

Delegation of the Association of German Cities (Deutscher Städtetag) to Copenhagen – Denmark’s Road to Climate-Neutrality – Best Practices for a Climate- Neutral Municipal Heat Supply

Sunday, 12. June 2022, to Wednesday, 15. June 2022

Organizers:

- Association of German Cities (Deutscher Städtetag) of Baden-Württemberg
- Climate Protection and Energy Agency Baden-Württemberg (KEA-BW)
- Danish Energy Agency
- Danish Embassy in Berlin
- State of Green

Target Audience:

16 mayors and 7 representatives (see attached list) from the German state of Baden-Württemberg. The cities represented range from 22,000 to 300,000 inhabitants. The participants are familiar with the topics of the visit through the environmental or building’s committee of the Association of German Cities. In some cases, they are specialist mayors who specifically cover the focus topics of the visit. However, prior knowledge varies among them.

Objective:

The goal for the delegation visit is to provide the representatives from Baden-Württemberg with inspiration from Denmark on how to achieve a climate-neutral heat supply. This will be achieved through site visits and knowledge exchanges with actors involved in heat planning. The content of the programme should be accessible and avoid too much technical detail. Rather the attention should be on highlighting frameworks concerning spatial and energy planning as well as administrative municipal processes.

Background in Baden-Württemberg:

Baden-Württemberg is very ambitious when it comes to climate policy. The state aims at reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 65% (compared to 1990) by 2030 and intends to be climate neutral by 2040, five years earlier than Germany and ten years earlier than the EU.

Since 25% of the greenhouse gas emissions in Baden-Württemberg are caused by heating and hot water supply the decarbonisation of this sector is highly relevant. To achieve this, municipalities and heat planning play a central role. Under Baden-Württemberg’s Climate Protection Act, the 104 largest municipalities are obliged to create a municipal heat plan by 2023. All other, smaller cities are supported by the state through a funding programme.

Besides the climate perspective, heat planning is also envisaged as a tool to increase fossil fuel independence and support security of supply. In light of the war in Ukraine, this is currently a pressing issue for Germany and the majors coming to Copenhagen.

Baden-Württemberg looks at Denmark as a pioneer and frontrunner in connection with municipal heat planning. The following aspects are especially relevant for the delegation to take home:

- Heat planning must be locally anchored. Municipal actors must work together and develop solutions that fit the local conditions.
- The expansion of heating networks was an important enabler for Denmark to switch fuels

Title	Firstname	Lastname	Organisation/city	Job	Population
Herr	Udo	Glatthaar	Bad Mergentheim	Mayor	24.034
Frau	Margret	Mergen	Baden-Baden	Mayor	55,449
Dr.	Stefan	Belz	Böblingen	Mayor	50,121
Frau	Cornelia	Petzold-Schick	Bruchsal	Mayor	45.364
Herr	Erik	Weide	Friesenheim	Mayor	13.291
Herr	Thomas	Gedemer	Herbolzheim	Mayor	11.146
Herr	Max	Peters	KEA BW (Climate Protection & Energy Agency Baden-Württemberg)	Head of the Heat Transition Competence Centre	NA
Frau	Ursula	Keck	Kornwestheim	Mayor	33.743
Herr	Thomas	Hermann	Landesvortand Architektenkammer (Chamber of Architects)	Freelance Architect	NA
Herr	Martin	Cohn	Leonberg	Mayor	48,753
Prof. Dr.	Diana	Pretzell	Mannheim	Mayor for Citizen services, environment, technical operations	309,721
Herr	Fabian	Nagel	Ministry of Environment Baden-Württemberg	Officer Energy Efficient Buildings	NA
Herr	Jürgen	Großmann	Nagold	Mayor	22,672
Herr	Steffen	Hertwig	Neckarsulm	Mayor	26,324
Frau	Sibylle	Schüssler	Pforzheim	Mayor for Planning, Building, Environment and Culture	126,016
Herr	Thomas	Keck	Reutlingen	Mayor	116.031
Frau	Gudrun	Heute-Bluhm	Städtetag Baden-Württemberg	Executive Member of the Board	NA
Dr.	Susanne	Nusser	Städtetag Baden-Württemberg	Deputy Chief Executive	NA
Frau	Franziska	Janke	Städtetag Baden-Württemberg	Officer for Climate Protection, Environment and Energy	NA
Herr	Rainer	Stolz	Stockach	Mayor	17,116
Frau	Tamara	Schönhaar	Stutensee	Mayor of urban development and climate protection	24,897
Herr	Marian	Schreier	Tengen	Mayor	4,690
Herr	Boris	Palmer	Tübingen	Mayor	91,077
Dr.	Tobias	Bringmann	VKU (Association for local utilities)	Managing Director	NA