



# Biogas as a key enabler to meet the biowaste challenge

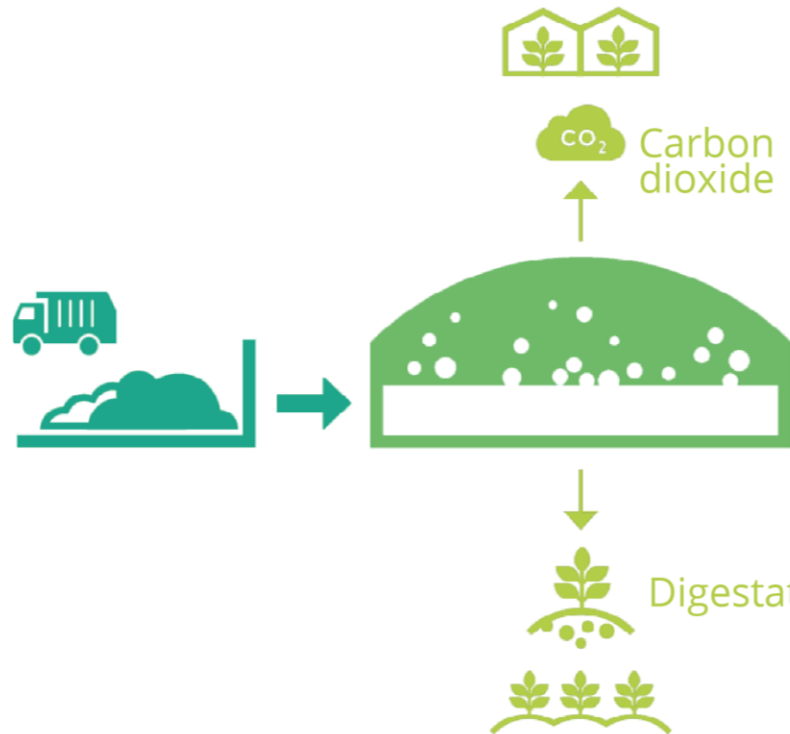
Mieke Decorte  
Technical and Project Manager  
European Biogas Association







# BIOGAS FROM BIOWASTE

## INPUTS (FEEDSTOCK)

- Energy Crops 
- Plant by-products 
- Animal by-products 
- Biowaste from households 
- Industrial & commercial organic waste 



## OUTPUTS

-  Biofuel for transport
-  Biomethane injected in natural gas grid
-  Electricity
-  Heat







# INCREASING BIOGAS POTENTIAL FROM BIOWASTE

There are relatively **more biomethane plants using biowaste than biogas plants** without upgrading.

