

Press release

Leipzig, 19 August 2015

DBFZ accompanies World Bank project for the construction of six biogas plants in Hebei, China

While the further expansion of biomass energy production has been slowed down by the decisions of the German Federal Government to restructure incentives, the People's Republic of China is aiming to significantly spur the development of the energetic use of biomass. To improve the quality of biogas plants in China, six biogas plants will be supported with know-how and technology "Made in Germany" in a project partly funded by the World Bank. The high-profile international expert group for the scientific supervision of the project is headed by Prof. Dr. mont. Michael Nelles, the scientific managing director of the DBFZ.

With around 70 million euros, the World Bank participates in the construction of a total of six biogas plants in Hebei province, China. Together with scientists from the prestigious China University of Petroleum - Beijing (CUPB), the 20-Member group of experts under the direction of Prof. Dr. Michael Nelles (DBFZ/University of Rostock) and Dr. Walter Stinner (DBFZ) takes over the scientific supervision (consulting, concept development, implementation, error analysis) of the project, which is expected to be completed in 2021. The planned six biogas plants can process both manure and organic wastes as well as residues and represent model solutions for the future environmentally friendly disposal system in the province. Moreover, they will contribute significantly to the province's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals. The digestate from biogas production will be applied in cascade use as a secondary fertiliser in the regional agriculture. Over 100,000 households in the region will be provided with energy produced by the six planned biogas plants.

"As Consortium of experts we particularly appreciate the World Bank project, because it provides the necessary means to engage German know-how in the field of biogas technology in China over a period of over six years. In addition, the DBFZ has initiated further actions regarding bioenergy production, which we see as an active part of our fruitful cooperation with the CUPB and Chinese policy makers. Especially in the field of biogas production with the combined energetic and material use of biogenic wastes and residues China is a growing market which we would like to actively shape with the infusion of our extensive expertise ", says Prof. Michael Nelles.

Cooperation with the China Agricultural University (CAU) should be further developed

During the latest CAU "Great cycle Conference" at which leading scientists from four continents presented and discussed their results in the areas of bio-energy and closure of nutrient cycles focusing

Bernt Farcke, BMEL, Chairman
Berthold Goeke, BMUB
Anita Domschke, SMUL
Dr. Dorothee Mühl, BMWi
Dr. Christoph Rövekamp, BMBF
Birgitta Worringer, BMVI

General Management:
Prof. Dr. mont. Michael Nelles (scient.)
Daniel Mayer (admin.)

Seat and competent court: Leipzig
District court of Leipzig HRB 23991
Tax ID: 232/124/01072
VAT ID: DE 259357620
Deutsche Kreditbank AG
IBAN: DE63 1203 0000 1001 2106 89
SWIFT BIC: BYLADEM1001



on organic waste, it became clear that China already acknowledges biogas technology as a cross-cutting technology for environmentally sound sewage and waste treatment, as flexible and multiple usable energy technology, as a way to close the nutrient cycles and to preserve the natural soil fertility. Despite the current international low energy prices, China wants to significantly expand the biogas sector. Personal discussions between the experts of the DBFZ and professors Renjie Dong (head of the bio-energy at the CAU) and Quiao Wei, the interest in the started cooperation has been reaffirmed and decided to expand the cooperation in the field of the mutual transfer of knowledge.

German-Chinese Summer School in October

The DBFZ successfully acquired funding through the Sino-German Centre for science promotion (CDZ) and has invited 35 lecturers and PhD students to gather in Leipzig and Rostock for the Summer School "Energetic & Material Use of Biogenic Waste & Residues" from 12 to 16 October 2015. In addition to lectures of Chinese and German scientists and practice partner, also visits on the HTC - and dry fermentation plant in Halle-Lochau, as well as the waste incineration plant in Rostock are planned. Also, specific projects and future research cooperation with partners of the China University of Petroleum, Beijing (CUPB), the China Agricultural University (CAU), the Tongji University Shanghai, and Dalian University of Technology will be discussed. The summer school 2015 is jointly organized by the DBFZ, the University of Rostock and Tongji University.

Research for the energy of the future – DBFZ

The DBFZ (German Biomass Research Centre) works as a central and independent thinker in the field of energy and material use of biomass on the question of how the limited available biomass resources can contribute to the existing and future energy system with sustainability and high efficiency. As part of the research the DBFZ identifies, develops, accompanies, evaluates and demonstrates the most promising fields of application for bioenergy and the especially positively outstanding examples together with partners from research, industry and public. With the scientific work of the DBFZ, the knowledge of the possibilities and limitations of energy and integrated material use of renewable raw materials in a biobased economy as a whole should be expanded and the outstanding position of the industrial location Germany in this sector permanently secured – www.dbfz.de

Press Contact:

Paul Trainer

Press- and Public Relations Department

Phone: +49 (0)341 2434-437

E-Mail: paul.trainer@dbfz.de