Enhancing the uptake of biomethane in Europe

Policy workshop

Policy design in EU's emergent markets: results from target country analysis in GreenMeUp

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Key policy requirements for improved market uptake of biomethane















Methodological approach

Step 1: Conduction of a bibliographical review

Step 2: Design and development of the questionnaire

Step 3: Conduction of the survey

Step 4: Analysis of the obtained responses

Step 5: Formulation of the main policy recommendations











Conducted survey

Allocation of the collected questionnaires to the different countries









Production side:

- Facilitate the effective **exploitation of the agricultural residues**, which is the most prevalent feedstock type for biomethane production.
- Focus also on the **utilization of industrial wastes**, organic municipal solid waste and sewage for biomethane.
- Promote the **utilization of membrane separation as the most prevalent upgrading technology** for biomethane production.
- Support the maturation and commercialization of other innovative upgrading technologies (e.g., pressure swing adsorption, water scrubbing and cryogenic separation).
- Facilitate the **injection of the biomethane into the distribution grid**.
- Enable both the injection of the biomethane into the transportation grid and the mobilization of off-grid applications.
- Ensure the **sustainable supply of feedstocks on a long-term basis**.
- Ensure the acquisition of the environmental data for biomethane technologies.
- Handle the **potential odor and flying insects' complaints** with transparency and arguments.











Policy and demand side:

- Promote **biomethane in order to fulfil 2030's energy and climate targets** in all countries.
- Continue the massive penetration of biomethane until 2050.
- Foster the penetration BioLNG-BioCNG and bioH₂ until 2030.
- Prioritize the production of BioLNG-BioCNG and bioH, along with the biomethane after 2030.
- Communicate with a coordinated approach all the **unquestionable benefits triggered by the biomethane** production and consumption.
- Focus on the delivered benefits due to the increased waste management and the exploitation of the various by-products.
- Design measures so as to address the main technical barriers (e.g., the infrastructural challenges and the poor collection, improper segregation, lack of vehicles and adequate waste transportation).
- Reinforce the **existing level of knowledge and the skills of the technical staff** with the provision of dedicated technical training.











Policy and demand side:

- Launch financial instruments to confront the main economic barriers (e.g. the high investment cost, the lack of subsidies and financial support programmes on a long-term basis and the high cost to interconnect small biogas projects to natural gas pipeline).
- Address **the main market barriers** (e.g., the high price of biogas/biomethane, the uncertainties and regulatory hurdles related to injection of biogas into the grid and the large amount of waste feedstocks that is currently not being separately collected and diverted for processing).
- Establish a coordinated policy-making framework across agriculture, waste management, energy and transport.
- Ensure the **continuous political support** for the promotion of biomethane and avoid the adoption of the initiation of a fragmented and conflicting legislative framework.
- Reduce the **bureaucracy** during the construction and operation of the biomethane plants.
- **Co-design the required policies and measures** with the organization of public consultation procedures so as to increase the interest of the end-users.









Policy and demand side:

- Enhance the existing level of knowledge and the public awareness.
- Internalize the environmental benefits into the fuel prices so as to improve the competitiveness of the biomethane compared to the fossil fuels.
- Expand the type of use so as to include additionally to the replacement of the natural gas from the grid alternative uses, such as indicatively to use bio-CNG or bio-LNG as transport fuels, to produce heat and/or steam, to exploit the recycled fertilizers and to produce branding agricultural products with a carbon-neutral label.
- Adopt stricter CO₂ emission and RES targets at national level than those are foreseen at European level accompanied by targeted feedstock management, digestate and biogas utilization policies.







D4.2 Market uptake measures at national level (7 target countries)

GREEN/**MEUP**

Deliverable n.4.2

target countries)

Market uptake measures at national level (7





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Methodological approach

Step 1: Design of the Fuzzy Cognitive Mapping method

Step 2: Apply the Fuzzy Cognitive Mapping method

Step 3: Analyse the results derived by the Fuzzy Congitive Mapping method

Step 4: Assess the results derived by SWOT analysis

Step 5: Identify and propose the most effective policies and measures



68 stakeholders participated into the application of the Fuzzy Congitive Mapping method identifying 323 concepts, which are related to the further penetration of biomethane







Methodology of Fuzzy Cognitive Maps (FCM)

- FCM is a procedure to **involve stakeholders** in research processes and a **method to extract and analyze different kinds of knowledge** about complex systems and their functioning.
- FCM structures a process in which the **perception of stakeholders** on a certain system is uncovered and a representation of the system is created.
- A **fuzzy cognitive map** is created during the interview phase and consists of a number of elements (concepts/nodes/factors) and their causal influences on each other depicted with weighted arrows between the elements.
- The goal of FCM analysis is **detecting and interpreting relations between elements** found in a map and understanding its structural properties and dynamics.
- It can be used to **simulate the changes of a system** over time and address "what if" questions.







