



# **Biogas Wastewater Assessment Technology Tool (BioWATT)**

**Global Methane Forum  
Washington, DC, USA**

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**29 March 2016  
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# Overview

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- Introduction to tool
- Technologies assessed
- Tool structure and how to use
- Examples

# Purpose

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- Provide a quick and preliminary assessment of wastewater-to-energy projects
  - Biogas production
  - Electricity generation
  - Greenhouse gas savings
  - Design parameters of major components of a wastewater-to-energy project (e.g., digester volume, required gas holder volume, and combined heat and power (CHP) electric power output)
  - Operating expense (OPEX) savings

# Intended Users

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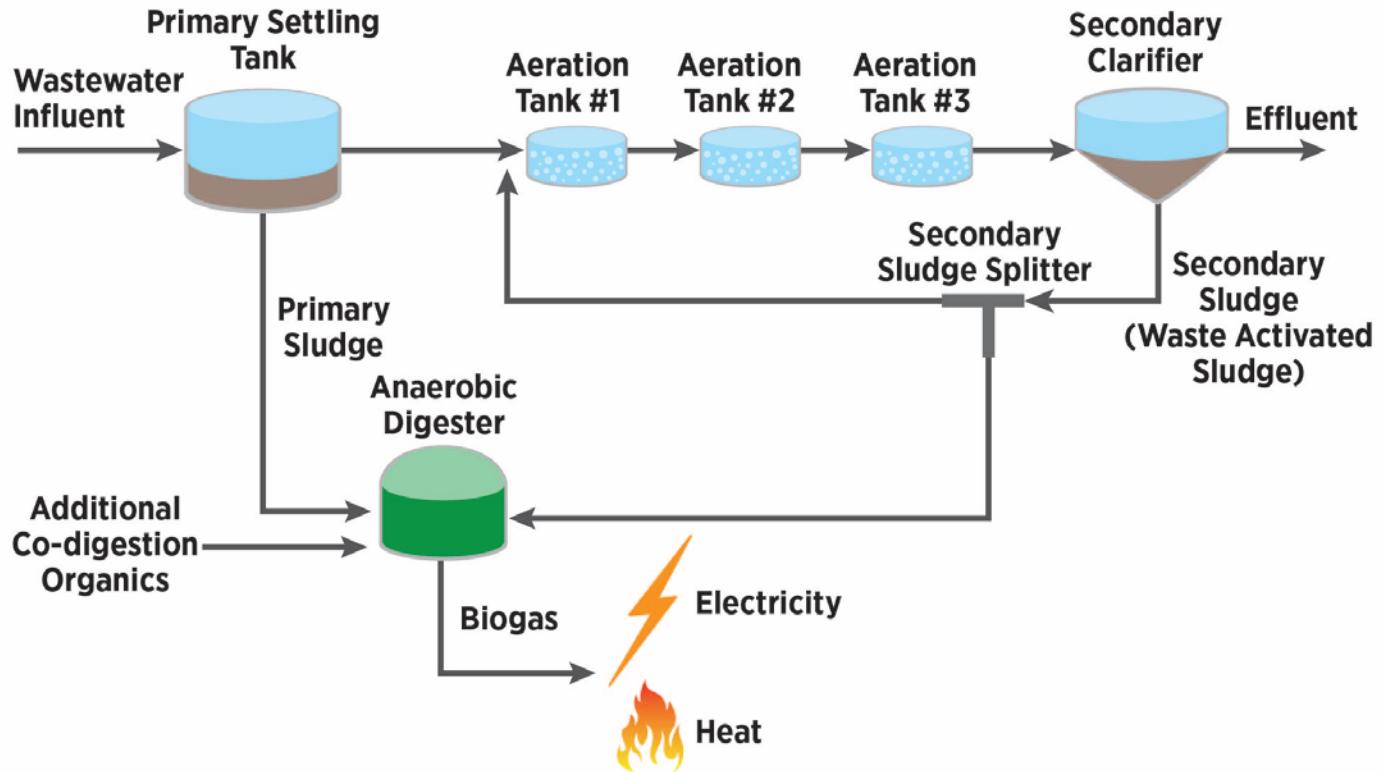
- Wastewater treatment facility operators
- Project developers
- Federal/state/local decision makers

