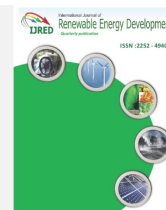




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## Biogas Production in Dairy Farming in Indonesia: A Challenge for Sustainability

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**ABSTRACT:** Biogas plays an important role in supporting and ensuring the dairy farming sector remains sustainable. Biogas technology is not only as a method to dispose dairy farming waste but also benefiting economically, socially and environmentally. Biogas technology has been introduced since 1970s and many biogas programmes have been implemented in Indonesia. However compare to other countries like China and India, the dissemination of biogas technology in Indonesia runs quite slowly. There are several factors such as financial, policies and people's perception hindering biogas use regarding the increase of biogas plants installed in Indonesia. In addition, many installed biogas plants are non-functional due to inadequate maintenance causing users stop to operate biogas plants and influencing potential users to reject adopting the technology. This paper provides an overview of biogas production sustainability which consists of five sustainability dimensions: technical, economic, social, environmental and organizational/institutional sustainability. Understanding the biogas sustainability helps stakeholders to realize that in order to promote biogas technology many sectors must be developed and many institutions must be involved and cooperated. The sustainability of biogas will determine the success of biogas dissemination particularly in dairy farming in the future.

**Keywords:** biogas, dairy farming, sustainability

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### 1. Introduction

The dairy farming sector in Indonesia shows a good trend indicated by an increase in the dairy cattle population with average growth 10.74% during the period 2008-2012 (BPS2014). The majority of dairy farming is small scale farming which has an average three to five cows per farm and owned by individual farmers (IFC 2011).

Indonesia, a country with 248.8 million population and population growth 1.37% in 2013, still imports 70% of bulk dairy demand (BPS 2014; Bahri 2008). Hence, Indonesia is a big and attractive market for milk businesses and there are many opportunities in future to develop the dairy farming sector in this country. Therefore the Indonesian government strongly supports the development of dairy industries and has a target to achieve self-sufficiency in milk production by 2020 (Herawati & Priyanto 2013).

However the willingness of the Indonesian government to develop dairy farming faces many barriers. One of the problems in dairy farming is related to waste management. Waste from dairy cows' excretion becomes big problem due to the quantity and quality faeces and urine produced (The Japan Institute of Energy 2008). A study about waste management in small scale dairy farming in West Java, Indonesia showed that farmers dump big portion of faeces and urine from their dairy farms to the river (Table 1).

Anaerobic digestion (AD) has the potential for waste management in dairy farming with useful by-products and providing an environmentally sustainable energy. Biogas is produced through AD that is the process for the treatment of organic materials like manure in the absence of oxygen (Wilkinson 2011). China and India are leading countries in domestic biogas production in the World. By 2010, China and India installed about 40 million and 4.5 million domestic biogas plants, respectively (SNV 2011).

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**Table 1**  
Dairy wastes handling in the Upper Citarum Watershed, West Java, Indonesia

Handling	Type of Waste (%)			
	Faeces	Urine	Forage refusal	Concentrate
Dump to the river	30.0	95.0	18.8	7.5
Larger portion for compost making	42.5	2.5	40.0	8.8
Smaller portion for compost making	7.5	1.3	8.8	1.3
Used directly as organic fertilizer	10.0	1.3	3.8	0.0
Sold to others	8.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Burnt	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
No left over	n.a.	n.a.	21.3	82.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(Parikesit *et al.* 2005); n.a.: not applicable

The dissemination of biogas is believed having contributions to sustainable development particularly on millennium development goals (MDGs) but the extent of biogas has correlation to sustainable development not clear enough (Gosens *et al.* 2013). The objective of this paper is to provide an overview of biogas production sustainability particularly in dairy farming in Indonesia by identifying and explaining sustainability indicators. The sustainability of biogas plants operations and programmes from other countries is necessary provided to compare that of in Indonesia.

The paper is organised as follows: **Section 1** provides the importance of the study as introduction. **Section 2** presents the overview of biogas technology including properties of biogas, factors that influencing of anaerobic digestion performance, and bio digesters type. **Section 3** reviews five dimensions of sustainability including the indicators; and finally, **section 4** contains conclusion of the paper.

## 2. Review on biogas technology

In this section, we only review about the technology which has close correlation with the sustainability. For instance, type of biogas plants that commonly used by dairy farmers is necessary reviewed because it has close correlation with economic sustainability. Therefore, there are no in-depth discussion about bio-chemical process and conversion of organic waste into biogas.

