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REPORT

Final Thematic Workshop in Zalewo, Poland 20th March 2020



*This report has been prepared by
Piotr Nowakowski and
Ryszard Wnuk (KAPE)*

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1. Introduction

The Final Thematic Workshop was organized on the 20th March 2020, by the Polish National Energy Conservation Agency in Zalewo (Warmian-Masurian voivodeship – the scarce region of WinWind in Poland), in cooperation with the Regional Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management in Olsztyn and City Council of Zalewo. The organisation of the meeting was supported by the former mayor of Kisielice Mr. Tomasz Koprowiak, who has been involved in WinWind project activities since the beginning. Due to the corona virus pandemic, the event was uncertain until the very end. The situation in Poland at that time was changing rapidly and the spreading of the virus has a dramatic impact on the operation of both public and private institutions. Due to preventive decisions made and recommendations given by the Polish government, generally speaking all kind of events were being postponed or cancelled. Under these circumstances most of the participants decided not to participate in the workshop. Although the key stakeholders were still willing to take part in the workshop, it was decided to conduct the event in small group of experts. The event finally gathered 9 participants, representatives of local authorities – Zalewo City Council, IEN Energy, Regional Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management and former president of Warmian-Masurian Energy Agency. Unfortunately the mayor of Zalewo was not able to join due to quarantine that he put on himself willingly.



2. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

	Name		Organisation	Position
1.	Konicz	Rafał	City Hall Zalewo	
2.	Koniecko	Andrzej		Independent RES Expert
3.	Koprowiak	Tomasz	Regional Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management / Association of Municipalities Friendly to Renewable Energy	Coordinator of Energy Advisers Group
4.	Nowakowski	Piotr	The Polish National Energy Conservation Agency	Specialist
5.	Olbrzyś	Dawid	Regional Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management in Olsztyn	Adviser
6.	Stańczyk	Mirosław	Municipal Services	Manager
7.	Stasiak	Patryk	PGB Warszawa	
8.	Sufranek	Leszek	City Hall Zalewo	
9.	Wnuk	Ryszard	The Polish National Energy Conservation Agency	RES Board Adviser
10.	Żyliński	Marek	City Hall Zalewo	Mayor
11.	Ostrowski	Ryszard	Członek Zarządu SGPEO Urząd Miejski w Korszach	Mayor
12.	Rackiewicz	Daniel	IEN Energy	Management Board Adviser
13.	Sobolewski	Rafał	Regional Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management in Olsztyn	Energy Adviser
14.				

The attending list signed by the participants can be found in chapter 7 - Appendixes.



3. AGENDA

„Wind energy and other local RES in aspect of Energy Cooperative”

20th March 2020, 12:00 – 14:00
City Hall
ul. Częstochowska 8, 14 - 230 Zalewo

12:00 – 12:10	Welcome	<i>Marek Błażej Żyliński Mayor of Zalewo</i>
12:10 – 12:25	Introduction – WinWind Project in relation to EU and national energy policy	<i>Ryszard Wnuk, RES Board Advisor, KAPE S.A.</i>
12:25 – 12:40	RES development within the framework of energy cooperatives in Poland	<i>Tomasz Koprowiak Regional Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management</i>
12:40 – 13:10	Social acceptance of community owned wind projects – WinWind Project examples	<i>Piotr Nowakowski, Specialist, KAPE S.A.</i>
13:10 – 13:30	Energy cooperative in the Polish power system	<i>Daniel Raczkiewicz IEN Energy</i>
13:30 – 13:40	State of RES development in the region	<i>Andrzej Koniecko Independent expert</i>
13:40 – 14:00	RES potential in Zalewo Municipality	<i>Representative of Zalewo Municipality</i>
14:00 – 14:30	Discussion	
14:30	Lunch	



4. The course of the workshop

Due to the less numerous group of stakeholders than anticipated, the format of the workshop was slightly changed. The event had the format of roundtable discussion. Yet all topics pointed out in the initial agenda were covered. Welcome and introduction was given by representative of local authority - Mr. Rafał Konicza who also illustrated the RES projects within the borders of Zalewo Municipality, which are:

1. 4 wind turbines – the project was suspended some time ago;
2. 1 biogas power plant – 1 MW, the second one is being built;
3. PV solar plants – below 1 MW of installed capacity;
4. Micro-PV installations on public buildings.

The main part of the meeting was opened Ryszard Wnuk with the presentation on WinWind project, its approach and results. He also gave an insight into the national RES obligation and the current status of RES development in Poland with a focus on the electricity sector. Then Mr. Tomasz Koprowiak showed his vision of RES development and wind energy, in particular within energy cooperatives. Having been the mayor of Kisielice for almost 20 years, he managed to create a favourable conditions for RES development and thanks to his approach a number of RES project in Kisielice municipality were undertaken – namely several wind parks, biogas power plant and rooftop micro-PV installations on individual households. During the event he presented the idea of creation of autonomus energy cooperative utilising local renewable sources in Zalewo Municipality. The idea consists of two wind turbines, biogas power plant with capacity installed of 1 MW and PV ground-mounted installation with capacity depended on consumption profile of aggregated consumers. The issue of social acceptance of RES installations was discussed at length and WinWind findings are expected to be widely utilised.

Next speaker Piotr Nowakowski presented the German best practice cases – community owned wind farms in Nauenkirchen and Süderdeich. He highlighted the elements that could be transferred from these cases and applied in the Polish context, in the case of energy cooperatives. Further, Mr. Daniel Raczkiewicz, the founder of the first energy cluster in Poland – Michałowo and now acting in the field of energy cooperatives illustrated the practical rules and guidelines on creation and operation of such initiatives. He extensively described the terms “energy cluster” and “energy cooperatives” highlighting the general idea of creation energy cooperatives:

1. Energy cooperatives should be created in rural areas;
2. Energy cooperatives should unite local communities;



3. Energy cooperatives create local value cycle.

Furthermore, he explained the rules of energy balancing for energy cooperative and showed the exemplary case of energy cooperatives operating wind energy. He also presented the results of the profitability assessment for such case (one wind turbine) covering the energy needs of 80 agricultural households.

Lastly, Mr. Andrzej Koniecko – the former president of the Warmian-Masurian Energy Agency and nowadays independent expert acting in the field of RES, showed the statistics of RES development in the region. He underlined that the relatively low level of RES development is linked also to the low level of social acceptance especially in the case of wind energy.

The further roundtable discussion concerned the possibilities for the creation of an energy cooperative in Zalewo Municipality and elements/solutions from the presented German community owned wind farms that could facilitate this process also increasing social acceptance, transparency, fair distribution of benefits for the whole energy cooperative.

5. Conclusions

At the end of the workshop the participants jointly agreed upon the following statements:

- Nowadays energy cooperatives could be a viable form of support for wind energy development;
- Wind energy development within energy cooperatives should meet a positive perception of local stakeholders;
- Support scheme of energy cooperatives is competitive to energy auctions support scheme;
- Energy cooperatives contribute to local value creation and a variety of deployed RES technologies utilising locally available resources;
- An appropriate mix of RES technologies within energy cooperatives can help establishing energy self-sufficient local units;
- The WinWind Thematic Workshop has kicked off the discussion on energy cooperatives in Zalewo,. This discourse will be continued in future meetings in a wider group as soon as normal (healthy) circumstances are restored.



6. Selected photos from the event



7. Apendixes

To be completed.