# Technologies Evaluated

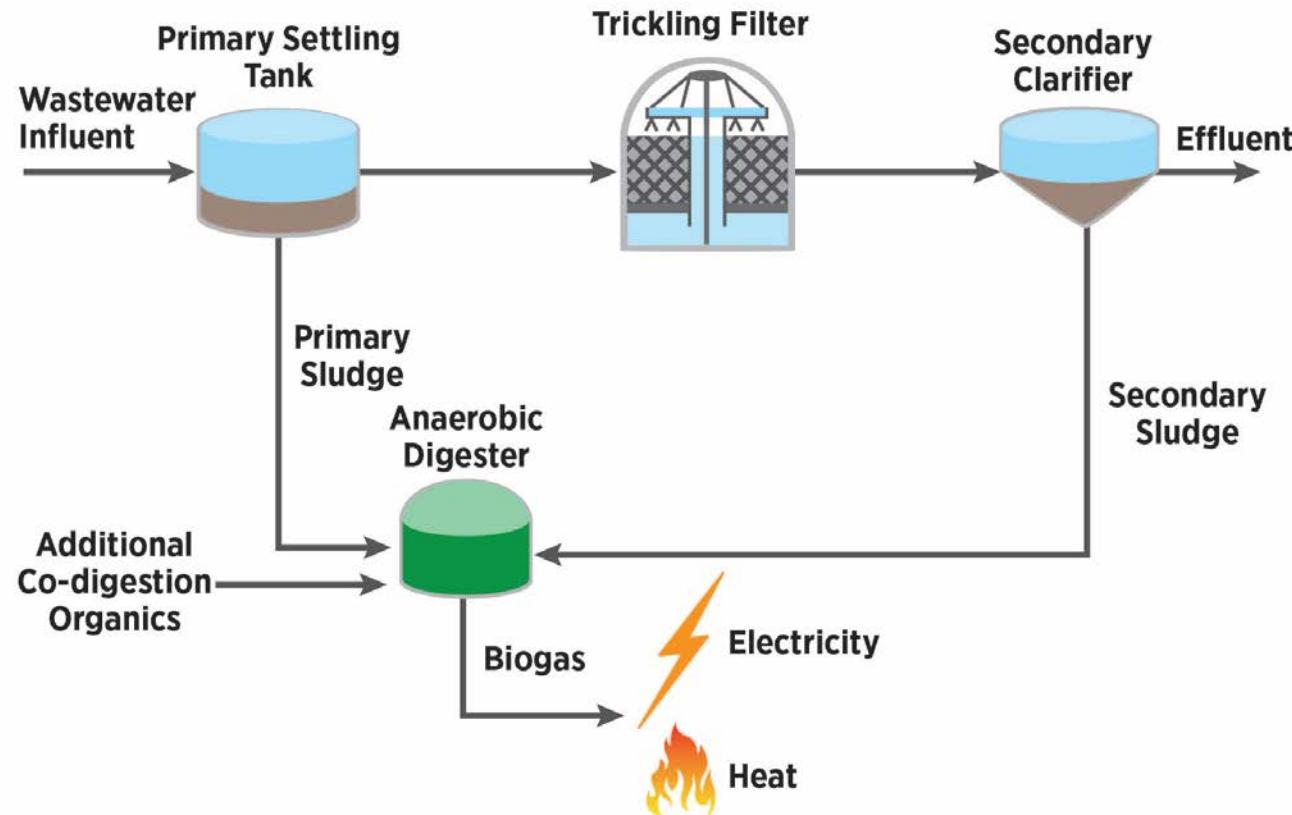
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- Conventional activated sludge (CAS) with anaerobic digester (plus optional co-digestion)
- Trickling filter (TF) with anaerobic digester (plus optional co-digestion)
- Upflow anaerobic sludge blanket (UASB) reactor
- Covered anaerobic pond

