

Communities of Sustainable Europe (CoSE)

www.communities-of-sustainable.eu

international network of RURAL villages and URBAN neighbourhoods for bottom-up approach
An initiative of the Community of Ashton Hayes (village in Cheshire-West, United Kingdom), the Community of Beckerich (municipality-village in Luxemburg), the Community of Betlejem (quarter of Reda, near Gdansk, in Poland), the Community of Blacon (quarter of Chester, United Kingdom), the Communities of Böcs and Bükkaranyos (municipality-villages in Bükk-Mak-Miskolc-Region, Hungary). The Communities of Brestovitz, Gorna Malina and Kostinbrod (municipality-villages in the Sofia Region, Bulgaria), the Community of De Stoere Houtman (quarter of Arnhem, the Netherlands), the Community of Feldheim (invited, village of Treuenbrietzen, Germany), the Community of Measolle (village in France), the Community of Ommerkanaal (village of Overijssel, the Netherlands), the Community of Schönau (invited, Schwarzwald, Germany), the Community of Strem (municipality-village in Öko-Energie-Bürgerland, Austria) and the Community of Vauban (invited, neighbourhood of Freiburg, Germany)

Coordinator: De Stoere Houtman De Houtmanstraat 81 6826PG Arnhem-Presikhaaf, the Netherlands

Application for Sustainable Energy Europe Awards Competition 2014

Communities of the Future

(including the CoSE-network 'Communities of Sustainable Europe')

'where top-down meets and needs bottom-up and vice-versa'

I. Introduction

Former chairman of the House-Owners-Union 'De Stoere Houtman' in Arnhem-Presikhaaf, the Netherlands, Mr. Jaap Huurman, has worked the last three years for the extension of – and a manual 'how to become a sustainable community' for our international; network 'Communities of Sustainable Europe'.

He did this in cooperation with multinational MWH-Global, with the sustainability agency 'Green Bean Solutions' and above all with partners in the CoSE-network of 'Communities of Sustainable Europe' and in the new CoF-network of 'Communities of the Future'.

Dutch governmental agency AgentschapNL supported this project financially.

And this project was nominated for a Sustainable Energy Europe Award in 2011, according to the application as found as annex.

The result of the project can be found in the link 'CoSE-roadmap, how to become a sustainable community' on the website www.communities-of-sustainable.eu.

In the start phase of this project Jaap Huurman was appointed 2010-2011 by the dutch Provincial Authorities of Overijssel as program-manager of 'Sustainable Village', a top-down-operation to stimulate and facilitate bottom-up-initiatives with a result of 23 new 'sustainable communities'.

He cooperated for 'Sustainable Village' with the Saxion University of Applied Sciences and after 2011 they continued 'Sustainable Village' in the network 'Communities of the Future'.

Last year Saxion finished for budgetary reasons the cooperation with this network.

At the end of 2012 De Stoere Houtman had received a grant for 'Communities of the Future' from Oxfam-Novib for a learning-cooperation between communities in India and the Netherlands, but this cooperation was not (yet) realized because of visa-application-problems and because the Saxion-framework ended in 2013.

De Stoere Houtman had to return the grant, but hopes to get a new chance, when 'Communities of the Future' will be further developed according to the following project description.

II. Considerations

While working for the development of the CoSE-Manual and for the extension of the two networks, De Stoere Houtman and Jaap Huurman experienced four phenomena:

1.

Bottom-up-working communities mostly do not concentrate only on the theme of Sustainable Energy but also on (some of – or a combination of) 13 other fields, sometimes even excluding Sustainable Energy.

All together these 14 themes are:

- **Architecture and Spatial Planning**, with potential sub-themes:
 - Organizing a architecture-competition
 - Developing a spatial plan for the community
- **Care and Health**, with potential sub-themes:
 - Organizing youth-work,
 - Organizing a self-help-group with and for elder people
- **Culture and History**, with potential sub-theme:
 - History as important basis for identity
- **Economy**, with potential sub-themes:
 - Organizing a community-shop
 - Organizing a local-valuta-network
- **Education**, with potential sub-theme:
 - Integration of local culture in local school-education
- **Energy**, with potential sub-themes:
 - Organizing a local, people-based sustainable energy company
 - Energy-saving
 - Energy-production and distribution
- **External contacts**, with potential sub-themes:
 - Organizing a network with other communities
 - Participating in one or more networks
- **Food and Waste**, with potential sub-themes:
 - Cultivating our own food,
 - Cradle-to-cradle
- **Housing**, with potential sub-themes:
 - Constructing with – or for the people,
 - Renovation and insulation
- **Integration**, with potential sub-theme:
 - Organizing meeting-debates between minorities and majorities
- **Mobility**, with potential sub-themes:
 - Towards a sustainable-electric-car-share-system
 - Personal and collective behavioural change
- **Nature**, with potential sub-theme:
 - Inventory of local wild-life
- **Public space management**, with potential sub-theme:
 - Organizing a periodical community-cleaning-scheme
- and **Security**, with potential sub-theme:
 - Organizing a crime-prevention-team

2.

