

WIND POWER IN DENMARK











SUCCESS STORIES

Hvide Sande is a small fishing community with the fifth largest port on the west coast of Denmark. In 2010, the local Homsland Dunes Tourism Association, along with local unions, industry and utilities, established a community foundation for the purposes of constructing three offshore wind turbines of 3MW on shoreline owned by the harbour.

While the project benefits the tourism association, it was also intended to broadly contribute towards local development of the harbour and the community. According to its bylaws, the foundation has a purpose to "support the development of Hvide Sande harbour and the tourism in Ringkøbing/Skjern Municipality by production of renewable energy."

The foundation owns 80% of the project, while the other 20% is owned by Hvide Sande Nordhavn Møllelaug I/S. The harbour benefits from an annual rent of DKK 4.8 million paid by the foundation. Once established, the foundation raised the appropriate amount of capital; then, as a distinct legal entity, it borrowed the rest from a local lending institution. Once this is paid off (estimated at between 7-10 years), the foundation will have approximately €1.2 million per year to spend on local development.