



Workshop: Regional and local approaches to fight energy poverty
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Joint procurement and purchase of solar power



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Objective to increase the share of renewable energy



The joint procurement and purchase of solar power was organised as a part of the North Karelia Towards Oil-Free and Low-Carbon Area project (ERDF) with an objective to increase the share of renewable energy in the region of North Karelia, Finland.

Together with the Finnish Environment Institute and the Carbon Neutral Municipalities (HINKU) network, RCNK planned and organized joint purchase for solar power units which was addressed to residents and private companies in HINKU municipalities in North Karelia.

Regional municipalities provided event venues and promoted joint purchase for their residents

The project was managed by the Regional Council of North Karelia (RCNK).
The project budget was 655,015 € (70% ERDF).



Timetable

Planning of the purchase in July-August 2016, information events in September 2016, registration of interested participants in October-November 2016, invitation to tender in December 2016, comparison of offers in January 2017, and installations of 41 solar power units in April-June 2017.





Social, environmental and economic success

During the first round 2016-2017, call for tenders was done after registration of the participants. During the second round in 2018, the call for tenders was done before participants registered. Call for tenders was an important part of the process in order to comply with legal requirements.

Buyers were individual citizens and also enterprises. The tender was structured according to legal requirements in Finland.

Guarantees were given for the panels, their production ability, other structures and work.

The price was in 2018:

2,70 kWp: 5190 € (1,92 €/Wp), 10 panels, about 17 m² roof space needed

4,59 kWp: 7200 € (1,60 €/Wp), 17 panels, about 28 m² roof space needed

7,02 kWp: 9700 € (1,39 €/Wp), 26 panels, about 43 m² roof space needed



Social, environmental and economic success

41 new solar power plants (142.4 kWp) were installed.

The units were about 30 % cheaper than the average market price.

Around 60 % of the participants were from rural or agricultural areas. Process was effortless for them: they did not need to find suppliers and were offered guidance and help from an unbiased organisation.

In 2017, the region's CO₂ emissions decreased by c. 20,000 kg due to the installments.

During second round in 2018, 22 more participants joined, of which 80% were rural.



Thank you!

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