

DRIVING BIOMETHANE INNOVATION ACROSS EUROPE

The GreenMeUp consortium is pleased to present the second edition of our newsletter.

This issue covers the latest updates on the project, including highlights from EUBCE 2024.

GreenMeUp, a Horizon Europe Project, aims to accelerate the adoption of biomethane across the EU market. Specifically targeting member states with lower biomethane market penetration, the project will develop strategic measures to promote biomethane production and deployment. By advancing these efforts, GreenMeUp contributes directly to achieving the REPowerEU targets.

For a comprehensive overview of our previous activities and progress, please check out our first newsletter.

Visit GreenMeUp website and follow us on LinkedIn to get updates on our upcoming activities.

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1. STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT IN THE ESTONIAN GAS UNION CONFERENCE: EXPLORING BIOMETHANE AND GAS-GRID DECARBONIZATION

The GreenMeUp project is pleased to have joined the Estonian Gas Union's annual conference on 3rd October 2023, which prominently featured biomethane and gas-grid decarbonization.

Presentations from keynote speakers and participants covered various topics including the Estonian biomethane market as well as an overview of Europe's gas market, setting the stage for discussions on biomethane's role in decarbonization, gas market demand, the rebirth of the gas market, and gas decarbonization pathways.

Estonia's Climate Ministry delved into green transport achievements and new emission trading systems.

The conference concluded with an in-depth analysis of Estonia's biomethane sector.

The conference provided the GreenMeUp project with valuable insights into current market trends and policy developments surrounding biomethane and gas-grid decarbonization.

Although the GreenMeUp project did not actively contribute to the presentations, its attendance facilitated knowledge exchange and networking opportunities, aligning with the project's objectives of fostering biomethane production and utilization across Europe.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

2. BRIDGING BIOMETHANE CHALLENGES: INSIGHTS AND COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES FROM CZ BIOM PESTEL WORKSHOP



Figure 1. Site visit of main wastewater treatment plants in Prague (25th of October 2023)

The PESTEL Workshop, held in October 2023, encompassed engaging activities beyond the primary workshop, which includes a site visit and lecture.

This multifaceted approach succeeded in surpassing participation expectations and enriching discussions.

During the workshop, key challenges in the target country's biomethane market were dissected, spanning political, economic, social, technological, environmental, and legal domains. Participants collectively proposed solutions, emphasizing the imperative of effective communication with state administrations to underscore biomethane's significance.

Economic concerns revolved around profitability, with a spotlight on the need for operational support to ensure viability. Legislative complexities, particularly regarding guarantees of origin and support notifications, underscored the necessity for collaborative advocacy to foster industry growth.

Exemplary technologies and market policies were explored, drawing insights from advanced countries' practices. Membrane separation emerged as a feasible upgrading technology, adaptable to local conditions. Likewise, investment support mechanisms were scrutinized for their potential applicability and necessity for legislative adjustments.

The workshop concluded with a focus on forthcoming GreenMeUp HUB meetings, prioritizing operational support and legislative readiness. Communication

between stakeholders emerged as pivotal, with GreenMeUp meetings lauded for their knowledge exchange. The challenges of attracting project partners were also addressed, stressing the importance of innovative meeting structures to maintain engagement.

In essence, the workshop provided a platform for robust discourse, signaling a collective commitment to surmounting industry challenges and fostering sustainable biomethane growth.

3. THE BIOM MAGAZINE SHEDS LIGHT ON EUROPEAN LEGISLATIVE UPDATES AND GREENMEUP PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS (AVAILABLE IN CZECH ONLY)

This publication presents key updates from European legislation, including the new RED III directive and its extended criteria for sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions savings.

It also explores the new EU ETS 2 system and highlights a new biomethane station in South Moravia.

Additionally, the publication features the GreenMeUp project members' visit to the modernized Egg Energy biogas station near Riga, where Balticovo, the most important egg supplier in Northern Europe, processes chicken farm waste.

This station stands out globally for its unique almost 100 percent share of chicken waste in the input substrate. Current European statistics from the biogas and biomethane sector are included, providing a comprehensive overview of recent legislative and industry developments.

