

# United States Biogas Update of the Global Methane Initiative (GMI) Tri-Subcommittee Meeting, Florianópolis Brazil

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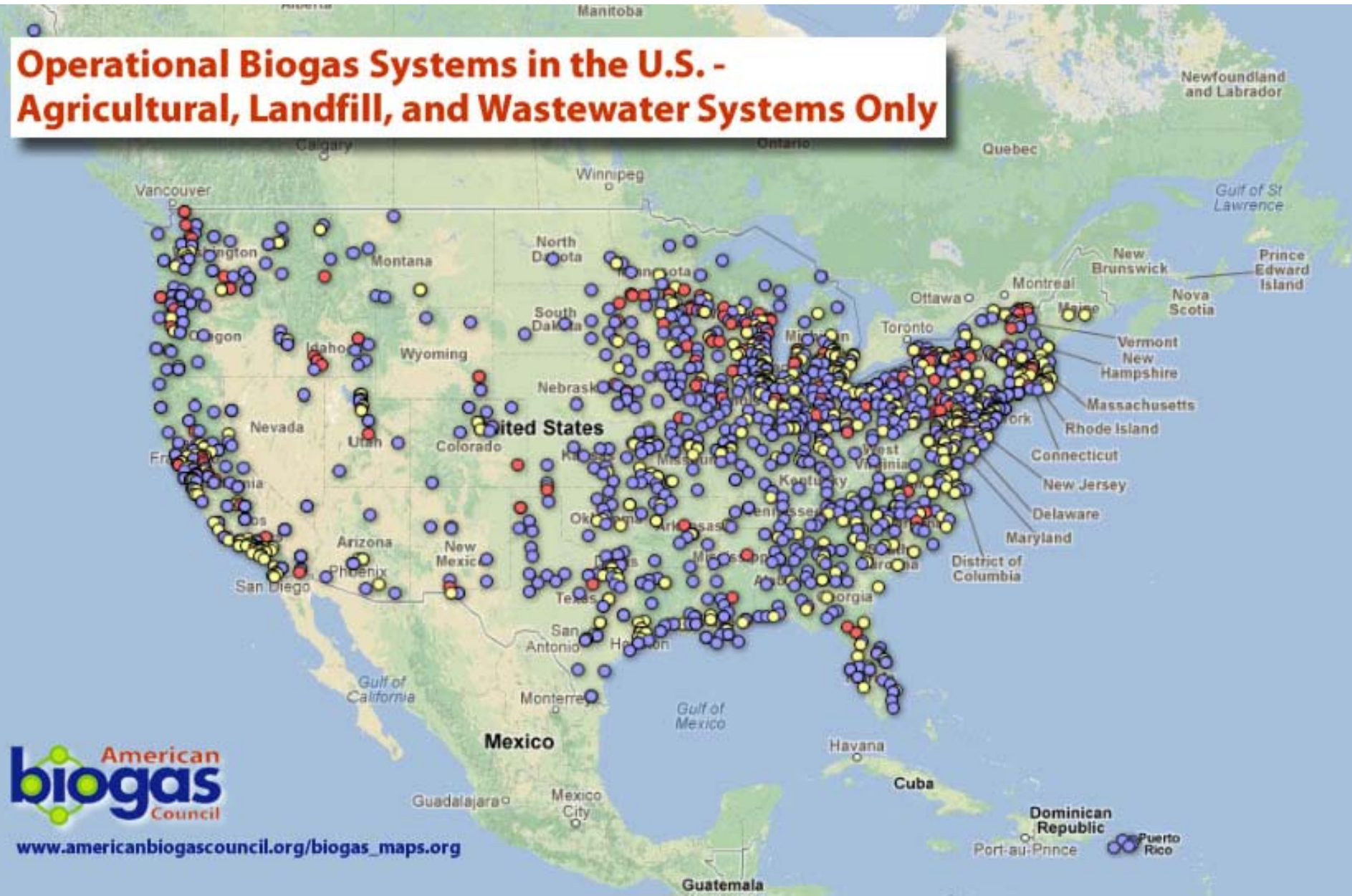
14 March 2014

United States Environmental Protection Agency



# United States Biogas Update

**Operational Biogas Systems in the U.S. -  
Agricultural, Landfill, and Wastewater Systems Only**



[www.americanbiogascouncil.org/biogas\\_maps.org](http://www.americanbiogascouncil.org/biogas_maps.org)

# United States Methane Emissions

Sector	U.S. Methane Emissions (2010) (MMTCO <sub>2</sub> e)	%age of total US anthropogenic emissions
Natural gas systems*	215.4	32.3%
Enteric fermentation	141.3	21.2%
Landfills	107.8	16.2%
Coal mining**	77.6	11.6%
Manure management	52.0	7.8%
Municipal Wastewater	16.3	2.4%

\*Natural gas system emissions do not include methane emissions from petroleum systems.

