

Project: BiG>East
(EIE/07/214)

*Two study visits to existing
biogas installations in the EU*

Report of the study tour Austria

Deliverable D 8.3
Task 8.4



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1. Report

From 20.04.2009 to 22.04.2009 a biogas study tour took place in Austria as a part of the work package 8 (Task 8.4). The tour was arranged and organized by Ing. Gerhard Agrinz GmbH.

As the partnering and target countries (Bulgaria, Greece, Latvia, Croatia, Romania and Slovenia) showed great interest, a previous segmentation of countries was made, wherefrom the persons were invited. So for the study tour in Austria mainly persons from Bulgaria, Latvia and Romania were invited. Persons from the other three countries were invited to the study tour in Denmark.

The invitation prepared by Ing. Gerhard Agrinz GmbH was sent to the BiG>East project partners in the target countries (EKODOMA, ENPRO, IP, MANGUS), who was responsible for the distribution. As the number of registrations exceeded the limit of possible participants, the project partners made a previous selection of participants.

Unfortunately five of the selected persons cancelled their participation at short notice. Nevertheless 12 persons (without the employees of Ing. Gerhard Agrinz GmbH) took part at the study tour in Austria. Due to the overlap in time with the easter holidays in Romania only a small number of persons from Romania participated (see 3. Participant list).

Schedule of study tour in Austria (please see 2. Agenda)

The three-day programme was divided into two parts, a theoretical presentation during one afternoon and two excursion days with visits of two biogas plants every day.

1. day (Monday, 20.04.2009):

In the morning the participants had sufficient time for comfortable arrival and check-in at the hotel in the centre of Leibnitz. So all the participants attended the theoretical part of the study tour punctually at 2 pm. During five presentations the participants learned about

- the Austrian biogas market,
- general principles of biogas production and utilization,
- general design of biogas plants,
- general conditions and requirements for biogas projects as well as costs for biogas plants
- the excursion programme for the next two days.

Here the participants had the opportunity for discussions, what was actively used during the 4 hours presentation. In the evening the participants had a joint dinner at the restaurant.

2. day (Tuesday, 21.04.2009), Lower Austria:

Exactly at 9 am we left with the bus for Lower Austria, where we visited the agricultural biogas plant Margarethen am Moos at midday. The participants had the chance to see all parts of the plant. One of the operators, who guided through the plant, gave comprehensive and expert information. Not only the biogas plant was explained, also the advantages and problems of biogas plants were discussed with the operator. As special feature also the biogas upgrading facility and the first public biogas filling station of Austria were visited.

After a quick lunch break in Margarethen am Moos and a short bus transfer we visited the biogas plant Bruck an der Leitha in the afternoon. Here an employee of the operating company guided through the industrial biogas plant, which mainly uses many different kinds of bio wastes. As the special features here the biogas upgrading facility and following feed-in of bio methane to the public gas grid were visited. After returning to Styria the participants enjoyed the evening in a “Buschenschank” with typical meal, wine and singing.

3. day (Wednesday, 22.04.2009), Styria:

A little bit earlier than planned in schedule we left with the bus at 8:30 am for the biogas plant Mureck. This plant is part of an eco-energy park, which includes a biomass heating plant, a biodiesel plant and a biogas plant. First the supervisor of the biogas plant showed a short film about the eco-energy park, supplying the surrounding village of Mureck with electricity, heat and biodiesel. Then he guided through the biogas plant, which is in part operated with wastes from the biodiesel production. The employee of eco-energy park also described the problems arising from utilization of these wastes. As the excursion participants showed great interest, also the biomass heating plant and biodiesel production were visited in the following.

After a short bus trip the biogas plant St. Stefan im Rosental was visited. The operator of the plant himself was the guide and gave comprehensive information about his plant, which is operated with a high degree of co-fermentates. Also a sanitation unit with bio filter and the heat supply facility for the neighbouring businesses were visited.

After returning to the hotel in Leibnitz the participants had sufficient time for check-out and departure.

