

**Environment Study Tour at the NSC General Assembly,
10.30 – 15.00, Thursday, June 17th, 2004**

Some issues the delegates could consider in preparation of the Study Tour:

The Environment Study Tour will deal with energy issues. It will approach general questions like: How can the use of energy for heating, cooling, electricity generation, etc, be made less harmful to the environment and the health of our citizens? How can energy use be made more long term sustainable than today's systems? How do we envisage the future?

The study tour will focus more specifically on buildings, towns and the potential for new, innovative systems to reduce the negative environmental impacts.

The study tour will give opportunity for a short discussion over lunch between the participants and the hosts/guides. A longer and more exhaustive discussion will take place the same afternoon, after the study tours, between all delegates to the NSC General Assembly at the "Regional Development Debate Forum".

Some questions to our guests from the North Sea Regions, to think about in preparation for these discussions, could be:

- What are you doing in your Region to tackle the issue of sustainable energy?
- Do you have any "innovative" activities, which go beyond a mere substitution of fossile energy sources with renewable energy sources?
- Are there things you do – or things you have seen here – which you think could be developed in joint projects?
- Would you be interested in such co-operation projects – even if they were not co-funded by the EU?

*The link between the study tour and the theme of the General Assembly:
"North Sea Co-operation, a Contributor to Regional Development"*

Unfortunately the Region of Västra Götaland can not really show our NSC guests any results of North Sea Co-operation, as such, in the field of sustainable energy. But it is quite clear to us that innovative thinking and acting in energy issues can have a positive impact on Regional Development. So we are confident that our study objects will serve as inspiration for further discussions.

Attached you find some more details about the places we will visit during the Study Tour.

Welcome!

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