

Innovation Platforms

From consultation to co-creation of policies

Lothar Keck, Director, fokus.energie e.V.

Innovation

- ▶ Key to strengthen the competitiveness of enterprises
- ▶ Creates new market opportunities, contributes to economic growth and employment at local and regional level
- ▶ New solutions are required to realize the *Energiewende*
- ▶ Output of creative ideas and entrepreneurship – not always with happy end

Pre-Conditions

- ▶ Trusting environment to exchange all creative power to cooperate with each other
- ▶ Suitable support structure to connect necessary participants
- ▶ Driver to push and to coordinate



fokus.energie - a young, growing network

- ▶ Nonprofit association, founded end 2014 by initiative of dedicated entrepreneurs and organizations in the region
- ▶ Independent and open to any technology for the production, storage, distribution and efficient use of sustainable energy
- ▶ Currently 60+ members from research, education, SMEs and large companies, investors, authorities and other networks (e.g. Cyberforum)
- ▶ Complementary to existing networks
-> offering and target groups **focused on energy**



Objectives and Strategy – fostering the innovation ecosystem

Education

- ▶ **Motivation + Coaching** of founders and young entrepreneurs in the TRK
- = Mediation and supply of **education** and **training** in the field of **energy**

Exchange

- ▶ Increase **expertise** in the field of energy of and **open new doors**
- = Regular **meetings** of energy **experts** in exciting places

Support

- ▶ **Evaluate**, foster and **support** new ideas by experts
- = Establish **contacts** with companies, development institutions, investors.

Visibility

- ▶ Improved attractiveness of TRK as energy spot
- = Promotion by coordinated communication
- inward and outward.



fokus.energie: Activities

Meeting point for energy experts

- ▶ **Brennpunkt** Focused meetings at production and research facilities
- ▶ **Kraftfeld** Dialog of two „big names“/„positions“
- ▶ **Verteiler** Regular exchange meetings
- ▶ **Partner events** participation in projects of TRK, IHK, and others....

Launch pad for aspiring entrepreneurs

- ▶ **76 Hertz** Start-up presentations
- ▶ **Dynamo** Founder competition

Education and information

- ▶ **Der Speicher** ongoing video documentary
- ▶ **Newsletter** bimonthly information, monthly energy events schedule
- ▶ **1 Megawatt** information / instruction videos
- ▶ **Akkumulator** advanced training, skill enhancement



fokus.energie: best practice

Energy, Science, Technology (EST) 2015

600 international participants exchanged and discussed topics of renewable energies, energy efficiency and systems, storage and networks in Karlsruhe. Technology Region Karlsruhe represented by 12 network members.



Regular events are established

In own events and with Partners, e.g. Energieforum, IHK, KIC-InnoEnergy, Steinbeis Europe Center, we reach 30 – 180 visitors per event to inform about latest research and new technologies of realized innovative projects.



DYNAMO – accelerator by fokus.energie

With call for innovative energy products we received applications from all over Germany. 8 Teams were invited in June – one of them is now in touch with a customer, another one is in negotiation with an investor.



Conclusions: Mayor points to discuss

Strengths

- Driven by entrepreneurs
- Important key players involved
- High acceptance by target groups as intermediary between companies, research and authorities

Opportunities

- Systematic involvement in regional processes to increase the range and to co-operate with other partners (IT, mobility, crafts)

Weaknesses

- Not all formats are up and running
- Education is important, but on a low level
- Bigger team and more financial resources required

Threads

- Initial success has to be maintained to keep the momentum
- Loss of neutrality by dependencies from (perhaps financing) partners



fokus.energie

powered by ideas

Lothar Keck
Director

fokus.energie e.V.
Albert-Nestler-Straße 26
D-76131 Karlsruhe
P +49 721 47041 608
E info@fokusenergie.net
W www.fokusenergie.net