



ALFA
UNLOCKING THE BIOGAS POTENTIAL
OF LIVESTOCK FARMING

D4.2

Report on evaluation of market uptake support measures - Second Round

Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL

31 / 07 / 2025



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ABBREVIATIONS

AB	Advisory Board
BE	Belgium
D	Deliverable
CSA	Coordination and Support Action
DK	Denmark
EL	Greece
ES	Spain
GA	Grant Agreement
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
HE	Horizon Europe
IT	Italy
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
kWe	Kilo-Watt-electric
MEF	Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
N/A	Not Applicable
RES	Renewable Energy Systems
SK	Slovakia
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bounded
T	Task

Executive Summary

The ALFA project - a Coordination and Support Action (CSA) funded under the Horizon Europe program by the European Union - is committed to **unlocking the potential of biogas** produced in **livestock farming**. Running from November 2022 to October 2025, it contributes to reaching higher Renewable Energy Systems (RES) penetration through an increase in the bioenergy share and by positioning biogas as a source of baseload energy in Europe. This is achieved by providing **services, either business or technical, capacity-building activities** and **awareness-raising campaigns**, meaning ALFA **support measures**, in **two iterative rounds**.

This deliverable, D4.2 “Report on the deployment of ALFA Support Measures – Second Round”, provides an **update** to D4.1 “Report on the deployment of ALFA Support Measures – First Round”, and assesses the results of the second round of ALFA support measures. On top of that, also provides recommendations on how to fine-tune them, building upon feedback received by supported cases, Advisory Board members and interested stakeholders. While D4.1 introduced the ALFA monitoring and evaluation framework, outlined the first round of results, and reported on the first validation workshop, **D4.2** builds upon that, however, for the **second round of implementation**, and it presents updated **insights from the second validation workshop**.

The **monitoring and evaluation framework** developed in D4.1 “Report on the deployment of ALFA Support Measures – First Round”, uses SMART indicators (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, time-bound) and targeted evaluation questions to assess performance across ALFA’s three main pillars (business and technical service provision, capacity building activities and awareness raising campaigns). The second round was also based on this monitoring and evaluation framework, so, **similarly to the first round**, the data was collected based on **short questionnaires** and **surveys**, available both online and on-site, depending on the activity. These tools provided valuable insights into the **effectiveness of ALFA activities** from stakeholders who received support. The findings were further validated in a **second workshop**, gathering input from Advisory Board members and other biogas experts and stakeholders from the bioenergy fields and livestock farming. This feedback has informed refinements of the support measures and will contribute directly to the final ALFA Replication Guide and Policy Recommendations.

In summary, D4.2 documents the **progress and impact of the second round** of ALFA support measures, presents the aggregated results from both rounds and compares them with the first round. It confirms the relevance and effectiveness of the ALFA measures while ensuring ongoing alignment with project objectives through Advisory Board and external stakeholder validation. Finally, it outlines the key outcomes and insights for fine-tuning the support measures in their finalised version for post-project exploitation.

1. Introduction

1.1 ALFA at glance

The ALFA project, a Coordination and Support Action (CSA) funded by the European Union under the Horizon Europe programme, run from November 2022 to October 2025. The project tackled the untapped potential of **biogas production from livestock farming** to **enhance** the adoption of **renewable energy sources** (RES) and to increase the share of bioenergy as a reliable baseload energy source.

Aspiring to be a catalyst for biogas development in Europe, ALFA provided demand-driven **business and technical support** to over 50 livestock farmers and other biogas projects in six EU countries.¹ This support was driven through local networks called **ALFA Hubs**, established by project partners. Hand in hand, to boost biogas market dynamics, the project has been implementing **capacity-building** activities and **promoting awareness** of the benefits of biogas solutions.

ALFA's primary goals were to:

- **Assess Regional Specificities:** It **analysed framework conditions** and identified drivers and barriers for biogas uptake in the EU livestock farming industry using a multi-layered approach, including country-specific analyses, interviews, surveys, and the study of successful practices.
- **Co-create Support Measures:** It **developed ALFA's support measures** tailored to local needs and challenges, aimed at boosting biogas adoption in the livestock farming sector through the operation of ALFA Hubs.
- **Deploy Biogas Uptake Support:** It **implemented ALFA's support measures** in real market conditions to facilitate the integration of renewable energy into the final energy mix.
- **Communicate and Inform Policy:** It **disseminated outcomes**, provided policy recommendations, and promoted mutual learning to empower the adoption of livestock biogas across Europe.

Key outcomes of the project included:

- **ALFA Hubs:** Network of local facilitators supporting biogas market uptake in the targeted countries.
- **Regional Specificity Analysis:** Analysis of regional conditions through desk research, surveys, and interviews with successful biogas initiatives.
- **Demand-driven Services:** A portfolio of business and technical services co-created with stakeholders and fine-tuned throughout the project.
- **Training and Awareness Materials:** Webinars, seminars, and awareness campaigns for stakeholders across the biogas value chain.

¹ BE – Belgium, EL – Greece, ES – Spain, DK – Denmark, IT – Italy, SK - Slovakia

- **ALFA Tools:** A suite of tools available through the [ALFA Engagement Platform](#), including a Decision Support Tool, an interactive map of active Biogas Cases, a Knowledge Centre, and a Biogas Forum for idea exchange and best practices.

By promoting biogas production from livestock manure, ALFA aimed to **reduce greenhouse gas** (GHG) emissions and support a more sustainable and **circular bioenergy system**. The project addressed key barriers to biogas adoption, such as limited awareness and inadequate financial frameworks, and **scaled the livestock biogas** ecosystem across Europe, enhancing the overall uptake of renewable energy systems.

1.2 Aim of this report

This report aims to **evaluate the outcomes of the second round** of ALFA's market uptake support measures, deployed as part of the project's efforts to facilitate the adoption of biogas solutions within the livestock farming sector. The evaluation focused on assessing the effectiveness of these support measures in improving the setup and operation of biogas facilities among the targeted stakeholders.

Using a structured monitoring and evaluation framework, developed in D4.1 "Report on the deployment of ALFA Support Measures – Second Round"², data were collected on various aspects such as confidence level, risk reduction, and effort reduction of the supported projects. The findings, informed by feedback from stakeholders and reviewed by the ALFA Advisory Board, provided the basis for recommendations on how to refine and enhance these support measures in order to improve ALFA's interventions and contribute to the objectives of the **Replication Guide** and Policy Recommendations within the project.

1.3 Structure of deliverable

The main sections of the report are outlined below:

- **Introduction:** Provides an overview of the ALFA project, including its goals, the aim of this report, and the structure of the deliverable.
- **ALFA Framework at glance:** Reports the main aspects of the ALFA Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, including activities, services, objectives, indicators, data collection, and management processes
- **Results of the first round:** Wraps up the aggregated data collected from the service provisions of the first round of the capacity-building activities
- **Results of the second round:** Presents the aggregated data collected from the service provisions and the capacity building of the second round, including an analysis of the aggregated data of both rounds.
- **Second Validation Workshop:** Sets down details about the implementation of the second validation workshop.
- **Outcomes and Summary of Improvements:** Highlights the main insight gained during the second validation workshop towards the Replication Guide and Policy Recommendations.

² ALFA Project, Deliverable, D4.1 "Report on the deployment of ALFA Support Measures – Second Round, 2024, ([link](#))

- **Conclusions:** Summarises the key findings, improvements made, and the overall impact of the second round of support measures, along with the next steps.

The annexes of this report provide supporting materials for the development and implementation of the ALFA framework.

- **Annex I** includes the overall framework, outlining the structure, objectives, and indicators used to monitor and evaluate the project's activities.
- **Annex II** reports more details about the monitoring and evaluation framework of ALFA.
- **Annex III** contains the questionnaires for data collection, to gather insights from beneficiaries, seminar and webinar participants.
- **Annex IV** presents the materials related to the validation workshop (incl. list of participants, agenda, photos, presentations, Mural board, invitation, registration, and informed consent form).

2. ALFA Framework at glance

This section presents the highlights of the ALFA monitoring and evaluation framework (MEF), while more information was detailed in D4.1 “Report on the deployment of ALFA Support Measures – First Round”³

The **ALFA Monitoring and Evaluation Framework** (MEF) was the basis of the project’s strategy to facilitate and evaluate the uptake of biogas solutions within the livestock farming sector across six EU countries (BE – Belgium, EL – Greece, ES – Spain, DK – Denmark, IT – Italy, SK - Slovakia). An overview of the process is presented in Figure 1.

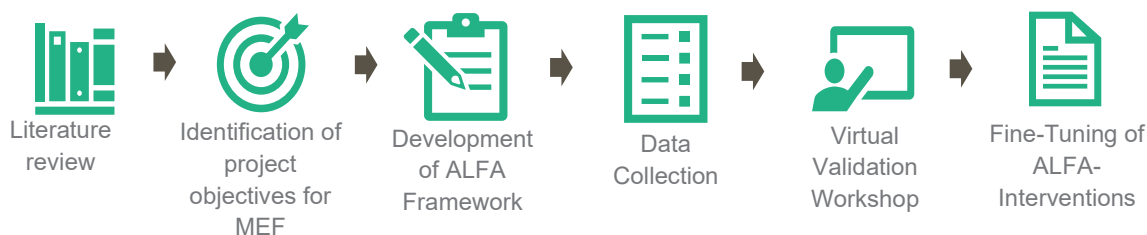


Figure 1. ALFA MEF Design Approach

The main **objectives** of the **ALFA** project are the following:

- Support market uptake of biogas through hands-on services and expert advice.
- Strengthen stakeholders’ skills and preparedness for biogas implementation.
- Foster social acceptance and positive perceptions of biogas in rural communities.

Following these objectives, the ALFA MEF was built on the three **core pillars – main activities** of the project, namely the business and technical service provision, the capacity building activities and the awareness raising campaigns (also referred to as ALFA support measures). The **business and technical support services** provided livestock farmers with free-of-charge, tailored services aimed at reducing the complexity, cost, and perceived risk associated with the development of biogas projects. These services helped to remove barriers to market entry and improved the feasibility of biogas investments. Meanwhile, the **capacity-building activities** – including webinars and seminars – equipped stakeholders with essential knowledge and practical skills related to the biogas technologies, financial instruments, and regulatory frameworks. These sessions were designed to boost confidence and competence, ensuring that stakeholders are better prepared to implement and manage biogas systems. Complementing these efforts were the **awareness-raising campaigns**, which aimed to foster greater social acceptance and understanding of biogas as a sustainable energy source. These campaigns addressed local perceptions and barriers, helping build public trust and stakeholder support through targeted messaging and outreach.

To monitor and evaluate progress, the framework employed a set of **SMART indicators** (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound). These indicators assessed service delivery (tracking the number and type of services delivered), stakeholders’ satisfaction, risk perception, knowledge acquisition, and the level of awareness and acceptance of biogas technologies. The indicators were supported by **simple, targeted questionnaires** (serving as the tools for the data

³ ALFA Project, Deliverable, D4.1 “Report on the deployment of ALFA Support Measures – Second Round, 2024, ([link](#))

collection) designed for easy completion by participants, ensuring consistent and efficient data collection.

The framework has been **co-created** during the initial stages of the project with the livestock farmers, developers, and experts via local ALFA Hubs in order to ensure that regional needs were reflected in the design and delivery of ALFA support measures.

Data collection was managed by the **ALFA Hubs**. Questionnaires were distributed at various stages of service delivery and capacity-building activities, and data were gathered anonymously in full compliance to GDPR rules to ensure privacy and security.

Finally, **each round** of ALFA support measure deployment concluded with a **validation workshop**, where project partners, stakeholders, and Advisory Board members reviewed outcomes and proposed improvements. This feedback loop ensured that the framework remained dynamic and responsive, continuously evolving to facilitate and enhance the adoption of biogas technologies across Europe.

The following tables correlate the key elements of the MEF and ALFA project's core activities - service provision, capacity building, and awareness-raising campaigns.

Table 1. ALFA Monitoring and Evaluation Framework Overview for service provision

Category	Details
Objective	To provide tailored business and technical support to livestock farmers towards biogas market uptake.
Target Group	Service provision beneficiaries.
Collection Tool	Online feedback forms.
Related Tasks	T3.2 "Deployment of business and financial support services" T3.3 "Deployment of technical support services"
Timing and Frequency	Data are collected after each round of service provision, typically following the completion of the service.
Data Collector	T4.1 Leader - Q-PLAN.
Procedure	Anonymised feedback was directly collected from service beneficiaries via online questionnaires. ALFA Hubs, in agreement with the service provider, were responsible for the circulation of the link.
Data Utilisation	Analyse feedback towards the effectiveness of the services, areas for improvement, and inform subsequent rounds of service provision.

Table 2. ALFA Monitoring and Evaluation Framework overview for capacity building

Category	Details
Objective	To enhance stakeholders' knowledge and skills required for the successful implementation and management of biogas projects.
Target Group	Seminar and webinar participants.
Collection Tool	Short questionnaires (online for webinars, online/onsite for seminars).

Category	Details
Related Tasks	T3.4 – Organisation of capacity-building activities to facilitate the uptake of biogas in practice.
Timing and Frequency	Anonymised data collected at the end of each seminar/webinar session.
Data Collector	In most cases, the answers were directly sent to the T4.1 Leader, except for the on-site collection, where the organiser is responsible for collecting and aggregating the anonymised data and sharing it with the T4.1 Leader.
Procedure	Seven webinars were organised by ALFA partners. The feedback form link was circulated by the organiser in collaboration with the T3.4 Leader. The answers were directly collected by the T4.1 Leader. Seven seminars were organised in total by ALFA hubs in their regions. The feedback forms were circulated by the organisers upon the seminars' completion - either in online format (in that case, the answers are sent directly to the T4.1 leader - Q-PLAN) or in the paper form (when the data were aggregated by the organiser and shared with the T4.2 leader).
Data Utilisation	Evaluate the effectiveness of the training sessions, refine future capacity-building activities, and report on satisfaction and knowledge gains.

Table 3. ALFA Monitoring and Evaluation Framework overview for awareness-raising campaigns

Category	Details
Objective	To increase public awareness and acceptance of biogas as a sustainable energy source.
Target Group	The public and stakeholders are engaged through ALFA Hubs.
Collection Tool	A three-question online survey was distributed via ALFA Hubs.
Related Tasks	T3.5 – Raising awareness campaigns to build acceptance and break down misconceptions.
Timing and Frequency	Baseline Data were collected before the kick-off of awareness-raising campaigns. A second round and a third round of data were collected after the two subsequent rounds of awareness campaigns.
Data Collector	ALFA Hubs, in collaboration with the T3.5 leader.
Procedure	ALFA Hubs distributed the online survey via social media and ALFA Hub networks; the T3.5 leader collects and analyses responses to measure changes in biogas acceptance.
Data Utilisation	Assess the effectiveness of the campaign in raising awareness and acceptance of biogas and refine future campaigns.

Annexed are more details on ALFA MEF. Particularly, Annex I presents an overview of the ALFA MEF in a graphic format, and Annex II provides an overview of the objectives, activities, and related indicators as part of the ALFA MEF.

3. Results of the first round

The following section presents the **outcomes** derived from the data collection and validation workshop from the **first round**, highlighting the insights gained, which contributed to the fine-tuning of the project's strategies and objectives.

3.1 Service Provision

During the first round of service provision, a total of 26 services were completed, and 15 feedback forms were received. A service was falling in the first round but is reported in D3.4 “Report on deployment of ALFA Support Measures – Second Round”. Overall, the results of the first round are **above average**, with positive feedback from participants. However, the following insights were derived and fed into the second round.

- Clarification of time needed beforehand, with clear action plans and clear deadlines
- Sharing previously reported service examples
- Shortening the application procedure
- Customising services to better fit specific needs
- Using ALFA Hubs as mentors to help applicants choose the right services, or implementing a decision-making process
- Collaborating among partners to provide comprehensive services
- Provision of a list of consultancies for deeper analysis, when it falls out of ALFA services or to follow up the support

3.2 Capacity Building

During the first round of capacity building, one webinar and two seminars were organised. And the overall feedback indicated **strong appreciation** for the aspects presented overall, while the following insights gained towards the improvements of the capacity activities in the second round.

- Addressing global topics relevant for all potential participants
- Boosting promotion for webinars through partners' networks
- Using livestock fairs as leverage or farmer associations and other types of organisations as allies
- Selecting convenient timing for the regional seminars (writing a calendar for different countries, which shows busy months of the farmers in each region)
- Focusing on relevant and innovative topics and solutions, with emphasis on methods and study procedures and increasing the focus on results, impacts, and implications.
- Making seminar sessions interactive to avoid fatigue

3.3 Awareness and Engagement

During the first validation workshop, the following actions were derived from the discussion in order to **further support** the awareness-raising campaigns.

- Creating traditional awareness materials like leaflets and fair presentations or articles in magazines, along with ALFA's outcomes and the benefits of support measures
- Using direct contact methods and exploring alternative channels like WhatsApp
- Engaging with farmers through livestock fairs and associations, or farmers who are already cooperating around one bigger plant
- Enhancing promotion for webinars through partner networks
- Creating also on-site events to engage them

4. Results of the second round

This section presents a series of figures that illustrate the data gathered from ALFA activities, including feedback from service beneficiaries and participants in capacity-building sessions during the second Round of ALFA support measures deployment.

4.1 ALFA Service Provision

4.1.1 Results of the Second Round

During the second round of service provision, a total of 27 cases were supported (with 32 services), and 18 feedback forms were received. The raw data from the feedback forms was kept in the T4.1 leader (Q-PLAN) repository. Overall, the results were well above average, with positive feedback from participants. Detailed insights and specific outcomes were presented in the accompanying figures.

Details on the services received were presented in D3.4 “Report on deployment of ALFA Support Measures – Second Round”⁴. The distribution of the services for the second round is presented in the Table below.

Table 4. Services Distribution of the second round

Business Services		Technical Services	
Service	Total number of services	Service	Total Number of services
Market Research	3	Concept Design and Development of Biogas Systems	4
Business Modelling and Planning	3	Evaluation of Biogas Potential based on Preliminary Calculations	9
Access to Finance	-	Energy and Environmental Analyses	-
Corporate and Sustainable Finance	1	Consultancy on Implementation and Monitoring of Biogas Solutions	3
Farmer / Expert to Farmer Advice Additional mentoring in Access to Finance, Technology catalogue for biomethane upgrade (four cases),	5	Technical Support for Farmers in the Evaluation and Comparison of Plant Suppliers' Quotes	1
		Technology Catalogue	2
		Additional service (Legislative requirements for digestate storage in Denmark)	1

The data showed that ALFA cases were supported across **nine countries**, including Belgium (four), Denmark (two), Greece (seven), Italy (one), the Netherlands (one), Portugal (one), Slovakia (six), Spain (four), and Ukraine (one). Among these, Greece stood out as the most active country in terms

⁴ ALFA Project, Deliverable, D3.4 “Report on deployment of ALFA Support Measures – Second Round”, 2025, under publication

of cases supported, followed by Slovakia. These six countries (Greece, Slovakia, Spain, Belgium, Denmark, and Italy) constituted the original target regions for ALFA Hubs and services, indicating successful engagement within the intended scope. Notably, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Ukraine—despite not being part of the initial target group—also received ALFA services. Their involvement reflects the ALFA’s outreach and growing recognition, contributing to the broader European energy and climate goals beyond the core implementation plan.

Regarding the types of services delivered, the most **provided** were **technical**, such as “Evaluation of Biogas Potential based on Preliminary Calculations” and “Concept Design and Development of Biogas Systems”, followed by “Consultancy on Implementation and Monitoring of Biogas Solutions”. Business-related speaking, “Business Modelling and Planning”, took the lead. This suggested that most **recipients were in early or intermediate stages of biogas project development** and require practical, hands-on guidance. Interestingly, fewer services related to finance and regulatory issues were provided, even though these are often critical for moving from concept to implementation.

In terms of **age distribution**, there was a relatively even split between younger participants (18–39 years old) and those aged 40–64, with only one participant over 64. This was a positive sign, as it showed that ALFA is **engaging both younger generations and experienced stakeholders**. However, the low participation of older individuals might suggest a need for more inclusive outreach strategies for traditional farmers or landowners who may still play a key role in rural energy projects.

Looking at **gender**, about 70% of the participants were men, and around 30% were women. While men were more represented overall, it is encouraging to see women participating across both business and technical support cases. Women’s involvement in support provision, such as business modelling, finance, and even system design, reflected progress in gender inclusion within the energy and agriculture sectors. However, there is still room to improve balance through targeted efforts to support and empower women in the biogas value chain.

Overall, the results showed that ALFA was reaching a diverse group of stakeholders across the EU, with a strong focus on technical service needs. The spread of services and demographic participation supported the EU’s goals for inclusive, sustainable, and innovative energy solutions. Still, further emphasis on financial, regulatory, and gender-balanced engagement could enhance impact and support even broader adoption of biogas technologies across Europe.

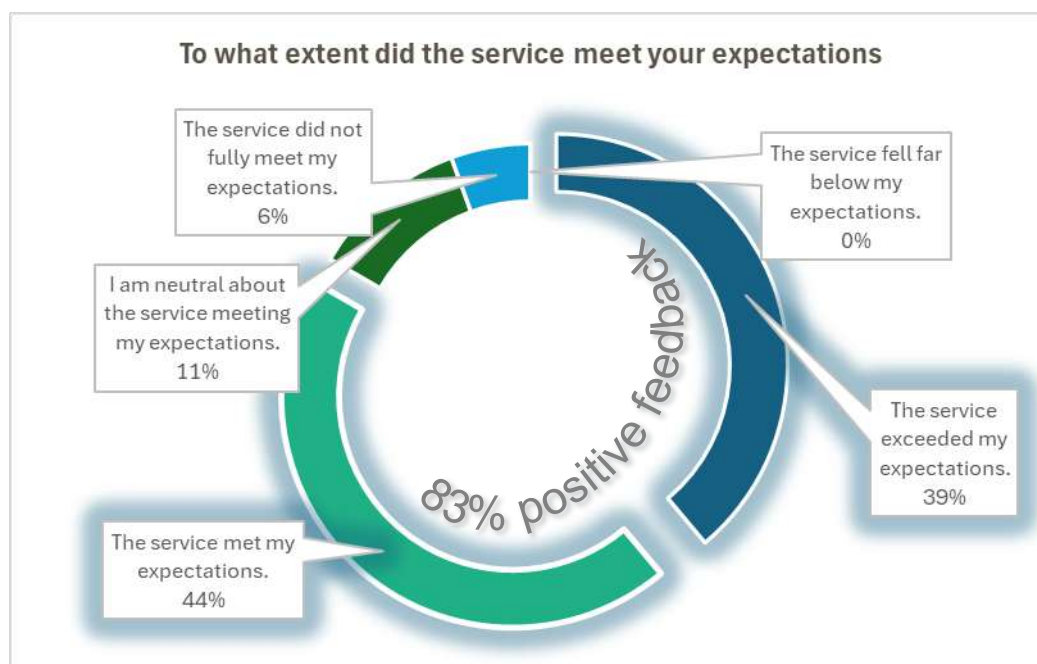


Figure 2. Overall Satisfaction of Service Provision

The feedback on the service provided was overall very positive. Out of the 18 respondents, 39% stated that the service exceeded their expectations, and 44% said it met their expectations. This means that **83%** of participants had a **satisfactory or better experience**. Only 2 respondents were neutral, and just 1 felt the service did not fully meet expectations. Importantly, **none** reported that the service fell far below expectations. These results indicated a **strong level of satisfaction** with the ALFA services and suggested that the support offered is well-aligned with stakeholders' needs.

