



EBA
European Biogas Association

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2012

IN THIS ISSUE

[NEWS FROM EUROPE](#)

[NEWS FROM BRUSSELS](#)

[PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS](#)

[PUBLICATIONS](#)

[UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

CAC STEERING COMMITTEE

The 5th Company Advisory Meeting took place in Bremen on the 10th of January. The goal of the CAC in 2012 is to gain more associated members and kick-off the industry activities on the international level. Most of the national associations cannot provide the input needed for successful

representation of industry on the international level. The CAC with professional business companies can create knowledge exchange and make a difference.

For further information please contact:

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NEW MEMBERS

EBA Board accepted new members!

- [Aprovis Energy Systems GmbH](#), Germany
- [Awite Bioenergie GmbH](#), Germany
- [Evonik Fibres GmbH](#), Austria
- [Keter Organica](#), Slovenia
- [Serge Ferrari S.A.S.](#), France
- Irish Bioenergy Association ([IrBEA](#)) Ireland
- Polish Economic Chamber of Renewable Energy ([PIGEO](#)) Poland

Actually EBA consists of 45 members thereof 25 national associations and 20 associated members

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF EBA

On the 10th of January 2012 the fourth General Assembly took place in Bremen (Germany). The meeting was attended by 13 full and 6 associated members. The President of EBA presented the balance for 2011 and new budget for the next year. The members discussed on new possibilities of EBA financing, among others on increase of membership fees for full members.

The minutes of the GA were sent out to all members and are available at EBA Secretariat

THE GA WELCOMED FORMALLY THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:

FULL MEMBERS :

- [Finnish biogas Association](#)
- [AAMF \(de France\)](#)
- [Irish Biogas Association \(IrBEA\)](#)

ASSOCIATED MEMBERS :

- [Sattler AG](#) (Austria)
- [Agri.Capital GmbH](#) (Germany)
- Parker Hannifin GmbH, [Hiross Zander Division](#) (Germany)
- [B.T.S. Italy Srl](#) (Italy)
- [KEMA](#) (The Netherlands)
- [Teplosoyuz Ukraine](#) (Ukraine)
- [Evonik Fibres GmbH](#) (Austria)
- [Enbasys GmbH](#) (Austria)
- [Schmack Biogas GmbH](#) (Germany)
- [Agraferm Technologies AG](#) (Germany)

STAFF CHANGES AT EBA

As of the end of January the current Policy Advisor – Rita Ramanauskaite decided to leave EBA. The recruitment for the position is already in progress.

For the transitional period, trainee Agata Przadka will partly overtake

responsibilities at EBA's secretariat in Brussels.

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EVENTS ATTENDED BY EBA BOARD MEMBERS

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7 November 2011 | Green Gas Grids, project meeting in Warsaw, Poland
(Contribution by Attila Kovacs) |
| 15 November 2011 | EUROGIA event Decarbonizing Europe and beyond, Brussels |
| 24 November 2011 | BBH-Conference Energy Turnaround in Germany – Energy Turnaround in Europe – Energy Efficiency, Brussels |
| 28-30 November 2011 | Global Biogas Congress (Contribution by Arthur Wellinger), Brussels |
| 8 December 2011 | QualiCert Project event - Improving energy performance of buildings - qualifying installers of small RES systems, Brussels |
| 14 December 2011 | Perennial energy crops within the reform of the CAP, AEBIOM workshop, Brussels |
| 10-12 January 2012 | Annual Biogas Conference and Fair Trade in Bremen, Germany
(contributions by Franz Kirchmayr and Arthur Wellinger) |
| 19 January 2012 | BTS Biogas Conference Montichiari, Italy
(contribution Arthur Wellinger) |
| 23 January 2012 | EREF General Assembly, Brussels |
| 24 January 2012 | Intelligent Energy Europe – Info Day, Brussels |
| 25 January 2012 | AEBIOM WG Sustainability, Brussels |
| 25 January 2012 | Workshop on biofuels and iLUC, Brussels |
| 7 February 2012 | High-level Stakeholder Conference on the Energy Roadmap 2050, Brussels |

**Conference of European
Biogas Association**

06 - 07 June 2012
Bratislava, Crowne Plaza Hotel

www.BiogasConference.eu



EBA BIOGAS CONFERENCE

6-7TH OF JUNE 2012

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL

The EBA will hold its first Biogas Conference in **Bratislava**.

The conference is dedicated to the development of the European biogas industry and will focus mainly Central-Eastern Countries.

The conference program:

- key aspects of the European Commission, national politics and support schemes
- private financing opportunities
- industrial expectations.



