Founded in 2009, the European Biogas Association (EBA) promotes the sustainable production and use of biogas and biomethane from anaerobic digestion (AD) and biomass gasification in Europe. This covers all energetic applications of biogas, including heat, electricity and automotive fuel. The EBA’s membership comprises national biogas associations, institutes and companies from over 26 countries across Europe. The member associations include the majority of producers, companies, consultants and researchers in the field of biogas within Europe.

EBA strategy identifies three priorities: to establish biogas as an important part of Europe’s energy mix; to promote source separation of household waste with a view to increasing the gas potential; and to support the production of biomethane as vehicle fuel.

The EBA’s strategy is based on reaching the full potential for biogas and biomethane production, which equals roughly 10% of EU’s current natural gas consumption. Furthermore, the EBA’s work revolves around the significant part played by biogas and biomethane in key EU policies such as climate targets, energy security, resource efficiency and circular economy, and various environmental legislation including air quality, prevention of contamination, bioeconomy and waste management.
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This annual report provides you with an insight to the seventh year of the EBA activity. It was a turbulent year, in the best sense of the word. With an enlarged team, the EBA increased its activity in all relevant fields, and we are proud to present these to you in this Annual Report.

The year 2015 was an important milestone for the EBA work. The EBA General Assembly decided to incorporate biomass gasification into the scope of the EBA work, and thus both, anaerobic digestion and gasification, are pursued as complementary technologies for ever expanding biomethane industry. I am convinced this was an important step to support biogas industry, for this unity gives us an opportunity to approach European institutions as one, unified voice of a large renewable source of fuel and energy, which has to be taken into an account.

The EBA fully exploited this strategy, and introduced its position among key actors in the gas industry, which is essential for distributing biomethane. The EBA became a full member of the Gas Quality Working Group at the Technical Association of the European Gas Industry. This is a great achievement, which acknowledged the EBA status of being the centre of expert knowledge for biogas and biomethane industry.

Naturally, this is only the very precondition for our main mission, for the lobby work in Brussels. There were many policy files on our desks in 2015. I have to mention at least policies of the indirect land use change, the 2030 climate and energy targets, and the circular economy and digestate policies, being far from the last one. Some more insight in this work we present in this Annual Report.

An important part of our policy work is in workshops, where the key stakeholders have the chance to meet up together and to actively exchange their views. We have organized three workshops on the most pressing issues; on sustainable mobility, on future sustainable energy supply, and on biomethane cross-border trade.
The number of Brussels based people who attended these workshops confirmed both, our communication strategy, and the importance of the presented topics, which we brought towards audience in Brussels.

I would also like to highlight the work of our Advisory Councils. It is the credit of Erik Meers and Philipp Lukas, the chairmen of the Scientific Advisory Council and the Company Advisory Council respectively, who made these councils work with vibrant and productive atmosphere.

All these achievements are underlined by a number of documents we did publish for our members, to back up their work on national level in their home countries. This is an important part of our work, and we are pleased that this part of our website enjoyed the highest number of visitors again.

It is my pleasure to encourage you to read this report, and to read more on this successful story. Last, but definitely not the least, I would like to acknowledge the work of the EBA office team. Agata Przadka proved to be an excellent Secretary General, aided with Susanna Pflüger our Senior Policy Advisor. Some of the names introduced in the previous reports as trainees and newcomers, successfully linked their careers with the EBA, namely Nicolas de la Vega, Policy Advisor; Erneszt Kovacs, who is the current Technical Advisor; Beatriz Peon, who joined us for work on communications and Camille Barre, who joined us as a Policy Assistant.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the EBA board members, who contribute in the fields of their expertise on voluntary basis. It is my pleasure to be a part of this great team.

Jan Stambasky,
President of the European Biogas Association
In 2015, the EBA extended its remit and now also advocates sustainable biomethane production from the gasification of renewable organic material. Anaerobic digestion and gasification industries can produce sustainable biogas from biomass, which can replace imported natural gas.