\*\*Coal mining sector emissions includes emissions from abandoned underground coal mines.

# Biogas Project Outlook

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- Challenges to Emission Reduction Projects:
  - Inadequate payback/economics
  - Lack of available capital
  - Operations and maintenance complications and concerns
  - Utility interaction
  - Difficulties with air regulations or obtaining air permit
  - Technical merits and concerns
  - Inertia to maintain the status quo

# Biogas Project Outlook

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- Overcoming Barriers: National Programs
  - AgSTAR
  - LMOP
  - Combined Heat & Power Partnership
  - Sustainable Infrastructure
  - Food Recovery Challenge
  - Net Zero

# Biogas Project Outlook

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- Overcoming Barriers: Policies

- National Policies:

- Renewable Fuel Standard
    - Farm Bill Renewable Energy Title

- State Policies:

- CT/MA/VT: Organics Diversion Bans
    - CA: AB-32 Climate Change Legislation

# U.S. Goals for GMI Involvement

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- Support technology transfer and knowledge sharing.
- Identify potential partners and specific opportunities for emissions reductions.
- Work to identify and remove barriers to methane project development where practicable.

# The National Agriculture Picture



*~250 operating facilities out of 8200 potential facilities.  
2.20 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e reductions in 2013.*



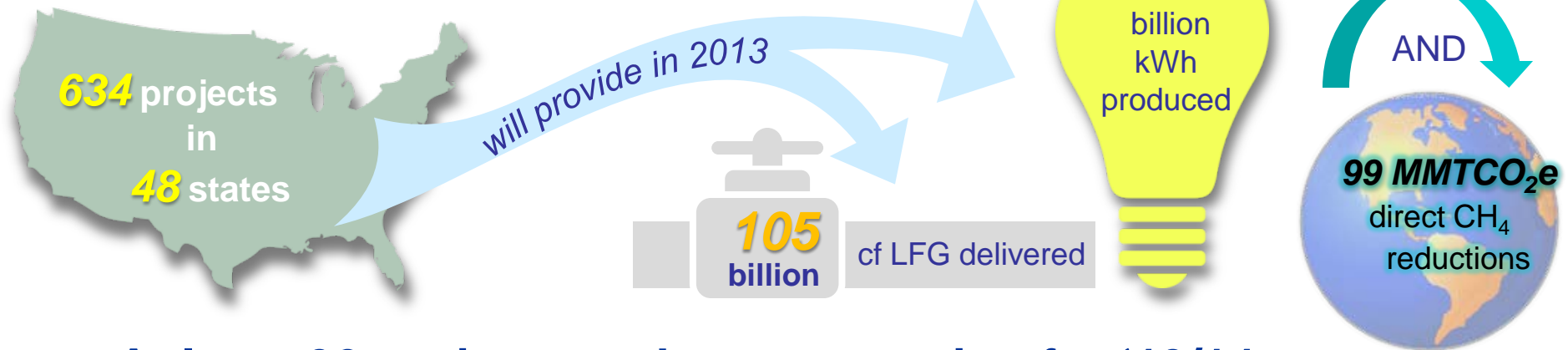
# U.S. Supported Agriculture Activities

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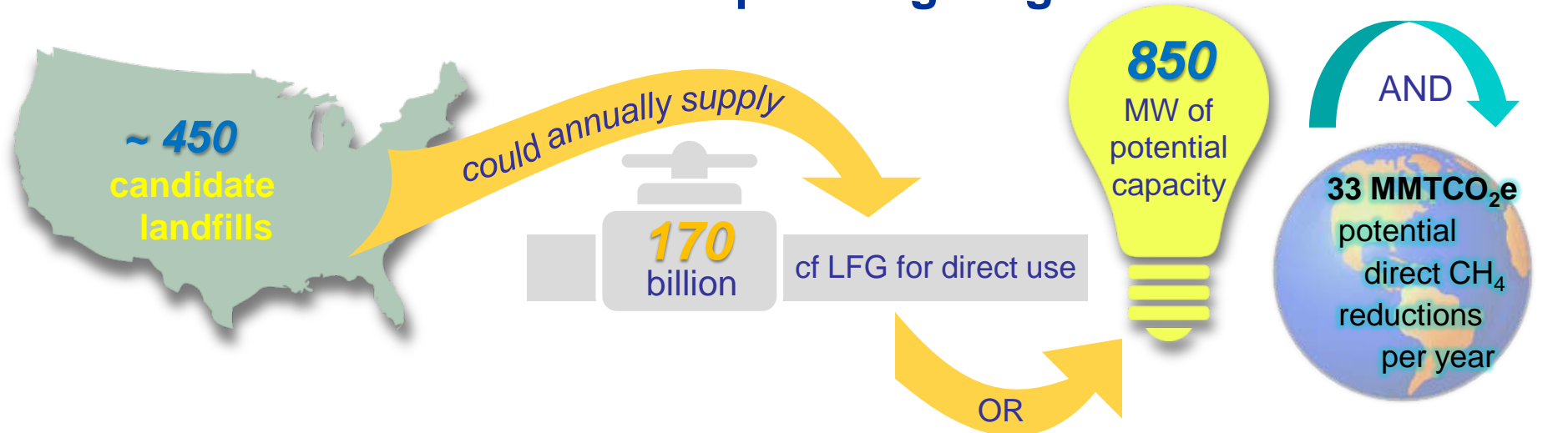
- AgSTAR – national program to reduce methane emissions from livestock farms through use of anaerobic digestion.
- Collaboration with World Bank program in China for improved manure management with anaerobic digestion.
- Continued support for Philippine training with in-country partners.
- Support for profile of Polish agricultural anaerobic digestion opportunities.
- *Agriculture Sector Action Plan revised in February 2013.*

# The National MSW Picture

## ► Project Snapshot (as of September 2013)



## ■ At least 30 projects under construction for '13/14 and more in the advanced planning stages



# U.S. Supported Municipal Solid Waste Activities

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- Launched CCAC MSW Initiative with key lead partners
- Strong presence at the GMI Expo in Vancouver (31 posters + technical sessions)
- Convened first MSW CCAC Steering group meeting (Vancouver)
- Initiated partnerships in three CCAC cities and conducted outreach to two additional cities.
- MSW Subcommittee webinar in December 2013
- Provided the Subcommittee with pertinent information on biogas production and other issues related to anaerobic digestion of MSW
