

Bioenergy villages

Smart villages supporting the green transition in Germany

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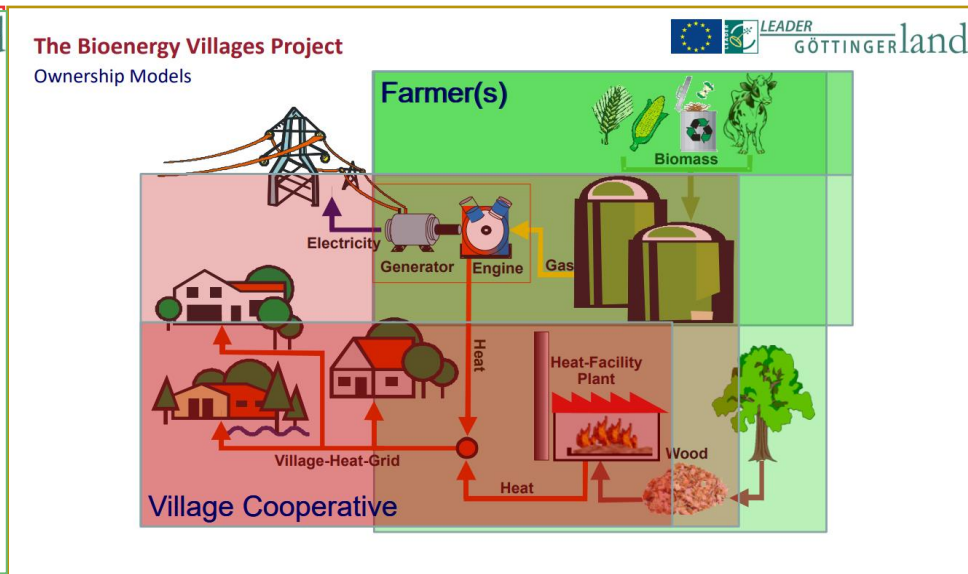
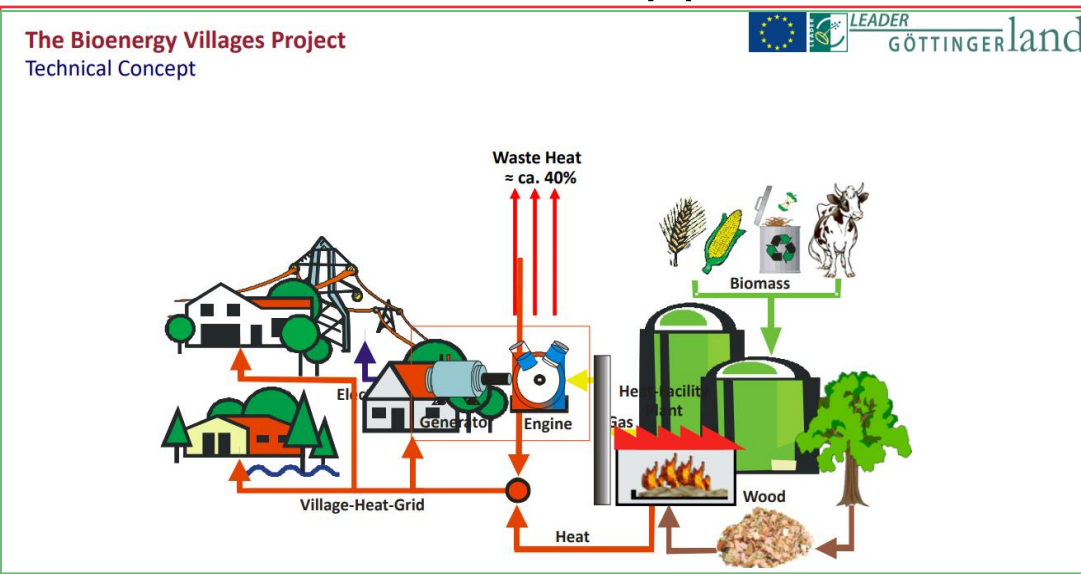


My experience

- ▶ bioenergy villages in Germany and especially in the **LAG Goettinger Land** means electric and heating energy from local renewable resources as a cooperative
- ▶ focus of LDS: renewable energy and climate protection
- ▶ CALL of the LAG for interested villages: 34 villages applied, 9 feasibility studies, 4 new **bioenergy villages** at the end (50 -70 % of houses are involved)
- ▶ Pre-condition: villages needed an active community life where long-time residents are willing to cooperate with new inhabitants, farmers had to admit to the project
- ▶ Unique selling point of the LAG: a district with a university town in the center with lots of know-how

Main aspects to highlight around this topic

- ▶ Village people have to realize that it is THEIR very own project and have to implement it as such
- ▶ Bottom-up needs free space
- ▶ there is not **THE** only and right solution
- ▶ Every bioenergy village was a challenge for the whole village with an individual approach



The Bioenergy Villages Project
Example of a Financing Model

Investment	EURO (€)
Biogas Plant	1.000.000
Wood Chip Furnace	500.000
Heat Grid	1.000.000
Sum	2.500.000

Financing	EURO (€)
Cooperative Shares	300.000
Cooperative Loans	1.500.000
Federal Government Subsidies	500.000
LEADER European Union Subsidies	200.000
Sum	2.500.000

My recommendations to move forward

- ▶ Renewable Energy Law (EEG) in Germany was a key factor – it guaranteed a 20 years fixed price for energy

- **make it possible**

- ▶ investment measures
capital is the most imp

- **help villages to u
value they have a**

- ▶ don't underestimate t
need support but alth



Regional development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High grade of participation activates village people • High honorary commitment • The cooperative idea makes everybody feel responsible • Success gives self-confidence and motivates for new activities • Increase of the income diversity in a rural area • Independence of fossil fuel (prices)
Farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term price stability • Better utilisation of arable land and higher income • Earlier harvest dates • Less working peaks and better utilisation of machines
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of CO₂-Emission • Increasing Plant diversity • Reduction of soil erosion and nitrate leaching • Minimise pesticide treatments • Fertilisation with digestion residues

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st important

tants!) AND they

- **Trust villages! They know best what they need and don't measure the value with economic factors.**

THANK YOU

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