### 2.1 Properties of Biogas

Biogas is mainly composed of methane, a combustible gas, and carbon dioxide (Table 2). Due to containing incombustible material like carbon dioxide, the caloric value of biogas (produced from manure) is lower than pure methane that are around 4800-6700 kCal/m<sup>3</sup> and 8900 kCal/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively (Widodo & Hendriadi 2005).

The energy content of biogas is higher than energy content of traditional biomass such as fuel wood, charcoal and cow dung (Lam & Heegde 2011). Energy content of biogas is lower compare to fossil fuel but biogas is cleaner and more sustainable. Due to its

characteristic, biogas is an excellent substitute to fossil fuels and biomass fuels for electricity generation, cooking and heating (Massé *et al.* 2011).

**Table 2**  
Composition of biogas

Compound	Chemical symbol	Content (%Vol)
Methane	CH <sub>4</sub>	50-75
Carbon dioxide	CO <sub>2</sub>	25-45
Water vapour	H <sub>2</sub> O	2 (20°C)
Oxygen	O <sub>2</sub>	<2
Nitrogen	N <sub>2</sub>	<2
Ammonia	NH <sub>3</sub>	<1
Hydrogen	H <sub>2</sub>	<1
Hydrogen sulphide	H <sub>2</sub> S	<1

(Al Seadi *et al.* 2008)

### 2.2 Influencing factors of AD

The composition and the yield of biogas differ to some degree depending on many factors. Some factors relate to management in AD operation such as type of substrates, pH and substrate preparation while other factors relates to construction quality and design of reactor (digester) like hydraulic retention time (HRT) and gas tightness. However, factors related to construction and design of reactor do not become main attention because the construction and design of digester for digesting substrate from dairy farming and other sources are relatively same.

In the dairy production system, biogas technology can be used both for digesting manure or co-digesting manure with other organic materials that are available in dairy farms (El-Mashad & Zhang 2010). The literature shows that co-digestion of dairy cow manure and switch grass (Zheng *et al.* 2015), cocoa shell (Rico *et al.* 2014), cotton gin waste and organic fraction of municipal solid waste (Macias-Corral *et al.* 2008) and food waste (El-Mashad & Zhang 2010) improve the biogas yields.

The presence of inhibitor like oxygen and toxic materials gives significant adverse impacts on biogas production (Clemens *et al.* 2006; Frac & Ziemiński 2012). Oxygen initiates an alternative decomposition which does not produce a combustible gas. The use of detergent for cleaning stable and medicine for cows has to be managed properly. Toxic materials, for instance detergents, will inhibit the metabolism and growth of microorganisms results in reduced biogas production.

In an anaerobic digestion, many different species of microorganisms work together performing very complex biological and biochemical process to form biogas (Schnürer & Jarvis 2010).

### 2.3 Type of biogas plants

Commonly, there are three types of material that used for making biogas digester in Indonesia: plastic tubular, fibreglass, and concrete (fixed dome). The benefits and disbenefits of each type of digester are showed in Table 3.

## 3. Selection of Sustainability Indicators

This section reviews on sustainability dimension of biogas production particularly in dairy farming. The term sustainability in this paper refers to the definition of sustainable development in the Brundtland Report. Sustainability defined as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (Ilskog 2008).

International organization like United Nation (United Nations 2007) suggested lists of sustainability indicators. However in some cases, the indicators are very general and not relevance for local case. Therefore in this paper we try to identify the indicators that derived from five dimensions of sustainability proposed by Ilskog (Ilskog 2008). The sustainability dimensions consist of technical, economical, social/ethical, environmental and institutional sustainability.

### 3.1 Technical Sustainability

Technical sustainability refers to sustainability of material and support service that ensure the operation of biogas plants running well and not face major problems.

#### 3.1.1 Feedstock Availability

**Table 3**

The benefits and disbenefits of different types of biogas digester

	Concrete (Fixed dome)	Fibre glass	Balloon
Benefits	Low initial costs and long useful life-span; no moving or rusting parts involved; basic design is compact, saves space and is well insulated; construction creates local employment.	Permanent quality control at the factory; good air tightness and long service life; good insulation effect; light and easily transported; short construction periods.	Low cost, ease of transportation, low construction sophistication, high digester temperatures, uncomplicated cleaning, emptying and maintenance; short construction periods.
Disbenefits	The frequent problems with the gas-tightness; The gas pressure fluctuates substantially relying on the volume of the stored gas; long construction periods.	High cost of raw materials and fluctuations in prices; floating where high underground water level persists.	The relatively short live spans, high susceptibility to damage, little creation of local employment; and inconvenient feeding and discharge

(Cheng *et al.* 2013)(Kossmann *et al.*)

In general, manure and water are needed as feedstock to operate biogas plants especially in dairy farming. Therefore, the amount of available manure and water must be enough to feed and match the digester size.

