



Europees Landbouwfonds  
voor Plattelandsontwikkeling:  
Europa investeert in zijn platteland.

## **Dutch LEADER projects and inspiring ideas on: Climate and Agriculture**

By the representative of the National Rural Network Netherlands  
On the occasion of the meeting of the Leader Subcommittee ERDN  
November 26, 2008  
Brussels



**NATIONAL RURAL NETWORK OF THE NETHERLANDS**





# Sustainable Energy on Wadden Islands

## **Ambition:**

"islands self-sustaining in energy + waste management + water by 2020"

## **Project objectives per island:**

Sustainable Energy Team (SET) operational

Initiate pilot projects

Formulate proposals for "Waddenfund"

## **Funding:**

Leader (€ 25k)+ Province (€ 25k) + the 4 municipalities (€ 50k each)

## **Expected results of each SET:**

Legal status of SET, support from actors, ambition document, communication plan, 3 inspiring small projects, 5 proposals to "WaddenFund". [evaluation report after one year]

**LEADER!**

# Lessons learned

- Excursion to Danish island resulted in good head start
- Political support mobilised bottom up involvement
- Increased involvement by training local technicians



# Green energy as by-product of landscape maintenance

Objective: cost of maintaining hedge rows covered by sale of energy generated from harvested wood

- Wood cuttings produce 1 Mega Watt of green energy
- Initiative of the local Natural Farming Society
  - a limited liability company produces and sells energy
  - a local foundation to organize the hedge maintenance
  - cooperation with LAG-office** + budget from ROM and Interreg IIIB
- Energy delivery contracts with revalidation centre and school

with LAG LEADER

# Lessons learned

- International excursion / exposure resulted in good head start (stakeholders)
- International cooperation resulted in active network
- Insist on local partners and local ownership
- Regional economy strengthened







# Climate friendly dairy farming

Objective: low cost and practical farming practices to reduce greenhouse gas emission

Funded by provinces of Utrecht + Brabant, and RDP 2007-2013 and Senter-Novem

Farmer study groups in four areas with different soil types

- 30 climate friendly farm management options identified
- options discussed with advisors on appropriateness, cost, effect on climate
- try out selected options on farm

Include various stakeholders in reflection and tests (feed mill, bank, farm architects)

Inspiring for LEADER!

# Consumers as investors in solar energy on farms



## Verdien vijftig euro

Door uw eenmalige investering van 250 euro verdient u 50 euro. U krijgt namelijk 6 waardebonnen van 50 euro thuisgestuurd. Per jaar kunt u 1 van die bonnen op de boerderij van keuze aan producten en diensten besteden. Ook wordt u jaarlijks samen met andere buren uitgenodigd op de boerderij. Wordt u ook nog direct klant (of bent u al klant) van 100% groene energieleverancier Greenchoice, dan betaalt u geen 250



maar 230 euro, en krijgt u gewoon 6 waardebonnen. U maakt dan een gezond rendement van ruim 5% per jaar! Mooi meegenomen, toch?

# “Consumers as investors in solar energy on farms”

Objective: contribute to climate-neutral farming + connecting consumers to farmers

How: pay € 250 to a farmer for installation of solar panels, receive € 300 in vouchers for organic food (or services) from the farmer over a period of 6 years

Builds on the existing network ‘Adopt a Cow’, initiated by 15 eco-farmers with support of a consultant, no Gov funding involved

Lessons:

- Banks loans and / or external funds not always required, because citizens can support farmers by advance payments
- Direct connections between producers and consumers inspire both

Inspiring for LEADER!

# Climate initiative in RD Network?

- Challenge the RDP program to incorporate climate initiatives
- Municipalities + provinces to become climate-friendly, but
  - no clear ideas what to do in practice
- Available Transnational Cooperation Funds could be used for Climate initiatives
- In NL farmers are paid for providing green (nature) and blue (water) services. Farmers should also receive extra payment for climate friendly initiatives



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