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Acronym: COOPENERGY

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Memorandum of Understanding

Memorandum of understanding to cooperate on Multi-Level-Governance in energy planning between Norrbotten Energy Agency and Riga Planning Region

Considering that

- the policy of the European Union sets for 2020 a target for renewable energy sources (20% of total energy production), energy efficiency (20% increase), CO2 emissions (20% reduction compared to 1990 levels) and biofuels (10% of total fuel consumed);
- energy strategies have a relevant impact on social welfare and the environment, and need to be considered to build a society which is sustainable;
- the actions in the field of sustainable energy that have already been carried out in our regions;
- cooperation between regional and local authorities and other stakeholders is essential to improve the local and regional action on sustainable energy;

Norrbotten Energy Agency and Riga Planning Region agree as follows:

Agreement

The collaboration between Norrbotten Energy Agency and Riga Planning Region agree on that the following themes are interesting for the development of sustainable energy in the region:

- How to implement local energy and climate plans / SEAPs in an efficient collaboration with the regional and national level;
- Develop concrete models/approaches to designing and implementing regional SEAPs;
- Increased awareness on national and local level about necessity for a coherent and integrated regional sustainable energy action planning.

Riga Planning Region will exchange experience with Norrbotten Energy Agency on the above mentioned issues with a focus on Multi-Level-Governance models in energy planning and will

- do one study visit to Norrbotten to learn more about best practices in place and to exchange experience;
- Host one visit of COOPENERG experts to receive technical support on-site for the implementation of MLG-models and to facilitate experience exchange;
- Participate in evaluation of the process, giving feedback and information;
- participate in the final COOPENERGY conference;

- Join the online collaboration platform (free of charge) for further technical exchange.

Riga Planning Region will allocate costs

- for own staff when visiting Norrbotten;
- meeting venues, meals/coffee break etc. when Norrbotten Energy Agency staff is visiting the importing region;

Norrbotten Energy Agency will allocate and provide the following resources for the twinning:

- Staff costs for consultancy during visits and for remote support;
- Travel and local accommodation expenses (hotel, meals, local transport, catering) when the Riga Planning Region staff (max 3 persons) is visiting Norrbotten;
- Travel costs to visit Riga Planning Region;
- Travel costs for participating in COOPENERGY final conference (1 person)

Riga Planning Region will consider ideas or proposal received from Norrbotten Energy Agency and will consider their inclusion in their work with the regional SEAP.

The Participants agree to allow Norrbotten Energy Agency to document the activities carried out under this agreement as part of the activities of the Coopenergy Project of the Intelligent Energy - Europe (IEE) programme which has the objective of improving cooperation between regional and local authorities in sustainable energy planning through multi-level governance models.

Nothing in this agreement is of a legally enforceable nature and consequently no liability shall be attached to either party in the event of its failure to carry out any of the terms of the MoC. Each party is responsible for the way in which it carries out its undertakings under this agreement, and no liability shall be attached to the other party as a result.

Nothing in this MoC shall be construed as giving the right to any party to represent the other towards third parties including the press and media and no right of agency shall therefore be construed. The parties are therefore free to terminate the MoC at any time.

This MoC shall be effective upon its signature by the Participants

Riga Planning Region

Norrbotten Energy Agency



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Date: *01.04.2015.*

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