2. Agenda

Monday, 20th of April 2009, Styria (Leibnitz)

- 14:00 pm Presentation 1 – Introduction, Biogas in Austria
(*Gregor Agrinz, Mag. Heinz Praßl*)
- 14:30 pm Presentation 2 – Biogas production and utilisation
(*DI Armin Schöllauf*)
- 15:00 pm Presentation 3 – Design of biogas plants
(*DI Armin Schöllauf*)
- 15:45 pm Coffee break
- 16:00 pm Presentation 4 – Boundary conditions and costs
(*Mag. Heinz Praßl*)
- 16:30 pm Presentation 5 – Program of the study tour
(*Mag. Heinz Praßl*)
- 17:00 pm Discussion
- 18:30 pm Dinner at restaurant of Hotel Römerhof (Leibnitz)

Tuesday, 21st of April 2009, Lower Austria

- 09:00 am Departure for biogas plant Margarethen am Moos
(Meeting point Hotel Römerhof)
- 11:30 am Visit of biogas plant Margarethen am Moos**
- 13:00 pm Lunch at a restaurant in Margarethen am Moos
- 14:00 pm Departure for biogas plant Bruck an der Leitha
- 14:30 pm Visit of biogas plant Bruck an der Leitha**
- 16:00 pm Return to Hotel Römerhof
- 18:30 pm Arrival at Hotel Römerhof
- 19:00 pm Departure for dinner at a Buschenschank

Wednesday, 22nd of April 2009, Styria

- 09:00 am Departure for biogas plant Mureck
(Meeting point Hotel Römerhof)
- 09:30 am Visit of biogas plant Mureck**
- 11:00 am Departure for biogas plant St. Stefan im Rosental
- 11:30 am Visit of biogas plant St. Stefan im Rosental**
- 13:30 pm Return to Hotel Römerhof, lunch, check-out at hotel, parting of participants, transfer to airport Graz or railway station Graz

3. Participant list

BiG>East Study Tour in Austria, 20-22 April 2009

COUNTRIES: BG, LV, RO, DE, AT

No	Name	Organization	travel per			from
			train	plain	car	
1	Vesteman Ion	Sc Izocon MC SRL			x	RO
2	Dace Pastare	Farm "Pērles"	x			LV
3	Haralds Balodis	SIA "Zaļās enerģijas aģentūra", Ltd.			x	LV
4	Eduards Bušs	SIA "Zaļās enerģijas aģentūra", Ltd.			x	LV
5	Jānis Višņevskis	Farm "Zemturi"	x			LV
6	Tosho Palyov	EAE Engineering	x			BG
7	Petar Staykov	Self employed, MYPS farmer	x			BG
8	Yanko Matev	Bio Bulgaria Oil, farmer	x			BG
9	Michael Matev	Self employed farmer	x			BG
10	Lubomir Arnaudov	ARCO Systems GmbH	x			BG
11	Iva Cheriyska	ENERGOPROEKT Jsc.	x			BG
12	Dominik Rutz	WIP Renewable Energies			x	DE
13	Armin Schöllauf	Ing. Gerhard Agrinz GmbH			x	AT
14	Gregor Agrinz	Ing. Gerhard Agrinz GmbH			x	AT
15	Gerhard Agrinz	Ing. Gerhard Agrinz GmbH			x	AT
16	Heinz Praßl	Ing. Gerhard Agrinz GmbH			x	AT



Participants of the biogas study tour Austria 2009 on biogas plant Margarethen am Moos

4. Photos

Presentations at the first day of the biogas study tour Austria 2009



Dinner at the first day of the biogas study tour Austria 2009



Participants and the bus, second day of the biogas study tour Austria 2009



Visit of biogas plant Margarethen am Moos, second day of the biogas study tour Austria 2009





Visit of biogas plant Bruck an der Leitha, second day of the biogas study tour Austria 2009



Visit of biogas plant Mureck, third day of the biogas study tour Austria 2009



Visit of biogas plant St. Stefan im Rosental, third day of the biogas study tour Austria 2009

