AFRICAN BIODIGESTER COMPONENT UGANDA

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the African Biodigester Component?

The African Biodigester Component, commonly abbreviated as ABC, is a five-year project (2021-2025) funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs to commercialise biodigester markets in five African countries, ie Uganda, Kenya, Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger.

2. Who is implementing the ABC project in Uganda?

The ABC project is implemented by a consortium led by SNV, which is in charge of project management and stakeholder coordination. GIZ, together with the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development are in charge of fostering an enabling environment for the biodigester technologies, capacity building for selected sector associations, advocating for policy formulation and development of regulation and standards. Biogas Solutions Uganda Limited is the national implementer and primary contact for biodigester enterprises across the country.

3. Who is the project targeting to support?

The project is implemented across the country, supporting biodigester enterprises and farmers.

4. Is this project donating cows to farmers?

No, the ABC project is not donating cows to farmers. It is focused on promoting biodigester technology adoption, clean cooking, and application and commercialisation of bio-slurry organic fertilizer amongst farmers.

5. Is the project constructing the biodigesters for farmers for free?

No, the ABC project is not facilitating the free construction of biodigesters for farmers. ABC is anchored on a market-led approach driven by demand and supply, which means that farmers are expected to fund the construction of their biodigesters. However, the project has an access to finance component through which it will provide affordable loans to farmers to acquire the technology.

6. Where can farmers acquire these cheap loans from?

Currently, the ABC project is working with select financial institutions across the country. For more details on the financial institutions, please contact the communications officer at ckasemiire@snv.org

7. What do I need to construct a biodigester plant?

You must have sufficient feedstock (waste) preferably cow dung, pig dung, chicken dung or human waste). For those who own dairy cattle, a minimum of two cows in a zero-grazing unit and four cows in the free-range system would provide sufficient feedstock to qualify for a biogas plant. For further details on the acquisition and price of a biodigester, please contact us on toll-free number: 0800 399 236 or via email at: info@biogassolutions.co.ug

8. Beyond the loans, are there other ways that farmers can benefit from this project?

Yes. ABC project aims to commercialise bio slurry, organic fertiliser from the biodigester by developing a market for it in Uganda, to enable farmers to sell it and earn an income. Farmers have the opportunity to benefit from trainings in value addition to bio-slurry to create bio-slurry enriched compost, best practices for application to realise improved yields and briquette making. The trainings aim to enable farmers to improve their livelihoods using a biodigester. The project through the private sector is also providing free after-sale services to farmers to address any technical challenges experienced after the biodigester plant has been constructed.

9. How can businesses benefit from the ABC project?

The ABC project is strengthening the private sector through business development training focused on upskilling the businesses in the areas of marketing and sales, record keeping, value proposition, Environment, Social and Governance as well as finance management. The project is providing a results-based financing facility(RBF), through which enterprises receive financial incentives to support their day-to-day business operations. The RBF also caters for the after-sale services that the enterprise provides to farmers.

10. How can businesses participate in the project?

Enterprises simply have to apply through this <u>link</u> to be supported by the ABC Project in Uganda. For more information: please contact us on toll-free number: 0800 399 236 or via email at: <u>info@biogassolutions.co.ug</u> / ckasemiire@snv.org