



REGATRACE

Renewable Gas Trade Centre in Europe

D8.2 | Project website

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Author(s):	Margaret Pesuit, Federico Giorgilli, ISINNOVA
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Coordinator:	Stefano PROIETTI, ISINNOVA
Tel:	0039 06. 32.12. 655
Fax:	0039 06. 32.13. 049
E-mail:	sproietti@isinnova.org

2 Table of Contents

1	Website overview	3
2	Website structure	3
2.1	Home page	4
	4
2.2	About REGATRACE	5
2.3	Partners.....	6
2.4	Work packages.....	7
2.5	Links	8
2.6	News.....	8
	8
2.7	Events.....	8
3	Target audience	9
4	Metrics	9

1 Website overview

The REGATRACE website (www.regatrace.eu) will be one of the primary channels of communication for the project. It has four major objectives:

- To improve communication between consortium members (uploading of project-related documents, working papers, events, etc.) and inform them of new developments relevant to the project;
- To involve the different target groups and stimulate their contribution to outputs and their participation in the project's events;
- To raise the image of the REGATRACE project and to promote and market the results, objectives and impacts of the project towards ad-hoc groups of stakeholders (e.g., decision makers), as well as to the general public;
- In anticipation of the extensive portfolio of results from the project, to establish the web site as a resource that will merit retention and maintenance beyond the lifetime of the REGATRACE project.

The website offers an overview of the project and its intended impacts, as well as information about its partners. It is designed to be visually appealing, user friendly and content oriented.

The home page of the site has a modern look and feel and is highly visual. It uses attractive photographs and questions accompanied by calls to action to encourage users to click towards other sections of the site. It also features a section with news and ways to stay in touch with the project, by following it on social media, signing up for the newsletter, or contacting the coordinator directly.

News articles (written in an informal, engaging, web-friendly style) will keep users up to date on the project's events and outputs. These will be published in dedicated "News" and "Events" sections. Regarding outputs, there is a section for "Work Packages" where users can get information on each of the different work packages and their deliverables. These deliverables will be uploaded to the site and linked from these pages as they become available.

There is also the possibility of creating a "Restricted area" where the partners can publish material that is not accessible to the public. At the moment this is not foreseen, as draft deliverables, minutes, and other material not meant for public viewing are published on the project's Trello site.

2 Website structure

At the top of every page is a menu with the project's logo. At the bottom is a footer with the funding acknowledgement and social media links.

The website has seven separate sections, aimed at different target groups:

- Home page (<https://www.regatrace.eu/>)
- About REGATRACE (<https://www.regatrace.eu/about/>)

