



13º Fórum do **BIOGÁS**

O ponto de encontro
internacional de investidores
em **BIOGÁS** e **BIOMETANO**

FROM WASTE TO WHEELS

*Turning organic waste into
renewable fuel for transport*

Gláucia Mendes Souza
University of São Paulo (USP)

From Waste to Wheels

Turning organic waste into renewable fuel for transport

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IAC



Implementation of anaerobic digestion facilities in the food and beverage industry

IEA Bioenergy: Task 37
January 2025



Technology Collaboration Programme
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Identification and assessment of sustainability effects associated with biogas solutions

-Literature review and perspectives from five countries

IEA Bioenergy: Task 37
March 2025



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Potential for Manure-based Anaerobic Digestion - Motivations, Barriers and Approaches in Six Countries

IEA Bioenergy: Task 37
March 2025



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Reduction of methane emissions from biogas systems and landfills

Methane oxidation treatment for systems with low gas fluxes and low methane concentrations

IEA Bioenergy: Task 37
02 2025



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Outlook for Biogas and Biomethane

A global geospatial assessment

International Energy Agency



Executive Summary - Potential for Manure-based Anaerobic Digestion - Motivations, Barriers and Approaches in Six Countries

Summary Series
IEA Bioenergy: Task 37: 03 2025

Authors: Angela Bywater, Kari-Anne Lyng, Lina Platani, Maria Wellisch, Hingyang Liu, Rongjie Dong, Seija Rasi, Sari Luotanen

Edited by: Renjie Dong, Maria Wellisch

From a feedstock supply perspective, there is great potential to convert more manure to renewable energy via anaerobic digestion (AD) technology platforms. Abundant in all parts of the world, manure is easily converted into biogas, stable organic matter and nutrients via AD while delivering, in addition to a renewable energy carrier, important services such as the reduction of greenhouse gases, protection of air and water quality, creation of jobs and more efficient use of natural resources. However, currently only a small percentage of manure is converted into biogas. This report builds on the IEA Bioenergy Task 37 report "Potential and utilization of manure to generate biogas in seven countries" (Lieberau et al., 2021), and reviews the motivations for the adoption of manure-based AD, the policy context, the main barriers and the approaches taken in six Task 37 member countries: Canada, China, Finland, France, Norway and the United Kingdom.

In spite of being located on three different continents and ranging significantly in size, these six countries share many of the same motivations for the utilization of manure for energy and nutrient recovery. Renewable energy production to replace fossil fuels, direct and indirect greenhouse gas reduction, sustainable animal production, prevention of water and air pollution, soil carbon and nutrient management, circularity and less dependence on synthetic fertilizers, farm income diversification and energy self-sufficiency rate as the principal reasons, although the order of priority varies between countries. In Finland, for example, the production of biomethane for use in heavy transport is a key driver for centralized manure-based AD as it helps the country to meet its goal of carbon neutrality by 2035. Differently in China, here manure-based AD provides important environmental solutions for the expansion of animal production in certain regions. The contribution that the AD technology platform can make towards the delivery of these valuable services and sustainable development goals depends on the degree of uptake in the country.

UTILIZATION OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY MANURE FOR ENERGY PRODUCTION

To develop manure-based AD, manure must be easy to collect to amass significant concentrations in a given area, and this typically occurs on dairy, swine, poultry, sheep and horse farms, and in beef feedlots. Today, most manure is stored and directly applied to agricultural land at appropriate times of the year to support crop production, and reduce synthetic fertilizer use. Composting, drying and solid liquid separation of manure are practiced to a small extent, with China reporting the highest composting rates. Large livestock farms housing greater herds, dairy cattle and finishing beef compost approximately 20% of the manure, while large poultry farms compost between 60 and 70%.

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The role of biogas and biomethane in pathway to net zero

Position paper
IEA Bioenergy: Task 37: 12 2022



The role of biogas and biomethane in pathway to net zero

Biogas is produced as the main product of anaerobic digestion (AD) of wet biomass. Biogas can be used locally for heat purposes or for power and heat production (CHP); as an alternative, biogas can be upgraded to bio-methane to replace natural gas. As such, it is one of the means to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels and contribute to the transition towards a net zero energy system.

This position paper - developed by members of IEA Bioenergy Task 37 ("Energy from Biogas") - provides a holistic perspective on the roles of biogas and biomethane. The main conclusion is that biogas and biomethane have a range of options which can be employed in pathways to net zero. They provide sustainable flexible systems that play essential roles in circular economy, energy, and environmental systems.

PERSPECTIVES OF BIOGAS AND BIOMETHANE

Pathway to Net Zero

The pathway to net zero requires far more than provision of renewable electricity. We must employ renewable hydrocarbons in the form of liquid and gaseous fuels with minimum carbon intensity. Indeed, we must go beyond energy and employ renewable green hydrogen in the production of chemicals such as ammonia (NH₃) and methanol (CH₃OH), and for steel. When we produce biomethane (CH₄) or green hydrogen (H₂), we are in both cases producing renewable hydrogen molecules within a renewable gas. We need these renewable gases and renewable hydrocarbons for dispatchable electricity, for long term energy storage, and for sectors where electricity has limited applications. These applications (termed the hard to abate sectors) include: heavy-duty, long-distance transport (trucks, ships and planes); high temperature industrial heat (food and beverage sector, steel production, glass production); agriculture (renewable fertiliser such as green ammonia and biofertiliser); and chemical production (such as methanol).

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Position paper
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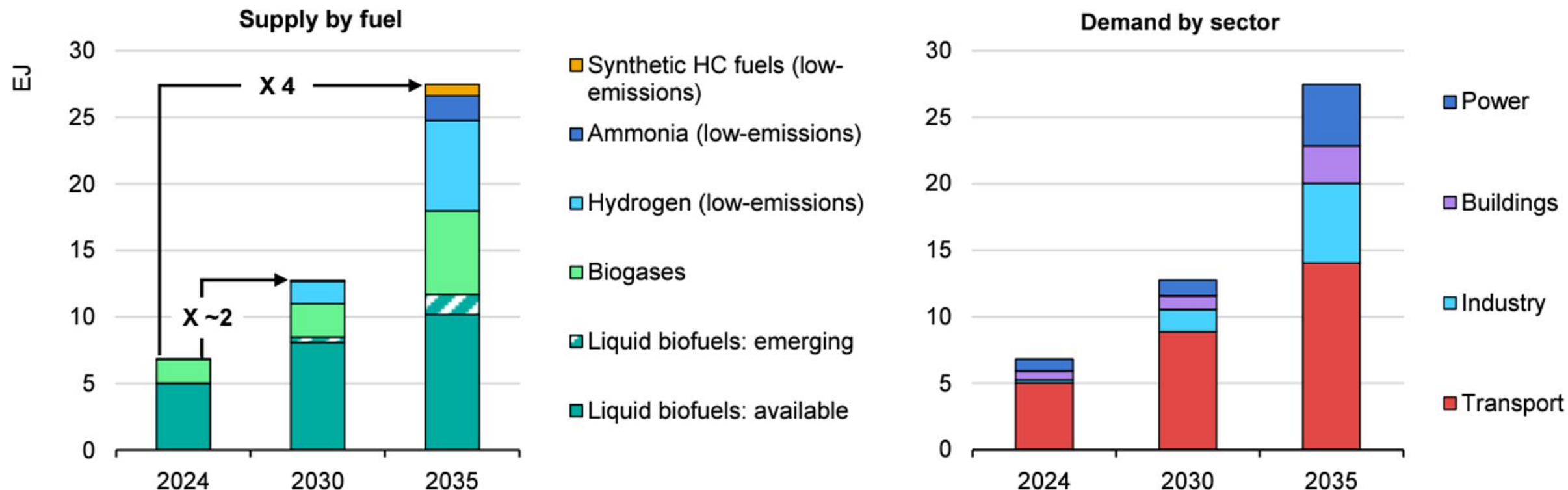
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IEA Sustainable Fuels, 2025

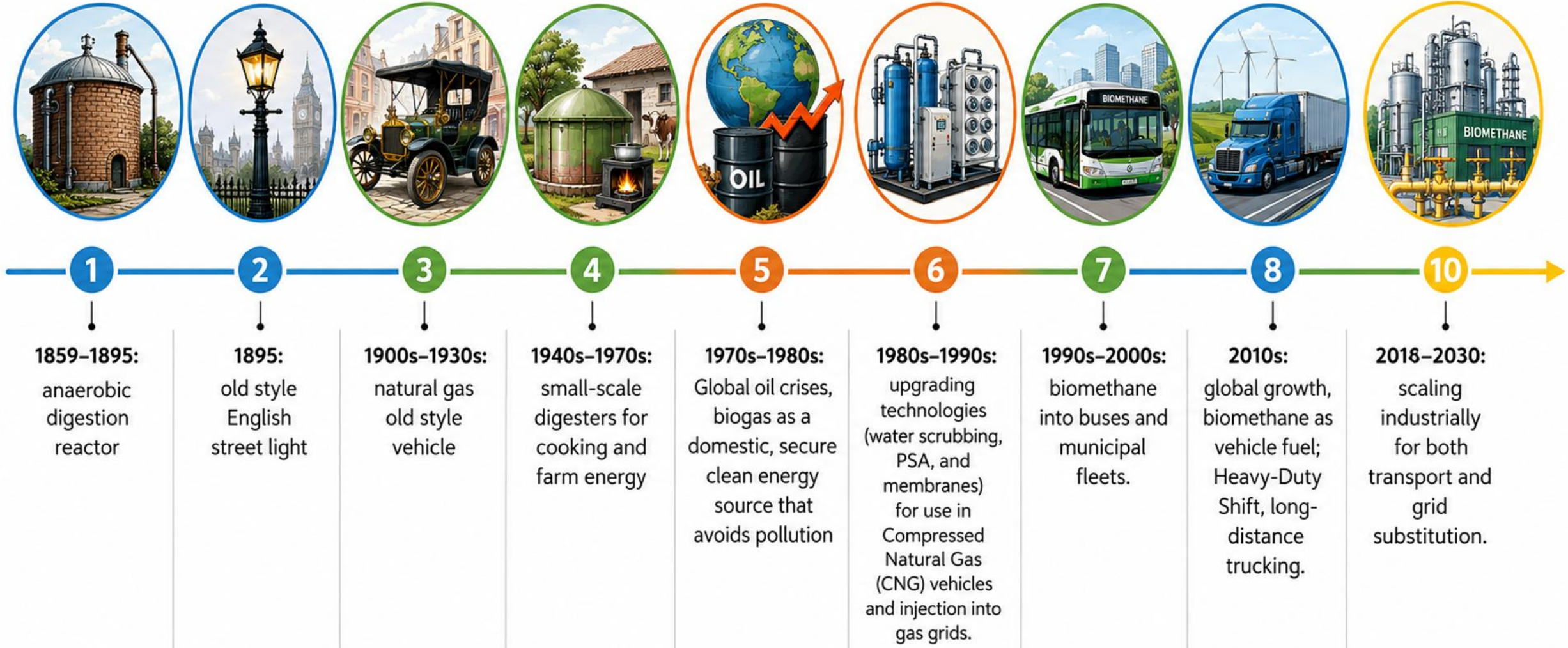
If fully legislated and implemented, current and proposed national and international policies would put sustainable fuel use on a path to nearly double from the 2024 level by 2030, and quadruple by 2035

Figure 5.7 Sustainable fuel supply by fuel and demand by sector in the accelerated case, 2024-2035



Timeline of Biomethane Production & Sustainable Transport

From 1859 to 2030: The journey of biogas from street lamps to global decarbonization





MATURE BIOMETHANE ECONOMIES

STATE OF PRODUCTION, MOTIVATIONS, FEEDSTOCKS AND PRACTICES



Production
& Use



Motivations &
Practices



Main
Feedstocks



Transport
Use



BRAZIL



Expanding biomethane sector linked to transport, grid injection and industrial decarbonization. More than 755 biogas plants reported and growing production.



