

Energy Cluster Initiative for North East Brandenburg¹

Objective

Foster grass roots innovation: encourage innovation in crafts and traditional less capital-intensive SMEs.

Access external markets: increase penetration of external markets in order to create demand for local products

Description of the approach (aims, delivery, budget etc)

The Energy Cluster Initiative for North East Brandenburg is a place specific, fit for purpose grass roots innovation system as well as an effective formal business network. It aims at bringing together companies from different economic branches and professional groups and other relevant stakeholders to develop and implement innovative ways in renewable energy generation and usage.

The "Energy Cluster Initiative for North East Brandenburg" is a good example of an effective formal business network. It brings together all key local players in the industry (over 100) and acts as a mechanism for strategic dialogue, capacity development, lobbying and co-ordination of stakeholders, internationalisation and innovation. Furthermore, the network is an effective means for exploring, reconciling and addressing tensions between: bottom-up and top-down policy making; national, regional and local regulations; the urban /rural divide in Uckermark; and small and larger businesses.

The Energy Cluster Initiative for the North East Brandenburg is a formalised business network. The initiative is a mechanism for strategic dialogue, capacity development, lobbying, co-ordination of stakeholders, and internationalisation and innovation activities.

Contact details and website for further information

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¹ Source: Discussion Paper "Entrepreneurship in the Districts Uckermark in Brandenburg and Parchim in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania", OECD LEED Programme, October 2006. Adapted in 2007 by Philippe Krott and Dario Montero, trainees at the OECD LEED Trento Centre for Local development.