D6.7 Final conference report including participants’ list, main conclusions and feedback analysis

**BIOGAS³**
Sustainable small-scale biogas production from agro-food waste for energy self-sufficiency

**Period covered:**
1st March 2014 – 29th February 2016

**Date:**
27 April 2016

**Authors:**
Christophe Cotillon (ACTIA)
With the collaboration of all project partners

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Dissemination Level</th>
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<tr>
<td>PP</td>
<td>Restricted to other programme participants (including Commission services and projects reviewers)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CO</td>
<td>Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including EASME and Commission services and projects reviewers)</td>
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Legal disclaimer

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1. Introduction

The final conference was organized in Brussels on the 9th February 2016 in order to ensure a dissemination of the event at European level among the target group. Agro-food industries, agro-food industry associations, biogas associations, biogas plant providers and waste management companies as well as representatives of public authorities and financial institutions were invited to event through mailing as well as direct contacts.

The main objective was to introduce the main achievements of the project in relation to small-scale AD promotion in agro-food sector thanks to BIOGAS3 activities but also to invite external speakers, experts in Biogas, in order to give an overview and to discuss about perspectives of the development of small-scale biogas production in Europe. Among the speakers, it was included EASME-European Commission, European Biogas Association, national biogas plant providers, AD platforms and agro-food industry platforms, among others.

The final conferences of BIOGAS3 was a joint event with BioEnergyFarm2 project in order to widespread and combines the results of both projects focused on small-scale, and, in particular, to increase the awareness among policy makers at EU level on small-scale development, environmental benefits, increase of green job opportunities and discussion about existing barriers to AD implementation.

It is important to highlight that it was possible in the event to get a printed copy of the Handbook of small-scale AD technology model (English version) as well as to interact with experts on small-scale biogas plants. After each “Panel”, it was possible to ask questions to the speakers and, at the end of the event, all the participants were encouraged to participate in country-specific meetings in order to go into detail about country-specific aspects. Partners of BIOGAS3 project as well as speakers from BioEnergyFarm2 were available to participate in mentioned meetings.
2. Preparatory phase of the final conference

The preparation of the final conference by ACTIA started beginning of October 2015. The different major steps are summarized below.

1.- Selection of place and date

Brussels was chosen as a more central and convenient place for attending the final conference. Christophe Cotillon visited the 11/10/2015, the Royal Academy of Brussels where many events and workshops are organized and made a proposal to the coordinator who agreed the place. In accordance with the coordinator of BioEnergyFarm2 a common date was decided – 09/02/2016. Then a catering company was identified and selected in accordance to the budget available.

2.- Dissemination of the event.

The promotion of the final conference started by mid-November 2015 and included:

- An invitation sent by e-mail to the contacts done during the project and additional relevant contacts of the partners of the project (see Annex 1).

- The programme of the final conference established in collaboration with BioEnergyFarm2 which could be downloaded on Biogas3 website and was attached with the promotion of the event (see Annex 2).

- A press release in English advertising the event which could be also downloaded on Biogas3 website and was released to the media (see annex 3).

- Collaboration with BioEnergyFarm 2 project. The event was included in their website.

The event was also promoted through EEN-Agrofood sector chaired by AINIA (intranet dissemination in different languages), EBA website, Enterprise Europe SEIMED and Twitter® (biogas3 twitter) and LinkedIn® from BIOGAS3 coordinator with more than 400 contacts.

In addition to that, contacts by phone with National representatives in the Committee of the Regions in Brussels as well as additional contacts with policy makers, such us members of the EU parliament, were done by e-mail and phone by each country partner.

Based on satisfaction survey disseminated at the end of the final conference and from the feedback of 10 questionnaires received, it seems that the invitation was the more fruitful tool used to attract attendees (see Figure below).

![Figure 1. Presentations carried out during the Final conference at the Royal Academy (Brussels)](image-url)
3. Final conference description

**Participants:** Although 63 people were registered before the event, 51 people attended the event. Participants were coming from research organizations, support and transfer organizations, food companies, agricultural associations, food associations, equipment providers, etc.

Representativeness in terms of participation from EU Countries demonstrates that participating countries in Biogas3 and BioEnergyFarm2 are more represented than other EU Countries. Additionally, it is important to mention that there is a quite good balance between representativeness of these participating Countries especially between Belgium, France, Italy, Poland and Spain. Next Figure summarizes the nationalities of participants in the final conference (external speakers are not included in these statistics).