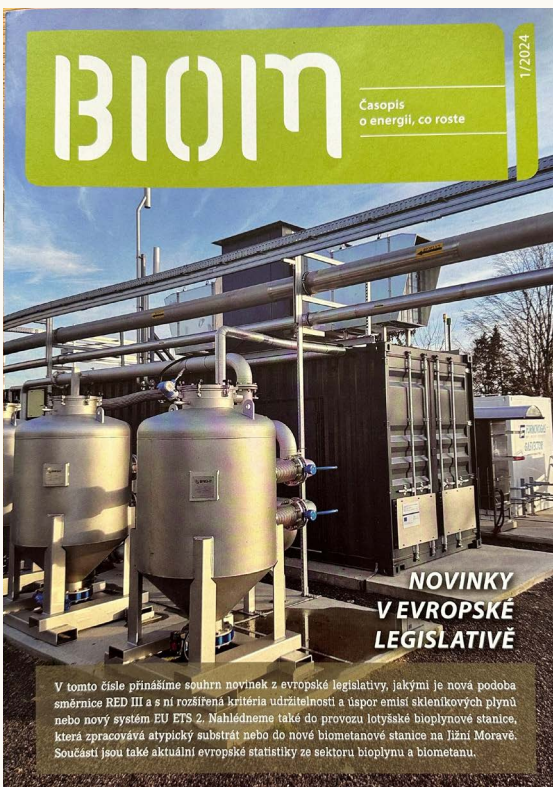


Figure 2. Cz biom magazine front page

4. BIOMETHANE DYNAMICS: INSIGHTS FROM GREENMEUP WEBINAR

In the Webinar organized by the GreenMeUp project in January 2024, the spotlight was on the remarkable growth of biomethane production, which saw a staggering 20% increase across Europe in 2022 compared to the previous year.

With this growth trend in mind, the discussion delved into the importance of ensuring a cohesive and aligned approach to furthering biomethane production targets among all EU Member States.

During the webinar, representatives from emerging biomethane markets in Europe shared their insights and experiences. CZ Biom represented the Czech Republic, Polska Izba Gospodarcza Energetyki

Odnawialnej i Rozproszonej (PIGEOR) represented Poland, Latvian Biogas Association represented Latvia, and Estonian Biogas Association represented Estonia.

The diverse perspectives provided an enriching discussion on suggested market uptake measures and best practices to enhance biomethane deployment across the continent.

The webinar served as a valuable platform for exchanging ideas and strategies to further advance the growth and utilization of biomethane in Europe.

[WATCH THE FULL WEBINAR HERE](#)

5. BIOMETHANE INJECTION CHALLENGES ACROSS EUROPE: INSIGHTS FROM EBA'S GREENMEUP PROJECT

In the latest insights from the European Biogas Association (EBA) via the GreenMeUp project, navigating the injection of biomethane into gas grids emerges as a key challenge across Europe.

Despite its status as a major renewable gas, biomethane encounters barriers to market access.

The new Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Package proposed by the European Commission aims to address these challenges.

The evaluation spans grid connection costs, gas quality standards, metering systems, and injection fees across 28 countries.

Costs vary, with some countries sharing them between biomethane producers and grid operators, while others place the burden solely on producers. Injection fees, charged in 11 of the 28 countries, add to the financial considerations for biomethane producers, covering metering system installation, grid access charges, and gas quality assurance.

Streamlining regulations is vital to unlock biomethane's potential in meeting Europe's gas demand and reducing import reliance, thereby accelerating the continent's transition to sustainable energy independence.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

6. GREENMEUP PROJECT FACILITATES BIOMETHANE INTEGRATION THROUGH STANDARDS ANALYSIS

The evolution of gas quality standards is pivotal in the energy transition, enabling regulatory coherence, enhanced safety, and lower costs.

However, current standards, primarily designed for natural gas, are often unsuited to biomethane.

Differentiating parameters like oxygen, sulphur, and carbon dioxide is essential for biomethane uptake and cross-border trade.

The GreenMeUp project has conducted a comprehensive analysis of biomethane standards, highlighting discrepancies in oxygen limits across Europe and their impact on trade and grid integration. Harmonizing these standards is crucial for achieving the EU's target of 35 bcm of biomethane by 2030 and supporting the broader energy transition.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

7. GREENMEUP PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS ALIGN ON BIOMETHANE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES AT DRNOVICE CONFERENCE

During the recent Biogas and Legislation conference in Drnovice on 28th May 2024, a stakeholders meeting was held at Hotel Allvet.

The discussion centered on the GreenMeUp project, focusing on the SWOT analysis and FCM results.

