



**MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND PETROLEUM**  
**STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**  
**DIRECTORATE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY and**  
**THE KENYA BIOGAS STAKEHOLDERS NETWORK (BIO-NET)**

**Stakeholder Workshop Report on the BIOGAS Innovation Platform (BIP) held on 30<sup>th</sup> April,  
2024 at Fairview Hotel, Nairobi**

**Introduction**

In November 2020, Kenya launched its first Bioenergy Strategy (2020-2027) to guide the pathway towards the country's Sustainable Energy for All aspirations. A key feature identified to drive implementation of the Strategy towards sustainable production and consumption of the different priority bioenergy forms are innovation platforms (IP). For a given bioenergy Sub-sector, an IP is a space where dialogue and knowledge exchange among all major stakeholders takes place on an ongoing basis, resulting in innovations (could be in policies, technologies or just best practices) that would deliver sustainable production and consumption of bioenergy.

The Biogas IP was launched on 5th December 2022 and intends to use the Bioenergy Strategy Action Plan drafted by the Ministry (and which is now ready to be launched) to guide its operations and activities towards achieving its objectives both in the medium and short term. The priority areas are linked to the delivery and coordination unit at the Ministry of Energy headquarters, Renewable Energy Directorate which coordinates all the IP activities. The National Biogas Stakeholders Network was nominated as the Biogas sector IP champion.

BIP management and operations will be guided by guidelines for the operationalization of IPs and attending ToRs of which draft reports are awaiting formalization at the Ministry.

The vision of the BIP is to scale up the adoption of Biogas technology from 0.5% of the population (baseline of 2019) to 3% of Kenya's target of 100% universal access to clean energy by 2028. In order to achieve this, a series of activities and engagements will be implemented in the short and medium term guided by a steering committee comprising 19 organizations or institutions. The secretariat will be managed by a Chair, Secretary and Vice Chair. In the last quarterly meeting, BIO-NET was elected Chair, KERIA as Secretary and JKUAT as Vice Chair. See attached meeting report/minutes.

The BIP first quarterly meeting for the year 2024 is scheduled to take place in Nairobi on 30th April 2024. The workshop will be co-funded by the African Biodigester Component (ABC) Project implemented by GIZ and SNV in partnership with African Bioenergy Programme Ltd (ABPL), as one of

the areas of support under the SNV/BIO-NET MoU. The meeting will discuss modalities for initiating and enhancing BIP activities in the short term i.e. June 2024 to June 2025.

### **Agenda/Objectives**

- i. Review agenda and discussions of the last IP meeting
- ii. Receive Updates from the Ministry on Bioenergy Strategy Action Plan
- iii. Updates on the progress of ToRs and Guidelines on IP hosting
- iv. Discuss Road map and way forward for BIP.

### **Organizations Present**

1. Ministry of Energy and Petroleum- MoEP
2. Netherlands Development Organisation- SNV
3. German Development Agency- GIZ
4. International Livestock Research Institute- ILRI
5. Kenya Biogas Stakeholders Network- BIONET
6. Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute- KIRDI
7. Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology - JKUAT
8. Africa Bioenergy Programs Limited- ABPL
9. Clean Cooking Association of Kenya (CCAK)
10. Kenya Renewable Energy Association (KEREAA)
11. Pan African Justice Alliance (PACJA)
12. Integral Media/Yakazi
13. Kenya climate Innovation Platform
14. Sustainable Energy Access Forum
15. The International Safety Training Centre
16. Renewable Energy Regulatory Corporation
17. Moi University
18. Ecosan Renewable Energy Solutions
19. E4Life Consulting
20. Cox Cloud Ltd

### **List of Attendants**

See attached list.