Integration with sugar-energy sector; use in trucks, industry and agricultural machinery; linkage with RenovaBio and Future Fuel Law.



Sugarcane vinasse, filter cake, livestock manure, MSW, sewage sludge, agro-industrial residues.



Used in trucks, industry and agricultural machinery.



CANADA



Strong landfill gas and wastewater biogas sector with growing RNG market.



Methane mitigation strategy linked to landfill gas capture and agricultural anaerobic digestion (AD).



Landfill gas, wastewater sludge, source-separated organics, dairy manure.



Growing use in heavy-duty transport.



CHINA



One of the world's largest biogas systems with ~40 million household digesters and >100,000 non-household plants. Biomethane sector still emerging.



Rural energy access, manure management, pollution control and renewable gas development.



Livestock manure, crop residues, rural organic waste, industrial residues.



Growing use in heavy-duty transport and rural energy.



DENMARK



Highly integrated centralized biogas system with extensive grid injection.



Circular-economy model connecting farms, biomethane, biofertilizer and CO₂ recovery.



Manure, agricultural residues, straw, catch crops.



Widespread use in heavy-duty transport and industry.



FINLAND



Moderate biogas scale with strong transport orientation for biomethane.



Heavy-duty transport decarbonization, nutrient cycling and regional energy security.



Bio-waste, WWTP sludge, landfill gas, manure.



Used in heavy-duty trucks (liquid biomethane) and buses.



FRANCE



Rapidly growing agricultural biomethane sector with major grid injection expansion.



Farm diversification, intermediate crops, nutrient recycling and climate policy.



Manure, intermediate crops, agricultural residues, bio-waste.



Expanding use in heavy-duty transport and buses.



GERMANY



Europe's largest biogas producer with >10,000 plants and ~87 TWh/year biogas production.



Long-standing feed-in tariff system and agricultural biogas model.



Energy crops, manure, agricultural residues, wastewater sludge.



Extensive use in transport, industry and heating.



IRELAND



Emerging biomethane market focused on agricultural feedstocks.



Rural development, farm income diversification and transport decarbonization.



Grass silage, slurry, manure, food-processing residues.



Growing use in transport and industry.



NORWAY



Significant transport biomethane use, especially from waste streams.



Decarbonization of transport and management of fish-processing and food waste.



Food waste, fish-processing sludge, sewage sludge, manure.



Used in heavy-duty transport and buses.



SWEDEN



One of the strongest transport biomethane systems globally; major use in buses and vehicles.



Urban air-quality improvement, transport decarbonization and waste valorization.



Bio-waste, sewage sludge, industrial residues, agricultural substrates.



Widespread use in buses, trucks and passenger vehicles.



SWITZERLAND



Extensive wastewater biogas adoption and strong digestate quality systems.



Wastewater treatment, sanitation and nutrient recovery.



Wastewater sludge, agricultural residues, bio-waste.



Used in transport and combined heat & power.



UNITED KINGDOM



Mature AD market with agricultural and food-waste focus.



Methane reduction, renewable energy and rural economic development.



Food waste, manure, agricultural residues, sewage sludge.



Used in heavy-duty transport and industry.

REFERENCES

Gustafsson, M., Meneghetti, R., Souza Marques, F., Trim, H., Dong, R., Al Seadi, T., Rasi, S., Thual, J., Kornatz, P., Wall, D., Berntsen, I.C., Saxegaard, S., Lyng, K.-A., Nägele, H.-J., Heaven, S., Bywater, A. (2024). A perspective on the state of the biogas industry in 12 member countries of IEA Bioenergy Task 37. IEA Bioenergy Task 37.



EMERGING BIOMETHANE ECONOMIES

STATE OF PRODUCTION, MOTIVATIONS, FEEDSTOCKS AND PRACTICES



Production
& Use



Motivations &
Practices



Main
Feedstocks



Transport
Use



INDIA



One of the world's major biogas producers after EU, China and US.



Rural energy access, residential gas use and growing transport gas market.



Agricultural residues, manure, municipal organic waste.



Used in rural households and increasing role in transport gas market.



ARGENTINA



Early-stage biomethane sector with strong agricultural potential.



Agro-industrial waste utilization and decentralized rural energy systems.



Livestock waste, agro-industrial residues, urban organic waste.



Emerging use in local transport and rural applications.



BOLIVIA



Biomethane development constrained by low waste-management infrastructure.



Opportunity associated with municipal organic waste and agricultural residues.



Organic solid waste, agricultural residues, livestock residues.



Potential future use in urban transport and industry.



CHILE



Existing biogas experience provides a platform for biomethane expansion.



Renewable-energy diversification and waste valorization.



Wastewater sludge, municipal organic waste.



Potential for transport and industrial use.



COLOMBIA



One of the countries with regulation allowing biomethane injection into natural gas networks.



Integration of renewable gas into existing gas infrastructure.



Agricultural residues, wastewater sludge, municipal waste.



Used in transport and distributed natural gas networks.



ECUADOR



Renewable-energy tariff framework exists but with limited effect on current biomethane growth.



Waste treatment and renewable diversification potential.



Agricultural residues, municipal organic waste.



Early-stage use in transport and local energy markets.



PARAGUAY



Very low recycling and reuse rates currently limit biomethane deployment.



Opportunity to connect waste management and energy production.



Agricultural residues, municipal organic waste.



Potential for transport and rural energy use.



PERU



Large opportunity from urban organic waste and agriculture, but low implementation so far.



Waste-management modernization and renewable-energy diversification.



Municipal organic waste, agricultural residues.



Potential future use in transport and industry.



URUGUAY



Limited deployment despite agricultural potential; only a few facilities produce electricity from biogas.



Industrial methane recovery and waste-management opportunity.



Industrial methane streams, livestock residues.



Future potential for transport and industrial uses.



VENEZUELA



Large fossil natural gas availability reduces biomethane competitiveness.



Waste regulation and methane management identified as important gaps.



Municipal waste, wastewater, industrial methane streams.



Potential future integration in transport and industry.

REFERENCE

Gustafsson, M., Meneghetti, R., Souza Marques, F., Trim, H., Dong, R., Al Seadi, T., Rasi, S., Thual, J., Kornatz, P., Wall, D., Berntsen, I.C., Saxegaard, S., Lyng, K.-A., Nägele, H.-J., Heaven, S., Bywater, A. (2024). A perspective on the state of the biogas industry in 12 member countries of IEA Bioenergy Task 37. IEA Bioenergy Task 37.

The Global Land Transport Transition: Scale, Lock-In and Urgency

NEED FOR COORDINATED ACTION

4.7 EJ

GLOBAL ROLE

Biofuels use in transportation is global
Blending mandates can reduce emissions immediately in existing fleets.

**41.7% vs
1.5%**

FLEET TURNOVER

Electrified sales vs electricity share in transport energy
Vehicle sales are changing faster than the energy matrix.

**+36.9 EJ
vs 3.7 EJ**

REGIONAL ASYMMETRY

Transport growth outside OECD (2000–2023)
Most transport demand growth is occurring in emerging economies.

**94.7%
fossil**

FOSSIL LOCK IN

Transport energy still fossil-based
Oil products alone provide 90.1% of transport energy.

**122.9 EJ
8.44
GtCO₂eq**

SCALE

Global transport energy demand (2023)
Transport accounts for 28.6% of world final energy consumption.



Biofuels technologies have reached maturity with international market integration, stability and predictable growth

Defossilization of transportation will occur through:

Immediate reductions from mature biofuels already produced at scale

Near-term expansion through emerging technologies approaching commercialization

Long-term breakthroughs from advanced pathways currently under development

Technology development	Technology fundamentals		Laboratory or technical center		Pilot plant	Demonstration plant		First-of-its-kind	Commercial plant		
Technology stages (simplified)	Knowledge development based on the latest literature		Experiments for knowledge generation and identification of uncertainties; idealised experimental conditions		Testing different technologies for sub-processes; uncovering uncertainties in sub-technologies; experience in process understanding	Implementation as an integrated overall process; production for testing (also in continuous operation)		Full demonstration of functionality under commercial conditions	Commercially available technology		
									IEA extension		
									International integration	Predictable growth	
Innovation chain	Basic research		Applied research		Technical development and demonstration				Market entry		Market establishment
Extended Technology Readiness Level (TRL) ^a	1 Basic principles observed and reported	2 Technology concept formulated	3 Experimental proof of concept	4 Technology validation in laboratory scale	5 Technology validation in relevant environment	6 Demonstration of prototype under relevant operating conditions	7 Demonstration of prototype in operational environment	8 Qualification of the overall system under real conditions	9 Commercial operation in relevant environment	10 Market integration	11 Market stability