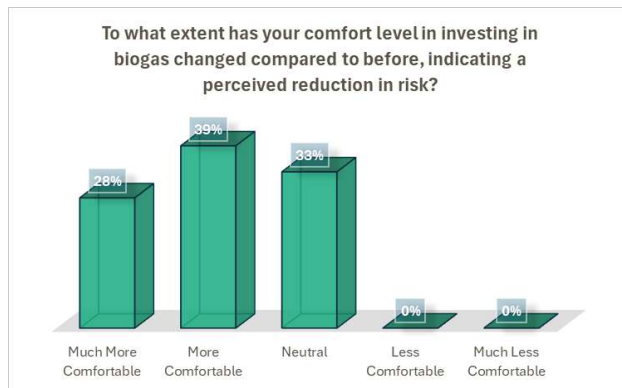


Figure 3. Comfort Level regarding investment in biogas

In Figure 3, the data showed a positive shift in participants' comfort levels regarding investment in biogas. A combined **67%** of respondents reported feeling either **more comfortable** (39%) or **much more comfortable** (28%) after receiving support through the ALFA framework. Meanwhile, **33%** remained neutral, and importantly, **no respondents** reported feeling less or much less comfortable. This indicates that the services provided were effectively reducing the perceived risk of investing in biogas, which is crucial for encouraging greater adoption within the sector.

The feedback indicated that the majority of respondents found the **services helpful** in improving the efficiency of their future biogas projects. Specifically, 6 participants rated the contribution as extremely positive, and 8 as significant, making up a total of 14 out of 18 (78%) who saw a strong impact. 3 respondents considered the support moderately helpful, while only 1 person felt it did not contribute at all. No one rated the impact as only slight. Overall, the results highlight the **considerable value** of the ALFA services in **saving time and effort** for project realisation.

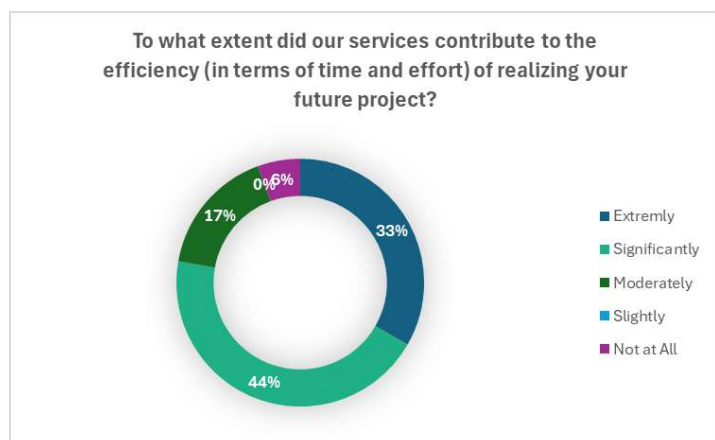


Figure 4. Reduction of time-effort needed for the development of the biogas solutions

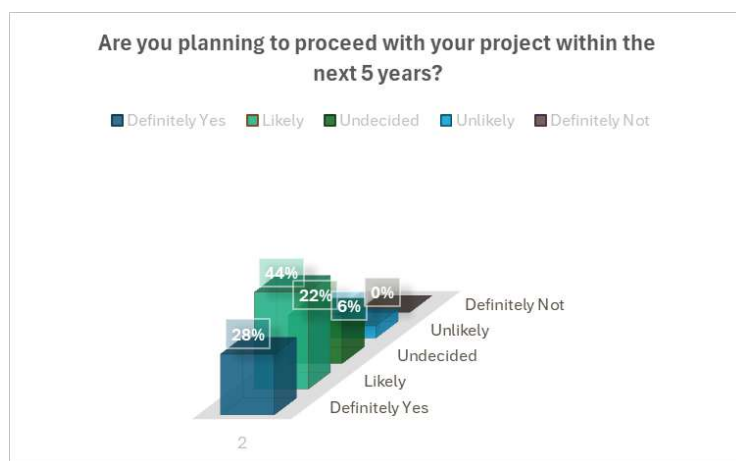


Figure 5. Future Plans of biogas project

The responses showed a strong interest in moving forward with biogas projects within the next five years. **Five participants (28%)** stated they will proceed, and **eight (44%)** said it is *likely*, indicating that nearly three-quarters of respondents have a positive outlook. **Four individuals (22%)** remain *undecided*, while only **one respondent (6%)** considers it *unlikely*. Importantly, *no one* ruled it out completely. These results reflect a **promising level of intent** and momentum generated by the ALFA support services.

The evaluation of the **application process** was overwhelmingly positive. **Eleven respondents (61%)** rated it as *excellent*, while **six (33%)** considered it *above average*. Only **one person (6%)** rated it as *average*, and no respondents found the process to be *below average* or *poor*. This feedback suggests that the **application process was well-structured**, accessible, and user-friendly for the vast majority of participants.

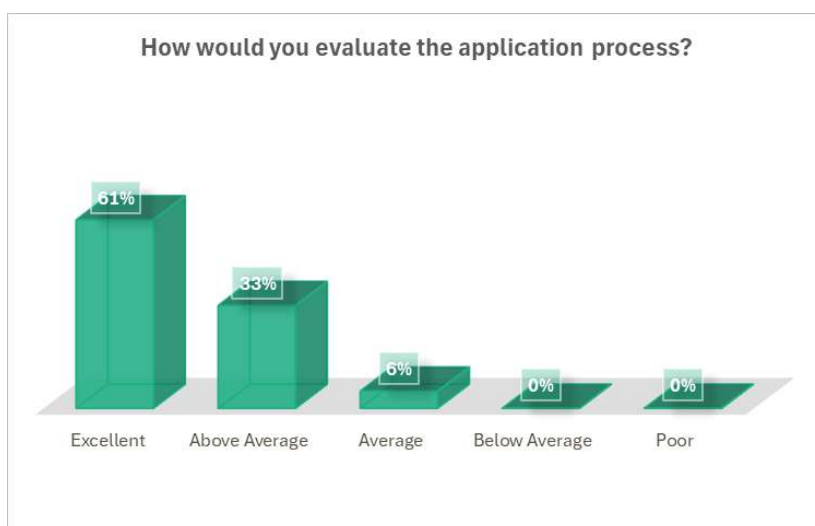


Figure 6. Application process evaluation

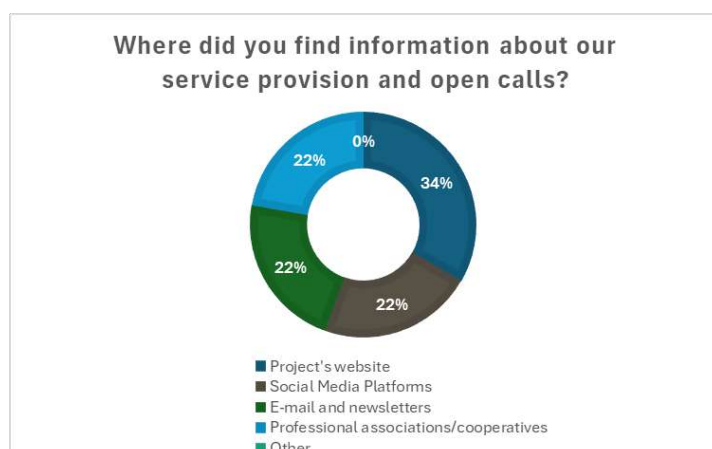


Figure 7. Information Sources for the service provision

Participants reported **discovering** the service provision and open calls through a variety of **channels**. The project's website was the most common source, cited by six respondents. Additionally, social media platforms, email and newsletters, and professional associations or cooperatives each accounted for four mentions. No one selected "other" as a source. This indicates that a multi-channel communication approach has been effective in reaching the target audience, with the project website playing a significant role.

4.1.2 Aggregated Results from both rounds

The aggregate results from both rounds show a consistently positive perception of the service provision, with the majority of respondents stating that their expectations were either met or exceeded. Specifically, a total of 12 respondents across both rounds (out of 33 total respondents) said the service exceeded their expectations (5 in the first round, 7 in the second), while 16 respondents indicated the service met their expectations (8 in each round).

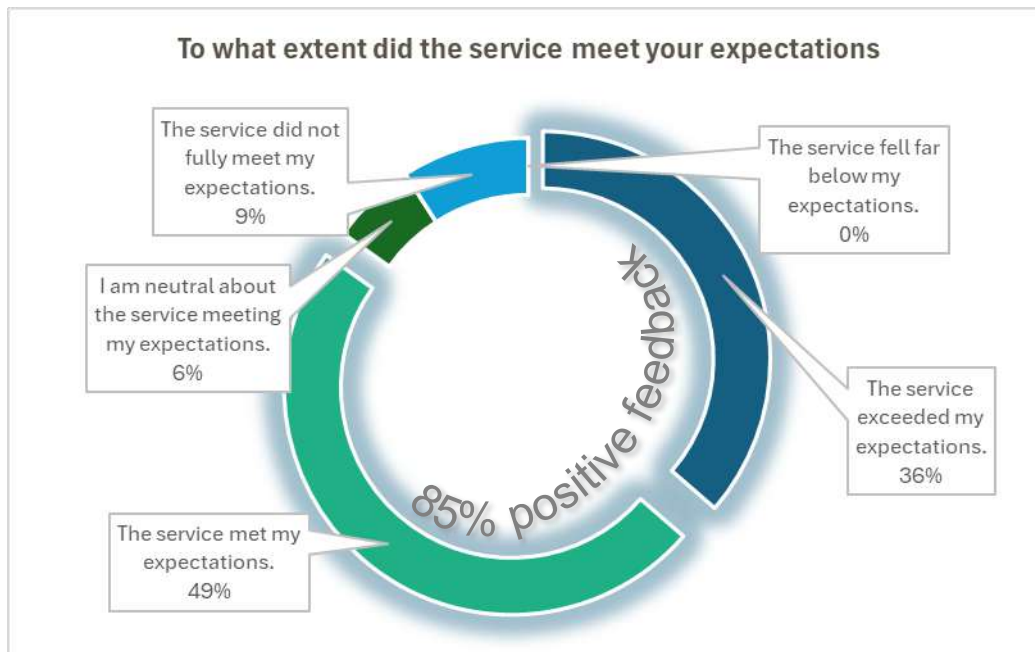


Figure 8. Overall satisfaction with service provision

This demonstrates a **stable and high level of satisfaction** over time. Neutral responses were low overall, with only 2 responses across both rounds, both coming from the second round. More notably, the number of respondents who felt the service did not fully meet their expectations increased slightly from 1 in the first round to 2 in the second, suggesting a minor variation but of no significant concern. Importantly, no respondent in either round felt that the service fell far below their expectations, reinforcing the service's overall effectiveness and quality. The data indicates that while the **second round saw a slightly higher number of "exceeded expectations"** responses, the first round had slightly fewer neutral or dissatisfied respondents. Overall, both rounds reflect strong satisfaction levels, supporting the framework's ongoing success and acceptance.

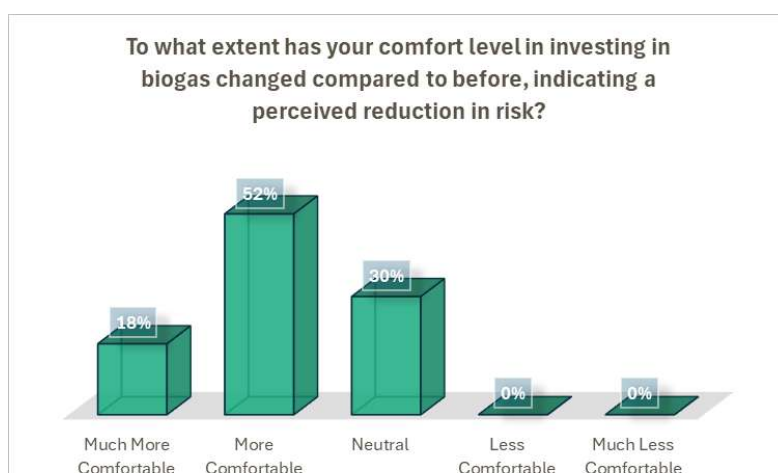


Figure 9. Comfort Level regarding investment in biogas

The aggregated results from both rounds show a **clear positive shift in the comfort level of participants regarding investment in biogas**, indicating a perceived reduction in associated risks. In total, **23 respondents (70%)** reported feeling **more comfortable** (17 "More Comfortable" and 6 "Much More Comfortable") about investing in biogas following their participation in the ALFA services.

Comparing the two rounds:

- The **first round** had a slightly stronger positive shift, with **11 participants** (1 "Much More Comfortable" and 10 "More Comfortable").
- The **second round** maintained encouraging results, with **12 participants** (5 "Much More Comfortable" and 7 "More Comfortable").

Neutral responses made up **30% of the total (10 participants)**, suggesting that while these individuals did not experience a strong shift, they also did not feel less comfortable after receiving support. Crucially, **no participants in either round reported feeling less or much less comfortable**, highlighting the **absence of negative impact** from the support services provided.

Overall, the data indicates that the ALFA interventions have successfully contributed to improving stakeholders' confidence in biogas investments, reinforcing the project's goal of risk reduction and increased market readiness.

The aggregated results across both rounds indicate that the ALFA services have made a **notable positive contribution to improving the efficiency**—in terms of time and effort—of realising future biogas projects.

Out of the total responses:

- **24 participants (73%)** found the services **either "Extremely" or "Significantly" helpful**, with 9 selecting "Extremely" and 15 "Significantly."

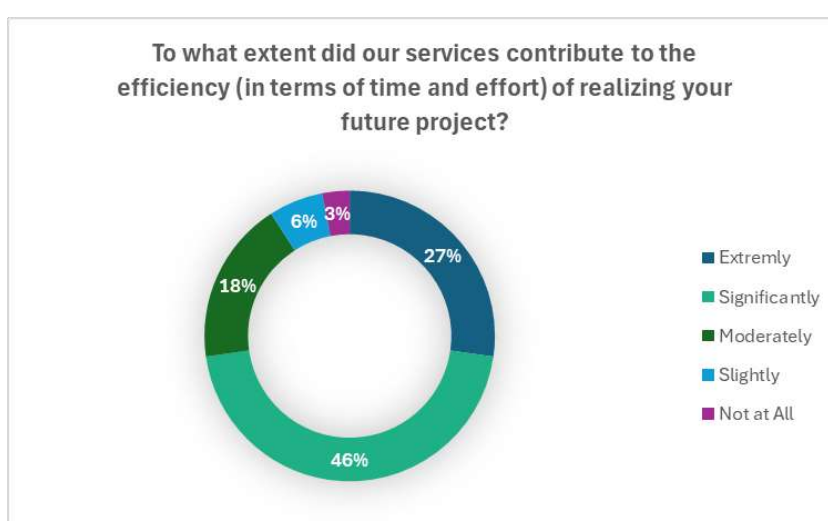


Figure 10. Reduction of time-effort needed for the development of the biogas solutions

- **6 participants (18%)** reported a **moderate impact**, indicating a balanced perception of support.
- Only **3 participants (9%)** rated the contribution as minimal or non-existent, with 2 saying "Slightly" and just 1 saying "Not at all."

Looking at the comparison:

- The **second round showed a stronger top-end impact**, with **6 "Extremely" helpful responses** compared to 3 in the first round.
- The **first round had more "Slightly" and "Not at All" responses** (2 and 1, respectively), suggesting improvements in the second round's service delivery.

In summary, the results reflect a **strong overall positive effect** of the services on participants' ability to move forward more efficiently with their biogas projects. The upward trend in stronger satisfaction from the second round points to an improvement in the effectiveness and value of ALFA's support over time.

The aggregated responses from both rounds show a **strong intent among participants to proceed with their biogas projects within the next five years**.

Out of all respondents:

- **24 participants (72%)** expressed a **clear intention to proceed**, with 12 choosing “Definitely Yes” and another 12 “Likely.”
- **8 participants (24%)** remained **undecided**, indicating the need for continued engagement and support to help them move forward.
- Only **1 participant (3%)** indicated they were **unlikely to proceed**, and none selected “Definitely Not,” showing minimal resistance.

When comparing the two rounds:

- The **first round** had more “Definitely Yes” responses (7 vs. 5), showing initial strong commitment.
- The **second round** saw an increase in “Likely” responses (8 vs. 4), suggesting more participants are moving toward a decision but may still need time or support to fully commit.
- The number of “Undecided” participants was stable across rounds (4 each), and the only “Unlikely” response appeared in the second round.

In summary, the results reflect a **positive outlook for project uptake**, with the majority of participants either ready or leaning toward implementation. The stable level of undecided responses and minimal reluctance highlight the **importance of sustained guidance and follow-up** to convert intention into action.

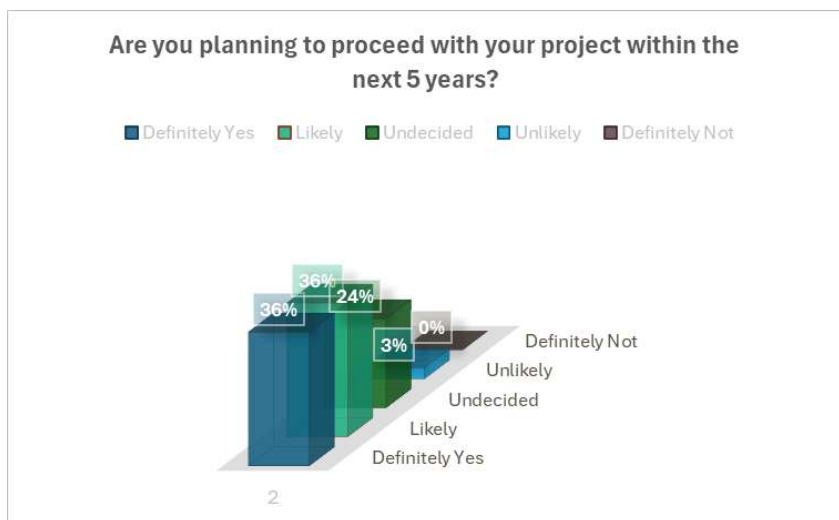


Figure 11. Future Plans of biogas project

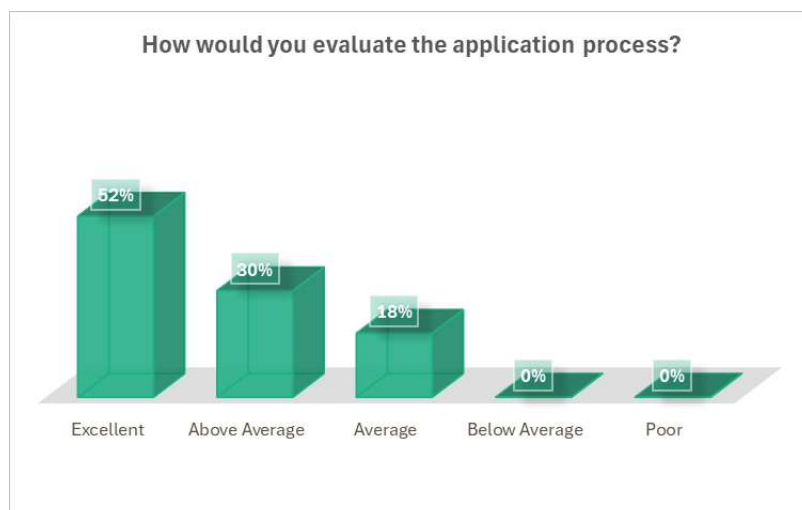


Figure 12. Application process evaluation

The aggregated evaluation of the application process across both rounds demonstrates a **high level of participant satisfaction**.

Out of the total responses:

- **17 respondents (52%)** rated the process as **Excellent**, showing strong approval.
- **10 participants (30%)** considered it **Above Average**, indicating overall satisfaction with room for minor improvements.

- Only **6 respondents (18%)** rated the process as **Average**, with **no negative responses** (Below Average or Poor).

A comparison between rounds reveals a **notable improvement**:

- In **Round 1**, 6 participants selected “Excellent,” which **increased to 11 in Round 2**—highlighting enhanced user experience or refinements in the process.
- “Average” ratings dropped from **5 in Round 1 to just 1 in Round 2**, while “Above Average” remained relatively consistent.

These results confirm that the application process is **well-received and effectively managed**, with clear improvements noted over time. Continuous fine-tuning based on user feedback seems to have had a positive impact on participants’ experience.

The combined results from both rounds show a **diverse range of information channels** used by participants to learn about the service provision and open calls.

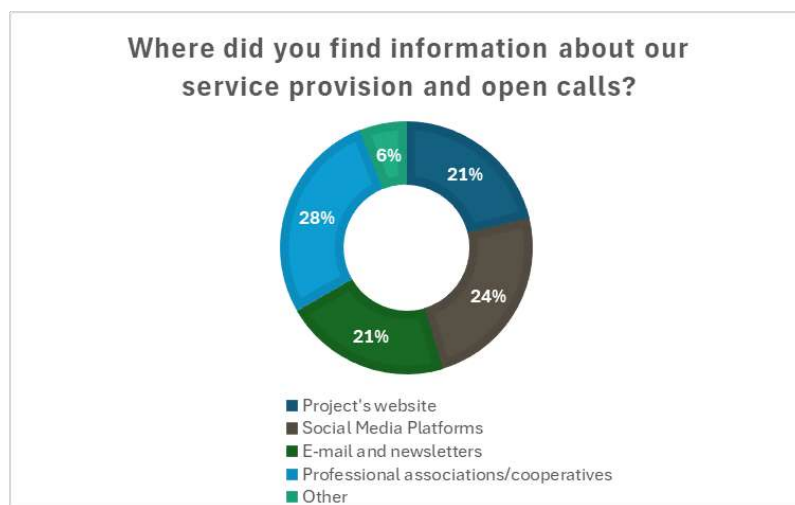


Figure 13. Information Sources for the service provision

The most frequently cited source was **professional associations or cooperatives**, mentioned by **9 respondents**, suggesting that established industry networks play a key role in disseminating information effectively. This was followed closely by **social media platforms (8 mentions)**, highlighting the growing importance of digital outreach.

The **project's website and email/newsletters** were each mentioned by **7 participants**, showing that official communication tools remain reliable and well-

utilised channels. Lastly, “**Other**” sources were cited twice, both in the first round only.

The comparison between rounds shows:

- A **significant increase in use of the project website** in Round 2 (from 1 to 6 mentions),
- A **balanced and consistent performance across social media, email/newsletters, and professional associations** in both rounds,
- A **drop to zero in 'Other' sources** in the second round, suggesting that participants relied more on structured communication channels.

Overall, the data indicates the importance of maintaining a **multi-channel communication strategy**, while possibly strengthening collaboration with professional networks and boosting website visibility to maximise outreach.

4.2 Capacity Building Activities

4.2.1 Webinar 2nd Round

The webinars deployed in the second round are summarised in the table below. The details for the deployment are included in D3.4 “Report on deployment of ALFA support measures – Second Round”⁴. In total, 87 feedback forms (out of 204 participants) were received during the second round.

Organiser	Date	Topic
PEDAL	November 14 th 2024	WASTE-TO-ENERGY: Opportunities and challenges of biogas plants
APRE	March 19 th 2025	Biogas: A Possible, Yet Unknown Ally
Q-PLAN	May 15 th 2025	Empowering Circular Innovation: Tools and Insights from the ALFA Project
SIE	June 11 th 2025	Biogas Framework Conditions: Market Challenges, Policy Trends & Future Opportunities
FBCD	June 12 th 2025	The use of straw for biogas production
EDF	July 8 th 2025	Green Energy on EDF Farms

Based on the feedback received, the **webinars were highly successful** across all evaluated aspects — **content, speaker quality, relevance, duration, and interactivity**. A significant majority of participants rated the webinars as Excellent (57 respondents), indicating strong satisfaction with both the depth and clarity of the content, as well as the effectiveness and delivery style of the speaker. A further 27 respondents rated it as Above Average, suggesting that the webinars met or exceeded expectations for most attendees.

Only two respondents considered it Average, while just 1 rated it Below Average, and no participants found it Poor. This positive response demonstrates that the **webinars were well-structured, engaging, and relevant to the audience’s interests**, with an **appropriate duration** and a **balanced level of interactivity**.



Figure 15. Knowledge gained via webinars

Please rate the webinar on the following aspects: content, speaker, relevance, duration and interactivity.