2015 is the third year that the EBA has successfully worked on a strategy set by its Board in 2013 to increase the share of the products of anaerobic digestion: biogas, biomethane and digestate. Specific production targets for biogas and biomethane were set for the years 2020 and 2030, and key policy areas for lobbying at EU level were identified.

**Mission and Vision**

“Biogas and biomethane – products of an efficient and sustainable use of resources”

**EBA is the only European-wide organisation that supports the entire biomethane industry and liaises with policy makers in Brussels in order to steer the legal framework of biomethane.**

**2020**

Biogas is a versatile energy source and the EBA’s goal is that the fuel should contribute at least 1.5% of the EU’s primary energy mix, corresponding to about 5% of the EU’s natural gas consumption (in energy equivalent terms).

**2030**

The EBA believes in an overall potential of at least 30 billion m³/year biogas production from anaerobic digestion. Thermal biomass is also capable of contributing substantial volumes of syngas and biomethane. Taken together, an estimate for the total production of biomethane is 50 billion m³ per year. With the right policies in place, the industry could produce renewable energy equivalent to approximately 10% of the EU’s current natural gas consumption, for use in electricity generation, heating/cooling and as a vehicle fuel.
2015 Timeline

Initiation of BIOSURF project

**EVENT:** EBA's General Assembly and CAC & SAC meetings, Bremen, DE

**PR:** EBA appoints a new Secretary General

**PR:** EBA agrees to represent sustainable gasification of biomass

EBA participates in the EUFORES Inter-Parliamentary Meeting in the Austrian parliament

Finalization of ESBF project

EBA receives a liaison status at ISO/TC 255 group

**PUBLICATION:** UK Biogas and Biomethane Country Profile

PR: EBA initiates gasification activities

**WORKSHOP:** "Biomethane, the Road to Sustainable Mobility", Brussels, BE

EBA's booth at REGATEC, Barcelona, ES

EBA’s CAC has new leadership

EBA’s present at UK Biomethane Day, Birmingham, UK

EBA attends and speaks at European Biomass Conference

**EVENT:** Biorefinery Study Tour for policymakers, Oud Gastel, NL

EBA at COP21 Paris

**PR:** 2016 edition of the Conference of the European Biogas Association enhances anaerobic digestion and gasification

**PR:** EBA Biogas Report 2015 published – a record growth in Europe!
Throughout the year EBA’s policy advisors constantly keep an eye on European policies and their developments. Through a prompt response, ongoing communication with its members and board and regular meetings with Members of the European Parliament and representatives of the European Commission EBA ensures that the interest of the European biogas and biomethane industry is heard in Brussels and that both biogas industry and Europe will benefit from the taken decisions.

2015 was a very versatile and action packed year in terms of policy development as it covered several legislative proposals and targets.

**Indirect land use change (iLUC) related to biofuels and bioliquids**

After several rounds of difficult negotiations which began in 2012, the EU institutions finally agreed on the ILUC file in spring 2015, amending the Renewable Energy Directive (RED) and the Fuel Quality Directive (FQD). The compromise included among other elements: a 7% limit on energy crops, out of the EU’s total transport consumption; a non-binding 0.5% sub-target for advanced biofuels; and reporting on iLUC factors. These changes to the Directives will result in a shift from crop-based to waste/residue-based biofuels. The EBA, with its members’ support, was heavily involved in the debates over the years, maintaining continuous contact with the European Commission, the Parliament, Member States and other stakeholders. The final compromise is reasonable and rightly recognises most biogas feedstocks from biowaste to manure and grassy energy crops as feedstocks for advanced biofuels. On 5th October, the day when the amendments to the RED and the FQD entered into force, the EBA also published its own iLUC analysis on the impact of the Directive on the biogas market. This analysis is available to EBA members. EU-wide sustainability criteria are expected to extend to include the heat and power sectors during 2016. The EBA will again advocate a balanced outcome, calling for predictability and long-term investment security.