Besides studying websites, people-to-people cooperations and exchanges with other communities across borders inspire the own development very much, but it is hard to find the resources to organize time-intensive visits to each other

3.

Top-down encouragement by - and facilities from Authorities are very fruitful for the development of bottom-up initiatives

4.

And the management of projects like the earlier and this one cost quite some time and need a substantial, separate budget.

III. Project-description

a.

The objective of this project 'Communities of the Future' is to stimulate more communities in Europe to work on sustainability and to become sustainable and to (at least) double the number of the already in the CoSE-network organized communities in the network of 'Communities of the Future'.

b.

First tool is the improvement of the Manual by intensifying the fact-sheets with costs-benefit-analyses (based on new questionnaires) and by extending the numbers of the fact-sheets with the other of the 14 themes as mentioned in II.1. The sustainability agency 'Green Bean Solutions' will help 'Communities of the Future' to improve the Manual.

c.

Second tool is to organize people-to-people cooperations and exchanges by organizing the respective 2 workshops per community as mentioned in the Manual and by facilitating the time and journey of the visitors. **In workshops will always be stressed the importance of combinations of themes, if anyway the energy theme (collective energy-saving, distribution and/or production) is involved. Not only because the origin of 'Communities of Sustainable Europe', but also because the turn-over and the profit on these collective activities can be used to finance the initiatives on other themes.** The community where the workshops take place cover their costs, including accommodation costs and costs of added transport within its country for the external guests from 'Communities of the Future'. The multinational MWH-Global will help 'Communities of the Future' with further contacts with new (potential) communities Europe-wide.

d.

Third tool is to establish 'Communities of the Future' in a legal framework. Communities can become member of this framework (we estimate a number of 20, which pay an entrance-fee for three years: € 500) and get the right to participate with one delegate in the workshops of at least one other community and to let them accompany by an officer or elected councilor of their local authority (which is fruitful for the authority of the receiving community, where the workshops take place). The time and travels of these two persons will be covered by the 'visiting authority'. Communities of one EC-country can nominate one (former) MP experienced in bottom-up-processes and very helpful for contacts with authorities for the board of this legal framework. The former councilor, alderman and Member of the dutch Parliament from The Hague, Mr. Dowlatram Ramlal, is willing to become the nominee on behalf of the participating Communities of the Netherlands. The board meets annually in one of the countries and organizes the other board-meetings by video-conferences. The board will count the maximum of 10 members.

e.

The fourth tool is to renovate the website of 'Communities of Sustainable Europe' (which is three more years 'in the air') to a website of 'Communities of the Future' by its respective website-masters Mr. Andrzej Wojciechowski and Mr. Fabian Brökelmann.

f.

The fifth tool is the formation of a CoF-team of experienced community-members, who are leading the delegations to the receiving communities, which organize the respective two workshops.

Invited for this CoF-team are the founding parents of 'Communities of the Future', namely CALorie, Duurzaam Soesterkwartier and Gaanderen. CoF-team-coordinator will be the earlier mentioned Mr. Jaap Huurman of De Stoere Houtman.

g.

The sixth tool is the formation of a project-management for the organization of the project with the treasurer Mrs. Door van Wolven and the secretary Mr. Bram Derix, as assisted by the CoF-team-coordinator.

h.

The project will last three years.

i.

All participants will avoid air-connections and travel preferably by public transport.

i.

After nominated for the SEE-EC Award Competition 2014, we are able to look for the necessary resources. An actual award will certainly help to be able to find these resources.

IV. Budget (all amounts in Euroos; hours a € 50,- excluding VAT, except in n.)

j.

Constitution of legal framework for 'Communities of the Future'

Notary-costs	1.000		
Registration at Chamber of Commerce	<u>1.000</u>		
Subtotal	2,000	→	2.000

k.

Three annual meetings of the board, travel expenses and one night accommodation	
3 (years) x 10 (members) x 500	15.000

l.

CoF-team travel-costs a 400	
3 x 12 (travels) x 400	14.400

m.

Website-renovation	
12 (hours) x 50	600

n.

Manual-improvement (bid of Green Bean Solutions)	
430 (hours) x 50	21.500

o.

Contacts-Extension (bid of MWH-Global)	
100 (hours) x 100	10.000

p.

CoF-team-visits a 20 hours a 50 (= 1.000)	
3 (years) x 12 (travels) x 1.000	42.000

q.

Project-coordination (bid of Jaap Huurman)	
3 (years) a 10 (hours) x 50	1.500

r.

Project-management (Door van Wolven and Bram Derix)

3 (years) x 40 (hours) x 50	<u>6.000</u>		
s. Subtotal	71.600		
t. VAT of 21% over 71.600	<u>15.036</u>		
u. Costs of hours	86.636	→	86.636
v. Unforeseen			<u>10.000</u>
w. Total costs			128.036
V. <u>Cover of budget</u>			
x. Entrance-fee of 20 communities a 500			10.000
ij. Funds			<u>118.036</u>
z. Total cover			128.036

Arnhem, 23rd of April, 2014,
Bram Derix, Secretary of De Stoere Houtman

ANNEX: houtm CoSE 2011 Application Form SEE-EC Awards Competition