Agricultural methanisation:
What are the conditions for the sustainability of the sector? A focus on France

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The context of the study: rapid and ambitious biomethane development in France

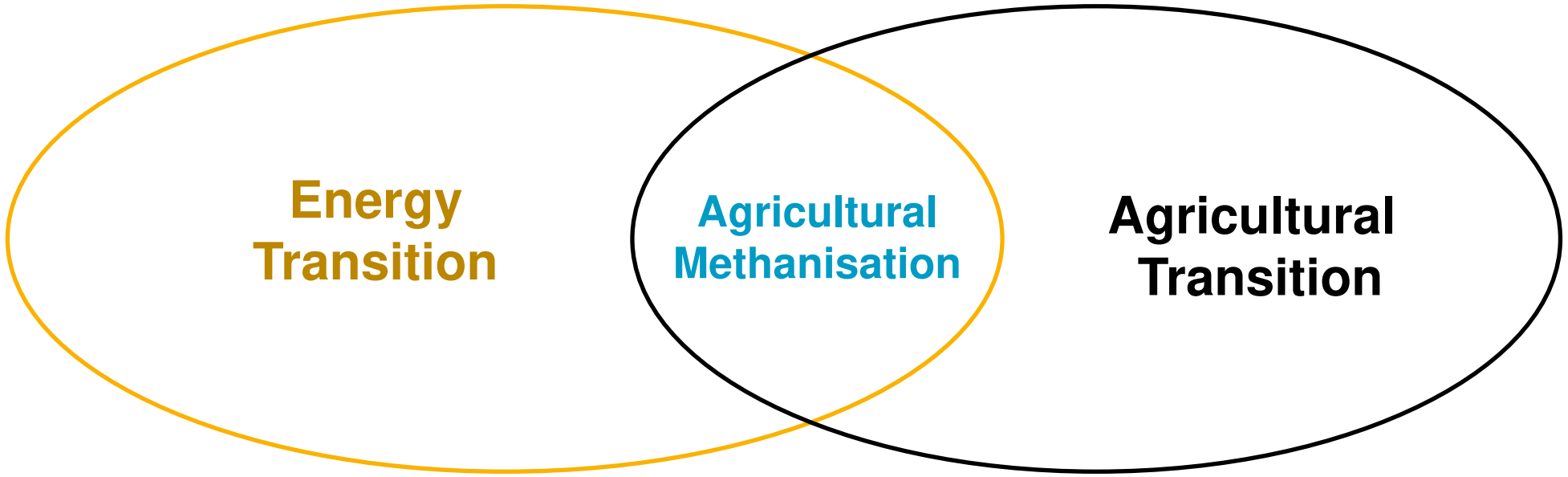
1. Today, an increasing biomethane production

- **155 sites** injecting in the French gas grid today (a capacity of 2.7 TWh/year)
- +1 new biomethane plant per week connected to the grid
- **> 1,000 projects** in the capacity register
- **10%** of the gas demand in 2030 covered by renewable gas in the Law

2. Long-term, a 100% renewable gas demand

- 100% renewable gas supply is **possible in 2050** according to ADEME (public agency)
- Biomethane from anaerobic digestion will represent **30% of the renewable gas**
- Feedstock will come significantly from **agriculture residues**

Biogas from agriculture: at the crossroad of two major sectoral challenges



⇒ **How to guarantee the compatibility of an ambitious development of the sector with a sustainable agricultural model ?**

"Agricultural methanisation: What are the conditions for the sustainability of the sector?"

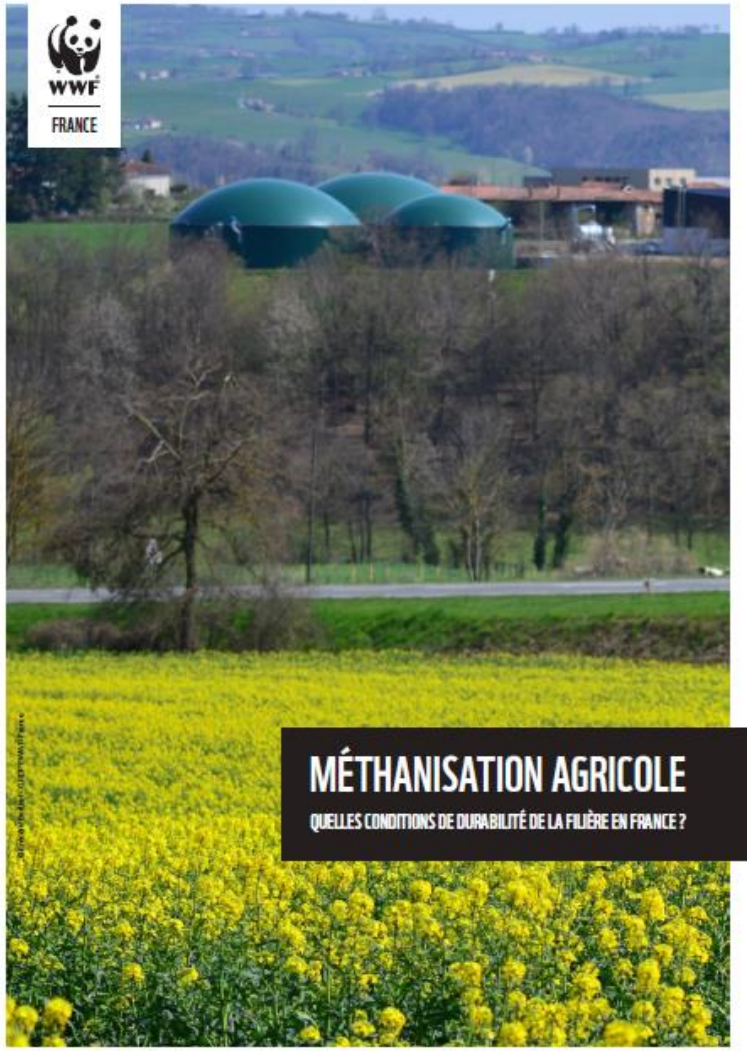
Objective: identify sustainable agricultural conditions/practices and remaining questions (sustainability framework)

Ambition: establish a sustainability framework to accompany the development of the sector

Methodology: 4 technical workshops during the year 2019 (roundtables, feedbacks, brainstorming) in collaboration with the stakeholders (research institutes, institutions, farmers, NGOs…)

Results: a **report published in March 2020** as reference

- presenting **a shared vision** of the sustainability framework for the sector
- presenting an **initial assessment** of the sustainability of the sector
- formulating **recommendations** to enrich, clarify, disseminate and implement sustainability conditions and practices.



Recommandations

1. **Strengthen a common base that promotes the respect of conditions of sustainability**

2. **Continue research and experimentation**

3. **Support the professionalisation of the sector**

4. **Enhance the integration of methanisation projects in their territory.**

Conclusions

Methanisation done respecting good practices is a key enabler for transition to agro-ecology, development of rural circular economy and renewable energy.

- ✓ A vision of **the conditions for the sustainability** of agricultural methanisation
- ✓ A review of **knowledge and outstanding issues** for the development of intermediate crops and the return of digestate to the soil
- ✓ **A balance** between agricultural and energy interests must be found and conditions favourable to its maintain must be created
- ✓ The sector must develop in an **agro-ecological direction**
- ✓ This work is intended to be disseminated and deepened, and should serve as a basis for further reflection (operational and territorial aspects)

Thank you for your attention

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