**2030 Governance in energy and climate policies**

In October 2014 the 28 national governments of the EU committed to increasing the block’s total share of renewable energy to 27% by the year 2030. In order for the EU countries to reach this common binding commitment, it is essential to build a sound governance system that regulates the way in which each country’s efforts are established, provides a framework for adequate monitoring of a state’s progress towards this goal and includes clauses ensuring compliance. This is a highly political debate. On the one hand, some governments favour a more flexible, less constraining governance system than that which was set in place to oversee fulfilment of the 20% target for renewable energy by 2020. On the other hand, there are serious concerns that too much flexibility will result in a policy with no teeth, where there are not enough legal instruments to ensure that each member state contributes its fair share towards the common goal of 27%.

The EBA started its advocacy campaign for an ambitious 2030 governance system in 2014; during 2015 it met with permanent representations of EU countries in Brussels and with officials from the European Commission. In order to be more effective in its advocacy efforts, the EBA has joined forces with several renewable energy associations. The governance file will be a priority throughout 2016 and the EBA will maintain its efforts to achieve a strong 2030 governance system under the Dutch and Slovak Council presidencies.
Circular Economy and digestate policies

The year 2015 was an eventful one for digestate and waste policies at an EU level. Early on in the year the new European Commission decided to withdraw its Circular Economy Package containing proposals to revise the EU’s waste and fertiliser directives. A new and more comprehensive Circular Economy Package was delivered at the end of 2015.

During 2015 the EBA worked closely with the European Commission, both at a technical and at a political level, together with several key actors representing the waste sector, to ensure that nutrient recycling remained at the core of the new package. The two key elements for anaerobic digestion are the following:

1. A revision of the Fertilisers Regulation expanding the scope to include organic fertilisers such as digestate and compost – note that currently only mineral fertilisers are recognised under EU law. This inclusion will establish EU-wide standards allowing digestate producers to sell their products across borders, creating a European market while at the same time maintaining existing national standards when digestate is intended for domestic use. The European Commission’s proposal is expected in early 2016.

2. A revision of the EU’s core waste legislation, with the objective of increasing and improving the rate of recycling. A comprehensive set of waste proposals was published by the European Commission in late 2015 with important elements concerning solid municipal waste, such as landfill diversion targets, recycling targets and a more robust separate collection system for municipal biowaste.

The revision of both the Fertiliser Regulation and the EU’s waste legislation is a high priority for the EBA. During previous years, including 2015, the EBA’s focus was on providing the European Commission with expertise to aid the drafting of these proposals. During 2016 the main priority will be to shift advocacy work to the relevant Council officials and members of the European Parliament.

“The fruitful collaboration among all players involved in the biogas value chain is a key factor to achieve success and is a strong driver to push even forward the model of a sustainable, carbon neutral or carbon negative agriculture”

Professor Bruce Dale, Michigan State University USA
The Emissions Trading System (ETS) is the largest international system for trading greenhouse gas (GHG) emission allowances and has the potential to be the European Union’s main instrument for mitigating climate change. With the publication of the Summer Energy Package in July 2015, the EBA welcomed the latest proposal for the post-2020 period. The legislative proposal has been submitted to the European Parliament and the Council for further consideration. With this revision of the ETS system into its 4th stage, efforts are put forward to decrease GHG emissions in the ETS sector at an annual rate of 2.2% from 2021 onwards. The revision also addresses the risk of carbon leakage and the funding of both low carbon innovation and modernisation of infrastructure.

In December 2015 the EBA drafted a position paper proposing concrete measures to improve the July 2015 ETS proposal so as to secure a level playing field for renewable energy sources. The paper that will be finalised with members’ support in early 2016, advocates strict, transparent and comparable scientific criteria in the handing out of free allowances, as well as better targeted funds for renewable technologies and in particular for the biogas sector. During 2016, the EBA will meet with key officers from the EU institutions to discuss the biogas sector’s views and proposals for improvement.