Outdegree

0.05

Indegree

5.78

Centrality

5.83

Results in Greece

Results of the applied SWOT analysis





Results of the applied Fuzzy Cognitive Mapping

Concepts

Development of biomethane market



Proposed policies and measures in Greece

Policy measure No1 Assessing the feedstock potential

- Assess the sustainable feedstock potential
- Identify and incentivise the untapped feedstock potential
- Map the targeted feedstock potential

Policy measure No2 Raising awareness with capacity building activities

- Conduct capacity building activities to increase the existing level of knowledge
- Understand and disseminate economic, social and environmental benefits and risks
- Facilitate the technology transfer and provide trainings to the respective professionals

Policy measure No3 Establishing efficient permitting and spatial procedures

- Simplify and streamline the permitting procedures to reduce the length and the bureaucracy
- Conduct spatial gas grid planning based on the mapping of biomethane production potential

Policy measure No4 Introducing financial support measures

• Define and introduce financial support measures for the production of biomethane (e.g. indicatively subsidies, fiscal measures, CfDs etc.)

Policy measure No5 Adopting the regulatory framework for waste management

• Design and adopt a long-term regulatory and legal framework for the targeted exploitation of available wastes

Policy measure No6 Fostering the exploitation of the by-products

- Design targeted regulatory and economic measures for the exploitation of the available by-products
- Promote the use of digestate as soil fertilizer

Policy measure No7 Establishing the required supply chains

- Stimulate and support the development of a reliable and competitive equipment supply chain
- Provide training to the involved stakeholders to improve their skills and to ensure quality

Policy measure No8 Drafting a strategy and adopting the required legislation

- Formulate a dedicated strategy for the further penetration of biomethane with specific targets and policies
- Adopt the required legislation for achieving the specified cargets





Synopsis of the proposed policies and measures in the examined countries

Czech Republic	Danube Region	Estonia	Greece	Latvia	Poland	Spain
PM1: Introducing financial support measures PM2: Accelerating the adoption of the legislative improvements PM3: Ensuring political stability PM4: Decreasing administrative complexity and bureaucracy PM5: Exploiting the available feedstock potential PM6: Capitalizing the experienced staff and the supplier companies PM7: Increasing the ambition of the specified targets	PM1: Promoting a holistic framework for cooperation and dialogue PM2: Drafting a strategy and adopting the required legislation PM3: Establishing the required supply chains PM4: Raising awareness with capacity building activities PM5: Harmonising/enabling the regulatory framework PM6: Introducing financial support measures PM7: Assessing the feedstock potential PM8: Promoting the use of bio-CNG/bio-LNG	PM1: Formulating a vision for the promotion of biomethane PM2: Introducing financial support measures PM3: Fostering the consumption side PM4: Promoting digestate based biofertilizer production PM5: Reinforcing the implementation of the public procurement procedures PM6: Raising awareness with capacity building activities PM7: Strengthening the role of the policy makers	PM1: Assessing the feedstock potential PM2: Raising awareness with capacity building activities PM3: Establishing efficient permitting and spatial procedures PM4: Introducing financial support measures PM5: Adopting the regulatory framework for waste management PM6: Fostering the exploitation of the by- products PM7: Establishing the required supply chains PM8: Drafting a strategy and adopting the required legislation	PM1: Ensuring political and regulatory stability PM2: Drafting a roadmap and adopting the required legislation PM3: Introducing financial support measures PM4: Assessing and increasing the feedstock potential PM5: Fostering the consumption side with targeted incentives PM6: Developing the required infrastructure PM7: Raising awareness with capacity building activities	 PM1: Exploiting the feedstock potential PM2: Introducing financial support measures PM3: Promoting waste management PM4: Fostering the consumption side PM5: Improving the legislative framework PM6: Setting more ambitious targets 	PM1: Introducing financial support measures PM2: Integrating positive externalities into the decision-making PM3: Fostering the consumption side with targeted incentives PM4: Adopting the regulatory framework for the by-products PM5: Drafting a roadmap and adopting the required legislation PM6: Promoting a common framework for cooperation and dialogue

Thank you for your attention

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