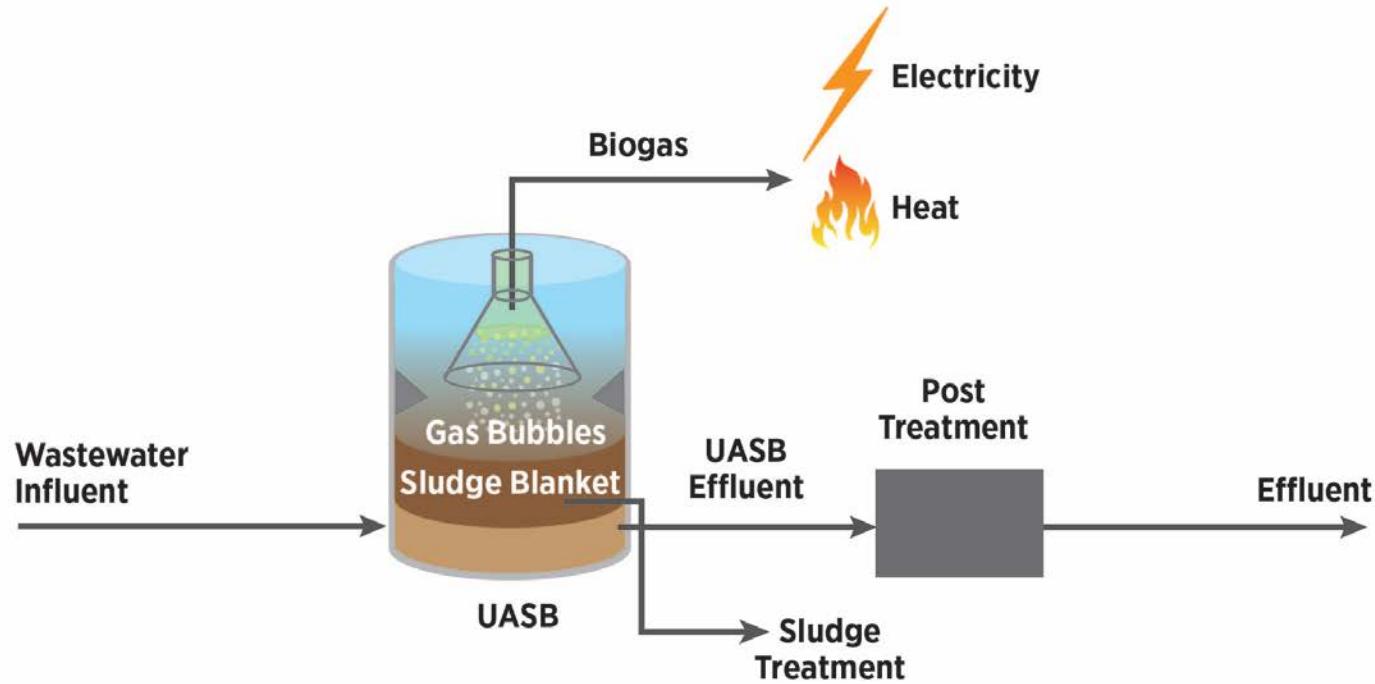
# Conventional Activated Sludge (CAS)