![Figure 2. Nationalities of Final conference participants](image)

Regarding activity sectors represented by registered persons, we can observe a strong representativeness of transfer organisations as well as regional organisations, most of them located in Brussels. Transfer organisations are gathering technical centres, private consulting organisations, associations of farmers and food associations, all of them providing technical assistance and advice to stakeholders (farmers and food companies). The high number of transfer organisations among participants reflects the need to get recent and updated knowledge about biogas production as well as information about development of regulations about renewable energies in Europe. Next Figure summarizes the activity sectors of registered participants in the final conference (external speakers are not included in these statistics).

![Figure 3. Activity sectors of Final conference participants](image)
Speakers: A total number of 13 speakers delivered a speech and a presentation during the final conference. Among them, 7 of them were invited speakers and not belonging to Biogas3 and BioEnergyFarm2. The notable presence of the project officer of the 2 projects was noticed. Next Figure includes a selection of pictures about presentations from speakers of the Final Conference.

![Presentations carried out during the Final conference at the Royal Academy (Brussels)](image)

Conduct of the event:

The final conference was carried out as planned and scheduled in the agenda.

- During introduction part, the 2 projects Biogas3 and BioEnergyFarm2 was introduced by their respective coordinator. Then, Silvia Vivarelli, EU Scientific officer for both of
them has reminded the functioning of IEE programme and the new organisation in HORIZON 2020.

- **Panel 1** was dedicated to economic benefits of small scale biogas for farmers and agro-food industry. This panel gathered partners of the 2 projects who made successfully 4 presentations on this topic.

- **Panel 2** dealing with environmental and social benefits of small scale AD gathered 3 external speakers who provided a very clear and exhaustive view of the subject. A very interesting debate with attendees was raised from these presentations.

- **Panel 3** consisted in 3 different presentations about opportunities and barriers at regional and EU levels, performed by 3 external speakers, each of them introducing his point of view in a different perspective.

- **Panel 4** was devoted to informal discussions between actors and stakeholders from same Countries in order to better networking and to initiate future plans to stimulate installation of small scale biogas production units at National level.

- The **conclusion** and wrap up was done by Paz Gomez coordinator of Biogas3 project.

We can consider that the final conference was very successful in terms of interactivity between participants and speakers. Lot of questions has been asked to the speakers demonstrating the real interest of attendees for the topic of the conference.

For instance, a discussion about the common small-scale biogas definition in Europe has been at the origin of an important interaction between the participants with potential repercussions and input for future policies in this domain. For further details, it is possible to see in Annex 5 the main discussion points that took place during the event.

- A joint statement concerning the conclusions of the day as been redacted by the coordinators of the 2 projects. It is available in Annex 6

- A special press release for the Final Conference pointing out the most important conclusions after the joint event with BioEnergyFarm 2 was also elaborated. See Annex 7

In addition to that, the event facilitated informal discussions between participants at coffee break and lunch time (see Figure below).

![Figure 5. Discussions between participants during coffee break and lunch](image-url)
4. Follow up of the final conference

All the presentations performed at Academy Palace by the 13 speakers during the conference are available and downloadable on the internet website of BIOGAS3 (http://www.biogas3.eu/eng/agenda.html). Presentations from invited speakers were especially appreciated and many participants asked to receive them.

A survey was also set up in order to get the feedback of participants. The questionnaire survey is available by clicking the next link (http://goo.gl/forms/BGHsaAxx7V). The results of this survey are quite satisfying as it is shown below from 10 questionnaires received.

Figure 6. Results of the survey among the participants
Annex 1: Flyer-invitation to the Final Conference

BIOGAS³ FINAL CONFERENCE
JOINT EVENT WITH BIOENERGY FARM² PROJECT

“SUSTAINABLE SMALL-SCALE BIOGAS PLANTS: GENERATING EMPLOYMENT AND GREEN ENERGY IN EUROPE”

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH 2016
ACADEMY PALACE, KVAB, 1 RUE DUCALE, BRUSSELS (BELGIUM)
http://www.biogas3.eu/eng/agenda.html
Annex 2: Agenda of the Final Conference

BIOGAS³ Final Conference
Joint event with Bioenergy Farm 2 project

"Sustainable small-scale biogas plants: generating employment and green energy in Europe"