119,196 toe of biomethane were used in transport across the European Union, according to the EuroObserver’s Biogas Barometer 2015.
Biomethane trade and use as a transport fuel

As EBA statistics demonstrate, European biomethane production is increasing each year. With further development of technologies and continuing political support, biological methane production could reach 50 billion m$^3$ per year by 2030, corresponding to 12.5% of the EU’s total natural gas imports. Part of that amount would likely be traded over European borders, given that the EU’s mass-balancing requirements will be amended for the next decade. The physical transfer and the bio-value would need to be recognised cross-border. In addition to the EBA’s cooperation with national biomethane registries and natural gas associations, 2015 saw the EBA discussed this topic with the European Commission, including at cabinet level, and with a couple of Member States. The problem has been recognised by EU officials and, with the new Renewable Energy Directive, the year 2016 may provide an opportunity for revision of mass-balancing requirements.

The use of biomethane as a sustainable biofuel is also increasing slowly each year. In 2014, 11.75% of all biomethane produced in Europe was used in the transport sector; as a result of decreasing support for green electricity as well as other factors, it is expected to grow further in the future. In order to enable further positive development, however, it is crucial that better infrastructure with more filling stations and gas vehicles be introduced Europe-wide. In 2015, the European Commission launched the ‘Sustainable Transport Forum’ for Member States and industry experts to ensure that the Directive on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure is properly implemented. The EBA is a member of the forum and also a part of its sub-group on ‘advanced biofuels’, which is looking for ways to achieve a substantial share of advanced biofuels in the EU by 2030. Both expert groups had their first meetings in 2015. The EBA also made a significant contribution to the biomethane section of the final report of the Commission’s predecessor expert group on ‘Future Transport Fuels’. The report was published in spring 2015.
Directive on Medium Combustion Plants

Seeking to improve air quality and public health, the European Commission published a proposal in December 2013 to limit emissions of sulphur dioxide (SO\textsubscript{2}) and nitrogen oxides (NO\textsubscript{x}) from medium combustion plants producing electricity and/or thermal energy. This directive covers combustion power plants with a rated thermal input between 1 MW and 50 MW using various fuels, including biogas-powered CHPs. The EBA advised Council officials and key members of the European Parliament throughout 2015 on the technical specificities of biogas-powered CHPs, particularly concerning suitable SO\textsubscript{2} levels and the cost of retrofitting existing units. A balanced agreement was reached in the second half of 2015 taking into account the specificities of biogas plants and allowing more time for existing plants to adapt to the new rules than was envisaged in the original proposal. At the same time, the agreed text ensures a high level of environmental protection which is more ambitious than most national legislation. National governments will introduce the measures outlined in the Medium Combustion Plants Directive by December 2017.

European Commission public consultations in 2015

As in previous years and reflecting the concerns and opinions of its members, the EBA responded to several public consultations by the European Commission:

1. In June 2015, the EBA submitted a response to the ‘Stakeholder consultation on the mid-term review of the 2011 White Paper on transport’, emphasising the need for continued EU-wide policies and targets to decarbonise the transport sector.
2. Likewise in June, the EBA contributed to the consultation ‘Addressing greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture and LULUCF in the context of the 2030 EU climate and energy framework’. The EBA submission outlined the multiple benefits of anaerobic digestion for sustainable and low-carbon agriculture.

3. In August, the EBA sent its response to the consultation on ‘the Circular Economy’ reminding the Commission about the importance of targets for separate biowaste collection across the EU and of including digestate in the European fertiliser legislation in order to enhance nutrients recycling.

4. In September, the EBA participated in the consultation on the ‘functioning of Waste Markets in the European Union’, identifying the low rate of biowaste recycling as an existing regulatory failure.

5. Later in September, the EBA submitted a response to the consultation on ‘an EU strategy for liquefied natural gas and gas storage’ outlining the part played by liquefied biomethane in energy security and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

6. Finally in October, the EBA responded to the public consultation on ‘a new Energy Market Design’. The EBA response was based on the contribution of the European Renewable Energy Federation (EREF), which underlined the importance of better market integration of renewable energy.
As the umbrella organisation for the biogas industry in Europe and for the benefit of its members, as well as ensuring and confirming the sustainability of biogas, EBA has to bring together both industry and science and enable close interaction between the two communities.

