

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **AgroRES project visit to North Karelia 30 November to 1 December 2021**

Regional Council of North Karelia hosted AgroRES project visit to North Karelia 30 November to 1 December 2021. The aim of the visit was to exchange technical information on renewable energy in agriculture and rural areas through visiting renewable energy destinations in North Karelia. AgroRES project partners and stakeholders from the United Kingdom, Spain, Italy, Ireland, Poland, Romania and Finland participated in the visit.

Interreg Europe funded AgroRES project advances renewable energy use in agriculture and rural areas.

The visit destinations were Eno Energy Cooperative, BioKymppi biogas company, Sirkkala Energy Park, MottiMikko split firewood company and Koivikon Kartano Farm. In addition to these, the regional BlackGreen biochar project gave a presentation. Also climate, energy and bioeconomy development work in North Karelia was explored.

Eno Energy Cooperative was among the first Finnish energy cooperatives which produce district heat with forest chips. The cooperative also produces and utilises solar energy in its operations. Also split firewood company MottiMikko produces and utilises solar energy in its activities. BioKymppi biogas plant, belonging to the pioneers of its sector, processes different organic wastes into electricity, heat and fertilizers in the municipality of Kitee.

In the municipality of Kitee is also located Koivikon Kartano organic dairy farm which invests in renewable energy as well. Sirkkala Energy Park of Karelia University of Applied Sciences is a research, development and education environment for renewable energy technologies and their applications. BlackGreen project advances biochar business in North Karelia.

Regional Council of North Karelia presented climate, energy and bioeconomy development work in North Karelia. This development work aims at mitigating climate change and offering adaptation measures to it.

-The visit also facilitated stakeholders in North Karelia to create networks with other European stakeholders. The information exchange carried out in AgroRES project aims at learning from other European regions in order to develop renewable energy in agriculture and rural areas in own region, described Tanja Kähkönen, the AgroRES project manager in North Karelia.

### **Further information**

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