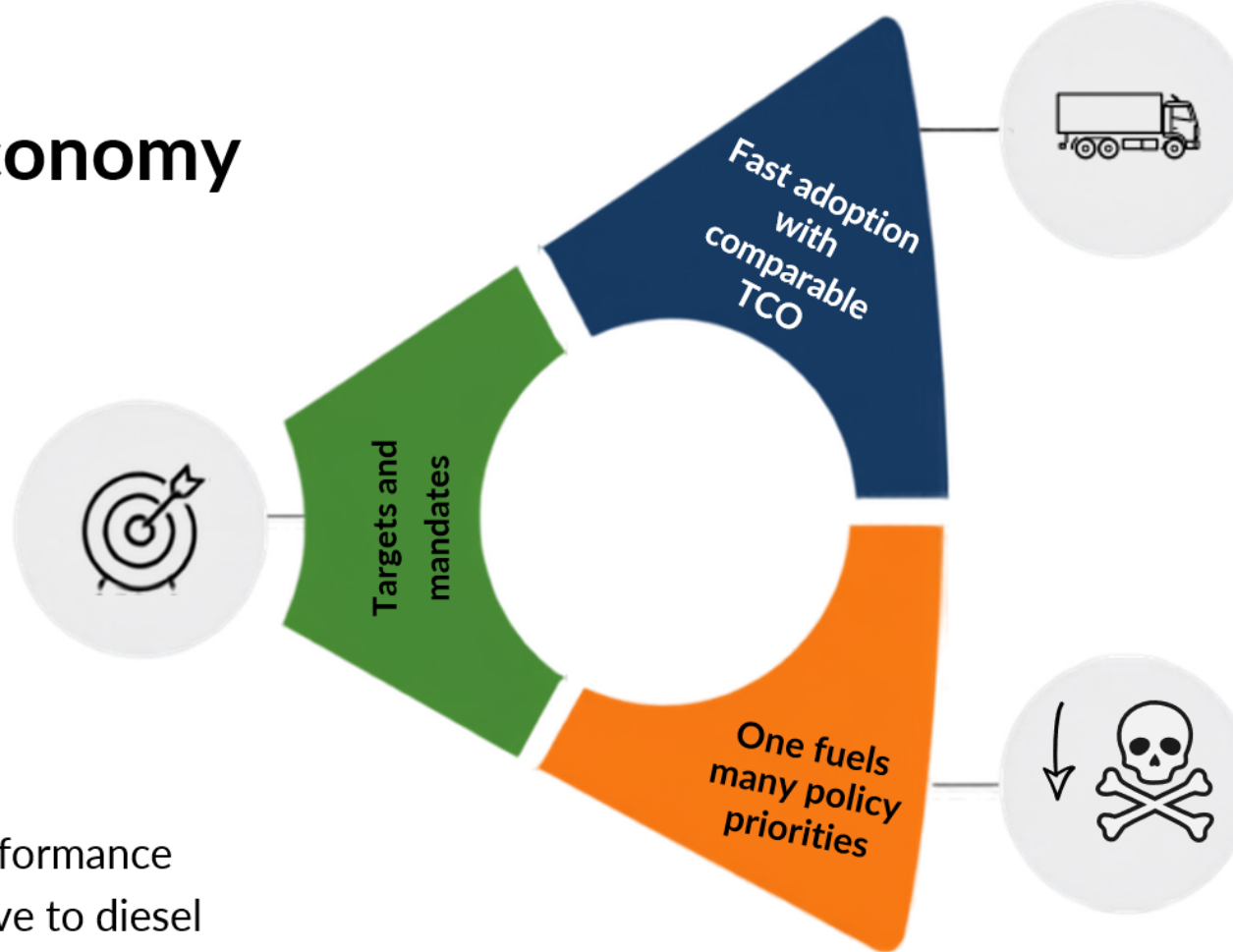
© DBFZ 03/2026
^a The commonly known TRL level from 1-9 is extended to 10-11 to show which fuel options are established on an international market; details cf. https://www.dbfz.de/fileadmin/Projektseiten/Monitoring_EE/Renewable_Energies_in_Transport_Monitoring_Report_DBFZ.pdf#page=57, Fig. 4-1 as well as <https://iea.imgix.net/29484d47-f66d-4b96-ac4b-979623c44c29/box3.2-01.png?auto=compress%2Cformat&fit=min&q=80&rect=0%2C0%2C3188%2C2101&w=1400&fit=crop&fm=jpg&q=70&auto=format&h=923>; ^b here for most relevant fuel options (ATJ - alcohol-to-jet, CNG/LNG - compressed/liquefied natural gas, ETBE - Ethyl tertiary-butyl ether, FAME - Fatty acid methyl ester, FT - Fischer-Tropsch, HEFA - Hydrotreated esters and fatty acids, HTL - Hydrothermal liquefaction, HVO - hydrotreated vegetable oils, MTBE - Methyl tertiary-butyl ether, MTG - methanol-to-gasoline, MTJ - methanol-to-jet, SPK - Synthetic paraffinic kerosene)

Why biomethane matters

Circular Economy

GHG emissions reduction in transport

Energy security
Energy sovereignty
Better life cycle performance
50-75% GHG relative to diesel



Technology compatibility

Compressed and liquified biomethane trucks already available in the market

Compatibility with current fuel distribution systems

Environmental and economic benefits

Methane mitigation
Improvements in air quality/noise
Water quality
Waste management

The biomethane economy addresses several policy priorities



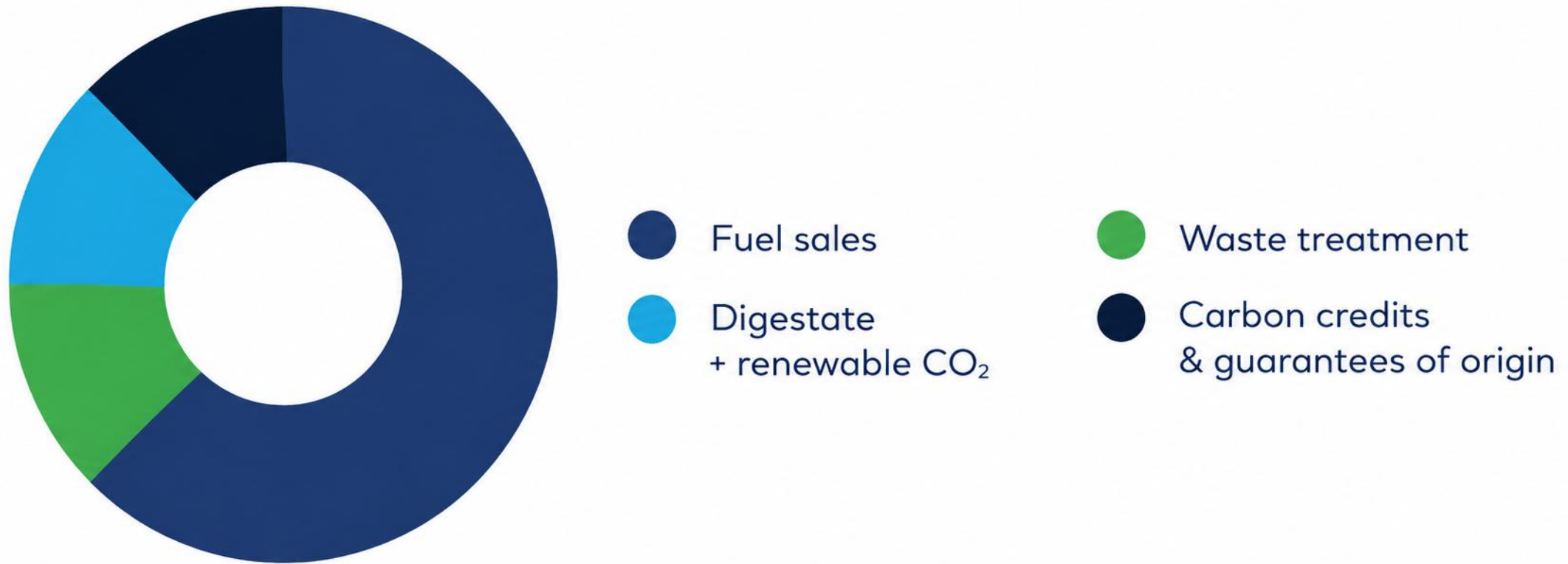
- **Transport Decarbonization**
- **Methane Mitigation**
- **Waste Management**
- **Energy Security**
- **Rural Development**

Recommended Policy Package for Heavy-Duty Biomethane

Experience from leading markets shows that successful biomethane deployment typically combines climate policy, waste-management regulation, infrastructure support and market incentives.

Policy Element	Recommended Instrument	Authority Reference
 Carbon Pricing	CI-based credit trading (LCFS-style) + methane avoidance credits for manure/waste feedstocks	IEA (2025); CARB LCFS; EU RED III
 Fuel Pricing	Tax parity/exemption for biomethane vs. diesel; technology-neutral production tax credits	Sweden Law 1994:1776; IRA 48E/45X; AFTC
 Infrastructure	Cost-shared grid injection (50% public funding); mandated grid operator connection obligations; freight hub refueling corridors	California interconnector program; India pipeline scheme; U.S. MHDV Corridor Strategy
 Waste Integration	Mandatory organic waste separation (2024+); manure management regulations limiting raw application; digestate valorization support	EU Waste Framework Directive; EU Nitrates Directive; GOBAR-Dhan
 Credits/Incentives	Feed-in tariffs differentiated by feedstock and end-use; blending mandates with double-counting for advanced/waste-derived; vehicle purchase vouchers	Italy Biomethane Decree; EU RED III; HVIP; Quebec RNG Mandate

AVERAGE REVENUE MIX • NON-FUEL REVENUES CAN REPRESENT APPROXIMATELY 20–60% OF TOTAL PROJECT REVENUE IN MATURE MARKETS.



Illustrative Monetisation of Biomethane System Benefits

Value Stream		Typical Value (USD/GJ)	Comments
	Renewable fuel	8–18	Depends on gas and diesel prices
	Waste treatment services	1–6	Landfill diversion and manure management
	Digestate / Biofertilizer	0.5–4	Dependent on fertiliser markets
	Carbon credits	1–8	Strongly dependent on carbon price
	Renewable CO ₂	0.5–5	Emerging market
	Guarantees of Origin	0.5–3	Common in Europe
	Energy-security value*	Difficult to monetise	Strategic value

* Energy-security benefits are generally captured through reduced imports and improved resilience rather than direct project revenues.

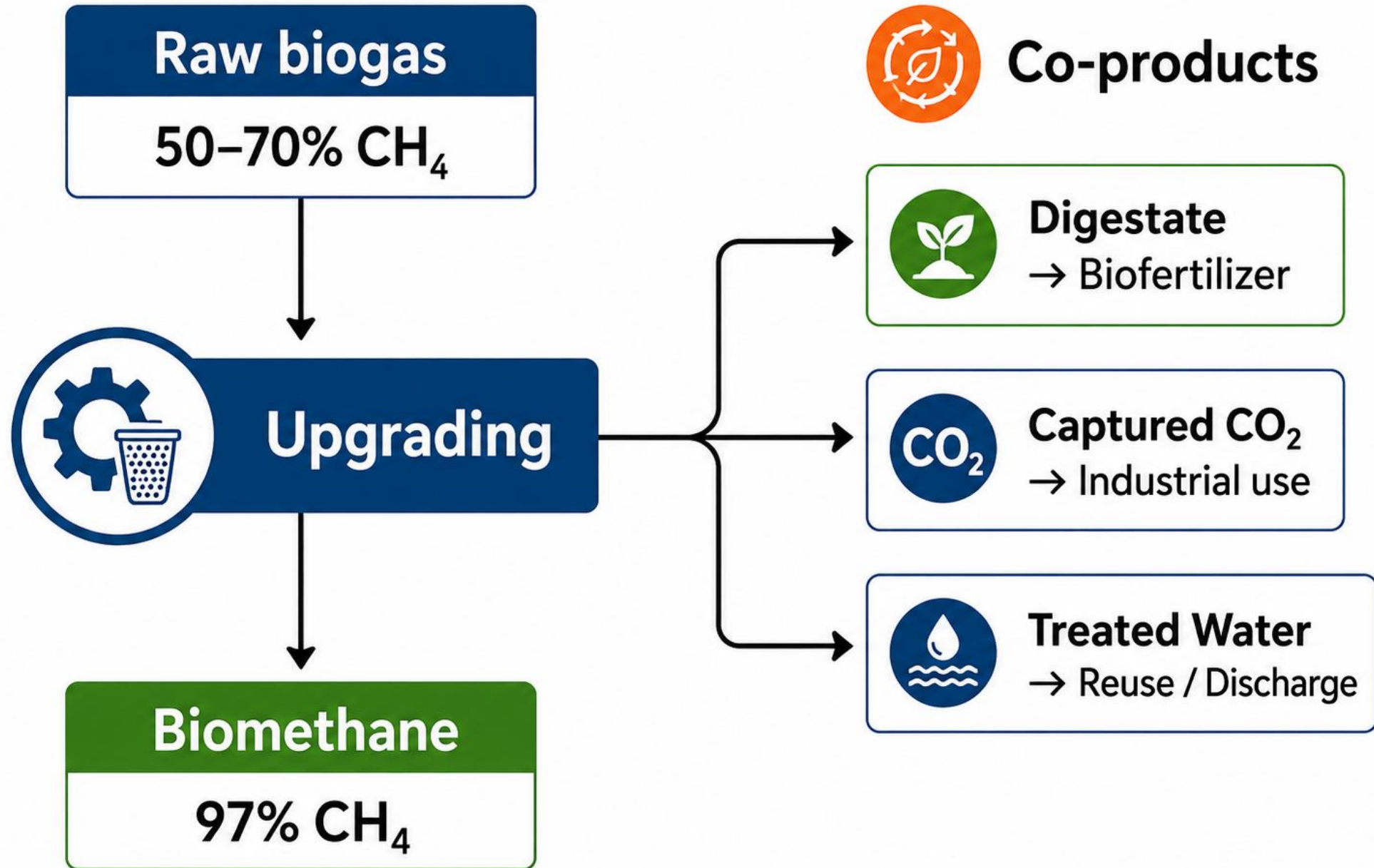
Sources: Adapted from (17,218,220) FAO (2026).



