

# Biogas Program

## *Economic Development Program*

For Endang, the Biogas program is not merely about helping her business. More than that, this program enabled her to provide jobs for her neighbors.

Endang, a resident of Sumurpandan, Gayam Village, Bojonegoro, started her catering business in 2009. At that time, the resources were limited. Moreover, Endang needed to spend extra cost to purchase about three LPG cans a month for cooking. Thus, she could only accept a relatively small number of snack orders.



Five years later, ExxonMobil Cepu Limited (EMCL), in collaboration with Trukajaya Foundation, introduced the Biogas program to her village. With her business development in mind, Endang enrolled in the Biogas pilot program. As she fulfilled the basic requirements of the program – having two cows that won't be up for sale and a barn with cemented floor – Endang was appointed as one of the project's participants.

Along with her three neighbors, Endang's decision to participate in the Biogas program in 2014 has generated positive results. The free-of-charge Biogas usage has allowed her to move the budget allocation of LPG purchases to buy ingredients for her catering business. Moreover, she can produce more variety of snacks. Today, Endang can deliver up to 2,500 snack boxes monthly. With these increasing orders, she is able to recruit four neighbors to help her business.

The Biogas program is part of ExxonMobil Cepu Limited (EMCL) commitment to promote alternative renewable energy. This program is achieved by collaborating with Trukajaya Foundation, a local NGO with experience in developing Biogas. This program also allows the communities to utilize cattle waste as organic fertilizer. As a result, EMCL has built 323 Biogas reactors and gives benefits to more than a thousand people in Bojonegoro and Tuban Regencies.

"Biogas has changed my life. My business is progressing, thanks to the free supply of gas. Furthermore, I can create jobs for others. On top of that, when there is power outage, I'm still able to have light for my home," she said. Since 2017, Endang has also gained new skills in utilizing slurry, the fermentation of Biogas waste, as the organic fertilizer resource for her rice fields. "With slurry, I can save up to Rp 400,000 because I don't need to buy fertilizer anymore!"

"I am so grateful with Biogas program. Not only that it made my business more profitable, but I am also able to create jobs for others."



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