

SecureChain: Report from the second Learning Lab in Småland, SE

The second Learning Lab workshop in the model region of Småland, SE was carried out on January 18 2017. Seven persons attended the meeting were three of the four accepted IV-applications was represented by one or two persons. The meeting focused in general on two main topics: The present situation for the investments for each of the SMEs and discussions on further activities and actions for continued fostering of the various companies planned investments.

The RLPs Göran Gustavsson and Oskar Jonsson started the meeting with a reminder of some basic facts of the initiative SecureChain, the SMEs obligations and what the initiative may offer them, e.g. background, purpose and consortium partners. The RLPs introduced some other regional initiatives in the field of supply of bioenergy and the value chain. The recently approved initiative Secvalchain, a third country contribution to an existing EU-financed initiative, in our case the Ukrainian NGO FORZA, was introduced and we discussed the way to optimize the collaboration with them.

The present regional state for the initiative was presented:

- All four companies have used their approved innovation voucher in 2016
- Progress reports have been submitted for all four SMEs
- Business plans have been submitted for Lessebo Fjärrvärme and Skogsbränsle Småland
- Life cycle Analysis has been initiated for Skogsbränsle Småland
- The regional annual seminar "The bioenergy day" has been conducted
- We have organized a regional international meeting (April -16)
- We have attended an international meeting in the Netherlands

Each SME representative presented their individual plans:

- How has the innovation voucher been used?
- Result of the consultants efforts?
- Investment plans?
- Obstacles of the investment?
- What means are desirable in order to realize the investment plans?

Värnamo Energi: Has received about 29 million Swedish kronor, about Euro 2,9 million, from "klimatklivet" so they will be able to convert from fossil fuel to pellet burners in four communities around the city of Värnamo. The voucher has been used by a consultant that has made specifications about what kind of burners can be used in each of the communities. According to the company, the conversion will be finished and done during 2017. Värnamo Energi has the need of a consultant that can help to gain more costumers to the new district heating systems.

Lessebo Fjärrvärme: An entrepreneur plans to construct a hotel on 6500 m2 in the community of Kosta. The production capacity of the current burner will therefore not be enough a cold day. The voucher has been used for a consultant for an investigation of the most appropriate ways to secure the heat deliveries for a reasonable amount of money to be invested. The most appropriate way may not be a new burner but instead to install a flue gas condenser. Lessebo Fjärrvärme need more means to investigate various options for possible investors.

Skogsbränsle Småland: The consultant has written a rapport about fly-ash to the forest from wood-fuel, how the ash affects the soil and has calculated the expenses for various investments and for various ways to run the granulation/pelletizing equipment. They need means for study trips and for establishment and further development of collaboration with companies like Sveaskog in order to take part of their experiences from previous initiatives.

The presentations were followed by a discussion of the individual cases with feed-back and ideas how to facilitate for each of the companies to realize their plans. Experiences was communicated about various possibilities for co-financing of the investments.

The RLPs presented possibilities for further activities and actions for continued fostering of the various companies planned investments, like:

- Another innovation voucher for, for example, in-depth preliminary studies, design, market research, business plan
- LCA analysis
- Financial advice to investigate financing of the investment
- Certification
- Knowledge and experience building by the help of conferences, seminars, study trips, etc.
- Take part of other experiences from other model regions in Europe
- Study trip to Austria

The meeting ended up in a joint lunch and with an assumption to see each other in the constellation within a year for the third round of RLL.

Here under, a picture from the meeting RLL2.



/Göran Gustavsson

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