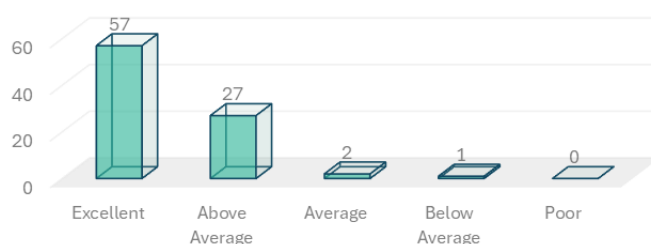


Figure 14. Overall rating of the webinars

The responses indicated that the knowledge gained from the webinars is highly applicable to participants' businesses. A combined total of 72 respondents rated the applicability as either Extremely (25) or Very Much (47),

highlighting that the content provided practical insights and tools that can be directly implemented in their professional activities. An additional 13 participants found it Moderately applicable, suggesting that while not all content was directly relevant, key takeaways still held value. Only two respondents indicated limited relevance—one selecting Slightly and one Not at All. Overall, this feedback reflects that the **webinars successfully addressed real business needs** and delivered actionable knowledge to a broad majority of attendees.

The feedback shows that the **webinars had a strong positive impact** on participants' **confidence** and **preparedness to apply what they learned**. A total of 65 respondents felt *Extremely* (22) or *Very Much* (43) more confident, indicating that the session not only delivered useful knowledge but also equipped them with the clarity and tools needed to implement it effectively. An additional 18 participants felt *Moderately* more confident, suggesting they gained value but may need further support or experience to fully apply the insights. Only four respondents indicated lower levels of preparedness (*Somewhat* – two, *Not at All* – two), which may reflect individual differences in background or relevance of specific content. Overall, these results demonstrated the webinars' success in boosting participants' readiness to translate learning into practice.

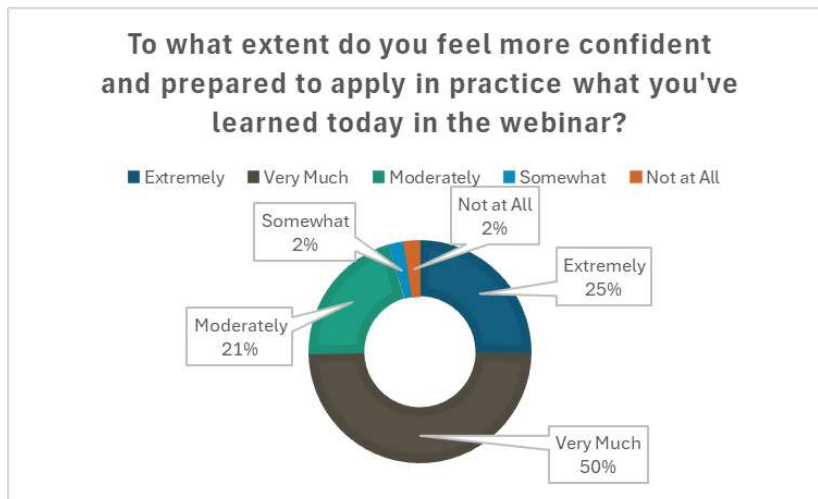


Figure 16. Increased Confidence in Applying Knowledge



Figure 17. Overall Satisfaction

The **overall satisfaction** with the **webinars was overwhelmingly positive**. A total of 84 participants rated their experience as either Very Satisfied (57) or Satisfied (27), reflecting a strong endorsement of the webinar's quality, organisation, and relevance. Only two respondents felt Neutral, indicating a balanced but less enthusiastic experience, while just one participant reported being Dissatisfied. Notably, there were no Very Dissatisfied responses. This high level of satisfaction underscores the webinar's success in meeting participants' expectations and delivering value across key areas.

The data shows that participants discovered the webinar through a **variety of effective communication channels**. The most common source was E-mail and newsletters (33 responses), highlighting the importance and reach of direct communication in engaging the audience. Social Media Platforms followed with 27 responses, demonstrating the strong role of online presence in attracting participants. The Project's website was also a valuable source, cited by 19 respondents. Additionally, Word of mouth accounted for five responses, suggesting a degree of organic promotion and community engagement. Lastly, three participants selected Other, indicating there may be additional, less conventional channels worth exploring further. Overall, the data suggests a well-rounded dissemination strategy, with strength in targeted email outreach and social media visibility.

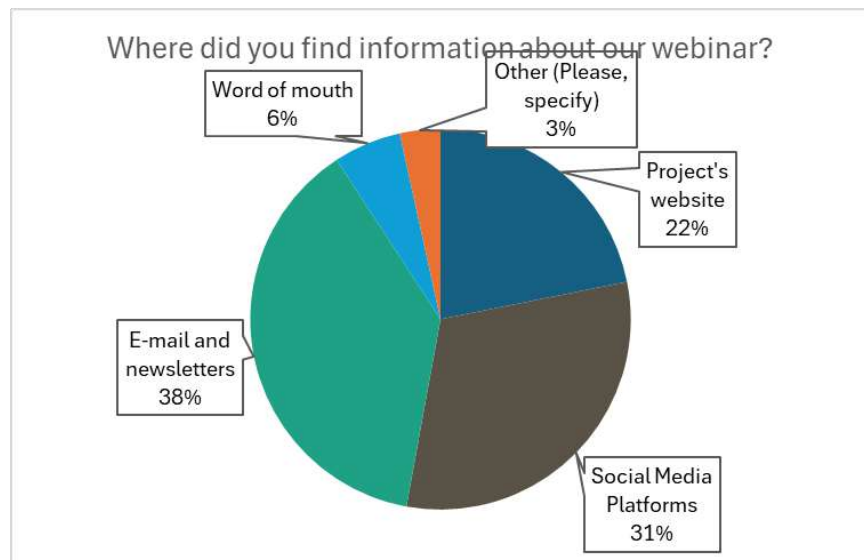


Figure 18. Communication channel of information

4.2.2 Aggregated results from both rounds

The details for the deployment were included in D3.2 “Report on deployment of ALFA support measures – First Round”⁵ and D3.4 “Report on deployment of ALFA support measures – Second Round”⁴. In total, 92 feedback forms (out of 242 participants) were received during the second round.

The feedback on the webinar’s **overall quality—covering content, speaker, relevance, duration, and interactivity—was overwhelmingly positive**. A total of 60 participants rated the webinar as Excellent, indicating a high level of satisfaction with all key elements of the session.

An additional 29 respondents rated it as Above Average, further reinforcing the webinar’s strong performance and perceived value. Only two participants rated it as Average, while just one rated it Below Average,

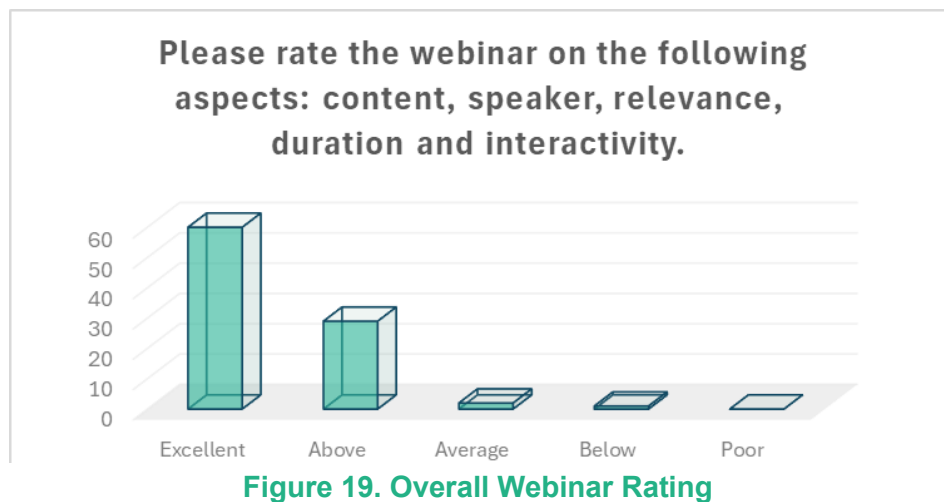


Figure 19. Overall Webinar Rating

⁵ ALFA Project, Deliverable, D3.2 “Report on deployment of ALFA Support Measures – First Round”, 2024, ([Link](#))

and none rated it Poor. This distribution clearly reflects that the **webinar was well-organised, informative, and engaging, successfully meeting the expectations** of the vast majority of attendees.

The results indicated that the **knowledge** shared during the **webinars is highly applicable to participants' professional contexts**. A combined total of 76 participants rated the applicability as either Extremely (27) or Very Much (49), showing that the content was relevant, practical, and aligned with real business needs. An additional 14 respondents found it Moderately applicable, suggesting that while some aspects were directly useful, others may have been more general. Only two participants indicated limited applicability, selecting Slightly and Not at All. Overall, this strong positive response confirms that the webinar effectively delivered actionable insights that participants can implement in their business activities.



Figure 20. Applicability of knowledge to business



Figure 21. Confidence and Readiness to Apply Knowledge

The feedback demonstrates a strong positive impact of the webinar on participants' confidence and readiness to apply what they learned. A total of 68 respondents reported feeling Extremely (24) or Very Much (44) more confident and prepared, indicating that the session provided clear, practical guidance and boosted participants' ability to implement the knowledge gained. An additional 19 participants felt Moderately more confident, suggesting a solid understanding but possibly requiring further experience or support for full application.

Only five respondents selected Somewhat (three) or Not at All (two), showing that the vast majority found the webinar empowering and relevant to their practical needs.

The overall **satisfaction** with the webinar was exceptionally **high**. A total of 89 participants reported being either Very Satisfied (60) or Satisfied (29), indicating that the webinar successfully met or exceeded the expectations of the vast majority of attendees. Only two respondents felt Neutral, and just one participant reported being Dissatisfied, with no one selecting Very Dissatisfied. This overwhelmingly positive feedback highlights the effectiveness of the webinar in delivering valuable content, maintaining participant engagement, and providing a high-quality experience overall.



Figure 22. Overall Satisfaction

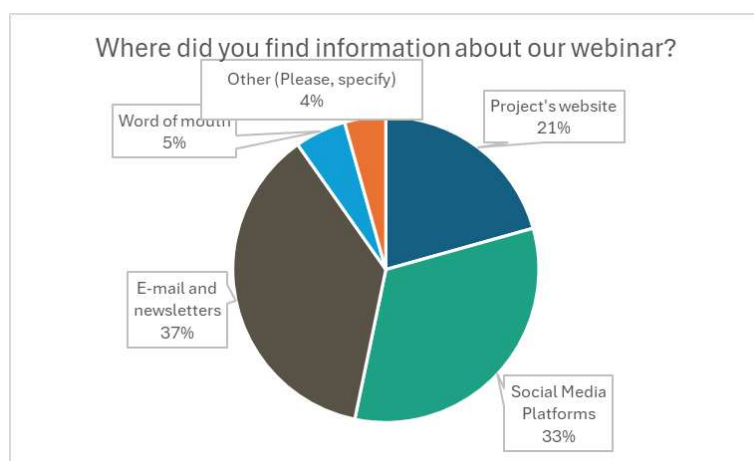


Figure 23. Information Channels

The responses reveal a **diverse and effective communication strategy** for promoting the webinar. The most common source of information was E-mail and newsletters, cited by 34 participants, demonstrating the strength of direct outreach in attracting attendees. Social Media Platforms followed closely with 30 responses, highlighting the importance of maintaining an active online presence. The Project's website was also a valuable source, mentioned by 19 respondents, while Word of mouth accounted for five participants,

indicating a level of informal promotion and trust within networks. Additionally, four respondents selected Other, suggesting some attendees found the webinar through alternative or less conventional channels. Overall, these findings emphasize the value of a multi-channel dissemination approach.

In conclusion, both rounds of the ALFA Project webinars demonstrated **strong performance in participant satisfaction, relevance, and learning impact**, with the second round expanding reach and maintaining quality. The increased response rate and consistently positive feedback reflect a **successful scale-up** of engagement efforts, content delivery, and outreach strategy. These results affirm that the webinars effectively supported stakeholders in the biogas and biomethane sectors, while also highlighting minor opportunities to further enhance interactivity and practical application.

4.2.3 *Seminars in the second Round*

The seminars deployed in the second round are summarised in the table below. The details for the deployment are included in D3.4 “Report on deployment of ALFA support measures – Second Round”⁴. In total 97 feedback forms (out of 167 attendees) were received during the second round.

Table 5. Overview of ALFA seminars during the second round

Country (ALFA Hub)	Date	Topic
Slovakia PEDAL	October 15 th 2024	Turn Waste into Energy: Opportunities and Challenges of Biogas Plants
Spain SIE	October 30 th 2024	Leveraging the potential of biogas in the livestock sector
Denmark FBCE	November 6 th 2024	The use of degassed biomass
Belgium WR	February 18 th 2025	Biogas in livestock farming: advantages and challenges
Greece Q-PLAN	June 15 th 2025	Utilising the Potential of Biogas in the Livestock Sector

The majority of participants **expressed high satisfaction** with how the seminars met their needs. A total of 82 respondents (completely or very much) felt their expectations were met, showing that the seminars content and delivery were well-aligned with participants’ interests. Only one person responded “somewhat,” and none responded “not at all,” indicating a highly positive reception.

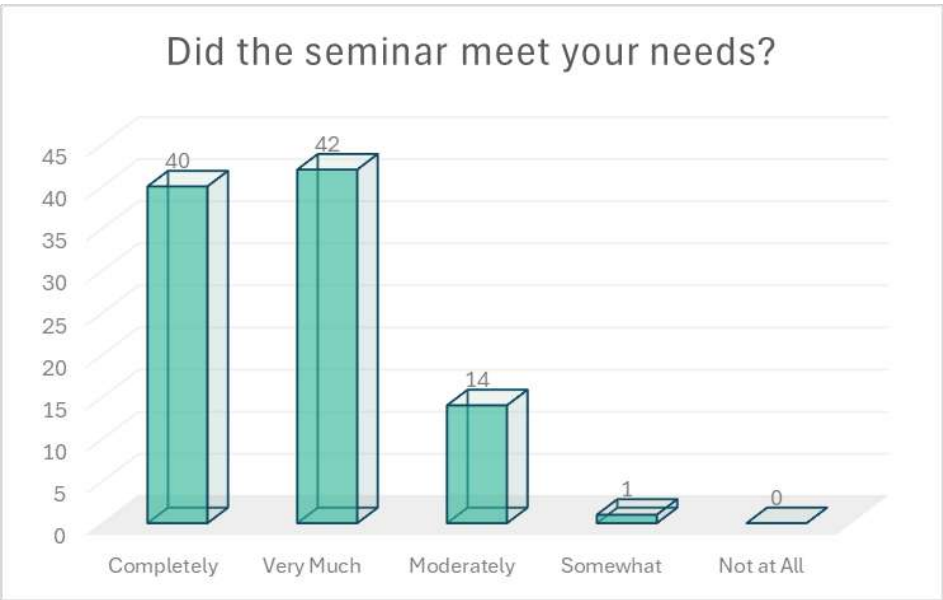


Figure 24. Needs covered by ALFA seminars

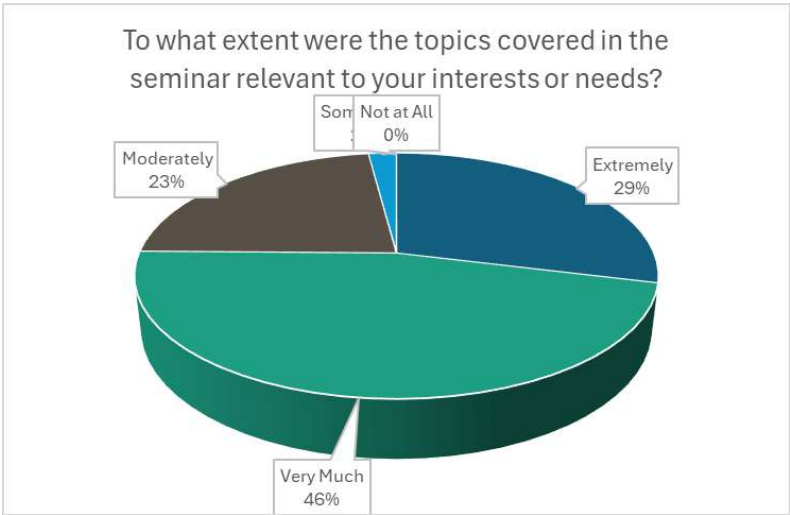


Figure 25. Needs covered by ALFA Seminars

Relevance of the seminar **topics** was **very strong**. Most participants (73) rated the topics as either “extremely” or “very much” relevant, with only two selecting “somewhat” and none saying the topics were not relevant. This suggests that the content was well-chosen and aligned with the real needs and interests of the audience.

The seminar provided **practical value**, with 94 participants finding the **knowledge either extremely, very, or moderately applicable to their business**. This indicates the seminar was not only informative but also actionable. Only three respondents found the knowledge slightly applicable, and no one marked it as not applicable.

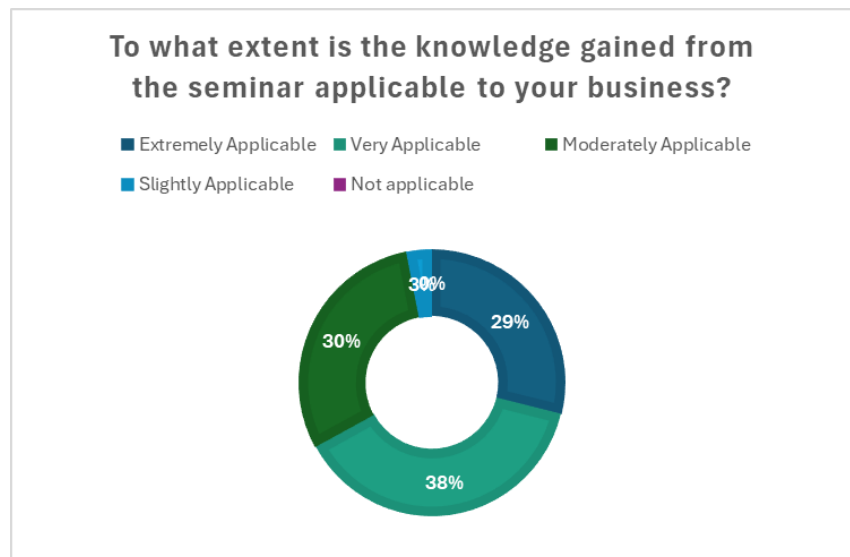


Figure 26. Business relevance of the seminars

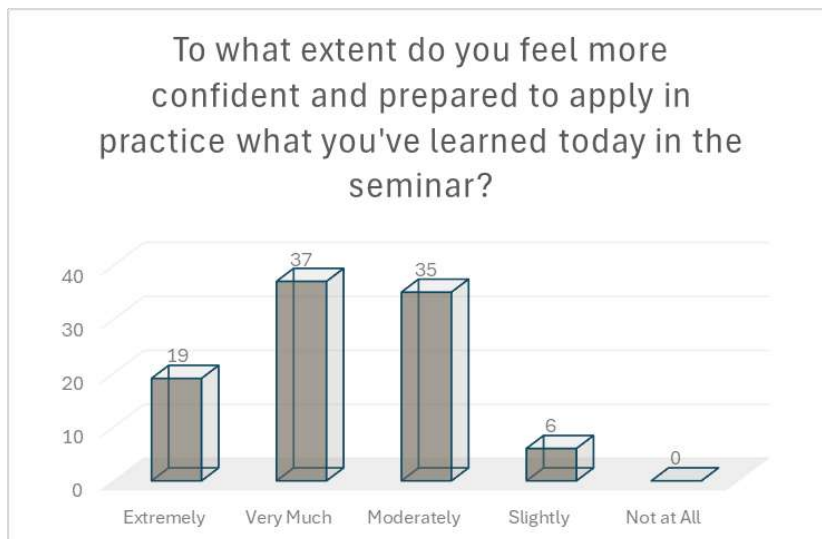


Figure 27. Applicable knowledge from the seminars

Participants reported increased confidence in **applying the seminar knowledge**. A total of 91 people felt “**extremely,**” “**very much,**” or “**moderately**” prepared to put their new knowledge into practice. This shows the seminar helped build participants' readiness to act on what they learned. Only six respondents felt “slightly” prepared, and none felt unprepared.

Overall satisfaction was very high. A combined 89 respondents were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied,” with only seven expressing neutrality and just one person being dissatisfied. No one rated the seminar as “very dissatisfied,” confirming that participants generally appreciated the experience.

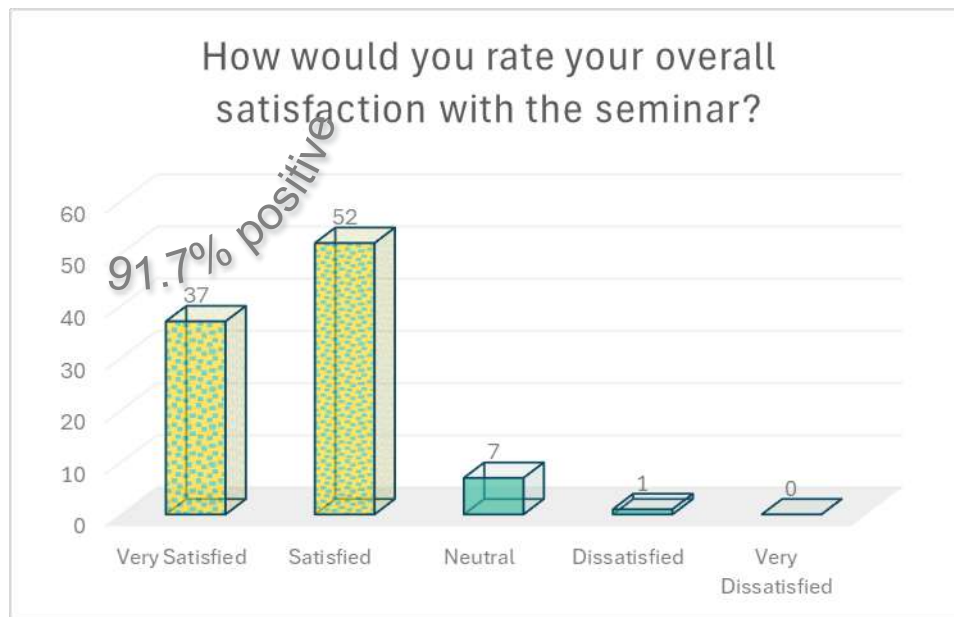


Figure 28. overall Satisfaction

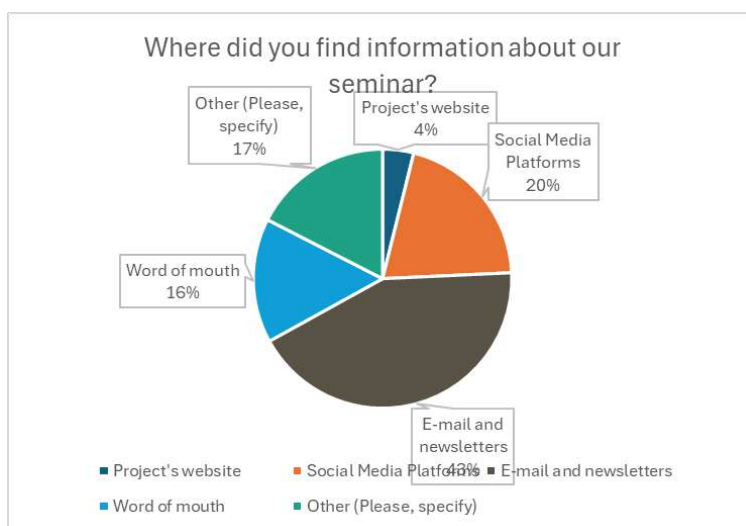


Figure 29. Source of Information

The most common source of information about the seminar was through e-mails and newsletters (44 responses), followed by social media platforms (21), and word of mouth (16). Interestingly, 18 participants selected “Other,” suggesting that a variety of communication channels are in play. Only a few participants (four) found out about the seminar through the project’s website, indicating an opportunity to improve visibility there.

