Potential ways the gas industry can contribute to the reduction of methane emissions

Coordinated by gie and marcogaz

GIF and MARCOGA7 together with representatives from the entire gas chain, are committed to building a culture towards net zero methane

Methane emissions management and reduction is top priority for the European gas industry.

#### Why focus on methane?

Methane (CH,) is the second most abundant greenhouse gas (GHG) after carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). Its GHG effect is significantly stronger in the short term, making it more potent than the CO. effect. However, it has a shorter atmospheric lifespan - on average 8-12 years - compared to CO, which persists in the atmosphere for centuries.

The following figures show the EU GHG emissions and the EU CH, emissions per source.



Source: Elaborated by the authors based on European Environment Agency GHG report

The gas industry considers minimisation of methane emissions as an opportunity to actively contribute to short-term mitigation of climate change, accelerate environmental commitments and further enhance the environmental value of natural gas.

### Methane emissions management is not a new topic for the gas industry

Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 on the Governance of the EU requires the European Commission (EC) to propose an EU strategic plan for methane, which will become an integral part of an EU longterm climate strategy to meet the commitments of the Paris Aareement.

GIE and MARCOGAZ conducted an industry-wide study on the potential ways that the gas industry can contribute to the reduction of methane emissions, with contributions from representatives of entire gas value chain, from production to utilisation, including biomethane plants.

> The gas industry has established a systematic approach to identify, detect, quantify, report, verify and reduce its methane emissions. This is essential to close the current knowledge gap and allocation of capital and human resources to target and mitigate methane emissions at the lowest



Identification

The gas industry has different **tools** and technologies to detect and quantify methane emissions.

Detection

Ouantification

There is continuous progress in both science and technology to improve the accuracy of the methane emissions data.

A large number of best available techniques (**BAT**) to reduce methane emissions have been developed and the gas industry is already implementing them on a voluntary basis.

**Innovation** on technologies (such as drones, satellites and digitalisation) and methodologies is key to the further detection and reduction of methane emissions.

## The gas sector is fully committed

Many gas operators have voluntarily The EU gas industry made a set emission reduction targets for commitment to work clear the next years. with the regulators and other sector stakeholders to ensure the development of effective policies toward net zero methane emissions in the FU.





#### Outputs

The report contains a set of recommendations, based on the identified list of challenges and gaps to reduce methane emissions along the EU gas value chain.

#### What is next?

GIE and MARCOGAZ will focus the next steps on the development of an industry-wide action plan and on sharing the report findings via a series of dissemination activities and training programmes.

> GIE and MARCOGAZ encourage the gas industry to support the next steps and to join the action!

The gas industry is committed to seize the opportunity

# To download the full report, please visit our website at:

https://www.gie.eu/index.php/ gie-publications/methaneemission-report-2019

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