It will include success stories to demonstrate the role of biogas as an important pillar of the European energy future. On 8th of June 2012 a **biogas study tour** will be offered to interesting installations in the vicinity of Bratislava. The Conference will be held in **English** with simultaneous **translation** to Slovakian, the language of the host country

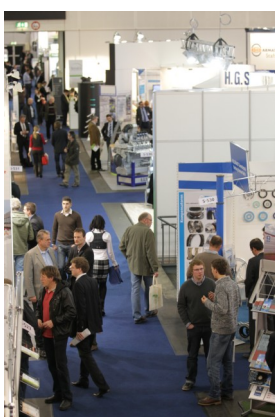
The conference is prepared in cooperation with the Slovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry and with the Czech Biogas Association. The first announcement is already available on our website. The official website of the conference and more details will be available soon.

For the sponsorship opportunities please contact: info@european-biogas.eu or Phone: 32 2400 1087

More details www.BiogasConference.eu

EBA AT 21ST ANNUAL BIOGAS CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION IN BREMEN (GERMANY)

During the Annual Biogas Meeting EBA was present with its own stand. The EBA stand was visited by many companies and official delegates, especially from Germany, U.K., Ireland and France. EBA's President Arthur Wellinger and Vice-President Franz Kirchmeyr brought contribution to the Export Workshop during the conference. The Annual Biogas Conference, which was organized by Fachverband Biogas, was a great opportunity to obtain a comprehensive picture of the latest biogas trends.



EBA COOPERATES WITH EUROPEAN COMPOST NETWORK (ECN)

On the 10th of January a consultation meeting between EBA and ECN took place. Since EBA and ECN have common goals towards fertilizer quality, it was decided that the two Associations will cooperate more closely and establish for that reason a MoU or if possible a mutual membership. The board members of EBA and ECN will discuss and establish joint working issues.

www.compostnetwork.info



BIOGAS REPORT 2011

EBA published its annual report on biogas production in 2010. According to EBA's data there are approximately 7000 biogas plants currently in operation with an installed capacity of over 4000 MWe.

The highest feed-in tariffs for kWh in 2010 were reported from Switzerland, Germany and Italy. The data were collected from national associations and research centers. The Report is to download from EBA website in the section [Publications](#).

COUNTRY PROFILES IN BIOGAS



From December 2011 EBA started to publish the Country Profiles on biogas. Each report will include general information on potential, production, current status and support system overview on anaerobic digestion in the EU country. The first profile released is Greece and it is to download from EBA website in the section [Publications](#). The newest reports will be distributed directly to Members by e-mail.

NEWS FROM EUROPE

FRANCE RELEASES SPECIFICATION FOR BIOMETHANE INJECTION

In November 2011 the specifications for the biogas injection into the gas grid were finally published by French Ministry.

The new specifications are to download from the [Club Biogaz website](#)

LUXEMBOURG HAS FEED-IN TARIFFS FOR BIOMETHANE INJECTION

In December 2011 the Feed-in tariffs for biomethane injection into the gas grid. For the first injection prices are as below:

- before 01/01/2012 - 0.65 c€/kWh,
- before 01/01/2014 - 0.625 c€/kWh,
- between 01/01/2014 and 01/01/2017 - 0.60 c€/kWh.

The biogas plant is eligible for compensation for a period of 15 years from the first injection of biogas into the natural gas network. New specifications are to download [here](#)

DSM WILL BUILD ETHANOL PLANT IN THE USA

EBA's company member DSM together with POET created a joint venture to build first commercial-scale cellulosic ethanol plant in the US, which will be based in Emmetsburg, Iowa. The technology used in a plant is based on enzymatic hydrolysis and then fermentation of crop residues to produce the ethanol. Facility should produce 20 million gallons of ethanol in the first year, growing to about 25 million gallons the year following. The opening is planned for the second half of 2013.

Source: bioenergy-news.com

EVONIK INVESTS IN AUSTRIA

Our new company member Evonik Industries is investing an upper single-digit million Euro amount in a plant producing SEPURAN® hollow fiber membrane modules at Schörfling, Austria. In particular, the novel membrane technology facilitates energy efficient upgrading of biogas to biomethane. Biomethane is fed into the public natural gas grid. The new hollow fibre spinning plant will come onstream within 2012 to meet the growing demand on the biogas market.

Source: Evonik press release

ESTONIA PROPOSES CUTS IN FEED IN TARIFF SUPPORT

On January 31st 2012, the Estonian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication published Draft Amendments which aim at reducing the Feed-In support for renewables. The new support scheme should apply from January 1st, 2013, to all renewable energy producers, including existing installations.

As the proposed new FIT will be a reduction of about 16-26 € MWh compared to the Feed In Premiums paid before, they will thus retroactively lower the support level for already operating renewable plants in Estonia.

