



Project Development Programme (PDP) Southeast Asia

19th October 2016, Century Park Hotel Bangkok

Biogas Association Roundtable Talk: Biogas Safety and Market Development in Thailand



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Facilitator

Short Summary

1) Biogas Safety

German Association: Fachverband Biogas (FvB)

The German Association developed biogas safety guidelines and translated the parts that are not only relevant in German conditions (laws and regulations) to English (will be published in November 2016, we will provide you with the download link as soon as possible). The FvB guidelines are followed by Association members. The guidelines are not binding, but as the association is very strong and well accepted, the guidelines are followed by most members and even by external plant operators and owners.

- ⇒ These guidelines can **serve as basis for further guideline development** and regulatory framework discussions in Thailand.

TBTA/ERDI

Existing regulations in Thailand are not transparent, often misleading and confusing for project developers and plant owners. There are several guidelines developed by different stakeholders (DEDE, DIW etc.), but are either too specific for certain user groups or too broad. That is why the first focal point of TBTA's work is biogas safety and includes two aspects:

- ⇒ **Checklist of existing regulations**, licences etc. for project developers and plant operators/owners would support efficiency in project development and operation; TBTA could compile this checklist based on ERDI's research results on existing regulations (excel file presented on 19th), this checklist can be distributed by TBTA to their members
- ⇒ **Development of specific biogas safety guidelines/Code of Practice** that meet the need and concerns of plant operators and owners seems to be necessary. As mentioned in the workshop by ERDI, ERC shows attempts to develop a Code of Practice (CoP) specifically for biogas plants. This is a good opportunity for TBTA to jump in this process in order to ensure practicability of the upcoming CoP. Therefore, a close communication to ERC is necessary to follow their process and give recommendations.

2) Market Development

Constantly changing biogas support policies are a challenge for the market development in Thailand; clear processes, support mechanisms and responsibilities between agencies are needed in order to develop the biogas market further. Therefore, TBTA's second focus is the improvement of framework conditions through policy dialogues. TBTA will work on the following aspects (e.g. in form of recommendation papers and stakeholder workshops):

- **Governmental support mechanisms** (e.g. FiT tariff design, improve zoning according to feedstock availability and not only grid availability etc.)
- **Grid connection** of biogas plants (first priority are the projects which already got PPAs and are stuck due to governmental inconsistencies).
- Advisory paper for **existing FiT bidding scheme** (there are some challenges for project developers and communities to apply for the bidding – lack of knowledge, cost competitiveness – and concern of decreasing quality of proposed biogas plants) and **quota (MW) of electricity production by biogas plants**

3) Next Steps and Responsibilities

GIZ:

- Will provide the summary of the workshop including all presentations
- Will provide the link to FvB guidelines (as soon as published)
- Can have a supportive role in:
 - o guideline development (revision)
 - o stakeholder workshop organization
 - o approaching governmental agencies and stakeholders (GIZ network, meetings with ERC)
 - o recommendation and advisory paper writing (revision)

TBTA/ERDI:

- Will communicate the findings of the workshop to TBTA members
- Will approach GIZ as soon as support is needed
- Will establish contact to ERC and have a regular exchange with ERC regarding the CoP process (GIZ can support), TBTA feeds recommendations and suggestions to the CoP
- Will start working on guideline development and compiling a checklist for project developers/owners/operators
- Will structure the governmental approach to improve framework conditions (GIZ can support) – recommendation and advisory papers, stakeholder workshops

As both focal points for TBTA’s future work got concretised during the workshop, no time line was set yet. TBTA wants to communicate the findings to its steering committee and members to agree on a work plan. However, GIZ suggests the following timeline which can be adjusted as to the needs of TBTA and its members:

October	Inform TBTA members and steering committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To achieve the targets set, TBTA needs support from all members - Possibility: form task forces for the different focal points and organize regular meetings
November	Meeting with ERC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to establish contact and understand the CoP process - identify possibilities to collaborate - define a work plan
	FvB Guideline Publication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TBTA looks into details of FvB guidelines - Relevant parts can be taken as basis for new TBTA guidelines
	Start Working on Regulation Checklist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use ERDI overview as basis - Define responsibilities to work on checklist and set deadlines - Organize regular meetings for knowledge exchange and progress reporting - Link activities and lessons learnt to CoP development
December	Start Working on Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define responsibilities to work on Safety Guidelines and set deadlines - Ask members to feed in information and support the process - Organize regular meetings for knowledge exchange and progress reporting

Start Working on policy recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Organize a meeting to define first priorities and topics- Define responsibilities to work on policy recommendations and set deadlines- Organize regular meetings for knowledge exchange and progress reporting
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Photo Documentation