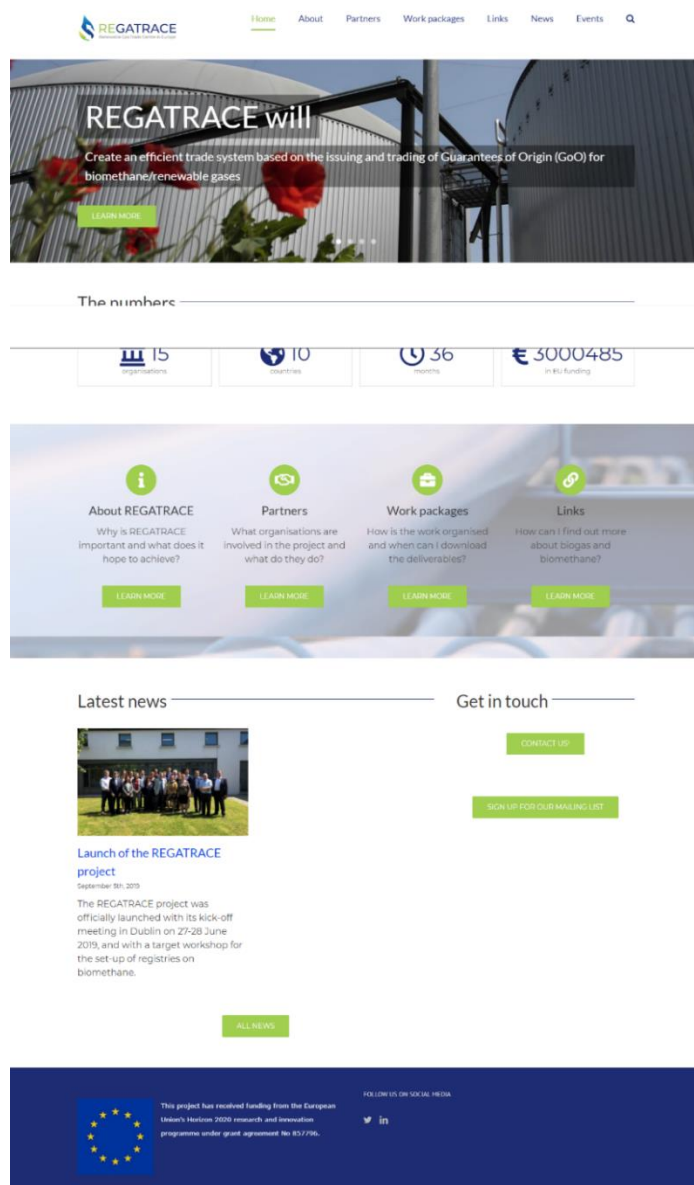
- Partners (<https://www.regatrace.eu/partners/>)
- Work packages (<https://www.regatrace.eu/work-packages/>)
- Links (<https://www.regatrace.eu/links/>)
- News (<https://www.regatrace.eu/news/>)
- Events (<https://www.regatrace.eu/events/>)

In addition, there are eight subsections of the work package section with detailed descriptions of the work package objectives and expected results.

To comply with the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679), the first time users visit the page, they are asked whether or not they accept cookies (which anonymously track them on the site, so that we can monitor traffic, which pages are most interesting to readers, etc.). They can then choose to accept, get more information, or disable the cookies.

Please note: further detail regarding the target groups listed below is given in section 3.

2.1 Home page



Target group: All, including the general public

The home page of the website features a slideshow highlighting the project's main objectives. A "learn more" button takes users to the next section of the page, a series of counters with key numbers for the project. Scrolling down from there are questions and call-to-action buttons that lead to the main sections of the site: About, Partners, Work packages, and Links. Further down is a widget with the latest news and buttons where users can send an email to the project coordinator or sign up for the project's mailing list.


From time to time, other elements or banners will be temporarily added to the home page, to showcase surveys, events, or other initiatives.

2.2 About REGATRACE

Target groups: Decision makers and politicians; biogas/biomethane plant investors and producers; municipalities, cities, regions and interest groups; the general public

This page explains what biomethane is, the benefits of biomethane, and how it can help mitigate climate change. It then gives an overview of the project's impacts and how these impacts will be achieved.

About REGATRACE




What is biomethane?

Biomethane is a renewable energy source identical to "natural gas" and distributed via the gas transmission and distribution network to many businesses and households across Europe. It is made by cleaning up biogas, leaving just the methane, and then injecting it into the network.

Biogas is produced by the biological degradation of biomass, primarily agricultural substrates such as manure, other agricultural by-products, cover crops (crops grown to enrich the soil), energy crops (maize, sorghum, rye, sugar beet, etc.), and organic waste from rural districts, towns and villages, such as cut grass, waste food and by-products of the food industry. These materials are fermented by bacteria in air-tight tanks, called digesters, producing biogas in a multi-stage process.

Like natural gas, the essential component of biogas that makes it a source of energy is methane (CH₄), a flammable gas. Depending on the substrate feeding the biogas plant, the methane content of the biogas can fluctuate between 50 and 65 per cent. The second component of biogas is carbon dioxide (CO₂), which accounts for 35 to 50 per cent. The carbon dioxide (CO₂) generated in the biogas process is considered climate neutral because the biogenic material draws it from the atmosphere for its growth. Other components of biogas are water (H₂O), oxygen (O₂), and traces of sulphur and hydrogen sulphide (H₂S). If the biogas is upgraded to biomethane – with about 98 per cent methane – that biomethane has the properties of natural gas.




Why biomethane?

