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The Roles of Green Innovators in Local Renewable Energy Policy in Japan

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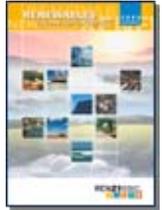
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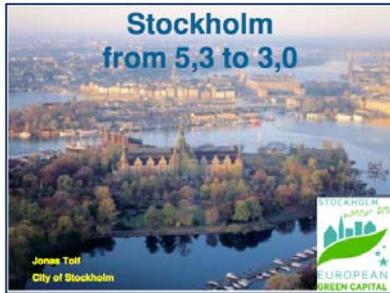
1. The rise of knowledge interest in local RE policy

- **REN21: Renewables Global Status Report 2009**
 - *“City and local government policies for renewable energy are a diverse and growing segment of the renewable energy policy landscape, with several hundred cities and other forms of local government around the world adopting goals, promotion policies, urban planning, demonstrations, and many other activities.”*
- **EU Commission Covenant of Mayors**
 - Formal commitment of local authorities to go beyond the objective of EU 20-20-20
- **ICLEI Local Renewables Initiative**
 - Networking leading cities’ practices and developing them into model communities
- **REN21, ISEP and ICLEI**
 - Global Status Report on Local Renewable Energy Policies

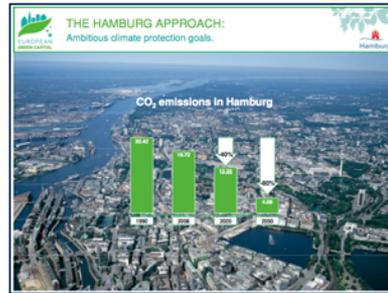


1. The rise of knowledge interest in local RE policy

- Active planning and practices of local authorities



Stockholm (Sweden)



Hamburg (Germany)



Bristol (UK)



Copenhagen (Denmark)



Malmö (Sweden)



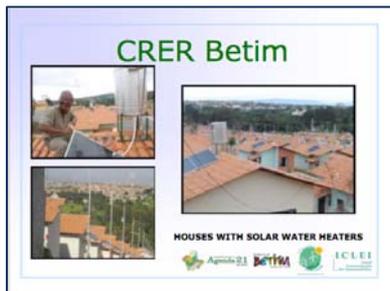
Freiburg (Germany)



Oslo (Norway)



Tokyo (Japan)



Betim (Brazil)



Nagpur and Bhubaneswar (India)



Dezhou (China)

▶ Global knowledge networks and flows

Shared vision, knowledge and information on RE



▶ National institutional condition

- RE Target
- Political power balance
- Policy measure
- National characteristics of policy culture

▶ Local condition

- Political resource
- Financial resource
- Technical resource
- Social resource



Mobilize



Experience based contextual knowledge

2. Research question

- Key perspectives:
 1. Local renewable energy policy as *policy innovation* process
 2. Roles, competences, expertise and hybrid identities of actors:
agency
- Research question
 - What is the roles of *green innovators* in the promotion process of local renewable energy?
 - And what conditions are needed in order to increase their effectiveness in future?

Green innovators (hypothetical term)

Institutional facilitators, who engage in ‘*creative reconstruction*’ for sustainability



3. The case of ISEP in Japan

- The representative local initiative in Japan: Tokyo
 - Unique characteristics of facilitation has not been articulated
 - Institute for Sustainable Energy Policies (ISEP)
 - What institutional facilitation has ISEP done?
- Overview of ISEP
 - Establishment: 2000 in Tokyo
 - Type of corporation: Non-Profit Research Organization
 - Number of staff: 6 + dozens of interns and volunteers
 - Mission:
 - a. Create knowledge toward the sustainable energy society
 - b. Realize and innovate the policy measures for sustainable energy
 - c. Create the innovative and sustainable energy business models and implement them
 - d. Open place with open source



3. The case of ISEP in Japan

1. Global knowledge networks and flows

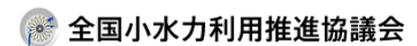
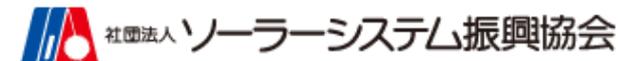
- Renewable energy policy as *‘units of knowledge and information’*
- Explicit knowledge and tacit knowledge
- Made in various place and flowing in various networks globally
- Necessary and crucial condition for green innovators
 - Rapidly changing status and politics of RE
 - Innovation case reference

- Example of ISEP networks

- Global
 - REN21, UNEP SEFI, WWEA and WBA etc.
- Domestic
 - JWEA, JPEA, SSDA, J-Water and GRSJ etc.



World Wind Energy Association



3. The case of ISEP in Japan

2. Platform making

- Open platform for information sharing, knowledge creation and policy recommendation
- Parallel with formal national/local policy making process
- Constant communication with actors in ad hoc projects
- Example of ISEP platform
 - Green Energy Purchasing Forum (GEFP), 2007~
 - Aim: Promotion of green energy purchasing policy and implementation
 - Strategic collaboration with TMG & GPN
 - Japan Renewable Energy Policy Platform (JREPP), 2008~
 - Aim: Advocacy of substantial RE policy for national government
 - Close collaboration with 8 major RE associations
 - Renewable Energy Local Finance Forum (RELFF), 2009~
 - Aim: Promotion of local RE finance
 - Aggregation of potential local RE market and actors



3. The case of ISEP in Japan

3. Experience-based collective learning

- Putting substantial perspectives and knowledge into concrete local RE project
- Setting up stage and coordinate relevant local actors
- Challenge to deeply embedded 'Paradigms'
- Example of ISEP facilitated cases
 - Green Electricity/Heat Certificate
 - Green energy purchasing in public authorities and private companies
 - Citizen-finance scheme
 - Community wind power projects in various places in Japan
 - Local sustainable energy projects
 - Community PV and energy efficiency project in Iida City
 - Community biomass and energy efficiency project in Bizen City



4. Preliminary and further consideration

- Along with the rise of knowledge interest in local RE policy, more and more institutional facilitation will be needed in near future
- From the case of ISEP,
 - *Connection to the global knowledge networks and flows* is necessary and crucial condition for green innovators
 - *Making strategic and open communication space* aggregates potential market and actors
 - Challenge to deeply embedded ‘Paradigm’ can be overcome with *experience-based collective learning*
- Issues
 - Effectiveness of creative reconstruction largely depends on each political context and opportunity
 - There are still big institutional risks in national policy level



▶ Global knowledge networks and flows

Shared vision, knowledge and information on RE



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Institutional facilitation and creative reconstruction



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Experience based contextual knowledge

Thanks for your kind attention!