



# *Sustainability assessment: German Case Study*

Marco Colangeli

*Programme Adviser*

*Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations*

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## AIR QUALITY (GHG + NON-GHG Emissions)

In the baseline scenario the reference fuel used is natural gas. The emission intensity of natural gas is  $56 \text{ gCO}_{2\text{eq}}/\text{MJ}$  (Biograce, 2014).

Conventionally, biomethane is a substitute of natural gas for transport or residential uses

The technology employed for the production of biomethane starts for the anaerobic digestion of biomass and the subsequent upgrading of the biogas to biomethane. Biomethane is a co-product in the case of the sewage fields and the main and only product in the case of the lignite reclamation sites.

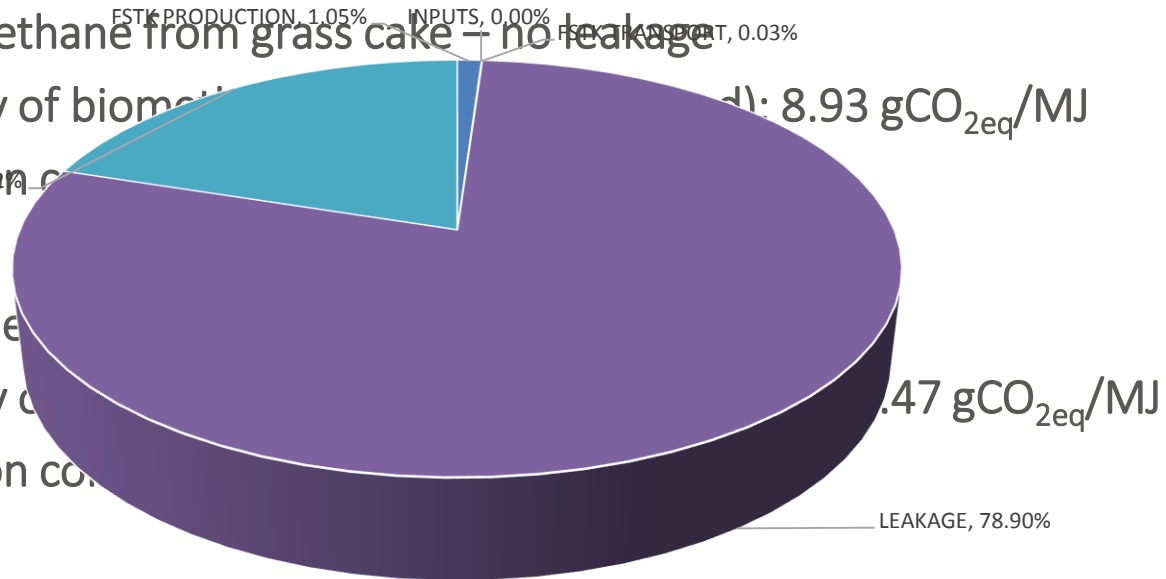


# AIR QUALITY (GHG + NON-GHG Emissions)

Target G-L): biomethane from grass cake – no leakage

Emission intensity of biomethane (Target G-L): 8.93 gCO<sub>2eq</sub>/MJ

Emission reduction compared to fossil methane: 42.4%



Target G+L): biomethane from grass cake

Emission intensity of biomethane (Target G+L): 1.47 gCO<sub>2eq</sub>/MJ

Emission reduction compared to fossil methane: 83.5%

■ FSTK PRODUCTION ■ INPUTS ■ FSTK TRANSPORT ■ LEAKAGE ■ FUEL TRANSPORT



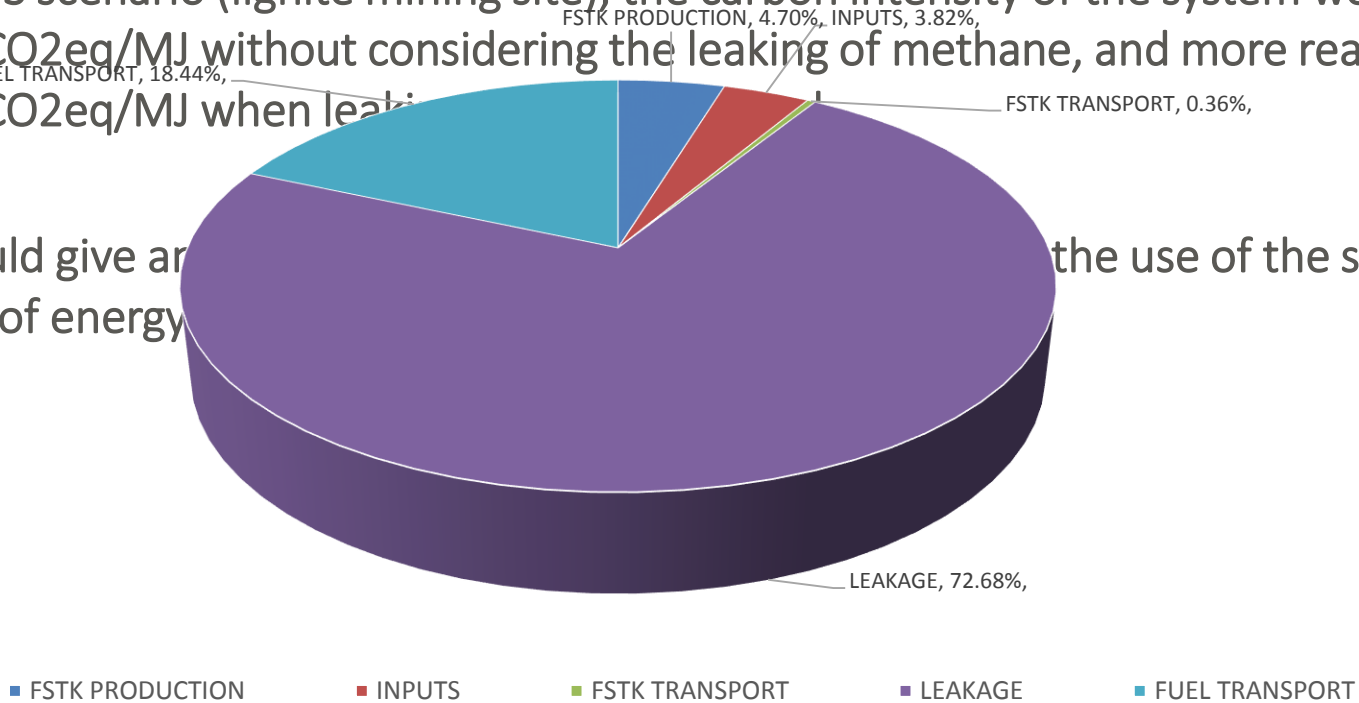
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# AIR QUALITY (GHG + NON-GHG Emissions)