When considering options to decarbonise the transport sector in Europe, biomethane offers a unique set of benefits and constitutes a powerful weapon against climate change. Anaerobic digestion of manure and similar materials helps avoid methane emissions, which are up to 23 times more harmful than CO₂. Without biogas technology, methane is released into the atmosphere from decomposing manure and waste, such as sewage sludge, municipal waste, agro-industrial runoff and agricultural residue. While burning biomethane does emit CO₂, the amount produced is of biogenic origin, meaning it is produced by natural, biological processes, and so it has no carbon footprint. In addition, methane emissions that arise from decomposing waste that is not processed into biomethane are avoided. As a result, the total carbon footprint is very low compared to fossil fuels and can even go into the negative.

The use of biomethane or a blend with natural gas as a vehicle fuel significantly reduces pollutant emissions, such as hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide, compared to gasoline- and diesel-powered engines, and is also well below the levels of biodiesel and bioethanol. This offers an ideal way to reduce harmful emission levels in cities, which currently cause 400,000 premature deaths a year in Europe.

Biomethane use in transport also has the indirect environmental advantage of contributing towards a circular economy. In addition to energy, the anaerobic digestion process that produces biomethane also supplies digestate, a valuable organic substance that can be used as an organic fertiliser in agriculture, replacing millions of tons of CO₂-intensive mineral fertiliser. Digesting waste and repurposing it for fuel is a much cleaner alternative to landfills and incineration.




What is REGATRACE?

REGATRACE (Renewable GAs TRade Centre in Europe) aims to create an efficient trade system based on issuing and trading biomethane/renewable gases Guarantees of Origin (GoO). This will strongly contribute to the uptake of the European common biomethane market. It will be achieved by setting up a European biomethane/renewable gases GoO system, by setting up national GoO issuing bodies, by integrating GoO from different renewable gas technologies with electric and hydrogen GoO systems, through integrated assessment and sustainable feedstock mobilisation strategies and technology synergies, through support for biomethane market uptake, and by transferring the results beyond the project's countries.



A stable, reliable and common market for biomethane and other renewable gases in Europe can help achieve EU political targets and decouple its energy systems from fossil fuels: biomethane/renewable gases can be produced from waste or residual streams of organic material and they can be transmitted and stored in existing infrastructures, making it possible to combine the European natural gas and electricity grids.

LEARN MORE



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 857796.

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











2.3 Partners

Target groups: Decision makers and politicians; organisations and interest groups; existing and potential feedstock suppliers; biogas/biomethane plant investors and producers; energy distribution companies; municipalities, cities, regions and interest groups

This page provides information about the partners, including their logos, links to their websites and social media channels, and a brief description of what each of them does.