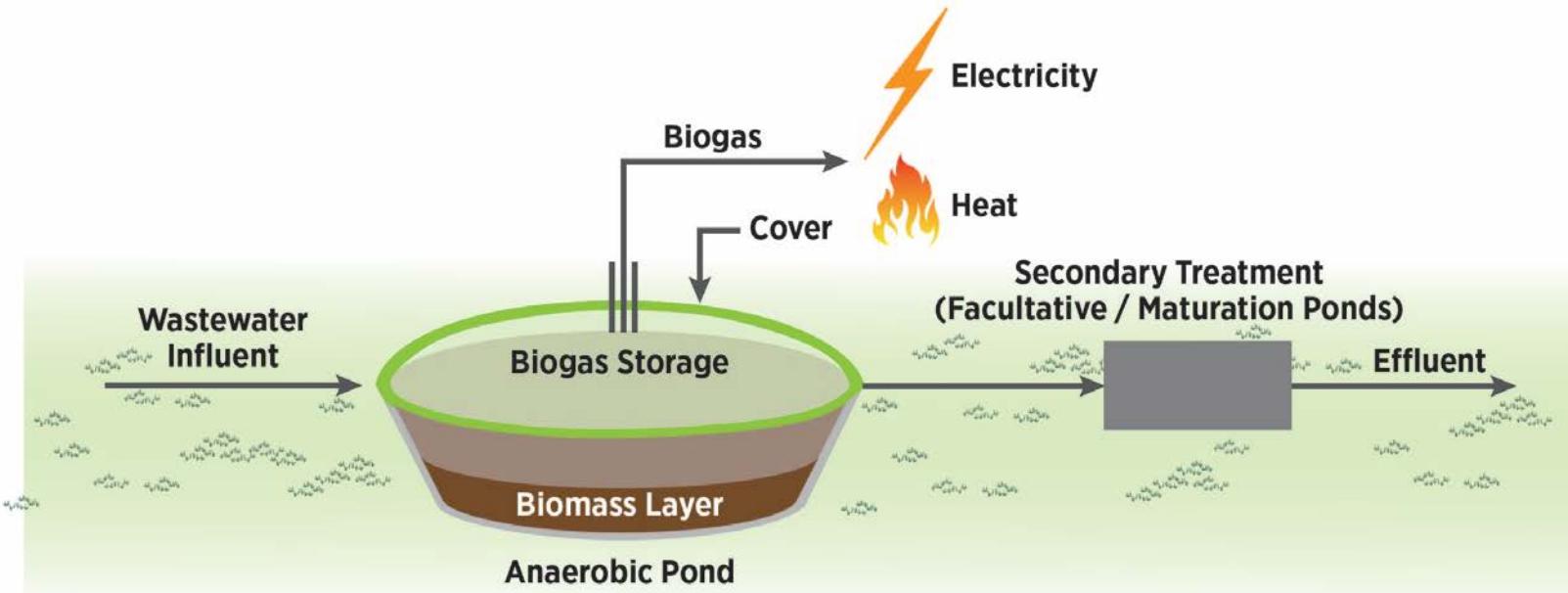
# Trickling Filter



# Upflow Anaerobic Sludge Blanket (UASB)



# Covered Anaerobic Pond



# Structure

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- 3 Worksheets
  - Introduction
  - Basic Module
  - Advanced Module

# Basic Module

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- Intended for most users
- Upper part of worksheet = Inputs
- Lower part of worksheet = Summary Results
- Limited inputs:
  - Wastewater parameters (hydraulic load, BOD5 concentration)
  - GHG emissions (local electric grid emission factor)
  - Cost (electricity tariff, sludge disposal unit cost, average labor cost)

# Advanced Module

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- Intended for users with more advanced knowledge
- Allows entry of specific wastewater data and overwrite tool defaults
- **All BioWATT calculations are made in Advanced Module and select outputs are copied into Basic Module**

# How to Use BioWATT

Inputs = Green

Outputs = Orange

Two Modules:  
• Basic  
• Advanced

BioWATT (Biogas Wastewater Assessment Technology Tool)				v1.0 (19 Jan 2016)
Project:	(Name of WWTP)			
Date:	(Date)			
INPUT DATA				
WASTEWATER ENTERING WWTP	Value	Unit	Comment	
Average hydraulic load	40,000	m <sup>3</sup> /d	Provide estimate of the expected average daily wastewater flow reaching the WWTP. A rough estimate can be made by utilizing about 80% of the water supply to the same catchment, and by adding an assumption for stormwater flow and ground-water intrusion. For separate sewer systems this may add up to another 30% flow, for combined sewer systems this may add up to another 100-200%.	
Average inflow BOD <sub>5</sub> concentration	120	mg/L	Provide estimate of the expected average BOD <sub>5</sub> concentration entering the WWTP.	
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS	Value	Unit	Comment	
Local GHG emissions for electricity generation	565	g CO <sub>2</sub> /kWh	Select appropriate value from drop-down menu, or utilize data from other sources (e.g. International Energy Agency IEA: "CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions From Fuel Combustion")	
Do you have a UASB that is not collecting biogas?	NO		Select "YES" or "NO" from drop-down menu	
Do you have an Anaerobic Pond that is not collecting biogas?	NO		Select "YES" or "NO" from drop-down menu	
UNIT COST	Value	Unit	Comment	
Electricity tariff	0.15	US\$/kWh	Insert locally prevailing unit cost for power purchase from public grid	
Sludge disposal unit cost	10.00	US\$/m <sup>3</sup>	Insert locally prevailing unit cost for sludge disposal / reuse	
Average labor cost	10,000	US\$/personnel/year	Insert locally prevailing average unit cost for operators at WWTP	
SUMMARY OUTPUT RESULTS				
CAS + DIGESTER	Result	Unit	Comment	
Biogas production	567,648	m <sup>3</sup> /year		
Electricity generation from biogas	1,106,914	kWh/year		
Including co-digestion	NO	--		
Including ultrasound sludge disintegration	NO	--		
GHG emission reduction through electricity from biogas	-625	tons CO <sub>2</sub> /year		
Elimination of existing GHG emissions from digester	0	tons CO <sub>2</sub> /year		
Total GHG emission reduction	-625	tons CO <sub>2</sub> /year		
Reduction of electricity cost	-166,037	US\$/year		
Reduction of aeration cost to aeration tank	-75,600	US\$/year		
Reduction of sludge disposal cost	-28,337	US\$/year		

