





Biogas-powered district heating uses local waste streams and contributes to local energy independence in BIOENERGY-villages

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Bioenergy village – a flexible concept

- District heating network (the heart)
- Majority of houses are connected
- Waste heat from CHP (biogas) as base load
- Other RES to supplement (e.g. wood chips, solar heat...)
- Technology open infrastructure (Adaptation to future needs)
- High acceptance and direct participation are keys for success
 - In planning
 - In management
 - In revenue

Currently more than 170 bioenergy villages exist in Baden-Württemberg!











Heating sources

- 1. Biogas plant
- 2. Woodchip burner





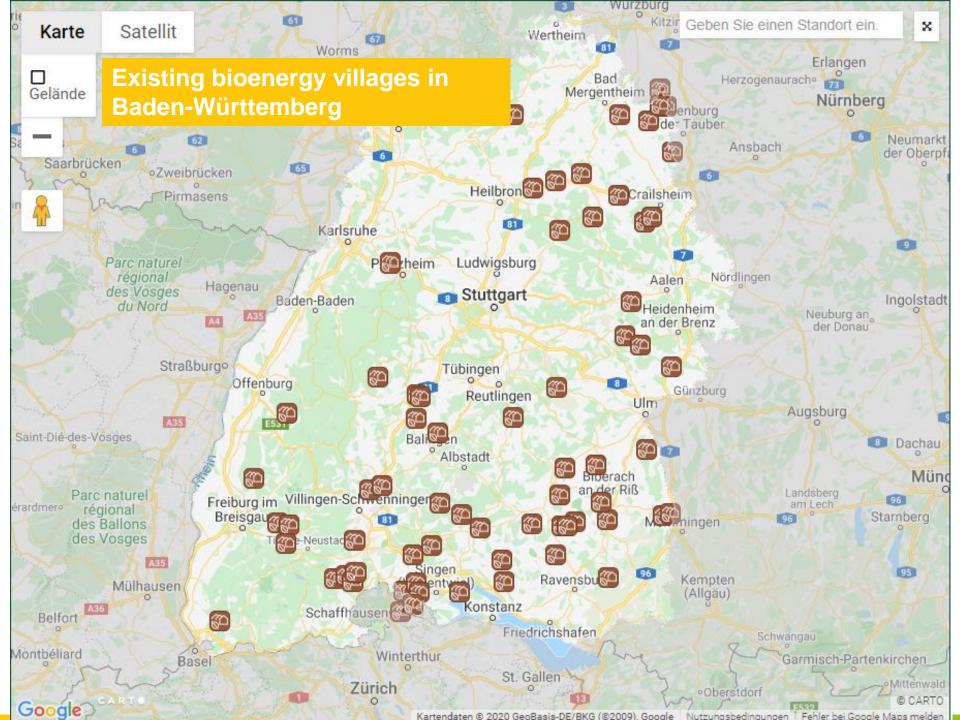
Motivation and main actors

Heating in rural areas relies strongly on fossil fuels

- → Strong dependence (import)
- → Loss of added value
- → Failure to meet climate targets

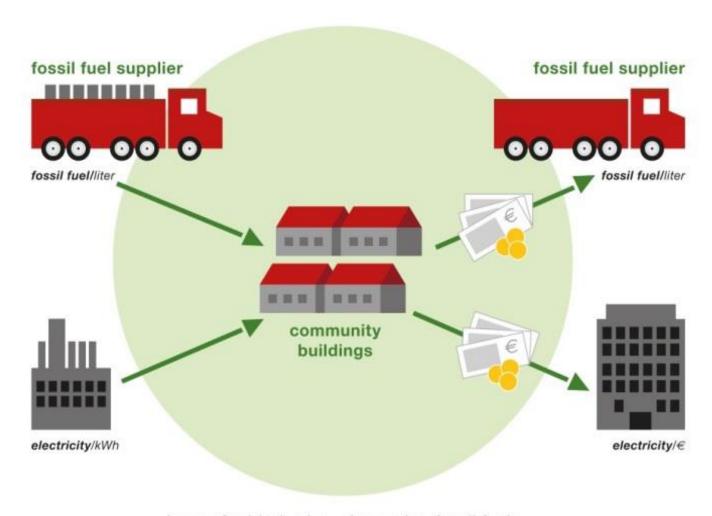
Main actors:

- community (consumer, operator, biomass supplier)
- local farmers (biogas, biomass)
- local energy suppliers (operators, financial management, planning, investor)
- Local forestry (biomass)