Manure, a mix of faeces and urine, from dairy cows has a potential as a feedstock of biogas due to its quantity (Table 4) and properties like volatile solid content (Moody *et al.* 2011).

**Table 4**

The standard of dairy cows excretion

Classification	Amount (kg/ head/day)	
	Faeces	Urine
Lactating cows	45,5	13,4
Non lactating cows	29,7	6,1
Heifer	17,9	6,7

(The Japan Institute of Energy 2008)

The number of dairy cattle in certain area can be used to predict the potential of manure produced and biogas technology developed. About 98% of dairy cows population in Indonesia are concentrated in Java Island, the most populated island in Indonesia, spreading in East Java (Jawa Timur) province 50.45%, Central Java (Jawa Tengah) province 25.23% and West Java (Jawa Barat) province 22.23% (BPS 2014). Surprisingly, about 57% of dairy cows population was located in only five regencies as follows: Malang and Pasuruan in East Java, Boyolali and Semarang in Central Java and Bandung/West Bandung in West Java (IFC 2011).

The second important feedstock to run biogas plants is water. Water availability plays two important roles to ensure anaerobic digestion running well. First, the first stage of anaerobic digestion is hydrolysis which the water is needed to decompose complex organic matter such as polysaccharide, protein and lipid into smaller units such as monosaccharide, amino acids and volatile fatty acids. Second, water has to be added into manure to prevent manure too thick by maintaining total solid (TS) content of the dilution from 7 to 10 percent.

Generally, the decrease of water addition ratio will decrease the production of biogas (Putri, Saputro, &

Budiyono 2012). Even, lack of water can cause biogas plants stopped working (Mwakaje 2008). However, one

of benefits developing biogas in dairy farming is dairy farming consuming lots of water for both drinking and cleaning the cows and stall. Farmers can use the cleaning water as a biogas feedstock. Cleaning is very important in dairy farm activity to prevent contamination of milk and to reduce risk of cow's diseases like mastitis.

### 3.1.2 Support services availability

One of problems regarding sustainability of biogas in Indonesian is that biogas programme from the government does not cover the development of supporting industries (SNV 2011). Business sectors which supply fabricated biogas digesters (fibre glass and plastic digesters), spare parts, appliances, masons etc, are needed to support biogas sustainability.

In developing countries, about 50% of biogas plants are non-functional due to lack of maintenance and repair of existing facilities (Bond & Templeton 2011). An (1997) stated that one of the main factors causing the low acceptance of concrete (fixed dome) digester that difficulties in obtaining spare parts for replacement.

Most of traditional dairy farmers in Indonesia live in rural areas and find difficulties to access repair facilities and shops selling spare part where generally located in cities. Without repair facilities or spare part shops nearby, it will be time-consuming and increase the cost. Hence, future of biogas technology depends on developing adequate servicing networks (Bhattacharyya 2012).

## 3.2 Economic Sustainability

Economic sustainability in this paper more focuses on a macro-economic point of view rather than micro-economic point of view (financial analysis). Macro-economic considers externalities due to project execution and has broader scope than financial analysis (e.g. net present value, simple pay-back period, internal rate of return)(Chakrabarty *et al.* 2013). However, short description about financial analysis of biogas investment in Indonesia is showed to understand the reason why financial support is needed.

### 3.2.1 Financial support

Since cost of biogas constructions is unaffordable for traditional dairy farmers, lack of funding becomes main reason for potential biogas users to reject adopting biogas (Listyawati, Meidiana, & Anggraeni 2014). Without considering the interest of investment, the simple pay-back period of biogas investment in Indonesia is 4-6 years (Widodo *et al.* 2009; Rosyidi *et al.* 2014) or even the investment is not able to meet economic feasibility (Budiarto *et al.* 2013).

