Biogas in Germany – Actual Situation and Prospects

Structure

- German Biogas Association
- Actual Situation of the Biogas Sector
- What do we need in future?



Structure of the German Biogas Association



kommittee

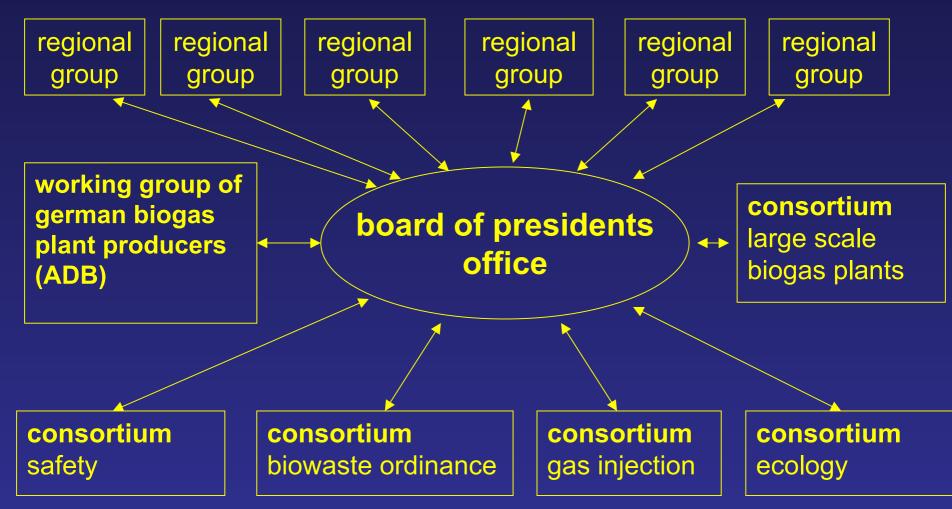
speakers of regional groups, representatives of organisations and associations

