

The New Kid on the (renewable) block - Biogas in Germany

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EESI Briefing

Renewable Biogas: Too Valuable to Waste

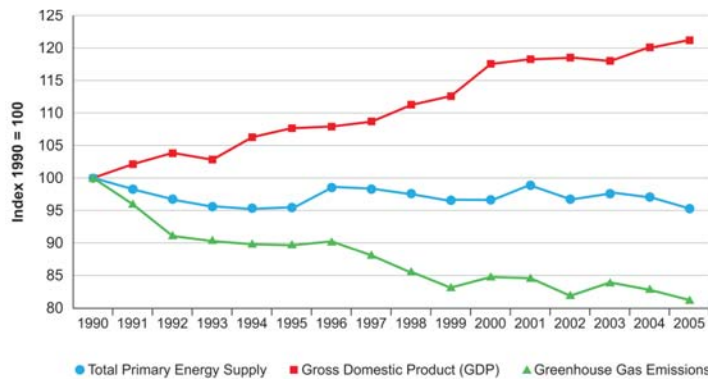
Germany: climate/energy targets for 2020

- 40% less GHG emissions (270 Mio. Tons)
- 30% share of renewable energy in electricity
- 14% share of renewable energy in heating
- Doubling of energy efficiency

-> Policies:

comprehensive and long-term (carbon taxes in 1999,
cap&trade in 2005 etc.)

Germany: Economic growth and emission reduction is possible

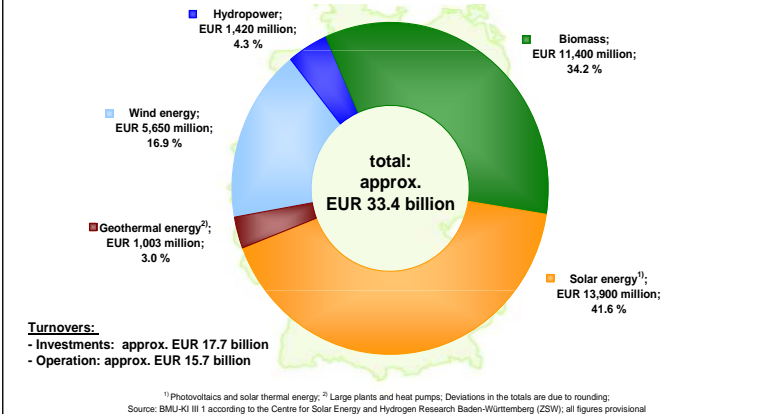


Source: Statistisches Bundesamt, Umweltbundesamt, AGEB

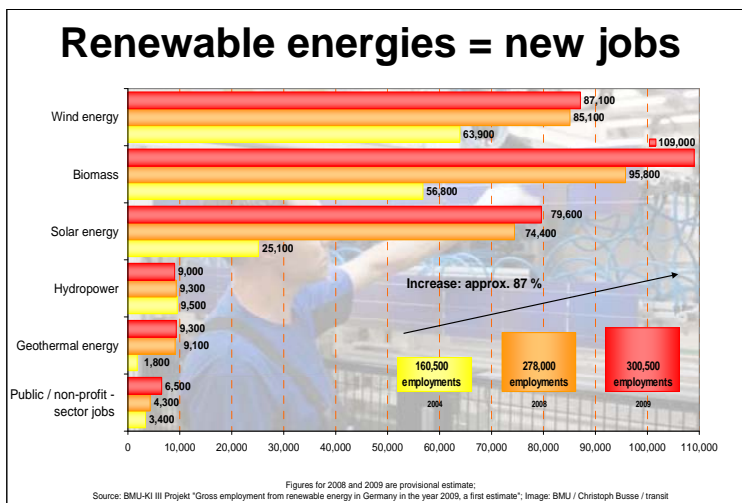
Why is Germany moving aggressively towards renewable energies?