Therefore, two advisory councils actively work alongside everyday activities in Brussels on providing scientific and commercial background for EBA’s policy, communication and project management activities.

**Company Advisory Council**

38 members

**Scientific Advisory Council**

9 members

The Company Advisory Council (CAC) is a platform representing the European biogas industry through the active engagement of EBA associate members in the EBA’s decision and policy making. The CAC represents a strong platform for the promotion and visibility of companies that are EBA members, offering as it does access to a wide target audience and outreach opportunities in Europe in general. Such a platform enables companies to enter new markets, promote their products and services and generally improve their businesses through wide-ranging advertising and sponsorship opportunities. The CAC has elected a new leadership in 2015, namely Philipp Lukas (Future Biogas) as chairman and Michael Niederbacher (BTS Biogas) for the position of vice-chairman. Attila Kovács remained the coordinator of the Council on behalf of the EBA executive board.

Five meetings of the CAC were held in 2015, including two Skype meetings:

- 28 January – Bremen
- 26 May – Freising
- 8 August – Skype
- 30 September – Skype
- 10 November – Hannover

CAC members have initiated a new internal structure aimed at enabling the Council to highlight and better respond to the needs of the industry by creating pools of experts for various topics and fields of expertise. One of the anticipated outcomes is the development in 2016 of an operational framework and manifesto that would target the general public as well as decision makers in Brussels and national governments.
The Scientific Advisory Board (SAC) comprises the EBA’s network of researchers, scientists and university teachers dedicated to the promotion of the biogas sector by means of scientific evidence. The main objectives of the SAC are to provide scientific evidence in support of the EBA’s position papers and other communications; to advise on the programmes of EBA workshops and conferences; and to support the EBA Board in its evaluation of project proposals. The SAC’s Chairman is Prof. Dr. Erik Meers from the University of Ghent. The Vice-Chair is Prof. Dr. Frank Scholwin from the Institute of Biogas, Waste Management and Energy.

Four meetings of the SAC were held in 2015, including two conference calls:

- 28 January – Bremen
- 24 June – Conference call
- 4 September – Brussels
- 13 November – Conference call

The main topics addressed by the SAC in 2015 were European stability criteria for digestate and the quantification of greenhouse gas emission reduction through anaerobic digestion which resulted in a written presentation titled ‘Anaerobic digestion’s and gasification’s contribution to reduced emissions in EU’s transport, agricultural and energy sectors’, which was submitted to European negotiators at the global climate conference COP21.
The EBA has completed another successful year in terms of communication activities, which have included online visibility, continuous presence in the media, both online and offline, and the use of a wide range of communication tools all aimed at promoting the network and its members, as well as championing biogas as a sustainable and locally produced fuel in general. The EBA has developed partnerships with numerous media channels including the Biogas Channel, Biogas Journal and others.

Press releases

- European Biogas Association to represent sustainable gasification of biomass
- European Biogas Association has a new Secretary General
- 2016 edition of the Conference of the European Biogas Association enhances anaerobic digestion and gasification
- EBA Biogas Report 2015 published – a record growth in Europe!

Position papers

- Joint Statement on the European Commission’s plan to withdraw the waste component of the Circular Economy package from its 2015 Work Programme
- Joint letter from RES Associations to EU Energy Union
- Open letter regarding the withdrawal and renewed discussion of the circular economy package
- Renewable energy industry joint position paper on governance systems towards 2030 renewable energy targets
- COP21 anaerobic digestion’s and gasification’s contribution to reduced emissions in EU’s transport, agricultural and energy sectors
- Joint statement on the State of the Energy Union
- Joint position paper on how Bio-Nutrients and Organic Carbon Recycling are essential components of a Circular Economy
- Contribution of anaerobic digestion to the European Circular Economy

The EBA has also developed an improved corporate identity that will be unveiled in 2016.