€2.5 Billion

Total Adaptation Investment Needed

- **€1.7 Billion:** Connection costs (linking distributed plants to low & high pressure grids)
- **€0.6 Billion:** Reverse compression costs (moving local biomethane up to transmission levels during low local demand)
- **€0.2 Billion:** Grid reinforcement costs



OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC BENEFITS



ENERGY SECURITY

Strengthens energy independence



IMPROVEMENTS IN AIR QUALITY

Cleaner air for healthier cities



WATER QUALITY

Protects water resources and ecosystems



WASTE MANAGEMENT

Turns organic waste into valuable resources



CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Closes loops and creates value from resources

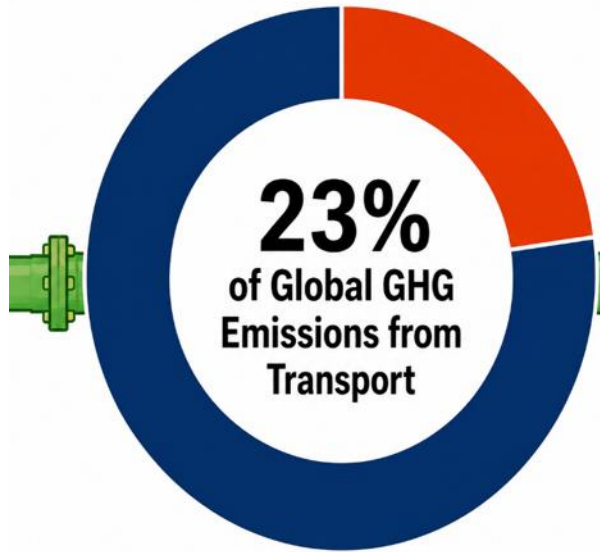


METHANE MITIGATION

Captures methane emissions and turns them into clean energy



Engine Architecture: Four Pathways to Deployment



Heavy freight consumes **25%** of **transport energy** but produces **~50%** of highway NO_x and soot (PM).

The Old Paradigm:
Diesel / Compression
Ignition

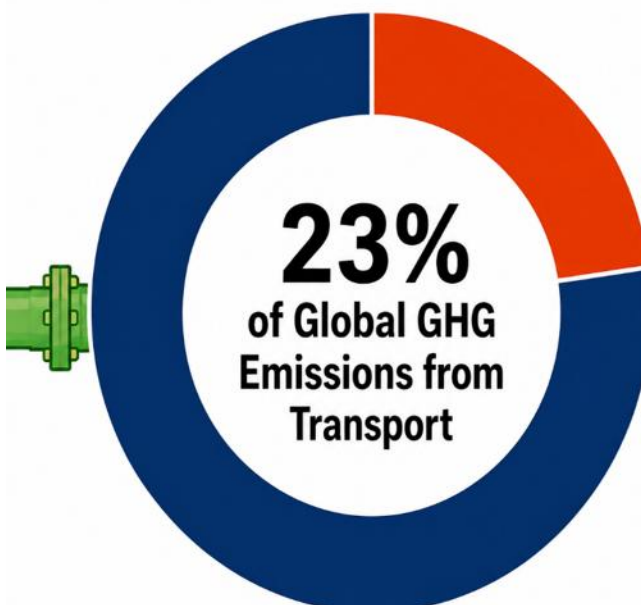
Spark-Ignition (SI)
Lean Burn (Gas only)

High Pressure Direct Injection
(HPDI)
(Diesel + Gas)

Spark-Ignition (SI)
Stoichiometric (Gas only)

Dual-Fuel Technology
(Diesel + Gas)

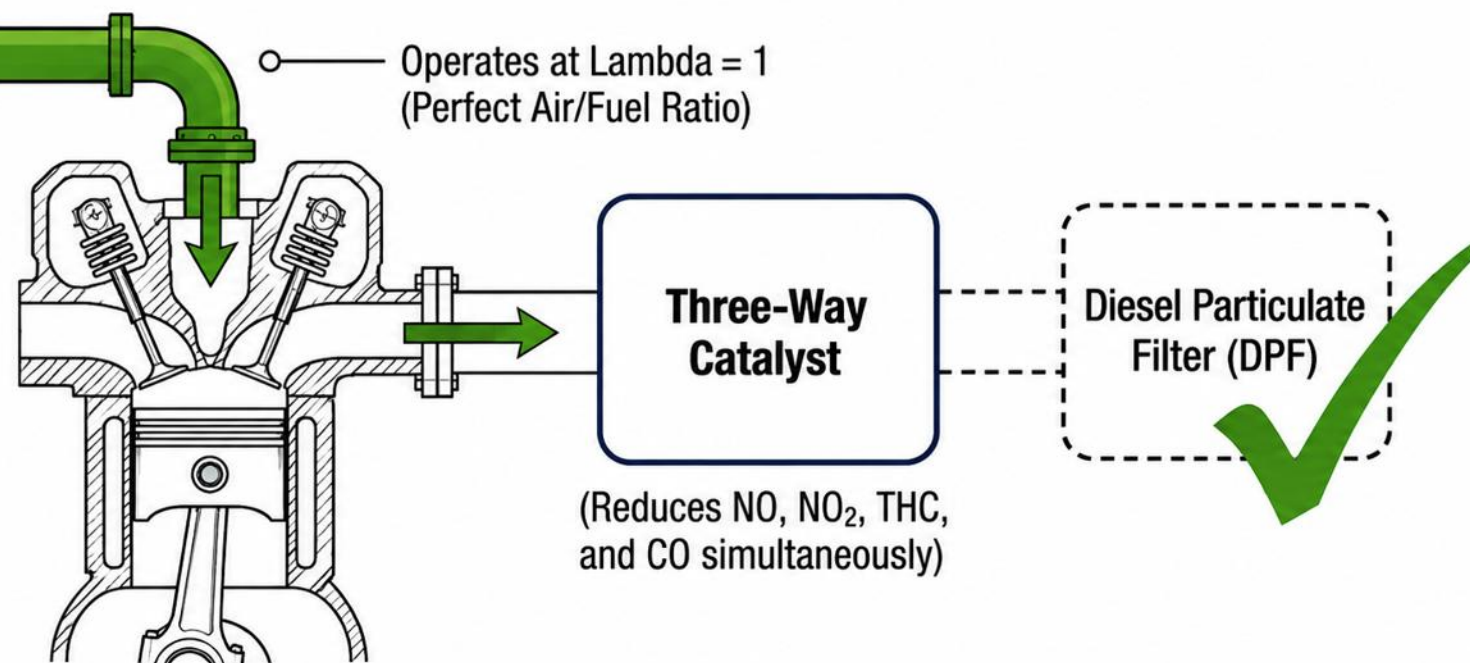
The Dominant
Commercial
Standards Today.



23%
of Global GHG
Emissions from
Transport

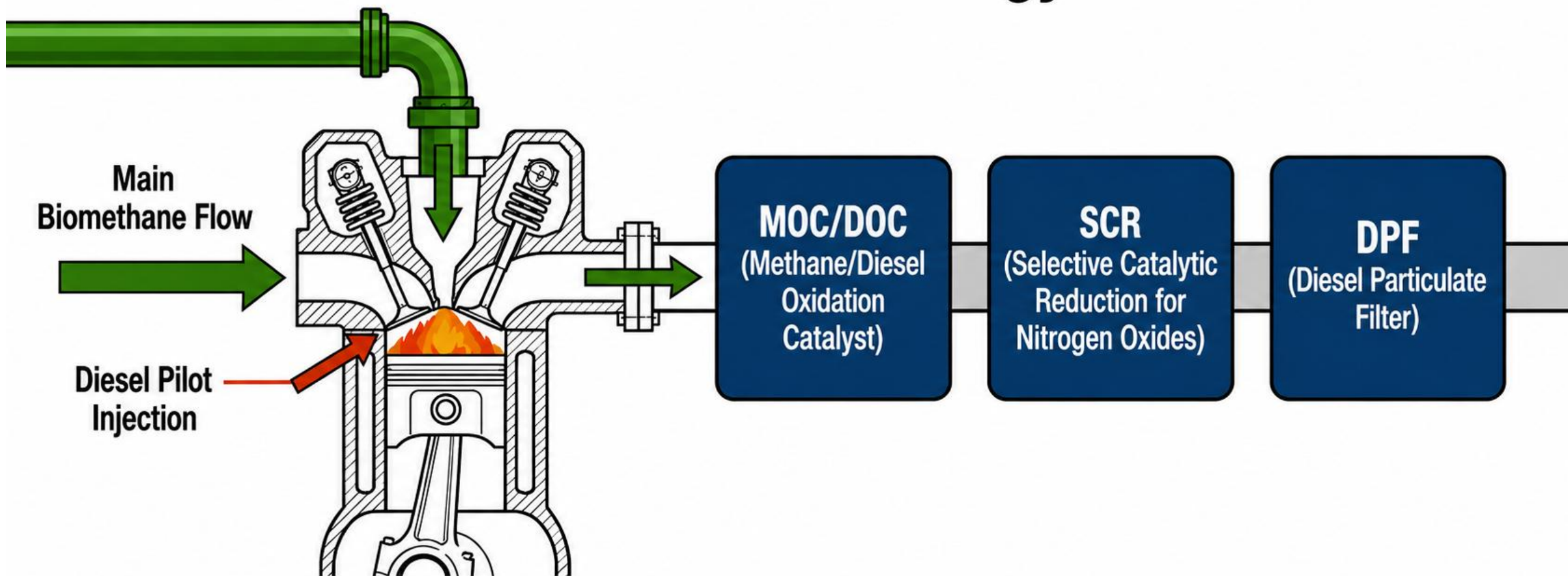
Heavy freight consumes **25%** of **transport energy** but produces **~50%** of highway NO_x and soot (PM).

