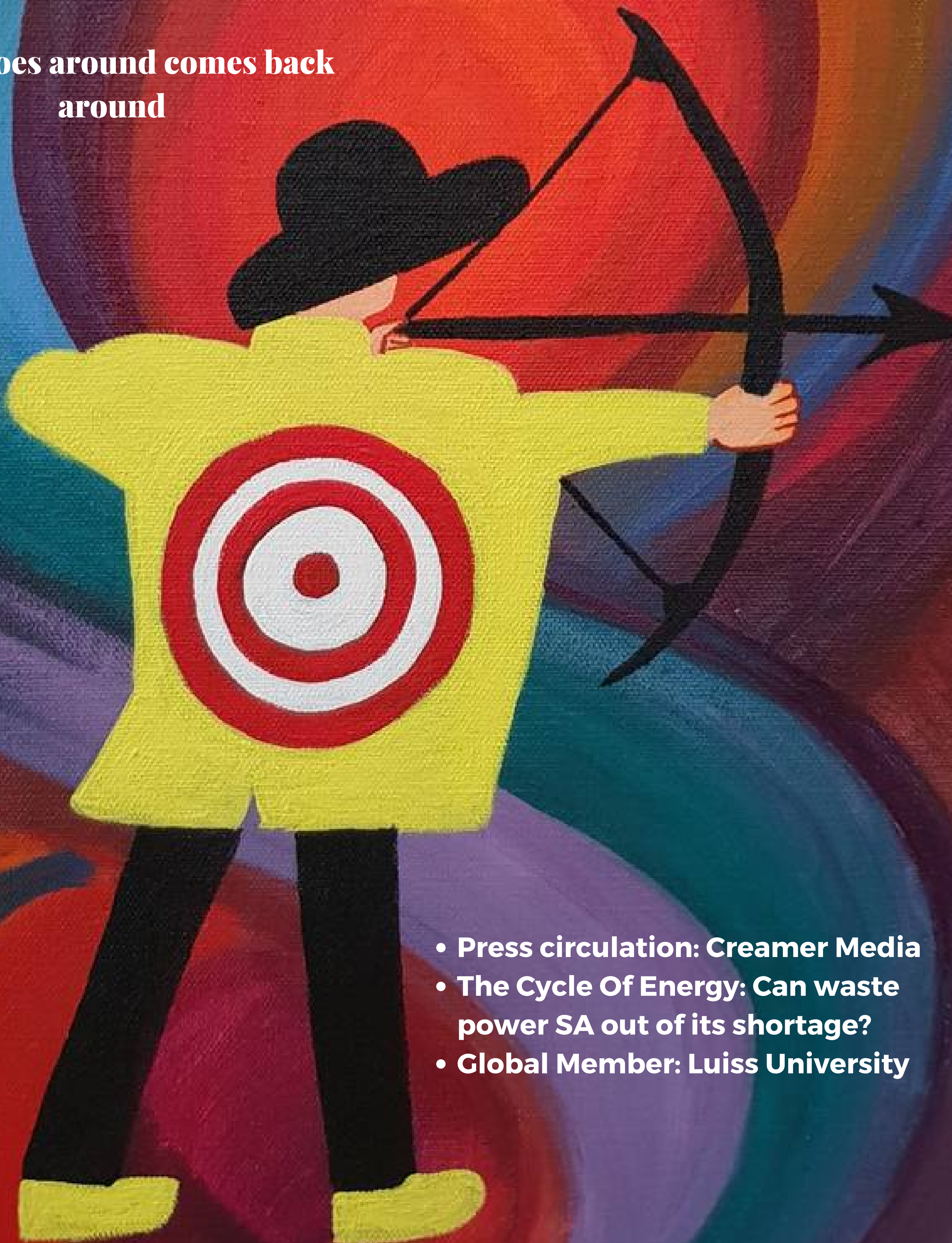




Ecco Chamber

FORTNIGHTLY ITALIAN NEWS MADE IN
SOUTH AFRICA

**What goes around comes back
around**



- **Press circulation: Creamer Media**
- **The Cycle Of Energy: Can waste power SA out of its shortage?**
- **Global Member: Luiss University**



Press Circulation

OPEN TO
ALL
MEMBERS



Introducing Italcham's Exclusive Press Office

In Partnership with
Creamer Media



Send your Press Release or
Thought Leadership piece
to socialmedia@italcham.co.za
and it will be published on
Creamer Media's webpage.