Partners

 <p>ISINNOVA GROWOVI, the Institute of Studies for the Integration of Systems, is an independent Italian research institute that for over four decades has supported institutional, national and local public bodies for the analysis, design, implementation and evaluation of sustainable policies in the fields of energy, environment, transport and mobility, urban planning, and knowledge society.</p> <p>Read more</p>	 <p>European Biogas Association The European Biogas Association (EBA) was founded in February 2009 as a non-profit organisation based in Brussels (Belgium) aiming to promote the development of sustainable biogas and biomethane production and use from anaerobic digestion (AD) and biomass gasification in Europe. EBA's members include national biogas associations, international biogas companies and research institutes from across Europe.</p> <p>Read more</p>	 <p>AGCS Gas Clearing and Settlement AG AGCS Gas Clearing and Settlement is the balance group coordinator and settlement agent in Austria and has been operating the Austrian Biomethane Registry since July 2012. It is involved in several ongoing national, bilateral and Europe-wide cooperations. It is a founding member of ERGAS and has a cooperation agreement with the Austrian sustainability registry for biogas.</p> <p>Read more</p>
 <p>CIB - Consorzio Italiano Biogas e Gassificazione CIB - Consorzio Italiano Biogas e Gassificazione aggregates and represents the agricultural biogas and biomethane value chain in Italy with more than 800 members. Formed in March 2006, CIB provides information to its members to improve, optimize and innovate biogas production processes, fostering general and efficient low carbon farming practices through its flagship initiative Biogas4evergreen.</p> <p>Read more</p>	 <p>dena Dena is Germany's centre of expertise for energy efficiency, renewable energy sources and intelligent energy systems. As the 'Agency for the Applied Energy Transfer' we contribute to the attainment of energy and climate policy objectives, developing solutions and putting them into practice. To achieve this, we bring together partners from politics and industry across all sectors.</p> <p>Read more</p>	 <p>ARBIO The Biomethane Association of Biogas and Biogas (ARBIO) is the representative of the Bio Industry in Romania. It is already a member of the European Biogas Association (EBA) and European Biomass Association (EUBOMA). In a market with great potential, it promotes sustainable investments in the sectors of Biogas, Biomass, Anaerobic Digestion, Waste to Energy, Biorefinery, Bioethanol, Biogas and more.</p> <p>Read more</p>
 <p>RGFI The Renewable Gas Forum Ireland (RGFI) is an industry forum representing the interests of those involved in the renewable gas supply chain across Ireland. RGFI is committed to influencing, supporting and delivering policies and initiatives that promote the development of the renewable gas industry as an economically viable and environmentally sustainable component of the overall energy mix.</p> <p>Read more</p>	 <p>FLUXYS Fluxys Belgium is the Belgian transport system operator for gas and is part of the Fluxys Group which is active in European gas grids, LNG and gas storage. Fluxys is a member of "Safe for Climate" subscribes to a climate neutral energy landscape in 2050 through the production and use of green gases and the energy flexibility the gas grids can offer.</p> <p>Read more</p>	 <p>DBFZ DBFZ develops various concepts for the economically viable, ecologically harmless and socially acceptable energetic use of biomass. The aim is to analyse potential areas of conflict between the various objectives pursued with the expansion of bioenergy at an early stage and to develop forward-looking design approaches. This includes integration into a changing energy system, improving energy efficiency, avoiding competing uses and avoiding emissions.</p> <p>Read more</p>
 <p>AIB Association of Issuing Bodies The AIB Association of Issuing Bodies, has developed and promotes the European Energy Certificate System - "EECS" - which ensures the reliable operation of international guarantees of origin schemes. It also serves as an inter-regional communications hub and provides a knowledge centre for energy certificate authorities across Europe.</p> <p>Read more</p>	 <p>Amber Grid Amber Grid is Lithuania's gas transmission system operator. It uses high pressure pipelines and is in charge of the operation, maintenance and development of gas transmission infrastructure. A designated body for the administration of national guarantees of origin for gas produced from renewable energy sources, it is involved in the development of European biomethane and gas production and cross-border trade.</p> <p>Read more</p>	 <p>NEDGIA NEDGIA, the gas distribution company of the NATURGY ENERGY GROUP, is the DSO leader in Spain: the company provides service to about 70% of all consumers in Spain, more than 5.6 million supply points and more than 12 400 kilometers of networks in 120 Spanish municipalities. It is working to expand gas distribution networks and sees biomethane as a way to achieve eco-efficient decarbonisation in Spain.</p> <p>Read more</p>
 <p>ERGAS ERGAS was established as an international non-profit organisation in September 2016 as a cooperation between national renewable gas registries in Europe to enable cross border transfer of renewable gas certificates. ERGAS and its members develop the necessary documentation and IT procedures to allow cross border administration. It currently counts 25 members in 13 European countries.</p> <p>Read more</p>	 <p>ELERING Elering is an independent electricity and gas system operator in Estonia whose main duty is to guarantee high-quality energy supply to Estonian consumers at all times. Elering is also a designated body for the administration of national guarantees of origin for electricity and gas produced from renewable energy sources.</p> <p>Read more</p>	 <p>UPEBI The Union of Producers and Employers of Biogas Industry (UPEBI) is the Italian organisation associating biogas and biomethane companies, which has been successfully working for the development of the biogas and biomethane industry for over 5 years.</p> <p>Read more</p>




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REGATRACE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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2.4 Work packages


