



## Bioenergy Villages in Göttingen, Germany

Five Bioenergy Villages in Göttingen, Lower Saxony, Germany have launched **experimental integrated bioenergy projects with the support of LEADER**. Jühnde was the first pilot village and it was followed by 4 more (Barlissen, Krebeck, Wollbrandshausen and Reiffenhausen).

They involve the design and creation of a **joint biogas plant and woodchip furnace** both connected to a common heat grid.

The farmers that produce the biomass work together with the other villagers who use the energy through a **village cooperative**.

### Main results so far

1. The business model involved a relatively small amount of seed money from LEADER mainly to support the planning and early stages of the projects in each village. This has **levered in larger federal government and above all private loans and investment**.
2. The cooperative ownership has created a **sense of joint responsibility** and brought farmers and other villagers together.
3. Farmers can achieve **longer term price stability**,
4. The villages:
  - reduce their dependence on external energy;
  - carbon emissions are reduced; and
  - expenditure stays within the local economy.

For more information visit:

[www.goettingerland.de](http://www.goettingerland.de)