Gasification campaign

Reflecting the broadening of its remit to include gasification, the EBA has created a brochure and a dedicated space on its website. These were the first elements of a concerted effort to acquire gasification members, through which the EBA has attracted the support of renowned experts in its ongoing campaign in favour of gasification. Following on the success of these activities, the EBA is currently developing a plan for an EU project entirely dedicated to gasification.
Publications

Each year the EBA prepares new **country profiles** which include summaries of the local biogas markets. In 2015 the EBA published profiles for the United Kingdom and the Western Balkan countries (Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Montenegro).

The **Companies Catalogue** and **Success Stories** disseminate information on the services offered by the biogas companies active in international business and their examples of good practice. In 2015, the EBA compiled 21 success stories from 9 countries. Around 1,000 printed and digital copies were disseminated in 2015.

The EBA has published the first of a series of dedicated **factsheets**, “Digestate: The value of organic fertilisers”. The brochure contains a summary of the main arguments in favour of the use of digestate in agriculture. These publications are developed in cooperation with national associations and other partners of the EBA. Upcoming factsheets include a second edition on digestate use and production aimed specifically at farmers, and a factsheet on biomethane in transport.

In April 2015, an agreement was reached by the European Parliament and the Council on the European Commission’s Indirect Land Use Change (ILUC) proposal to review the impact of ILUC on GHG and address ways to minimise it. The EBA prepared an extensive analysis of iLUC legislation on biofuels, including SWOT and financial perspectives on the use of crops.

Website

EBA’s website is continuously updated with EBA, EU and country specific news, as well as position papers and press releases.

**Visits** 49,379

**New visitors** 63%

**2.2 pages** Per session

Newsletter

The EBA Newsletter delivers twice a month content both prepared or hand-picked by the EBA.

**39%** Opens

**3,336** Subscribers

Social Media

A strong and well-prepared social media performance is paying off:

**Followers increased** x2.5 in 2015
Projects concluding in 2015

ESBF grouped European biofuels producers and policy actors under one single umbrella to address common issues and promote the development of alternative fuels. The ESBF consortium under aegis of EBA published a brochure with facts on biofuel production and use “Biofuels – sustainable and safe energy for Europe”. The project aimed mostly at building up consensus among the EU biofuels stakeholders and spreading extensive information on the state of play of European biofuels.

Duration: September 2012 – March 2015

This project coordinated by IFA-Tulln (Austria) started in April 2013 and ran until October 2015, with the objective of elaborating a solid information base on FAB (Food and Beverage) waste utilisation for biogas production and proving the efficiency and feasibility of FAB waste-based biogas implementation projects.

EBA prepared an International Handbook “Biogas production in Food and Beverage Industry” describing the status of biogas production in partner countries, the status of R&D projects on this topic, best practice examples and the most promising FaB industry branches. The Handbook and all the other materials from the project can be found at the FABbiogas website.

Duration: April 2013 – October 2015
With a consortium of 11 partners from 7 countries, the BIOSURF project strives to increase the production and use of biomethane (from animal waste, other waste materials and sustainable biomass), for grid injection and as transport fuel, by removing non-technical barriers and by paving the way for a European biomethane market. Key actions include:

- Develop a value chain analysis from production to use reflecting territorial, physical and economic features
- Analyse, compare and promote biomethane registering, labelling, certification and trade practices in Europe
- Address traceability, environmental criteria and quality standards, aiming to reduce GHG emissions and indirect land-use change (iLUC)
- Identify the most prominent drivers for CO2-emissions along the value chain as an input for future optimisation
- Exchange information and best practice throughout Europe concerning biomethane policy, regulation, support schemes and technical standards.

The EBA has taken the lead in 3 work packages: Biomethane trade; Impact analysis and policy dimension; and Dissemination, exploitation and communication.