> 950 members organized in 17 regional groups

general meeting once a year



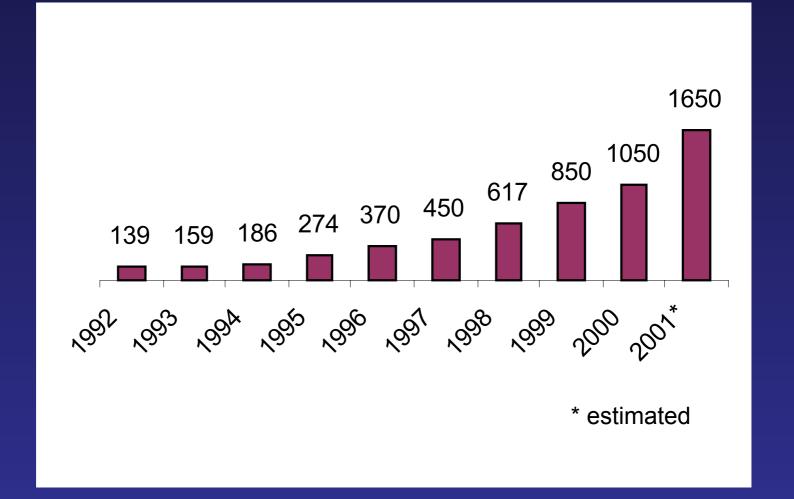
Working Structure



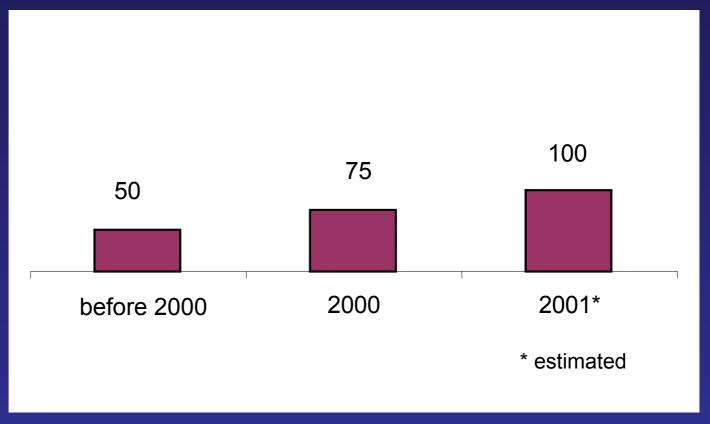
German Biogas Association



Biogas Plants in Germany



Average installed electric power (kW) of new plants





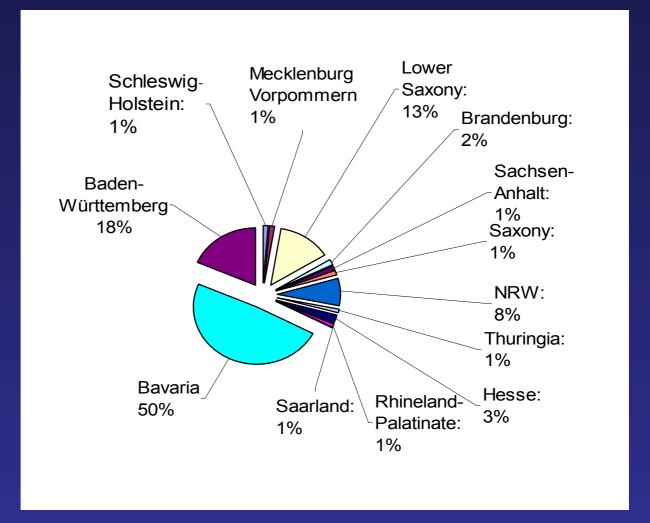
Installed electric power (MW)



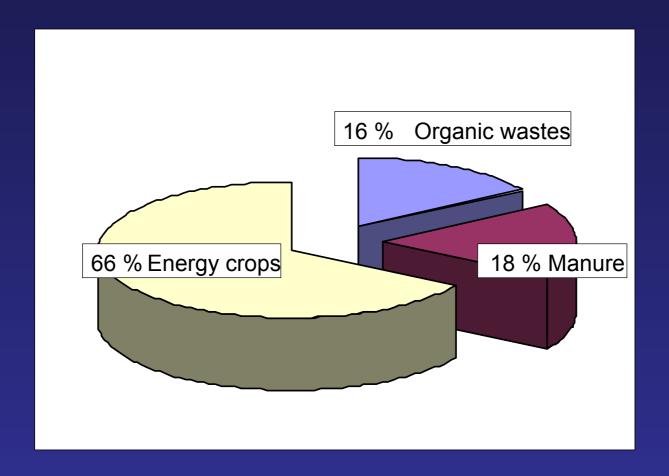




Distribution of the Biogas Plants in the German States



Utilisable production potential





The Renewable-Energy-Act

Target:

"The purpose of this Act is to facilitate a <u>sustainable</u> <u>development of energy supply</u> in the interest of managing global warming and protecting the environment and to achieve a substantial increase in the percentage contribution made by renewable energy sources to power supply in order at least to <u>double the share of renewable energy sources in total energy consumption by the year 2010, in keeping with the objectives defined by the European Union and by the Federal Republic of Germany."</u>



Compensation according to the Renewable Energy law (EEG)

Electricity from		Compensation in € cent/kWh Year taken into operation			
		2000	2001	2002	2003
Solar energy		50.6	50.6	48.1	45.7
biomass (solid, liquid, gaseous)	installed power • ≤ 500 kW • 501 kW – 5 MW • 5 MW – 20 MW	10.2 9.2 8.5	10.2 9.2 8.5	10.1 9.1 8,4	10.0 9.0 8.4
wind power	runtime (years) • 1 – 5 (also longer depending on the location) • 6 – 20	9.1 6.2	9.1 6.2	8.9 6.1	8.8 6.0
water power, landfill gas, gas from wast water treatment	installed power • ≤ 500 kW • > 500 kW	7.7 6.6	7.7 6.6	7.7 6.6	7.7 6.6
geothermal energy	installed power • ≤ 20 MW • > 20 MW	8.9 7.2	8.9 7.2	8.9 7.2	8.9 7.2

The Year of commissioning determines the compensation over the entire runtime. The runtime is 20 years. Water power unlimited.



Idea of Renewable Energy Act

- Fixed compensation
- All consumers share the costs of renewable energies



Obstacles of Renewable Energy Act

- Problems with national energy supply companies
- Charges for the technical instalment
- Definition of the connection point
- Definition of biomass
 - → Biomass Ordinance, double fuel engines
- Compensation too low



Legislative Obstacles: Biowaste Ordinance

Regulating:

- kind of bio waste which can be used
- treatments of bio waste before used
- examinations of end products
- verification of heavy metals in the soil
- direct and indirect process investigations of AD system



Legislative Obstacles: Fertilizer Ordinance

- regulates the use of all fertilizers
- Problem: end product of anaerobic digesters can be used legally only on fields belonging to the biogas site

Renewable Gas Act

- Should regulate the injection and compensation of Biogas into the gas grid
- Under discussion



Summary

- The Renewable Energy Act (EEG) gave a strong impulse to the development of AD in Germany
- Problems with legislative regulations because we are still a "new buisiness"
- Energy providing companies try to slow down the positive development within the biogas sector
- Powerful representations of interests is needed on national and international level