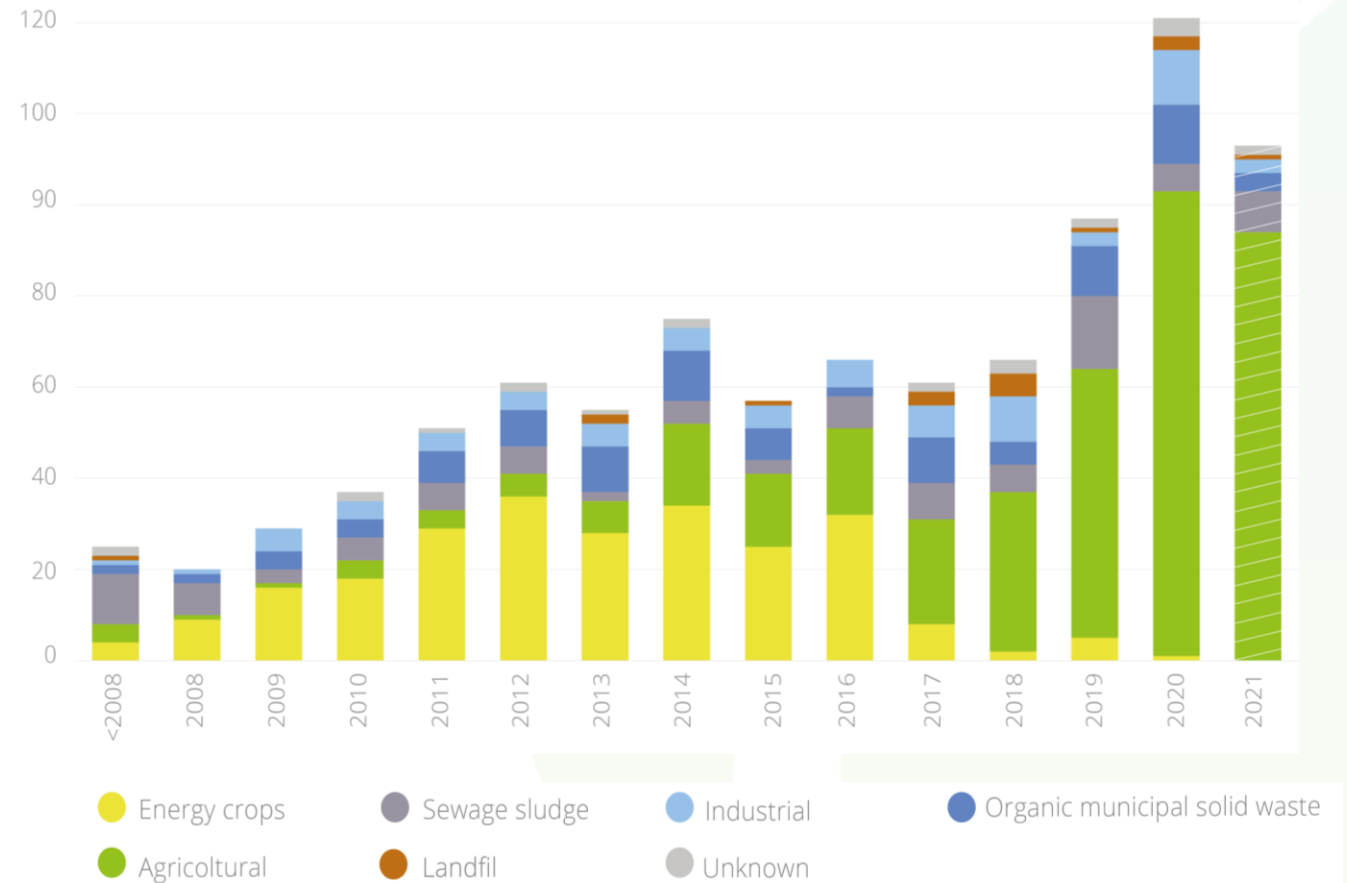
One reason is **the reduced need for digestate drying** after digestion of food waste compared to other feedstocks.



# NEWLY INSTALLED BIOMETHANE PLANTS ON BIOWASTE

This figure shows the number of newly installed biomethane plants each year.

The **instalments of new plants on biowaste** is a constant over the years.