Tuesday, February 9th 2016
Academy palace, KYAB, 1 rue Ducale, Brussels (Belgium)
Metro: Trone

Agenda

Welcome and introduction
9:15 Welcome and agenda (Paz Gómez, AINIA)
9:25 Introduction about tools & achievements of BIOGAS³ project (Paz Gómez, AINIA)
9:45 Introduction about tools & achievements of Bioenergy Farm 2 project (Jan Willem Bijlagt, CCS)
10:00 How the Intelligent Energy Europe programme has supported biogas uptake in the EU (Silvia Vivarelli, EASME European Commission)
10:15 Questions to speakers

Panel 1: Economical benefits of small-scale biogas for farmers & agri-food industries
10:30 Overview of the legislative framework in EU countries for small-scale biogas plants (Marek Amory, NAOF)
10:45 Policy makers raising awareness of the benefits of small-scale biogas plants thanks to BIOGAS³ project. Changes on the legislation in Ireland (Noel Gaugan, IREAGA)
10:55 Economical benefits for agri-food companies & biogas real examples included in the Tours and economical benefit (Katharina Hartmann, RENAC)
11:05 Economical evaluation of small-scale biogas plants (Ferriglio Bertolo, UNITO)
11:15 Questions to speakers

Coffee Break (30 minutes – from 11:30 to 12:00)

Panel 2: Environmental & social benefits of small scale AD
12:00 Perspectives of small-scale biogas plants development on regional and EU levels. Environmental & social benefits (Michael Körner, IBBE)
12:15 Current status of small scale in EU and future perspectives of development (social benefits) (Agata Przędka, European Biogas Association)
12:30 Small-scale organic biogas plants (Michael Tersbøl, Organic Denmark)
12:45 Questions to speakers
Lunch (1 hour – from 13:00 to 14:00)

Panel 3: Opportunities and barriers on regional and EU levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Opportunities and barriers for agri-food industries (Daniele Rossi, NTP Food For Life).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:15</td>
<td>Opportunities and barriers in practice for small-scale in an EU country, example of Belgium (CHD) (Jonathan De Mey, BIOGAS-B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:30</td>
<td>Opportunities and barriers in practice for small-scale in an EU country, example of Italy (Bio-methane) (Andrea Chiabrando)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:45</td>
<td>Questions to speakers</td>
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Panel 4: Short term proposals after BEF2 & BIOGAS3 project

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Joint statement (BEF2/ BIOGAS3 partners). Short term proposals (CCS in collaboration with BIOGAS3 project partners).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:15</td>
<td>Bilateral meetings and further discussion on small scale AD throughout Europe</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

End of the Event: 16:15

Please, for the Invitation and further details of the Final Conference, contact with:
Antoine Kieffer (ACTIA): A.KIEFFER@actia-asso.eu
Christophe Cotillon (ACTIA): c.cotillon@actia-asso.eu
Annex 3: Short introduction to the content of the Final Conference

BIOGAS³ Final conference
Joint event with Bioenergy Farm 2 project

“Sustainable small-scale biogas plants: generating employment and green energy in Europe”

Tuesday, February 9th 2016
From 10:00 to 12:40
Academy palace, Brussels (Belgium)

The agro food sector is characterized by its high energy consumption and organic waste generation. A good management of those elements is essential, especially for small and medium agro food industries.

The use of organic waste in a biogas plant can reduce waste management costs whilst producing electricity and thermal energy. The produced energy can help to partially or totally cover energy needs of a company and contribute to self-sufficiency.

The aim of the European project Biogas³ is to promote the production of renewable energy from biogas obtained thanks to the fermentation of agro food organic waste.

This event is organized in collaboration with the Bioenergy Farm 2 project which aim is to promote biogas production in farms.

During the final conference of the Biogas³ project, European speakers will introduce concrete and practical topics related to the small-scale biogas plants such as:

- What subsidies and legislations exist in Europe regarding small-scale biogas production?
- Why small-scale digestion is good to farmers?
- Which are the opportunities and barriers in practice for small-scale biogas plants in EU?
- Which are the environmental benefits of small scale biogas plants development on regional and EU levels?
- Which are the bioenergy policy perspectives at EU level?

If you need more information regarding the final conference or the two projects involved, please contact Paz Gomez, coordinator of the Biogas³ project, and do not hesitate to visit the websites of Biogas³ and Bioenergy Farm 2.

