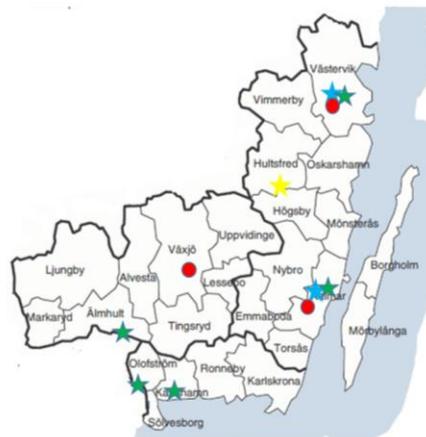


# **Implementation of the Regional Strategy and Action Plan for biomethane in Southeast Sweden**

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## Biomethane in Southeast Sweden in 2011



Public procurement in Kalmar County 2007 - 18 buses

2 busdepots (blue)  
5 public refuelling stations (green)  
3 production plants with upgrading unit (red)

### Background and description of the good practice

#### Introduction / description

In 2011, the Southeast Sweden was still a white spot on the map compared with many other regions in Sweden when it comes to production and consumption of biomethane. In October 2011, the regional network Biogas southeast initiated, as part of the Biomethane Regions project, the work with a common strategy and action plan for biomethane including the whole southeast region together. The strategy was prepared by the members of Biogas Sydost during several task force meetings and financed by the Intelligent Energy Europe program together with our three County Administrative Boards.

Regional representatives were invited to attend two seminars with workshops to give their opinion of the work. Members of Biogas Sydost also suggested that new targets for biomethane should be set in Kalmar County which also happened. The new targets were sent to all stakeholders and key actors in our region for comments together with the regional strategy and action plan. In total 35 stakeholders sent their comments, a considerable number considering that there are only 25 municipalities and three counties in Southeast Sweden. The comments were taken into consideration and the strategy revised accordingly. In the beginning of 2014, the strategy was finalized and approved.

### Aims and objectives of this action

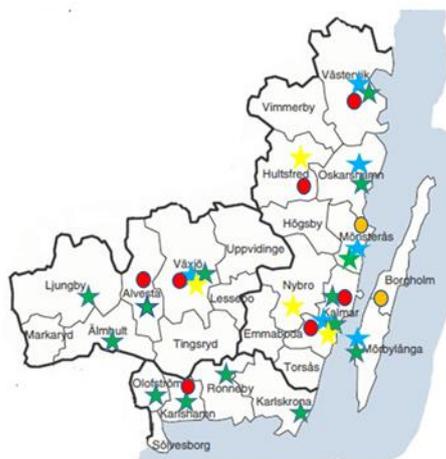
The strategy is aimed as a tool to help our three counties to reach their climate targets, become free from fossil fuels and to reach the target of a fossil fuel independent transport sector in 2030 set by the Swedish Government.

### Technical and/or Financial Implementation

Since the targets and the strategy how to reach them, as well as the suggested actions and the responsible organisations are well known by all the stakeholders, the members of the regional network, Biogas Sydost, has been able to continue the work. Co-financing from the H2020 BiogasAction has been crucial for the success. It has made it possible to support the implementation work when the Biomethane project ended. BiogasAction has also been the bridge between different initiatives allowing the PM to react when there are new possibilities coming up before they become projects. But also the national investment support for biomethane production as well as the tax exemption to stimulate the consumption have been crucial for success.

### Results and contribution from BiogasAction

Project outcomes in terms of BiogasAction’s performance indicators



#### By 2014

- Common strategy and Action Plan 2014-17 (2020)
- 4 new biomethane plants 2012-15 (10 => 80 GWh/yr)
- Public procurement of buses in Växjö in favour of biomethane, 2013
- 9 refuelling stations for BioCNG

#### By 2018

- Public procurement in Kalmar county, 2016, 60% or 54 GWh/yr biomethane
- 3 new plants planned (LBG) or being built (CBG)
- 14 refuelling stations for BioCNG
- Pre-study concerning liquefied biomethane for heavy vehicles, marine transport and industry 2016-17
- Roadmap for a national LBG platform 2017-18

The implementation started already during the work with the strategy and some of it even before, but the real breakthrough came during the Biogas Action project with the public procurement of buses that in Sweden goes under the name of “To make a Kalmar”. The procurement resulted in a big interest to produce biomethane especially among farmers.

The next move that gained a lot of attention both in our own region but also on national level, was the work that was done to find out if there was a market for liquefied biomethane produced in our region. Today there are 180 GWh/yr biomethane waiting to be produced. But it is still not enough. E.g. we have not yet reached the target of 300 GWh/yr in Kalmar county. Both Kalmar and Blekinge Counties wish to have at least one refuelling station in each municipality which is a very challenging target. Today in Blekinge there are refuelling stations in four out of five municipalities and in Kalmar County there are six (+one that is being built) in altogether 12 municipalities.

What we have failed with so far is to introduce passenger cars and light vehicles on the private market. This is not only a problem in our region but a national problem that applies even for electric vehicles. They only represent a little more than 1 % each from the whole car park in Sweden. Today there are three different initiatives to get more BioGNVs on the market, one of them, a pre-study, is made in Biogas Action.

### The Partners and Stakeholders



The partners that have been involved in the preparation and implementation of the strategy so far are the members of our regional network but the number of people involved in the biomethane industry is increasing.

### How this Action could be Replicated

I think that this action could be repeated in all European countries that participated in the IEE Biomethane Regions-project and that have a lot of substrate and benefit from biogas/biomethane production as well. The process should only be adapted to the situation in each country.

### Lessons Learnt

- The most important component in this work is cooperation with those in charge of the regional and local environmental targets.
- One should not invent new goals but break down the national and regional targets to fit biomethane and make sure that they are known and accepted by all the stakeholders (politicians, regional actors etc.) and key actors (those who will do the work).
- Stick to the targets
- Inform broadly about the work and especially about the success
- Initiate new projects i.e. make sure there is financing for the work and cooperation between the actors all along the value chain
- Identify financing possibilities for the investments needed
- Put pressure on decision makers not only on regional but also on national level
- Be patient. These are long processes.

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

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#### Further Information:

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