

# Decentralized Energy from Invasive Water Weed

Can Tho, Vietnam, 30 October 2020



# MILLENNIUM BIO ENERGY VISION

#### • <u>Food</u>

Water Hyacinth infestation harms fishery. Removing water Hyacinth restores biodiversity and the food production that depends on it

#### • <u>Energy</u>

Electrifying rural areas is expensive. Biomass based electricity can be run standalone and sustainably at low cost

#### • <u>Water</u>

Water Hyacinth contains 90% water. Recovering the water as drinking water uplifts living conditions

#### <u>Millennium Goals</u>

We are part of the Local community and participation in local well-being in the form of contribution to millennium objectives





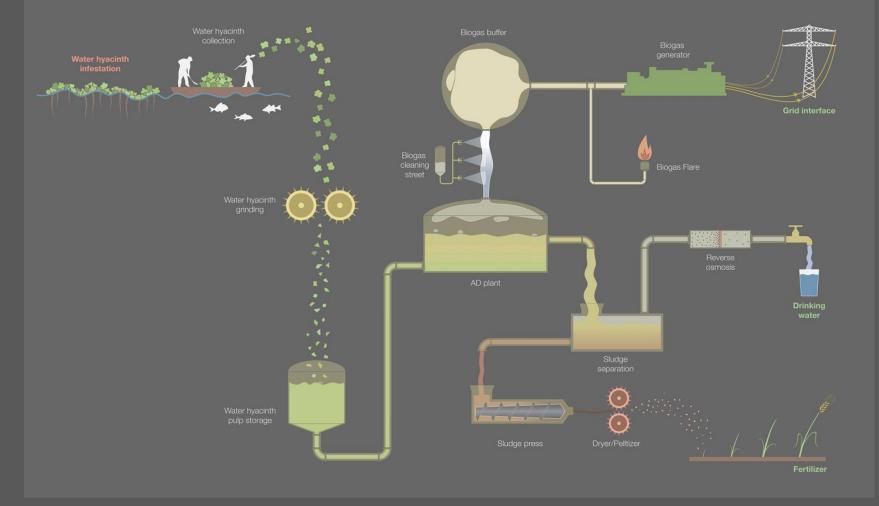






HARVESTING

## INTRODUCTION



DIGESTION ENERGY & FERTILISER



# WATER WEED INFESTATIONS

#### <u>Water Hyacinth</u>

- Most invasive plant in the world
- Major threat to biodiversity
- Reproduces every 5 15 days
- Seeds can survive up to 30 years

#### <u>Water Weed Infestations</u>

- Completely covers water way
- o Blocks transportation and traffic
- o Blocks sunlight from reaching underwater ecosystem
- Rotting plants cause acidification of water body and kills fish
- Infestations weight 500 ton/ha slows the flow of water
- Evaporation is up to six times higher than open water

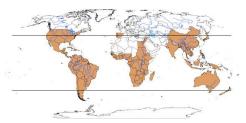
#### Maintenance Solutions by MBE

- Harvesting
- o Chemical
- $\rightarrow$  Grows back in 5-15 days
- $\rightarrow$  Costly and kills all other life
- o Biological
- $\rightarrow$  Replacing one pest by another











## ANAEROBIC DIGESTION

#### Reactor Design

- o 3-Stage, Plug Flow Design
- o Designed to deal with very wet biomass by University of Florida
- o Solids Retention Time is 25 days, Hydraulic Retention Time is 11 days
- o Modular Design for redundancy, resilience and scalability
- o Pre-Selected microbes allow fast starting and reduce downtime
- o In principle, generic AD technology, but tuned for water weed

#### Proven Solution

- The technology has been used in a dedicated water hyacinth power installation in India, for more than 14 years, uninterruptedly
- o Can be used with any green waste

## Water Weed Energy Potential

Delivers 80 m<sub>3</sub> of biogas per ton raw biomass
1 MWhe = 6,25 ton raw biomass

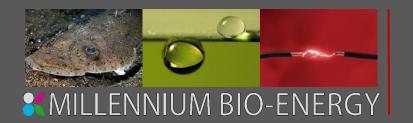
## Gas Cleaning and Storage

- o Gas Storage for homogeneous delivery to generator
- o Gas Buffering for electricity demand fluctuations









## ENERGY AND FERTILISER

#### Decentralized Electricity Production

- o On or off-grid
- o Optimal production scale is 5 MW
- Economic viability is determined by the cost of electricity and waste management
- o Carbon-neutral or Carbon-negative

#### Digestate is an excellent Fertiliser base

- o Low K, high N & P
- o Alkaline, so good for pest control

### Larger Scale Installation can Produce CO2

- CO2 is byproduct of digestion
- o Important product for food & beverage, industry and health care
- o Green replacement for fossil-fuel based CO2
- o CO2 refineries, Processing and Storage are industry-standard
- $\circ\,$  1 ton raw Water Hyacinth produces 60 kg of CO2
- $_{\mbox{\scriptsize 0}}$  1 MWh of electricity delivers 380 kg of CO2









# MILLENNIUM BIO ENERGY SUMMARY

### Circular Solution

- Water weed is used for waste to value conversion
- o Value conversion generates money to manage water weeds
- Economic viability is a choice: how much value does waste management carry?

#### Economic impact

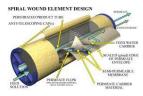
- o Water weed management mitigates water weed misery
- o Energy availability supports economic growth
- MBE installation creates "green" employment

#### Ecological impact

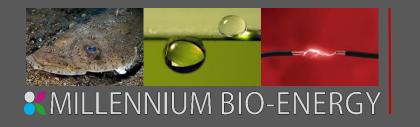
- o Water weed management protects water availability and safety
- o Water weed management protects biodiversity and food security
- o Energy availability supports economic growth
- MBE installation creates "green" employment











## THANKYOU