Biogas³ Project characteristics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
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<tr>
<td>Theme</td>
<td>IEE/13/477/SI2.675801</td>
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<td>Convention</td>
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<td>Beginning/end of the project</td>
<td>1st March 2014 – 28 Février 2016</td>
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If you need more information:

Coordinator
AINIA (Spain)
p.gomez@ainia.es

Biogas³ website
www.biogas3.eu

Bioenergy Farm 2 website
www.bioenergyfarm.eu
Annex 4: Registration list and participants’ list
Annex 4: Minutes including main discussions of the Final Conference

I. Questions after Introduction (Paz, Jan, Silvia):

1. Emìlie Rances (ENGIE France): Is there a consolidated overview over biogas policies in the EU as well as the assessment of the overall potential of small scale biogas in EU countries?
   Answer - Paz Gomez (AINIA, Spain): There are reports developed during Biogas3 and BEF2 projects, available at the websites. Hopefully further presentations during the Conference will partly give you answers to these questions.

2. Emilio Font De Mora (INEA, EU): Question to Jan Willem Bijnagte – could you please give me details of the identified legislative problems you referred to in your presentation, and the explanation how they have been solved?
   Answer - Jan Willem Bijnagte (CCS, the Netherlands): I don't actually know the details, the person who can explain it will be soon attending the conference, and he will be able to explain this during the coffee break.

   Answer - Paz Gomez (AINIA, Spain): In Spain there is a fee for being connected to the grid (plants>10kW) even if no energy from the grid is consumed + unstable legal framework for energy self-consumption.

II. Questions after Panel 1 (Marek, Noel, Katharina, Remigio):

4. Christophe Cotillion (ACTIA, France): Question to Katharina Hartmann: are the green parts of potato plants also used for biogas production at the biogas plant shown in your presentation?
   Answer - Katharina Hartmann (RENAC, Germany): no, only potato processing waste (eg. peels)

5. Pelkonen Markku (Jahotec, Finland): Which technologies for biomethane production have been included (in terms of their costs) in the economical evaluation tool of BioenergyFarm 2 project?
   Answer - Jan Willem Bijnagte (CCS, the Netherlands): membranes and amino-scrubbing

6. Michael Hegarty (IrBEA, Ireland): Question to Remigio Berruto: what is the purpose of preparing business plans under the BioEnergyFarm 2 project?
   Answer - Remigio Beruto, (UNITO, Italy): to assess the feasibility of micro-biogas plants for numerous farmers - potential investors. It should help them to take investment decisions and eventually lead to the increase of installed capacity of micro-AD digesters in the partner countries.

7. Daniele Rossi (Food for Life Platform, Italy): what are the reasons of payback period variability in different countries?
   Answer - Remigio Berruto, (UNITO, Italy): mainly incentives and energy prices

8. Andres Pascual (AINIA, Spain): The current price per 1 tonne of CO2 emission avoided is 9,7 EUR – is there a chance that in the future that element would contribute to the feasibility of small scale biogas plants in Europe?
   Answer - Marek Amrozy (NAPE, Poland): This kind of bonus has been discussed within the EU but it would probably not be used as incentive for small scale AD units in order to avoid making the incentives scheme too complex for farmers.
III. Questions after Panel 2 (Michael Köttner, Agata Przadka, Michael Tersbøl):

9. Michael Hegarty (IrBEA, Ireland): Question to Agata Przadka: what is the difference between Feed-in-tariffs (FIT) and Feed-in-premiums (FIP)? What are the cooperatives you have mentioned in your presentation?

Answer – Agata Przadka (European Biogas Association, Belgium): I meant small citizen cooperatives created in order to finance the investment in RES. As to FIPs – they mean bonuses over the market price while FITs are entire guaranteed prices.

10. Andres Pascual (AINIA, Spain): Question to Agata Przadka: Is the European Biogas Association also supporting the AD-biorefinery concept?

Answer -Agata Przadka (European Biogas Association, Belgium): yes, we support the biorefinery concept and last year we organised a study tour for EU officers and Members of the European Parliament to show an integrated approach of a biorefinery: sugar beet processing facility, biomethane plant with injection into natural gas grid and use of digestate as organic fertiliser.

