

2nd EBA Investment Outlook on Biomethane

June 2024

EBA monitors biomethane investments yearly to forecast the growth of the sector and better identify market trends, drivers and gaps. The second Biomethane Investment Outlook identifies a growing commitment from industry with a total of 27 billion EUR allocated to invest in biomethane production. This marks a growth of 9 billion EUR compared to investments identified one year ago¹. The figures presented in this outlook are based on replies from 26 investors and project developers within the EBA, 2 more compared to the previous edition. The investments are projected to deliver 6.3 bcm/year of biomethane capacity to Europe by 2030.

Investment timeline and geography

Out of a total envelope of 26.7 billion EUR, 24.5 billion will be invested in Europe by 2030: 10.5 billion in the timeframe 2024 – 2026, while another 14.0 billion EUR is set aside for the period 2027 – 2030. A further 2.1 billion is expected to be invested beyond 2030, beyond Europe or with the timeframe yet to be specified. It is projected that these investments will yield a total added capacity of 6.9 bcm of biomethane per year, of which 6.3 bcm is within Europe and by 2030. The remaining 0.6 bcm is anticipated to be either non–European, after 2030 or yet to be specified. A full breakdown is provided in (Table 1). The 26 industrial stakeholders participating in this research reported that over 950 biomethane plants should enter operation in the next 5 years and, an expected year–on–year growth in employment of 15% from 2023 to 2024.

Table 1: Investment volume and additional biomethane production capacity for the timeframes 2024–2026, 2027–2030 and after 2030.

	European and by 2030	European 2024 – 2026	European 2027 – 2030	After 2030, non- European or non- specified	TOTAL
Investment volume (EUR)	24.5 billion	10.5 billion	14.0 billion	2.1 billion	26.7 billion
Production capacity (bcm biomethane)	6.3 bcm	3.1 bcm	3.2 bcm	0.6 bcm	6.9 bcm

Top countries with planned investments are Denmark (€3.6 billion), Poland (€3.4 billion), Italy (€2.4 billion) and the United Kingdom (€2.3 billion). These are followed by France (€1.9 billion), Spain (€1.5 billion), the Netherlands (€1.3 billion) and Norway (€1.1 billion). A further €4.5 billion is reserved to be invested in Europe, with the destination of the financial envelope still open. €1.5 billion will be invested outside Europe. These figures are summarised in Figure 1 and Table 2, together with the additional foreseen capacity per country.

¹ 1st EBA Investment Outlook on Biomethane

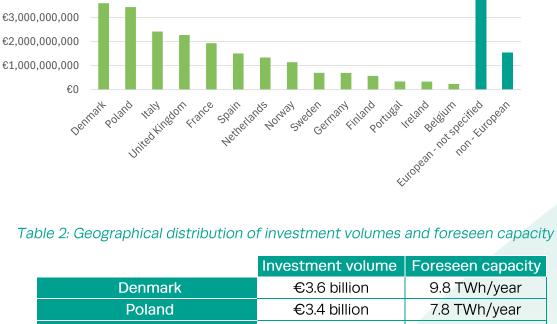


Figure 1: Geographical distribution of investment volumes

	Investment volume	Foreseen capacity	
Denmark	€3.6 billion	9.8 TWh/year	
Poland	€3.4 billion	7.8 TWh/year	
Italy	€2.4 billion	8.8 TWh/year	
The United Kingdom	€2.3 billion	7.6 TWh/year	
France	€1.9 billion	4.7 TWh/year	
Spain	€1.5 billion	5.7 TWh/year	
Netherlands	€1.3 billion	4.5 TWh/year	
Norway	€1.1 billion	2.4 TWh/year	
Sweden	€0.70 billion	1.5 TWh/year	
Germany	€0.70 billion	1.9 TWh/year	
Finland	€0.57 billion	1.3 TWh/year	
Portugal	€0.34 billion	1.1 TWh/year	
Ireland	€0.34 billion	1.4 TWh/year	
Belgium	€0.24 billion	0.9 TWh/year	
Europe – not further specified	€4.5 billion	8.9 TWh/year	
Non – European	€1.5 billion	4.5 TWh/year	

Types of Investments

€4,000,000,000

The largest investment slice (€20.9 billion) is planned for greenfield² (fully new) plants, taking 78% of the total share of investments, whilst €0.8 billion is reserved for brownfields. Brownfields include, for example, converting biogas-CHP plants to biomethane production facilities. This shows there is still ample room for growth in this subsector. Another €0.7 billion goes to Mergers and Acquisition. For €4.3 billion, the Investment type is not yet specified.

² Fully new plant, with minimal or no usage of existing assets.



About the European Biogas Association (EBA)

The EBA believes in the future potential of renewable gas in Europe. Founded in 2009, the association is committed to the deployment of sustainable biogas and biomethane production and use throughout the continent. EBA counts on a well-established network of over 300 national organisations covering the whole biogas and biomethane value chain across Europe and beyond.

Contact

European Biogas Association info@europeanbiogas.eu
T. +32 24 00 10 89
www.europeanbiogas.eu

Mieke Decorte – Technical Director decorte@europeanbiogas.eu

George Osei Owusu – Technical and Project Officer owusu@europeanbiogas.eu