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WP 3.3: Policy Roadmap for large-scale biogas implementation in Croatia

Deliverable 3.3



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Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide insight to potential improvements on biogas policies in Croatia. Namely, a substantial effort has been made by different ministries to deliver different strategies covering energy, agriculture, environment and waste sectors. In each of these strategies and policies, biogas is mentioned either as one of renewables or as a tool for reaching the aims of the strategy which makes production and utilisation of biogas overlapped and interconnected with numerous strategic documents but without direct focus on biogas and actions how to really support development of biogas sector.

Unfortunately, time and means of the Project were limited for such an important topic and thus, the Report briefly relates stakeholders with possible actions which will improve development of biogas market together with maximisation of its benefits to different goals of Croatian national policy.

The Roadmap contains a brief range of practical recommendations in the area of national and regional policies in order to overcome existing barriers for biogas implementation in large- and small-scale according to different biogas feedstock.

1. Policy roadmap

Production and utilization of biogas from agricultural biomass (harvest residues, manure) and all varieties of organic waste bring simultaneously benefits in terms of renewable energy sources, reduction of methane, a GHG, to the atmosphere, reduction of organic fraction of municipal waste and extending the lifetime of landfills and prevents pollution of soil and waters.

Since biogas benefits exceed the limits of one sector, most often it occurs that biogas is mentioned in numerous legal documents indirectly which actually hinders production and utilization biogas in practice.

In Croatian legislation, biogas is explicitly mentioned in more than 20 legal documents that are under the authorities of different ministries:

Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship and energy related institutions (i.e. HERA, HROTE...):

- Law on energy (OG 68/01, 177/04, 76/07 and 152/08)
- Law on gas market (OG 40/07)
- Law on electricity market (OG 177/04, 76/07 and 152/08)
- Law on production, distribution and supply of heat energy (OG 42/05)
- Ordinance on biofuels quality (OG 141/05)
- Ordinance on RES and cogeneration utilisation (OG 67/07)
- Ordinance on acquiring the status of eligible electricity producer (OG 67/07)
- Ordinance on data that energy subject are obliged to submit to the Ministry (OG 87/07)
- Ordinance on conditions for starting operation phase for new boilers on liquid and gaseous fuels (OG 135/05)
- Tariff system for production of RES – E and cogeneration (OG 33/07)
- Decision on the fee for areas that are used by object for electricity generation (OG 25/95)

Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction and related institutions:

- Waste management strategy (OG 130/05)
- Plan of waste management for Republic of Croatia for the period of 2007 – 2015 (OG 85/07)
- Ordinance on register for environmental pollution (OG 35/08)
- Plan for protection and improvement of air quality for Republic of Croatia for the period 2008 – 2011 (OG 61/08)
- Decision on establishing the rules on governmental support in respect to the environmental protection (OG 154/08)

- Ordinance on environmental impact assessment study (OG 136/04, 85/06, 64/08)

Ministry of Agriculture, Fishery and Rural Development and related institutions:

- Regulation on good agricultural practice in respect of manure utilisation (OG 56/08)
- Regulation on procedures on handling the animal by-products that are not intended for the human consumption (OG 56/08)
- Regulation on implementation of 3.1 measure within the IPARD programme (OG 156/08)

Ministry of Health and Social Care and related institutions:

- Regulation on health properties and safety of detergents (OG 77/07)

Central Bureau of Statistics – Republic of Croatia and related institutions:

- Methodology for Agriculture Census 2003 (OG 31/03)
- Nomenclature of industrial products and services – NIPU 97 annual report of industry (IND-21) (OG 82/97)

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction and related institutions:

- Regulation on amendments on Regulation on stations for supplying transport vehicles with fuels (OG 141/08)

2. Proposed measures

This document proposes forming of a Biogas committee that will be consisted from at least one dedicated person from responsible ministries and relevant institutions in order to evaluate different roles, contribution and expected effects from biogas as well as implementation measures in the respect of:

- 1) biogas contribution to fulfilling OIE targets (RES-E, RES-H, biofuels)
- 2) biogas contribution to fulfilling Kyoto and CLRTAP targets
- 3) biogas contribution as measure to meet Nitrate directive aims.
- 4) biogas contribution as waste management technology for organic fraction of municipal and industry waste, II category and III category of waste.

According to the accessed contribution of biogas to the above mentioned topics, it is proposed that the Committee acts in the following directions:

- 1) harmonization of contradicting or limiting legal issues on biogas
- 2) (re)positioning of biogas within the Decision on establishing the rules on governmental support in respect to the environmental protection (OG 154/08)

- 3) removing barriers for developing biogas market through its most effective contribution
 - a. what are the spatial conditions that a biogas plant has to meet (conditions for obtaining location permit)
 - b. simplification and adjustment of existing procedures for obtaining necessary permits for a biogas production and utilisation
- 4) educating and informing related existing infrastructures (capacity building).