

# GREEN BIOMETHANE MARKET UPTAKE

The GreenMeUp Consortium is delighted to introduce its first newsletter edition.

This newsletter reports the latest news and developments of the project that have occurred from August 2022 up to July 2023, including what was presented at EUBCE 2023.

GreenMeUp is a Horizon Europe project that aims at fostering biomethane production in the European Union. GreenMeUp is carried out by a Consortium built on strong experience in the field of biomethane production and consumption. The Consortium is composed of 14 partners, among which we have 8 biomethane associations, 3 SMEs and 3 research organizations.

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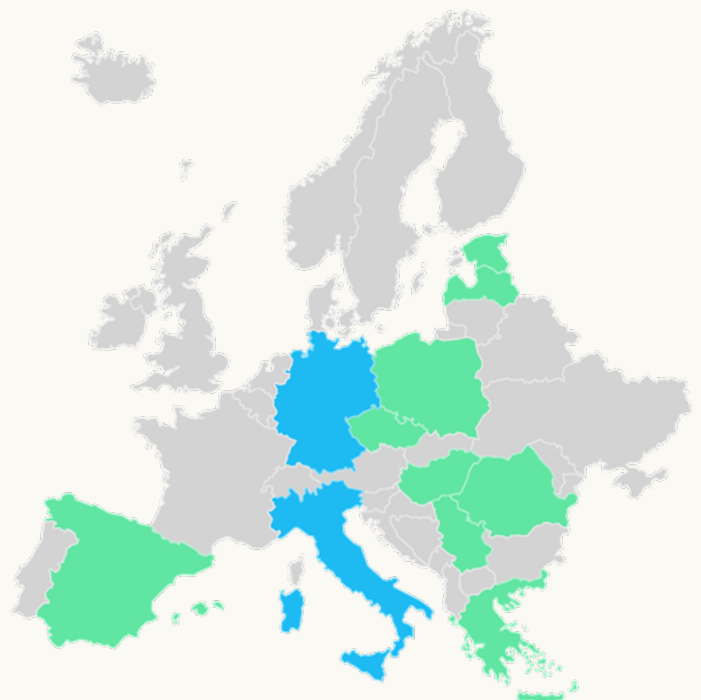
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## 1. INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT

The ultimate objective of GreenMeUp is to facilitate the wider market uptake of biomethane in the European energy and transport sectors by strengthening the market in countries with slower market development policies.

The project's activities will focus on the analysis of the European context, with a focus on countries with significant deployment rates of biomethane (advanced countries, namely Germany and Italy) and countries where Biomethane production rates are still low.

GREENMEUP COUNTRIES



Target countries (in Green) and advanced countries (in blue). Source: GreenMeUp Project

The main goals of the project are:

- to reduce the gap between target and advanced countries, and hence align the deployment of Biomethane in the EU;
- to increase social acceptance and awareness on biomethane through science-based evidences;
- to design country-tailored market uptake measures for the deployment of biomethane in the target countries.

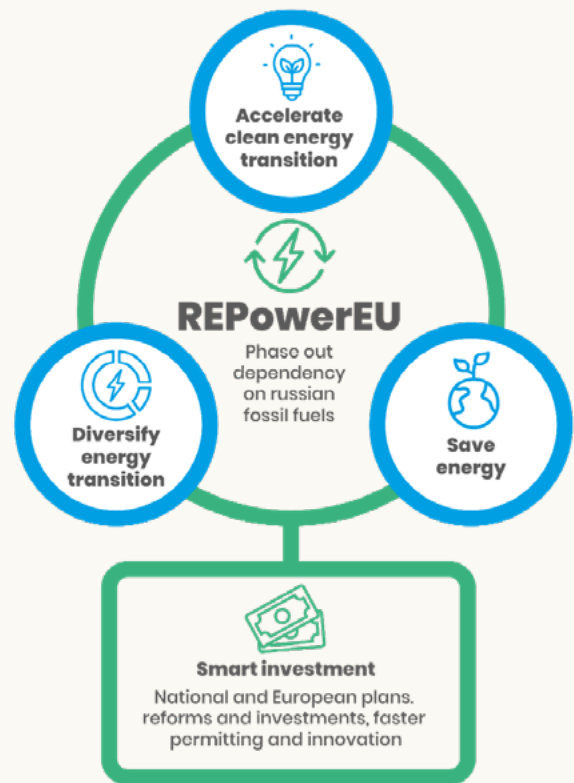
Moreover, GreenMeUp results will contribute to the achievement of the REPowerEU targets, in particular those measures concerning the uptake of biomethane:

- Diversification of supply, hence increasing the use of renewable energies (such as biomethane and biogas) in the transport sector;
- Scale-up biomethane, through the definition of a set of market uptake policy measures that will refine and complement the existing legislation on biomethane.

The first project Kick-Off meeting took place in Athens, on 22-23 of September 2022, hosted by CRES - Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving, the project coordinator.