In the L+S scenario (lignite mining site), the carbon intensity of the system would be 12.55 gCO<sub>2</sub>eq/MJ without considering the leaking of methane, and more realistically 45.95 gCO<sub>2</sub>eq/MJ when leaking is considered.

This would give an amount of energy equivalent to the use of the same amount of energy



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## SOIL QUALITY

Minimal or No changes in soil quality would be observed in the sewage fields because the native vegetation would only be harvested.

The cultivation of alfalfa and sorghum would have effects on soil quality. These have been estimated starting from information provided by FIB and WIP.

The L1 scenario would add 6 tons of manure/ha which would contribute to fixing 23 kg of SOM per ha per year.

In scenario S1, the considerable demand for manure (17,000 kg/ha/yr) translates into higher accumulation rates of SOM in the soils, equal to about 2,397 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>.



## EMPLOYMENT

Minimal to no effects would be observed in the case of biomethane from sewage fields because the native vegetation would only be harvested and transported to an already existing biorefinery/biomethane plant.

In the lignite mining:

Lucerne and sorghum require 2.07 ours of work per ha per year.

The cumulative surface of 7,295 ha = 15,100 working hours/year or 107 Person Months = total of 9 full time jobs (or the equivalent additional part time or seasonal jobs).

Jobs created at the biomethane plant = 4 full time permanent jobs.

Total : 23 new full time year-round jobs.



## ENERGY BALANCE

This indicator  
biomass,  
biofuel and

the  
balanced

FORBIO Assessment of Sustainability Tool FAST								
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation (FAO) / Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP)								
FORBIO Project H2020								
NET ENERGY BALANCE								
<b>BY PRODUCTS FROM GREENREFINERY</b>		MJ	28.488.600	0	0	0	0	0
	TONNES		872	0	0	0	0	0
	MJ		21.803	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL ENERGY OUTPUT</b>		MJ	38.234.318	0	0	0	0	0
<b>FEEDSTOCK PRODUCTION</b>								
	TFI		704	0	0	0	0	0
	MJ/feedstock	TFO	16.500	0	0	0	0	0
	Net Energy Value	TFO-TFI	15.796	0	0	0	0	0
	Net Energy Ratio	TFO/TFI	23,45	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
<b>FEEDSTOCK TRANSPORT and PROCESSING INTO FUEL</b>								
	TFI		23	0	0	0	0	0
	MJ/feedstock	TFO	13.153	0	0	0	0	0
	Net Energy Value	TFO-TFI	13.130	0	0	0	0	0
	Net Energy Ratio	TFO/TFI	579,53	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
<b>ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES</b>								
	MJ/feedstock							
	Net Energy Value	TFO-TFI	3.676,35	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Net Energy Ratio	TFO/TFI	0,28	0,28	0,28	0,28	0,28	0,28
<b>LIFECYCLE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF THE STUDIED VALUE CHAINS</b>								
	Net Energy Ratio	TFO/TFI	6,34	0,0000	0,0000	0,0000	0,0000	0,0000

In the case of spontaneous grass for biomethane the final EO/EI ratio is 6.34.



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## ENERGY BALANCE

the net energy ration of the system would be 5.15 for Lucerne biomethane and 5.71 for sorghum (Figure 72), considering that the share produced is 53% from Lucerne and 47% from sorghum, the weighted average TFO/TFI would be 5.41.

<b>FEEDSTOCK PRODUCTION</b>		TFI	925	156	0	0	0
	MJ/feedstock	TFO	16.019	16.400	0	0	0
	Net Energy Value	TFO-TFI	15.094	16.244	0	0	0
	Net Energy Ratio	TFO/TFI	17,32	105,09	0,00	0,00	0,00
<b>FEEDSTOCK TRANSPORT and PROCESSING INTO FUEL</b>		TFI	39	16.935.719	0	0	0
	MJ/feedstock	TFO	10.434	0	0	0	0
	Net Energy Value	TFO-TFI	10.395	-16.935.719	0	0	0
	Net Energy Ratio	TFO/TFI	268,36	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
<b>ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES</b>							
	MJ/feedstock						
	Net Energy Value	TFO-TFI	2.910,63	-4.742.001,20	0,00	0,00	0,00
	Net Energy Ratio	TFO/TFI	0,28	0,28	0,28	0,28	0,28
<b>LIFECYCLE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF THE STUDIED VALUE CHAINS</b>							
	Net Energy Ratio	TFO/TFI	5,1486	5,7117	0,0000	0,0000	0,0000

# Thank you



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