11. Jan Palmaers (Biolectric, Belgium): Question to Agata Przadka: Has EBA considered the possibility of introducing a common worldwide definition of a small scale biogas plant? It would be important because there is a need for differentiating legal regulations for small-scale biogas units (simplification of procedures and requirements for smaller units).

Answer - Agata Przadka (European Biogas Association, Belgium): a common small-scale biogas definition would be difficult even at EU level because each country has different provisions and regulations in this matter. Which criteria should be taken into consideration in such definition: installed electrical power (but then in case of biomethane production – this criterion would not be suitable), amount of substrates? It would be better to set up such definitions at national levels.

A discussion between participants started thanks to this question. Michael Tresbol (Organic Farming) linked this small scale with biogas connected to a farm where the farmer is the owner of the biogas plant. Remigio Berruto (UNITO) supported the necessity of a definition and suggested plants below 300 kW as a possibility for this definition. Staff from BIOELECTRIC (small scale biogas plant provider) mentioned that it would be interesting a definition in order to reduce the permits for this small scale installations in order to multiply them in EU.

12. Christophe Cotillion (ACTIA, France): Question to Agata Przadka: How would you asses the social impact of biogas in the EU, for example in terms of employment? How does the biogas sector develop outside Europe?

Answer - Agata Przadka (European Biogas Association, Belgium): We estimate there is ca. 70 000 jobs in the EU biogas sector, including 40 000-50 000 in Germany only. As to the rest of the world, ex. China, India, USA – the development is different and less dependent on public support schemes, because there are less regulations and restrictions, other climate considerably lower investment costs.

A second discussion between participants started thanks to this question. In particular, a discussion of positive effects of small scale in order to develop rural areas started. Among the different opinions, Christophe Cotillon (ACTIA) mentioned the higher restrictions in EU in comparison with other areas such us USA (California). Michael Koettner (IBBK) added the examples of China and India, with household’s biogas plants that started before biogas boom in Germany. These plants are running only for heating purposes and with a completely different concept focused on low-cost micro scale biogas plants (2000 € a micro scale biogas plant for 15 pigs).

IV. Questions after Panel 3 (Daniele Rossi, Andrea Chiabrando, Jonathan De Mey)

13. Noel Gavigan (IrBEA, Ireland): Question to Jonathan De Mey: Who are the stakeholders of Biogas-E? Could you say something more about the Climate Mitigation Plan for Flanders?

Answer: Jonathan De Mey (BIOGAS-E, Belgium): Biogas-E is the platform for anaerobic digestion in Flanders, the northern region of Belgium. It is a not-for-profit organization that was founded by the department of Environmental Sciences at University College West Flanders.
It is mostly financed from public sources, however local technology providers pay a little fee and participate in some working groups.

The purpose of the Flemish Climate Mitigation plan is to reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses in Flanders between 2013 and 2020 as a means of combatting climate change. It is a strategic policy plan containing measures in all relevant areas of Flemish policy.
Annex 5: Joint statement and conclusions of the day.

Joint statement. Conclusions of the day

Both projects, Biogas³ and BioEnergy Farm2 aim at the production of biogas out of waste streams. Biogas³ has a focus on agro-food residues while BioEnergy Farm 2 focuses at on-farm digestion of manure.

General message of the event is that small scale initiatives have all kinds of indirect positive effects besides energy production for which these local initiatives deserve more public support.

Remarks of the day:

Two-sided sword
For organic waste streams digestion reduces the waste stream, while at the same time green energy is produced.

Methane reduction
If a farm-scale digester is implemented, the methane is released in a controlled environment and can be used as a sustainable energy source: biogas. In this way the green energy production directly leads to an equal reduction of methane emission.

All-time availability
Biogas from small scale digesters can produce renewable energy 24 hours per day. With the small scale plants promoted in these IEE projects, decentral and reliable energy production is realised.

Self-energy consumption: smart use of resources
Agri-food industries which use their waste on-site and produce their own biogas are saving money thanks to saving energy consumption from fossil fuels. Many examples have been found in both projects.

A smart use of the energy could be crucial for Agri-food sector in Europe development in the coming years. To promote success cases and facilitate the uptake of more efficient and “cheaper” technological solutions is a challenge for the next years.
Green jobs

Companies located in rural areas could take advantage from an employment point of view. Not only the required national suppliers of the technology but also the local maintenance service and “indirect” jobs related to small scale installations such as digestate spreading activities.