GreenMeUp KoM Group picture.  
Source: ETA Florence



GreenMeUp and REPowerEU.  
Source: GreenMeUp website

The Consortium has then meet again on 15-16 March 2023, hosted by CIB - Consorzio Italiano Biogas, in Turin. Here, the project partners had the chance to visit the Speranza Cooperative, based in Candiolo, in the province of Turin. The Cooperative is a member of the Italian Biogas Consortium, and produces biomethane and biogas from manure, plant waste and maize chippings. With two installed Ecomax®10 BIO cogeneration systems, the Speranza Cooperative produces 8 million kW/h of energy per year, which are entirely used for to the electricity distribution system.



GreenMeUp visit to Cooperativa Speranza (Turin, Italy).  
Source: ETA Florence

## 2. BIOMETHANE ADVANTAGES

Green gasses such as biomethane and biohydrogen are expected to be key contributors towards the decarbonisation of the EU energy system, as renewable gasses are injected into the Natural Gas grid. In particular, among the many advantages of biomethane, we have a reduction on natural gas imports, together with the assurance of EU’s security of supply.

Moreover, biomethane production levels can be easily scaled up to ensure ample future supply, since enough sustainable feedstock are available in the EU-27 to meet the REPowerEU 2030 target of 35

bcm annual biomethane production: up to 41 bcm of biomethane in 2030 and 151 bcm in 2050 could be available.

Nevertheless, even though we do have the instruments for increasing biomethane production within the EU, the extent of that growth strongly depends on the market and policy environment as well as on societal acceptance. Here, the Commission has implemented three main plans for increasing the share of renewable gasses within the EU: the REPowerEU plan, the EU Green Deal and the Fit for 55 package. These plans bring new opportunities to scale-up biogas, biomethane and Biohydrogen deployment in Europe.

However, policy at Member State level is not always adequately tailored to the actual capacities of raw material and industrial infrastructure, as well as market specificities.

GreenMeUp wants to tackle this issue: one of the core activities of the project is to provide a basis for policy-makers and stakeholders to develop more informed renewable energy policies and country-tailored market uptake measures, in order to improve and complement existing biomethane policy in Europe.



Biomethane gas plant of Cooperativa Speranza, Turin, Italy. Source: ETA Florence

### 3. HUBS KICK-OFF MEETINGS IN TARGET COUNTRIES

In order to align the deployment of biomethane in EU member states, one of the main project’s activities is based on the analysis of the European context, with a focus on countries with significant deployment rates of biomethane (advanced countries) and countries where biomethane production rates are still low (target countries).

framework conditions and current and future market opportunities have been discussed. Hub’s meetings in target countries are fundamental for having a participatory platform for integrating stakeholder views and expert knowledge into the project.

The main results from these meetings

**GreenMeUp Hubs kick-off meetings**

Target Country	Hub kick-off meeting	Format	Number of attendees
Estonia	7th March 2023	Online	29
Czech Republic	25th April 2023	Onsite - Czech Ministry of Environment	22
Poland	9th May 2023	Online	19
Latvia	11th May 2023	Online	31
Danube Region	24th May 2023	Online	39
Greece	29th May 2023	Onsite - Greek Ministry of Environment and Energy	25
Spain	<i>1st Hub Kick-off meeting to be celebrated in autumn 2023</i>		

**GREENMEUP**

Recap of Hubs kick-off meetings in target countries. Source: ETA Florence

The first months of the project have been focused on the seven target countries participating in the project. Here, one of the main aims for increasing biomethane production is the engagement of key stakeholders in the integration of biomethane in the energy and transport sectors, including market players along the value chains, as well as policy and societal factors. In order to reach this goal, each target country has organized and implemented its first Kick-off Hub meeting.

These first meetings were held both in presence and online (see picture above for more information).

During these stakeholders’ engagement meetings, topics such as a multi-actor approach that sustains the detailed analysis of each country’s biomethane

have been summarized by deliverable D3.1, “Report on established policy, market and society stakeholders’ hubs in the 7 target countries”, that details the status and characteristics of the policy, market and society hubs in each of the target countries and provides information on the engagement methods used, the focus of national discussions on biomethane, and the identified interests and needs of hub’s members.

For more informations about the biomethane policy framework and market dynamics on target countries, the project implemented some [informative factsheets](#), available on our website.



Hub Kick-off meeting in Czech Republic.  
Source: CZ Biom



Figure 1 Hub Kick-off meeting in Greece.  
Source: CRES

#### 4. DISSEMINATION AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

During the first year of the project, GreenMeUp D&C activities have been continuously ongoing. The card below outlines the main achievements reached so far:

The project started its dissemination

activities with the first poster presentation held during the Agrotica fair, in Thessaloniki (Greece), from the 20th to the 23rd of October 2022.

The Project coordinator Myrsini Christou attended the fair and presented a poster (in greek) to potential greek stakeholders.



