

Category	: International Rice Research Conference
Select Theme	: Climate change and environmental sustainability
Endorsement email	:
Keyword 1	: Mitigation of climate change
Keyword 2	: Crop residue management
Keyword 3	: Multidimensional sustainability (environment, economic, social, governance)
Title of Entry	: Village-Scale Biogas Production from Rice Straw
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Select only one type of presentation	: 15 minute oral presentation

Abstract : Of all the world's crops, rice is by far the greatest contributor to climate change, due largely to the production of methane from organic matter in flooded paddy fields. This can be reduced by removing straw from that environment after harvest, but there are significant logistical challenges to be overcome. Emissions can be further reduced by using the rice straw to make carbon saving products such as food, renewable fuel and fertiliser, but these options are currently under-developed. The Rice Straw to Biogas (R2B) Project demonstrates how the obstacles can be overcome by using a novel system of rice straw collection, pre-treatment and processing into biogas and fertiliser using a new 'dry' anaerobic digestion technology. The system is the first of its kind in the world and has been established at a community scale in the Philippines, drawing on straw from around 50 hectares of double-cropped, irrigated rice fields. The project, jointly funded by the UK Government and two private companies, runs from March 2017 to February 2020: initial results will be presented here, along with valuable lessons learned.

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