Source: [EREF Press release](#)

MANY CHANGES IN GERMANY DUE TO FEED-IN TARIFF 2012

With the new feed-in tariff regulation (EEG 2012) the German biogas market is facing new challenges. The highest feed-in tariff is assigned to biogas plants of max. 75 kW with 80% manure feedstock or more. The banks are hesitant to finance such projects. The market development might slow down in the next year, so the analysts.

Source: Neue Energie Magazin, Nr. 12/2011

GREEN GAS GRIDS

Green Gas Grids is now online: www.greengasgrids.eu

The IEE project wants to help establishing a standard for biomethane and encourages the trade of biomethane by introducing cross-border trade. The next GGG meeting and workshop will take place on 20-21st of February at REH in Brussels.



NEWS FROM BRUSSELS

INTELLIGENT ENERGY EUROPE (IEE) - PROJECTS

In 2011 there were 54 projects which were selected from over 340 proposals to receive a share of the € 66 million available from the Intelligent Energy - Europe (IEE) programme. The IEE programme supports EU energy efficiency and renewable energy policies, with a view to reaching the EU 2020 targets (20/20/20 energy targets).

Following the IEE call for proposals 2012 the European Commission organised information day in Brussels. The participants could get an update on the European policy for renewables, learn about the Intelligent Energy-Europe (IEE) program and the priorities of its 2012 call for project proposals as well as get some useful advises for the successful project applications. For the first time the European Commission organised bi-lateral meetings with IEE project officers to give participants the opportunity to discuss a particular project or a specific question related to the 2012 IEE call.



The 2012 call for proposals was launched in January and a closing date is in the first half of May 2012.

[Call for proposals 2012](#)

[List of approved projects 2011](#)

[Presentations from Info Day](#)

WHEN LOOKING FOR BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES... TED

When looking for a project partner or new contracts an on-line announcement board TED (Tenders Electronic Daily) might be useful. TED is an on-line tool for public procurement notices from the European Union, the European Economic Area and beyond. It is updated five times a week with approximately 1500 public procurement mainly from central government, local or regional authorities, public authorities, etc. Registration and access to TED is free of charge.

More about [TED](#)

COMMISSION MAKES € 200 MILLION AVAILABLE FOR KEY TEN-T PROJECTS

The European Commission has launched a Call for Proposals under the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) annual programme, making €200 million available to co-finance projects in several specific priority areas. The TEN-T programme dedicates financial support towards the realisation of important transport infrastructure projects - in line with the overarching goal of European competitiveness, job creation and cohesion.

More about [TEN-T](#)

EU MUST DOUBLE ENERGY GRID FUNDING

European Union nations must nearly double investment in power grid construction in the decade after 2020 if they are to get on the path to carbon-free electricity by mid-century, the European Climate Foundation (ECF) think-tank said.

Source: [EurActive](#)

FRENCH AND CZECH LEGISLATION STILL NOT IN LINE WITH EU RULES FOR RENEWABLES ENERGY

The [Renewable Energy Directive \(2009/28/EC\)](#) had to be implemented by Member States by 5 December 2010. France and the Czech Republic have not yet fully transposed the requirements of the Renewable legislation including access to the grid and sustainability criteria of biofuels. Both countries have not put in place transparent and clear administrative procedures to guarantee access of renewable energy to the grid and have not fully transposed the requirements on the sustainability criteria for biofuels and bioliquids. Therefore, the Commission has formally requested through reasoned opinions to France and the Czech Republic to bring its national legislation on renewable energy in line with common agreed EU rules.

Source: [EC Press releases](#)

EU GAS MARKET: BULGARIA AND ROMANIA DO NOT PROPERLY IMPLEMENTED GAS REGULATION DIRECTIVES

The European Commission considers that Bulgaria and Romania are still not fully in line with EU gas market rules and has therefore decided to take these countries to the EU Court of Justice. In Bulgaria and Romania no interruptible reverse flow capacity is offered at all interconnection points, which can build obstacles for newcomers to enter the market. Moreover, in Romania the Transmission System Operator (TSO) does not entirely respect the EU transparency requirements

Source: [EC Press releases](#)

FUTURE TRANSPORT FUELS

In December 2011 DG Move (European Commission) published the 2nd Report of the Expert Group where EBA set strong traces: Infrastructure for Alternative Fuels. The report indicated two most suitable policy options to stimulate the market demand: New funding schemes and non-legislative measures and Harmonization of standards for alternative fuel infrastructure. Harmonized standards will have to ensure flexible technical specifications in order to become a driving force, rather than excessive regulation. EU standards for biomethane will lead to a distinct reduction of investment and operation costs. It was concluded that implementation of biofuels should be promoted of different projects on alternative fuels by the private sector. The EU should assess the impact of indirect land-use change due to biofuels on CO₂

emissions and take appropriate action to reflect this in the Renewable Energy and Fuel Quality Directives.