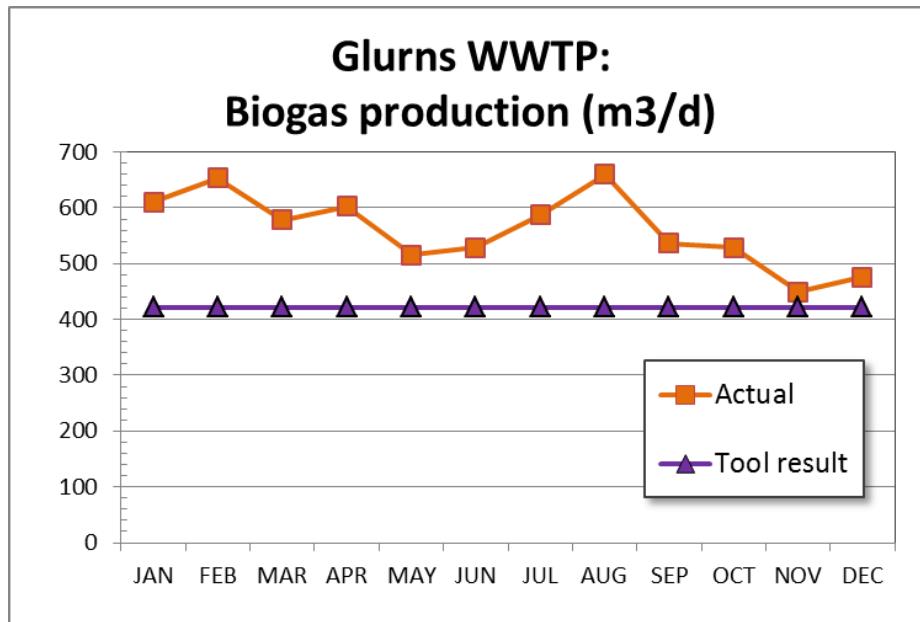
# Examples

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- Glurns (Northern Italy) Wastewater Treatment Plant (CAS + Digester)
- Managua Wastewater Treatment Plant (Trickling Filter + Digester)
- Betim Central (Minas Gerais, Brazil) Wastewater Treatment Plant (UASB)
- Santa Cruz (Bolivia) Wastewater Treatment Plant (Covered Anaerobic Ponds)

# Glurns WWTP (CAS + Digester)

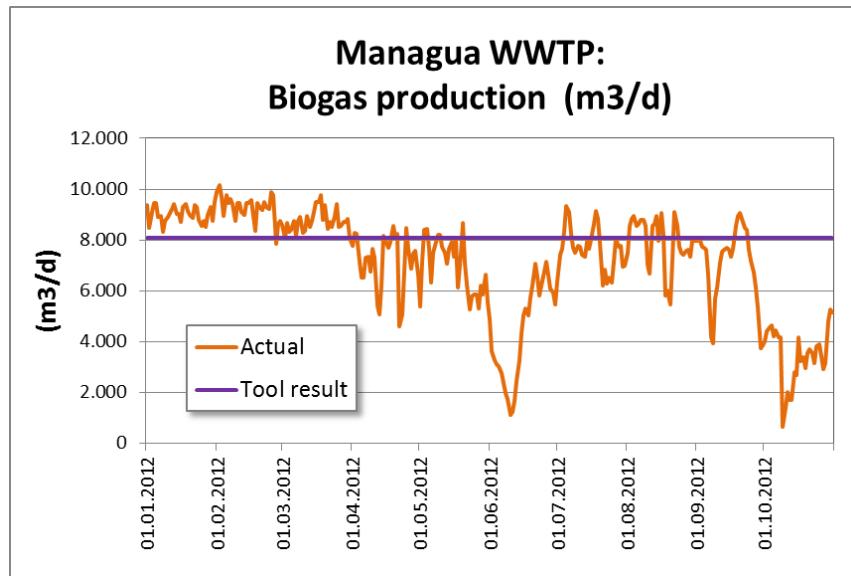
Glurns WWTP (Northern Italy, Europe) CAS + digester	Average hydraulic load (m <sup>3</sup> /d)	Biogas production (m <sup>3</sup> /year)	Electricity generation from biogas (kWh/year)	GHG emission reduction (tons CO <sub>2</sub> e/year)	Total OPEX saving (US\$/year)
- Actual operation data	3,191	204,480	302,576	n.a.	n.a.
- Tool result	3,191	153,966	300,234	-122	-109,165
- Difference	0%	-25%	-1%		