1. Fighting climate change
2. Global markets for green technologies
3. New and well-paying jobs
4. Energy independence (e.g. Russian natural gas)

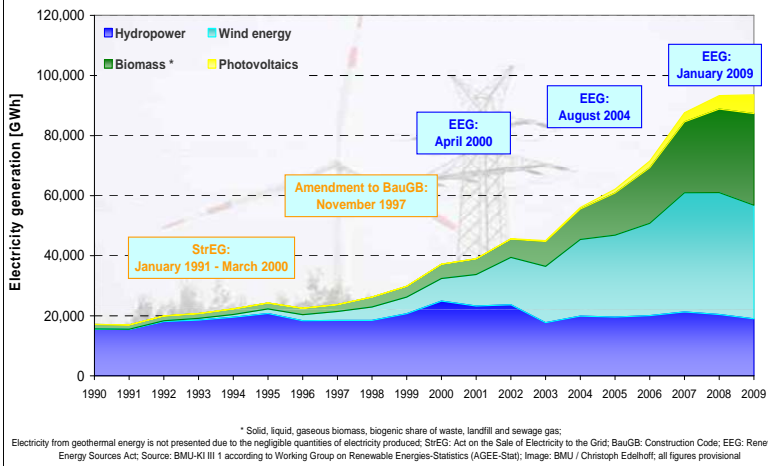
Renewable energies = good business



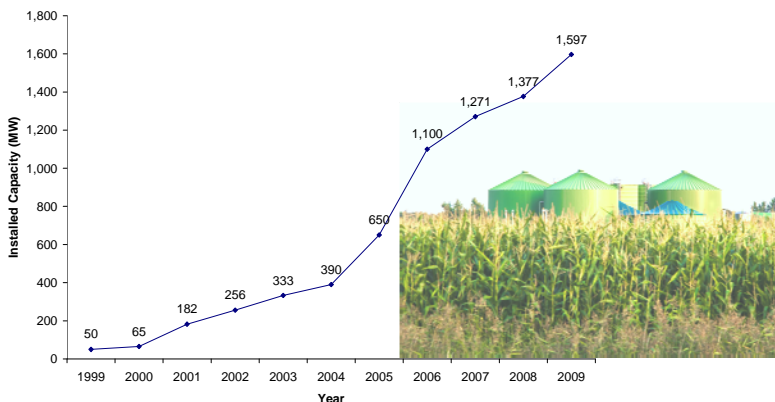
Renewable energies = new jobs



Feed-in tariffs drive wind, biomass, solar



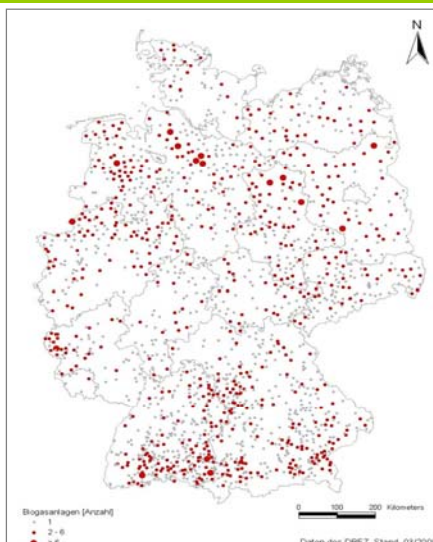
Biogas, the new kid on the (renewable) block



Sources: German Biogas Association 2010, istock

Biogas in Germany

- 5,000 installations in 2010
- Small (<190 kW) and large
- Power 3.8 mio households
- Germany is leading the EU in biogas production
- Biogas as complimentary energy to wind and pv



Source: German Biomass Research Center 2009

New Report by HBS: Beyond Biofuels - Renewable Energy Opportunities for US Farmers

1. feed-in tariff (FIT) for investment certainty
2. A comprehensive national climate and energy strategy
3. Social catalysts like a pro-active farm bureau and renewable energy industry lobby (GBA: 1992!); banks and machinery syndicates
4. 100% RE regions
5. stable farm income; diversification of income; high public support.

Transatlantic conclusion on biogas

1. Comprehensive national climate/energy strategy
2. Specific state targets and policies (e.g. FITs).
3. Strong stakeholder networks and strategic alliances (renewable energy industry; agriculture, environmental groups; municipalities).

- > **Biogas roadmap for the US** (including issue of sustainability standards).

Thank you!

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