Without financial support, it is hard for traditional dairy farmers to finance their plants by their own money. Not surprisingly, the majority of biogas installation in Indonesia is partially or fully funded by

the Indonesian government or other organizations such as banks, dairy companies and cooperatives. Sun *et al.*(2014) revealed the number of domestic biogas digesters in China increasing dramatically due to the subsidy program,

The Indonesian government, both national and local government, generally provides financial support in two ways, grant (direct and indirect) and loan. The government (mainly local government) gives grant directly (without intermediary organization) to farmers for building biogas plants. The government also provides indirect grant through some organizations like Hivos to run biogas programmes including biogas construction and training.

Since 2000, the Indonesian government has been launching low interest loan called loan for food and energy security through some national banks and people can use the loans for building biogas. However, it is not easy for farmers to access the loan due to lack of promotion, complicated procedures, and limited collateral ownership (Sayaka & Rivai 2011).

### 3.2.2 Contribution to income generation

Study in Tanzania shows that average annual farm income for households who adopt biogas is significantly higher than the income for non-adopters (Laramée & Davis 2013). Biogas adopters can sell their biogas and slurry, a by-product of biogas plant, as organic fertilizer to increase their income generation (Nurmalina & Riesti 2010; Sharma & Nema 2013). In Pati regency, Central Java, the owner of 18m<sup>3</sup> biogas installation provides biogas for 5 customers and get about IDR 15,000 (US\$ 1.2) per month per customer (household) or IDR 75,000 (US\$ 6) per month in total (Wahyudi 2013).

However, the problem is that the price of biogas and fertilizer cannot follow the price of other energy carriers. The price of biogas is same for every customer even though the customers who have different family size consume different amount of biogas. The price of biogas usually cheaper than the price of LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) and the price nearly increases even though the price of LPG always grows. LPG becomes a main source for domestic cooking in Indonesia after the introduction of LPG in 2007. On the one hand, it is good for customers because they spend less money. On the other hand, it is not good because the biogas owner receive less revenue.

### 3.2.3 Reducing household expense

Farmers who adopt biogas can also save their money by using slurry for fertilizer in their own fields and by using biogas for cooking, lighting and electricity (Purwono, Suyanta, & Rahbini 2013; Widyastuti, Purwanto, & Hadiyanto 2013). Biogas is a good option for substituting LPG as the main source of cooking energy in areas where people install biogas indicated by the substantially lower LPG consumption rate (Bedi *et al.* 2012).

Studies in dairy farms in Haurngombong village, Sumedang, West Java, show that a five-member family of biogas user saved IDR75,000 (US\$ 6) per month for substituting LPG (Alamsyah & Hermawati 2011). Moreover, people in the village also reduced their electricity bill since the biogas also used for supplying electricity for 40 households for 3 hours (18.00-21.00) (Hartiningsih & Setiawan 2011).

Another survey was conducted to 157 biogas households in 9 provinces in Indonesia showing the result that after using biogas, the biogas users can save per month up to IDR 158,981 (US\$ 12), IDR 40,152 (US\$ 3) and IDR 43,615 (US\$ 3.3) from kerosene, LPG and firewood purchase, respectively (Hivos 2014a).

### 3.2.4 Contribution to employment generation

Adoption of biogas also has the potential to create employment in the district and countrywide (Mwakaje 2008). Chakrabarty *et al.* (2013) revealed that biogas plants create two types of employment or job opportunities: organizational employment and household-based employment. The development of biogas sector in Indonesia encourages the creation of jobs and new biogas business sectors (contractors, masons, training institutions, input suppliers). In Indonesia, it will be predicted 1,000 jobs created by 2016 due to the activity of Hivos in biogas business (Hivos 2014b).

Moreover, by installing biogas enables household to create job opportunities. Household can create productive works such as gardening, fishing and culinary business because biogas provide good quality energy and offers more spare time for family members so that they can use the time to run business.

## 3.3 Social Sustainability

### 3.3.1 Contribution to human health

Dairy cows' excretion contains hazardous material like pathogenic bacteria and causes problems in sanitation and human health (Avery *et al.* 2014; Prasetyo & Herawati 2011). The waste can contaminate ground and river water and creates problems on human health since most of people in Indonesia use the water for drinking and washing. Due to the water and odour pollutions, dairy farming activities often raises complaints from their neighbours since most of the dairy farming in Indonesia is situated in densely populated areas.