Based on the qualitative feedback participants found the seminars generally valuable but highlighted areas for improvement:

- **Content:** Too much focus on legislation and theory; participants recommended more practical examples, real cases, and fresh perspectives, especially from Western Europe.
- **Time Management:** Sessions ran over time, with limited space for discussion and networking.
- **Interactivity:** Preference for shorter presentations and more interactive formats, such as debates or practical sessions.
- **Logistics:** Concerns about room comfort, air quality, screen visibility, and seating.

4.2.4 Aggregated Results from both rounds and comparison with the first round

The details for the deployment were included in D3.2 “Report on deployment of ALFA support measures – First Round”⁵ and D3.4 “Report on deployment of ALFA support measures – Second Round”⁴. In total 126 feedback forms (out of 221 attendees) were received during the second round.

The **overall feedback** indicated that the seminars **effectively met participants' needs**. In the second round, 40 participants said the seminar met their needs “completely” and 42 said “very much,” which is slightly lower than the first round (49 and 56 respectively), but still showed strong satisfaction. The small decrease might reflected higher expectations in the second round, but satisfaction remains consistently high overall.

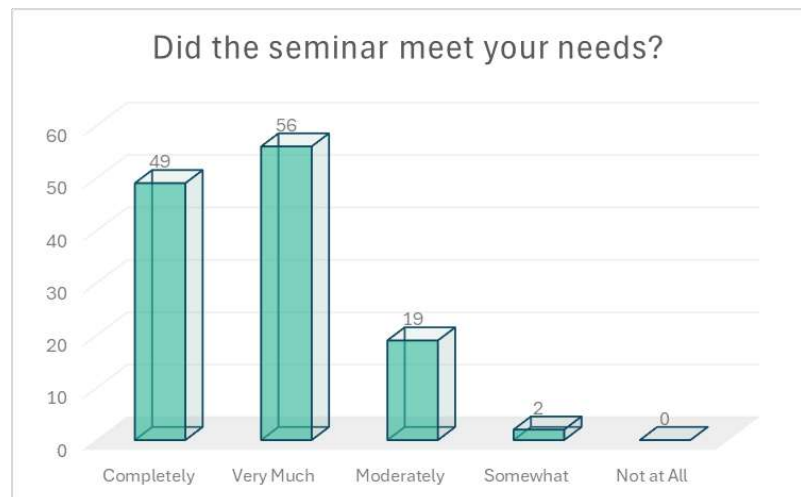


Figure 30. Needs covered by ALFA seminars

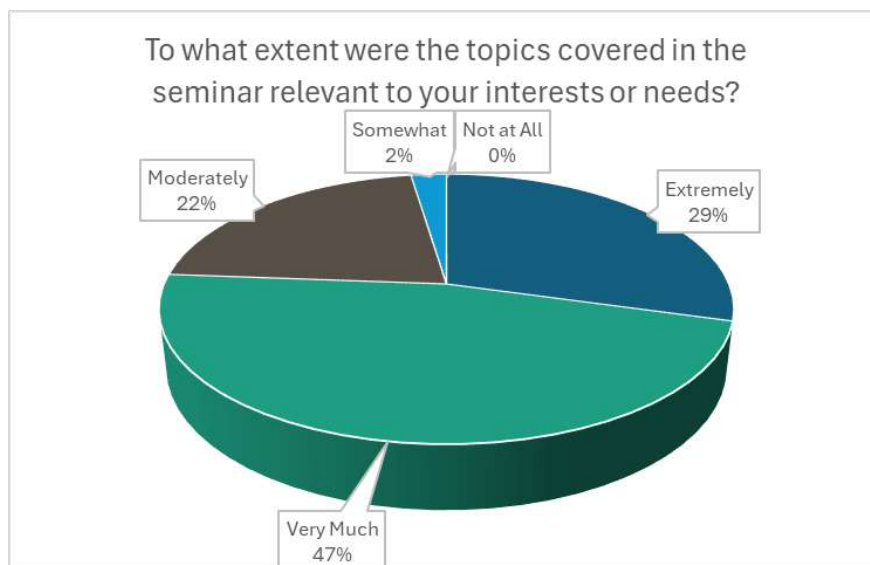


Figure 31. Relevance of the content

The **relevance of the seminar content remained strong** across both rounds. In the second round, 28 participants rated the content as “extremely” relevant and 45 as “very much,” compared to 37 and 59 in the first round. While there was a slight drop, the majority still found the topics highly aligned with their interests, confirming the seminars’ continued relevance.

The applicability of the seminar content remained positive. In round two, 28 participants rated the knowledge as “extremely applicable” and 37 as “very applicable,” slightly down from 37 and 51 in the first round. Despite this modest decline, the results showed that the majority of participants still found the content applicable to their business operations.

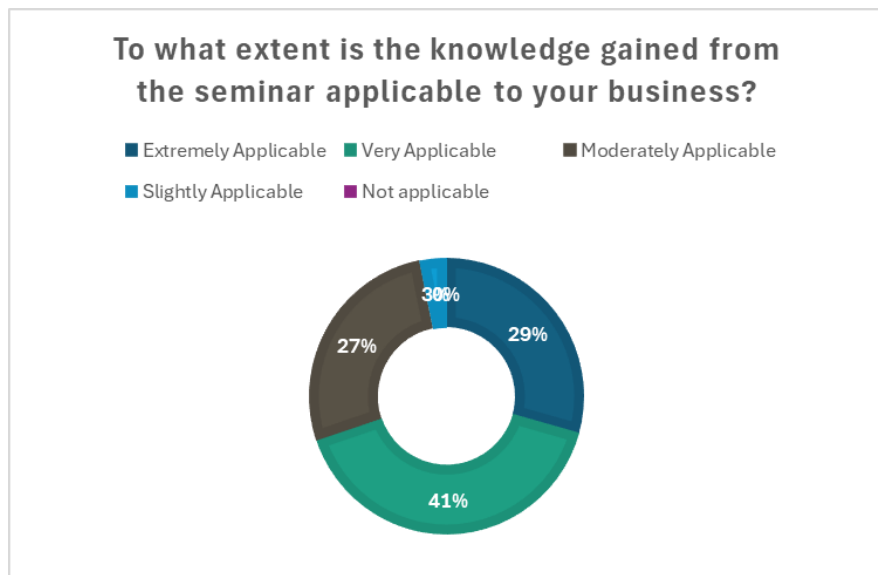
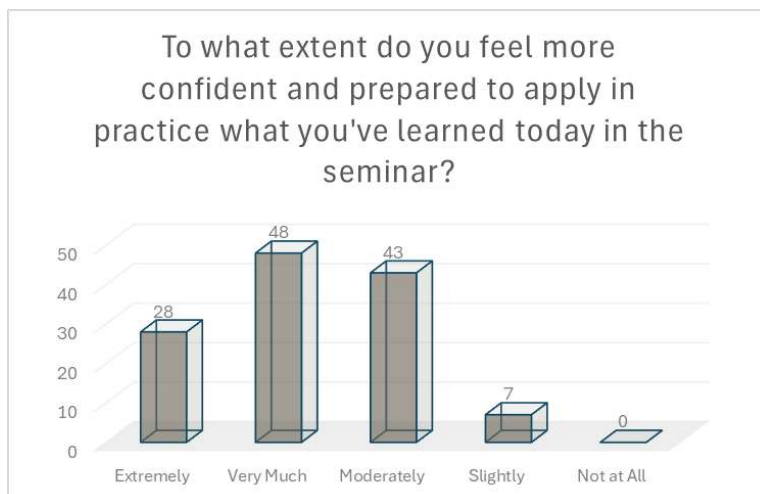


Figure 32. Knowledge gained during the ALFA seminars



Participants' confidence in applying the knowledge was high in both rounds. In the second round, 19 said they felt “extremely” confident and 37 “very much,” compared to 28 and 48 in the first. Although slightly lower, the trend remained positive, suggesting that the seminars continue to boost participants' readiness to act on the information received.

Figure 33. Confidence level against biogas investment

Overall satisfaction remained very high. In the second round, 37 respondents were “very satisfied” and 52 were “satisfied,” only slightly below the first round (46 and 68). There was just one dissatisfied response in each round, and no one reported being “very dissatisfied,” confirming strong and consistent satisfaction.

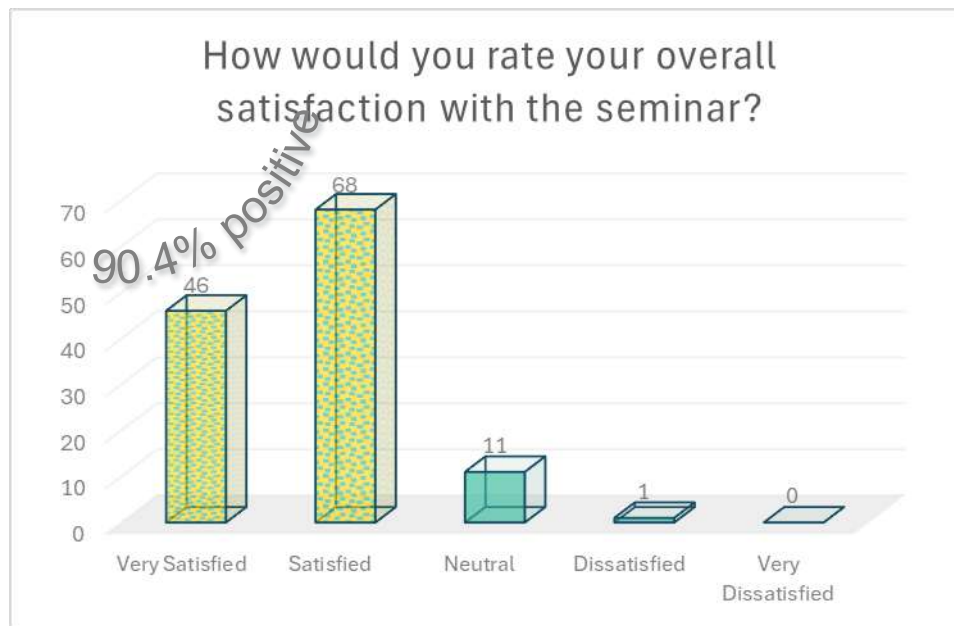


Figure 34. Overall Satisfaction

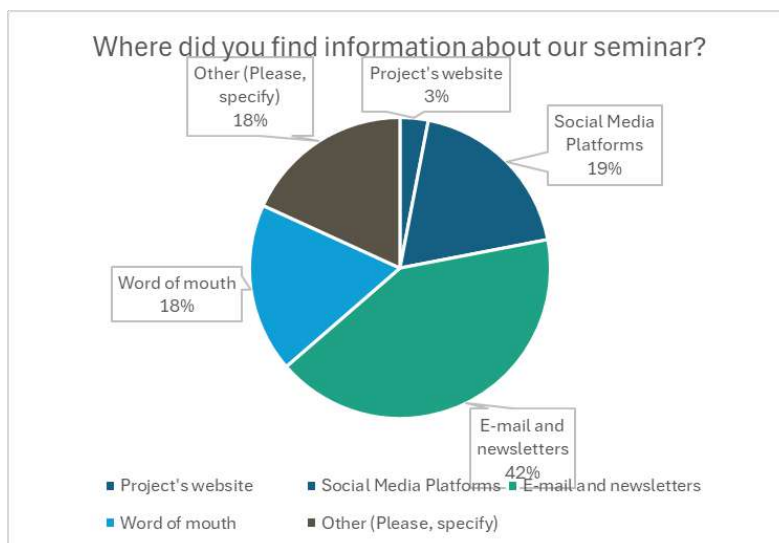


Figure 35. Source of Information

Email and newsletters remained the most **common source** of information in both rounds, followed by social media and word of mouth. The second round saw similar patterns, with 44 responses via email, 21 from social media, and 16 through word of mouth. This confirmed that digital communication continues to be the most effective outreach channel, though word of mouth also plays an important role.

4.3 Awareness Raising Campaigns

The results of the Awareness Raising Campaigns are duly reported and presented in D3.4 “Report on deployment of ALFA Support Measures – Second Round”⁴.

5. Second Validation Workshop

The workshop aimed to present **ALFA's performance and results** to date, gather feedback from **Advisory Board (AB) members and other stakeholders**, and **fine-tune ALFA's measures**. This includes validating the **effectiveness** of business and technical services, capacity-building initiatives, and regional awareness campaigns. The event was a key part of Task 4.1 “Monitoring and evaluation of project activities”. Content development involved collecting and analysing feedback, and presenting various aspects of the ALFA project, including business and technical services, capacity-building efforts, and the monitoring and evaluation framework.

5.1.1 Prior organisation

Several **preparatory steps** were undertaken to ensure the successful organisation of the ALFA Second Virtual Validation Workshop. Initially, **invitations** and an **agenda** were created and distributed to potential participants. Q-PLAN set up an online **registration form** to manage attendee sign-ups efficiently. To determine the most suitable date, EDF circulated a Doodle poll, and the final date was selected based on the responses. In terms of participant management, registrations were processed, and **additional invitations** were sent to other relevant members beyond the Advisory Board by ALFA partners. A **calendar invitation**, including the MS Teams link, was provided, and **reminders** were sent to ensure participant attendance. Regarding **content** development, responsible ALFA partners crafted their presentations in order to present the ALFA activities and results up to that point.



Figure 36. 2nd Validation Workshop Agenda

5.1.2 The Event

The **ALFA Second Virtual Validation Workshop**, titled "Unlocking the Biogas Potential", was held on **July 16th, 2025**, from 10:00 to 11:30 CET via MS Teams. It was organised by Q-PLAN with support from EDF, and the workshop brought together **17 participants** for a focused one-and-a-half-hour session.

To accommodate participants across the EU, the workshop was held **online** using MS Teams for smooth **interaction** and real-time collaboration, with the ability to **record attendance** and manage discussions efficiently.

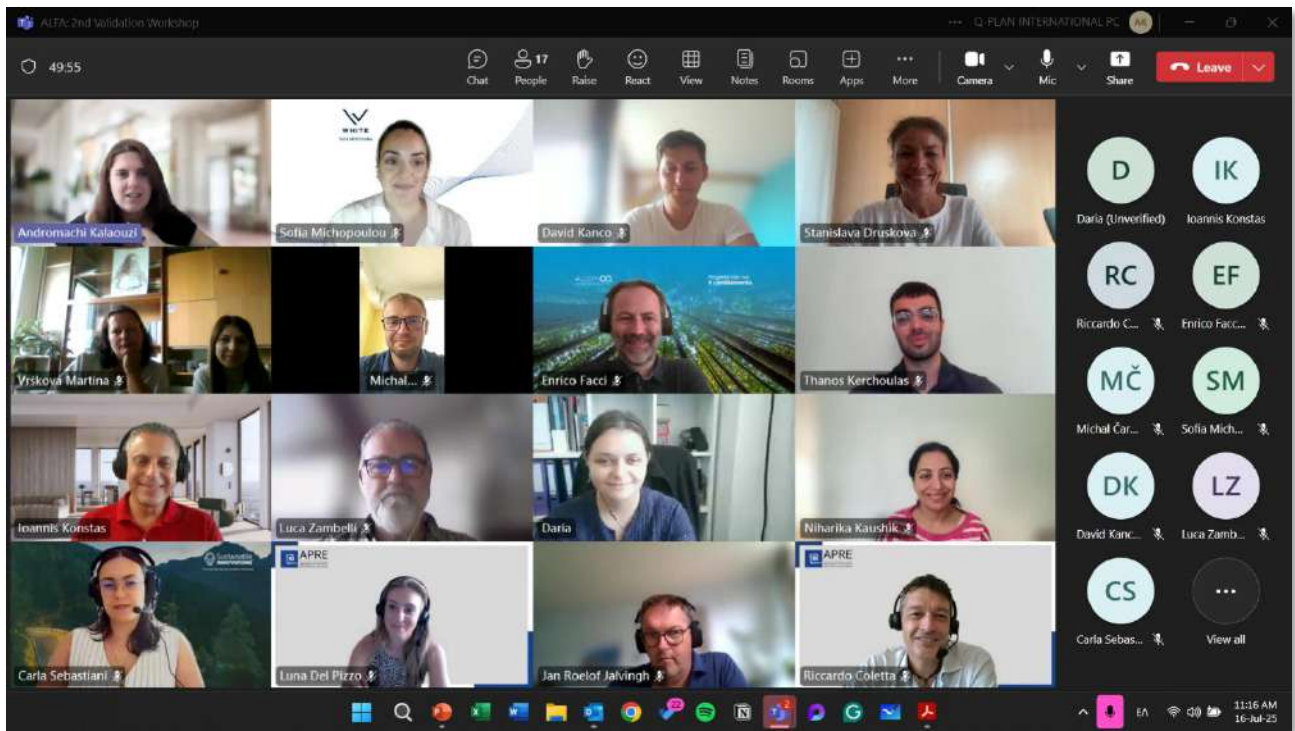


Figure 37. ALFA Second Validation Workshop

The event was structured into **two main sessions**. The first session provided an overview of ALFA’s activities, achievements, and the monitoring and evaluation framework and the results. The second session focused on validation and feedback, with an open interactive discussion in order to collect insights from participants. Overall, the workshop was designed to engage key stakeholders and refine ALFA’s strategies based on their input.

All the supportive materials for the implementation of the Second Validation Workshop are annexed in Annex IV which includes the list of participants, agenda, photos, presentation, invitation and registration.

6. Outcomes and Summary of Improvements

The following part presents the outcomes derived from the data collection and validation workshop, highlighting the insights gained, which contributed to the fine-tuning of the project's strategies and objectives.

6.1 Service Provision

The most significant change in the 2nd round was the re-adaptation of support services to be both business- and technical-oriented, and more tailor-made to the actual needs of each case:

- Adaptation of Business Model Canvas to better fit biogas and biomethane real-world scenarios, especially in more complex or diverse cases, incorporating environmental and social aspects
- The provision of a legislation reviews for Biogas and Biomethane. An awardee requested a service related to the legislation framework. This service was an addition to the ALFA service portfolio.
- A number of dropouts occurred due to the limited timeframe for service delivery, particularly in the case of complex or major projects, which required longer-term support to reach completion. However, their engagement with ALFA helped them gain a clearer understanding of the requirements for realising their investments through needs assessment meetings. In some cases, even though they did not receive the full suite of services defined by the project, they benefited from assistance in developing a roadmap and made use of ALFA's online resources, such as the DST and Knowledge Centre.
- Flexibility was key in the second round of services — additional resources were provided or adjusted methods to maximise impact.
- A one-size-fits-all model was not feasible

6.2 Capacity Building

- ALFA aimed to strengthen its impact through joint efforts regarding the webinars, bringing together experts from several backgrounds
- Webinars were not only designed for the moment but also as lasting resources. They provide value to those entering the biogas sector in the future.
- Success depends heavily on having local stakeholders already engaged, especially livestock farmers (considering the timing of the farming season) while addressing regional challenges, in terms of local capacity building, i.e. seminars.
- In-person events should be designed with a clear purpose to achieve strategic outreach: exhibitions are good for visibility but not suitable for full-day training events.
- Targeted seminars with specific groups (e.g. farmers' cooperatives, Biogas and Energy related Associations) worked better when aligned with real needs and context, also adapting the language.
- The demand for more locally delivered activities, tailored to regional needs and in the local language, remains a priority
- Combining technical content with practical examples boosted understanding and perceived value, while a pure academic approach is not effective in both terms of webinars and seminars

- Panels, Q&As, and knowledge exchange increased engagement, peer learning, and overall satisfaction

6.3 Awareness Raising Campaigns

- ALFA awareness campaigns had to be highly adapted to different audiences due to the varying use of channels (e.g. social media), language barriers and different levels of digital and topic literacy
- Partners' networks improved visibility, leveraging several channels and associations already active in promoting biogas and various farmers' initiatives that provided both opportunities for shared promotion actions and reinforced existing campaigns
- Prioritising content in national languages is essential to guarantee that the main messages are accessible to the wider national audience, also for post -project tools such as ALFA Engagement Platform.
- Promotions gain greater credibility and impact when aligned with reputable and well-established institutions

6.4 General remarks

- Significant diversity and varying stages of market development were observed across countries and regions — from North to South and East to West — in terms of market maturity, stakeholder readiness, and regulatory frameworks. Less developed biogas ecosystems could benefit from the experiences and lessons learned in more advanced markets, particularly in policy and technology. However, such knowledge transfer should carefully consider the differences and similarities between countries, including geography and transport infrastructure, climate and spatial factors, livestock farm size, availability of feedstock and additives for biogas and biomethane production, and the presence of gas pipeline networks.
- ALFA efforts were more effective with early adopters. In more advanced markets, challenges were often more structural and harder to address within the scope and timeline of the project.
- Red tape and policy uncertainty remain significant barriers across the board. Indeed, extensive periods of policy development combined with energy market volatility and alternative, more lucrative investments in livestock farming curtail the chances for livestock farmers to invest in themselves. Incentives aligned with long-term investment cycles in the biogas sectors and general greater continuity in support schemes should be in the policy agenda.
- Green certificates and evolving manure management disposal legislation in the European Union can serve as key drivers for biogas and biomethane uptake, providing both financial incentives and regulatory impetus for sustainable energy production, as experience proves in Denmark and Germany.
- Capitalising bi-products such as digestate and ensuring an open market for that serves as additional income, making a biogas plant viable and sustainable in the long term.
- Ensuring available biomass in terms of quantity and quality of feedstock during the course of the life of the biogas plant serves as a rule of thumb in order to avoid overestimation of plant size.
- In terms of replicability, a summary table linking types of stakeholders, market maturity levels, and ALFA measures would be of great support, in terms of which ALFA measures considered replicable under which conditions.

In summary, the services provided had a positive impact, supporting the successful initiation of new investment processes and the acceleration of ongoing ones, even though some did not materialise within the project's timeframe and were therefore considered dropouts for project KPIs. In some cases, the support helped to identify potential pitfalls, such as insufficient manure availability, challenges in appropriately sizing and determining the capacity of the biogas plant, and the need for a realistic assessment of CAPEX. These outcomes reflect the fact that large-scale investments require extensive planning and are inherently time-consuming. In certain situations, individual farms may have better opportunities to participate in shared initiatives, such as cooperatives, or to establish agreements for the joint use or disposal of available manure.

7. Conclusions

The **development of the ALFA framework** followed a **multi-layered approach** to ensure the effective monitoring and evaluation of biogas market uptake support measures within the livestock farming sector. The process began with the identification of clear **objectives and activities**, which served as the foundation for the framework. For each objective, SMART **indicators** were selected, ensuring that progress could be accurately tracked and evaluated. These indicators are **paired with targeted questions** and expected results, tailored to the needs of the ALFA's various **target groups**, including **service beneficiaries, seminar and webinar participants**.

Data collection was planned and executed to gather insights from all relevant engaged persons. **Anonymised questionnaires and surveys** are used to protect participants' privacy while capturing valuable data on the effectiveness of ALFA's interventions. Data collection methods were **adaptable**, with **online and onsite** options available to accommodate the **diverse contexts of the project's activities**. The collected data provided a basis for analysis in order to **measure the impact** of support services, capacity-building activities, and awareness campaigns. The data collection for the first and second rounds has been completed.