SI Stoichiometric: The Zero-Soot Engine



The Killer Feature: Virtual absence of Particulate Matter (PM). Eliminates the need for DPF maintenance, regeneration cycles, and associated downtime.

Dual-Fuel Technology



The Trade-Off: Diesel pilot injection provides excellent torque and fallback capability, but re-introduces soot. A DPF remains strictly necessary to meet EURO VI / P8 emission standards.



Biomethane Lifecycle GHG Emissions Reductions in Transport



Waste- and Residue-Based Biomethane Delivers the Largest Climate Benefits

Feedstock / Pathway	Typical GHG Reduction vs Fossil Fuels	Key Observation
 Manure / Slurry	Up to net-negative emissions	Strongest pathway due to avoided methane emissions from manure storage
 Food Waste / OFMSW	50–75% lower than diesel	Can become carbon-negative with digestate fertilizer substitution
 Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)	68–98% lower	Very strong performance in waste collection fleets
 Compressed Biomethane Trucks	55–75% lower	Significant reductions versus fossil CNG
 Urban Bus Applications	70–85% lower CO ₂	Demonstrated in urban mobility systems
 Wastewater / Sewage Sludge	Strong reductions	Results depend strongly on LCA methodology
 Landfill Gas	Significant reductions	Lower benefits than manure pathways
 Catch Crops	Can exceed 100% reduction	Soil carbon gains may create net-negative outcomes
 Crop-Based Maize / Silage	Highly variable	Can lose benefits or exceed fossil emissions if land-use change is included

Net-negative / Strongest reductions

Moderate reductions

Uncertain or Poor performance



Key Conclusions



Best performance:
manure, food waste, sewage sludge, landfill gas, and catch crops



Heavy-duty transport
is one of the highest-impact applications for biomethane



Methane leakage,
baseline assumptions, and land-use change strongly affect results



Crop-based pathways are substantially less robust than waste/residue pathways



Biomethane from wastes and residues can reduce transport GHG dramatically — and in some systems achieve net-negative emissions.

Cutting methane emissions yields a fast climate benefit

Methane has:

~28–32× higher warming effect than CO₂ over 100 years

~84× over 20 years

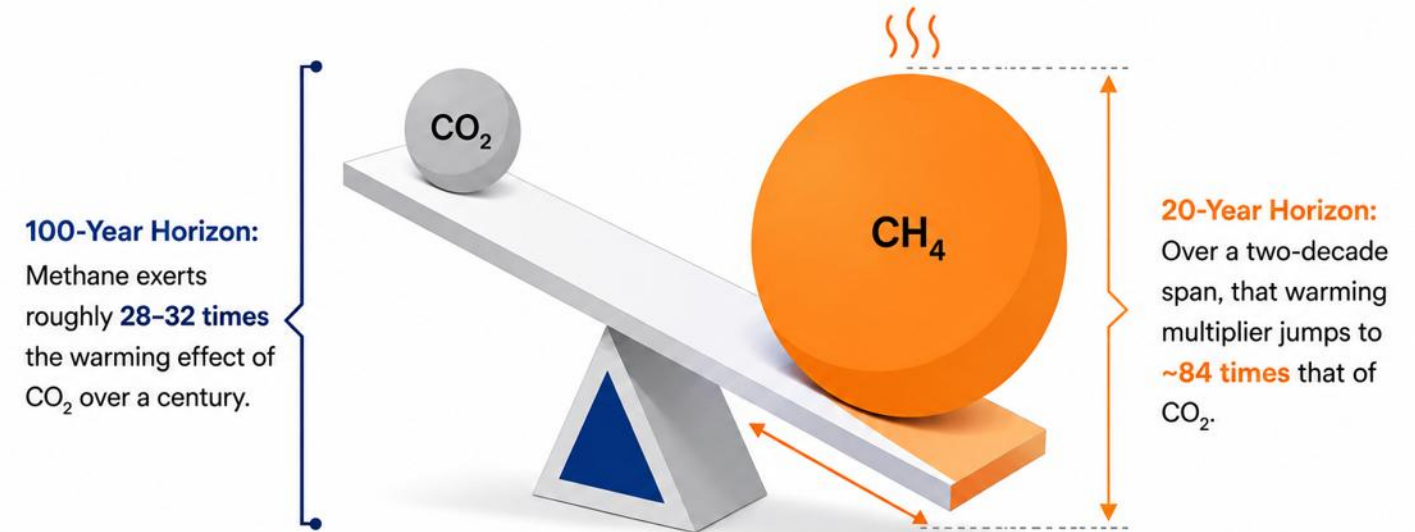
Anaerobic digestion

Diverts organic waste from landfills

Produces biomethane and digestate

Reduces uncontrolled methane emissions

The Near-Term Leverage of Methane

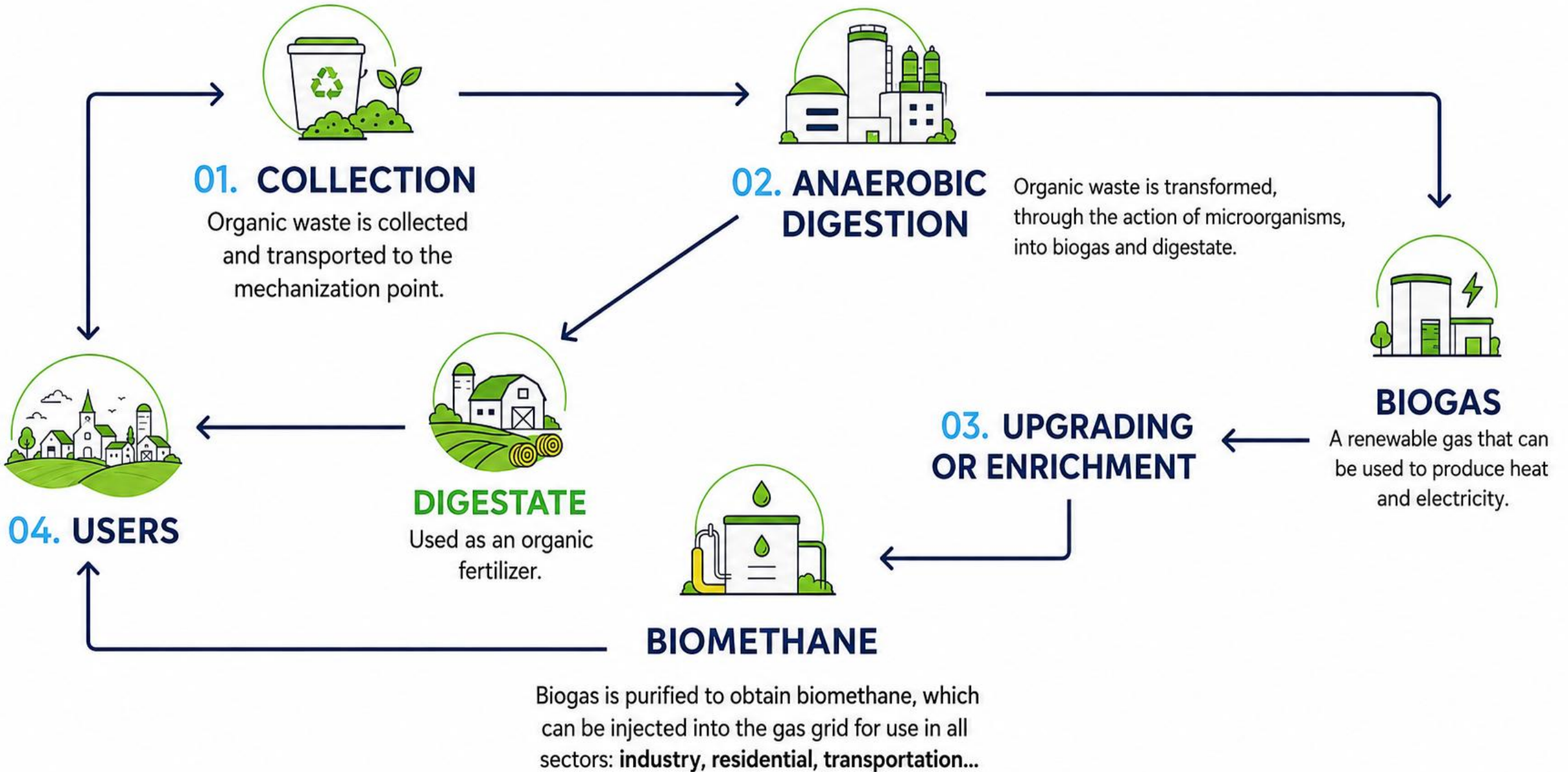


The Mitigation Pathway Hierarchy

	A	B	C
	 Flaring (Baseline Mitigation)	 Electricity/Heat Generation (Active Utilization)	 Transport Biomethane (Advanced Utilization)
 Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction	≥55% reduction	≥83% mitigation (avoids 52–63 kg CO ₂ eq per ton of waste)	Up to 79% lower Global Warming Potential than using the same waste for electricity/heat only.
 Strategic Displacement	None. Simply destroys CH ₄ .	Displaces fossil electricity on the grid.	Displaces high-emission fossil transport fuels.

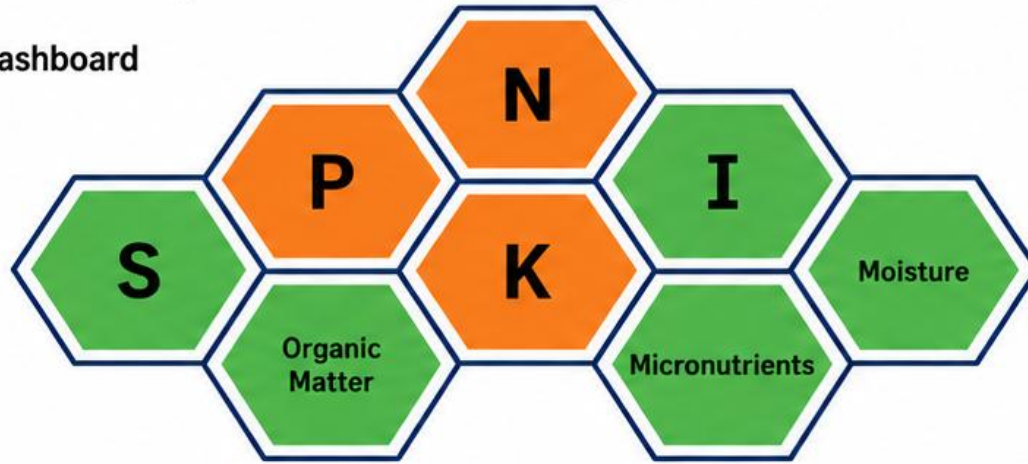


The mitigation hierarchy prioritizes pathways that maximize emissions reduction and societal benefit. Advanced utilization of methane as transport fuel delivers the highest climate and energy value.



The elemental profile of raw digestate reveals a complete agronomic package

Elemental Dashboard



BIOCHEMICAL ANALYSIS

DIRECT APPLICATION CAPACITY: HIGH

PRIMARY FUNCTION:

Immediate deployment as foundational soil conditioner.

