



Project Fact Sheet

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Promotion of Biogas for Electricity and Heat Production in EU Countries-Economic and Environmental Benefits of Biogas from (**PROBIOGAS**)

Programme area:	ALTENER
Status:	“ongoing”
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Partners:	University of Southern Denmark, Denmark Danish Research Institute of Food Economics, Denmark Risoe National Laboratory, Denmark Danish Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Denmark Danish Agricultural Advisory Centre, Denmark Association Solagro, France Centre for Renewable Energy Sources, Greece SenterNovem, The Netherlands University of Barcelona, Spain Methanogen Ltd, Ireland Agricultural Research Centre of Wallonia - ValBiom Asbl, Belgium
Website:	http://websrv4.sdu.dk/bio/probiogas.htm
Objective:	To promote biogas technologies in Europe by quantifying and assessing its environmental and economic benefits and by clarifying incentives in barriers in the case study areas.
Benefits:	Establishing a platform for initiation of future policy initiatives for development of biogas
Keywords:	Centralised co-digestion, environmental benefits, economic benefits
Duration:	01/2005-06/2007
Budget:	€ 887,178 (EU contribution: 50%)
Contract number:	EIE/04/117/S07.38588

Short description

Many biogas projects are abandoned at an early stage as the potential investors and promoters are often unaware of the business opportunities and economic and environmental benefits associated with biogas systems.

The results from Denmark proved that centralised biogas production is a multifunctional technology, providing quantifiable environmental and economic benefits for agriculture, industry, energy and the overall society and is extremely competitive as tool in GHG reduction.

Similar quantification results are much in demand in many other European countries, showing the need to share and further develop this knowledge at European level. This project aims to transfer and apply this knowledge to six selected case study regions in EU countries and to disseminate the obtained results to the regional target groups and to the overall European level.

Expected and/or achieved results

- To establish a biogas target group network in each region, which will assist the data collection process, the dissemination of results and will function as a platform for the initiation of future policy initiatives in that region
- To elaborate six national assessment reports quantifying environmental and economical benefits of centralised co-digestion in the respective case study area. The reports will be translated into national languages and will also include assessment of the non-technical barriers
- To elaborate a generic assessment report including overall results of the national assessment reports, in English.
- To organise a European biogas seminar, for the dissemination of the project results and the promotion of the newest biogas knowledge in Europe.

Lessons learnt

Although the project has not been completed it is possible to draw the following preliminary conclusions:

- There is a great difference between European countries concerning the kind and amount of data available for the calculation of biogas externalities as well as the difficulties in getting it.
- Taking this into consideration, some unexpected problems and delays may occur during the data procurement process, thus it is a good idea to set aside a reserve of time in the project time schedule.