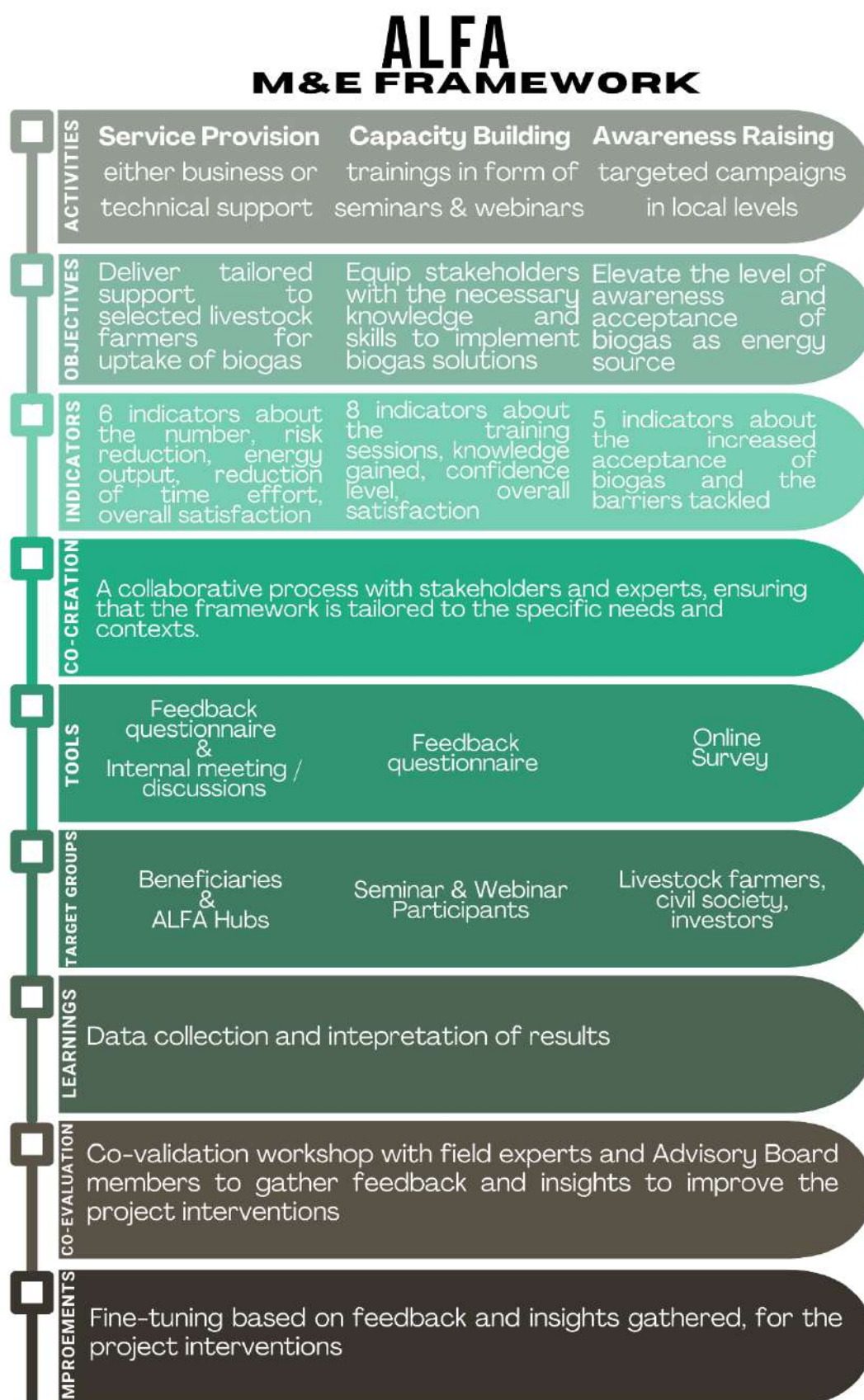
Following the second data collection and analysis, a **validation workshop** has been conducted with experts in the field. This workshop served as a critical platform for reviewing the project's effectiveness and gathering feedback on the results obtained. During the implemented second validation workshop, experts provided insights utilised in fine-tuning the subsequent ALFA measures, ensuring that they remain targeted for the Replication Guide and the Policy recommendations.

The results of the workshop highlighted both strengths and areas for improvement in ALFA's approach. The validation process **confirmed the effectiveness of existing measures** while identifying **opportunities for enhancement**.

The outcomes will not only guide the final refinement of the services but will also generate valuable insights for the development of the project's replication guide and policy briefs. These insights will help shape strategies for post-project exploitation, ensuring the transferability of lessons learned, scalability of successful approaches, and sustained impact beyond the project's duration.

8. Annexes

8.1 Annex I: Overall ALFA Framework



8.2 Annex II: ALFA MEF Activities, Objectives, Indicators and Questions

Table 6. Set of indicators for the service provision

Activity / Objective	Indicator	Metric	Expected Results	Question Additional Details	Target groups
Business and Technical Support Deliver tailored support to selected livestock farming cases to support the uptake of biogas solutions	Number and type of services received	No of services either business or technical along with the type of them	50 services delivered	What service(s) did you receive? Also, information about the number is circulated internally within the consortium and gathered from the ALFA Hubs	Service beneficiaries
	Perceived risk reduction of investment in biogas systems	Perceived change in comfort level regarding biogas investment	20% perceived risk reduction of in biogas systems	To what extent has your comfort level in investing in biogas changed compared to before, indicating a perceived reduction in risk?	
	Projected output of biogas system	kWe	30MWeI projected output of supported biogas systems	What is the expected power output of your biogas system, measured in kilowatts (kWe)?	
	Reduction of the time/ effort needed for the development of the biogas solution	Timeline Expectation	N/A	Are you planning to proceed with your project within the next 5 years?	
			N/A	To what extent did our services contribute to the efficiency (in terms of time and effort) of realising your future project?	
	Overall satisfaction	Satisfaction Level	N/A	How would you evaluate the application process?	
		Satisfaction Level	N/A	To what extent did the service meet your expectations?	

Activity / Objective	Indicator	Metric	Expected Results	Question Additional Details	Target groups
	Proposed improvement	Qualitative feedback	N/A	What could be improved?	

Table 7. Set of indicators for the capacity building activities

Activity / Objective	Indicator	Metric	Expected Results	Question Additional Detail	Target groups
Capacity Building Equip stakeholders with the essential knowledge and skills required for the successful implementation and management of biogas projects.	Quality of the training sessions	Rating of various aspects such as content, speaker, relevance, duration, and interactivity	N/A	Please rate the webinar/seminar on the following aspects: content, speaker, relevance, duration, and interactivity.	Seminar and webinar participants
	Applicability of knowledge gained	Perceived applicability of the knowledge to the participant's business	N/A	To what extent is the knowledge gained from the webinar/seminar applicable to your business?	
	Confidence in applying knowledge	Confidence level in applying the knowledge gained during the capacity-building activities	N/A	To what extent do you feel more confident and prepared to apply in practice what you've learned today in the webinar/seminar?	
	Overall satisfaction	Satisfaction level	N/A	How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the webinar/seminar?	

Activity / Objective	Indicator	Metric	Expected Results	Question Additional Detail	Target groups
	Areas of improvement	Qualitative feedback on how to improve the sessions	N/A	How can the webinar/seminar be improved?	
	Participation Rate	No of Participants	N/A	Info is circulated internally within the consortium and gathered from the ALFA Hubs	
	Organisation of capacity-building activities	No of webinars and seminars	6 webinars and 6 seminars		
	Training Sessions	No of topics covered	8 capacity building programs		

Table 8. Set of indicators for the awareness-raising campaign activities

Activity / Objective	Indicator	Metric	Expected Results	Question Additional Detail	Target groups
Awareness-raising campaigns Elevate the level of awareness and acceptance of biogas as a viable and	Social acceptance of biogas	% change in acceptance	25% Increased social acceptance of biogas	Info is circulated internally within the consortium and gathered from the ALFA Hubs	Persons reached by the awareness-raising campaign
	Barriers/ gaps addressed by the campaigns	Number of barriers and gaps addressed	N/A		
	Perception of socio-economic benefits	% change in acceptance	N/A	Does a biogas plant create socio-economic benefits?	

D4.2: Report on the deployment of ALFA Support Measures – Second Round

Activity / Objective	Indicator	Metric	Expected Results	Question Additional Detail	Target groups
sustainable energy source, thereby supporting market growth	Perception of environmental benefits	% change in acceptance	N/A	Does a biogas plant create environmental benefits?	
	Perception of sustainability and inclusivity in agriculture	% change in acceptance	N/A	Does a biogas plant contribute to creating sustainable and inclusive agriculture (e.g. gender inclusive)?	

8.3 Annex III: Questionnaires

Feedback from [service beneficiaries](#)

Feedback Form

Feedback from services' beneficiaries

This form seeks your insights on the service provision through the ALFA project. Your feedback is invaluable and will assist us in continuous improvement and enhancement of our services. The survey is anonymous, and your responses will be kept confidential.

ALFA will disregard any personal data that is inadvertently included. For further details on personal data, please refer to the [Privacy Policy](#) Notice. It should take approximately 3 minutes to complete. Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us.

[Συνδεθείτε στο Google, για να αποθηκεύσετε την πρόοδό σου. Μάθετε περισσότερα](#)

* Υποδεικνύει απαιτούμενη ερώτηση

What services did you receive? *

- ☐ Market Research
- ☐ Business Modelling and Planning
- ☐ Access to Finance
- ☐ Corporate and Sustainable Finance
- ☐ Farmer to Farmer Advice
- ☐ Concept Design and development of biogas system
- ☐ Evaluation of biogas potential based on preliminary calculations
- ☐ Energy and environmental analysis assessing the energy and carbon footprint across the life cycle
- ☐ Consultancy on the implementation and monitoring of biogas solutions
- ☐ Technical support for farmers in the evaluation and comparison of plant suppliers' quotes

To what extent did the service meet your expectations? *

- ☐ The service exceeded my expectations.
- ☐ The service met my expectations.
- ☐ I am neutral about the service meeting my expectations.
- ☐ The service did not fully meet my expectations.
- ☐ The service fell far below my expectations.

What is the expected power output of your biogas system, measured in kilowatts (kW)? Please refer to the provided service report for the specific details. *

Η απάντησή σας:

To what extent has your comfort level in investing in biogas changed compared to before, indicating a perceived reduction in risk? *

- ☐ Much More Comfortable
- ☐ More Comfortable
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Less Comfortable
- ☐ Much Less Comfortable

To what extent did our services contribute to the efficiency (in terms of time and effort) of realizing your future project? *

- ☐ Extremely
- ☐ Significantly
- ☐ Moderately
- ☐ Slightly
- ☐ Not at All

Are you planning to proceed with your project within the next 5 years? *

- ☐ Definitely Yes
- ☐ Likely
- ☐ Undecided
- ☐ Unlikely
- ☐ Definitely Not

How would you evaluate the application process? *

- ☐ Excellent
- ☐ Above Average
- ☐ Average
- ☐ Below Average
- ☐ Poor

Where did you find information about our service provision and open calls? *

- ☐ Project's website
- ☐ Social Media Platforms
- ☐ Email and newsletters
- ☐ Professional associations/cooperatives
- ☐ Άλλο:

What could be improved? *

Η απάντησή σας:

[Υποβολή](#)

Εκκαθάριση φόρμης

Μην ξεχάσετε την καλύτερη πρακτική μας την Παρουσία Google

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Feedback from [seminar participants](#)



Feedback Form for Seminar Participants

This form seeks your insights on the seminar of the ALFA project. Your feedback is invaluable and will assist us in continuous improvement and enhancement of our activities. The survey is anonymous, and your responses will be kept confidential.

ALFA will disregard any personal data that is inadvertently included. For further details on personal data, please refer to the [Privacy Policy Notice](#). It should take approximately 3 minutes to complete. Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us.

Ευχαριστούμε την Google, για τα εργαλεία που μας βοηθάει να Μάθουμε να μαθαίνουμε.

* Ηλεκτρονικός επικοινωνιακός κανάλι

Did the seminar meet your needs? *

☐ Completely
☐ Very Much
☐ Moderately
☐ Somewhat
☐ Not at All

To what extent were the topics covered in the seminar relevant to your interests or needs? *

☐ Extremely
☐ Very Much
☐ Moderately
☐ Somewhat
☐ Not at All

To what extent is the knowledge gained from the seminar applicable to your business? *

☐ Extremely Applicable
☐ Very Applicable
☐ Moderately Applicable
☐ Slightly Applicable
☐ Not Applicable

To what extent do you feel more confident and prepared to apply in practice what you've learned today in the seminar? *

☐ Extremely
☐ Very Much
☐ Moderately
☐ Slightly
☐ Not at All

How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the seminar? *

☐ Very Satisfied
☐ Satisfied
☐ Neutral
☐ Dissatisfied
☐ Very Dissatisfied

Where did you find information about our seminar? *

☐ Project's website
☐ Social Media Platforms
☐ E-mail and newsletters
☐ Word of mouth
☐ Other: _____

How can the seminar be enhanced or improved? Your suggestions on potential changes or additional efforts are valuable to us.

Η ενδυνάμωσή σας:

Υποβολή

Επιστροφή φόρμας

Μην αναρτάτε κατά λάθος τις πληροφορίες σχετικά με το Προγραμμα Google.

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Google Φόρμες

Feedback from [webinar participants](#)



Feedback Form

Feedback from webinar participants

This form seeks your insights on the webinar of the ALFA project. Your feedback is invaluable and will assist us in continuous improvement and enhancement of our activities. The survey is anonymous, and your responses will be kept confidential. When providing free-text comments, please refrain from including any personal data (e.g. names, contact details). ALFA will disregard any personal data that is inadvertently included. For further details on personal data, please refer to the [Privacy Policy Notice](#). It should take approximately 3 minutes to complete. Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us.

(Υποβάλλετε στο Google, για να επεξεργαστείτε την απάντησή σας. Μπορείτε να αποθηκεύσετε)

» Υποβάλλετε απάντησή σας τώρα

Please rate the webinar on the following aspects: content, speaker, relevance, duration, and interactivity.

☐ Excellent
☐ Above Average
☐ Average
☐ Below Average
☐ Poor

To what extent is the knowledge gained from the webinar applicable to your business?

☐ Extremely Applicable
☐ Very Applicable
☐ Moderately Applicable
☐ Slightly Applicable
☐ Not Applicable

To what extent do you feel more confident and prepared to apply in practice what you've learned today in the webinar?

☐ Extremely
☐ Very Much
☐ Moderately
☐ Slightly
☐ Not at All

How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the webinar? *

☐ Very Satisfied
☐ Satisfied
☐ Neutral
☐ Dissatisfied
☐ Very Dissatisfied

Where did you find information about our webinar? *

☐ Project's website
☐ Social Media Platforms
☐ E-mail and newsletters
☐ Word of mouth
☐ Άλλο

How can the webinar be improved? Your suggestions on potential changes or additional efforts are valuable to us.

Υποβάλλω

Επιστροφή φόρμας

Ημερομηνία: 14/05/2024 14:00:00. Ημερομηνία: 14/05/2024 14:00:00. Ημερομηνία: 14/05/2024 14:00:00.

Google Φόρμες

Awareness Raising Campaign [Survey](#)



* What is your country of residence?

- ☐ Belgium
- ☐ Denmark
- ☐ Greece
- ☐ Italy
- ☐ Slovakia
- ☐ Spain

* Does a biogas plant create socio-economic benefits?

- ☐ 1 - Biogas development has a negative impact on citizens' socio-economic conditions.
- ☐ 2 - Biogas development has a moderately negative impact on citizens' socio-economic conditions.
- ☐ 3 - Biogas development has a neutral impact on citizens' socio-economic conditions.
- ☐ 4 - Biogas development creates a moderate benefit on citizens' socio-economic conditions.
- ☐ 5 - Biogas development creates a strong benefit on citizens' socio-economic conditions.

* Does a biogas plant create environmental benefits?

- ☐ 1 - Biogas development has a negative impact on the environment.
- ☐ 2 - Biogas development has a moderately negative impact on the environment.
- ☐ 3 - Biogas development has a neutral impact on the environment.
- ☐ 4 - Biogas development creates a moderate benefit on the environment (e.g., lower CO2).
- ☐ 5 - Biogas development creates a strong benefit on the environment (e.g., lower CO2).

* Does a biogas plant contribute to create a sustainable and inclusive agriculture (e.g., gender inclusive)?

- ☐ 1 - Biogas development has a negative impact on the creation of a sustainable and inclusive agriculture.
- ☐ 2 - Biogas development has a moderately negative impact on the creation of a sustainable and inclusive agriculture.
- ☐ 3 - Biogas development gives a neutral contribution to the creation of a sustainable and inclusive agriculture.
- ☐ 4 - Biogas development gives a moderate contribution to the creation of a sustainable and inclusive agriculture.
- ☐ 5 - Biogas development gives a strong contribution to the creation of a sustainable and inclusive agriculture.

Soumettre

8.4 Annex IV: Validation workshop support material

8.4.1 *The list of participants*

Full Name	Sex	Organisation	Stakeholder Category
Aliki Zioga	Female	Centre for Research and Technology Hellas	Academia/Research
Andromachi Kalaouzi	Female	Q-PLAN International	SMEs / Business Consultant
Athanasios Kerchoulas	Male	Centre for Research and Technology Hellas	Academia/Research
Carla Sebastiani	Female	SIE	SMEs / Business Consultant
External Expert 1	Female	EHOSS	Farming Consultant
External Expert 2	Male	Slovak Biogas Association	Biogas Associations
Enrico Facci	Male	AzzeroCO2	Sustainability Consultant
Ioannis Konstas	Male	Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL ADVISORS	SMEs / Business Consultant
External Expert 3	Male	Province Drenthe / Hookwood Melkvee /European Dairy Farmers	Advisor
External Expert 4	Male	GGZETA	Sustainability Consultant
Luna del Pizzo	Female	APRE	Academia/Research
External Expert 5	Male	EnergioTerra, s.r.o.	Biogas Expert
Niharika Kaushik	Female	EDF	Farmer Associations
Riccardo Coletta	Male	APRE	Academia/Research

D4.1: Report on the deployment of ALFA Support Measures – First Round

Full Name	Sex	Organisation	Stakeholder Category
Sofia Michopoulou	Female	White Research	SMEs / Business Consultant
Stania Druskova	Female	PEDAL Cons.	SMEs / Business Consultant
External Expert 6	Female	National Agricultural and Food Centre- Research Institute of Animal Production, Slovakia	Academia/Research

8.4.2 *The agenda of the event*



2nd Virtual Validation Workshop

Unlocking the biogas potential

Date: 16th of July 2025

Time: 10:00 – 11:30 CET

FORMAT: ONLINE (MICROSOFT TEAMS)



 **Funded by
the European Union**

Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or CINEA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

Agenda

Duration	Topic	Organisation
WELCOME		
5'	Start of Meeting - Welcome	Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL, Ioannis Konstantas
10'	Tour de la table	All
5'	Presentation of the ALFA project Objectives and scope of the virtual validation workshop	Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL, Ioannis Konstantas
SESSION 1: Overview of ALFA		
20'	ALFA Activities 2 nd Round Achievements [Presentation of service provision, <u>capacity</u> building and awareness-raising campaign]	Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL, Andromachi Kalakouti CENTRE FOR RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY HELLAS, Athanasios Kerdhoulas SUSTAINABLE INNOVATIONS, Pablo Morales AGENZIA PER LA PROMOZIONE DELLA RICERCA EUROPEA, Luna del Pizzo
20'	Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and 2 nd Round Findings [Developed indicators, tools, timeline, preliminary <u>findings</u> and insights from the second round]	Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL, Andromachi Kalakouti
SESSION 2: Validation and Feedback Session		
30'	Fine-Tuning of Support Measures - Proposed improvements based on <u>findings</u> - Replicability - Insights for policy recommendations [Feedback and recommendations from Advisory Board members, Open floor for comments and suggestions]	Moderation: Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL Discussion: All
Meeting Conclusion		
5'	Conclusion and wrap-up of the meeting [Summary of key points and next steps Closing Remarks]	Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL, Ioannis Konstantas

The link to participate, as well as the links to the interactive parts, will be sent to you in a personal email after your registration [here](#).



The project

ALFA has the objective to help unlock the EU's biogas production potential by fostering the adoption of technologies using manure to produce biogas, thus helping increase the adoption of renewable energy sources in the EU and helping reduce emissions from untreated animal waste. The project will identify drivers and barriers for the uptake of biogas in the EU livestock farming industry and will support farmers from 6 EU countries (Italy, Denmark, Belgium, Slovakia, Greece and Spain) through its own co-created solutions, including financial, business, and technical support services as well as capacity-building seminars. In parallel, the project will develop an Engagement Platform to host tools that facilitate collaboration and knowledge exchange among industry actors and provide credible estimations of each farm's biogas potential, prospect profits, and environmental and social impacts. Moreover, ALFA will inform all relevant stakeholders via awareness-raising campaigns and policy recommendations, and will provide guidelines for replication of its results in other regions.

Coordinator: Q-PLAN

PARTNER		SHORT NAME
	Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL ADVISORS PC	QPL
	AGENZIA PER LA PROMOZIONE DELLA RICERCA EUROPEA	APRE
	AZZERO CO2 SRL	A0CO2
	CENTRE FOR RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY HELLAS	CERTH
	FBCD AS	FBCD
	SUSTAINABLE INNOVATIONS EUROPE SL	SIE
	WHITE RESEARCH SRL	WR
	PEDAL CONSULTING SRO	PED
	EUROPEAN DAIRY FARMERS E.V.	EDF
	EUROPEAN BIOGAS ASSOCIATION AISBL	EBA

CONTACT US: info@alfa-res.eu

VISIT: www.alfa-res.eu

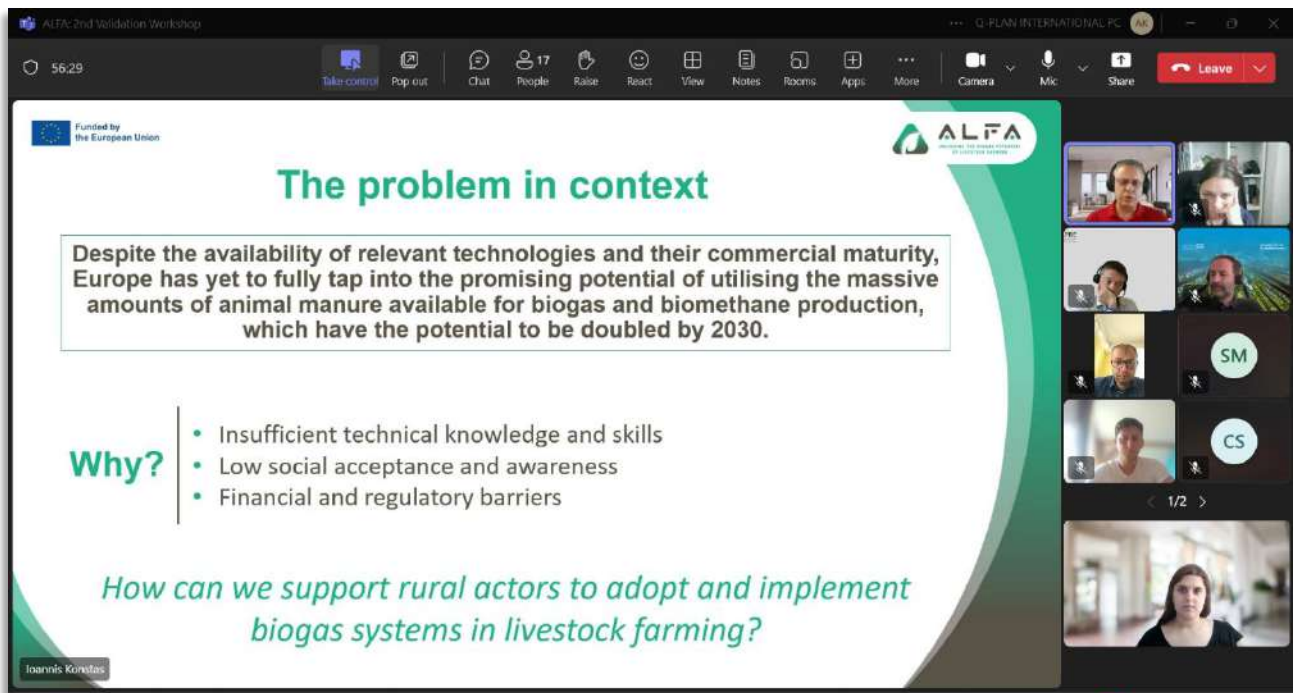
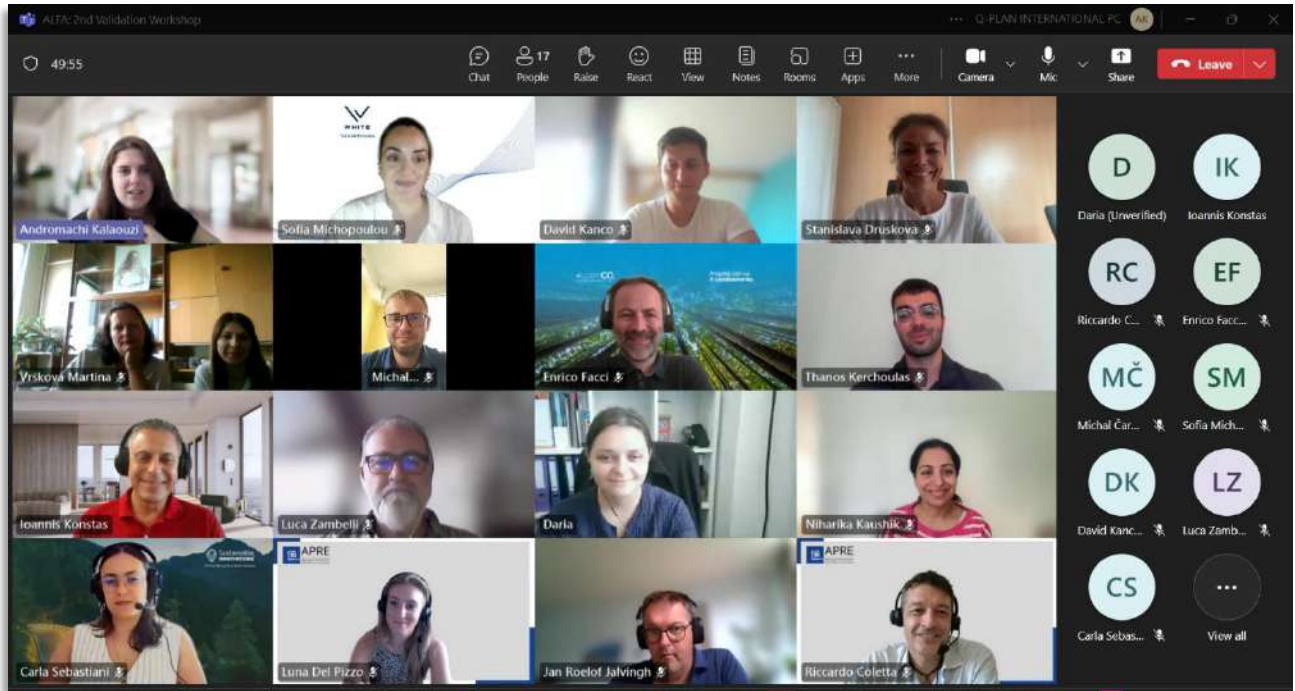
 [ALFA Project](#)

