

Scaling up biomethane in the European Union

Agenda

24 June 2022

International
Energy Agency

iea



Workshop description

Format: Chatham House rules | Hybrid – virtual/physical | Invitation-only | 4.5 hours

Published on 18 May 2022, the REPowerEU Communication from the European Commission targets a scaling up of biomethane production from a level around 3 bcm today to 35 bcm by 2030. The focus of the workshop will be on the practical steps necessary to meet this target. IEA will convene representatives of the biogas industry, subject matter experts and policymakers to review and discuss current and planned support schemes and regulations, and to share best practices for developing biomethane supply chains, considering the cost and availability of feedstocks, the production pathways, infrastructure needs and use cases, and bankability of projects. The material will be targeted to EU member state governments, with workshop contributions from external subject-matter experts and perspectives from project developers.

Sessions will be structured around member states' questions, submitted in advance, and organised as a moderated discussion with subject matter experts that can share the latest thinking in each area.

The workshop will focus on four critical questions:

- What is the current state of play of biomethane in Europe? How is industry responding to the RePowerEU objectives?
- What are the main policies and regulations supporting biomethane? Where are the gaps and uncertainties?
- How to ensure that biomethane feedstocks are sustainable and do not compete with food supply or negatively impact biodiversity?
- What are the practical considerations for creating a biomethane value chain, from production, transport to end use?

Morning session (all times CET)	
09h30	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tim GOULD, IEA Chief Energy Economist • Summary of the IEA background paper
09h45	<p>What is the current state of play of biomethane in Europe?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current state of play (Harmen Dekker, CEO, European Biogas Association)
10h00	<p>How is industry responding to the RePowerEU objectives?</p> <p>Moderator: Anne-Sophie Corbeau (Global Research Scholar, Columbia University)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denmark (Ole Hvelplund, CEO, Nature Energy) • France (Olivier Guerrini, Senior Vice President, Biogas Business Unit, TotalEnergies) • Germany (Christian Cuenot, Head of Business Development Biomethane Europe, Shell) <p>Questions to the experts from government stakeholders</p>
11h00	<p>What are the main policies and regulations supporting biomethane? Where are the gaps and uncertainties?</p> <p>Moderator: Jaqueline Daniel-Gromke (Team leader System optimisation, DBFZ (German Biogas Research Centre))</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomethane support in the EU (Galim Gentchev, Policy Officer, DG-Energy, European Commission) • Challenges with verifying and documenting renewable gases in Europe (Matthias Edel, Secretary General, European Renewable Gas Registry) • Insights from the EU Regatrace Project (Stefano Proietti, Senior Researcher, ISINNOVA) <p>Questions to the experts from government stakeholders</p>
12h00	Break for lunch

Afternoon session	
13h00	<p>How to ensure that biomethane feedstocks are sustainable and do not compete with food supply or negatively impact biodiversity?</p> <p>Moderator: Kari-Anne Lyng, Senior Researcher, Norwegian Institute for Sustainability Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the sustainable potential in Europe? (Sacha Alberici, Associate Director, Guidehouse) • What is Biogas Done Right? The Italian experience (Stefano Bozzetto, CEO, Iniziative Biometano) • Biomethane, methane emissions and impacts on the GHG balance (Jan Liebetrau, IEA Bioenergy Task 37, Head of the Department Consulting and Research, Rytex) <p>Questions to the experts from government stakeholders</p>
14h00	<p>What are the practical considerations for creating a biomethane value chain, from production, transport to end use?</p> <p>Moderator: Giulia Laura Cancian (Secretary General, European Biogas Association)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financing biomethane projects (Olivier Aubert, Managing Director, SWEN Capital) • Biomethane in the Danish gas system (Torben Brabo, SVP, Energinet) • Integrating biomethane into Spain's gas network (Pharoah Le Feuvre, Market and Strategy Analyst, Enagas) <p>Questions to the experts from government stakeholders</p>
15h15	Closing remarks