[Home](#)
[About](#)
[Partners](#)
[Work packages](#)
[Links](#)
[News](#)
[Events](#)
[Q](#)

WP2 – European biomethane/renewable gases GoO system

WP1 – Project coordination & management

WP2 – European biomethane/renewable gases GoO system

WP3 – Set-up of national GoO issuing bodies

WP4 – Integration of GoO from different renewable gas technologies with electric and hydrogen GoO systems


WP5 – Integrated assessment and sustainable feedstock mobilisation strategies

WP6 – Support for biomethane market uptake

WP7 – Evaluation analysis and policy recommendations

WP8 – Dissemination, communication & exploitation

Work package 2 will develop a set of harmonised European rules, regulations, procedures and requirements for issuing biomethane/renewable methane Guarantees of Origin (GoO), based on the cooperation of national issuing bodies. Ergar, the European Renewable Gas Registry, will establish a network of national issuing bodies and set out the agreed-upon rules for participating in the system. It will also define the processual, administrative, technical and organizational requirements for a secure and automated hub (the technical interface) that can connect all national issuing bodies and form a European biomethane/renewable gas trading platform. It is in charge of defining the tender procedure for building the hub and the European biomethane/renewable gas trading platform and will assess the technical concept for both the hub and the connected European biomethane/renewable gas trading platform.



Deliverables

Title	Number of Deliverable	Leading Partner	Planned date of completion	Download
Updated Guidelines for creating the European Biomethane GoO	D2.1	ERGAr	November 2019	Available soon
Report on content and attributes of GoO	D2.2	ERGAr	February 2020	Available after February 2020
Memorandum of Understanding among national issuing bodies to set-up the network	D2.3	ERGAr	May 2020	Available after May 2020
Report on technical requirement and specification of hub	D2.4	ERGAr	September 2020	Available after September 2020
Guidelines for tender process of IT-services	D2.5	AGCS	October 2020	Available after October 2020
Report on design study and technical specification for dashboard and platform	D2.6	AGCS	February 2021	This deliverable will not be published
Report on setting-up the network of national issuing bodies	D2.7	ERGAr	February 2022	Available after February 2022



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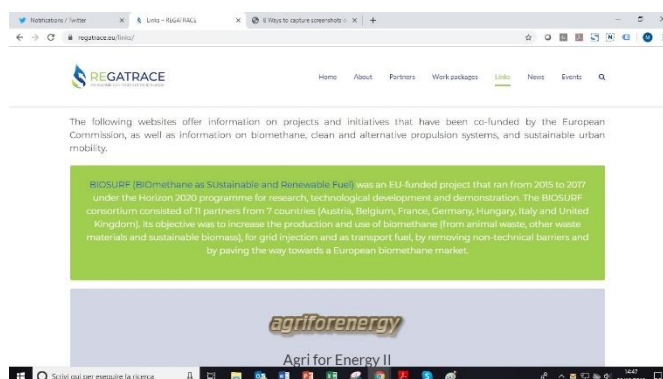

Target groups: Decision makers and politicians; organisations and interest groups; existing and potential feedstock suppliers; biogas/biomethane plant investors and producers; energy distribution companies; municipalities, cities, regions and interest groups

The page on work packages is a vibrant page with coloured boxes featuring the title of each work package, the logo of the partner leading the work package, and a link to a separate page that gives further details on the work package. Each of the eight work package pages contains a description of the work package and its objectives, a table with information on the deliverables (including the due date) and a link to download these deliverables once they are available.

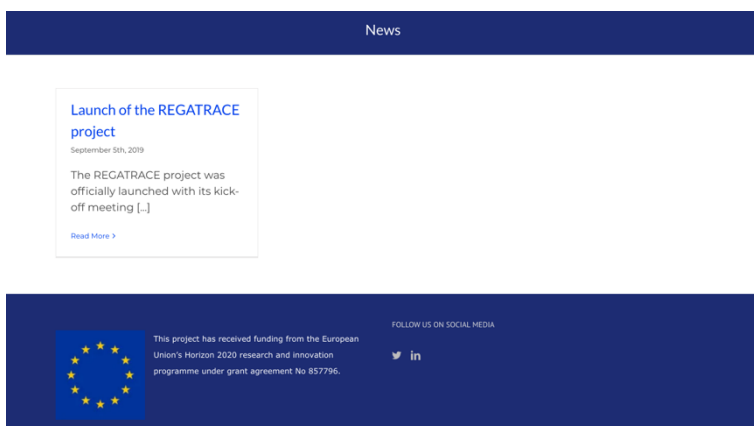
2.5 Links

Target groups: Decision makers and politicians; biogas/biomethane plant investors and producers; municipalities, cities, regions and interest groups; the general public