### **Moderators**

Victor Gathogo – SNV and David Jesse– BIO-NET

### **Opening Remarks**

The workshop was officially opened by Peter Thobora- Ministry of Energy, additionally, opening remarks were given by Victor Gathogo- Project Manager, ABC- SNV, Paul Sabwa, Chair BIO-NET and Evelyn Munihi of GiZ. They reiterated the importance of the meetings and aligning the BIP terms of reference towards the implementation of activities in the biogas sector through the Bioenergy Strategy of 2020-2027 and Bioenergy Strategy Action Plan 2023. They expressed strong commitment to continue to support BIP processes and activities.

## **Review of agenda and discussions of the last IP meeting**

The agenda and review of last minutes was presented and read through. The issue of KERA representation was discussed given that Andrew Amadi is no longer CEO of KERA. Junnie Wangari who represented KERA agreed to make a follow up with KERA management. There being no other matters arising the minutes were proposed by John Kapolong of REREC and seconded by Paul Mbuthi of E4Life consulting.

## **Updates from the Ministry of Energy on Bioenergy Strategy Action Plan**

Peter Thobora updated members on the current status of Bioenergy Strategy and Action Plans. He said that Bioenergy Action Plan has now been signed and should be uploaded to MoE website anytime now. He further mentioned that the IP guidelines and ToRs are in their final drafts and only one-day meeting is needed to thrash out final matters that may arise from stakeholders.

He stressed on the need for sector players to have a way of reporting activities to keep the IP informed. He asked the members to come up with a clear plan of activities for the rest of the year beyond the quarter.

Dan Marangu gave broad remarks on the significance of the Bioenergy Strategy and the Action Plan. He said the sector should make good use of the policy documents to prime discussions at the IP forum. He mentioned about the on-going exercise of Energy Policy review and asked members to participate actively. He expressed goodwill at the BIO-NET strategic plan, saying this should strengthen BIO-NET to champion IP agenda.

## **Presentations and Stakeholders' Input to the Biogas Knowledge Management Platform Webhosts - Caroline Makonnen**

Makonnen took members through the concept of KM and updated on the same.

The situation: Different stakeholders implement projects/ programmes in parallel, with limited knowledge management and the knowledge created & lessons learned are often scattered and not readily available for sector players.

The challenge: Knowledge management and dissemination for the biogas sector in Kenya is segmented, not systematic and there is no centralised knowledge management platform/ repository for sector data.

The solution: It is necessary to collect, collate and manage sector information in a manner that adds value to the stakeholders and facilitates the achievement of scale through lessons learnt, business models and best practices. Furthermore, pitfalls and failures from the past must be avoided through institutional memory that is well documented. This can be achieved through the creation of a sectoral knowledge management platform.