1) Morning Session

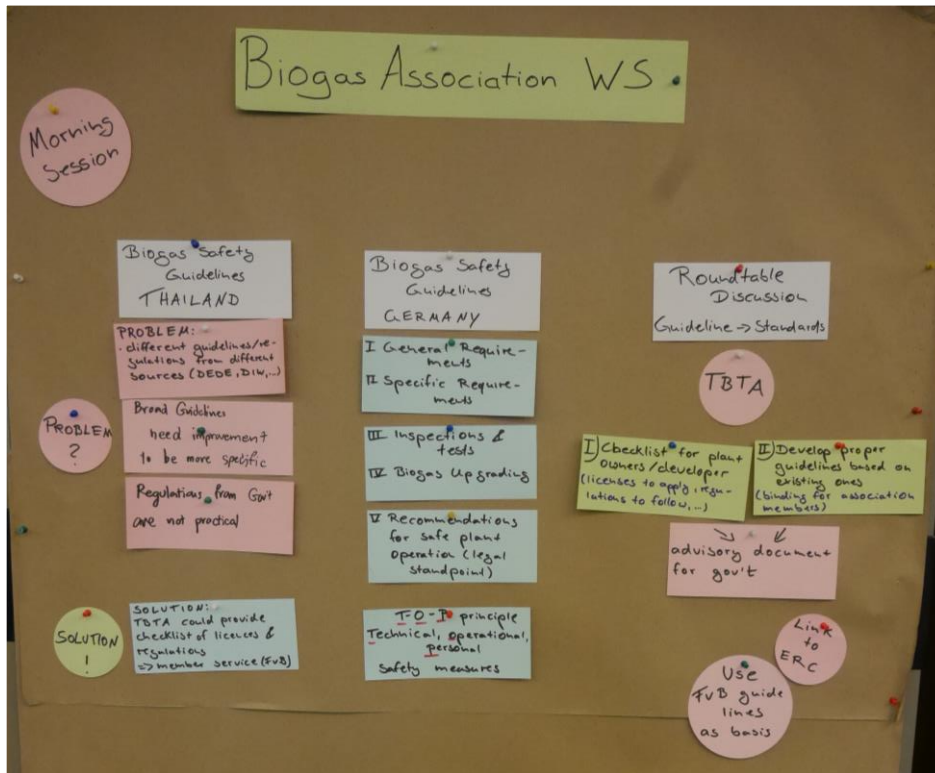


Figure 1: Overview of morning session and key findings

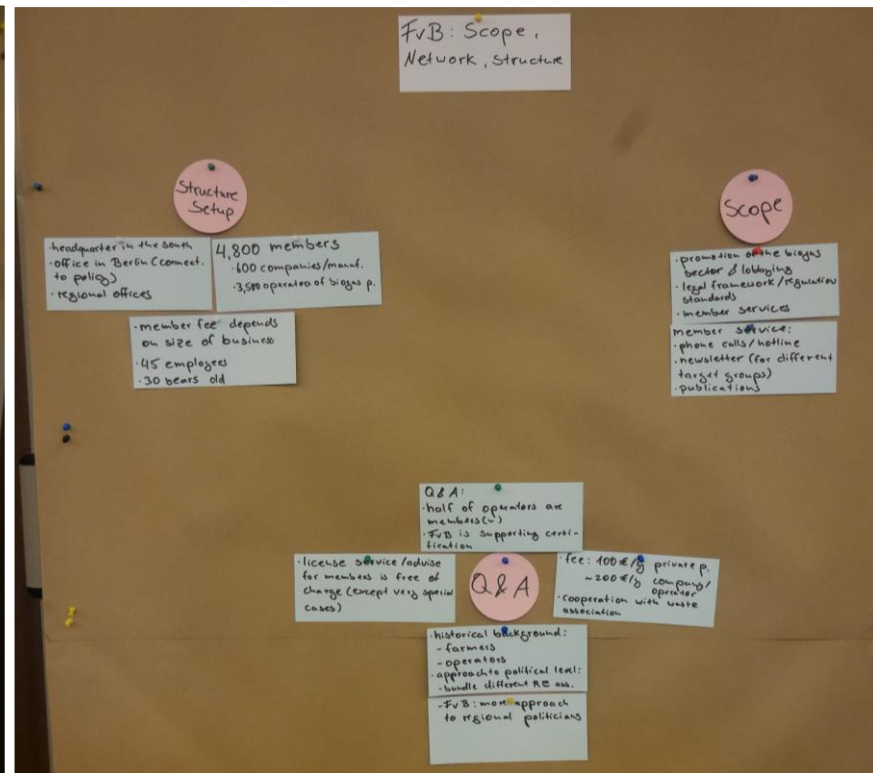


Figure 2: Overview of German Biogas Association (Frank Hofmann)

