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International Newsletter 5
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REGATRACE (Renewable Gas Trade Centre in Europe) aims to create an efficient trade system based on issuing and trading biomethane/renewable gases Guarantees of Origin (GoO). This will strongly contribute to the uptake of the European common biomethane market.

News from the biomethane world

Act on the Promotion of the Use of Renewable Energy Sources in Slovenia

This summer the Slovenian parliament adopted a law that extends the responsibilities of the Slovenian regulator AGEN-RS to be issuing body for guarantees of origin for electricity, gas (including hydrogen) and heating and cooling.

[Read more here](#)

News from the project

Harmonised set of rules for handling guarantees of origin in relation with energy carrier conversion: REGATRACE report published

Recently the REGATRACE consortium published its report with proposals for harmonised rules for handling guarantees of origin in relation with energy conversion (referred to as REGATRACE deliverable D4.3). This intends to support issuing bodies and registry operators by establishing a common understanding of the practical challenges and to recommend solutions.

[Read more here](#)

The REGATRACE Network is officially launched

An integral part of the REGATRACE project is the collaboration. As it aims to create an efficient trade system through GoOs, the establishment of a European common biomethane market should be based on a common understanding. In this context, the REGATRACE Network has been officially launched.

[Read more here](#)

Second participatory workshop to define a roadmap for biomethane in Spain

The second REGATRACE multi-stakeholder participatory workshop "Roadmap" was organized by AEBIG in cooperation with the REGATRACE project, on two on-line sessions on October 2021. The workshop involved almost 20 different key stakeholders of the biomethane field of Spain.

[Read more here](#)

Nedgia represented REGATRACE at the National Environmental Congress in Spain

David Fernández, representative of Nedgia for REGATRACE, represented the project at the National Environmental Congress CONOMA in Spain, explaining the REGATRACE objective for the harmonizing the cross-border biomethane market.

[Read more here](#)

Report finalised on Design Study and Technical Specification for Dashboard and Trading Platform

Three related project tasks (2.5, 2.6 and 2.7) have resulted into a joint documentation package with guidelines enabling to conduct a tender for the IT-services needed to establish active trade on the European renewable gas market. While the report D2.5 Guidelines for Tender Process of IT-services (published in November 2020) describes the organisational and technical aspects of the tender process for IT-services, report D2.6 Design Study and Technical Specification for Dashboard and Trading Platform (to be published in November 2021) follows up with detailed technical requirements on the necessary IT-services, namely a Dashboard function and a European Trading Platform.

[Read more here](#)

Country news

AUSTRIA

Austrian energy sector awaits the start of implementation of the Renewables Expansion Act

Although the Renewable Energy Expansion Act (EAG) came into force on 28.07.2021, notifications for parts of the Act are still pending, which could again delay the implementation of the legislative package.

[Read more here](#)

AUSTRIA

Austrian gas grid allows for higher hydrogen share

The new guideline G 8210 "Gas composition" by the Austrian Technical Association for the Gas and Water Industry (ÖVGW) paves the way for more hydrogen in the Austrian gas grid.

[Read more here](#)

BELGIUM

Biogas turns into biomethane

In Antwerp (Flanders) a new biomethane facility on wastewater has started up in November 2021. For the owner Aquafin (the water treatment company in Flanders) this is a pilot project that can be extended to its other water treatment sites if successful. This plant that originally produced biogas used in a local CHP to produce green electricity, has switched over to biomethane injection in the DSO gas grid for a capacity of maximum 150 m³/h.

[Read more here](#)

CZECH REPUBLIC

Amendment to the Act on Supported Energy Sources and the third REGATRACE workshop

The most important novelty in the field of production and use of biomethane in the Czech Republic is the fact that in September this year the government approved an amendment to the Act on Supported Energy Sources. The amendment newly introduces operational support for biomethane in the form of a Green Bonus as well as Guarantees of Origin for biomethane, hydrogen and heat from RES.

