


Description of best practice

Best Practice	
Title	Heat entrepreneurship cluster of South Ostrobothnia
Picture	
Domain	Communities/Networks
Source of wood	Stemwood Above and below ground woody biomass Recycled wood Waste wood
Location	Seinäjoki, Finland
Implementers	Heat purchasers, companies
Actual status	Running
Approach	Heat entrepreneurs produce heat for customers by using renewable solid bio-fuels. In recent decades this operational model has become more common in Finland. Different skill sectors have formed around heat entrepreneurship such as training, research, consultation and equipment production. A heat entrepreneurship knowledge cluster has been built in South Ostrobothnia Finland.
Main results	The knowledge cluster consists of heat entrepreneurs, heat entrepreneurship units, research, training and the supply of machines and equipment for the whole production chain. The knowledge cluster can also be utilized internationally by offering knowledge and training opportunities to foreign target groups.
Lessons learned	The HECSO development project has assembled the heat entrepreneurship knowledge cluster of South Ostrobothnia. The knowledge cluster has been made to utilise, in many different ways, the companies located in the region, other actors in the region and the internationalisation of the whole province. A principal component of internationalisation is the knowledge cluster's training package on heat entrepreneurship, which is on offer to interested foreign target groups. Vocational Adult Education Sedu is responsible for the training. The training package lasts for one week, and

	<p>is compiled through co-operation with the Finnish Forest Centre and regional heat entrepreneurs and machine and equipment manufacturers.</p> <p>Heat entrepreneurship is the production of local renewable energy, where an entrepreneur or company sells heat at an agreed price to a user. In the best scenarios there can be many heat purchasers. Heat is conveyed to the customer from the heating plant by a district heating network. Generally the fuel is the entrepreneur's own forest or locally procured wood, but it can also be wood refining by-products, wood for re-cycling and peat.</p>
<p>Contact information</p>	<p>yrjo.ylkanen@metsakeskus.fi</p>
<p>Link to website</p>	<p>http://www.hecso.fi/</p>
<p>Code</p>	<p>BP_FI_08</p>

Best practice assessment

Region	Finland
Time scale	Running
Mobilization Potential	Medium
Kind of wood concerned	Stemwood, Above and below ground woody biomass
Sustainability Potential	Very positive
Impact on environment & biodiversity	Positive/reduces the use of fossil fuels
Ease of implementation	Medium
Economic impact	Very positive
Job effect	Positive / increases local employment
Income effect	Positive
Specific knowledge needed	Good network abilities needed
Costs of implementation	No possible to assess
Technical readiness level	Applicable
Key information for adoption	Heat entrepreneurship promotes local business activity