Network Projects

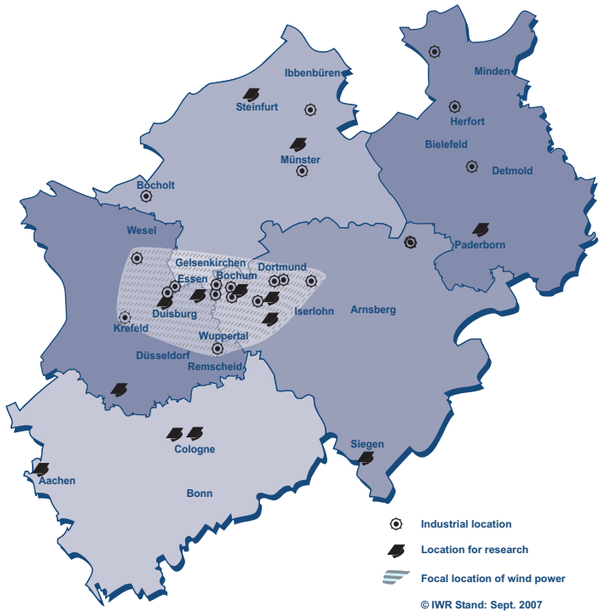
The member companies and scientific institutions are working on various projects in innovative wind power technology. Here are a few examples:

Wind Technology Competence Centre
aimed at setting up and utilising a whole drive train.

Repowering NRW
aimed at facilitating an expert exchange of information between the major designers in the field of repowering.

Wind Energy NRW Day
The Wind Energy NRW Day gives an opportunity to examine current corporate activities and political appraisals with respect to wind energy in NRW.

Wind Discussion Circle NRW
aimed at cultivating an exchange of information and views within the wind energy sector.



Wind Power in North Rhine-Westphalia

- Wind energy in North Rhine-Westphalia supplies 45.8 % of the power obtained from renewable energies
- Strong in exports – every second wind turbine gear unit in the world comes from North Rhine-Westphalia
- Grevenbroich Test Wind Farm – the only onshore test site for wind turbines in the world
- Wind energy research - North Rhine-Westphalia is a focal location for research in the fields of "wind-related heavy industry", mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and energy economy
- North Rhine-Westphalia is also strong as an onshore location for wind power utilisation

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EnergyRegion.NRW
With its mixture of multinational corporations, medium-sized companies and research institutions the Cluster EnergyRegion.NRW has at its disposal a unique concentration of energy economy expertise. There are eight networks in the Clusters EnergyRegion.NRW and they encompass companies, associations, universities and institutes along the whole value chain. The Cluster's activities are supported by the cluster policy of the state government of North Rhine-Westphalia and funded through the European Union's NRW-Target-2 Programme. The EnergyAgency.NRW is responsible for managing the Cluster EnergyRegion.NRW.

EUROPEAN UNION
Investing in our Future
European Regional
Development Fund

EnergyRegion.NRW
Cluster Energy Sector

Wind Power Network NRW
A Secure Future Through Innovation

ExcellenceNRW
Cluster North Rhine-Westphalia

The Wind Power Network

The Wind Power Network was established at the end of 2009 by the state government of North Rhine-Westphalia. It encompasses the wide-ranging activities of the wind energy industry. The Wind Power Network is integrated in the structure of the EnergyEconomy Cluster EnergyRegion.NRW.

The EnergyAgency.NRW is responsible for the management of both the Cluster EnergyRegion.NRW and of the Cluster EnergyResearch.NRW (CEF.NRW). Their networks and partners will therefore continue in future to provide the basis for the cluster work and its adequate co-ordination.

In the existing Network of the Wind Power Working Group of the EnergyAgency.NRW, more than 300 players from North Rhine-Westphalia are embedded in the Network's activities. They are primarily component manufacturers, plant manufacturers, plant operators, plant servicing companies, project companies and planners, engineers and representatives of public

Objectives

Modern wind power technology requires innovations in the technologies and materials used. The continuing development of the expertise involved is absolutely essential to safeguard and create of jobs. It also helps to preserve and expand the high level of competency in wind power technology in North Rhine-Westphalia.

The Network's objectives are as follows:

- Synchronisation of the objectives of policy-makers, industry and science
- Politically strategic support for the continuing development of the technology (efficiency, profitability, availability, supply reliability)
- Expansion of the competence in the wind energy sector
- Safeguarding and sustainable creation of jobs and promotion of young personnel
- Enhancing the acceptance of wind power utilisation in the general public
- Intensification of national and international collaboration and improvement of the international profile

Structure and Players

The Network is accompanied in its work by a steering group with high-ranking membership comprising representatives of wind power plant and component manufacturers, science and research, politics and administration. The experts and specialists along the value chain will work on a cross-company basis in various working parties on strategies and solutions for an innovative wind energy sector in North Rhine-Westphalia.

The aim is to provide a structural networking of science and research, local authorities, manufacturers, suppliers and operators from the wind energy sector in North Rhine-Westphalia.

Tasks

The Network has taken up the following tasks:

- identification and processing of future key topics
- initiation of Network projects
- acting as interface between industry, science and policy-makers
- public relations
- internationalisation

The Network offers a framework for an efficient approach to coping with the major challenges the Network partners face when dealing with new wind power installations or new materials.

The Network provides this sector with a platform on which specialists and experts can exchange information relating to specific topics with a view to finding solutions.