



**EBA**  
European Biogas Association

NEWSLETTER

**OCTOBER 2013**

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**MAJOR EVENTS AHEAD**

EBA will hold its next General Assembly at the Biogas Convention and Trade Fair on January 14 in Nuremberg, Germany. EBA members will have the opportunity to address their concerns directly to the Board as well as benefit from numerous networking opportunities. We hope to see many of you there! In parallel, we have started preparations for the next EBA Biogas Conference in collaboration with Dutch co-hosts Energy Valley and AgentschapNL. The event is planned for September 2014 in Egmond aan Zee on the North Sea coast, near Amsterdam Airport. More than 300 participants from all over Europe are expected to meet and discuss all aspects affecting the biogas industry: policies, economics as well as the latest technical developments. An exhibition area and poster sessions selected by the Scientific Committee will complement this international biogas event.



*EBA Biogas Conference 2014 in Egmond aan Zee - the venue*

**EBA welcomes new members!**

- ENECO, THE NETHERLANDS
- EUROTEC WTT, ITALY

*Currently EBA consists of 60 members thereof 30 national associations and 30 associated members*

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## NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

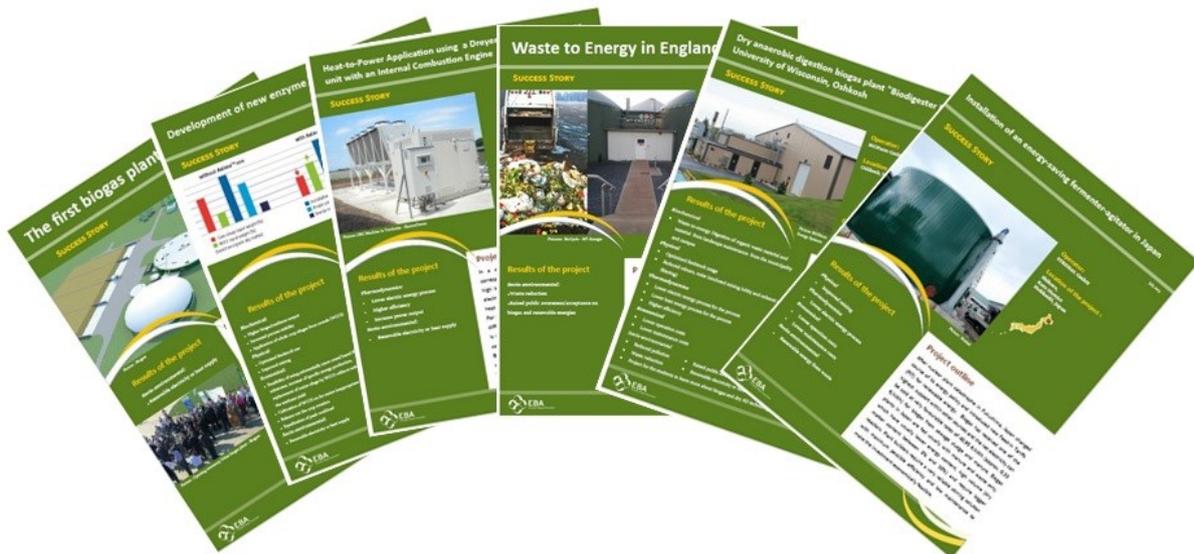
## SCHMACK REAPS THE BENEFITS FROM HOP RESIDUES

At the heart of Bavaria, Hallertau is a region famous for growing hops, one of the main ingredients for making beer. Unlike hop umbels, hop silage (residues from hop growing) cannot be used for the process of beer brewing. Therefore it was previously stored and spread on hop fields as a fertilizer. Thanks to a new type of digester, the lignocellulosic fibres from hop silage can be well broken down and digested for maximizing biogas production. Additional maize, crop silage and grass are included in the process. Biogas is then purified to biomethane quality, providing an average annual production of 95 million kWh and digestate is spread as a fertilizer on nearby fields. The town of Wolnzach, which hosts the Schmack Biogas plant, already produces more energy through biogas than its households can consume.

Read the official announcement [here](#).

## SUCCESS STORIES RELEASED

EBA works in close collaboration with biogas companies through its Company Advisory Council (CAC). In order to further develop knowledge on successful biogas projects to the general public, six Company Members have already contributed to « Success Stories ». The first batch deals with process optimisation, energy efficiency, feedstock use and new markets. Other Associate Members are encouraged to contribute by asking for a template to the Secretariat: [delannoy@european-biogas.eu](mailto:delannoy@european-biogas.eu). To read the first stories, please visit our [website](#).



