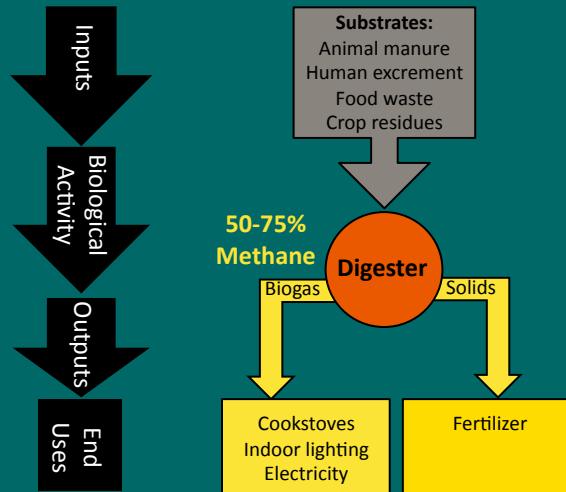


What is biogas?

Biogas is produced when microorganisms break down organic wastes in the absence of oxygen



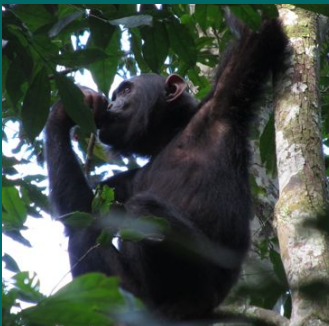
How does biogas address climate change?

Biogas supports climate change **mitigation** by
(1) capturing GHG emissions from decomposing wastes
(2) replacing carbon-intensive fuels like charcoal
(3) reducing deforestation and forest degradation.

Biogas supports climate change **adaptation** by offering a renewable energy to fast-growing, forest-dependent communities threatened by diminishing fuelwood resources

Why western Uganda?

Nearly 97% of households in western Uganda cook with firewood or charcoal. Deforestation threatens human livelihoods and the critical habitat for endangered species in a global biodiversity hotspot.



For more information, please contact
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Thank you to our friends and supporters:

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Photos courtesy of Vianney Tumwesige and Aleia McCord



Biogas Growth:
Regional and Sustainable Partnerships



An innovative pilot program starting in western Uganda that empowers entrepreneurs to create a biogas network, igniting renewable energy adoption in the region and beyond

A Climate Leadership Challenge proposal by:
Aleia McCord, Jeffrey Starke, and Sarah Stefanos

What other benefits does bioGRASP offer?

Biogas development in western Uganda offers many environmental and social benefits:

- Creates waste management opportunities
- Improves indoor air quality
- Produces organic fertilizer from digested solids
- Conserves biodiversity
- Protects forests, thereby promoting tourism
- Offers emissions trading opportunities
- Supports REDD+ Program Readiness
- Promotes Millennium Development Goals.

Why is bioGRASP innovative?

- Supports economic growth through a demand-driven energy solution rather than a donor-dictated technological fix
- Targets a new audience – Ugandan entrepreneurs at small businesses and institutions – in a new region – western Uganda
- Facilitates the exchange of ideas about small-scale systems between Uganda and Wisconsin, challenging the misconception that knowledge should always flow from the industrialized global North to the developing global South.



bioGRASP creates a concentration of renewable energy systems so that aspiring entrepreneurs can see how biogas could work for them. This model for renewable energy adoption can be used to promote other technologies that suit the local context of communities in Uganda and beyond.

The bioGRASP concept

COLLABORATE



Key activities

- Partner with experts in Uganda to identify entrepreneurs with an interest in biogas
- Invest 75% of system costs for these entrepreneurs as in-kind payment for mentoring future biogas owners.

CONSTRUCT



- Construct 5-10 biogas systems in western Uganda (\$400-\$4000 per system) by working with local masons using local materials
- Systems will demonstrate a breadth of inputs, end uses, and designs.

CONNECT



- Connect prospective biogas owners with mentors and a network of Ugandan biogas expertise by hosting highly publicized open houses at the newly constructed systems.
- Open houses will feature current biogas owners, financiers, NGOs, government officials, and technical experts.

CULTIVATE



- Document system construction and open houses to create multi-media educational materials about biogas
- Use educational materials to share bioGRASP lessons learned in Uganda and beyond.