- Direct Use packet completed
- Awarded eight MSW grants – Brazil, Chile, Ghana, Nigeria, Poland, Turkey, Ethiopia and Serbia
- Advanced GMI mission in priority countries including Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, China, and Turkey

# Forward Thinking - MSW

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- Continue to provide information on anaerobic digestion of MSW based on Subcommittee feedback and direction
- Continue support of waste NAMA and action plan development
- Continue development of landfill inventories for Partner countries and provide site-specific technical support and analysis such as LFG generation models
- Leverage GMI resources to support and complement CCAC MSW initiatives in key GMI countries
- Leverage institutional relationships with partner agencies (ISWA, UNEP-IETC, C40, IGES)

# The National Wastewater Picture

<b>3%</b>	Approximate percent of U.S. electricity production used by water and wastewater operations (~100 billion kWh annually)
<b>35%</b>	Amount of municipal energy consumption used by water/wastewater systems
<b>~17,000</b>	WWTFs in the U.S.
<b>40,000,000,000</b>	Gallons of wastewater treated in the U.S. every day
<b>8,000,000</b>	Approximate amount of dry tons of biosolids generated per year by U.S. WWTFs
<b>~57%</b>	Approximate percent of WWTFs >1MGD without anaerobic digestion
<b>&gt;400 MW</b>	Estimate of new biogas-based electricity generating capacity potential
<b>3 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	Potential emissions reductions associated with biogas-based electricity potential

# U.S. Supported Wastewater Activities

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- Development of national methane resource assessment in Chile, Mexico and Indonesia.
- Biogas recovery prefeasibility study development at existing WWTPs in Mexico, China and Chile.
- Technical training and capacity building for WWTP operators in Mexico.

# Forward Thinking - Wastewater

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- **Outreach / Action Planning**
  - Help to develop tools and resources such as: biogas modeling tools, case studies, training activities, and pre-feasibility studies.
  - Finalize U.S. Wastewater Sector Action plan.
- **Technical Assistance**
  - Continue support of international GMI wastewater projects focused on technical assistance and training to overcome technical, institutional, and financial barriers to project development.
  - Provide assistance to developing countries to develop or refine their methane action plans.
- **Collaboration**
  - Identify and seek ways to better collaborate with Partner Countries; the private sector; and multilateral organizations.

# Contact Information and Announcements

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- AgSTAR 2014 National Workshop: April 7 in San Diego, CA