SECONDARY FUNCTION:

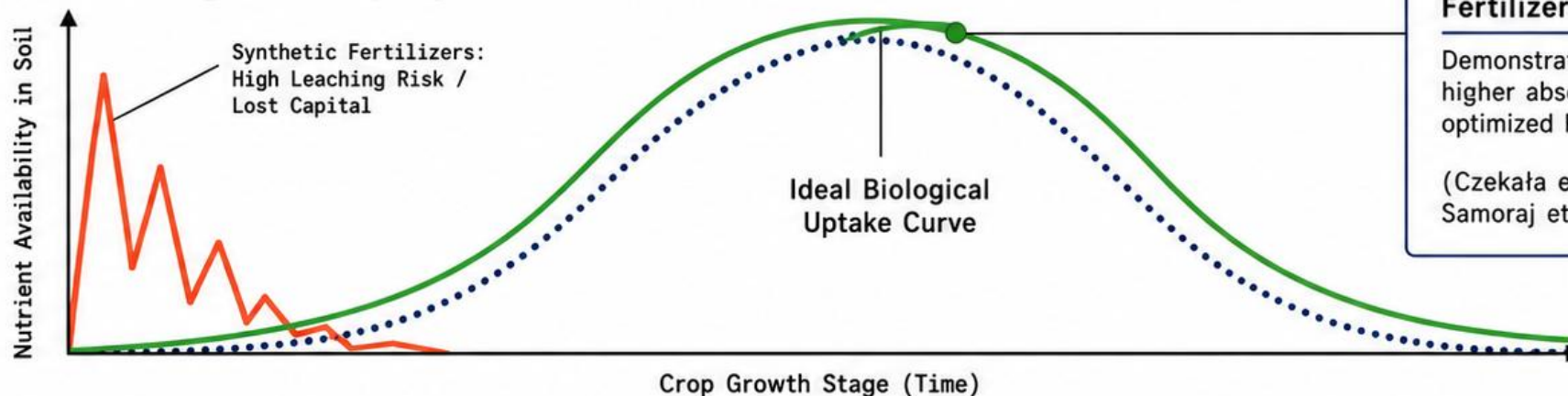
Direct replacement for N-P-K synthetics.

OUTPUT QUALITY:

Rich in bio-available organic matter.

(Chozhavendhan et al., 2023; Czekala et al., 2022; Neri et al., 2023; Samoraj et al., 2022)

Slow-release kinetics synchronize nutrient availability with biological crop uptake

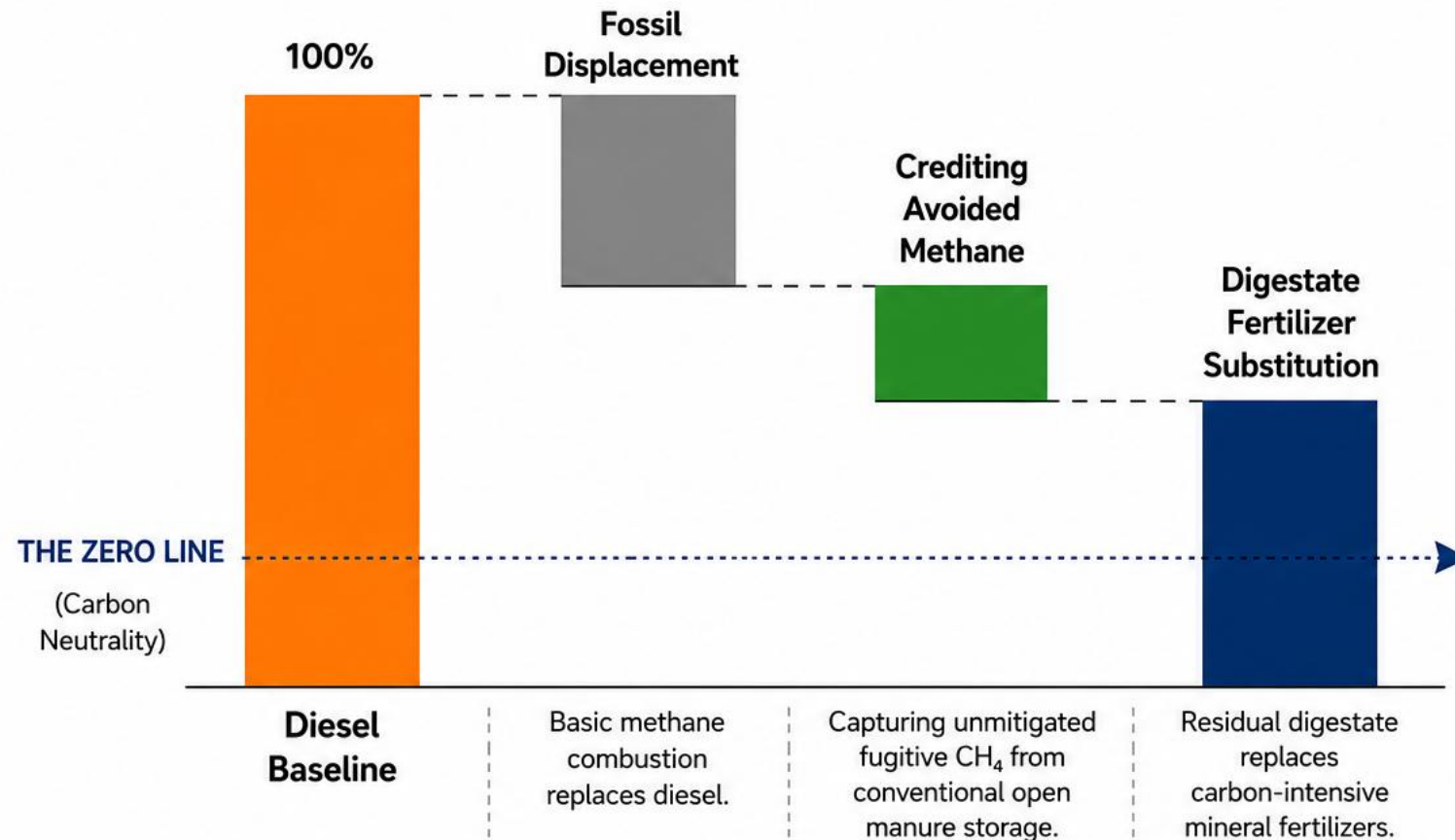


Digestate Organomineral Fertilizer

Demonstrated yield increases, higher absolute N uptake, and optimized P recovery.

(Czekala et al., 2022; Samoraj et al., 2022)

The Mechanics of Going Below Zero



Literature from Gustafsson & Svensson and JEC confirms that when avoided methane and nutrient recycling are properly credited in liquid biomethane (LBM) systems, total emissions plunge into **net-negative territory**.



Diesel Baseline
100% emissions from baseline diesel use.



Fossil Displacement
Basic methane combustion replaces diesel.

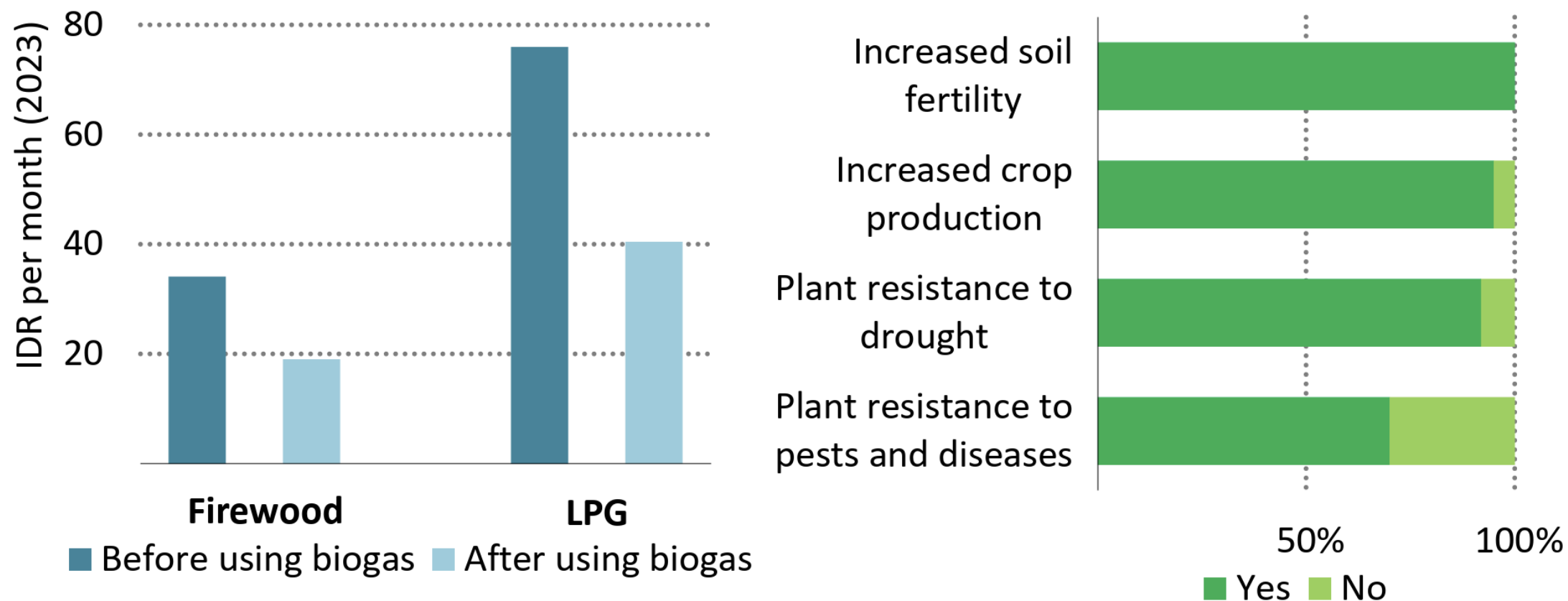


Crediting Avoided Methane
Capturing unmitigated fugitive CH₄ from conventional open manure storage.



Digestate Fertilizer Substitution
Residual digestate replaces carbon-intensive mineral fertilizers.