2) Afternoon Session

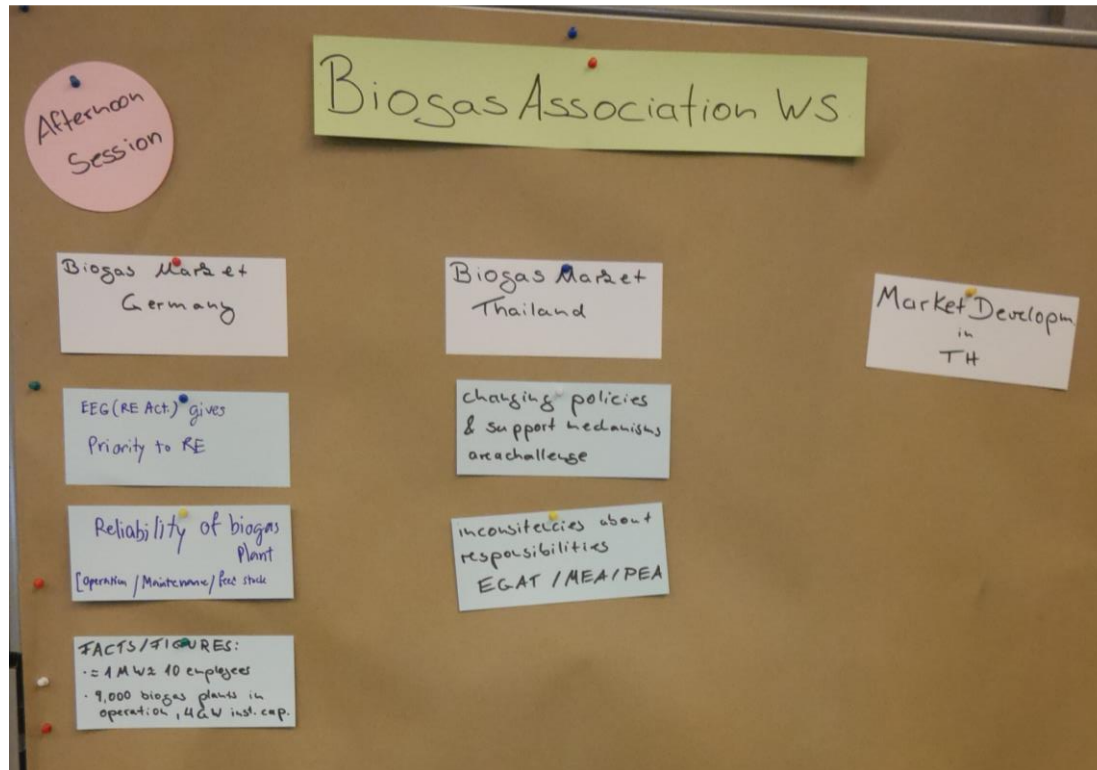


Figure 3: Overview of afternoon session and key findings

3) Summary of focal points for TBTA

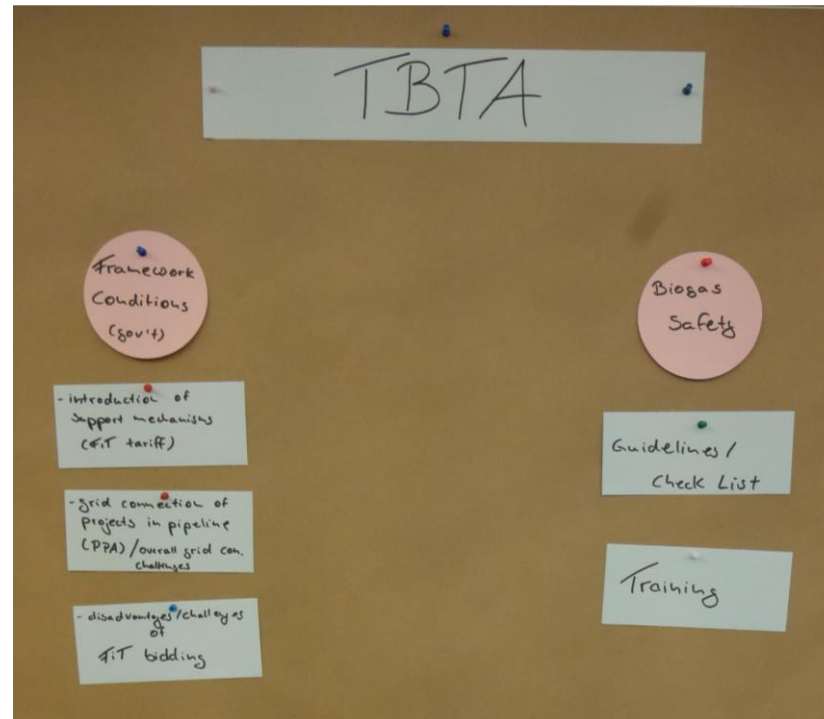


Figure 4: Priorities of future TBTA work - next steps (Framework Conditions and Biogas Safety)