

AirConnect-NF

Press release



First milestones in the innovation project AirConnect-NF successfully mastered

Leck: Medical supply of medication to people on Halligen (small offshore islands) and islands, rescue measures by UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems), i.e. unmanned aircraft vehicles in the North Sea, passenger transport by air taxis - these are some of the topics to which the AirConnect-NF feasibility study with three subcontractors and seven project partners is jointly devoted. A former military airfield in Leck, the coastal region, the proximity to Denmark - these are the aspects that make the topic of drones and electric flying in North Frisia so interesting. Last but not least, these air taxis (manned aircraft vehicles) and UAS are to be powered by renewable energies on the basis of the abundant "green electricity" in North Frisia, which expresses holistic thinking in this feasibility study. The project has been funded by the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure / Bundesministerium für Verkehr und digitale Infrastruktur (BMVI) since July 2019.

In March 2019, during a conversation between Ralph Hirschberg (Branch Manager of EurA AG Schleswig-Holstein), Melissa Körner (Project Employee of EurA AG), Andrea Jaeger (Wirtschaftsförderungsgesellschaft Nordfriesland mbH) and the mayors Mr. Werner Schweizer (Klixbüll), Mr. Enewaldsen (Tinningstedt) and Mr. Deidert (Leck), the idea arose to apply for a feasibility study for air taxis and UAS for the northernmost region of Germany. In April the partners received an invitation to submit an application to the BMVI with the joyful news that the project "AirConnect-NF" will be funded by the BMVI.

After the evaluation of the state of the art of drones and air taxis, an analysis of the airspace structure of North Frisia as well as a research on where which companies from the respective research area are located took place. Population analyses were carried out and the first expert interviews took place in cooperation with the Southern Danish University in neighbouring Denmark at Hans Christian Andersen Airport in Odense.

On 17 September, there was also a kick-off meeting with great presentations at which an interesting exchange was held on a wide variety of topics. How can airspace be created? What performance can drones and air taxis achieve? What must be considered in a nature protected area such as the North Frisian coastal region? These questions need further clarification. Answers should be available by the end of the study in spring 2020 at the latest.

The next important date will take place at the end of October in Niebüll. The kick-off event will present various topics and contents and analyse them from several points of view. What will be the requirements and perspectives for the use of UAS and air taxis in the future? Where is the development of the systems going, which can be best used in North Frisia? In addition, current challenges of medical care in rural areas will be presented and discussed how they can be overcome by UAS and air taxis. Furthermore, current application possibilities and application examples of drone flying will be explained in order to show the invited guests which possibilities and potentials exist in the new innovations of the sustainable AIRmobility sector.

If you have any questions regarding the feasibility study, are interested in working with us, or would like to receive a newsletter, please visit the project homepage at www.airconnect-nf.de or contact us.

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