Figure 1.8 ▶ Impact of biogas adoption on average monthly household fuel cost and perceived benefits of digestate use, Indonesia, 2023

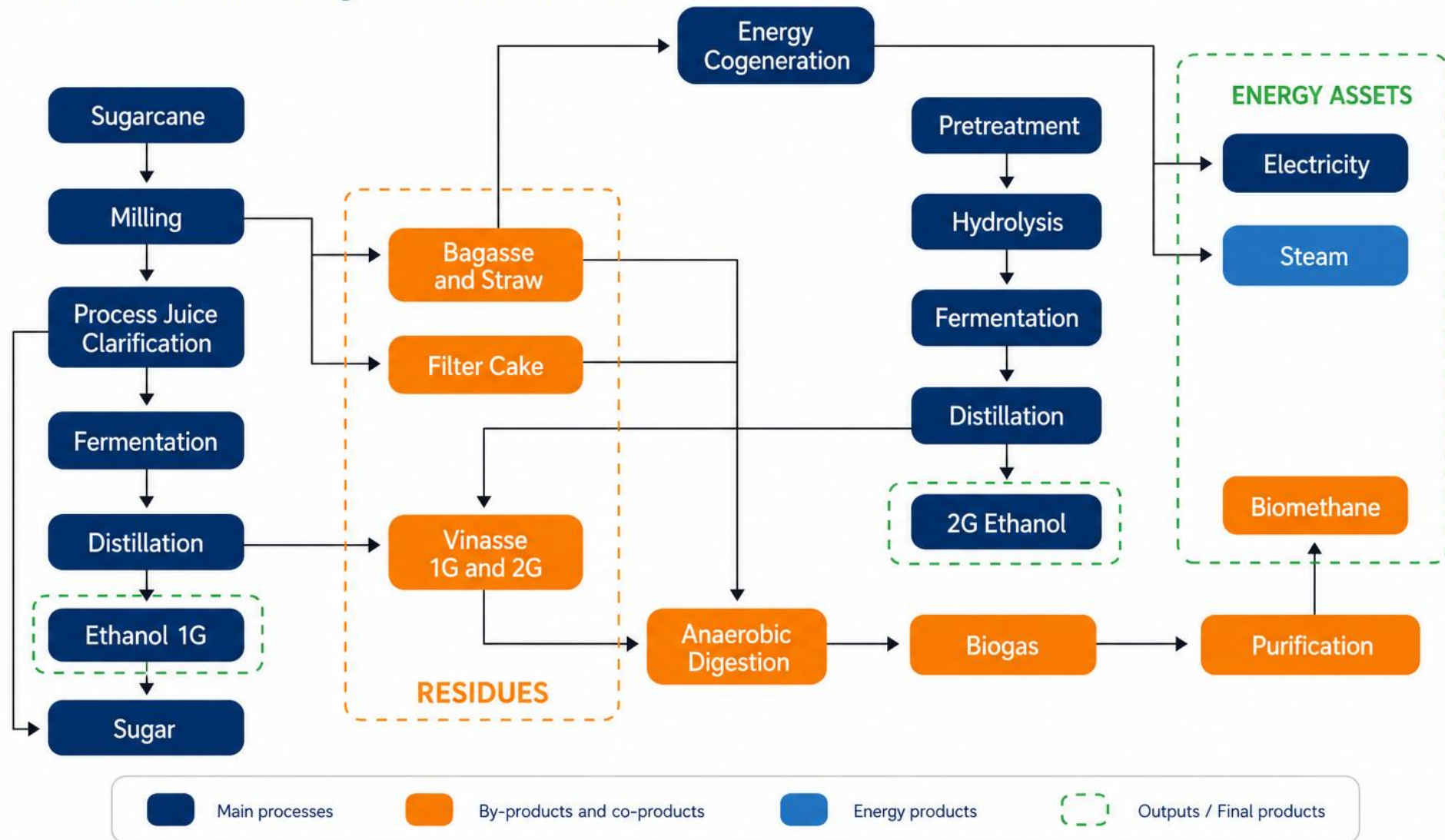


IEA. CC BY 4.0.

In addition to halving monthly fuel expenses, using biogas and subsequently using digestate as a fertiliser have generated valuable co-benefits to farmers in Indonesia

FIGURE 5

Productive chain of sugarcane biorefineries



Vinasse Characteristics and Production Volume

Sugarcane ethanol production generates approximately **10 to 15 liters** of vinasse for every liter of ethanol produced.

In Brazil, this results in an annual generation of roughly **360 billion liters**.



1 LITER
ETHANOL



10 TO 15 LITERS
VINASSE



~360
BILLION LITERS
ANNUALLY IN BRAZIL



ACIDIC pH
Average **4.6**



HIGH ORGANIC LOAD
Average COD
46,000 mg/L



HIGHLY POLLUTING
Liquid effluent with
significant environmental risk



~11%
OF THE ORIGINAL ENERGY
from sugarcane juice



Vinasse is a highly polluting effluent due to its acidic pH and high organic load. However, it also represents a **valuable energy resource**, containing about **11%** of the original energy from sugarcane juice.

Sugarcane residues (vinasse and filter cake) → Biogas production
→ Biomethane upgrading →
Heavy-duty trucks → Sugar
transport to the Port of Santos

Scale of the operation

Launched in **April 2024**, BioRota has rapidly
reached commercial scale:

More than **70 biomethane-powered trucks**

More than **13,000 freight trips**

Approximately **11 million km** traveled

About **600,000 tonnes of sugar** transported
to the Port of Santos

Around **5 million liters of diesel** displaced

More than **8,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions**
avoided

Up to **90% lower GHG emissions** compared
with diesel-powered trucks.

Biomethane supply

The renewable fuel is supplied by **Cocal**, one
of Copersucar's associated mills, which
operates two commercial biomethane plants
in western São Paulo: **Narandiba**: up to
25,000 m³/day

Paraguaçu Paulista: up to **60,000 m³/day**
during the harvest season



BIOMETHANE IN ETHANOL PRODUCTION



Question: How much could ethanol lifecycle Emission Factor fall if fossil energy is replaced by biomethane?



SUGARCANE ETHANOL

Direct diesel
in machinery/logistics

Current EF
(gCO₂eq/MJ)

27.7



With biomethane
(gCO₂eq/MJ)

21.6

Reduction
(%)



-6.1 gCO₂eq/MJ
(-22%)

Broad fossil energy

27.7



20.5



-7.2 gCO₂eq/MJ
(-26%)



Replacing fossil energy with biomethane reduces the ethanol lifecycle Emission Factor for sugarcane ethanol by 22–26%.

Sugarcane diesel/logistics from Bartholomeu et al. (2020); broad cases use energy ratios: sugarcane 9.3 MJ ethanol/MJ fossil. RenovaBio baseline EF:

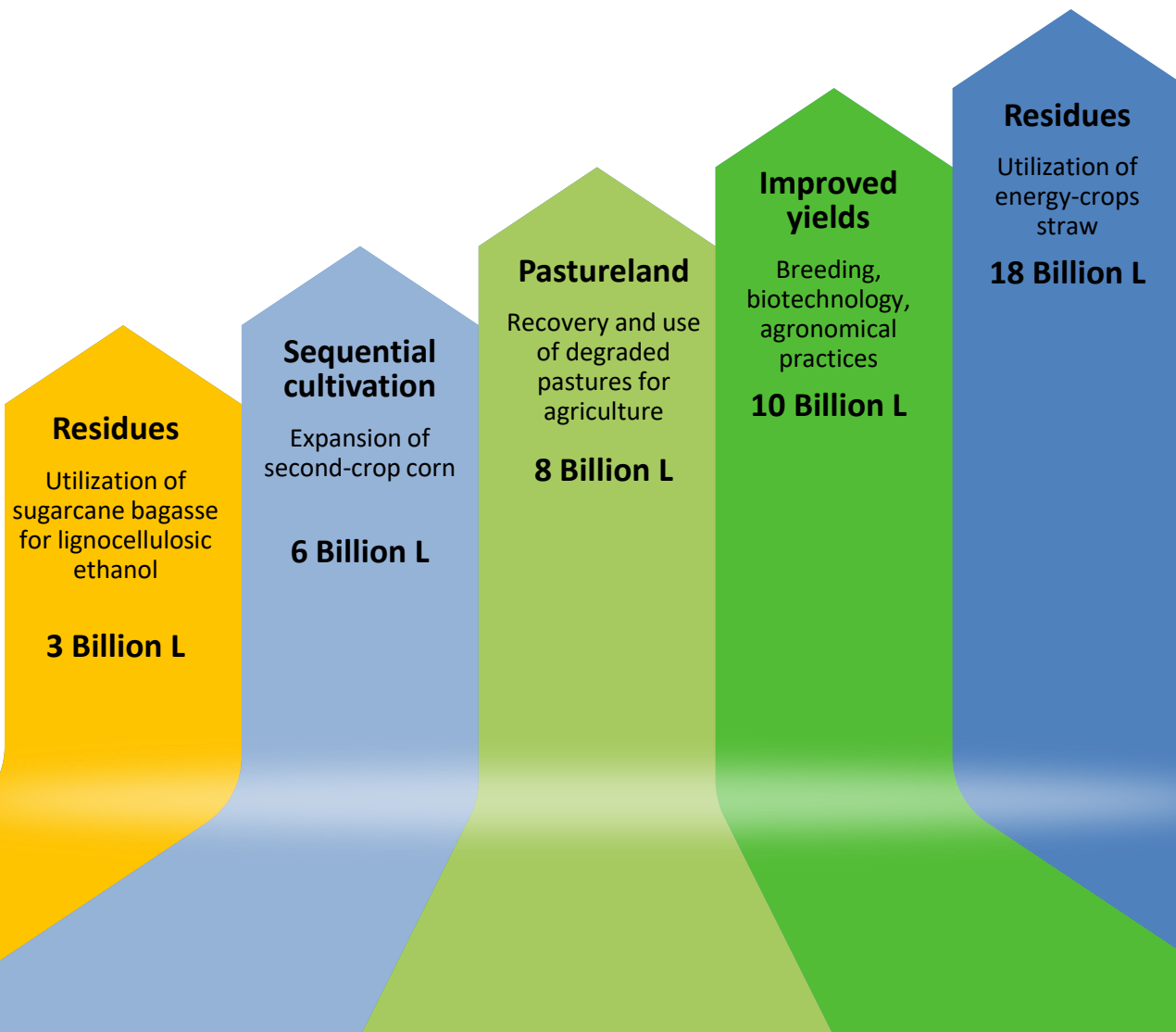
sugarcane 27.7 (439 certifications), biomethane 7.8 (6) gCO₂eq/MJ.

Additional co-benefits:

- additional food production such as soybean meal, DDGS, corn oil
- accumulation of carbon in the soil by the recovery of degraded areas
- improvement of soil and water quality due to better vegetation cover
- vinasse and filter pie to produce biomethane

Biofuel production expansion via “land-saving” techniques in Brazil (2024). EPE.

