

IBBK trains biogas trainers in Chile

- Follow-up report -

Agenda

This Training of Trainers took place from 28 May to 1 June 2018 at the Peñalolen Campus of Universidad Adolfo Ibañez in Santiago de Chile. Special about this 5-day training course was the mix of delivering expert knowledge as well as transmitting various types of training methodologies. While some topics (e.g. framework conditions in Chile, biogas products) were covered by „traditional“ lectures, others (e.g. principles of adult learning, plant technology) were transmitted using different approaches like silent work, group work and reflection on results. An afternoon in the laboratory complemented the theoretical part as did an excursion to Aguas Andinas Wastewater Treatment Plant „La Farfana“. A „goodie“ of the laboratory session was that the participants made short training videos on typical lab procedures that they could take home and use for their own trainings.

Team & Training

For this Training of Trainers the main members of the training team came from IBBK – Michael Köttner and Katrin Kayser – and from the Universidad Adolfo Ibañez – Claudia Pabon Perreira from the Faculty of Engineering and Sciences and Robert Pardo Silva, the director of the Learning Center at UAI. Additionally Karin Von Osten from SEC and Carlos Silva from UAI provided informations on current legislation with respect to biogas plants and the energy sector in Chile.

Michael Köttner shared his knowledge about biogas facts and figures, digestate management, pretreatment of feedstock as well as on practical experiences from all over the world. **Katrin Kayser** used interactive methods like group work and card queries to facilitate knowledge exchange between the participants on the topics of plant technology and health and safety on biogas plants.

Claudia Pabon covered the topics of feedstock properties, digester biology and the laboratory session. In the latter she was supported by **Robert Pardo**'s team from the Learning center who showed the participants how to make training videos on different laboratory methods for determining parameters relevant for AD like dry matter, volatile solids or FOS/TAC. Robert Pardo also covered the topics of adult education, evaluation and assessment.

The training course ended with a practical and theoretical assessment of the topics covered during the training. All participants successfully passed the test.

Feedback

Overall the feedback from the participants was excellent. Of course, nothing fits for all, but every participant would recommend others to join this training course.

Some testimonials from the participants:

„I would like to express my agreement with everything developed in this course. When people have an empathy and good value training there is no instance that can fail (of course with high academic preparation).“

„Excellent coordination and work team; Professional tools necessary for a good learning; Excellent speakers and great professionals.“

„Excellent organization, excellent teachers both foreign and foreign, highlighting the participation of IBBK, one of the best training centers worldwide. Only as a recommendation perhaps give greater participation to all groups in the laboratory tests and take time to edit videos .“

„I think it was a good course. Personally, I expected more dedication to transfer knowledge to operators, but what was delivered was very useful to develop teaching strategies. Regarding the technical content, it was a very condensed course in time and the subject is for many days, but the contents delivered were good and bounded in depth to adapt to the availability of existing time. Super good Congratulations!!

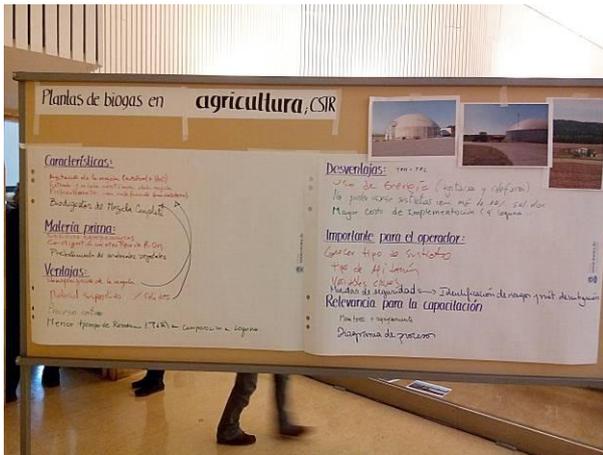
Pictures from the Train-the-Trainers course, 28 May to 1 June 2018, Santiago de Chile



Presentation of Michael Köttner about Biogas development in Germany and Europe



Group work about different types of biogas plants



Results for agricultural biogas plants



Participants looking at Mind-Maps reflecting the previous day



Results of brainstorming activity on risks on biogas plants (selection)



Fishing game as alternative option to recap topics of the day



Visit of Aguas Andinas WWTP "La Farfana"



Video editing training



Group work: reflecting on the training and how to transmit knowledge to future operators



Coffee break



Group picture

This training was made possible by funding from GEF and UNIDO.