

Ms Barbara Hendricks visits World House in Wetten (Germany)

Showcase of innovative energy system in one of the most sustainable guest houses in the region of Kleve

On Tuesday afternoon, 29 October 2019, Ms Barbara Hendricks, SPD member of the House of Representatives (Bundestag) in Germany and from 2013-2018 Federal Minister for the Environment, will visit World House Wetten for a showcase of the new sustainable energy system.

You can buy electricity, but you can also make it yourself: cheaper, more environmentally friendly, more independent. This is what the World House is doing with solar panels on the roof and a Combined Heat and Power Plant (BHKW for its German abbreviation), supplemented by a battery storage, to compensate for fluctuations in production and consumption. The energy supply for the World House is in this combination a showcase project of Energy Cooperation of the Lower Rhine region (Energiegenossenschaft Niederrhein, EGN by its German abbreviation), which plans further sustainable projects all over the region of the Lower Rhine in Germany.

The World House in Wetten is an international conference centre and guest house. It combines the historic elements of a former monastery with an innovative design. The rooms are de-decorated with contemporary and traditional art from all over the world. The facilities are functional and simply in line with the commitment to sustainability. These include the idyllic teahouse and the monastery garden, which has been revitalised according to ecological principles. These principles should also correspond to the energy supply according to Thera van Osch, the owner of World House: *“My goal with World House is putting in practice what I preach, developing a business model that cares for people and cares for the planet. This innovative energy concept fits completely in the concept of World House.”*

The energy efficiency of the Combined Heat and Power Plant is extremely high as nothing get lost in transport of electric power. Moreover, the waste heat from power generation is also used for heating the water for the central heating system and for hot drinking water. Together with photovoltaic panels on the roof and battery storage, this results in a sustainable energy system, intelligently controlled by a home power plant. This guarantees 100% self-sufficiency of electricity of World House. A screen permanently shows the state of the system and its performance.

This innovative project is realised and financed by the Energy Cooperation of the Lower Rhine region (EGN). World House leases the entire installation from the EGN. The financial benefits for World House are evident according to Ms Thera van Osch: *“This energy concept is not only innovative from the technical point of view, but also from the financial point of view. I didn't have to invest anything. The cost for leasing is noticeably lower than the previous energy costs of the World House. The lease-price is fixed for 15 years and will not be influenced by future increase of electricity prices.”*

World House and EGN are ideal partners because they share corporate goals linked to their sustainable philosophy. Since its foundation in 2017, EGN subscribed to the triad of sustainability: people, planet, profit. Waiting until politicians have decided takes too long. Instead of only talking or protesting, it is important to take action now, and do something for the climate. Mr. Franz-Josef Schraven, founder and chair of the Energy Cooperation of the Lower Rhine region has a clear target in mind: *“The goal of the Cooperation is to make the Lower Rhine Region completely CO₂-neutral with decentralised energy systems.”*

Franz Joseph Schraven Winner of Kevelaer Marketingpreis 2018 Board of Directors EGN f.schraven@eg-niederrhein.de Mobile: 01520 - 23 75 145	Thera van Osch International Consultant QQ Consulting BV Owner World House Wetten hello@world-house.eu Tel: +49 2832972661 / Mobile: +31 640873811
--	--