 [@alfa_euproject](#)

 [alfa-euproject](#)

 [@alfaprojectHE](#)

8.4.3 Photos



8.4.4 Presentations



“Scaling up the market uptake of Renewable Energy Systems by unlocking the biogas potential of Agriculture and Livestock Farming”

GA 101075659

2nd ALFA Virtual Validation Workshop Unlocking the biogas potential

Ioannis Konstas, Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL

Tuesday, July 16th, 2025



PARTNERS

Q-PLAN APRE AzzeroCO₂ CERTH Food & Bio Cluster Sustainable Innovations WHITE PEDAL EBA

Funded by the European Union



Outline

- Welcome
- Virtual Validation Workshop Agenda
- Objectives and aim of the virtual validation workshop
- The ALFA project
- Next steps



Virtual Validation Workshop Agenda

- **Welcome**
 - Tour de la table
 - Objectives and scope of the virtual validation workshop
 - Presentation of the ALFA project
- **Session 1: Overview of ALFA and 2nd Round Achievements**
 - Business and Technical Services
 - Capacity Building activities
 - Raising Awareness Campaigns
 - Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and 2nd Round Findings
- **Session 2: Validation and Feedback Session**
 - **Fine-Tuning of Support Measures**
 - Proposed improvements based on findings
 - Replicability
 - Insights for policy recommendations
- **Conclusion and wrap-up of the meeting**



Objectives and scope of the virtual validation workshop

- The two rounds of services provision consisted of the following stages:
 - Design,
 - Implementation,
 - Receiving feedback
 - Validation by the Advisory Board and stakeholders
- The aim is to assess the performance and impact of our actions and collect ideas for:
 - Iterative improvement of our support measures
 - Development of ALFA's
 - Replication Guide and
 - Policy recommendations.

The problem in context

Despite the availability of relevant technologies and their commercial maturity, Europe has yet to fully tap into the promising potential of utilising the massive amounts of animal manure available for biogas and biomethane production, which have the potential to be doubled by 2030.

Why?

- Insufficient technical knowledge and skills
- Low social acceptance and awareness
- Financial and regulatory barriers

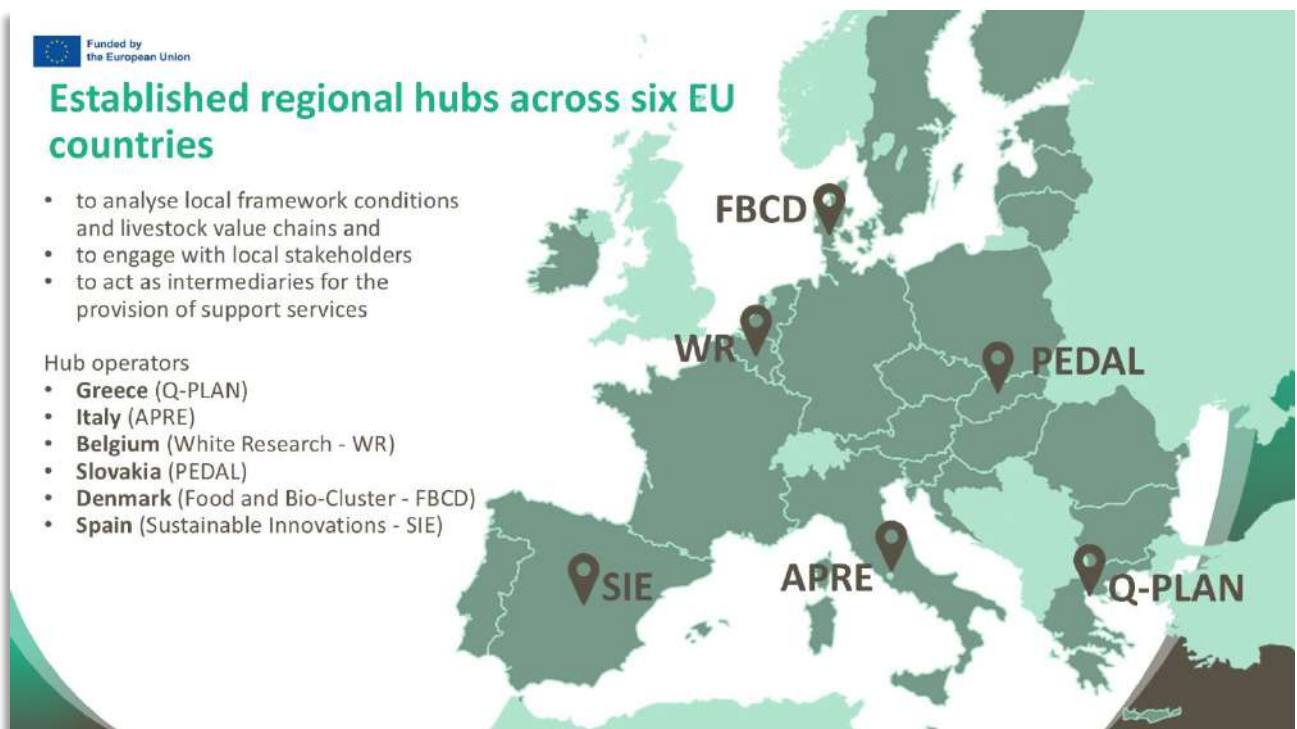
How can we support rural actors to adopt and implement biogas systems in livestock farming?

About the project

Overview: ALFA seeks to support the market uptake of biogas production technologies that use manure as biomass, helping increase the share of renewable energy in the EU and helping reduce emissions from untreated manure.

Key features:

- Provision of both **Business and Technical Support Services** to livestock farmers and biogas plant owners
- **Seminars and webinars** to support the uptake of biogas
- **Raising Awareness Campaigns** to tackle misconceptions about biogas
- Development of **Digital Tools** to facilitate collaboration and knowledge exchange on biogas
- Development of a **Replication Guide** providing insights into adjusting and deploying ALFA measures in different contexts







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WHITE

ALFA FINAL EVENT AND POLICY ROUNDTABLE

Upscaling the market uptake of
renewable energy by unlocking the
biogas potential of livestock farming

SEP 25, 2025

Comet Louise, Pl. Stéphanie 20, 1050
Brussels, Belgium
10:00 - 16:30 CET

For more info,
www.alfa-res.eu



Register now!!!



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Thank you for you attention!!!

Lean more at: alfa-res.eu/

www.alfa-res.eu

CONTACT US: info@alfa-res.eu, konstas@qplan-intl.gr



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Q-PLAN



APRE



AzzeroCO₂



CERTH



Food & Bio Cluster



Sustainable
Innovations



WHITE



PEDAL



EBA

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“Scaling up the market uptake of Renewable Energy Systems by unlocking the biogas potential of Agriculture and Livestock Farming”

GA 101075659



ALFA Business Services

Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL | ANDROMACHI KALAOUZI

2nd Validation Workshop | Wednesday, July 16th 2025

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ALFA Support Services





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Remarks

Challenges

- Adapting the service to specific needs (within scope) Beyond the scope of ALFA services, with high expectations
- Time management into implementation phases (delayed responses from awardees)
- Lack of regulatory framework → Uncertainty

Lessons Learnt

- Customised Services | New Service
- Adaptation of Bus. Modelling and Planning into environmental and social aspects
- Support awardees to understand their specific needs/requirements
- Collaborative Service Provisions (In the form of Mentoring or involve Externals)
- Engagement of local structures (cooperatives) as intermediaries

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



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GA 101075659

Athanasios Kerchoulas
Centre of Research and Technology Hellas
(CERTH)

ALFA 2nd Validation Workshop | Wednesday, Jul 16th 2025



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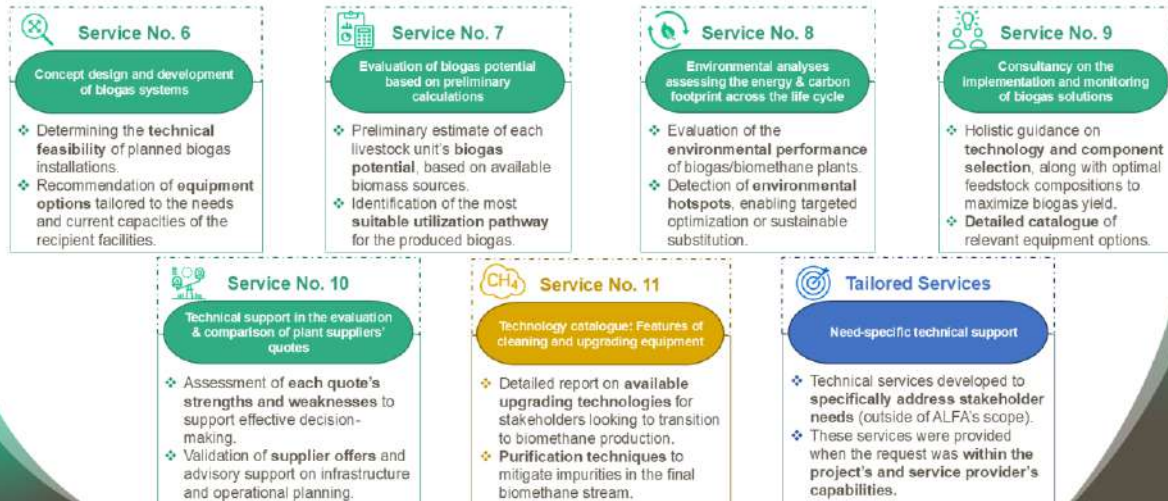


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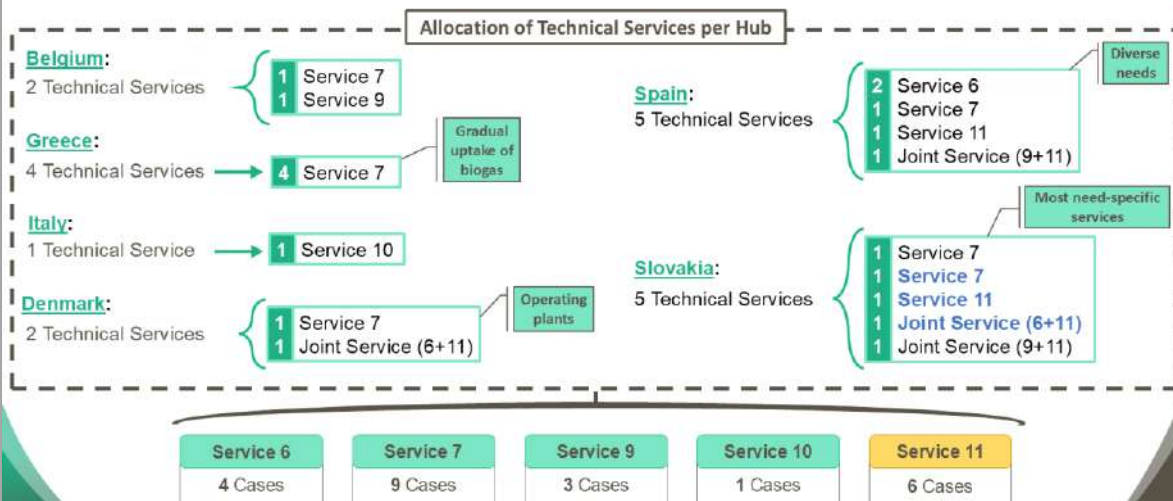
Technical Support Services



Provision of tailored technical services to stakeholders in the agricultural sector, aimed at promoting and facilitating the integration of biogas solutions into their operations.



2nd Round of Technical Services



 Funded by the European Union

Improvements and Lessons Learnt

- ✓ Joint technical support allowed for more flexible and detailed services.
- ✓ Service providers effectively managed requests beyond ALFA's scope.
- ✓ Stakeholders demonstrated clear objectives due to:
 - ALFA hubs effectively assisting the applicants in selecting the most suitable service(s).
 - Transparent communication of each service's scope, limitations, and expected outcomes.

Challenges

- ❖ In some cases awardee expectations exceeded realistic feasibility.
- ❖ Awardees with highly specific requests often lacked flexibility, complicating the delivery of services.
- ❖ Delayed responses from beneficiaries resulted in coordination challenges.

➔

Key Takeaways

- ❖ A one-size-fits-all model is not feasible, as farmers pursue biogas for diverse reasons.
- ❖ Technical gaps and regulatory uncertainties hinder biogas adoption by smallholder farmers.
- ❖ Services produced to guide decision-making showcased **higher stakeholder engagement** compared to standard technical support.



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CAPACITY BUILDING

AT A GLANCE

Carla Sebastiani & Pablo Morales
SUSTAINABLE INNOVATIONS



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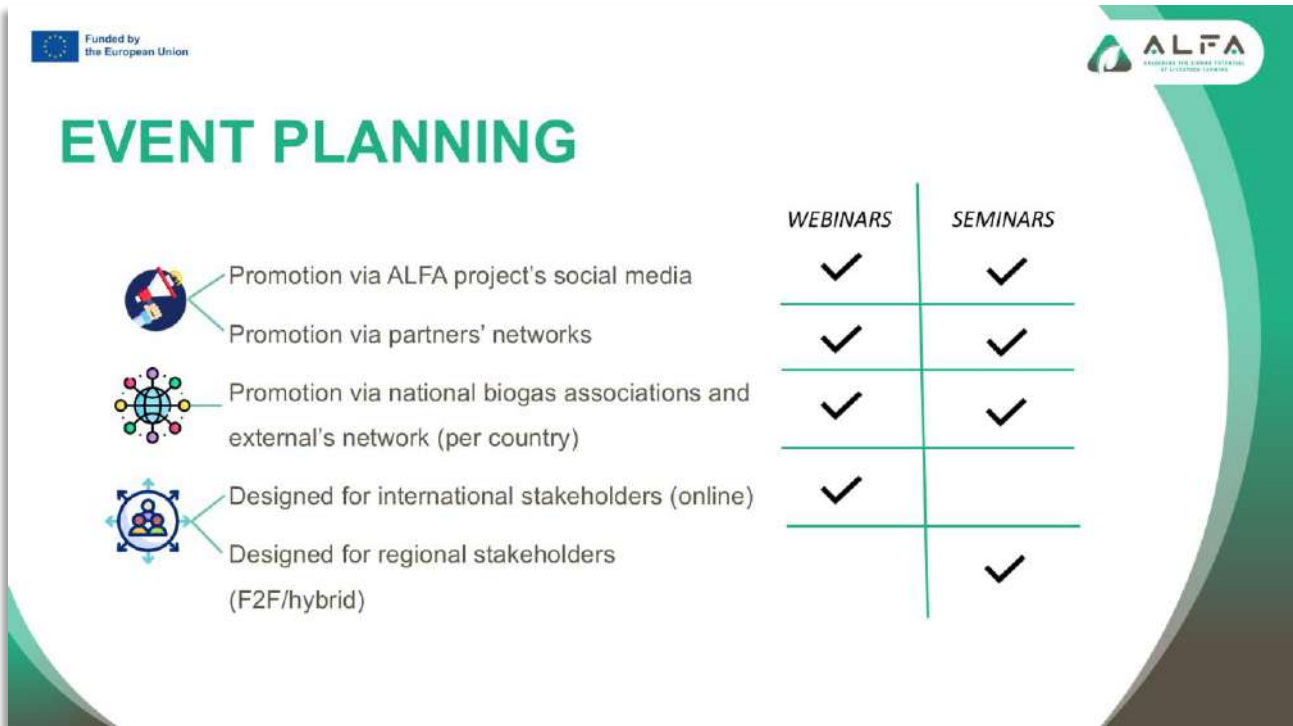
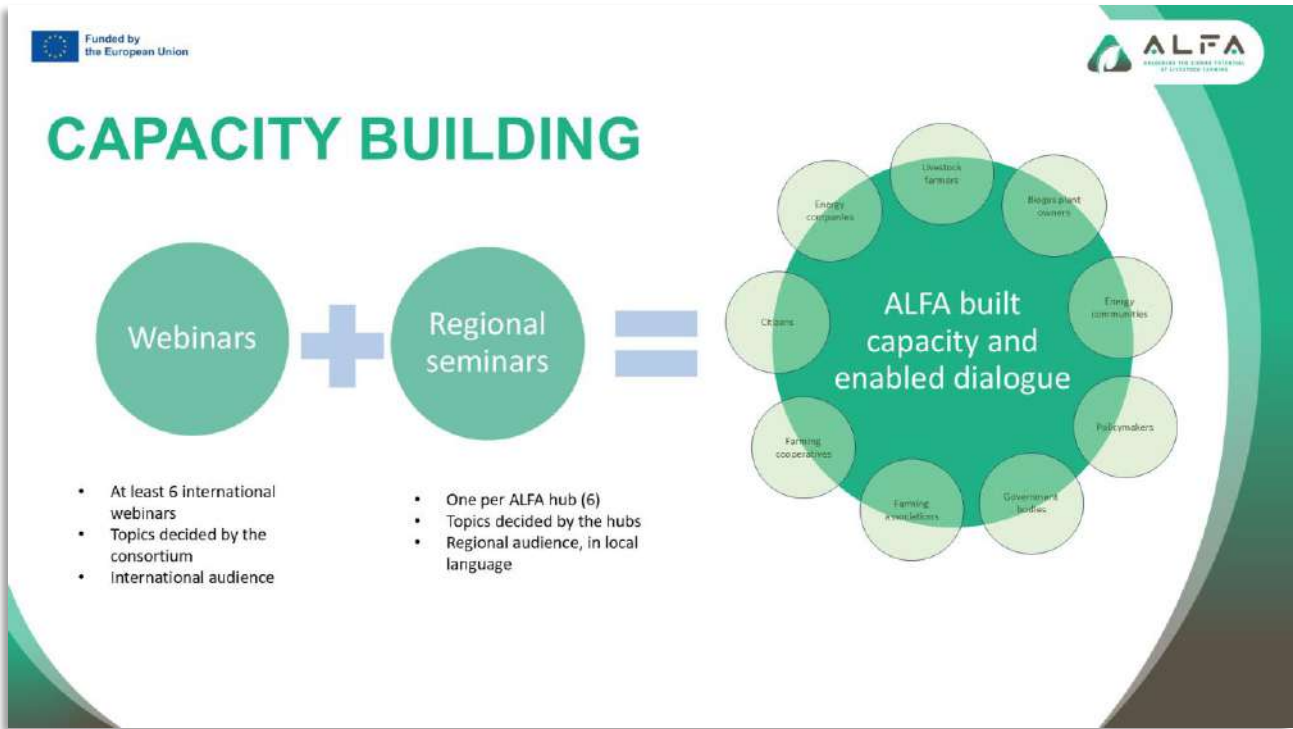









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SEMINARS

 ITALY

Futuristic prospects for the development of biogas in Italy and Europe

Date: May 2024

Attendees: 54

Partner: APRE

Celebrated in the framework of MO.ME.MA trade fair, where many farmers gather every year for decades



Presentations:

- The Decision Support Tool.
- Best practice: production of biogas and biomethane.
- Legal problematic of the authorization process and NIMBY effect.
- Sustainability and biogas systems: coexistence of the environmental, energy and animal welfare.
- Roundtable discussions

SEMINARS

 SLOVAKIA

Turn Waste into Energy: Opportunities and Challenges of Biogas Plants

Date: October 2024

Attendees: 42

Partner: PEDAL

Expert sessions on biodegradable waste legislation and practical applications for biogas production



Presentations:

- Legislative frameworks and practical applications for biogas plants.
- Insights into feedstock suitability and digestate use.
- Open panel discussions after each session to foster dialogue
- Networking opportunities during breaks and lunch



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SEMINARS

 **SPAIN**

Leveraging the potential of biogas in the livestock sector

Date: October 2024

Attendees: 41

Partner: SIE

The event successfully fostered knowledge exchange and collaboration on biogas solutions for livestock farming



Presentations:

- ALFA Project: Introduction to EU-funded initiatives supporting biogas implementation.
- Expert Talks: Insights on biogas potential, government support, and real-world applications.
- Networking and Collaboration: Speed networking and co-creation workshop encouraged idea-sharing among attendees.
- Case Study: Demonstration of a large-scale biogas plant's success despite industry challenges.
- Open Discussion: Attendees shared feedback, reinforcing the importance of biogas in sustainable farming.



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SEMINARS

 **DENMARK**

The use of degassed biomass

Date: November 2024

Attendees: 38

Partner: FBCE

Key insights into the future of degassed biomass utilization, focusing on nutrient recovery, emissions reduction, and economic viability



Presentations:

- Methane emissions from storage of digestate.
- Characterization and valorization of agricultural digestate and derived fertilizer products.
- Results from field trials with digestate biomass.
- Green tripartite - how will it affect the interaction between biogas plants and agriculture?
- New opportunities for biogas.
- Panel debate: How do we reduce agricultural emissions and continue to produce green energy?

SEMINARS

 **BELGIUM**
Biogas in livestock farming: benefits and challenges
Date: February 2025

Attendees: 26

Partner: VR

Presentations by experts from research and industry (Inagro, Biogas-E, EBA, Bioelectric), a field visit to a biogas plant in a livestock farm, and a policy discussion session


Presentations:

- Presentation of the SEMPRES-BIO and Value4Farm.
- Presentation of the ALFA project and ALFA's survey findings.
- Guided tour to the farm's biogas plant, including Q&A with the farmer and the technology provider.
- Presentation of Bioelectric's small-scale digestion technology.
- Presentation on ALFA's support services and case studies.
- The state of biogas in the EU.
- Discussion on farmers' challenges and policy gaps.