Gas Holder

# Managua WWTP (TF + Digester)

Managua WWTP (Nicaragua) TF + digester	Average hydraulic load (m <sup>3</sup> /d)	Biogas production (m <sup>3</sup> /year)	Electricity generation from biogas (kWh/year)	GHG emission reduction (tons CO <sub>2</sub> e/year)	Total OPEX saving (US\$/year)
- Actual operation data	100,750	2,613,035	5,448,000	n.a.	n.a.
- Tool result	100,750	2,820,782	5,500,525	-2,530	-438,782
- Difference	0%	8%	1%		



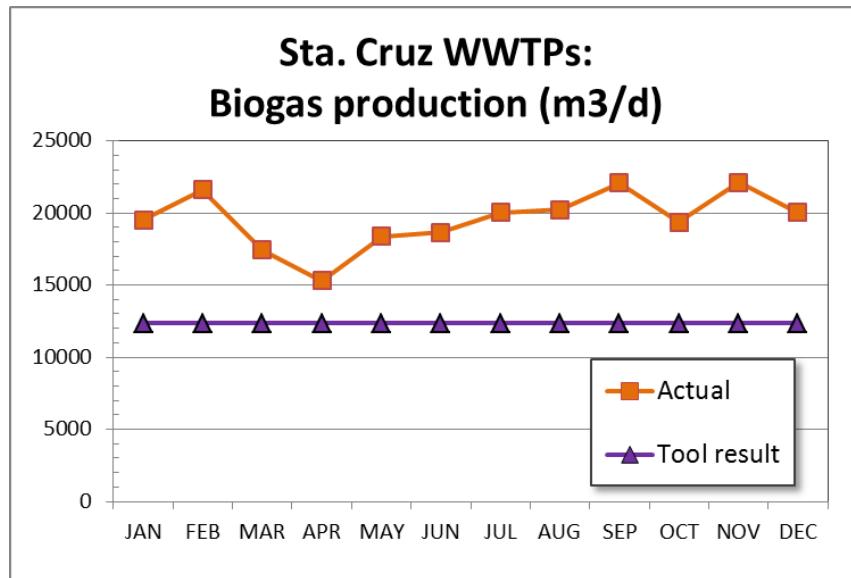
# Betim Central WWTP (UASB)

Betim Central WWTP (Minas Gerais, Brazil) UASB	Average hydraulic load (m <sup>3</sup> /d)	Biogas production (m <sup>3</sup> /year)	Electricity generation from biogas (kWh/year)	GHG emission reduction (tons CO <sub>2</sub> e/year)	Total OPEX saving (US\$/year)
- Actual operation data	19,855	333,072	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
- Tool result	19,855	254,760	496,782	-43	-60,701
- Difference	0%	-24%	--		



# Santa Cruz WWTP (Covered Anaerobic Ponds)

Sta. Cruz WWTPs (Bolivia) - 4 systems taken together	Average hydraulic load (m <sup>3</sup> /d)	Biogas production (m <sup>3</sup> /year)	Electricity generation from biogas (kWh/year)	GHG emission reduction (tons CO <sub>2</sub> e/year)	Total OPEX saving (US\$/year)
- Actual operation data	118,009	7,138,305	n.a.	n.a.	-590,000
- Tool result	118,009	4,507,932	9,466,656	-4,004	n.a.
- Difference	0%	-37%	---		



# Contact

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Download BioWATT at:

<http://www.globalmethane.org/tools-resources/tools.aspx#five>