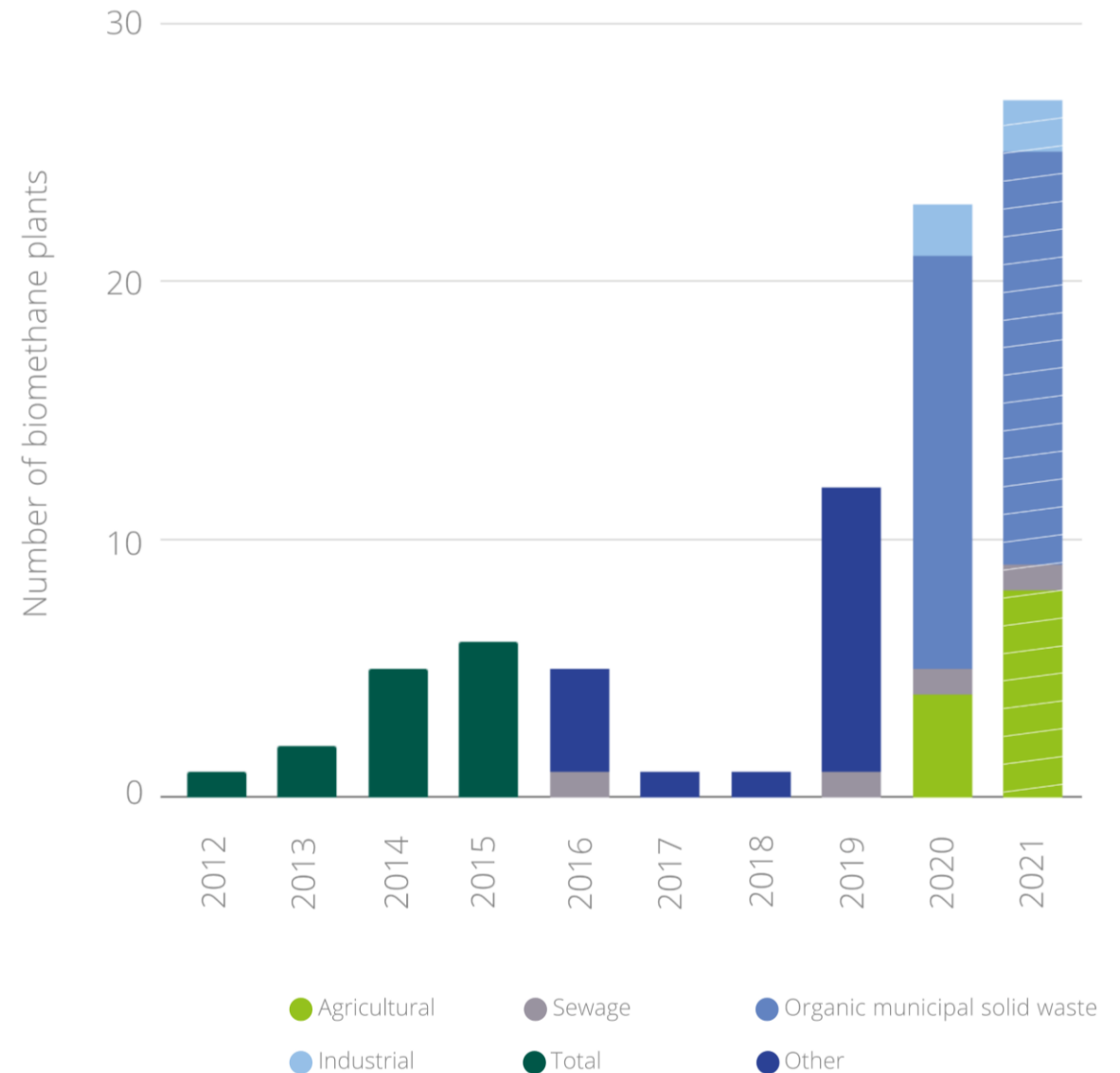


# LEADING COUNTRIES IN MEETING THE BIOWASTE CHALLENGE

Several European countries have **clear direction to produce biogas from biowaste.**

**Italy** has built **almost 30 new biomethane plants** in the last years, of which the **majority runs on biowaste.**

Biomethane production in Italy is **encouraged via the Italian biomethane decree**, with many more plants to be expected in the years ahead.

