



Promotion of biogas and its market development through local and regional partnerships

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Regional Strategy and Action Plan for the Development of Biogas Production

(English Summaries)

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1 INTRODUCTION

Biogas can be used to generate electricity and heat as well as a fuel or for the injection into the natural gas grid.

Biogas can be produced from biogenous residues as well as from energy crops specifically planted for the production of biogas.

Biogas technology offers an energy supply with positive aspects for the environment, the region and the agricultural sector. In strong regions, biogas is however also seen as a very interesting stimulant for the economy.

The biogas plants in Europe are very diverse. Many different systems have emerged depending on the regional framework conditions.

In some regions, predominantly agricultural biogas plants that use liquid manure and energy crops from the own production to produce the biogas can be found. Other regions have concentrated on the use of biogenous residues and commercially/industrially operated biogas plants. A different kind of regions prefers to produce biogas fuels or the construction of CHP plants to generate electricity and heat. The size of the biogas plants in Europe ranges from very small plants (15 kW_e) up to several MW.

Also regionally different are the economic frameworks for biogas plants. The promotion of electricity from biogas plants takes place either through feed-in-tariffs for the produced or supplied amount of electricity or through green certificates (GC).

A quickly changing global economic situation in the past years lead to grain prices rising in a very fast and for many unexpected way. It has again become attractive for farmers to plant grains to be used for food and animal feed. The energy production stands in competition with the food production.

The fermentation of biogenous residues and waste materials that had almost been forgotten due to the excitement surrounding the use of energy crops has again become an interesting alternative. The legal frameworks have also evolved.

This document presents summaries of the regional strategies and action plans of the 7 promoting regions within the BIOGAS REGIONS project:

The strategies comprise:

- Definition of the region and its potential for biogas
- Use of the produced biogas
- Identification of obstacles and barriers
- definition of regional objectives
- actions and measures to reach the objectives and solve the obstacles and barriers

The strategies were developed in accordance with regional advisory groups.

For more information, visit www.biogasregions.org

2 Regions and Partners

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