The Cycle of Energy

Can waste power SA out of its shortage?



On 10 June Italcham hosted a high-level investor webinar titled *Opportunità in Sud Africa nel campo del biogas*, in partnership with SABIA (South Africa Biogas Industry Association) and LE2C (Lombardy Energy Cleantech Cluster), which provided essential information on tenders and regulations governing South Africa's biogas sector.

At a time when South Africa is famously exposed to energy interruptions, shortages and load shedding, it is vital that opportunities in the field of alternative energy are explored. Indeed, the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy's (DMRE's) updated Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) estimates a 3000 megawatt energy gap to be filled by alternative energy sources. Of this total it is estimated that 1254 megawatts (almost half) should be allocated to biogas sources, allowing for the creation of 140-thousand construction jobs and another 30-thousand administrative jobs.

With the distinguished participation of Carmen di Santo and Luca Donelli (LE2C) and Alberto Borello (SABIA), the webinar highlighted the massive business opportunities in this field. What emerged clearly from the session is that, if implemented effectively, biogas could solve two problems at once. With South Africa producing 104 million tons of waste per year, 31 million being organic waste, an opportunity presents itself for closer collaboration between the agricultural and energy clusters. According to Borello, if these advantages are linked to international best practices where circular economy has emerged as a solution to tackle waste-related issues, biogas truly represent a silver bullet to the energy production dilemma in South Africa.

Challenges to the development of the biogas industry in South include difficulties related to waste management, which is not only inefficiently collected due to a lack of resources, but it is also characterized by limited know-how. Moreover, the lack of accurate data collection and record keeping contributes to make the forecasts on the available resources for biogas industry highly unpredictable. This particular environment contributes to a heavy penalization of the biogas industries.

The opportunities presented by the biogas sector are more salient than ever in a context of renewed environmental concerns, growing attention with regards to circular economy and the pursuit of alternative solutions to meet human needs on a highly-populated, overexploited and highly unequal world. Given the high level of complexity and the awareness that the renewable energy sector requires, the Chamber's webinar highlighted that a high level of cooperation and information-sharing is crucial in order to promote the potential of the biogas sector. What's more, if businesses can cooperate with government to respond to local realities and achieve shared clarity on relevant regulation, biogas can represent a leap forward towards more sustainable, inclusive and safe energy management in South Africa.

- Chiara Brandimarte
Marketing Intern



Global Member

Welcoming our New Member



Since its founding, Luiss has developed privileged relationships with the business community, thanks to its affiliation with Confindustria, the Italian confederation of industries, as well as with the legal practice, government institutions and civil society. Luiss has also special relationships with Italian and European institutions, as a number of faculty members have served within them. Luiss educational model combines academic rigor with practical relevance.

Programmes main features:

Research-led: faculty members are experts of and actively engaged in their research areas -

Experience-based: Luiss relies upon a highly selected pool of top executives, chartered consultants and diplomats to discuss topics they experience systematically

Problem-driven: Our programs require students to engage in projects and research, in which they are expected to develop solutions to real-world problems.

The Luiss model is strengthened by a lifelarge learning approach which challenges students' intellectual curiosity, inspires individual effort and self-discovery while encouraging independent and critical thinking.

Our programs main features:

- International DNA designed for students who would like to pursue an international career
- Taught in English

Welcome to ItalCham!