Utilizing biogas improves human health and sanitation (Chand *et al.* 2012; Massé *et al.* 2011). AD can reduce a diverse range of pathogens contained in livestock manure that can lead to disease (Avery *et al.* 2014) and offers significant reduction of odoriferous substances (Al Seadi *et al.* 2008). Cooking by using biogas can mitigate indoor air pollution causing eye infections and respiratory problems due to burning firewood or other biomass.

### 3.3.2 Contribution to promote gender equality

The term "gender" not only refers to the biological differences, but more emphasis on the social roles performed by women and men (Clancy & Roehr 2003). In gender point of view, expanding energy access through technology intervention has connections with easing the burdens of women, increasing leisure activities, improving health, education, access to information and community involvement (Oparaocha & Dutta 2011).

In traditional dairy farmer's households, women have responsibility in cooking activities including cleaning utensils and providing fuel for cooking while men have responsibility to manage farm including operating biogas installation. The literature reveal that the installation of biogas plants at the household offers women more advantages compared to men and provides better opportunities for gender equality in rural areas (Kabir *et al.* 2013; Surendra *et al.* 2014).

In areas where people use fuel wood for cooking, using clean energy like biogas reduces the risk of women and child exposed to indoor smoke pollution and prevents them from possibly getting respiratory diseases (Ding *et al.* 2014). Biogas reduces women's labour intensity for cleaning utensils and collecting fuel wood so that it offers more spare time and women can use the time for education activities and participation in public activities (Lam & Heegde 2011; Ding *et al.* 2014). One concern when using LPG in Indonesia is the frequent accidents on the use of LPG that reported by mass media causing many people feels insecure using LPG (Budya & Arofat 2011). Compared to LPG, biogas is more secure for women working in the kitchen because of its properties and safety system.

### 3.4 Environmental Sustainability

Environmentally, biogas contributes to GHG emissions reduction by substituting dirtier energy carriers, substituting chemical fertilizer and changing waste management (Clemens *et al.* 2006). Biogas is a renewable energy source to substitute and to reduce fossil fuel and biomass use. Substitution of kerosene, fuel wood and cattle dung cake with biogas as fuel for cooking reduced GHG emission (Pathak *et al.* 2009).

Slurry contains nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and other minerals so that it can replace and reduce the usage of chemical fertilizer (Marañón *et al.* 2011). The GHG emission due to fossil fuel combustion for the chemical synthesis of nitrogen fertilizers is around 1% of total anthropogenic GHG emissions (Scialabba & Muller-Lindenlauf 2010).

Globally, the dairy sector contributes 4% of the total global anthropogenic GHG emissions (FAO 2010). Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) are the most important GHG emitted from dairy farming due to their percentage and global warming potential (GWP). Over 50% of total GHG emissions from the dairy sector is contributed by CH<sub>4</sub> and followed by N<sub>2</sub>O which

contributes to between 30–40% of total emissions (FAO 2010). Methane and nitrous oxide have GWP 25 and 298 times higher than CO<sub>2</sub>, respectively.

CH<sub>4</sub> emission from manure management is mainly generated during manure storage. Amon *et al.* (2006) studied the reduction of GHG emissions in five differently treated (no treatment; slurry separation; AD; slurry aeration and straw cover) of dairy cattle manure. The study revealed that AD was the best way to reduce GHG emissions compared to other options. AD provides also controlled CH<sub>4</sub> emission during storage and by burning CH<sub>4</sub>; it will be converted into CO<sub>2</sub> that has a less GWP compared to CH<sub>4</sub>.

Direct N<sub>2</sub>O emissions occur due to the activity of microorganism utilizing nitrogen in manure through nitrification and denitrification processes while indirect N<sub>2</sub>O emissions from manure occur from leaching, runoff and volatilisation of nitrogen (Cornejo & Wilkie, 2010). AD reduces carbon and dry matter content of manure which reduces NH<sub>3</sub> emissions after slurry application as fertilizer and prevents microorganism to form N<sub>2</sub>O during manure storage (Amon *et al.* 2006; Schnürer & Jarvis 2010).

### 3.5 Institutional Sustainability

#### 3.5.1 Stakeholder participation

Stakeholder is defined as actors or institutions that involve and support biogas development spreading in national, provincial and local levels. Support can be given in the form of policy, financial and technical supports and every actor/institution can play in one or multiple roles. The development of biogas was highly affected by national policy, but capability of local actors determined the sustainability of biogas development (Falde & Eklund 2014).

