

# **EBA's strategy and policy work to value socio-economic benefits**

**COASTAL Biogas – Conference Lithuania**

30 September 2020

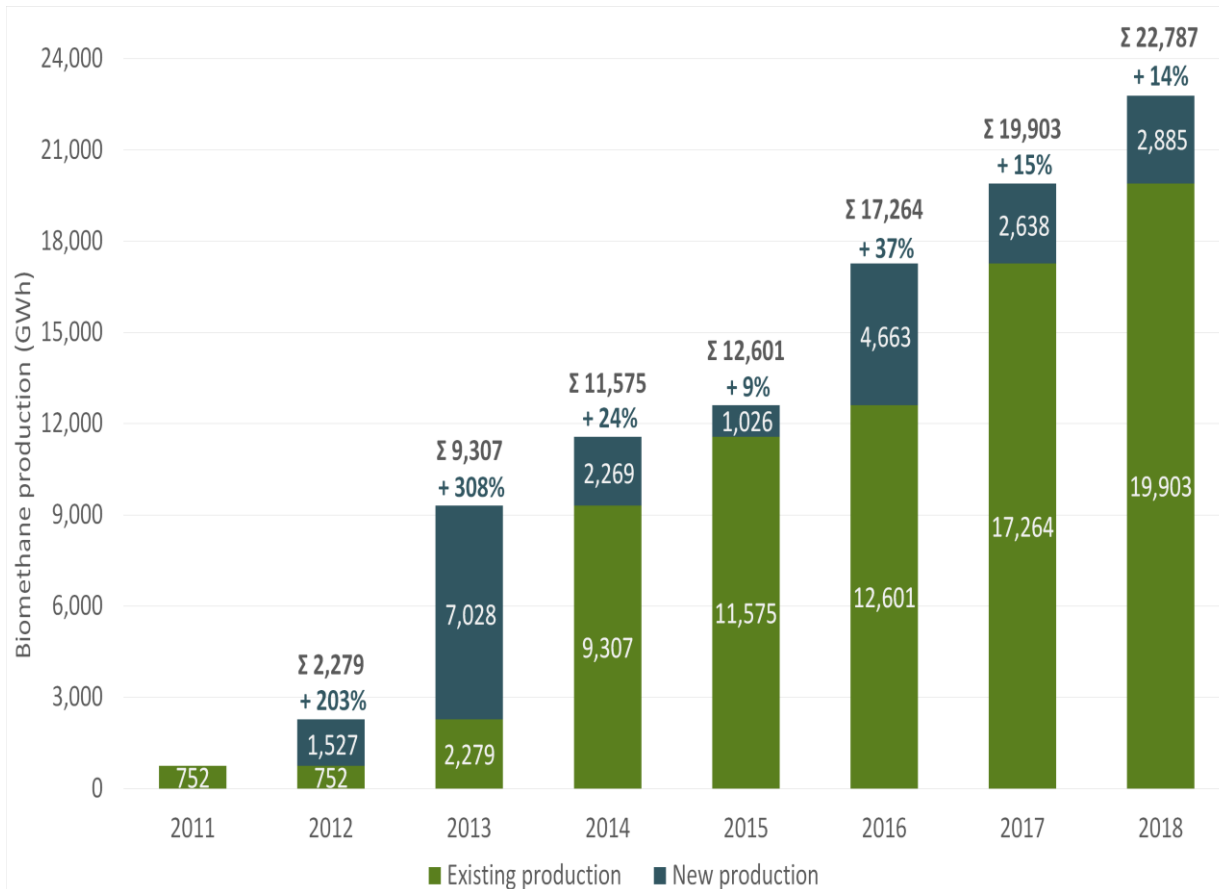
Susanna Pflüger

# European Biogas Association (EBA)

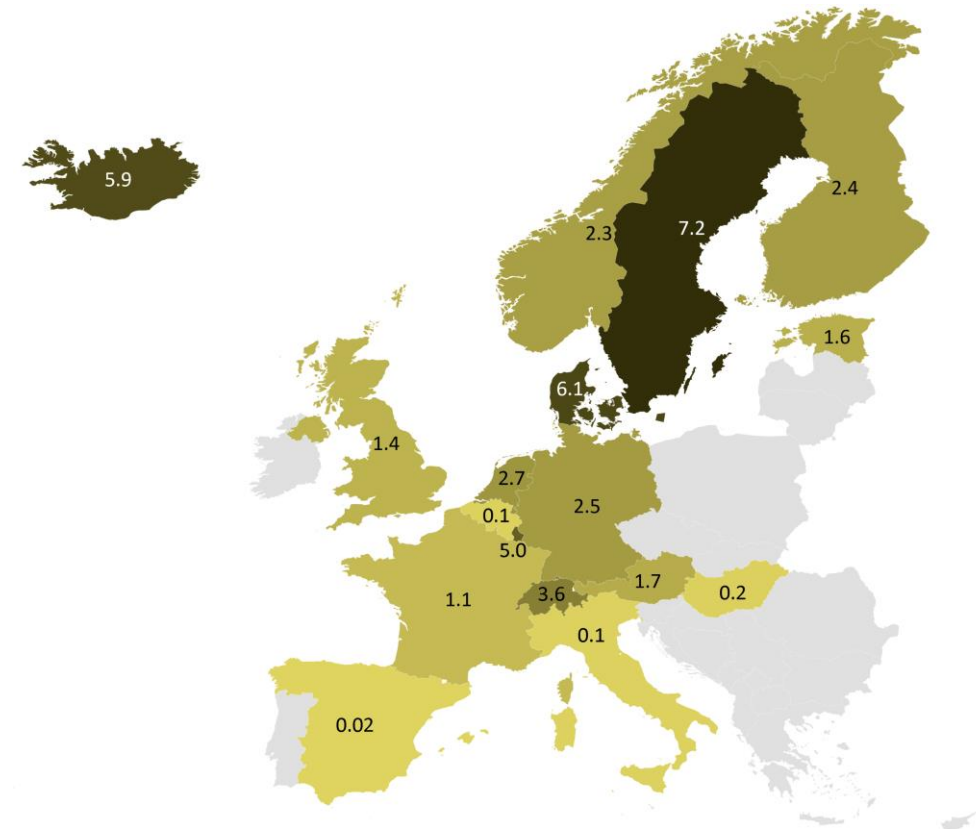
- **Full Members**  
37 National Biogas Associations
- **Associated Members**  
79 companies, universities, private persons
- 28 countries in Europe
- > 7,000 stakeholders
- One decade of representation in Brussels
- EU advocacy
- Events & networking