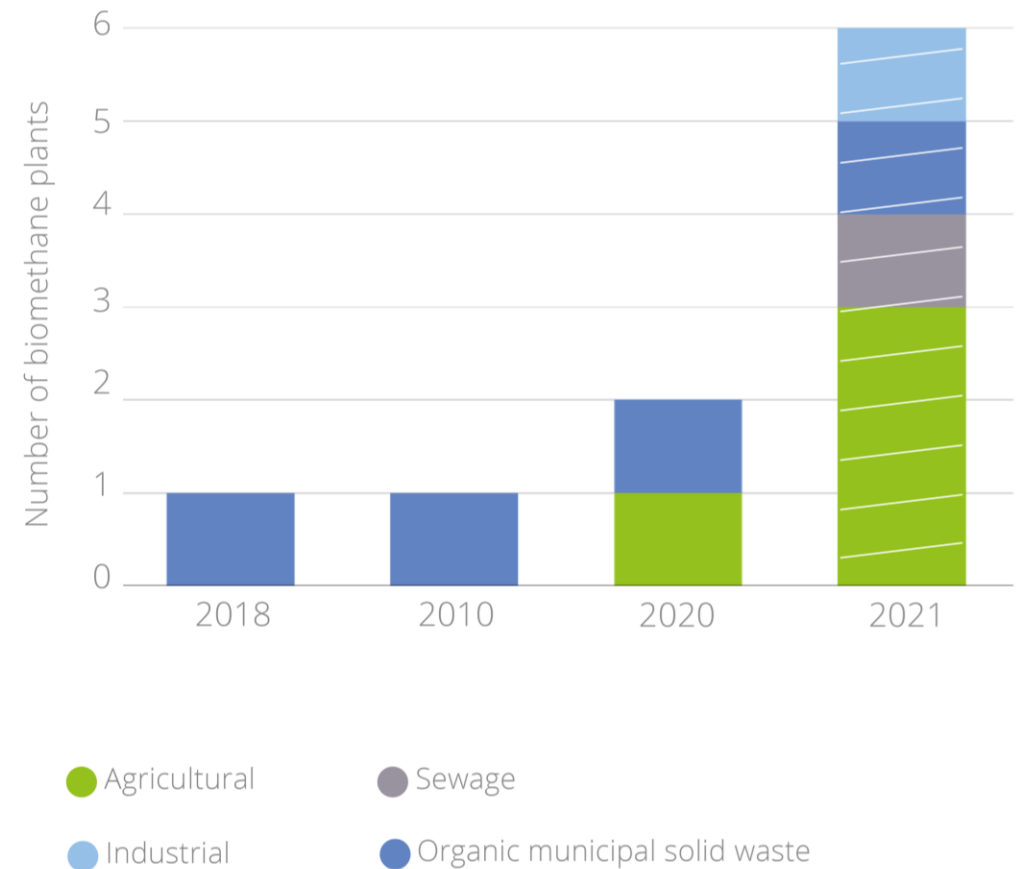


# LEADING COUNTRIES IN MEETING THE BIOWASTE CHALLENGE

In **Belgium**, biomethane production only started recently.

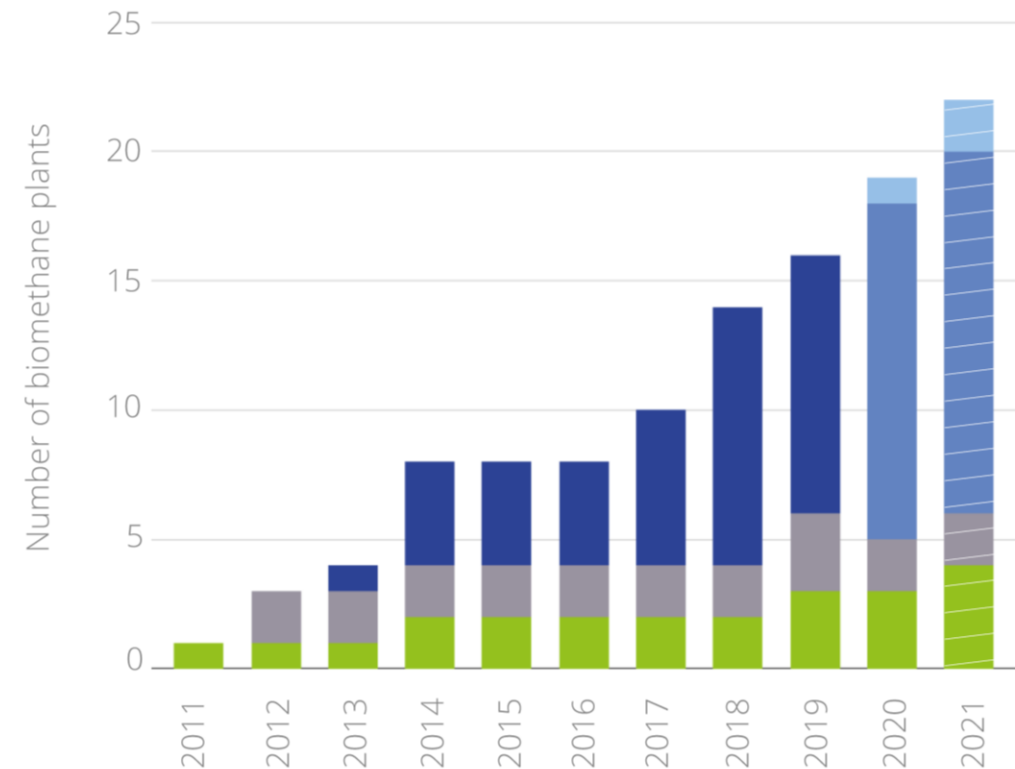
The **first biomethane plant in Belgium runs on biowaste from households** and has been extensively used a demonstration plant.

