



Embassy of the
Federal Republic of Germany



The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Cairo and the Ministry of Environment of the Arab Republic of Egypt have the pleasure to invite you to the 73rd Cairo Climate Talks (CCT)



Biogas Production: A growing demand and a growing potential

TUESDAY, 20TH OF APRIL 2021 AT 3:00 PM GMT+2
VIRTUAL CCT VIA ZOOM (PLEASE REGISTER [HERE](#))

Opened by

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For our first event of 2021 we are exploring a promising comprehensive solution that is yet to be fully explored in the Egyptian context: the potential of agricultural and municipal waste for energy production.

Energy transitions are an integral part of switching to cleaner economies and preserving the climate. Different renewable fuels require different modes of investment and planning, and they provide energy with different levels of stability and ease of access. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) small scale biogas produced from the digestion of organic waste contributes to the mitigation of emissions from the energy sector and the waste sector alike.

In addition to the environmental benefits, inclusion of biogas in the energy mix has various impacts on social factors. Research has shown that investment in biogas has more potential to create jobs than fossil fuels and many renewable energy sources. It is also one of the most decentralized energy sources and the least demanding in terms of land-use and capital.

In Egypt, agriculture plays a huge role in the economy and is one of the biggest contributors to the country's greenhouse gas emissions. In addition to agricultural waste, municipal organic waste accounts for 56% of all solid waste, making Egypt an ideal candidate for **decentralized biogas production**.

In a pilot project by the International Labor Organization (ILO) in Port Said, the introduction of a biogas digestor resulted in a significant improvement to the level of pollution, availability of energy and increase of economic opportunity and acquired skill, it was replicated by other members of the community independently. According to a study conducted by Heinrich Boll Foundation and the Egyptian Center for Economic and social rights, increasing biomass capacity has the potential to provide up to 228 thousand jobs per annual gigawatt by 2035. These jobs would be decentralized and in technical fields as well as collection, sorting, and logistical assistance. Given that Egypt's unemployment rates have increased at the end of the year 2020 during the global crisis, investing in decentralized biogas production offers more than environmental benefits.

The Egyptian government has taken note of the enormous biogas potential and represented in the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Social Solidarity has launched 60 biogas units in El Minya in December of 2020 in an effort to cover the energy demand of rural villages and provide additional economic opportunities for its families. In addition to the digestors, the project provided technical training to members of the community. H.E. Nevine Kabbage, Minister of Social Solidarity, announced that this is the first phase of a nation-wide initiative aiming to uplift rural communities living in poverty to supply them with affordable accessible energy.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Cairo Climate Talks are conceived, organized and hosted as a cooperation between the German Embassy in Cairo, the Egyptian Ministry of Environment, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ).



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