challenges of fulfilling the EU 20-20-20 climate and energy targets by producing regional **Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs)** and initiating **Sustainable Energy Projects (SEPs)**.

The experience gained by the **12 ENNEREG Pioneer Regions** is being shared with other regions throughout Europe via one-to-one twinning activities, events and the **Regions 202020 Network**.

Find out more at www.regions202020.eu

Energy in Kaunas Region, Lithuania

There is no specific emphasis on energy activities in regional and municipal development plans in Kaunas Region, although the energy sector is among the most important in public governing system, as energy expenses takes a significant share of costs in public sector and households. Currently only Kaunas City Municipality is the member of the Covenant of Mayors and has elaborated a Sustainable Energy Action Plan.

A portion of the price of rape oil intended for the production of rapeseed methyl (ethyl) ester (RME) and a portion of the price of rape seed and cereal grain purchased for the production of dehydrated ethanol shall be compensated. It is a voluntary scheme. Funds are provided for in the state budget on an annual basis. Greater production of fuels from local renewable raw materials improves the energy security and reliability of fuel self-sufficiency of the country and reduces its dependence on fossil fuels and their import.

Sustainable Energy Action in Kaunas Region



Kaunas Hydro Power Plant (Kaunas Region, Lithuania)
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All municipalities in Kaunas Region are implementing some Sustainable Energy Actions, which are currently planned under National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (2008) and National Renewable Energy Action Plan (2010) and which are financed under municipal share of sectoral national programs and mainly EY Structural funds. The main areas are: renovation of public and residential buildings; modernization of energy generating capacities and heat supply systems; conversion of boiler-houses and power plants to RES; partial renovation of public transport, construction of bicycle paths and updating streets lightening systems.

Good practice example is implementation of E-ticket and E-mobility systems in Kaunas Public Transport.

Facts and Figures



Size: 8099 sq km

Inhabitants: 666318

Location: Central Lithuania

Stakeholders: Municipalities of Birstonas, Jonava, Kaišiadorys, Kaunas City, Kaunas District, Kedainiai, Prienai, Raseiniai.

Twinning and Replication

Our twinning region is Šilutė Municipality – new member of CoM. The main focus of twinning co-operation was on implementation of SEAP through assessment of local SEP's, which are being implemented and are planned in Šilutė Municipality, as well as on organizing of stakeholders for implementation of the SEPs. Another focus is raising sustainable energy awareness of municipal staff and population. The main objectives of the twinning process are: to improve the existing SEAP and state the achieved results during the year while training the municipal staff of how this activity should be performed; to provide municipality with the list of measures and good practice examples from other ENNEREG regions; to perform some sustainable energy training and awareness raising activities.

Find out more about ENNEREG's activities in **Kaunas Region, Lithuania** on the Regions 202020 website at: www.regions202020.eu/kaunas

or contact the ENNEREG partner for Kaunas Region:

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