The 2nd Report of the Expert Group is to download [here](#)

COMMON LETTER OF EBA AND GERMAN BIOGAS ASSOCIATION (FVB) ADDRESSED TO THE THE COMMISSIONER FOR ENERGY - GÜNTHER OETTINGER

Lately transposition of the Waste Framework Directive 008/98/EC (WFD) raised a discussion on use of manure in biogas plants for renewable energy production. In the common letter EBA President Arthur Wellinger and Managing Director of the German Biogas Association Claudius da Costa Gomez asked four EU Commissioners to personally intervene that manure is not turned into waste if intended to be digested in agricultural biogas plants. By including manure to be digested in biogas plants into the Waste Framework Directive, there is reason to fear that this excellent input material will no longer be used in biogas plants. This would be a substantial obstacle to the future development of agricultural digestion.

Meetings with DG ENVI organised by the Germany ministries and Copa Cogeca (European Farmer Organisation) and the EBA position letter did not lead to an appropriate solution. Germany is forced to include manure into the scope of the Waste Law not to risk treaty violation proceedings. However, the German Biogas Association has found a practical solution with the local authorities not to have higher requirements for the energetic use of manure in biogas plants in comparison to the direct agricultural application. Actually the UK is running into the same problem.

ENERGY TAXATION DIRECTIVE

The European Commission is aiming to introduce the CO₂ tax at EU level. The energy tax will be split into two parts: CO₂ tax and energy consumption tax. The Commission is expecting the revised Directive to enter into force in 2013. Presently, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Ireland apply a carbon tax, and some other Member States are planning to introduce it. The Scandinavian countries seem to support the Commission's proposal whilst Germany and Poland are concerned that their coal and steel industries would be negatively affected by the proposed tax. The Commission's proposal is also facing opposition from the UK.

According to the Commission the tax separation ensures better energy savings via energy consumption tax, encouraging the use of green and renewable energy. However, it is not entirely clear if bioenergy will be exempted from the new taxation tariffs and whether biogas will remain competitive. EBA doesn't support Commission proposal and suggests different way of tax calculation. Jan Stambasky participates in the AEBIOM Working Group on energy taxation.

PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

GOVERNANCE OF DAY-AHEAD MARKET COUPLING

- DG Energy: from 28/11/2011 to 29/02/2012

[More](#)

RENEWABLE ENERGY STRATEGY

- DG Energy: from 06/12/2011 to 07/02/2012

[More](#)

PUBLICATIONS

RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTIONS IN THE NREAPs

As defined in Article 4 of the European Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC) each European Member State has provided a National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) to the European Commission, detailing projections for renewable energy development up to the year 2020.

The Energy research Centre of the Netherlands (ECN), assigned by the European Environment Agency (EEA) has collected all energy-related data in a database and a data report. The data report highlights a set of cross-sections of the database that has been compiled from the NREAP documents.

Report is to download [here](#)

UN GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

The Global Sustainability Panel established in August 2010 launched his report on sustainable development and low-carbon prosperity. "Resilient People, Resilient Planet: A Future Worth Choosing", contains 56 recommendations to put sustainable development into practice and to mainstream it into economic policy as quickly as possible. The report of the High-level Panel is a significant contribution to the UN's work on sustainable development, and provides a timely contribution to preparations for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in Brazil in June 2012.

The panel calls for improving energy efficiency and increase of renewable energy in the global energy mix. Food, Water and Energy need to be fully integrated, not treated separately if we are to deal with the global food security crisis.

Overview on the report is to download [here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Biogas World

21-25 February 2012, Berlin

[More](#)

**3rd Biomass Trade & Power**

23-24 Feb 2012, Brussels

[More](#)

**EREF Conference on Renewable Energy Law 2012**

8 March 2012, Brussels

Market Design and System Transformation for a Renewable Energy Future

[More](#)

**Biogas in Transportation and Automotive Futures**

13 - 15 March 2012 Rotterdam, The Netherlands

[More](#)

4th International Energy Farming Congress

13-15 March 2012, Papenburg, Germany

[More](#)

Nordic Biogas Conference

23-25th of April, Copenhagen, Danmark

[More](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

IBC LEIPZIG - International Biomass Conference

24 - 25 April 2012, Leipzig, Germany

[More](#)

**Energy & Waste 2012, Conference and Exhibit**

14-15 May 2012, Krakow, Poland

[More](#)

Biogas Poland

15-16 May 2012, Warsaw, Poland

[More](#)

1st EBA Biogas Conference

6-7 June 2012, Bratislava, Slovakia

[More](#)

**UK AD & Biogas 2012**

AD - Your missing link

4-5 July 2012, NEC Birmingham, UK

[More](#)