[Read more here](#)

LITHUANIA

In Lithuania the requested support for biomethane production has almost tripled expectations

The call for applications for biomethane gas production and biogas upgrading plants ended beginning of November. The Environmental Project Management Agency received applications from 17 companies for over 40 million euros. A total of €15 million has been allocated to the call from the Climate Change Program.

[Read more here](#)

GERMANY

GER - Weltec Group acquires the operations of Ad Agro

The operations of the biogas plant manufacturer Ad Agro have continued under the umbrella of the Weltec Group in Germany. Through the merger of the business fields of Ad Agro and Weltec, the companies want to establish promising synergies in the entire value chain of biogas and biomethane. By this, Weltec wants to expand its international market position.

[Read more here](#)

ITALY

BIO VEROLA AND BIO INDUSTRIA: BIOMETHANE AND SYNERGY WITH THE TERRITORY

Bio Verola is one of the first agricultural biomethane production plants in Italy and is one of the two plants already in production in the province of Brescia, as part of Lazzari&Lucchini SpA's development project in the sector. The strategy foresees the construction of biomethane production plants with a capacity of 1.3 MWeq equiv. (about 550 Sm³ biogas per hour and 300 m³ biomethane per hour), based on the synergy with the territory and the farmers of the area, both for the supply of biomass and for the efficient management of digestate.

[Read more here](#)

ITALY

PNRR - ARCHITECTURE TAKES SHAPE

Now that the final green light has been given to the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), Italy received the first tranche of funding in the summer (about 13% of the funds). For over three months, the Government has been working in parallel on the governance system responsible for implementing the plan and defining the procedures and rules that will underpin the various projects.

[Read more here](#)

IRELAND

2021 sees further important milestones towards the development of the Irish renewable gas sector

The Renewable Gas Forum Ireland (RGFI) and the Project Clover collaboration of leading Irish agri-food industry companies, have continued interactions across government and with farming representatives, to highlight the potential for renewable gas to help meet decarbonisation targets. Their request for Government action in terms of policy support and access to capital grants, has been strengthened by two further consultants' reports on the business case, commercial viability and sustainability of agri-based biomethane and biofertiliser production.

[Read more here](#)

ESTONIA

Fuel gases gain popularity

Year by year, the number of fuel gas stations has increased in Estonia, and several larger as well as smaller filling station chains have had a hand in it. The increase in the number of fuel gas stations means that fuel gases have gained popularity among consumers as well, because they no longer have to worry about the lack of filling stations on the route, regardless of their preferred type of fuel gas vehicle.

[Read more here](#)

SPAIN

The Spanish Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge publishes the Royal Decree Project for the partial transposition of RED II for public consultation

This first drafting version of the Royal Decree Project for the partial transposition of RED II can be a first document for this Legal and Regulatory framework development, in the same way the Biogas Roadmap is a necessary first step. The final Royal Decree will be approving the urgent development and operationalisation of Guarantees of Origin for renewable gas.

[Read more here](#)

SPAIN

The Spanish Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge publishes the Biogas Roadmap for public consultation

This first drafting version of the Biogas Roadmap is a necessary first step, but is not very ambitious in its goals, it needs to be developed in a more demanding and more ambitious way.

[Read more here](#)

SPAIN

New biomethane plant injecting into the Spanish gas grid

Naturgy has become the first company to inject renewable landfill gas into Spain's gas distribution network. A landmark that reflects the company's commitment to the energy transition and positions it at the forefront of innovation in developing this new energy vector, which will make a significant contribution towards decarbonising the country's energy system.

[Read more here](#)

POLAND

Changes in the biogas industry introduced by the amendment to RES Act

On October 5, 2021, President of Poland, Andrzej Duda signed the amendment to the RES Act. The new regulations extend, inter alia, support programs under FIT and FIP, which were in force until December 31, 2021. The possibility of obtaining operating aid for an additional 2 years period has also been introduced for some biogas installations benefiting from FIT and FIP support.

[Read more here](#)

Meet the consortium!

The REGATRACE consortium is composed by 15 partners from 10 countries (Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Spain) working together to provide support for the biomethane market uptake.



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