

**Question for written answer E-003031/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Viorica Dăncilă (S&D)**

Subject: Monitoring of biogas generation

Heating housing in rural areas is a tricky issue for local and regional authorities. Benefits can be derived from installing small-scale biogas facilities in such areas as these use organic waste to generate biogas through a process of anaerobic fermentation.

This can then be used to fuel internal combustion engines and power electricity generators, and also to produce hot water in homes. This would help conserve woodland by stopping the illegal felling of trees for use as firewood.

How does the Commission envisage working with the Member States to create a type of monitoring system – involving scientists, environmental educators and representatives of the business, farming and energy generation sectors – the role of which would be to survey and analyse the market and its development as well as its future prospects, against the backdrop of the need to fulfil the EU's targets in respect of renewable energies?

This system might also have an educational aim, given that it touches on new prospects and challenges in the field of biomethane generation, which is a relatively new sector of the economy.