

Title

Energy transition through regional cooperation of bio-energy players

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Text abstract (max. 300 words)

The paper highlights essential elements for successful cooperation in the development of investment initiatives and new technologies in the bio-energy field in the Eastern part of the Netherlands. In 2007 a cluster was formed between key industrial and science players in the bio-energy field. A covenant was signed with the regional government with ambitious goals. Surveys have been held to determine biomass resources, research programs have been carried out, strategy plans and feasibility studies have been made, an investment fund has been established and, last, but not least, a wide range of bio-energy plants have been built or are about to be realized by members of the cluster. The cluster has grown to more than 25 members in the Eastern Netherlands and aims to strengthen its position further to become an international centre for research, development and business acceleration in bio-energy. The cluster focusses not only in heat en electricity but also in the production and application of high value biofuels and materials. The paper describes the basic elements for success and the steps that are required to bring about transition towards a strong technology based and sustainable economy.