In Flanders, **composting facilities** have been increasingly keen to **invest in a digester as a pre-treatment step** in the composting process. Two such plants are under development.



# LEADING COUNTRIES IN MEETING THE BIOWASTE CHALLENGE

In **Finland**, the **majority** and an **increasing share of the biomethane plants run on biowaste** from households.



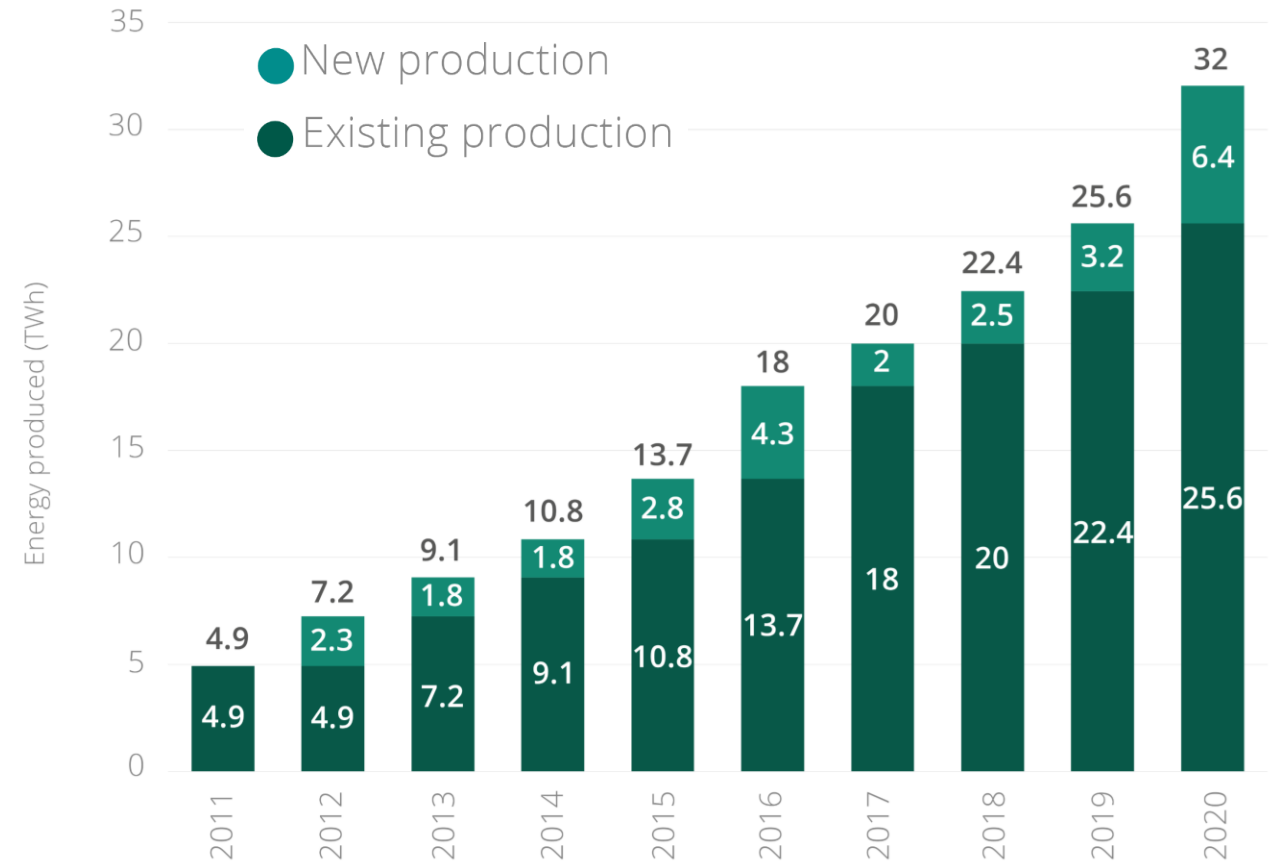


# GROWTH IN BIOMETHANE PRODUCTION

Biomethane production enjoyed remarkable growth in the last decade, and **2020 saw the biggest year on year increase so far.**

The **rate of increase** in production in 2020 was **double** that of the previous year.