## COUNTRY NEWS

### SWEDISH BIOGAS AND BIOMETHANE PRODUCTION KEEPS GROWING

The production of biogas increased from 1 473 GWh in 2011 to 1 589 GWh in 2012, including a twofold increase of manure based biogas. On September 13, 2013 the Swedish Government has launched a new regional support for manure based biogas in the Scania province, which is expected to further increase the production over the next ten years. In addition, the sales of “fordonsgas” (Natural Gas, Biogas or a mix of them) have grown by almost 6% during the first half of 2013, reaching now 745 GWh or more than 73 million m<sup>3</sup>. According to NGVA, there were more than 36 000 NGVs in Sweden by the end of 2012, fed by over 60% of biomethane (the rest being imported natural gas). Jörgen Held, CEO of Renewable Energy Technology International, recently took up the challenge to drive his gas-powered Mercedes B-170 from Lund (Sweden) to La Coruna (Spain) on biomethane only. Besides on two occasion where he had to run on gasoline (in central France and Spain), his experience was a success.

Read more about [production statistics](#), [Scania's support plan](#) and [gas vehicles](#) (in Swedish). Read NGVA [Swedish Success story](#) and the [travel story](#) of Jörgen Held.

### NEW FACILITIES OPENED IN FINLAND

By 2025, Finland would like to see 10% of its natural gas consumption replaced with biogas and syngas. In addition, the government provides grants up to 30% of investments in AD facilities and a €0.50€/MWh premium for those using the heat generated. The Nordic country also opened 3 new biomethane plants in 2013 bringing the total to 8, as well as 5 new biomethane filling stations bringing the total to 23. Finland sees biogas as an important tool not only to meet its 2020 renewable energy targets but also to reduce its dependence on imported natural gas.

Sources: [Renewable Energy World](#) and Ari Lampinen [statistics](#) for the Finnish Biogas Association

### GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR PRODUCTIVE BIOGAS FOUNDED IN THE NETHERLANDS

The FACT foundation, which promotes sustainable biofuels and bioenergy for local communities in developing countries, has recently set up the Global Alliance for Productive Biogas (GAPB). This initiative aims at raising awareness about the benefits of biogas, supporting the exchange of information and mobilising resources. 65 partners from Asia, Africa, Latin America as well as from Germany have joined the Alliance, getting access to an online knowledge-sharing platform and best practices to tackle emerging markets. For more information, please visit [FACT website](#).

## FRANCE: ENERGY TRANSITION PLAN ON THE WAY

On July 18, the National Debate on Energy Transition has identified 15 major challenges to be included to the legislation on Energy Transition that should be voted at Spring 2014. Under this proposal, ADEME funds for agricultural biogas would be renewed while selective collect of organic waste for Anaerobic Digestion would start throughout the country. Biomethane has also been identified as an alternative to fossil fuels for long distance travelling with private vehicles and gas networks are expected to play a new role in terms of gas storage. GDF Suez President Gérard Mestrallet also announced that he would like biomethane to meet 20% of the natural gas consumption in France by 2030. Meanwhile, the National accounting authority (Cour des Comptes) reported on the costs of French Renewable Energy Policy. Biogas, with a support of 240€ per toe, is currently the most competitive renewable energy available in the country.

Read the [synthesis](#) of the National Debate and the [report](#) by Cour des Comptes.



### NEWS FROM EU

## BIOFUELS SUSTAINABILITY & ILUC PROPOSAL

The European Parliament's plenary adopted on 11 September a position on the Commission's proposal. The main messages of the vote outcome were:

- Estimated iLUC emissions should be included in the greenhouse gas emission calculations of the Fuel Quality Directive by 2020
- 6% cap on cereal and other starch rich crops, sugars, oil and other energy crops grown on land
- 2.5% sub-target for advanced biofuels
- No multiple counting for waste, residues, lingo-cellulosic material etc. but they are included in the feedstock that will be counted towards the 2.5% target for advanced biofuels
- Double counting for used cooking oil and animal fats
- Quadruple counting for algae, synthetic fuels, carbon capture and utilisation, bacteria

The legislative resolution was adopted but Rapporteur Lepage was two votes short of receiving a mandate to negotiate with the Council. It means that if the Council's position will be different to the Parliament's position - which is very likely - a second reading will be required. In the second reading, the ENVI Committee will prepare a draft 'recommendation', i.e. amendments to the Council's position. *(please see next page)*

Such amendments will have to be again approved by the committee and the plenary. Please find [here](#) the latest position of the Council. EBA strongly encourages its members to get in touch with national governments to influence the Council's position.

## BIOMASS SUSTAINABILITY

A leaked version of the future Commission proposal for a Directive on sustainability criteria for solid and gaseous biomass became available in the EU media in August. The document is an internal draft and is therefore still subject to change. EBA does not know when a final proposal will be published. The intention of this proposal is to prevent any negative effects of the parallel (and potentially conflicting) national sustainability criteria. It shall ensure significant GHG savings (60%), protection of peatland, land with high biodiversity value and land with high carbon stock. There is no ILUC accounting included in the proposal. EBA sent a letter to the Commission reflecting the challenges related to the criteria for gaseous biomass. Please find the letter on [EBA's members section](#).