BIOGAS ACTION

Duration: January 2016 – December 2018

Partners: EBA, ECNet, DFFB, RAEE, CCS, IBBK, Fedarene, Ekodona, CzBA, EIHP, SWEA, AILE, ESS

The EBA has been granted a role in this project, to be launched in 2016. The overall aim of the project is to serve as vehicle for the development of the European biogas sector and to help increase the production of biogas and biomethane in the European Union. In order to achieve this, it will focus on removing non-technical barriers so as to contribute to the creation of better frameworks. The EBA will be responsible for working packages providing administrative toolkits to facilitate the successful development of regional biogas initiatives and deployment, and will also undertake dissemination and communication tasks.
2015 has been a fruitful year, with a total of 6 events organised by the EBA alone or in collaboration with others. These events included dedicated workshops and the first instance of a Biorefinery Study Tour. EBA representatives were also present at various relevant events (such as the COP21 in Paris and Inter-Parliamentary Meeting in the Austrian parliament) and actively participated in several trade fairs, as well as being invited to speak at the GIE Conference in Dublin and the European Biomass Conference 2015, among others.

### Events and Networking

- **Attended 45 events**
- **Spoke at 3 conferences and events**
- **Co-organised 5 events**
- **Exhibited at 3 trade fairs**

#### May — Workshop: Biomethane, the Road to Sustainable Mobility

Organised by Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and CNH Industrial in partnership with the EBA and NGVA Europe, this well attended-event brought together around 75 participants.

The presentations and discussions all praised the specific qualities of biomethane and its applications in the transport sector, highlighting the potential role of biomethane in reaching EU goals on energy and sustainability issues.

#### September - FABBiogas Project Final Conference:

As part of its performance within this EU-funded project, the EBA organised an event that drew more than 90 registered participants.

The line-up of speakers included both professionals from the sector and representatives from institutions such as the European Commission, the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) and the Innovations and Networks Executive Agency (INEA). Partners of FAB-Biogas also had the opportunity to share the conclusions and main findings of the project.
September - Second EBA Biomethane Workshop

As part of its performance within this EU-funded project, the EBA organised an event that drew more than 90 registered participants. Titled “Future of Biomethane – will cross-border trade be feasible?”, this event saw a record level of attendance, with 70 participants. Organised in accordance with the objectives of the BIOSURF project, it provided a forum for discussion of pathways for the use of biomethane as a renewable fuel and the non-technical barriers to full exploitation in Europe.

October - Future Sustainable energy supply through innovative partnerships – biomethane and CNG as example

During the Committee of the Regions Open Days, the EBA collaborated with the Innovative Partnership for Sustainable Energy 2020 (IPSE 2020) and BioFuel Region in the organisation of the workshop, with the aim of showcasing successful partnership and experiences from which regional communities can benefit.

December - Biorefinery Study Tour for Policymakers

The EBA joined forces with BBO and Suiker Unie to bring more than 20 participants to a biogas plant in the Netherlands. With three digesters and a storage facility (and two more under development), participants learned more about the anaerobic digestion process and its by-products. They were especially impressed by the digestate produced, which they were able to look at closely and further enquire about its properties. By its conclusion the visit had garnered considerable praise for the circular economy concept and generated awareness of the great potential outcomes for participants.

All efforts are now focused on the organisation and promotion of the upcoming third EBA Conference. The Conference will take place in Ghent in September 2016 and will aim to achieve the same high levels of success reached in previous years.

More information can be found at the Conference’s website: www.biogasconference.eu
The EBA is managed by the Executive Board and the Secretariat. Following this year’s General Assembly in Bremen, Mrs. Agata Prządka was appointed by the Board as the new Secretary General. An increase in the scope and activities of the EBA resulted in the addition of two new interns to the Secretariat in Brussels.

