

The Energy Transition Chronicles

VÄXJÖ (SWEDEN), A “BIO-ECONOMY” FOR ALL



The city

Växjö
Sweden
85,000 inhabitants

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Local key players



Bo Frank, Mayor (left)



Henrik Johansson, coordinator of the city's environmental department

Key figures

2.7 is the number of tonnes of CO₂ per capita emitted in 2012 (EU average: 7.01 tonnes)

88% is the proportion of renewable energy in the local energy station supply mix

73% is the economic growth rate increase between 1993 and 2010

2,000 is the number of local jobs created in the private sector between 2011 and 2014

Milestones

1960 The city council is alerted to the condition of the lakes (eutrophication) and launches a conservation programme

1970 The oil crises prompt the municipal energy company to seek another source of energy: biomass

1995 Växjö cooperates with the NGO *Swedish Society for Nature Conservation* to mobilise local stakeholders

1996 The city council adopts the “fossil fuel free” objective

1997 Creation of the Investment fund for environmental protection by the Swedish government

2006 The city launches its Environmental Programme, which replaces the Local Agenda 21

2010 Revision of the Environmental Programme – the city sets 2030 as the deadline for becoming “fossil fuel free” – the focus is set on transport

2012 The city reduces its CO₂ emissions by 41% compared to 1993

You can get the story “Växjö, a bio-economy for all”, as well as the chronicles of Heidelberg (Germany), Schönau (Germany), Burgenland (Austria) and Brussels-Capital (Belgium), via Energy Cities’ website www.energy-cities.eu - Resources > Publications.

Contact : floriane.cappelletti@energy-cities.eu