This page contains links to other projects, associations, initiatives and platforms aimed at promoting or facilitating the use of biogas. These links are showcased within flip boxes, which feature the entity's logo on the front. Hovering over the item flips the box to reveal a description with links.



2.6 News



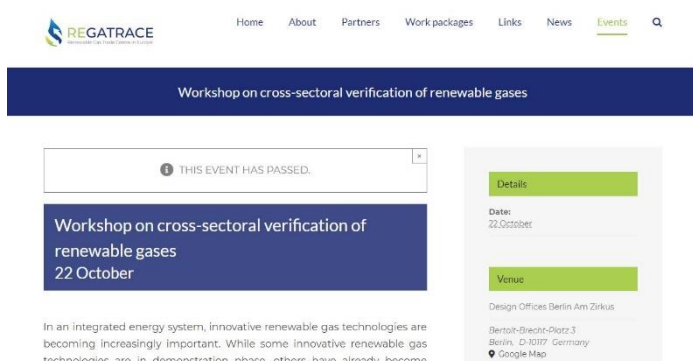
Target groups: All, including the general public

This page displays all news items related to the project in a grid, with titles and excerpts. Clicking on an item brings up the entire article.

2.7 Events

Target groups: Decision makers and politicians; biogas/biomethane plant investors and producers; municipalities, cities, regions and interest groups; the general public

This page displays all events related to the project in calendar form. Clicking on an individual event brings you to the event description, which includes information on the date, time and venue.



3 Target audience

Decision makers and politicians at the regional, national and EU-level. These will be provided with valuable experiences for informed decision making on framework conditions for the enhanced, sustainable and viable production and use of biomethane as renewable energy source.

Organisations and interest groups willing to increase energy efficiency and therefore interested in supporting the dissemination of REGATRACE's knowledge: e.g., associations/organisations (farmers associations, biogas associations) and networks of municipalities, cities, and regions, public transport operators' associations, networks of energy-agencies.

Existing and potential feedstock suppliers, the starting point of the biomethane supply chain. This group comprises farmers, sewage, wastewater and municipal waste companies/authorities, etc. Focus will be put on suppliers providing alternative feedstock from undisputed resources, non-competing food supply, sustaining natural cycles, reliable logistics and low conversion losses and feedstock that can also be provided in winter.

Biogas/biomethane plant investors and producers, who can be private and public companies and authorities, as well as groups of citizens, when it comes to financing models of biogas plants. These shall ensure viable approaches for setting up and running biomethane plants, as well as ensuring a location with possibilities for economic grid-injection and/or customer supply.

Energy distribution companies, who are of the utmost importance to ensure supply from the production site to the customers. Key actors in this field are owners/operators of gas grids for grid injection as well as public/private filling operators for direct use in transport.

Municipalities, cities, regions and interest groups willing to set up a biomethane supply chain in their region (e.g. to diversify the regional economy), and who are in charge for permits for biomethane plant construction. Together with biomethane interest groups, these key actors for biomethane production can act as multipliers and will spread the REGATRACE approach within their local/regional/national community and the networks, which will be set up within the project and target the policy level for improving the framework for the use of biomethane.

The **general public** will be shown the diverse benefits of a biomethane economy (in environmental, economic and social terms), in order to increase their awareness and to defuse the "NIMBY" resistance (not in my backyard) in some countries.

4 Metrics

Google analytics is being used to track how many users are coming to the site, where they are coming from, what pages are visited the most and other statistics related to website traffic.

The desired reach will eventually be at least 1000-page views per month.

