THE RedBioLAC NETWORK OF BIODIGESTERS PRESENTS ITS NEW PUBLICATIONS

TheNetworkofBiodigestersforLatinAmericaandtheCaribbeanedBioLACcontinuesitsworktocommunicateandtrainnewactorsthestrategiesand



practices of implementing biodigesters.

RedBioLAC is a network that brings together institutions and organizations related to applied research and dissemination of anaerobic biodigestion to stimulate the integral treatment and management of organic waste, as strategies to improve the wellbeing of the population of Latin America and the Caribbean.

<u>Biodigesters</u> are systems designed to provide biological treatment to organic waste from agricultural activities. Taking advantage of this kind of waste to produce biogas (fuel) and effluent/biol (natural fertilizer), biodigesters become a tool that helps to mitigate the pollution generated by organic waste and provide valuable resources for rural communities at the same time.

Within the framework of its activities for the dissemination of knowledge, in 2023 RedBioLAC has produced and published the document <u>EI Estado actual de la Biodigestion en America</u> <u>Latina y el Caribe</u> (*The Current State of Biodigestion in Latin America and the Caribbean*). The document has been produced and is disseminated in collaboration with the <u>Inter-American</u> <u>Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)</u>.

In the presentation of the document it is emphasized that "The objective of the joint publication is to disseminate among public policy makers, the private sector, academia, non-governmental organizations and the population in general, information about the importance, use and the consolidation of biodigestion in Latin America and the Caribbean. Despite the maximum benefits that biogas offers in environmental, social and economic terms, much of its usefulness in daily life and rural agriculture is still unknown. For this reason, both institutions, in collaboration with experts in the field, have joined efforts and produced this document to make the current state of biodigestion known.

Chapter 1 presents practical experiences of installed biodigesters, chapter 2 describes the potential of this technique, observed in different countries and regions, and chapter 3 explains the use of biogas and other ways to use digestion. anaerobic of organic waste. Finally, in chapter 5 some analysis of legal and regulatory framework

ESTADO ACTUAL DE A BIODIGESTIÓN EN AMÉRICA LATINA **EL CARIBE** ///403 associated with anaerobic digestion are presented and, in chapter 6, some networks that promote the establishment of biodigesters are described.

At the beginning of each chapter are the main premises, while at the end of the document the main considerations on biodigestion are presented, including the challenges and opportunities of its implementation and recommendations regarding it. These key messages or driving ideas of the document are derived from the lessons learned from practice and the implementation of projects and research. These observations come from years of work in the field with users, academics, researchers, decision makers and all the people involved. The authors hope that the book will be useful for the entire community interested in this topic and, above all, for those who are venturing into this activity, to solve problems and take the first steps that each new project entails.

The international specialist in Biofuels and Renewable Energies of the IICA Innovation and Bioeconomy Program, presenting the document emphasizes that "Among biofuels in a gaseous state, biogas from anaerobic digestion presents unique characteristics in its production process and final product that make it a relevant option not only in the rural world, but also in the urban world. Through biodigestion technology, the bioeconomy enhances the biological use of resources, making possible the use of waste as raw materials that are transformed into inputs for the production of energy and fertilizers. In the agricultural field, the production of biogas on low and medium scales improves the well-being of rural inhabitants, since it allows the production of clean and accessible energy for areas disconnected from the gas and/or electricity distribution systems, manufacturing biological fertilizer and reducing Emissions of greenhouse gases. Furthermore, since it is a low-cost and easy-tooperate technology, it becomes a good option, especially for rural areas. This publication constitutes one more tool that IICA seeks to disseminate to raise awareness and generate capacity, in order to promote the use of these technologies that contribute to the sustainable development of the biological resources of the Americas".

In its effort and permanent work to disseminate knowledge, in 2023 RedBioLAC has also continued to produce new editions of its Magazine. In 2022, the RedBioLAC Magazine has implemented its own website, to provide authors with greater visibility in publications, and readers with easier access from conventional search engines. The sponsors of the RedBioLAC Magazine are the <u>Wisions of Sustainability</u> project, the <u>Wupperdal Institute</u> in Germany and the <u>Green Empowerment</u> organization in the United States.

The Magazine, freely accessible, has been published every year from 2017 on the RedBioLAC Network's website, as an important tool to give voice to associated experiences on biodigesters from Latin America and the Caribbean. At the same time, it has a high level of specialization in the area of anaerobic digestion in which expert researchers contribute adding their knowledge. All authors submit their work with no greater interest than contributing knowledge to the community.

With its six issues of the Magazine already published and with the other training and information tools implemented and available on the website, RedBIOLAC is becoming an important space for participatory construction and dissemination of knowledge about biodigesters, anaerobic digestion and biogas, benefiting both its



partners and many different other stakeholders potentially interested in implementing these technologies framed within the global challenges for sustainability

The Editorial Committee and the RedBioLAC Network invite all interested experts and biodigester project managers to participate in the production of the next issues of the Magazine.

To know more

RedBioLAC website

<u>El Estado actual de la Biodigestion en America Latina y el</u> <u>Caribe</u>.

RedBioLAC publicaciones

Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) website

Ediciones anteriores de la Revista

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