Recap of GreenMeUp D&C activities.  
Source: ETA Florence



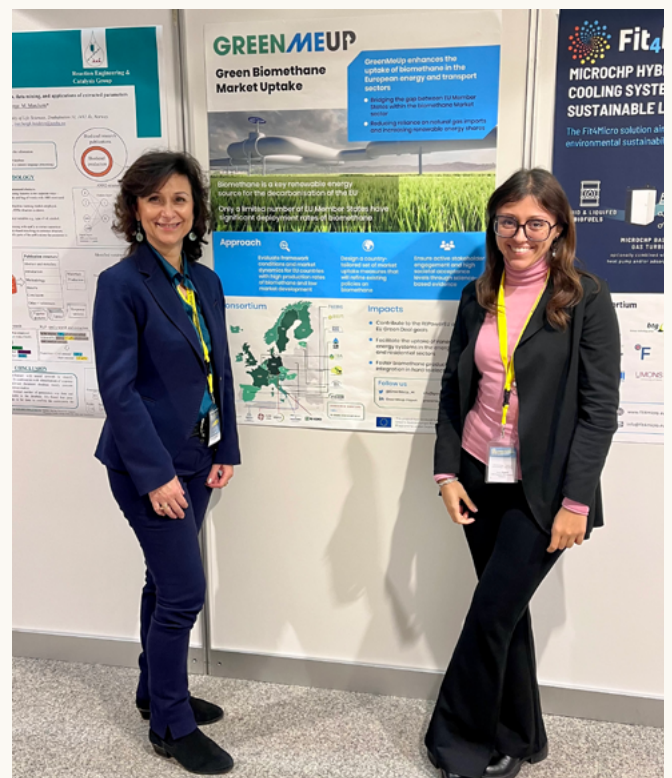
GreenMeUp presentation at Agrotica 2022.  
Source: CRES.

GreenMeUp was then presented with a [poster](#) by the project's partners CRES and CIB to the European Biogas Conference in Bruxelles, organized by the European Biogas Association (EBA) and held on 25-26 October 2022.



GreenMeUp presentation at Agrotica 2022.  
Source: CRES.

In January 2023, the project attended the 7th Central European Biomass Conference in Graz. The Conference was hosted by the Austrian Biomass Association, the Styrian Chamber of Agriculture and BEST, in cooperation with Messe Congress Graz, from 18th to 20th of January 2023. Here, GreenMeUp partners CRES and ETA Florence presented the project with a poster presentation in the poster area of the Conference.



GreenMeUp presentation at CEBC 2023.  
Source: ETA Florence

In June 2023, GreenMeUp attended the European Biomass Conference and Exhibition, the largest conference and exhibition in the world about biomass, held in Bologna, Italy.



GreenMeUp at EUBCE 2023.  
Source: EUBCE 2023

Here, GreenMeUp had a visibility point in the Exhibition area of the Conference for the whole duration of the event: here, our project coordinator Myrsini Christou was interviewed by [Biomethane RNG Channel](#) and explained the main project's objectives and aims.



Interview to Myrsini Christou, Coordinator of GreenMeUp.  
Source: Biomethane RNG Channel.

In addition to that, the project was presented in the session “Sustainability, impacts and policies”, during the poster session “Biomass strategies and policies”, a session focused on biomass strategies and policies in Europe and other regions of the world, for supporting a transition to greener economies.



GreenMeUp poster presentation at EUBCE 2023.  
Source: ETA Florence

The project has also participated and contributed in the SUPEERA Project workshop, “Delivering on REPowerEU: bringing research and industry closer to accelerate innovation and uptake of biomethane“, where research-industry cooperation practices and opportunities to accelerate innovation in the biomethane/biogas sector have been discussed, and their replicability potential across Europe have been explored. Here, the project’s main work was shortly introduced by our project coordinator, Myrsini Christou.



GreenMeUp during the SUPEERA workshop at EUBCE 2023.  
Source: ETA Florence

**ABOUT THE PROJECT**



GreenMeUp is an Horizon Europe Coordination and Support Action started on the 1st of August 2022, that will continue through 31 July 2025. The project is carried out by a Consortium of 14 partners from 10 European Countries. GreenMeUp is coordinated by CRES – Centre for Renewable Energies Sources and Savings (Greece). The consortium includes:

- 8 biomethane association: AEBIG (Spain), CZ Biom (Czech Republic), EBA – European Biogas Association (Belgium), EstBA – Estonian Biogas Association, LBA – Latvian Biogas Association, CIB – Italian Biogas Consortium (Italy), DBFZ (Germany) and PIGEOR (Poland);
- 3 SMEs: ETA Florence Renewable Energies (Italy), DEDA S.A. (Greece), Biogest (Austria);
- 3 research centers: RE-CORD (Italy), CEI (Italy) and CRES (Greece).

**PARTNERS**



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