SEMINARS

 **GREECE**
Utilising the Potential of Biogas in the Livestock Sector
Date: June 2025

Attendees: 25

Partner: QPLAN

Inform and engage stakeholders on sustainable biogas solutions, technological innovations, and digital tools developed within the ALFA project, with a strong emphasis on the circular economy and entrepreneurship


Presentations:

- Presentations covered ALFA project goals, outcomes, and practical tools for farmers and investors.
- Successful biogas case studies from Greece and Europe were shared.
- Technical topics included production costs, regulations, and national policy updates.
- Investment scenarios, sustainability, and challenges like plant sizing and biomass distribution were discussed.
- Seminar ended with a roundtable on sector needs, stakeholder collaboration, and aligning biogas with sustainability goals.

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WEBINARS

- x7 Webinars organised as part of the CB materials
- Available at the [ALFA PROJECT YOUTUBE channel](#)
- The webinars were based on a wide variety of topics agreed with the Consortium:
 - Challenges and needs for the uptake of biogas in livestock farming in Europe
 - WASTE-TO-ENERGY: Opportunities and challenges of biogas plants
 - Biogas: A Possible, yet unknown ally
 - Leveraging the potential of biogas in the livestock sector
 - Biogas Framework Conditions: Market Challenges, Policy Trends & Future Opportunities
 - The use of straw for biogas production
 - Learn from EDF Farmers Driving Green Energy in Agriculture



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LESSONS LEARNT



Locally grounded, EU-relevant themes: Success came from addressing regional challenges (e.g., nitrogen in Denmark, small-scale digesters in Belgium) while linking to broader EU trends and policies.



Right timing and local language: Highest attendance when avoiding peak farming periods and using local languages, improving accessibility and relevance.



Strategic outreach: Engagement rose when leveraging trusted local networks (e.g., farming magazines, farmer associations) and aligning with targeted events (e.g., SEFOR, MO.ME.MA).



Promoting Innovation with real cases: Combining technical content with practical examples (e.g., BIOGASTUR, on-farm solutions) boosted understanding and perceived value.



Using established platforms: Co-locating within popular fairs or exhibitions ensured access to hard-to-reach stakeholders and encouraged spontaneous participation.



Feedback-driven improvement: Post-event surveys provided actionable insights (e.g., more demos, better time management), refining future events.



Interactive formats: Panels, Q&As, and workshops increased engagement, peer learning, and overall satisfaction.





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"Scaling up the market uptake of Renewable Energy Systems by unlocking the biogas potential of Agriculture and Livestock Farming"

GA 101075659

ALFA Validation Workshops

Luna Del Pizzo, Flaminia Rocca, Riccardo Coletta
APRE – Agenzia per la Promozione della Ricerca Europea

Wednesday, July 16th 2025, 10.00 – 11.30 CET

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Awareness Raising Campaign - Activities performed

Second round (M24-M33)

- Conceptualized by APRE and tailored to regional context, resulting in six customized versions, one for each ALFA Hub.
- These actions **reached more than 47,984 stakeholders** during the second round (the actual number is likely to be much higher).
- Target groups addressed: farmers, policy makers, biogas supply chain entities, researchers and professionals, civil society, EU-funded projects.

Awareness Raising Campaign – Activities performed

Second round (M24-M33)

Social media posts	116
Articles	25
Article on ALFA Biogas forum	20
Events	13
Newsletters	+20,854 sends
Videos	2







Awareness Raising Campaign

Deployment activities and reached targets

Activities	Targets	
Defining and segment specific target audiences for the campaigns.	1. Increased social acceptance of biogas facilities in civil society (>25%)	✓
	2. Increased women and young farmers involvement in biogas value chain (>10%)	✓
	3. Stakeholders with enhanced awareness of socioeconomic and environmental benefits of biogas (>10.000)	✓
Utilizing a mix of communication channels, including traditional media, social media, events, and printed materials, based on regional preferences and coordinating deployment activities to maximize visibility and create an impression.	Dissemination activities in combination with local awareness raising campaigns:	
	1. Social media followers (>1000)	✓
	2. External events attended (≤15)	✓
	3. Promotional material distributed (>300)	✓
Leading the deployment of at least two awareness-raising campaigns per round, tailored to regional needs	12 (1 per region per round)	✓





Awareness Raising Campaign – Secon Round

Lessons learned

LESSONS LEARNED
Data collection remained uneven across hubs
Webinars struggled to engage farmers due to timing and language barriers
Language accessibility remains an obstacle
Institutional involvement is underused but essential
Research-business mediation is still limited but needed
Engagement and collaboration with primary producers is still limited but needed




Awareness Raising Campaign – Secon Round

Take aways

TAKE AWAYS
Peer-to-peer engagement was highly effective
Partner networks improved visibility
Leveraging several platforms and associations boosts outreach
Participation in non-biogas events expands networks
Direct communication tools (e.g. WhatsApp) enhance feedback collection
Research-business mediators improve adoption




Awareness Raising Campaign – Lessons learned and key take aways

Second round (M24-M33)

- **Data collection** remained uneven across hubs.
- **Peer-to-peer engagement** proved highly effective.
- **Partner networks improved webinar visibility**, although challenges remained.
- **Involving institutions boosts campaign credibility and outreach**, but is still underused.
- **Leveraging associations increased outreach.** (e.g., women in science, EU Bioeconomy Network)
- **Participation in non-biogas events** expanded the network.
- **Direct communication tools (e.g., WhatsApp) improved feedback collection.**
- **Language barriers persisted** - local translation helped but isn't enough.
- **Research-business mediators** can improve understanding and adoption.
- **Cooperatives & unions are essential for engaging primary producers.**



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"Scaling up the market uptake of Renewable Energy Systems by
unlocking the biogas potential of Agriculture and Livestock
Farming"

GA 101075659

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL | Andromachi Kalaouzi

2nd Validation Workshop | Wednesday, July 16th 2025



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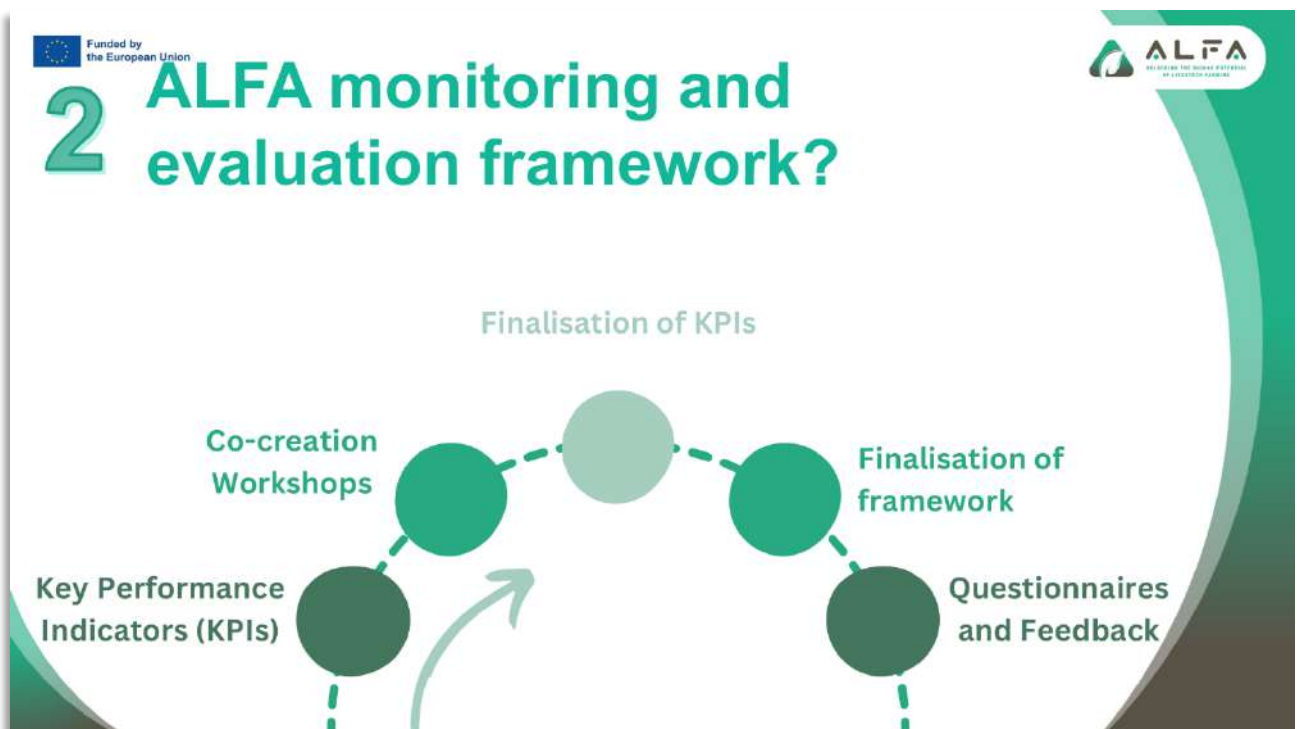
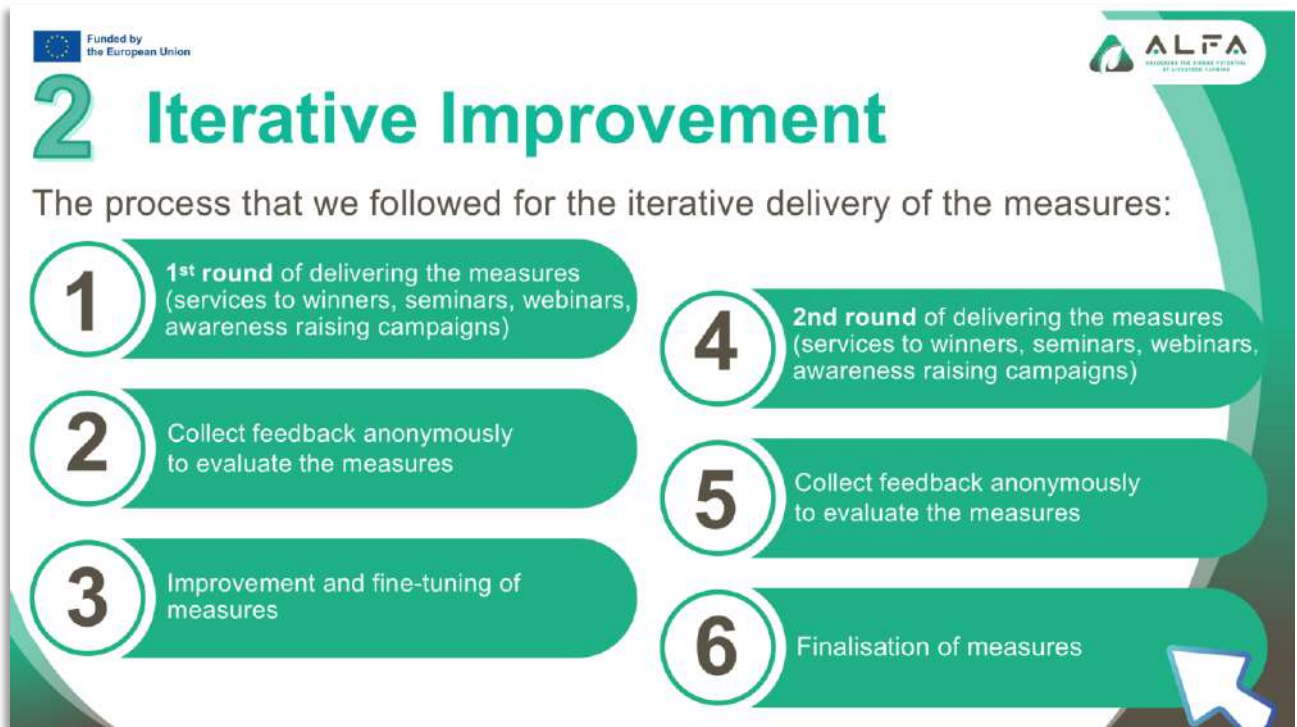
What is a monitoring and evaluation framework?

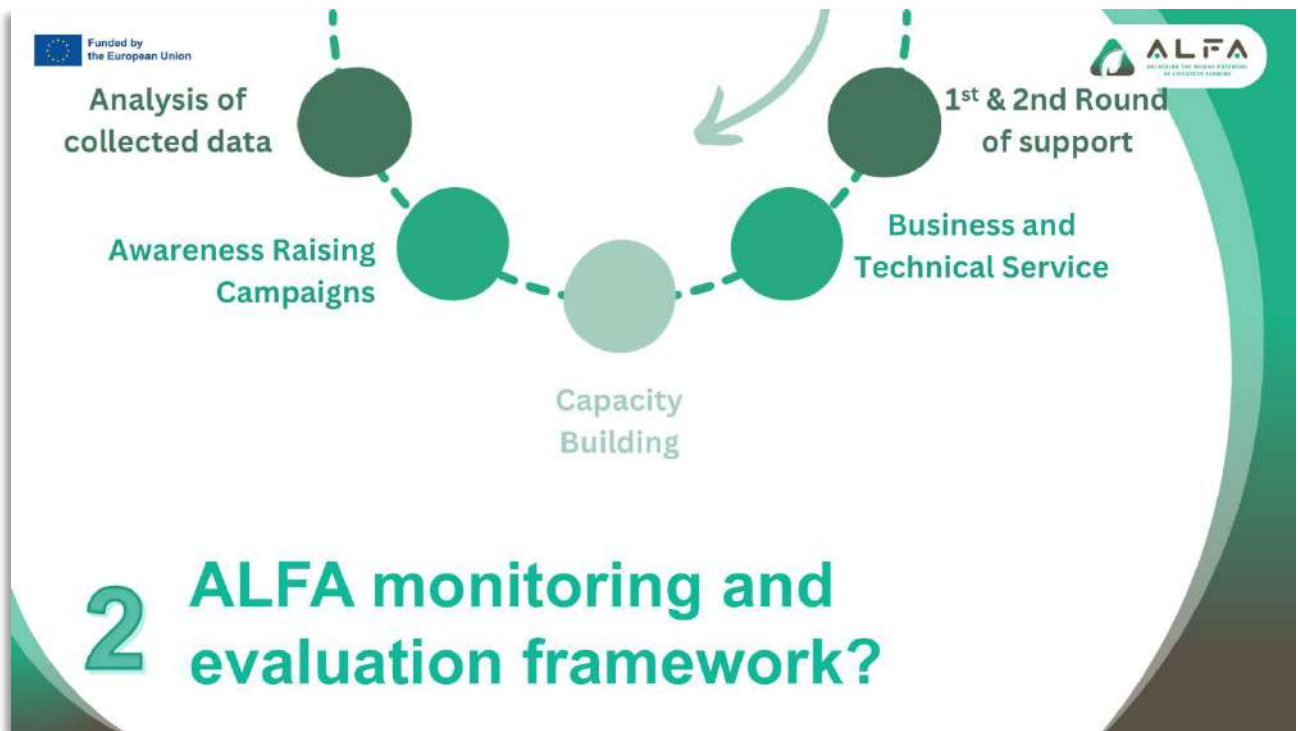


A monitoring and evaluation framework has been designed and deployed to monitor selected cases closely and to capture data on various business, financial, technical, environmental and social aspects.

Monitoring and evaluation framework

within ALFA





This slide features the title "ALFA support measures monitoring" in a large, bold, green font, centered on a white background. The slide is framed by green decorative elements on the sides. Logos for the European Union and ALFA are in the top corners.

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ALFA

ALFA support measures monitoring

3 Business and Technical Services



INDICATORS

- Open Call Procedure
- Number of services received
- Perceived risk reduction of investment in biogas systems
- Projected output of biogas system
- Projected GHGs emissions reduction
- Reduction of the time/ effort needed for the development of the biogas solution
- Overall satisfaction



Feedback FORM

After the **service provision**, and by sharing the final report with **awardee** an **online feedback form** was shared, to receive feedback **anonymously**.

3 Capacity Building



INDICATORS

- Number of participants
- Number of seminars/ webinars
- Number of topics covered
- Knowledge Gained (Topics)
- Overall satisfaction from participants over 7



Feedback FORM

After each capacity building activity, **seminar** or **webinar**, an online **feedback form** was shared with the **participants**, to receive feedback **anonymously**.



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3 Awareness Raising Campaign



INDICATORS

- Number of posts
- Average engagement per post
- Total people reached
- Increased acceptance of biogas **over 25%** (via the online survey)
- Number of barriers/ gaps addressed by the campaigns compared to the ones identified



Baseline

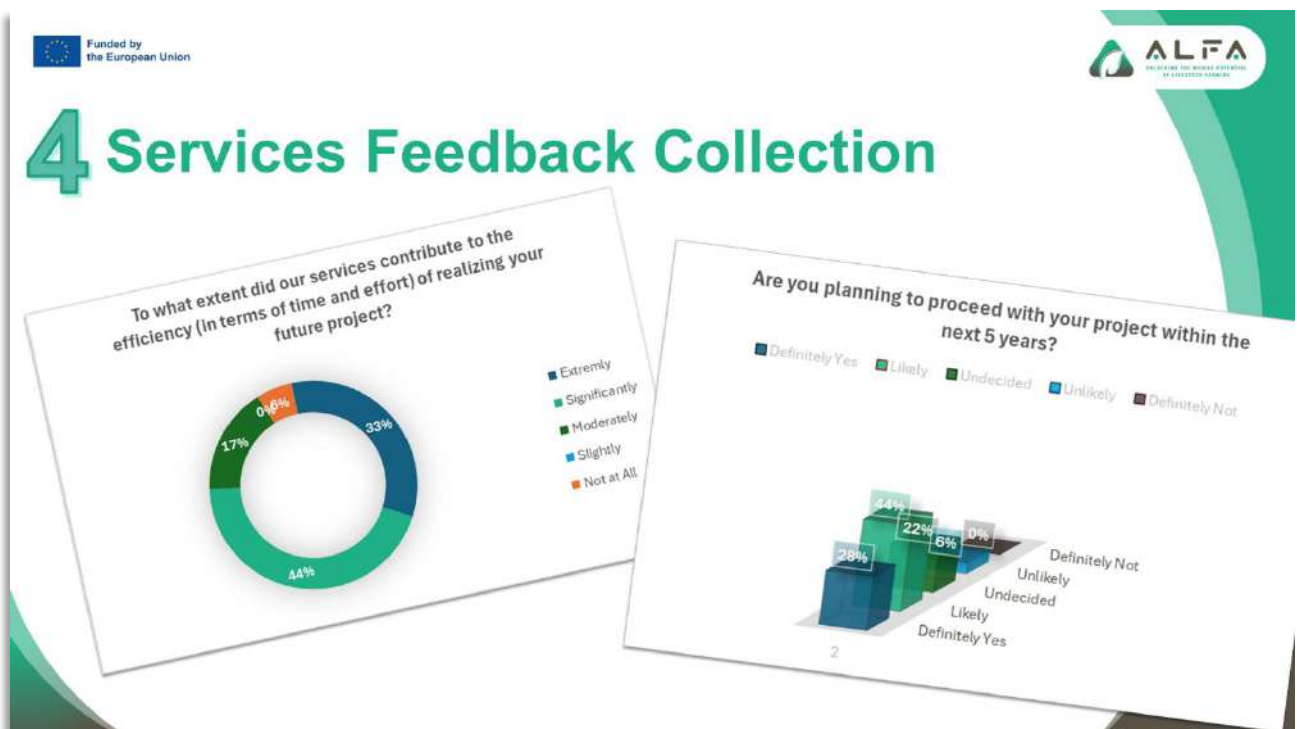
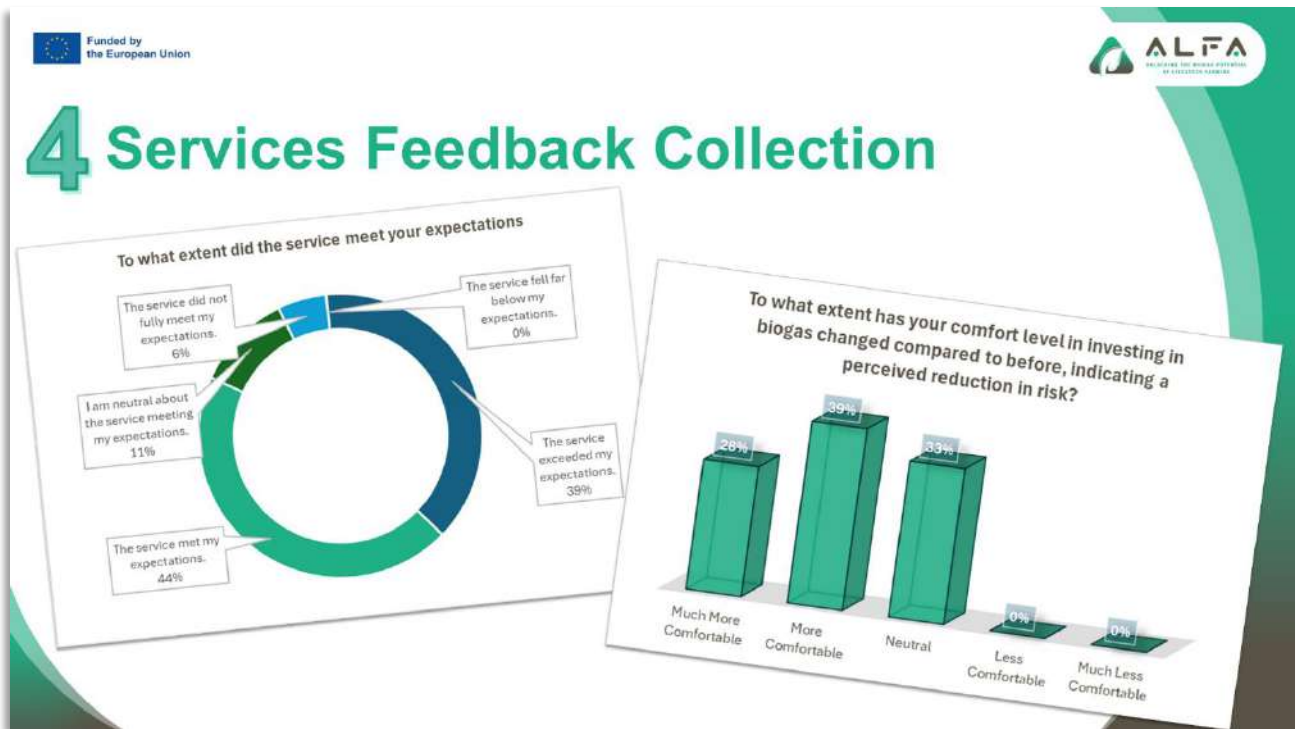
An online short survey was conducted at the **start** of 1st round, on **social media** in each country.