Government institutions are the main actor for developing renewable energy including biogas in Indonesia. Many government institutions in the national level involve in renewable energy sector, whereas The Directorate General of New and Renewable Energy, under Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (MEMR), is the main actor for new and renewable energy development in Indonesia.

Since the Indonesia government implemented a decentralization policy in 2004, local government plays very an important role in implementing policies in all sectors. According to Indonesian energy law number 30, year 2007, along with vertical institutions (national and provincial level), the local government has roles in energy sector including planning and policy implementation. Political factors (e.g. complex corruption, decentralization, lack of coordination) have been becoming main obstacle of renewable energy support in Indonesia since many horizontally and vertically institutions involve and play in different roles in the sector (Marquardt 2014).

Both national and international non-governmental organizations (NGO) contribute mainly in technical and capacity building aspects of biogas development. Local NGO like LPTP (Institute for Rural Technology Development) and SLI (Indonesian Land Care) together with international organizations run biogas programme in many parts of Indonesia. Hivos with assistance from SNV, a Dutch non-profit organisation, has built more than 11,000 units of small-scale biogas digesters in nine provinces of Indonesia during the period 2009-2013 (Hivos 2014a).

Nestle, a dairy company, together with its partners contributes in biogas sector by providing loan without interest for building biogas and disseminating the technology in its milk procurement area in East Java (SNV 2011; Bedi *et al.* 2012). Alamsyah & Hermawati, (2011) revealed that some stakeholders namely PLN (Indonesia's national electricity company), the academe and dairy cooperatives gave significant contribution for developing biogas in Haurngombong village, West Java. PLN provided technological assistance to convert biogas into electricity, the academe contributed in technical assistance and knowledge development, and dairy cooperatives contributed in funding assistance.

Even though many institutions contribute in RE sector including biogas, the development of RE sector in Indonesia shows lower achievement compared to India. Singh & Setiawan (2013) found three institutional problems in RE sector in Indonesia: 1) no dedicated institutions dealing with the RE sector at the ministerial level, 2) no financial institution dedicated to funding the development, 3) no dedicated institution focusing on human resource and knowledge development. There is no institution having data regarding the number of digester installed in Indonesia year by year so that quite difficult to evaluate the development of biogas in Indonesia.

#### 3.5.2 Capacity Building

Capacity building programme aims to develop the capacity of existing organizations and institutions and to facilitate establishment of organizations and institutions for sustainability of the biogas sector (Hivos, 2014a). Allocating adequate funding for capacity building program is one of key success of the government of China to promote biogas dissemination (Sun *et al.* 2014).

Most of biogas programmes in Indonesia which are run both under government and non government organization programmes only focus on introducing biogas as alternative energy by building biogas installations without considering building capacity of users and masons prior to install the biogas digester. The success of the implementation generally is measured mainly from the number of biogas installed while monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness and continuity of biogas operations are not main concern.



Capacity building and community assistance in terms of transferring the knowledge provide positive impact in sustainability biogas operations, particularly in rural areas (Rosyidia *et al.* 2014; Herdiawan, Kurnami, & Astuti 2014). Normal functioning of biogas plants relies 30% on construction quality, but 70% on post-installation management (SNV 2011). Training for mason aims to prevent design and construction fault resulting in low performance of biogas digester. Meanwhile, training for biogas users where generally live in rural areas purposes to make sure the users can operate and manage biogas plant well.

Even though the application of biogas technology in Indonesia faces several technical barriers such as malfunction of the reactor, non-user friendly design and manually handling (Widodo *et al.* 2009), actually institutional aspect is the main barrier to proliferate the implementation of biogas in Indonesia. Most of technical barriers can be overcome by strengthening capacity of actors who involve in technical sector.

#### 4. Conclusion

Indonesia has abundant potential to develop biogas technology in dairy farming and the potential will be predicted increase since the development of dairy farming sector in Indonesia also shows a good trend. However, the development of biogas in Indonesia does not considers many indicators of sustainability (e.g. supporting services availability, capacity building, political factors) resulting in slower development compared to some Asian countries.

About 67% of poor people in Indonesia live in rural areas and have occupation in agriculture sector including livestock sector (Swastika 2011). Biogas technology has not only potentials to tackle the negative impact of livestock waste but also to alleviate poverty by supporting agriculture including livestock sector, providing clean energy, improving human health. The success of biogas dissemination in Indonesia will give significant contribution to development of rural areas where most of dairy farming located.

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