# Development: number of biomethane plants in Europe (left) Number per 1 Mio capita (right)



Source: EBA Statistical Report 2019



**Approx.: 18 bcm biogas  
2 bcm biomethane  
55 thousand tons bio-LNG**

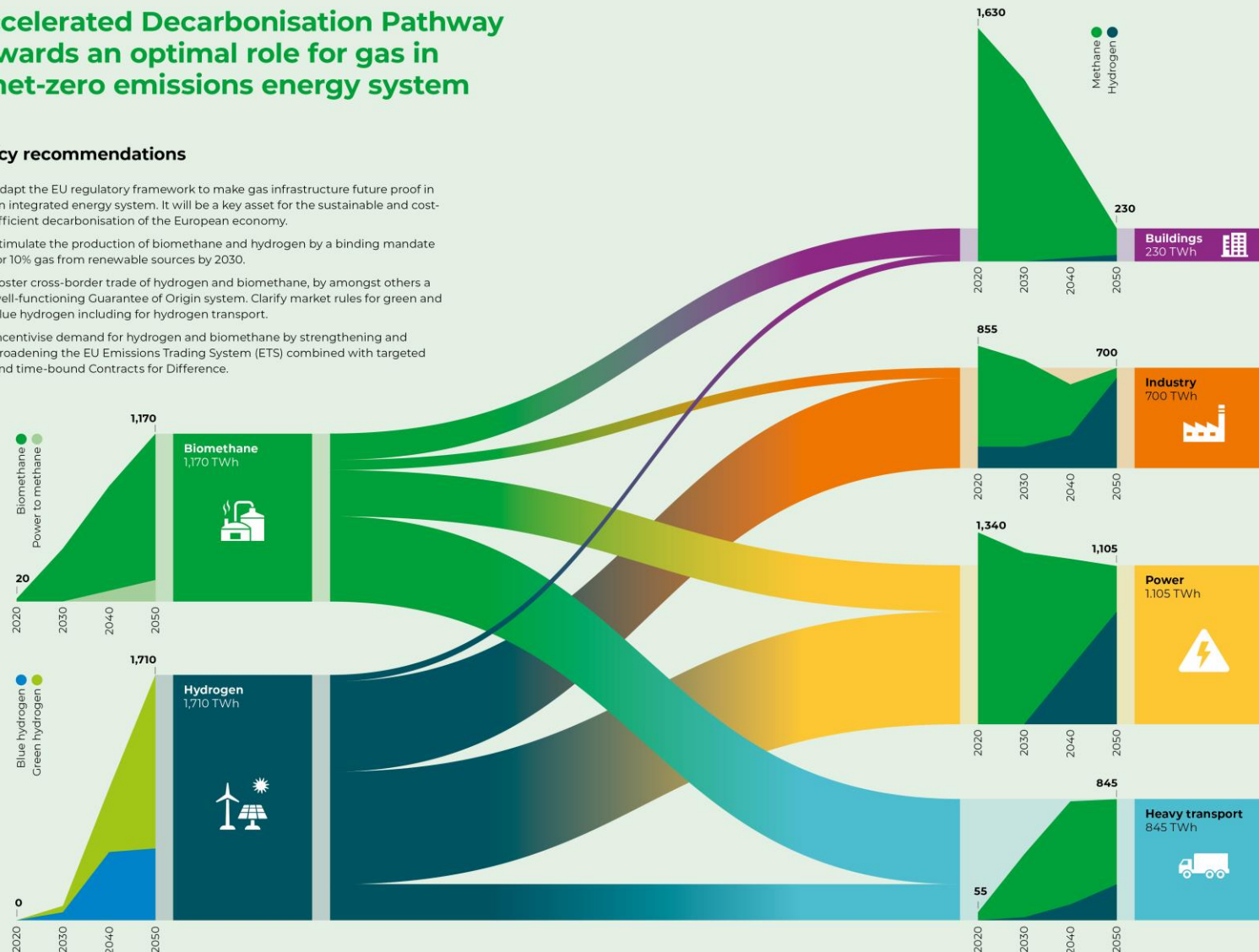
**Electricity production: 65,179 GWh**

# The future role of gas in carbon-neutral Europe

## Accelerated Decarbonisation Pathway towards an optimal role for gas in a net-zero emissions energy system

### Policy recommendations

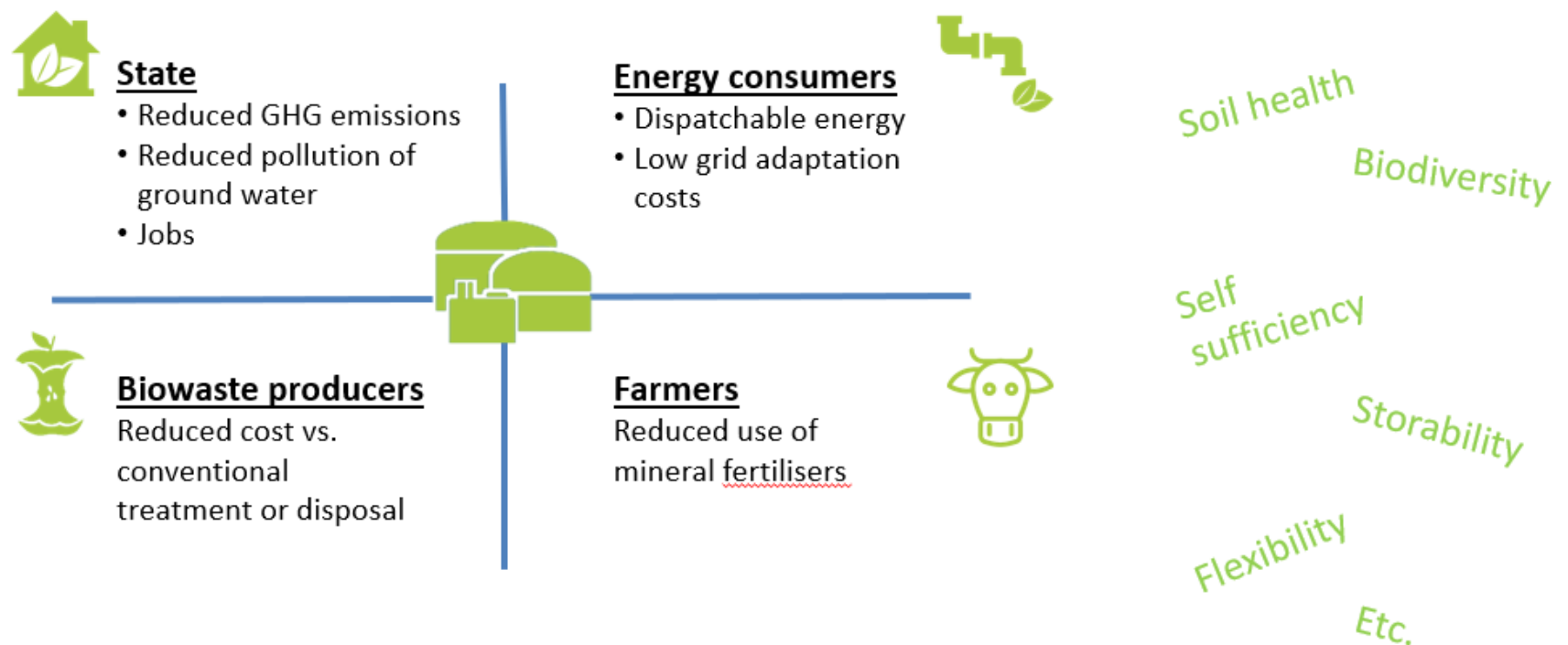
- 1 Adapt the EU regulatory framework to make gas infrastructure future proof in an integrated energy system. It will be a key asset for the sustainable and cost-efficient decarbonisation of the European economy.
- 2 Stimulate the production of biomethane and hydrogen by a binding mandate for 10% gas from renewable sources by 2030.
- 3 Foster cross-border trade of hydrogen and biomethane, by amongst others a well-functioning Guarantee of Origin system. Clarify market rules for green and blue hydrogen including for hydrogen transport.
- 4 Incentivise demand for hydrogen and biomethane by strengthening and broadening the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) combined with targeted and time-bound Contracts for Difference.



- The biomethane potential in Europe by 2050: 1170 TWh
- Main uses: heavy transport & maritime transport