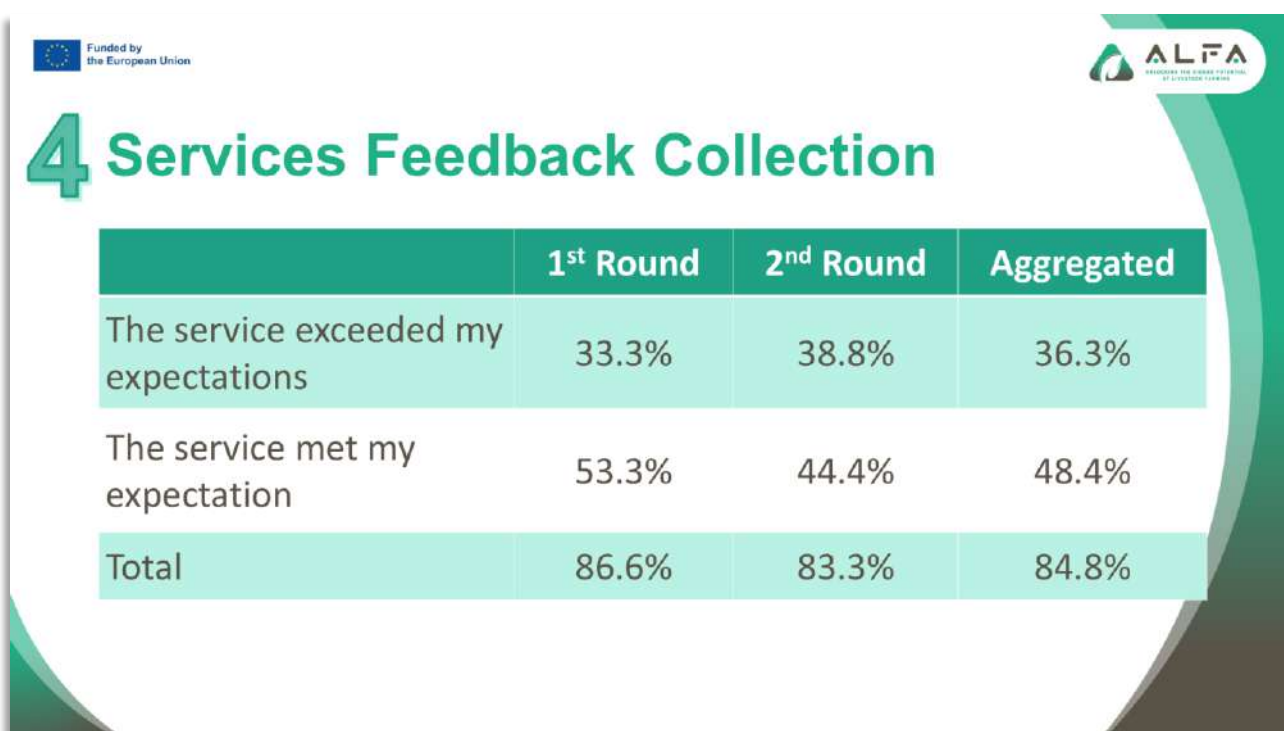


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Business and Technical Services Feedback Collection







4 Services Feedback Remarks



Challenges

Adapting the service to specific needs (within scope) Beyond the scope of ALFA services, with high expectations

Time management into implementation phases (delayed responses from awardees)

Lack of regulatory framework → Uncertainty

Lessons Learnt

Customised Services | New Service

Adaptation of Bus. Modelling and Planning into environmental and social aspects

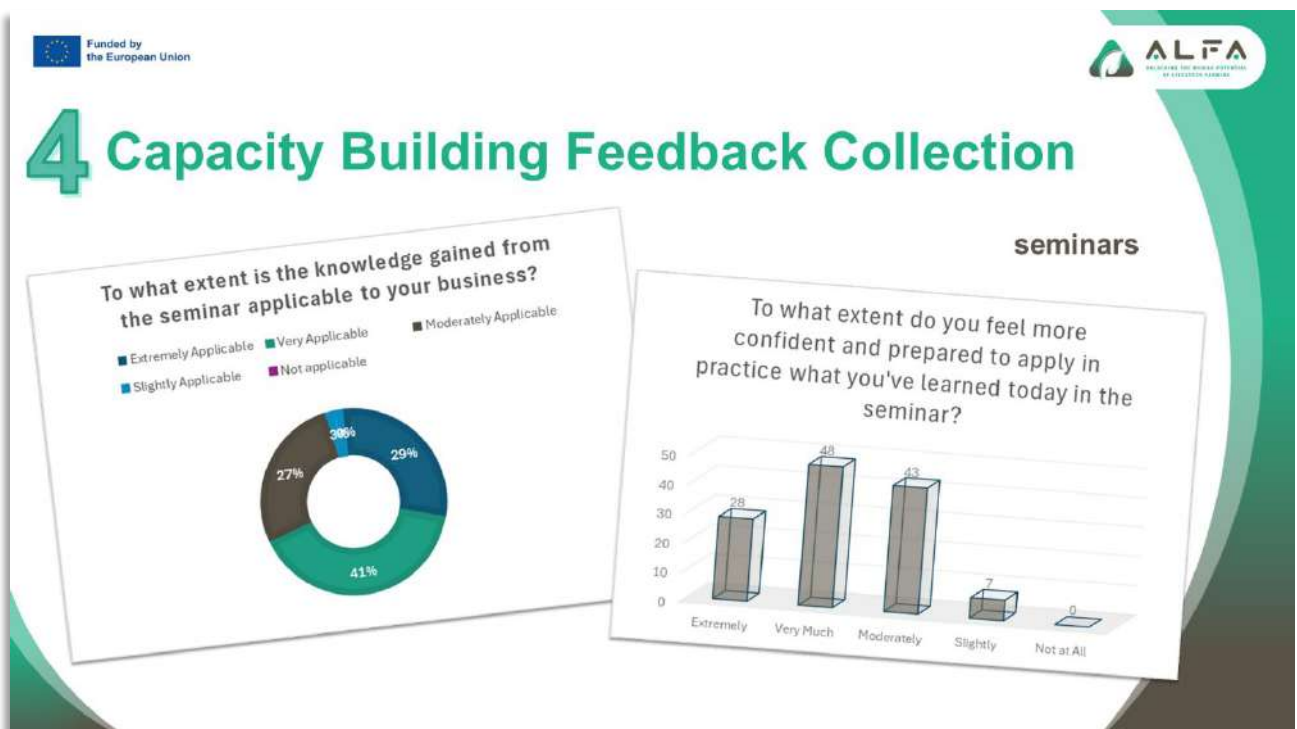
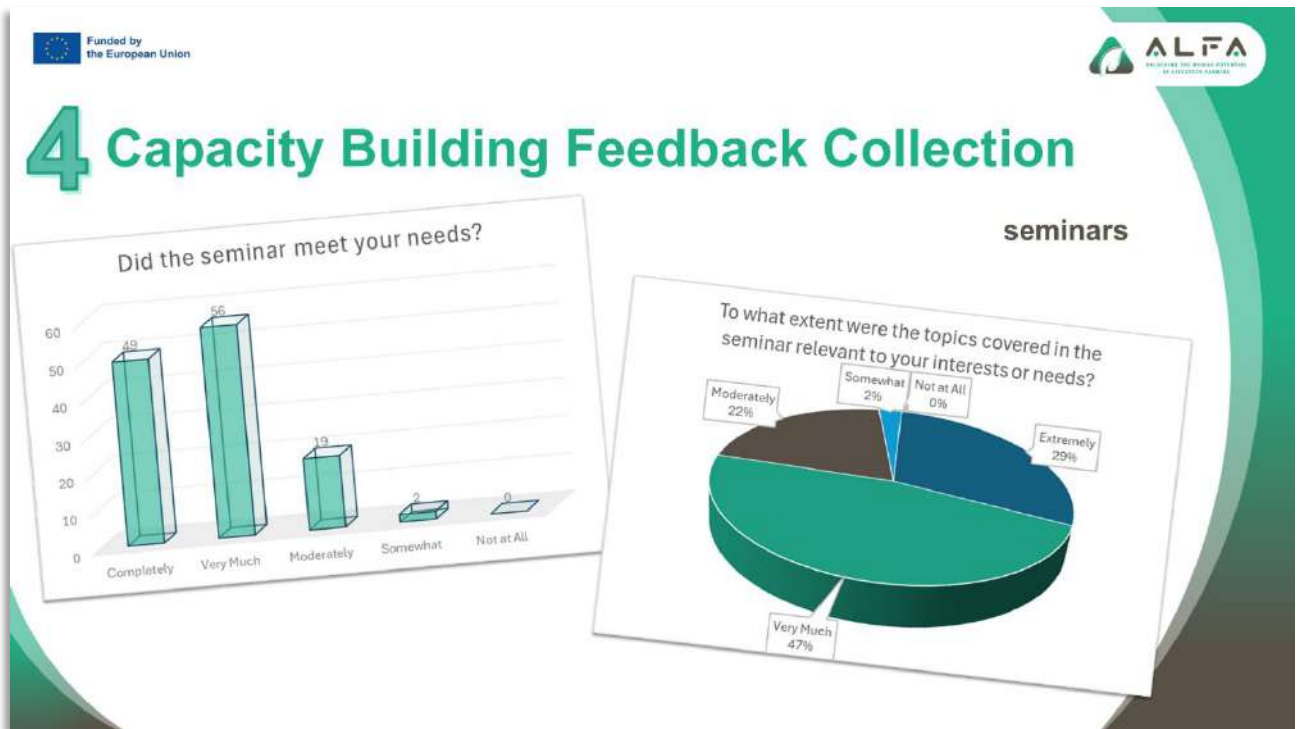
Support awardees to understand their specific needs/requirements

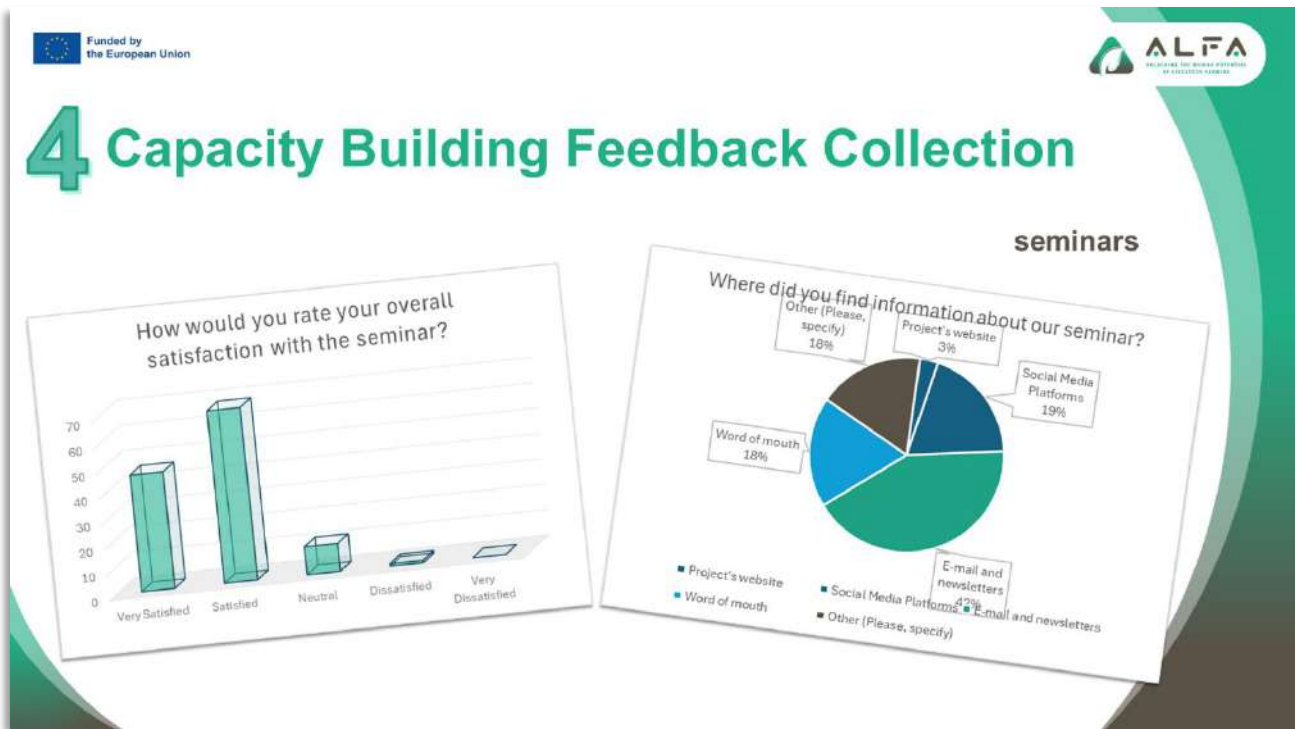
Collaborative Service Provisions (In the form of Mentoring or involve Externals)

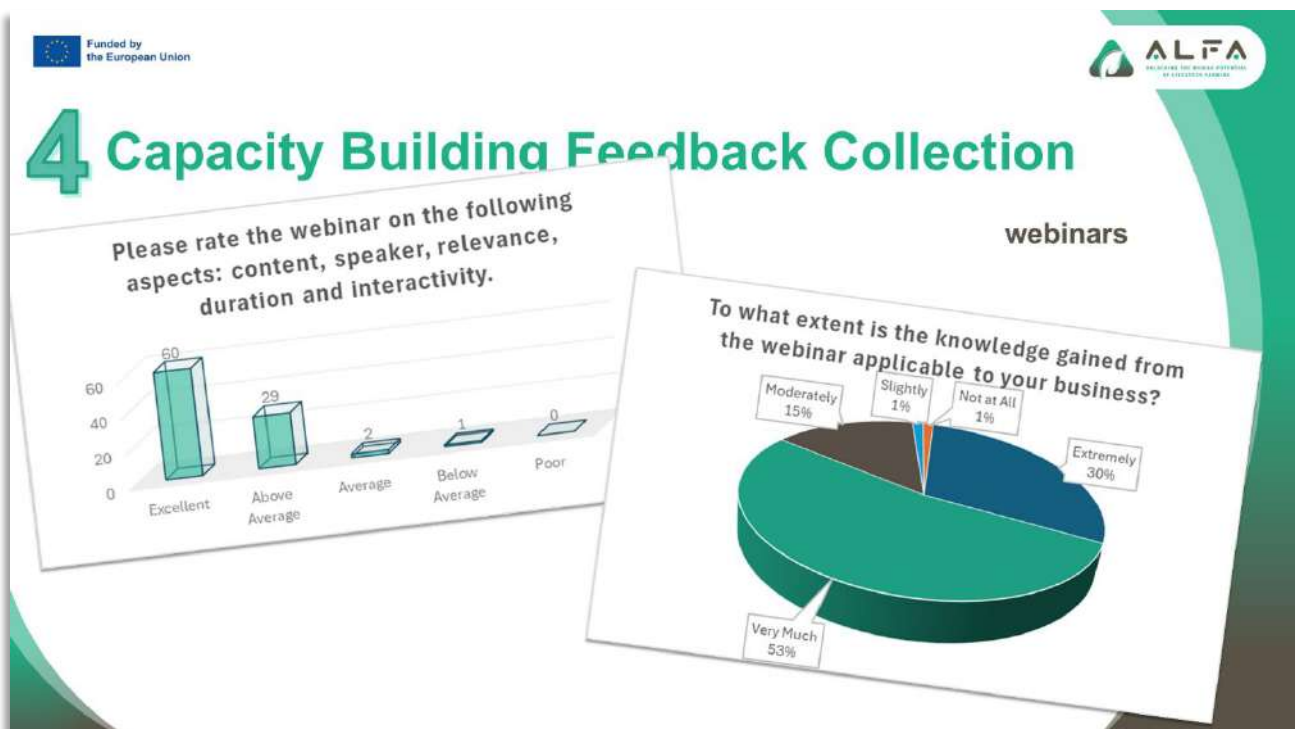
Engagement of local structures (cooperatives) as intermediaries

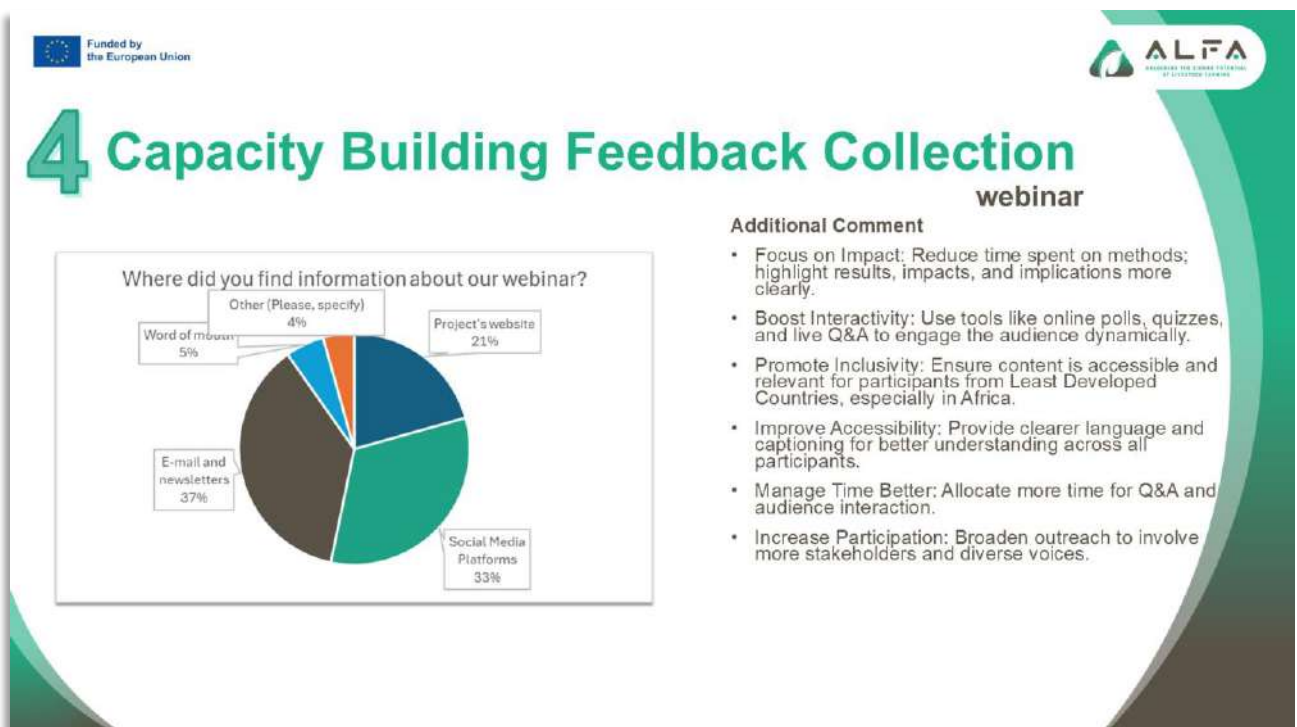


Capacity Building Feedback Collection (Seminars)











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8.4.5 Invitation

**DON'T MISS OUT ALFA'S VIRTUAL
VALIDATION WORKSHOP**

What to expect:

- Overview of ALFA Support Services, Capacity Building Activities and Awareness Raising Campaigns
- Presentation of data collection and findings
- Improvements and Respicability

 **Funded by
the European Union**

Unlocking the biogas potential

Date: Wednesday, July 16th 2025
Time: 10.00 - 11.30 CET
Format: Hybrid
Duration: 1.5 hour





Dear [Recipient],

We would like to invite you to participate in the upcoming **validation workshop** organised as part of the ALFA project, which aims to support the uptake of biogas solutions in livestock farming. The workshop will take place on Wednesday, July 16th 2025, from 10.00 to 11.30 CET ALFA's **support actions** will include business and technical support services as well as awareness-raising campaigns and capacity-building topics.

This workshop will present and discuss the **preliminary findings** from the second round of **monitoring and evaluation of our activities**. The ALFA Advisory Board members and Biogas Experts and stakeholders **are invited to validate the results and contribute their insights** for the **improvement and fine-tuning** of our support actions, along with the development of the ALFA replication guide, and policy recommendations.

Your participation in the validation workshop will offer **direct engagement with key stakeholders** and provide **firsthand access to insights** from the ALFA project's expert consultations on the current obstacles and enablers for the market uptake of biogas.

Please note that the workshop **is expected to last approximately 1.5 hours** and will **be held online**. The agenda **is attached** to this invitation.

Please click on the following link to access the **registration and consent form** for the validation workshop: [Registration and Consent Form](#). You will receive the link to participate **upon registration**.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or require further information.

Kind regards,

CONTACT US: info@alfa-res.eu **VISIT:** www.alfa-res.eu

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8.4.6 Registration and Informed Consent Form



ALFA 2nd Validation Workshop

This workshop aims to discuss the findings from the second round of monitoring and evaluation of our support activities. Your participation is crucial for validating these results and providing valuable feedback for the continuous improvement of our project.

Organiser: Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL

Date and Time: Wednesday, July 16th 2025

Format: Online via MS Teams

For further information contact us: [Andromachi Kalaouzi](#), [Ioannis Konstas](#)

The calendar invitation and session link will be sent to you, following successful registration.

By completing this registration form, you are helping us to organize the event efficiently and tailor the workshop content to best suit your expertise. Rest assured, any personal data collected through this form will be used solely for the purpose of organizing this workshop and will be handled in accordance with our [privacy policy](#).

Thank you for your interest and support.

** Indicates required question*

1. Email *

2. Title *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Mr.
- ☐ Ms.
- ☐ Mx.
- ☐ Dr.

3. Full Name *

4. Sex *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Female

☐ Male

☐ Non - Binary

☐ Prefer not to say

☐ Other:

5. Organisation *

6. Position in the Organisation

Skip to question 7

Informed Consent Form**Who we are:**

We are [Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL](#) and we are contacting you in the context of ALFA project funded by the European Union (Horizon Europe Framework Programme for Research and Innovation). A detailed description on how ALFA handles personal data is presented in the project's [Privacy Policy](#) available through the project's [web page](#).

Project:

ALFA - Scaling up the market uptake of Renewable Energy Systems by unlocking the biogas potential of Agriculture and Livestock Farming (GA Number 101075659).

Partner:

Organisation Name: Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL

Address: 11, El. Venizelou st., PC 551 33, Kalamaria, Thessaloniki, Greece

Phone: +30 2310 257277 | +30 2310 411 191

E-mail: info@qplan-intl.gr

Responsible Persons:

ALFA Project Manager	Ioannis Konstas	konstas@qplan-intl.gr
ALFA Contact Person	Andromachi Kalaouzi	kalaouzi@qplan-intl.gr
Data Protection Officer	Petros Papadionisiou	papadionisiou@qplan-intl.gr

What we need from you?

Your active participation in ALFA monitoring and evaluation activities, including validation workshop for the collection of useful information based on your experience and opinions that will be used for the development and improvement of ALFA support actions.

To effectively carry out the activities of the Validation Workshop, we will need to process some of your personal data:

- Your contact details (full name, email);
- Some basic demographics (sex);
- Your professional info (organization, job position, field of expertise);

- Your experience and opinion on the subjects that will be discussed during our activities;
- Videos and photos, captured during your participation in the workshop

Why we need your data & what will we do with them?

We need your data to contact you in order to plan and carry out the activities and events of the ALFA in your field of interest and to resolve any ambiguities, questions and other issues that may arise after and as a result of the workshop. We also need to record your data to keep track of the workshop process, so as to be reported to the European Commission. The project's deliverables that will be derived by these activities will not include your personal data or any other information that could identify you. Your personal data will remain on our written notes (event's transcript).

We are also obliged to grant access to your data to:

- EU officials such as our Project Officer for purposes related to project's evaluation;
- EU agencies and other authorities for project's auditing purposes.

We would also be very happy if you gave us your consent to contact you in the future to ask you to participate in other project's activities (e.g. surveys, project events etc.) and also to inform you about the project's progress (e.g. by sending you a newsletter or similar messages).

How you can withdraw your consents?

You should know that you can withdraw your consent at any time by communicating by email with the responsible persons listed previously. With regards to the informational messages and newsletters you can always opt out by simply clicking the link "Unsubscribe" or something similar included at the end of all the relevant messages.

The project

ALFA has the objective to help unlock the EU's biogas production potential by fostering the adoption of technologies using manure to produce biogas, thus helping increase the adoption of renewable energy sources in the EU and helping reduce emissions from untreated animal waste. The project will identify drivers and barriers for the uptake of biogas in the EU livestock farming industry and will support farmers from 6 EU countries (Italy, Denmark, Belgium, Slovakia, Greece and Spain) through its own co-created solutions, including financial, business, and technical support services as well as capacity-building seminars. In parallel, the project will develop an Engagement Platform to host tools that facilitate collaboration and knowledge exchange among industry actors and provide credible estimations of each farm's biogas potential, prospect profits, and environmental and social impacts. Moreover, ALFA will inform all relevant stakeholders via awareness-raising campaigns and policy recommendations, and will provide guidelines for replication of its results in other regions.

Coordinator: **Q-PLAN**

PARTNER		SHORT NAME
	Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL ADVISORS PC	QPL
	AGENZIA PER LA PROMOZIONE DELLA RICERCA EUROPEA	APRE
	AZZERO CO2 SRL	A0CO2
	CENTRE FOR RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY HELLAS	CERTH
	FBCD AS	FBCD
	SUSTAINABLE INNOVATIONS EUROPE SL	SIE
	WHITE RESEARCH SRL	WR
	PEDAL CONSULTING SRO	PED
	EUROPEAN DAIRY FARMERS E.V.	EDF
	EUROPEAN BIOGAS ASSOCIATION AISBL	EBA

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