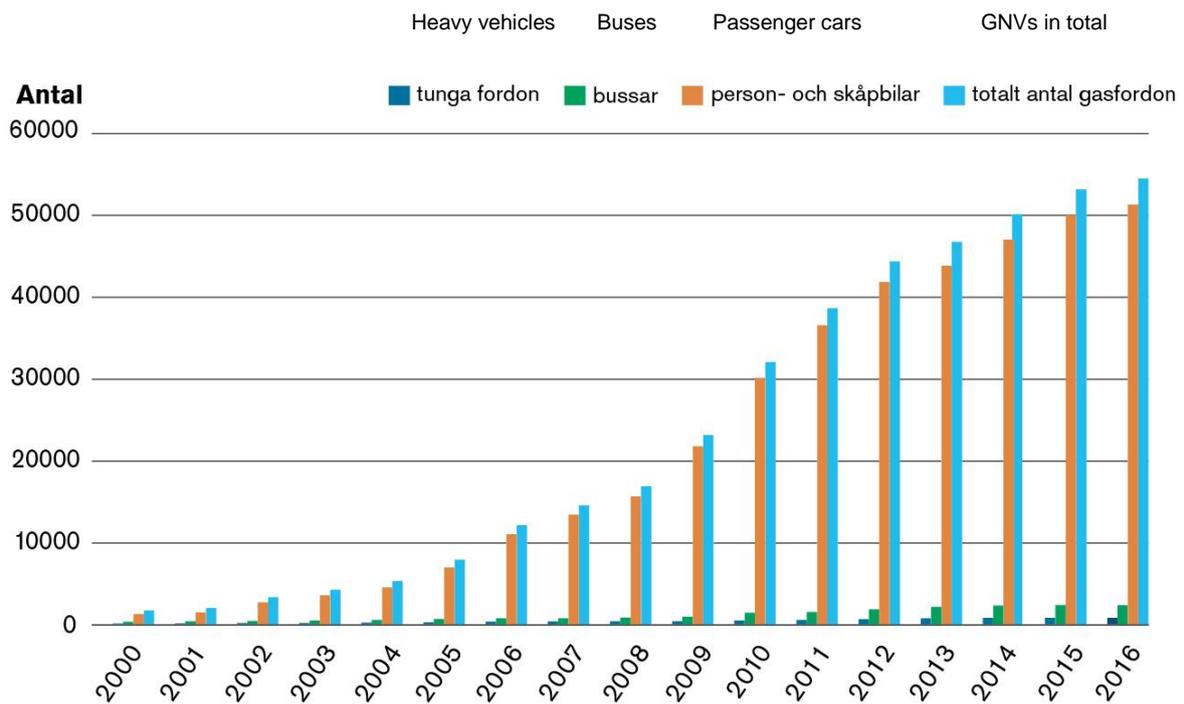




Institutional building and networking Southeast Sweden



Källa: SCB



Background and description of the network Biogas Sydost

In Sweden where electricity and heat are mainly produced from non-fossil energy carriers, bio-methane is considered as an interesting alternative fuel in transport sector where the dependency of fossil fuels is still high. In 2017 there were 65 plants that upgrade biogas to biomethane in Sweden, in total 1,258 TWh/yr. Both the biomethane volume used for vehicle fuel as well as the number of vehicles that can run on bio-methane have increased considerable since the start. See diagram above. In 2017, 73 % of the gas used in transport is biomethane and only 27 % natural gas. In the first half of 2018, the share was 90 % biomethane.

In Sweden gas represents less than 3 % of the energy supply. This is one of the reasons why there is an insufficient infrastructure for gas in the country. Therefore, when producing biomethane for transport, all three steps have to be synchronized: production, distribution and consumption. This calls for cooperation between key actors, both private and public, along the whole biomethane value chain. When a new producer wants to build a plant to be able to produce biomethane he must, in addition to all pre-studies and permissions, find a customer that is willing to buy sufficient quantities and sign a contract for, say, ten years. This is often the Public Transport Administration that is dependent of political decisions and targets set by the regional authorities. But the producer doesn't sell directly to the end user. The one that buys the CBG from the producer is in general an energy company. Sometimes the energy companies agree to build the infrastructure but not always. Then the producers must find other actors that are willing to invest in infrastructure e.g. municipalities. The next step is to find a supplier of biogas and biomethane plants. If you are not big enough to build a biomethane plant alone, you need partners and contracts with them. If you are a farmer you may not have all the information you need or the time to do the paper work, so you need a consultant or an advisor to help you. You may even need other producers to discuss your problems with. You need a network.

Biogas Sydost is one of eight biomethane networks in Sweden. It consists of both public and private stakeholders and key actors all along the biomethane value chain. All the networks have a close co-operation under the umbrella of the Swedish Gas Association. This makes it possible for us to always have updated information of what is coming and with joint forces influence our politicians on national level.

Aims and Objectives of Biogas Sydost

Biogas Sydost is a regional network with the task is to improve the conditions for biomethane and to increase the production and consumption of biomethane. By bringing different actors together, Biogas Sydost makes it possible to reach the targets set on the regional level.

The members of Biogas Sydost prepared, on the leadership of the ESS and together with the County Administrative Boards and with the co-financing from the Intelligent Energy Europe – program, a Regional Strategy and Action Plan for biomethane in transport for 2014-17. The targets in the strategy have been well anchored in the region and build the leading line for our work.

Implementation

The scope and the principles for the network as well as the targets and tasks were decided in meetings with key actors and stakeholders. The other biomethane networks that already existed served as good examples.

Results and Impacts by 2018

- An increase in biomethane production from 10 GWh/yr to 75 GWh/yr since 2012
- Seven biomethane plants, 14 refuelling stations, six bus depots, two public procurements in favour of biomethane.
- Regional Strategy and Action Plan for Biomethane in Transport

Start Date: 18th August 2008. End Date: On going

Partners and Stakeholders

Suppliers of substrate: KSRR, municipal waste management company representing five municipalities. **Producers:** Växjö Municipality, Alvesta Biogas, More Biogas, VMAB (even suppliers). **Municipalities:** Ronneby, Karlskrona, Oskarshamn, Mönsterås, Mörbylånga. **Consumers:** Kalmar Länstrafik (KLT), the Regional Transport Authority, municipalities. **Distributors:** E.ON Biofor and Småländska Bränslen. **Suppliers of plants:** Purac (AD-plants) and Puregas Solutions (Upgrading plants). **Regional actors:** Regional Council of Kalmar County. **Advisors:** Stefan Halldorf Konsult.

How this Action could be Replicated

These kinds of networks can be built anywhere. There are no barriers but of course you will have to adapt them to your conditions.

Lessons Learnt

All members must feel that they win on this cooperation. Study visits and round table discussions are very important. We solve problems together and help each other and we work together in projects and workgroups.



Find out more about this and other BiogasAction topics at: <http://biogasaction.eu/>

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