

SPIN project workshop

Biogas futures in the Baltic Sea Region and in Estonia: Technology transfer, development and policy support

**Tallinn, Sokos Hotel Viru
Thursday 10th of February 2011, 10.00–16.00**

Aim of the workshop

The workshop supports SMEs and policy-makers by:

- Informing of policy developments, support schemes, innovation highlights and best practices of biogas sector in BSR and Estonia
- BSR matchmaking and technology transfer platform for SMEs
- Discussing SME needs, barriers and necessary actions

The scope and target groups

The SPIN workshop is intended for knowledge and technology transfer and macro-regional matchmaking of the biogas sector in the Baltic Sea Region and Estonia. The emphasis is put on discussing efficient policies, support schemes, development drivers and innovation environment for biogas sector. European, national and local policy-makers will take part in the seminar as well small and medium sized companies who are involved in bioenergy/biogas value chain and management and are interested in gaining knowledge on latest sector developments and technological progress.

The Seminar is supported by the EU funded Interreg [SPIN project](#), the flagship of EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, which is dedicated to support small and medium sized companies to improve their environmental sustainability aiming to reduce their environmental impact.

Translation is provided English / Estonian.

Programme

09:30 - 10:00 Registration of delegates, Welcome coffee and tea

First session: BSR policy planning and support in the biogas sector

Chair: Antti Roose, SPIN project co-ordinator in Estonia

- Welcome by the chair and introduction of SPIN project

10:00 - 12:00 Setting the biogas scene

Speakers (~20 minutes each):

- Madis Laaniste (TBD), Estonian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
Biogas in the context of Estonian renewable energy policy
- Ahto Oja, Estonian Biogas Association
The Estonian biogas sector: to be or not be?
- Aino Martikainen, Agency for Renewable Resources/Fachagentur für Nachhaltige Rohstoffe e.V.
Legal framework, policy developments and support schemes on renewable energy in the German biogas sector: lessons learnt and scheme's fine-tuning (TBD)
- Lars-Erik Larsson, Swedish Bioenergy Association



Swedish experience of developing bioenergy sector (TBD)

- **Panel discussion** on policy and support scheme developments (open debate)

The aim of the opening session is to set the scene and frame the mindset of the participants by presentations on the main conclusions of the SPIN biogas background paper, policy assessment and support schemes of the biogas sector. This may then serve as a strategic reference point for the further discussions on technology transfer and transnational support tools.

12:00 - 12:20 Coffee and tea, informal discussions and matchmaking

Second session: Innovation highlights, business and development evidences

Chair: Ahto Oja, Estonian Biogas Association

- Introduction by the session chair

12:20 - 14:30 **Technological innovation and development**

Presentations (~15 minutes each):

- Peep Pitk, Tallinn University of Technology
Research & development on anaerobic digestion in Estonia
- Indrek Melts, Estonian University of Life Sciences
- PROGRASS – Securing the conservation of semi-natural grassland with a distributed energy production
- Gregor Scheppelmann, BioConstruct GmbH
German highlight on biogas equipment
- Henry Uljas, Baltic Biogas OÜ
Development of agricultural biogas plants: Ilmatsalu and Aravete cases
- Kim Söderman, Scandinavian GTS AB
Upgrading of biogas using cryogenic technology
- Göran Grönhammar, BioSling
Device for up-grading of biogas in a small scale, demonstration of Slingpump
- **Panel discussion** on technological issues (open debate)

The aim of the second session is to be a meeting-point for knowledge and technology transfer by giving floor for several SMEs that are developing green and innovative solutions. Estonian market for biogas is just emerging and there is evident need to increase awareness of best technological practices and latest developments in technological progress.

14:30 - 15:00 **Discussion and next steps**

15:00 Lunch at hotel restaurant

Follow-up: one-to-one meetings, real matchmaking (possible to use conference room and/or hotel restaurant)