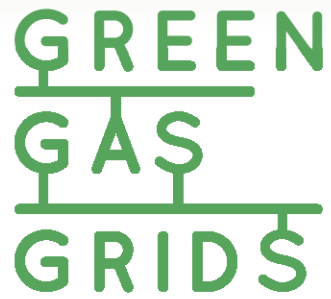




# The GreenGasGrids Project: Boosting the European biomethane market.

Sandra Rostek, dena  
11 March 2014



# **On the European Biomethane Market**



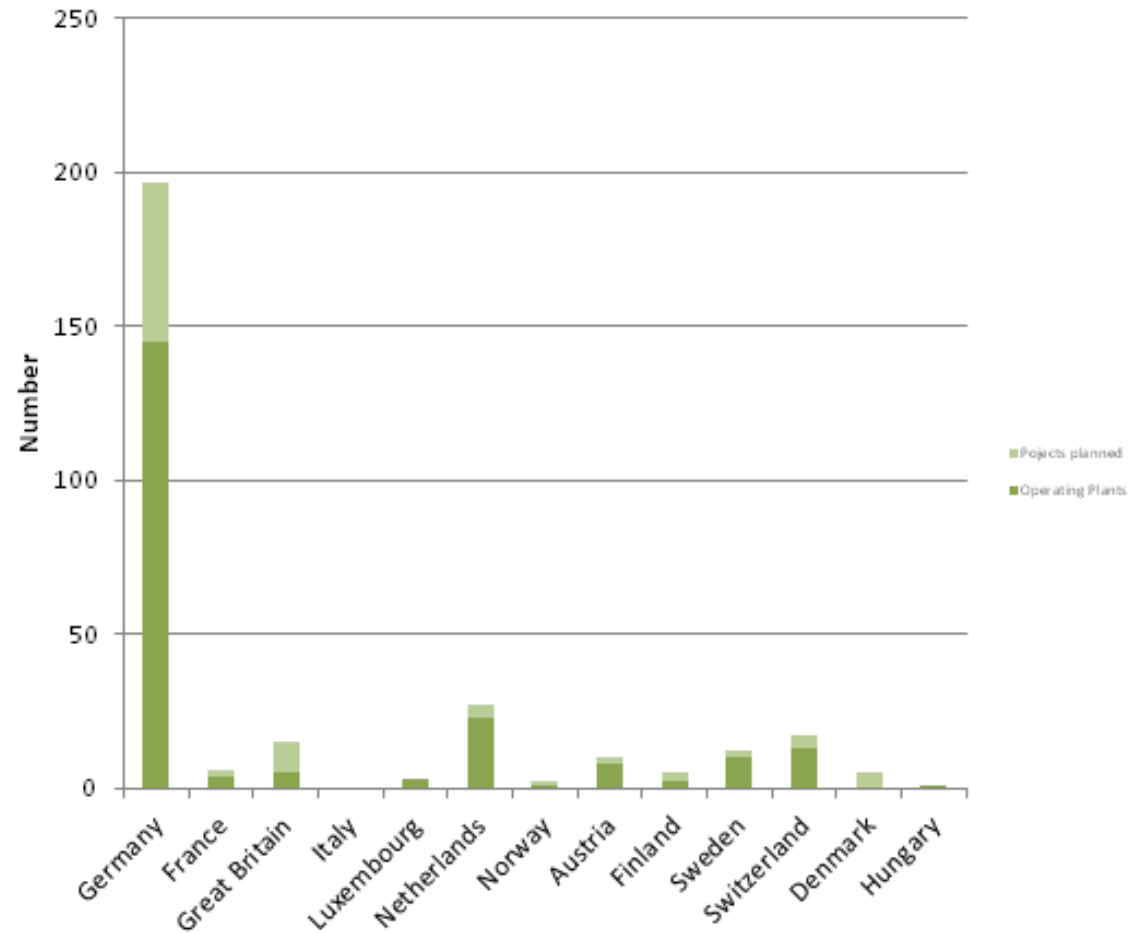
## Biomethane – Joker among the renewables

- flexible input material
- flexible sale options
- storable
- efficient
- tailored to demand
- climate-friendly



## Biomethane in Europe – start of a success story

- About 250 upgrading plants running, 200 of which feed into the grid
- Forerunner countries:
  - Germany 140
  - Netherlands 23
  - Switzerland 13
- Starter countries:
  - UK 5
  - France 4



Source: dena (biogaspartner)

## Several national regulations are under development

- Support measures exist in Germany, France, UK, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and Italy
- Biggest market obstacles on the national level:
  - Long planning procedures
  - Low demand
  - Few natural gas vehicles
  - Lack of technical specifications
  - High investment cost

## Chances and challenges for biomethane in Europe

- Chances
  - Gas grid enables cross border sales
  - Biomethane can provide both base and peak load
  - Eastern Europe offers immense potential
  - Heat market and NGV market are „sleeping giants“
  - Diversity of European markets offers many new business models
- Challenges
  - Lack of EU-harmonization
  - No technical standards on EU-level
  - Increasing sustainability harmonization demands
  - Cross border tracking and certification
  - Public acceptance for biomethane (food vs.fuel)

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# The GreenGasGrids Project



## Project goal and main actions

- Duration: 6/2011 – 5/2014
- Goal:  
A more strategic approach towards boosting biomethane markets aiming for increased biomethane production and use
- Main actions:
  - Bring together potential business partners
  - Promote biomethane projects in countries with high potential but few activities
  - Inform key pan EU gas/energy bodies to include biomethane in their agendas and move this fuel into the mainstream



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## Consortium



## Focus topics (1/2)

- Sustainability:
  - Give recommendations for solving open questions of sustainability criteria implementation for biomethane
  - Ensure that biomethane is not disadvantaged compared to biogas for electricity under EU Sustainability rules
- Technical aspects:
  - Add to work of existing initiatives (CEN, IEA Task 37) by giving recommendations for technical standards
  - Support 'starter' countries in relation to establishing appropriate standards to avoid un-necessary barriers/delay

## Focus topics (2/2)

- Trade:
  - Provide recommendations to overcome trade barriers and for implementation of Green Gas Certificates to ensure an efficient and sustainable market
  - Develop biomethane business models and international biogas registry cooperation
- Legislation:
  - Evaluate support measures and relationship between existing incentives for biomethane production and alternative uses for biogas (e.g. CHP)
  - Publish country model and indicative national targets for 2020 and 2030 for partner countries

## Publications

- **Market information** regularly updated on the GGG website
- **EU-level Road Map** with recommendations on how to proceed with a biomethane strategy on the EU level
- **National Road Maps** for national biomethane strategies
- **Discussion papers on current issues regarding** sustainability, technical standards, legislative aspects and trade of biomethane
- **Best Practice Report for Policy-Makers** on biomethane support measures
- **Financial guidelines for market actors** for efficient project development

## Cooperation and Service

- Participate at workshops on the EU and national level
- Receive information:
  - Best practice/demo projects
  - Updates on market development and business opportunities in partner countries
  - Technical details/reports (e.g. related to oxygen, siloxanes, gas quality monitoring)
  - Biomethane news & events



## Contact

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