Public support

Small scale biogas production is still an emerging sector. As a consequence, together with a relatively small installation, production costs per energy unit are high compared to other renewable sources. Therefore, other benefits of decentral biogas production should be recognized and rewarded, such as the methane emission reduction, CO2 emission reduction due to use of renewable source for energy production, the all-time availability and buffering capacity. With support from local authorities, rewarding of the positive side effects, and better financial support, the small scale biogas sector in Europe can get a boost and become really part of the Green Energy Solution the EU needs after the Paris Agreement!

Co-funded by the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme of the European Union
Annex 6: Material to be used as press releases

Press release small scale biogas conference February 9th

Small scale biogas deserves more public support

Tuesday February 9th 2016 two EU-wide projects on bioenergy have held a conference on small scale biogas. Both projects, Biogas3 and BioEnergy Farm2 aim at the production of biogas out of waste streams. Biogas3 has a focus on agro-food residues while BioEnergy Farm 2 focuses on on-farm digestion of manure. General message of the event is that small scale initiatives have all kinds of indirect positive effects besides energy production for which these local initiatives deserve more public support.

Two-sided wonder

Waste streams like potato peels, slaughterhouse waste or dairy manure potentially generate a fair share (10 – 25 %) of the energy production in EU member states. This organic material can be digested in small scale, on-site, biogas plants to produce biogas. For organic waste streams digestion reduces the waste stream, while at the same time green energy is produced. The biogas knife cuts both ways.

Methane reduction

Farm based manure digestion also has very positive side-effects to bioenergy production. Animal houses are amongst the largest emitters of the greenhouse gas methane. Manure tends to digest when in storage, leading to large amounts of methane emission. If a farm-scale digester is implemented, the methane is released in a controlled environment and can be used as a sustainable energy source: biogas. In this way the green energy production directly leads to an equal reduction of methane emission.

All-time availability

Biogas from small scale digesters can produce renewable energy 24 hours per day. There is no need for wind or sun: as long as there is fresh material fed to the digester on a regular basis, the energy production goes on. This makes biogas a very reliable renewable energy source. With the small scale plants promoted in these EU projects, decentral and reliable energy production is realised. For the stability of regional electricity networks and natural gas grids, this biogas technology is very positive.

Self-energy consumption: smart use of resources

Management of energy consumption can lead to a self-energy consumption system for many Agri-food companies. These models were investigated and promoted in both projects. Agri-food industries which use their waste on-site and produce their own biogas are saving money thanks to saving energy consumption from fossil fuels. Many examples have been found in both projects. However, it has been highlighted that it is necessary to find a suitable location, adjust production to...
energy needs of the company and find the most suitable technology for the waste to be processed, among other aspects.

A smart use of the energy could be crucial for Agri-food sector in Europe development in the coming years. To promote success cases and facilitate the uptake of more efficient and “cheaper” technological solutions is a challenge for the next years. That could lead to an increase in competitiveness of Agri-food companies in EU countries and, at the same time, to produce in a sustainable way that could be appreciated by the consumer.

Green jobs

Companies located in rural areas could take advantage from an employment point of view. Not only the required national suppliers of the technology but also the local maintenance service and “indirect” jobs related to small scale installations such us digester, spreading activities. These installations could contribute then to an increase in job positions in remote areas with difficulties in fixing the population there due to lack of diversification opportunities.

Public support

Small scale biogas production is still an emerging sector. As a consequence, together with a relatively small installation, production costs per energy unit are high compared to other renewable sources. Therefore, other benefits of decentral biogas production should be recognized and rewarded, such as the methane emission reduction, CO2 emission reduction due to use of renewable source for energy production, the all-time availability and buffering capacity. With support from local authorities, rewarding of the positive side effects, and better financial support, the small scale biogas sector in Europe can get a boost and become really part of the Green Energy Solution the EU needs after the Paris Agreement!

**End of press release**

The small scale biogas conference “Sustainable small-scale biogas plants: generating employment and green energy in Europe” is an initiative of the IEE projects Biogas3 and BioEnergy Farm2.


This conference was co-funded by the Intelligent Energy Europe program of the European Union. The sole responsibility for the contents of this publication lies with the authors. It does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union. Neither the EASME nor the European Commission are responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

For more information about:

- Biogas3
- Agri-food digestion
- This conference

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For more information about:

- BioEnergy Farm2
- Small scale manure digestion

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