An official position paper will be prepared together with the members if and when the official proposal will be released. EBA welcomes any questions and comments from the members and encourages them to do advocacy at national levels for clear criteria which take the challenges related to biogas and biomethane into account. For any questions, please contact Susanna at : [litmanen@european-biogas.eu](mailto:litmanen@european-biogas.eu)

## END - OF - WASTE CRITERIA FOR DIGESTATE

EBA received this summer the [draft final Report on End-of-waste criteria for Biodegradable waste](#) delivered for last comments. The final draft report reflects to a great extent the proposals as presented in the latest Background Paper and discussed at the Third Workshop in February 2013. The document also contains a large number of newly introduced references and data sources from literature and provided by experts. These information sources, together with technical and scientific arguments from experts have been discussed extensively in the Draft Final report. In collaboration with its members, the EBA committee finalised the common contribution in September. You can find the response on [EBA's members section](#).

## WASTE TREATMENT BREF

The European Commission's Joint Research Centre will start reviewing the Waste Treatment (WT) BREF in autumn. EBA will be represented at the technical working group which was recently reactivated for the reviewing process. The working group's kick-off meeting will take place in November. Please find EBA's initial position on [EBA's members section](#). If you have any questions on the WT BREF, please contact the EBA secretariat at [info@european-biogas.eu](mailto:info@european-biogas.eu)

## EIB STRENGTHENS SUPPORT TO RENEWABLES AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECTS

The European Investment Bank has issued an Emissions Performance Standard (EPS) that aims at phasing out projects emitting more than 550g of CO<sub>2</sub> per kWh. “Significant long-term investment across Europe is essential to achieve our energy and climate targets and maintain a technological lead. The European Investment Bank plays a valuable role in financing public and private sector investment in energy infrastructure and supporting projects that contribute to achieving EU energy policy goals” said Günther Oettinger, European Commissioner for Energy. Read the official [press release](#).

### PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

#### PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE GREEN ACTION PLAN FOR SMEs

- 20 September 2013 - 12 December 2013

The European Commission wishes to collect feedback as per what measures are effective for SMEs to become resource efficient, which includes the use of renewable energies.

### EU PROJECTS

#### EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE BIOFUELS FORUM

##### **Workshop: Building the biofuel's industry: A hurdle race**

MCE Congress Centre - Rue de l'Aqueduc 118, 1050 Brussels

December 5<sup>th</sup> 2013 9h30 - 17h00



In a view of the changing fuel policy, leading producers of bioethanol, biodiesel, biomethane, algae and advanced biofuels are developing their technologies towards feedstock efficiency and sustainability. Pilot plants and already proven solutions will be presented to the broad audience during the next ESBF workshop on December 5<sup>th</sup> in Brussels. ESBF Partners will present their findings on biofuel use, statistics and prospects, collected in four reports. Historical development the biofuel plants will be showed in frames of the BIOMAP – tool providing complete information and dissemination for biofuels with main emphasis on technology development and market actors.

Registration: [info@sustainablebiofuelsforum.eu](mailto:info@sustainablebiofuelsforum.eu)

## PUBLICATIONS

- [Biomethane fact sheet](#) - by the European Biogas Association
- [Biogas industry barometer](#) - by the German Renewable Energy Agency
- [EU Energy in figures - pocketbook 2013](#) by the European Commission
- [Key World Energy Statistics](#) by the IEA
- [Renewable Energy Medium-Term Market Report 2013](#) by the IEA

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### [SGC International Seminar on Gasification](#)

16-18 October 2013, Göteborg, Sweden

### [Renexpo Poland : Biogas Forum](#)

16 October 2013, Warsaw, Poland

### [Biogas expo & congress](#)

23-24 October 2013, Offenburg, Germany

### [13th Austrian Biogas Conference](#)

4-5 December 2013, St. Pölten, Austria

### [Biogas Convention and Trade fair](#)

14-16 January 2014, Nuremberg

### [AD Europe 2014](#)

20-21 February 2014, Dublin

### [AEBIOM Bioenergy Conference](#)

12-14 May 2014, Brussels, Belgium

### [REGATEC 2014](#)

22-23 May 2014, Malmö, Sweden

### [Expo Biogaz](#)

3-5 June 2014, Paris, France

### **EBA Biogas Conference**

September 2014, Egmond aan Zee (Aalkmar), the Netherlands

In collaboration with [Energy Valley](#) and [Agentschap NL](#)