LAND SAVING TECHNIQUES



24 Billion L of ethanol =
288 billion L of vinasse =
1.87 billion Nm3 of
biomethane (1.2-2.7
billion Nm3)

50 thousand trucks

SUGARCANE IS THE WORLD'S LARGEST BIOMASS CROP

Latin America & Caribbean (≈30)

Africa (≈35)

Asia (≈25–30)

Oceania (≈10)

Europe (very limited, ≈5–8)

North America (2)

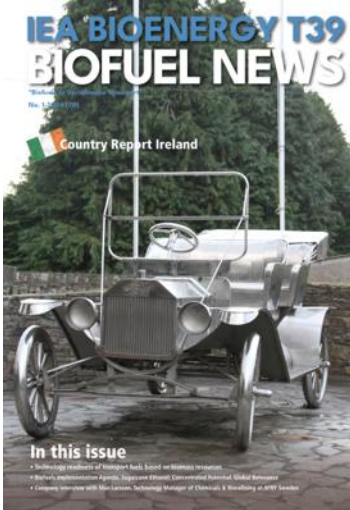
A tropical/subtropical C4 crop
Highly efficient photosynthesis

Adapted to hot, sunny, and dry
climates - maize, sugarcane,
sorghum - produce 50–100% more
biomass than C3 plants

Extremely adaptable (rainfed +
irrigated systems)

Grown across Africa, Asia, and Latin
America as a rural livelihood crop

Cultivated" ≠ economically relevant



~20 countries account for >80% of global sugarcane sugar

Global bioethanol production ~117 billion liters
 ~ 5 countries account for 30–35% of sugarcane ethanol
 Brazil, India, Thailand, Colombia, Paraguay



Sugar

Brazil (#1), Mexico, Colombia, Argentina, Guatemala, Peru, Paraguay, Costa Rica
 Brazil the largest with >40 Mt

Ethanol

~40 billion (36 billion from Brazil)

Blending mandates

2-30%; Brazil and Paraguay 30%



Sugar

India, Thailand (#2 and #3), Philippines, China, Pakistan, Vietnam, Myanmar

Ethanol

~5–6 billion L/year in India and climbing; Thailand, Philippines: ~1–2 billion L each

Blending mandates

India (12% → 20% by 2025), Thailand, Philippines (10%), China (10% in 9 provinces), Japan (~3%)



Sugar

South Africa, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Egypt

Ethanol

Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan <1 billion L/year combined

Blending mandates

5-10%



Sugar

Australia (#10), ~4–5 Mt sugar; Fiji also small-scale producer

Ethanol

Queensland ~0.3–0.5 billion L/year

Blending mandates

New South Wales, 4%



Sugar

Small, from overseas territories

Ethanol

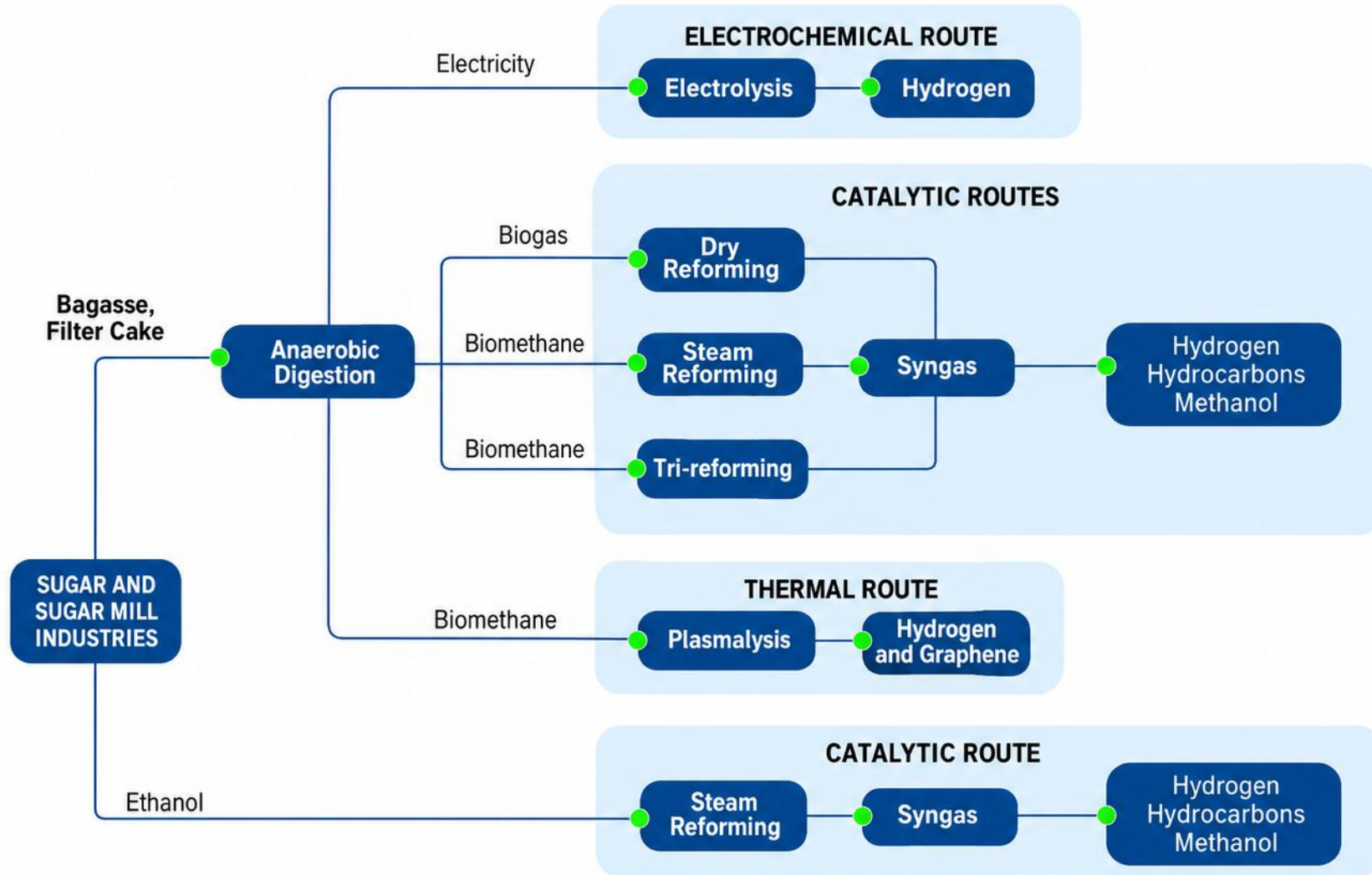
Minimal imports from Brazil

Blending mandates

EU average ~6.4%, E10 France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, UK, Norway (24.5%), Netherlands (18.9%), Finland (13.5%)

FIGURE 13

Technological routes for hydrogen production in the sugarcane energy sector



Fossil Products Replaced

Using Biomethane as a Platform Chemical

Biomethane enables the production of multiple renewable products that replace fossil-based products across many sectors



1. Fossil natural gas



2. Grey hydrogen (from natural gas)



3. Fossil ammonia



4. Synthetic nitrogen fertilizers



5. Fossil methanol



6. Fossil synthesis gas (syngas)



7. Petroleum-derived diesel



8. Petroleum-derived jet fuel



9. Petroleum-derived marine fuels



10. Fossil LPG



11. Fossil CO₂ (industrial-grade carbon dioxide)



12. Petrochemical feedstocks
(natural gas liquids and naphtha)



13. Coal (for industrial heat and
chemical production)



14. Coke/coal-derived reducing agents
(partially, in selected industrial applications
such as green steel production via hydrogen)



From a single molecule – biomethane – a wide range of fossil products can be replaced, supporting the transition to a low-carbon and circular economy.



Energy security increasingly driving energy transition policy



Recent geopolitical crises reinforced:

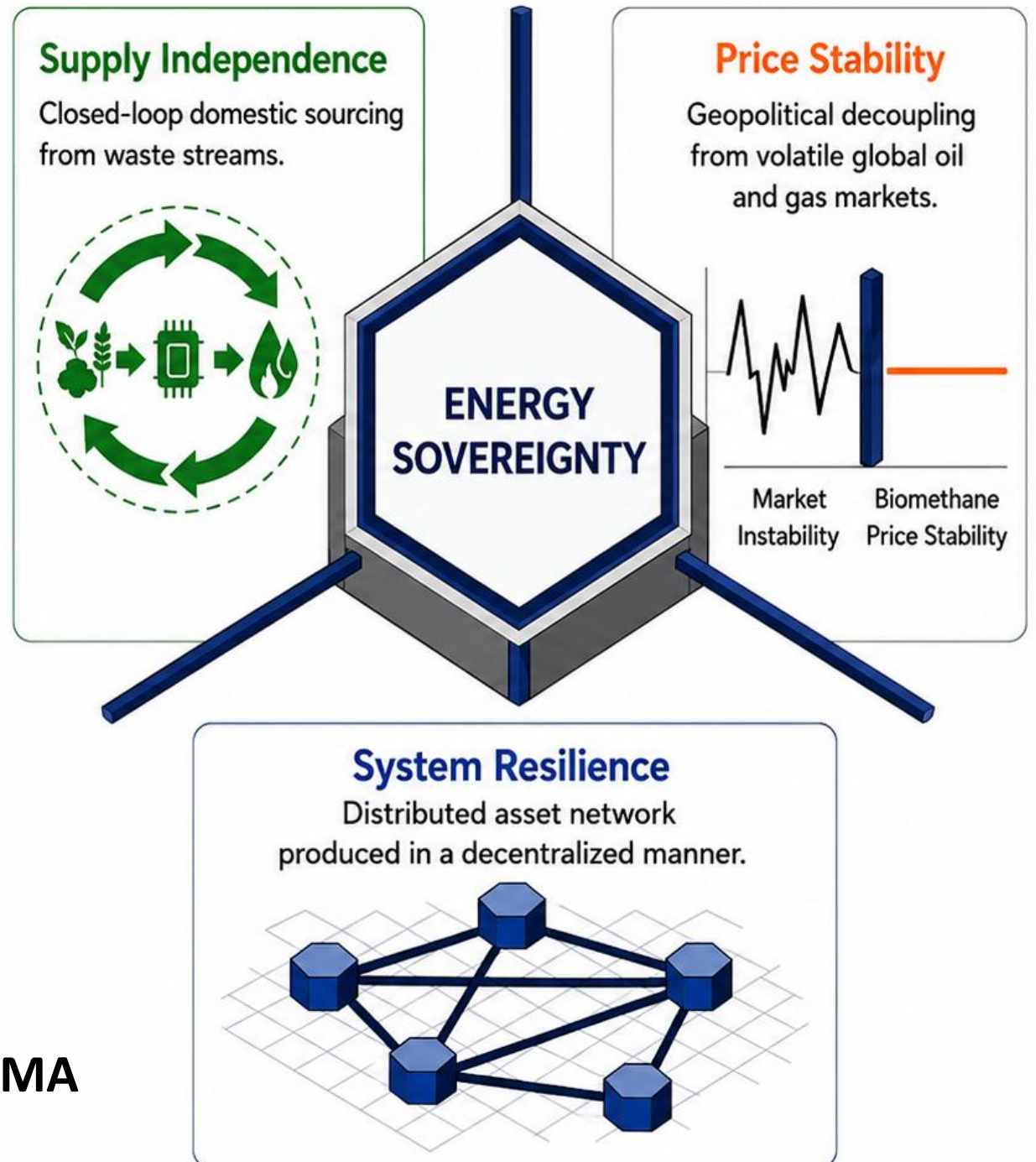
- Vulnerability of fossil fuel dependence
- Link between energy security and national security



Biomethane increasingly viewed as:

- Strategic sovereignty fuel
- Domestic energy source
- Non-geopolitical fuel option

BIOMETHANE SOLVES THE ENERGY TRILEMMA



Biofuels

for Decarbonization of Land Transport
INDUSTRY HEARING

Converging perspectives for practical decarbonization



September 8-10, 2026



IAC - Instituto Agrônômico
de Campinas, SP (Brazil)



<https://saebrasil.org.br/eventos/biofuels-for-decarbonization-of-land-transport-industry-hearing/>

<https://task39.ieabioenergy.com/industry-hearing-on-biofuels-for-decarbonization-of-land-transport-call-for-experts-and-stakeholders/>

Instituto
MBCBrasil
MOBILIDADE DE BAIXO CARBONO

From Waste to Wheels

Turning organic waste into renewable fuel for transport.

HOW BIOMETHANE DECARBONIZES MOBILITY, MITIGATES
METHANE EMISSIONS AND STRENGTHENS ENERGY SECURITY.



**Factsheet to be released in
September 8th, 2026
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Industry Hearing
Organized by SAE Brasil and
Society of Bioenergy (SBE)**

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