The EBA’s Secretariat is thus run by Agata Prządka (Secretary General) and Susanna Pflüger (Senior Policy Advisor), who deal with the association’s day-to-day business and execute tasks delegated by the Executive Board. The rest of the EBA team is made up by Nicolás de la Vega (Policy Advisor) assisted by Camille Barré (Policy and Legal Assistant since August), Erneszt Kovacs (Technical Advisor) and Beatriz Peón (Communications and Events Officer).
Partnerships and Memberships

In 2015, the EBA continued to be a member of EREF (the European Renewable Energies Federation) and EUFORES (the European Forum for Renewable Energy Sources). Further, the association continued its collaboration with the European Compost Network (ECN), the European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform (ESPP) and the Baltic Sea Action Group with regards to digestate and animal by-product issues. With NGVA Europe (Natural Gas Vehicle Association) the EBA worked to advocate increasing use of biogas as a vehicle fuel. During 2015, the EBA has joined forces with other renewable energy associations in the preparation of several joint position papers, including AEBIOM, Solar Power Europe, the EWEA, EGEC, EHPA, ESTIF, the HEA and Ocean Energy Europe. The EBA continues its successful collaboration with GIE (Gas Infrastructure Europe), Eurogas, Marcogaz (Technical Association of the European Gas industry), ENTSOG, GEODE and CEDEC to remove administrative barriers to biomethane trade.

EBA membership:

There are two types of membership at the EBA: FULL members - national or regional biogas associations and ASSOCIATED members - companies, universities, research institutes, public authorities and individuals.

In 2015, EBA welcomed 17 new members.
Full Members

ARGE Kompost & Biogas  
www.kompost-biogas.at

ValBiom - Association de valorisation de la biomasse  
www.valbiom.be

EDORA - Fédération des producteurs d’énergies renouvelables  
www.edora.be

Biogas-E - Anaerobic Digestion platform for Flanders  
www.biogas-e.be

Vlaco - Vlaamse Compostorganisatie  
http://www.vlaco.be/

CzBA - Czech Biogas Association  
www.czba.cz

Bancheforeningen for Biogas  
www.biogasbranchen.dk

MTÜ - Eesti Biogaasi Assotsiatsioon  
eba.eestibiogaas.ee

Suomen Biokaasuyhdistys  
www.biokaasuyhdistys.net

AAMF - Association des Agriculteurs Méthaniseurs de France  
www.pardessuslahaie.net

ATEE Club Biogaz  
www.atee.fr/biogaz

METHEOR - Association pour la Méthanisation Ecologique des Déchets  
www.metheor.org

Fachverband Biogas  
www.biogas.org

FNNB - Fördergesellschaft für nachhaltige Biogas- und Bioenergienutzung e.V.  
www.fnbb.de

HEL.BI.O - Hellenic Biogas Association  
www.helbio.gr

Magyar Biogáz Egyesület  
www.biogas.hu

CRE - Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Association of Ireland  
www.cre.ie

IrBEA - Irish Biomass Association  
www.irbea.ie

RGFI—Renewable Gas Forum Ireland  
http://renewablegasforum.com/
CIB – Consorzio Italiano Biogas e Gassificazione
www.consorziobiogas.it

FIPER - Federazione Italiana di Produttori di Energia da Fonti Rinnovabili
http://www.fiper.it/

Latvijas Bigazes Asociacijā
latvijasbiogaze.lv

Bioduļu Asociacijā
www.lbda.lt

VGGP - Association of Green Gas Producers
www.vggp.nl

BBO – Biogas Branche Organisatie
http://www.bbo.nu/home

PIGEO - Polish Economic Chamber of Renewable Energy
www.pigeo.org.pl

ARBIO - Romanian Association of Biomass and Biogas
www.arbio.ro

Udruženje Biogas Srbija
www.biogas.org.rs

AVEOZ - Asociácia výrobcov energie z obnoviteľných zdrojov
www.aveoz.sk

Biogas section of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Food and Agriculture
www.gzs.si/slo/panoge/zbornica_kmetijskih_in_zivilskih_podjetij

AEBIG - Spanish Biogas Association
www.aebig.org

Energigas Sverige
www.energigas.se

Biomasse Schweiz
www.biomasseschweiz.ch

ADBA - The Anaerobic Digestion and Bioresources Association
www.adbiogas.co.uk

REA Biogas Group - UK Renewable Energy Association
www.r-e-a.net
Associate Members