An **even bigger increase is expected in 2021**, as a record number of new biomethane plants started production in 2020.



# BIOGAS AND BIOMETHANE POTENTIAL

4.6% in  
2020

- The combined biogas and biomethane production can cover today **4.6% of EU gas demand**.
- This is already higher to the natural gas consumption of **Belgium**.

11% in  
2030

- The gas for climate consortium calls for a **binding target of 11% renewable gas by 2030 with an 8% subtarget for biomethane**.
- This is confirmed to be feasible by EBA calculations.

30 – 40%  
in 2050

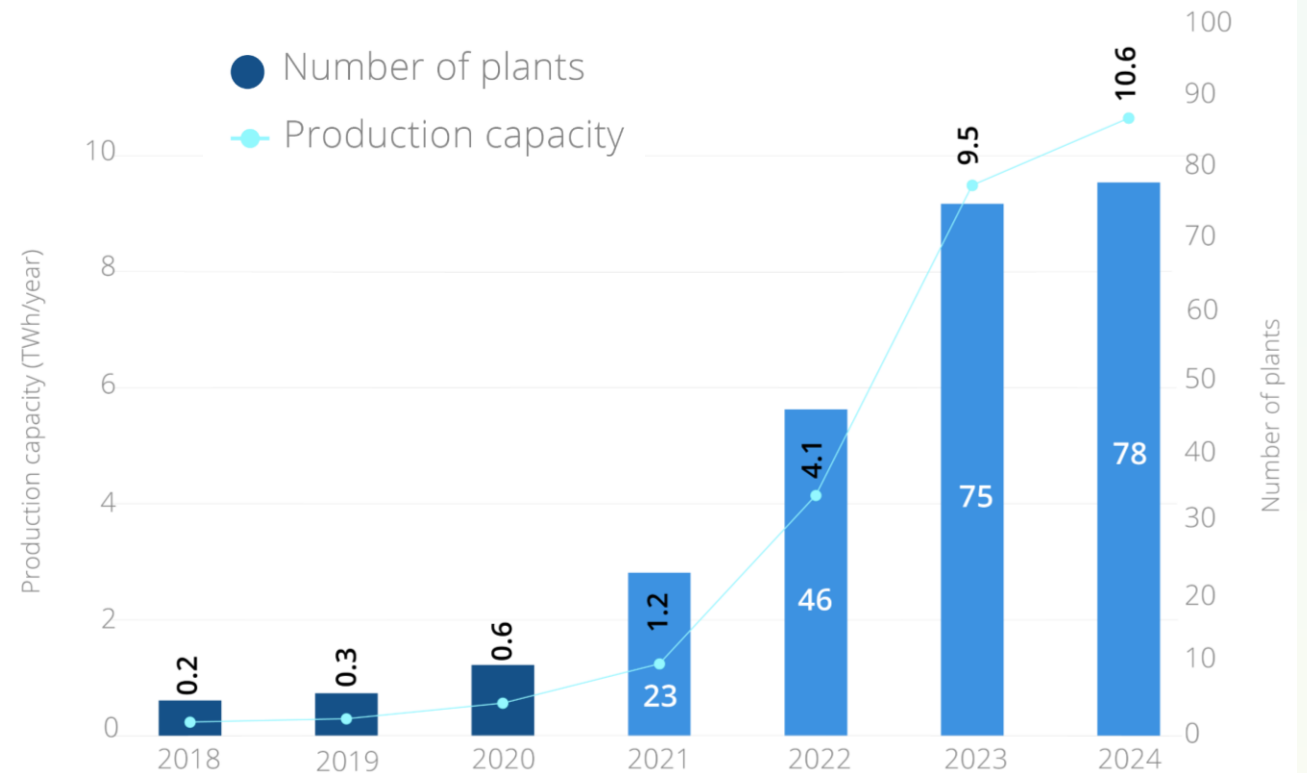
- Taking into account **decreasing gas demand**, renewable gases can cover **30 – 40% of the gas demand** by 2050.