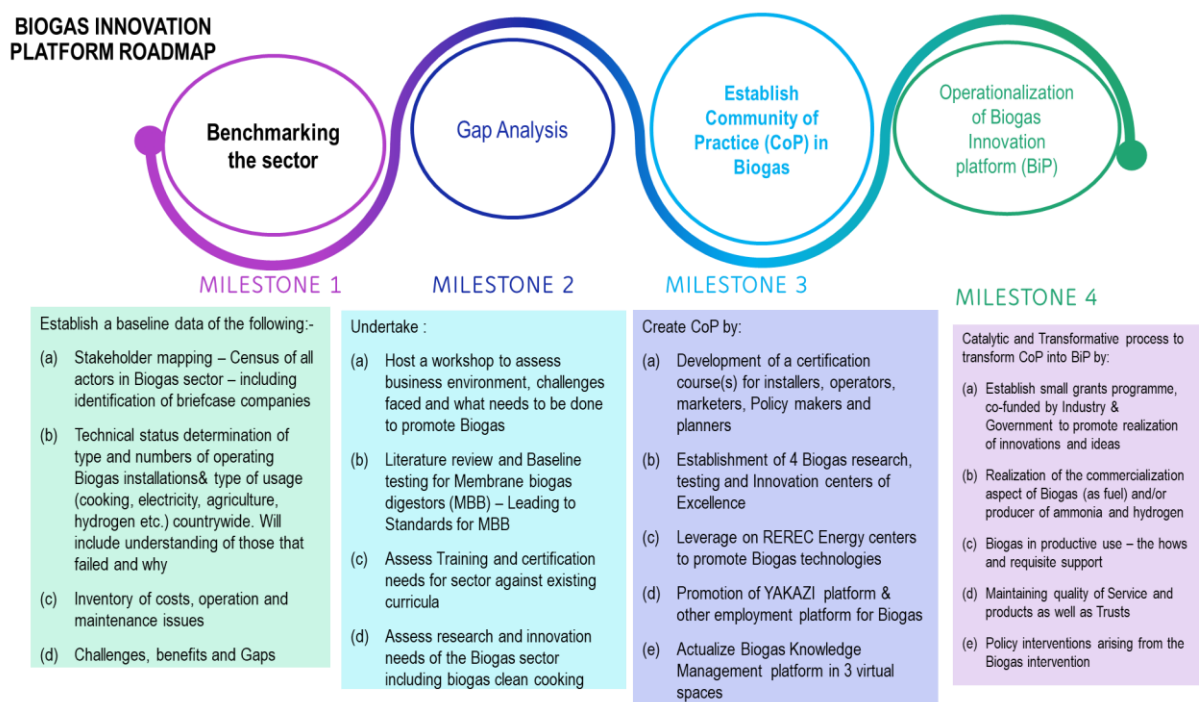
The Knowledge Management Platform (KMP): An online hub that consolidates and organizes vital information and resources related to the biogas sector. It serves as a one-stop repository, providing easy access to research papers, reports, best practices, and technical documents.

The platform promotes collaboration, innovation, and informed decision-making by fostering networking opportunities, facilitating discussions, and offering up-to-date news and updates on biogas advancements.

She mentioned that a consultant is already on board to develop the KM hosting infrastructure and will soon convene stakeholders for an inception meeting.

### Presentation on BIP proposed Roadmap by Dr Francis Xavier

He updated members that following a meeting at the Ministry of Energy to discuss ways to drum up uptake of BIP, a number of proposals came up which he presented and explained in the diagram below.



- Incorporation of existing studies done by GIZ & SNV as well as other players, as well as updates on uptakes and decommissioning of biogas plants
- Need to add component of Awareness Creation (mostly by word of mouth by farmers)
- Reference it to anchor with MoEP farmer units to get more data and create more awareness

### Plenary session

Questions and suggestions being raised from the floor:

1. GIZ & SNV to provide technical studies to inform the BIP milestones- The knowledge management platform development process will also consider uploading recent sector studies.
2. Proposal to include awareness intervention areas- This was adopted.
3. Who is the client of the BIP? Is it for MoEP, the private sector or end-users-It was agreed that the BIP will closely work with private sector and the MoEP through the Bioenergy coordination desk.

4. What is the innovative product that the BIP will deliver, and the synergy that the BIP brings to the sector (to avoid duplicity of efforts)-This issue was not adequately responded to, members agreed to further undertake a deep dive in a later meeting.
5. M&E of BIP products (define the deliverables of the BIP). What is the gap that the national platform will fill- it was agreed to align with the clean cooking KPIs being developed by the Ministry of Energy.
6. Stakeholder mapping that goes beyond simply mapping. Designing a reporting framework with stakeholder updates-to be undertaken.
7. KNCTS- how does the sector engage with the 5-point agenda of the strategy- The BIP will engage MoEP on this.
8. Status of the ToRs- BIP tors to be shared for review.
9. What are the key components of the Biogas Knowledge platform?
10. Follow up with MoEP on the ToRs and the guidelines.
11. Development of the BIP work plan, including mobilisation of resources for the development of the same.
12. Who is the owner of the BIP, and how do we make the BIP engagements sustainable? Who is the driver?

In conclusion, members agreed that there was need to organize a workshop where members can ventilate further on the arising issues and come up with a clear plan of activities based on the proposed roadmap.