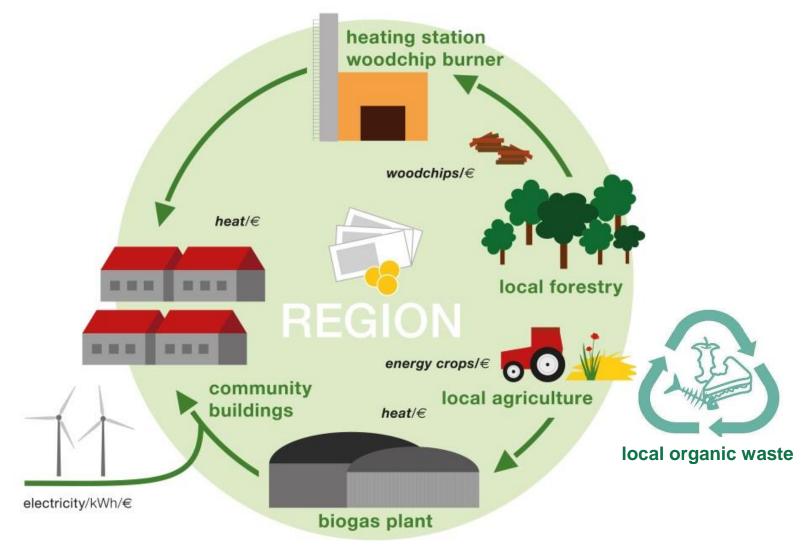
Loss of added value



Loss of added value when using fossil fuels



Added value by bioenergy villages





Business case and finance

Business case:

- 1-3 mio € for heating network
- ~1 mio € for biogas plant
- Quite a bit of manpower to convince the community to connect to the district heating
- At least 60% of all households have to connect in order to make it economically feasible.

Financing:

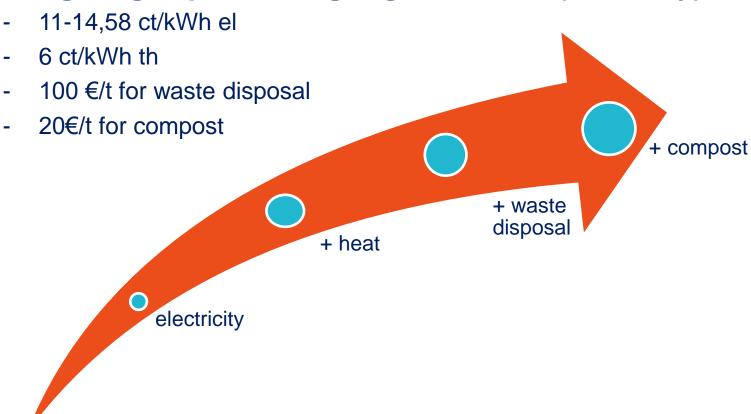
- Community
- Local energy supplier
- Bank loans (attractive conditions from state bank kfw)
- Feed-in tariff for electricity
- Remuneration for heat energy from customers



A possible future business model?

Current LCOE ~14 ct/kWh

Farming biogas plant using organic waste (Germany)





Multiple benefits for the local community

Green local energy

- Renewable heat
- Renewable power
- Renewable gas

Regional development

- Regional added value and employment
- Contribution to municipal and private waste issues (greencuts, organic waste, manure etc)
- Independence from import of (fossil) energy
- Organic fertilizer

Environmental benefits

- Community contribution to climate goals
- Improved air quality (CH₄, N₂O, NH₃, NO_x)



Challenges in the process

Two options with different challenges:

1. Using an existing plant

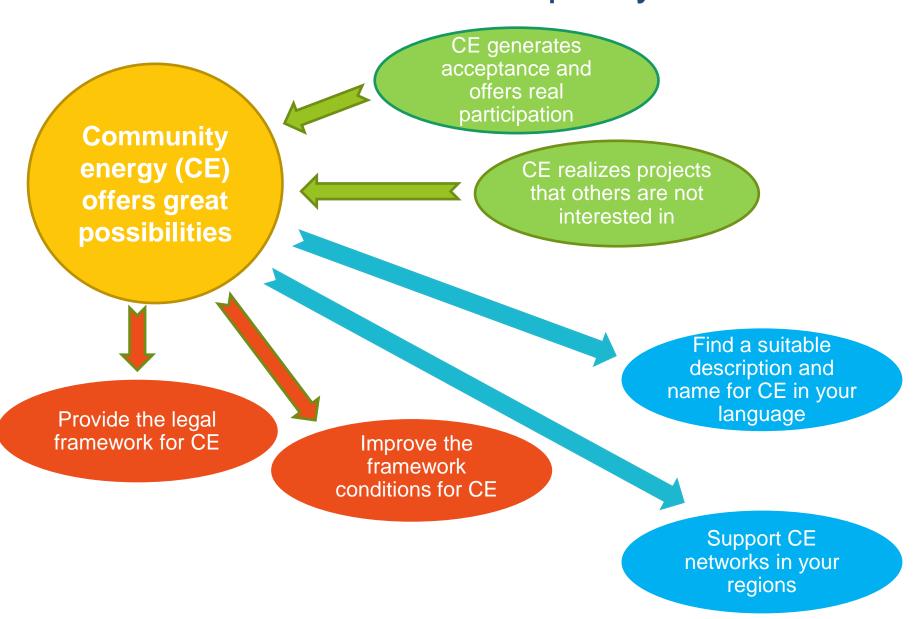
- Permission: only after EEG
- Distance: either heat pipe or micro gaspipe
- Acceptance: getting people involved
- ~ 2 years from the idea to the first heating period

2. Building a new plant

- Investment: higher investment
- Operating the plant: operator and knowhow needed
- Acceptance: smell, traffic, participation
- 2-3 years from the idea to the first heating period
- → District heating is technology open
- → Infrastructure can be also used for cooling

Recommendations for local policy makers











Thank you for your interest!

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