# BIOMETHANE FOR TRANSPORT

Biomethane can be used as **transport fuel** in the form of **Bio-CNG and Bio-LNG**.

The Bio-LNG production capacity by **2024**, considering only confirmed plants, adds up to **10.6 TWh per year**.

With this volume, almost **25,000 LNG trucks** can be fueled year-round.



## Biogas and biomethane production (GWh)

**2020** 190,891

**2030** Taking the weighted average from different studies and estimates it is

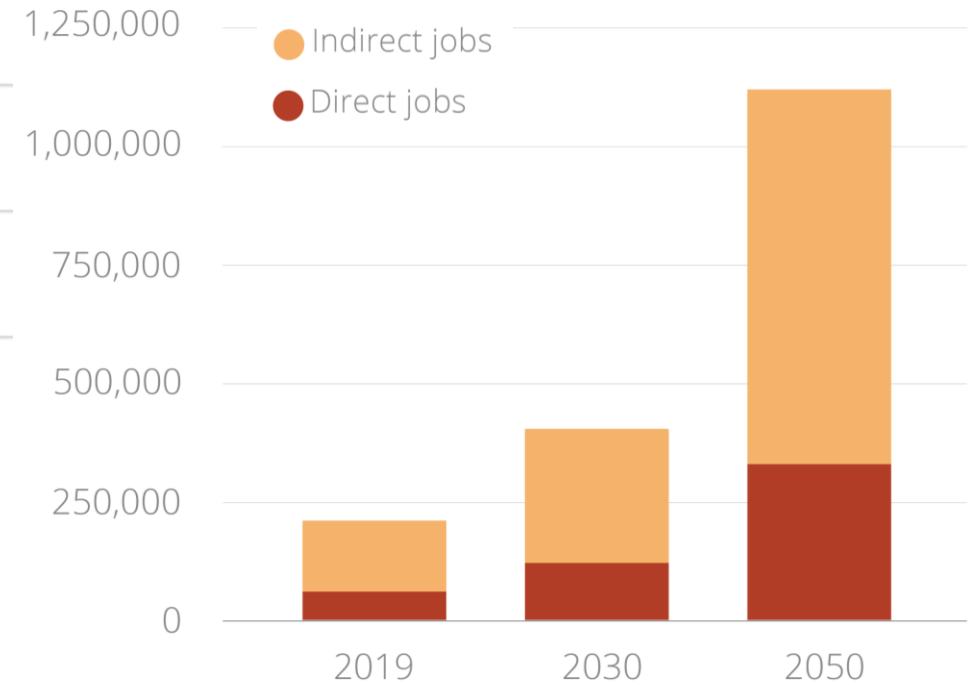
**2050** calculated that our sector is expected to create **420,000 jobs by 2030** and **over one million jobs by 2050**.

190,891

370,000

1,020,000

## Direct jobs



# EBA STATISTICAL REPORT 2021



## EBA statistical report 2021

- 🌱 Free for EBA members  
*(download via the EBANET)*
- 🌱 For sale for non-members  
*(Sales contact: Vinciane Perot  
[perot@europeanbiogas.eu](mailto:perot@europeanbiogas.eu))*