EM SC 470W: CAUSE 2015 SUSTAINABLE ENERGY IN SCANDINAVIA: ONE REGION, MANY CHOICES

Day 6: Travel from Copenhagen to Stockholm!

By: Haitham Al-Abdali

Arising from bed on Saturday the 23rd of May, 2015 as early as we could in the morning and driving to Stockholm could not be any better in a European summer day. Our trip started from Copenhagen, after having visited DONG energy in Avedøre Power Station and seeing the huge efforts and hard working environment DONG is creating for its clients and employees, respectively, as well as the educational experience for visitors. DONG has been implementing new technologies and policies with its original purpose of the company –oil and natural gas, along to more diverse sources of energy ranging from wind to biomass. Without further talking about DONG and the beautiful Copenhagen; we left the city heading toward Stockholm.

The first moment we were just outside of Copenhagen, we found ourselves on a bridge connecting the two countries -Denmark and Sweden, along which we saw a large number of wind turbines distributed in the sea, spinning and spinning by the force of wind just as the seabirds swirling around and along the shore –all are living in a harmony.



After 6 hours and 30 minutes driving —less or more, at which I slept most of the time; we arrived finally at Stockholm. The city itself has a unique architecture speaking in behalf of the culture and history. The hostel where we stayed, itself has a historical part that we couldn't leave without noticing. Långholmen or the Jail Hostel as we love to call it, as the name implies, was a jail in the old days. In central Stockholm, the hostel is located on a small isolated island after which the hostel was named. Långholmen Prison establishment time returns to long ago in the medieval period around the 1500s. However, it was closed down in 1975 and used as a hotel in 1989 then renovated in 2007. Just as a prison it was, the decoration still gives the impression of a prison, however, a fancy one.

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Since our day was off for traveling, we spent the rest of the day enjoying tourism in Stockholm. We took the metro from our hostel to the city center. Walking down the street, we found Riddarholmskyrkan, the oldest building in Stockholm; a church that survived the medieval era. The name translates to English as The Riddarholmen Church. It was built in 1290 by the Franciscans.







Walking through the city old town from the church down to the river side, eventually we reached the Royal Palace. Surrounded by water fountains, the palace is a tourism site at which many people come to see the architecture and take pictures of the palace and its guard. Later that day, we had a good early dinner and headed back to the hostel to rest and be ready for next day!