Source: Gas for Climate 2020

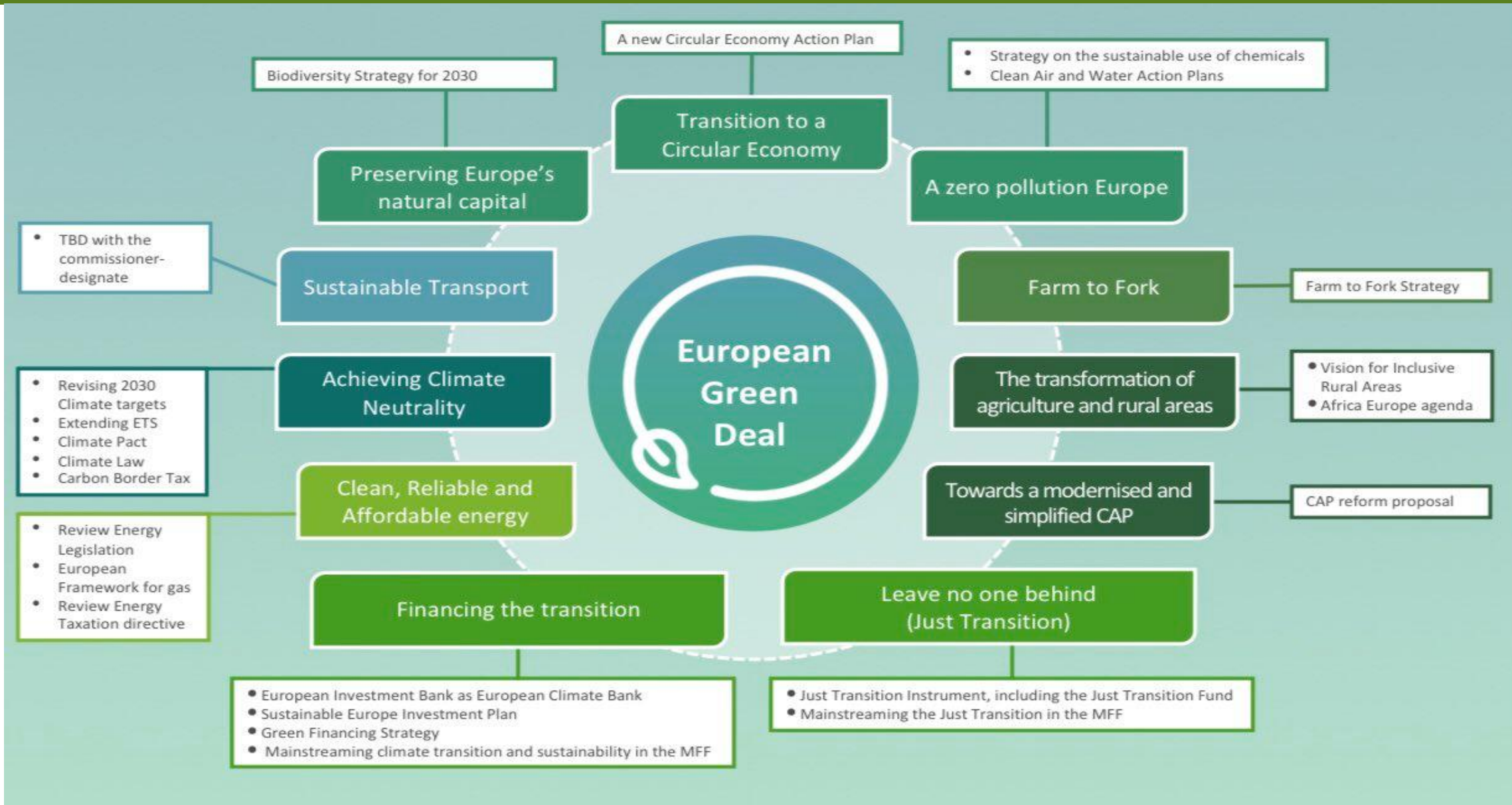
# What is the contribution of biogas?



Source: ENEA Consulting, *Revue des externalités positives de la filière biométhane*, 2019



# European Green deal – on the way to the first climate-neutral continent



# “No net-zero without biogas..” important policy initiatives

- **Sector integration strategy** (July 2020) – biogas to complement the energy supply in sectors that are difficult to electrify: industry and transport (particularly maritime) – underlines the need to use the untapped feedstock potential for biogas
- **Biodiversity and environmental policies** – black and white approaches must be abandoned: when farmers apply sequential cropping and crop rotations, local biodiversity is protected compared to mono-cropping systems. Maize, triticale, wheat, or ryegrass silage can all be produced as sequential crops in regimes of crop rotation.
- **Methane Strategy** (October 2020) - covering the areas of energy, agriculture and waste, to tackle emissions of methane and exploiting synergies between sectors, such as biogas production
- **Agricultural policies** – the national plans on agriculture (under CAP) and NECPs must be aligned – the recommendation of Farm-to-Fork Strategy for farmers to invest in AD plants should be followed by further concrete actions under the Recovery Plan and CAP.
- **Taxonomy** – sustainable finance (autumn 2020) - classification system for sustainable activities: gas and bioenergy strongly questioned.

# Conclusions

- The political and legal initiatives resulting from the Green Deal will create the market conditions for the next 10-30 years – important to get them right
- **Sector integration** is more than energy – must understand the synergies with agriculture and a circular economy
- The scope of **sustainability** should be kept broader that encompasses not only carbon emissions reduction but also other environmental, economic, social and public health benefits such as better air quality, resource efficiency, waste recycling and reduced resource depletion, etc.
- **Bioeconomy** should not only provide renewable energy, but it should also offer solutions for healthy and secure ecosystems for people as well as all animal and plant species.
- → **Biogas will play a key role in helping Europe's transition to a clean energy system with a genuinely resource-efficient and circular economy.**



# Thank you!

**European Biogas Association**

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