

How food waste plays an important part in the Danish biogas sector

Wednesday, 11th October 2023 6:00 pm (NZST)

7:00 am (DEN) | 1:00 pm (AWST) | 3:30 pm (ACST) | 4:00 pm (AEST) |

Leading the world - Insights and experiences from the Danish Biogas Sector

Biogas production in Denmark has increased rapidly since 2012, and by August 2023 more than 39% of the gas in the gas grid was renewable natural gas.

The biogas is produced by co-digestion of manure and other agricultural residues with industrial food waste and source separated household waste in large scale biogas plants owned by energy companies and farmers.

In Denmark, all municipalities are required to divert food waste and other organics from the waste streams by 2023. While landfilling of organics have been banned since the 1980 s, the recognised technologies of choice for treating these waste streams is anaerobic digestion.

Since Denmark have stern environmental laws and 2/3 of the land in Denmark is used for agriculture, strict requirements apply for the purity of the food waste derived digestate when applying it to crop land. Pre-processing is essential to being able to achieve the quality specifications so dairy farmers are allowed to use the digestate for feed. Through strict quality control and innovation, the Danish biogas industry have succeeded in this.



Claus Mortensen
Director at Biogas Go Global
Part of Food and Bio Cluster Denmark

Claus has been in the Danish bioenergy industry for 12 years undertaking biogas sector analysis and facilitating commercial and innovation activities between companies and universities in +20 countries.

Denmark is rightly considered a global leader in decarbonising its economy and is on track to meet its ambitious goal of becoming a low-carbon economy by the middle of the century. This can be attributed to Denmark's high level of stability and predictability in energy policy, a cross-sectoral and holistic approach to developing government policies, investment into innovative technologies and their commercialisation.

Related material

 <u>Biogas Production – Insights and experiences from the Danish Biogas Sector</u>, a Biogas Go Global report

The Bioenergy Association invites anyone interested in investment in the fast-growing gaseous biofuels market to attend this webinar.

Continuing Professional Development: - The Bioenergy Association supports members by providing opportunities such as this webinar that contribute towards Continuing Professional Development and maintaining registration as a biogas adviser. Contact the Executive Officer for more details at executive@bioenergy.org.nz