Stakeholders engaged in a final debate to identify obstacles to biomethane

adoption, discuss pricing that would attract market stakeholders, and highlight the major advantages of biomethane. Participants also provided input via Slido, which mirrored the feedback received during the SWOT and FCM analyses, reinforcing the consistency of stakeholder perspectives on these key issues.

8. DISSEMINATION AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

During the previous months, the Green Me Up project has achieved a consistent amount of material to be shared, especially on social media, and further

material will be available in the form of video-interviews and written reports to be downloaded.



8.1 Events

8.1.1 The 11th International Conference on Sustainable Solid Waste Management, 19th – 22nd June 2024, Rhodes Island, Greece

The conference aims to tackle the critical issue of sustainable solid waste management by promoting safe practices and effective technologies. Focused on modern solid waste technologies, the conference aims to engage scientists and the public alike, highlighting the latest advancements in municipal solid waste management.

During the conference, GreenMeUp delivered an oral presentation on 20th of June 2024, showcasing its contributions to advancing sustainable practices in biomethane production and utilization across Europe.

Topics of interest include separation at source, biological treatment, central facility treatments, waste prevention, biowaste utilization, recycling promotion, waste-to-energy technologies, energy recovery, smart waste management technologies, sludge management, agricultural and livestock waste, and management of specific waste streams.

8.1.2 EUBCE 2024, 24th – 27th of June 2024, Marseille, France

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CONFERENCE](#)

The 32nd European Biomass Conference & Exhibition (EUBCE) is renowned for its comprehensive approach to balancing environmental sustainability with economic performance across the biomass utilization chain, while also advancing scientific research. This premier event covers the entire spectrum of biomass, spanning from resources and research to innovation, deployment, and policy considerations.

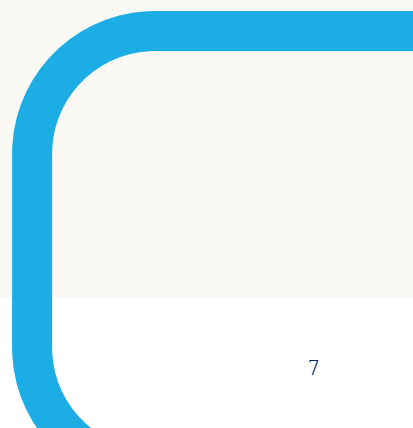
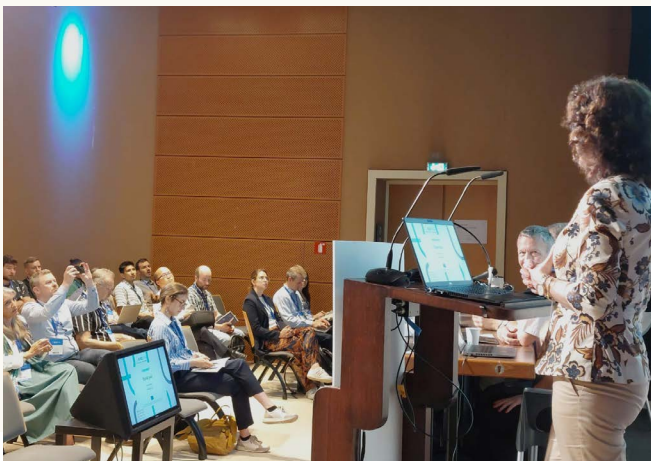
The conference places a strong emphasis on fostering collaboration among academia, research institutions, and industry, facilitated through its exhibition platform.

GreenMeUp Project Coordinator Myrsini Christou (CRES, Greece) featured prominently at EUBCE with oral presentations on 27th of June 2024, focusing on the GreenMeUp project. The presentation title was “Biomethane market dynamics & framework conditions in Europe (the project GreenMeUp)”, and an overview of the current situation about biomethane in terms of feedstocks and injection into the grid in the target countries, has been displayed. To know more about Myrsini Christou’s presentation, please click at this [LINK](#).



Figures 4, 5. Our coordinator Myrsini Christou holding a presentation at 32nd EUBCE in marseille, France.
Source: ETA-Florence Renewable Energies

Furthermore, Ronja Wollnik from DBFZ held another oral presentation about the GreenMeUp project and the title was “A holistic framework of Key Performance Indicators for assessing national biomethane market uptake in European countries”. To know more about Ronja Wollnik’s presentation, please click at this [LINK](#).



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).

PARTNERS



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