

COP31 - Biogas declaration

We, national governments and other stakeholders, including international organisations, financial institutions, philanthropies, private sector entities, and civil society organisations;

United in our commitments to urgently address climate change and achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, particularly pursuing efforts to limit temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, and meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

Emphasising the need for affordable, equitable, secure and sustainable biogas and biomethane, capable of being produced locally in every global community, supporting rural economies, creating local jobs, integrating seamlessly into existing gas infrastructure, reducing carbon intensity, and driving clean transportation, mobility, heating, cooling, power generation, and product development;

Recognising that biogas and biomethane production and use plays a substantial role in providing affordable and clean energy, and an important tool towards climate action. Moreover, it provides a pathway towards sustainable cities and communities contributing to a circular economy;

Recognising that the renewable energy production of biogas and biomethane from readily available waste streams and agricultural residues, plays substantial role reducing wastesector methane emissions on a large scale and provide and economic development of rural areas;

Recognising that renewable biogas and biomethane are vital pillars of energy security, offering a reliable, locally sourced alternative to imported fossil fuels that can be produced at a constant pace, making them an accessible and scalable solution for achieving both climate goals and long-term energy stability. By transforming organic waste into clean, renewable energy, these green gases reduce dependency on volatile energy markets and enhance resilience against supply disruptions.

Recognizing that biomethane can utilize the existing gas and LNG infrastructure without requiring any technological adjustments, as their chemical composition is essentially the same as that of natural gas from fossil origin. Furthermore, utilizing the existing basic natural gas and LNG infrastructure does not require additional infrastructure investments as it depends on facilities that are already in place and backed by a well-established international market.

Recognising that, beside the above-mentioned advantages, the biogases and biomethane value chain can provide even carbon negative pathways, both by capturing methane emissions which otherwise naturally occur as well as storing carbon in the soil (Carbon removal and carbon farming), while also providing organic amendment and fertilisers (co-benefit to soil health);

Acknowledging the unfolding ramp up of its production in EU, USA, China, India and Brasil and its worldwide potential;^{1 2}

Emphasising that biogas and biomethane provides 3 distinct advantages by providing 1) flexible, sustainable fuel from organic waste, 2) direct financial support and potential large environmental improvement in the agriculture sector, including the production of organic fertilisers, 3) biomethane provides biogenic carbon necessary to produce sustainable synthetic fuels such as sustainable aviation and low-carbon marine fuels;

Raising the concern that despite record growth, ready availability, and a proven track record demonstrating meaningful defossilization, energy equity and energy security, biogas and biomethane nevertheless remain far short of their full volume potential 345;^{3 4 5}

Building on the outcome of the first Global Stocktake under the Paris Agreement as part of the UAE Consensus, particularly decision 1/CMA.5, paragraphs 27, 28 and 29, highlighting the need for deep, rapid and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in line with 1.5°C pathways and calling on governments to contribute to various global efforts, including accelerating zero- and low-emission technologies, including, *inter alia*, renewables, nuclear, as well as abatement and removal technologies.

We, the endorsers, hereby declare our commitment to:

Work together to scale up biogases and biomethane production and its deployment as renewable gas to facilitate the energy transition for industry, transport and households, while also facilitating the agri-ecological transition by using its organic fertilisers and facilitate the use of biogenic CO₂, and as a readily available technology for reducing methane in the organic waste sector. Focussing especially on the developments of biogas in rural areas taking into account national circumstances.

We highlight the need to strengthen efforts, collective and individual, to fulfil this commitment, including by way of:

Stimulating demand for locally produced biogas and biomethane as available, renewable and most affordable gas, by the advancement of demand-side initiatives and publicprivate partnerships to advance deployment particularly in end-use sectors that are difficult to defossilize;

¹ IEA, Renewables 2023: Analyses and forecast to 2028, 2023

² IEA, Outlook for Biogas and Biomethane; A global geospatial analyses, 2025

³ IRENA, Agricultural residue-based bioenergy: Regional potential and scale-up strategies, 2023

⁴ CEDIGAZ, Global Biomethane Market 2024 Assessment, 2024

⁵ IEA, Outlook for Biogas and Biomethane; A global geospatial analyses, 2025

Supporting the need for international financial instruments and technical support to enable practical implementation in particular in developing countries, to accelerate investment in biogas and biomethane and in the use of the resulting organic fertilisers and biogenic carbon feedstocks;

Facilitating efficient and rapid connections between biogas and biomethane production plants and the natural gas and LNG infrastructure networks, enabling the swift integration of these renewable gases into the gas and transport market;

Enabling widespread reductions in emissions of methane, which is greenhouse gas emission 28X more harmful than CO₂ over 100-year period (GWP100), through improvements in organic waste management which are an inherent part of biogas and biomethane production, especially as it pertains to regions with less developed organic waste infrastructure;

Seeking implementation of globally recognised production quality standards to maximise the environmental benefits to society;

Promoting certification systems for guarantees of origin to enable the swift integration of biogas and biomethane into gas systems and their effective tradability in gas markets;

Standardizing carbon accounting and procurement methodologies across jurisdictions and between programs, including both voluntary and compliance markets, regarding the use of lifecycle assessment and data-based inputs, and the use of market-based instruments where biogas-based power and biomethane are transported within connected electricity and gas distribution networks, respectively;

Promoting just transition and capacity building to assist in reskilling and upskilling industry workforces, while also providing essential information to policymakers to unlock quality jobs and new economic opportunities, green industrialisation and socio-economic growth, particularly in emerging markets and developing economies, to facilitate safe, inclusive and equitable just transitions, pursuing the acceleration of biogas and biomethane and its additional benefits;

Acknowledging global security challenges, underscore the critical role of biogas and biomethane in enhancing energy resilience, reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels, and fostering circular economy.

Investing in research, development and demonstration (RD&D) and knowledge-exchange along the biogas and biomethane value chain and working together with other governments and stakeholders to support continued innovation and sharing of best practices;

Promoting climate and environmental stewardship by advancing practical and impactful climate and environmental responsibility by actively tackling the sustainability dimensions of

biogas and biomethane through initiatives like fostering alliances to support global defossilisation, sharing best practices, and engaging and empowering local communities.

Encouraging the integration biogas and biomethane and its additional benefits such as stable organic fertilisers and a source of biogenic carbon feedstocks, into national climate and energy plans, where relevant and possible, and subject to national circumstances. This Declaration represents our collective intent to drive forward the global agenda for sustainable biogas and biomethane and its additional products as organic fertiliser and source of biogenic CO₂, placing our climate commitments at the centre, working to ensure sustainable, just and equitable energy transitions for all.

We commit to reconvene at the 31st UN Climate Change Conference to discuss progress in our collective efforts.